SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC Form 8-K December 18, 2002

### 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 17, 2002

# 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 Indentification 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 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

On December 17, 2002, we issued a press release announcing revised earnings targets.

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/ Theodore M.

WRIGHT

Theodore M. Wright President and Chief Financial Officer

Dated: December 17, 2002

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