SUBJECT COMPANY:

COMPANY DATA:

ANNTAYLOR STORES CORP COMPANY CONFORMED NAME:

CENTRAL INDEX KEY: 0000874214

STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION: RETAIL-WOMEN'S CLOTHING STORES [5621]

IRS NUMBER: 133499319

STATE OF INCORPORATION: FISCAL YEAR END: 0202

FILING VALUES:

SC 13G/A 1934 Act FORM TYPE: SEC ACT: SEC FILE NUMBER: 005-42038 FILM NUMBER: 96518305

BUSINESS ADDRESS:

142 WEST 57TH ST NEW YORK STREET 1:

CITY: STATE: NY 10019 7.TP: BUSINESS PHONE: 2125413300

FILED BY:

COMPANY DATA:

COMPANY CONFORMED NAME: MERRILL LYNCH & CO INC

CENTRAL INDEX KEY: 0000065100

STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION: SECURITY BROKERS, DEALERS

& FLOTATION COMPANIES [6211]

132740599 IRS NUMBER:

STATE OF INCORPORATION: DE FISCAL YEAR END: 1228

FILING VALUES:

FORM TYPE: SC 13G/A

BUSINESS ADDRESS:

250 VESEY ST

250 VESEY ST WORLD FINANCIAL CTR N TOWER STREET 2:

CITY: NEW YORK STATE: NY

10281-1334 7.TP: BUSINESS PHONE: 2124491000

MAIL ADDRESS:

STREET 1:

250 VESEY ST WORLD FINANCIAL CTR N TOWER STREET 2:

NEW YORK CITY: STATE: NY ZIP: 10281-1334

> UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

> > SCHEDULE SC 13G/A

UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (AMENDMENT NO. 6) *

ANNTAYLOR STORES CORPORATION

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title Of Class of Securities)

Not Applicable

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

036115103

(CUSIP Number)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

	[] R	tule 13d-1 (b) tule 13d-1 (c) tule 13d-1 (d)	
initi for a	al filing ny subse	er of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, as equent amendment containing information which would alter the covided in a prior cover page.	nd
to be	e "filed" ("Act") o shall be	on required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the subject to all other provisions)	of ct
CUSIE	P NO. 036	115103 13G	
1	S.S. OR I	REPORTING PERSON REPORTING PERSON REPORTING PERSON REPORTING PERSON REPORTING PERSON REPORTING PERSON	
2	CHECK TH	E APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) []	
3	SEC USE	ONLY	
4	CITIZENS	HIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION	
	Delaware		
		5 SOLE VOTING POWER	
		None	
SF	FICIALLY ED BY ACH ORTING	6 SHARED VOTING POWER	
OWNE E <i>P</i>		1,733,628	
		7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	
		None	
		8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER	
		1,733,628	
9		E AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON	
	1,733,628		
10	CHECK BO	X IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*	
 11	PERCENT	OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9	
	6.73%		
12	TYPE OF	REPORTING PERSON*	
	HC, CO		

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

1		REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON	
	Merrill I	Lynch Group, Inc.	
2	CHECK TH	HE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) []	
3	SEC USE	ONLY	
4	CITIZENS	SHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION	
		5 SOLE VOTING POWER None	
S BENE OWN	MBER OF HARES FICIALLY ED BY	6 SHARED VOTING POWER 1,733,628	
REP	ORTING	7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None	
		8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,733,628	
 9	AGGREGAT	TE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON	
10	CHECK BO	OX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*	
		OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9	
 12		REPORTING PERSON*	
		*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!	
CUSI	P NO. 036	6115103 13G	
1	NAME OF S.S. OR I	REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON	
 2		Lynch Capital Partners, Inc. HE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) []	

SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENS	HIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
Delaware	
	5 SOLE VOTING POWER
	None
NUMBER OF SHARES	6 SHARED VOTING POWER
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	1,733,628
EACH	1,755,020
REPORTING PERSON WITH	7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
	None
	8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
	1,733,628
9 AGGREGAT	E AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
1,733,628	:
10 CHECK BO	X IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*
	OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
6.73%	
0.75%	
12 TYPE OF	REPORTING PERSON*
CO	
	*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!
CUSIP NO. 036	115103 13G
	DEPONETIVE DEPONE
	REPORTING PERSON .R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
Merrill I	ynch LBO Partners No. B-I, L.P.
2 CHECK TH	E APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) []
3 SEC USE	ONITY
3 SEC 03E	ONLI
4 CITIZENS	HIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
Delaware	
	5 SOLE VOTING POWER
	None
NUMBER OF	
SHARES BENEFICIALLY	6 SHARED VOTING POWER
OWNED BY EACH	1,733,628
REPORTING	7 CALE DISPOSITIVE DOWED
PERSON WITH	7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

	0 GUARRE REGRESSEE ROUTE
	8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
	1,733,628
9 AGGRE	GATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
1 500	500
1,733,	628
10 CHECK	BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*
	[]
11 PERCE	NT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
11 151(05	NI OF OHIOO NEITHEBERTED DI MIOONI IN NON 9
6.73%	
12 TYPE	OF REPORTING PERSON*
PN	
PN	
	*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!
CUSIP NO.	036115103 13G
1 NAME	OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. 0	R I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
Merril	l Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B-II, L.P.
1101111	1 17.00. ouploal appropriation rational only 10. 2 11, 211.
	THE ADDRODITATE DOV IT A MEMBER OF A CROUDY THE BILL.
2 CHECK	THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) []
	(b) []
3 SEC U	SE ONLY
4 CITIZ	ENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
Delawa	re
	5 SOLE VOTING POWER
	None
NUMBER OF	
SHARES	6 SHARED VOTING POWER
BENEFICIALL OWNED BY	Y 1,733,628
EACH	1,733,020
REPORTING	
PERSON WITH	7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
	None
	8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
	1,733,628
9 AGGRE	GATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
1,733,	628
1,133,	020
10 CHECK	BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*

11	11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9				
	6.73%				
12	TYPE OF	REPORTING PERSON*			
	PN				
		*SEE INSTRUCTION	BEFORE FILLING OUT!		
CUS1	IP NO. 036		13G		
1	NAME OF	REPORTING PERSON .R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO	. OF ABOVE PERSON		
	ML Offsho	re LBO Partners No. B-I	I		
2	CHECK TH	E APPROPRIATE BOX IF A	MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) []		
3	SEC USE	ONLY			
 4	CITIZENS Cayman Is	HIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZ	ATION		
		5 SOLE VOTING POWER	:		
		None			
	JMBER OF SHARES	6 SHARED VOTING POW	ER		
OWN	EFICIALLY NED BY EACH	1,733,628			
REE	PORTING	7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE	DOMES		
LLING	JOIN WITH	None	TOWER		
		8 SHARED DISPOSITIV	E POWER		
 9	ACCRECAT	1,733,628	WNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON		
,	1,733,628		MAD BI BION NEIGHTING TENGON		
10	CHECK BO	X IF THE AGGREGATE AMOU	NT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*		
11	PERCENT	OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY	AMOUNT IN ROW 9		
	6.73%				
12	TYPE OF	REPORTING PERSON*			
	PN				

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

	1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON					
ML	ML IBK Positions, Inc.					
2 CH	ECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) []					
3 SE	C USE ONLY					
4 CI	TIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION					
Del	aware					
	5 SOLE VOTING POWER					
	None					
NUMBER SHARE						
BENEFICI OWNED B						
EACH REPORTI PERSON W						
I LINGON W	None					
	8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER					
	1,733,628					
9 AG	GREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON					
1,7	33,628					
10 CH	ECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*					
 11 PE	RCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9					
6.7	3%					
 12 TY	PE OF REPORTING PERSON*					
CO						
	*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!					
CUSIP NO	. 036115103 13G					
	ME OF REPORTING PERSON . OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON					
KEC	ALP Inc.					
2 CH	ECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) []					

