

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC
Form 8-K
December 17, 2003

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

**PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): December 16, 2003

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1-13395
(Commission File Number)

56-201079
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

5401 E. Independence Boulevard, Charlotte, North Carolina
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

28212
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (704) 566-2400

Item 5. Other Events and Regulation FD Disclosure

On December 16, 2003, we issued a press release announcing an increase in our share repurchase authorization.

A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this current report on Form 8-K to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

By: _____ /s/ Stephen K. Coss

Stephen K. Coss

Vice President and General
Counsel

Dated: December 16, 2003