3 SEC USE ONLY

4	CITIZENS	NSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION	
	Delaware		
		5 SOLE VOTING POWER	
		None	
	BER OF ARES	6 SHARED VOTING POWER	
OWNE		1,733,628	
	RTING	7 0017 0100017717 00170	
PERSO	N WITH	7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None	
		Notic	
		8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER	
		1,733,628	
9		ATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON	
	1,733,628	28	
10	CHECK BO	BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHAI	 RES*
	DED CENT	A OF GLACE PERPENDING BY MOUNT IN DOM O	
	6.73%	OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9	
 12	TYPE OF	PREPORTING PERSON*	
	СО		
		*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!	
CUSIP	NO. 036	36115103 13G	
		REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON	
		Lynch KECALP L.P. 1987	
2	CHECK TH		a) [] b) []
3	SEC USE	: ONLY	
 4		ISHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION	
	Delaware		
		5 SOLE VOTING POWER	
		None	
NUM	BER OF		
SH		6 SHARED VOTING POWER	
OWNE EA	D BY	1,733,628	

REPORTING

PERSON WITH	7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
	None
	8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
	1,733,628
	1,755,020
9 AGGREGA	TE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
1,733,628	3
10 CHECK BO	DX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*
	[]
	OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
6.73%	
12 TYPE OF	REPORTING PERSON*
PN	
	*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!
CUSIP NO. 030	6115103 13G
	REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
Merrill 1	Lynch KECALP L.P. 1989
2 CHECK TI	HE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) []
3 SEC USE	ONLY
4 CITIZENS	SHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
Delaware	
	5 SOLE VOTING POWER
	None
NUMBER OF	
SHARES BENEFICIALLY	6 SHARED VOTING POWER
OWNED BY EACH	1,733,628
REPORTING PERSON WITH	7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
	None
	8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
	1,733,628
9 AGGREGA	FE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
1,733,628	3
10 CHECK BO	DX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*

[]

11	11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9				
	6.73%				
12	TYPE OF	REPORTING PERSON*			
	PN				
		*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!			
CUSI	P NO. 036	6115103 13G			
1		REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON			
	Merrill L	Lynch MBP Inc.			
2	CHECK TH	HE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing	(a) [] (b) []		
3	SEC USE	ONLY			
4	CITIZENS	SHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION			
	Delaware				
		5 SOLE VOTING POWER			
		None			
	MBER OF HARES	6 SHARED VOTING POWER			
OWN E.	FICIALLY ED BY ACH	1,733,628			
	ORTING ON WITH	7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER			
		None			
		8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER			
		1,733,628			
 9	AGGREGAT	TE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON			
	1,733,628	3			
10	CHECK BO	DX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SE	HARES*		
11	PERCENT	OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9			
	6.73%				
12	TYPE OF	REPORTING PERSON*			
	CO				

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON S.S. OR 1.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON Merchant Banking L.P. III 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) [] 3 SEC USE ONLY 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware 5 SOLE VOTING POWER None NUMBER OF SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER ENEMPICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE FOWER None 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE FOWER 1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN *SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!		
2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) [] 3 SEC USE ONLY 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware 5 SOLE VOTING POWER None NUMBER OF SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY 1,733,628 EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN		
(a) [] (b) [] 3 SEC USE ONLY 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware 5 SOLE VOTING POWER None NUMBER OF SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER BERMEPICIALLY OWNED BY 1,733,628 EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN	Merchant	Banking L.P. III
3 SEC USE ONLY 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware 5 SOLE VOTING POWER None NUMBER OF SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY 1,733,628 EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN	2 CHECK TH	(a) []
Delaware 5 SOLE VOTING POWER None NUMBER OF SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY 1,733,628 EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN	3 SEC USE	
5 SOLE VOTING POWER None NUMBER OF SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY 1,733,628 EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN		SHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
None None None None Number of Shares 6 Shared voting power Beneficially Owned by 1,733,628 EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN	Delaware	
NUMBER OF SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY 1,733,628 EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN		
SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY 1,733,628 EACH REPORTING		None
REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN	SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	
8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN	REPORTING	
1,733,628 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN		None
9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN		8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
1,733,628 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN		1,733,628
[] 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN		
6.73% 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN	10 CHECK BC	
12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN	11 PERCENT	OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* PN	6.73%	
	12 TYPE OF	
*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!	PN	
		*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!
CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G	CUSIP NO. 036	5115103 13G
1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON		REPORTING PERSON
MLCP Associates L.P. No. I	MLCP Asso	ociates L.P. No. I
2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) [] (b) []	2 CHECK TH	HE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* Joint Filing (a) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

```
CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
   Delaware
_ _ -----
         5 SOLE VOTING POWER
             None
SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER BENEFICIALLY
 NUMBER OF
OWNED BY
            1,733,628
 EACH
REPORTING -----
PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
             None
          ______
             SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
             1,733,628
   AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
   1,733,628
 _ ________
   CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*
             [ ]
11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
 _ ______
12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*
             *SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!
                        SCHEDULE 13G
Item 1 (a)
            Name of Issuer:
            AnnTaylor Stores Corporation
Item 1 (b)
            Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:
            142 West 57th Street
            New York, New York 10019
Item 2 (a)
            Names of Persons Filing:
             _____
            Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.
             Merrill Lynch Group, Inc.
             Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc.
             Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I, L.P.
            Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B-II, L.P.
            ML Offshore LBO Partnership No. B-II, L.P.
             ML IBK Positions, Inc.
            KECALP Inc.
             Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1987
            Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1989
            Merrill Lynch MBP Inc.
             Merchant Banking L.P. No. III
             MLCP Associates L.P. No. I
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Item 2 (b) Address of Principal Business Office, or, if none, Residence:

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. Merrill Lynch Group, Inc. ML IBK Positions, Inc. 250 Vesey Street World Financial Center, North Tower New York, New York 10281 Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc. Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I, L.P. Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B-II, L.P. ML Offshore LBO Partnership No. B-II, L.P. MLCP Associates L.P. No. I KECALP Inc. Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1987 Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1989 Merrill Lynch MBP Inc. Merchant Banking L.P. No. III 225 Liberty Street New York, NY 10080 Item 2 (c) Citizenship: Delaware, except ML Offshore LBO Partners No. B-II, which is a Cayman Islands partnership. Item 2 (d) Title of Class of Securities: Common Stock, par value \$.0068 per share Item 2 (e) CUSTP Number 036115103 Item 3 If this statement is filed pursuant to Rules 13d-1 (b), or 13d-2 (b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a ______ (a) [] Broker or Dealer registered under Section 16 of the (b) [] Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act (c) [] Insurance Company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act (d) [] Investment Company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act [] Investment Adviser registered under section 203 of (e) the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 [] Employee Benefit Plan, Pension Fund which is (f) subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 or Endowment Fund; see Sec. 240.13d-1(b)(l)(ii)(F) (g) [] Parent Holding Company, in accordance with Sec. 240.13d-1(b)(ii)(G) (Note: See Item 7) (h) [] Group, in accordance with Sec. 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(H)

Item 4 Ownership

(a) Amount Beneficially Owned:

See Item 9 of Cover Pages. Pursuant to Section 240.13d-4, Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., Merrill Lynch Group, Inc., Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc., Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I, L.P., KECALP Inc., and Merrill Lynch MBP Inc. (the "Reporting Companies") disclaim beneficial ownership of the securities of AnnTaylor Stores Corporation referred to herein, and the filing of this Schedule 13G shall not be construed as an admission that the Reporting Companies are, for the purposes of Section 13(d) or 13(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), the beneficial owner of any securities of AnnTaylor Stores Corporation covered by this statement.

(b) Percent of Class:

- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
 - sole power to vote or to direct the vote: See Item 5 of Cover Pages
 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: See Item 6 of Cover Pages
 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

See Item 7 of Cover Pages

(iv) shared power to dispose or to direct disposition of: See Item 8 of Cover Pages

Item 5 Ownership Five Percent or Less of a Class.

Not applicable

Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of _____

Another Person.

Certain wholly-owned subsidiaries of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., and Merrill Lynch Group, Inc., either directly or as general partner of various limited partnerships have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of the class of securities reported herein. See Exhibit A.

Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the .____ Parent Holding Company. -----

Not Applicable

Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the _____

Group.

See Exhibit B

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group. -----

Not Applicable

Item 10 Certification.

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purposes or effect.

Signature.

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

> MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. MERRILL LYNCH GROUP, INC. KECALP INC. MERRILL LYNCH MBP INC.

Date: February 12, 1999 /s/ Frank J. Marinaro Bv:

> Frank J. Marinaro Attorney-in-Fact*

MERRILL LYNCH CAPITAL PARTNERS, INC.

Date: February 12, 1999

By: /s/ Frank J. Marinaro

Frank J. Marinaro

Vice President & Secretary

MERRILL LYNCH LBO PARTNERS

NO B-I, L.P.

By: Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc.

Date: February 12, 1999 By: /s/ Frank J. Marinaro

Frank J. Marinaro Vice President & Secretary

vice President & Secretary

its general partner

MERRILL LYNCH CAPITAL
APPRECIATION PARTNERSHIP
NO. B-II, L.P.

By: Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I,

its general partner

By: Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc.,

its general partner

Date: February 12, 1999 By: /s/ Frank J. Marinaro

Frank J. Marinaro
Vice President & Secretary

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ML OFFSHORE LBO PARTNERS

NO. B-II

By: Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I, its investment general partner By: Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc.

Date: February 12, 1999 By: /s/ Frank J. Marinaro

Frank J. Marinaro Vice President & Secretary

ML IBK POSITIONS, INC.

Date: February 12, 1999 By: /s/ Frank J. Marinaro

Frank J. Marinaro
Vice President & Secretary

MERCHANT BANKING L.P. No. III By: Merrill Lynch MBP, Inc.

Date: February 12, 1999 By: /s/ Frank J. Marinaro

Frank J. Marinaro
Attorney-in-Fact*

its general partner

MERRILL LYNCH KECALP L.P. 1987

By: KECALP Inc., its general partner

Date: February 12, 1999 By: /s/ Frank J. Marinaro

Frank J. Marinaro

Attorney-in-Fact*

MERRILL LYNCH KECALP L.P. 1989
By: KECALP Inc., its general partner

^{*} See Powers of Attorney attached.

Date: February 12, 1999 Bv: /s/ Frank J. Marinaro _____

> Frank J. Marinaro Attorney-in-Fact*

MLCP ASSOCIATES L.P. NO. I

By: Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc.,

its general partner

Date: February 12, 1999 By: /s/ Frank J. Marinaro -----

Frank J. Marinaro Vice President & Secretary

* See Powers of Attorney attached.

EXHIBIT A TO SCHEDULE 13G

ITEM 6 OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON

Two of the persons filing this report, Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at World Financial Center, North Tower, 250 Vesey Street, New York, New York ("ML&Co."), and Merrill Lynch Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at World Financial Center, North Tower, 250 Vesey Street, New York, New York ("ML Group"), are parent holding companies pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G). Pursuant to the instructions in Item 7 of Schedule 13G, the relevant subsidiaries of ML&Co. are ML Group, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Incorporated ("MLPF&S"), Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc. ("MLCP"), KECALP Inc. ("KECALP"), Merrill Lynch MBP Inc. ("MLMBP") and ML IBK Positions, Inc. ("MLIBK"). The relevant subsidiaries of ML Group are MLCP, KECALP, MLMBP and MLIBK.

ML Group, a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of ML&Co. may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of 6.73% of the securities of AnnTaylor Stores Corporation (the "Securities") by virtue of its control of its wholly-owned subsidiaries MLCP, KECALP, MLMBP and MLIBK.

MLCP, a Delaware corporation, may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of Securities by virtue of which its status as general partner of (i) MLCP Associates L.P. No. I and (ii) a limited partnership, Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I, L.P., that acts as general partner of Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B-II, which is the record owner of 3.29% of the Securities, and ML Offshore LBO Partners No. B-II, which is the record owner of 1.92% of the Securities.

KECALP and MLMBP are wholly-owned subsidiaries of ML Group and each act as general partners of limited partnerships that are record owners of the Securities. No one limited partnership is the record holder of more than 5% of the Securities.

MLIBK, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ML Group, is the record owner of less than 1.00% of the Securities.

Those partnerships that are the record owners of the Securities and MLIBK may be deemed to be members of a group and therefore may be deemed to beneficially own all the Securities held by the group. In addition, the general partners and the parent corporations may be deemed to beneficially own all of the shares deemed beneficially owned by members of the group. Each entity disclaims beneficial ownership of the Securities not held of record by it.

EXHIBIT B

The following entities may be deemed to be members of a group. All of such entities disclaim membership in such group, except Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B-II, L.P. and ML Offshore LBO Partners No. B-II. See Exhibit A.

Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B-II, L.P. ML Offshore LBO Partnership No. B-II, L.P. MLCP Associates L.P. No. T

ML IBK Positions, Inc. Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1987 Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1989 Merchant Banking L.P. No. III

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EXHIBIT C

POWER OF ATTORNEY

To Prepare and Execute Documents Pursuant to Sections 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Amended, and Rules Thereunder, by and on Behalf of

MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints Frank J. Marinaro its true and lawfully attorney-in-fact to:

- (1) to prepare and execute, for and on behalf of the undersigned, any and all forms, schedules, reports and other documents relating to Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.'s direct or indirect ownership of securities that are required to be filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (collectively, the "Exchange Act");
- (2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to comply with the requirements of Sections 13 and 16 of the Exchange Act including, but not limited to, executing documents required by said sections of the Exchange Act and effecting the timely filing thereof with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other authority; and
- (3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as such attorney-in-fact might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Sections 13 or 16 of the Exchange

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this $16~{\rm day}$ of February, 1998.

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.

By /s/Barry S. Friedberg
Barry S. Friedberg
Executive Vice President

POWER OF ATTORNEY

To Prepare and Execute Documents Pursuant to Sections 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Amended, and Rules Thereunder, by and on Behalf of

MERRILL LYNCH GROUP, INC.

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints Frank J. Marinaro its true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

(1) to prepare and execute, for and on behalf of the undersigned, any and all forms, schedules, reports and other documents relating to Merrill Lynch Group, Inc.'s direct or indirect ownership of securities that are required to be

filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (collectively, the "Exchange Act");

- (2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to comply with the requirements of Sections 13 and 16 of the Exchange Act including, but not limited to, executing documents required by said sections of the Exchange Act and effecting the timely filing thereof with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other authority; and
- (3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as such attorney-in-fact might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Sections 13 or 16 of the Exchange

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this $17th\ day\ of\ September$, 1998.

Merrill Lynch Group, Inc.

By: /s/ Mark B. Goldfus
Mark B. Goldfus
Vice President

POWER OF ATTORNEY

To Prepare and Execute Documents Pursuant to Sections 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Amended, and Rules Thereunder, by and on Behalf of

KECALP INC.

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints Frank J. Marinaro its true and lawfully attorney-in-fact to:

- (1) to prepare and execute, for and on behalf of the undersigned, any and all forms, schedules, reports and other documents relating to KECALP Inc.'s direct or indirect ownership of securities that are required to be filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (collectively, the "Exchange Act");
- (2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to comply with the requirements of Sections 13 and 16 of the Exchange Act including, but not limited to, executing documents required by said sections of the Exchange Act and effecting the timely filing thereof with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other authority; and
- (3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his discretion.

 $\hbox{ The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever }$

requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as such attorney-in-fact might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Sections 13 or 16 of the Exchange

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 16 day of September, 1998.

KECALP Inc.

By: /s/ James V. Caruso James V. Caruso Vice President

POWER OF ATTORNEY

To Prepare and Execute Documents Pursuant to Sections 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Amended, and Rules Thereunder, by and on Behalf of

MERRILL LYNCH MBP INC.

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints Frank J. Marinaro its true and lawfully attorney-in-fact to:

- (1) to prepare and execute, for and on behalf of the undersigned, any and all forms, schedules, reports and other documents relating to Merrill Lynch MBP Inc.'s direct or indirect ownership of securities that are required to be filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (collectively, the "Exchange Act");
- (2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to comply with the requirements of Sections 13 and 16 of the Exchange Act including, but not limited to, executing documents required by said sections of the Exchange Act and effecting the timely filing thereof with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other authority; and
- (3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as such attorney-in-fact might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Sections 13 or 16 of the Exchange

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 16 day of September, 1998.

Merrill Lynch MBP Inc.

ЗУ:	/s/	James	٧.	Caruso

James V. Caruso Vice President