

SIMMONS FIRST NATIONAL CORP

Form 8-K

October 16, 2003

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) October 16, 2003

SIMMONS FIRST NATIONAL CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Arkansas	0-6253	71-0407808
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	(Commission file number)	(I.R.S. employer identification No.)

501 Main Street, Pine Bluff, Arkansas	71601
(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)

(870) 541-1000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

ITEM: 9 REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

The following is the text of a press release issued by the registrant at 8:00 A.M. Central Standard Time on October 16, 2003.

SIMMONS FIRST ANNOUNCES RECORD 3rd QUARTER EARNINGS

Pine Bluff, Arkansas Simmons First National Corporation today announced record third quarter earnings of \$6,611,000, or \$0.46 diluted earnings per share for the quarter ended September 30, 2003, compared to earnings of \$5,769,000, or \$0.40 diluted earnings per share for the same period in 2002. This represents an \$842,000, or \$0.06 per share increase, which is approximately a 15% improvement in the 2003 earnings over 2002. Return on average assets and return on average stockholders' equity for the three-month period ended September 30, 2003, was 1.31% and 12.65%, compared to 1.18% and 11.87%, respectively, for the same period in 2002.

With third quarter earnings at a record level, we are obviously pleased with the results, said J. Thomas May, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. The significant increase in earnings over the same quarter last year is primarily attributable to the increased volume of the Company's mortgage banking operation, growth in the loan portfolio and a lower provision for loan losses, which correlates to the improved asset quality ratios.

Earnings for the nine months ended September 30, 2003, were \$18,472,000, or \$1.28 diluted earnings per share. These earnings reflect a 12.5% increase in net income and a 12.3% increase in diluted earnings per share over the same nine-month period last year. Excluding the nonrecurring gain on sale of mortgage servicing from the second quarter of 2003, the Company would have reported \$1.25 diluted earnings per share for the nine-months ended September 30, 2003.

Edgar Filing: SIMMONS FIRST NATIONAL CORP - Form 8-K

At September 30, 2003, the Company's loan portfolio totaled \$1.325 billion, which is a \$44 million, or a 3.4%, increase from the same period last year. This increase is primarily due to the increased loan demand the Company has experienced in its construction and commercial real estate loan portfolios.

As of September 2003, asset quality remained strong with non-performing loans virtually unchanged from the same period last year. However, most of the Company's asset quality ratios reflect an improvement from September 2002. Correspondingly, non-performing loans to total loans improved to 0.93% from 0.97% from the same period last year, and the allowance for loan losses improved to 184% of non-performing loans, compared to 175% from the same period last year. At quarter end, the allowance for loan losses equaled 1.72% of total loans.

Total assets for the Corporation at September 30, 2003, were \$2.016 billion, an increase of \$72.3 million over the period ended September 30, 2002. Stockholders' equity at the end of the third quarter of 2003 was \$207.2 million, a \$13.5 million, or 7.0%, increase from September 30, 2002.

Recently, the Company has made an acquisition and a merger announcement. In September, Simmons First announced an agreement to acquire nine additional financial centers in North Central and Northeast Arkansas from Union Planters Bank, N.A. with assets totaling approximately \$126 million. This transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2003. Last week, the Company announced the merger of Alliance Bancorporation, Inc. of Hot Springs, Arkansas into Simmons First National Corporation with assets totaling approximately \$140 million. This transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2004. J. Thomas May noted, "Both of these transactions, which are expected to be slightly accretive in 2004, allow us to fill a geographic void that we currently have and reflect the vision of Simmons First to provide our customers statewide access."

Upon completion of the recently announced acquisitions, Simmons First National Corporation will be a \$2.3 billion financial holding company, with eight community banks in Pine Bluff, Jonesboro, Lake Village, Rogers, Russellville, Searcy, El Dorado and Hot Springs, Arkansas. The Company's eight banks will be conduct financial operations from 78 offices, of which 76 are financial centers, in 44 communities.

CONFERENCE CALL

Management will conduct a conference call to review this information at 3:00 p.m. CST (4:00 p.m. EST) on Thursday, October 16, 2003. Interested parties can listen to this call by calling 1-800-854-4175 (United States and Canada only) and ask for the Simmons First National Corporation conference call. A recorded playback of the call will be available the next morning by calling 1-800-642-1687. The passcode for this playback is 2527374 and the recording will be available through the end of business October 23, 2003. In addition, the call will also be available live or in recorded version on the Company's website at www.simmonsfirst.com under the "webcast" icon.

GENERAL

Statements in this press release that are not historical facts should be considered forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements of this type speak only as of the date of this news release. By nature, forward-looking statements involve inherent risk and uncertainties. Various factors, including, but not limited to, economic conditions, credit quality, interest rates, loan demand and changes in the assumptions used in making the forward-looking statements, could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Additional information on factors that might affect Simmons First National Corporation's financial results is included in its Form 10-K filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

BARRY L. CROW

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Simmons First National Corporation

(870) 541-1350

Ticker symbol: SFNC

Simmons First National Corporation

Consolidated End of Period Balance Sheets

For the Quarters Ended

Sep 30

Jun 30

Mar 31

Dec 31

Sep 30

SFNC

GENERAL

2

Simmons First National Corporation

(In thousands)

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>
					SFNC
					2002
ASSETS					
Cash and non-interest bearing balances due from banks	\$ 68,068	\$ 71,168	\$ 74,609	\$ 76,452	\$ 71,814
Interest bearing balances due from banks	32,880	43,623	32,631	28,473	22,564
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell	34,975	35,625	51,400	86,620	26,150
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents	135,923	150,416	158,640	191,545	120,528
Investment securities	444,845	432,938	413,669	404,048	421,384
Mortgage loans held for sale	19,349	30,700	26,223	33,332	25,096
Assets held in trading accounts	370	212	11,349	192	1,013
Loans	1,325,428	1,286,842	1,257,455	1,257,305	1,281,634
Allowance for loan losses	(22,795)	(22,229)	(21,826)	(21,948)	(21,688)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net loans	1,302,633	1,264,613	1,235,629	1,235,357	1,259,946
Premises and equipment	45,366	45,980	46,125	47,047	47,551
Foreclosed assets held for sale, net	2,774	2,700	2,426	2,705	2,263
Interest receivable	13,757	11,985	13,519	13,133	15,074
Goodwill	32,877	32,877	32,877	32,877	32,877
Core deposits, net	539	562	587	613	593
Other assets	17,198	16,220	17,112	16,730	17,030
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,015,631	\$ 1,989,203	\$ 1,958,156	\$ 1,977,579	\$ 1,943,355
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
LIABILITIES					
Non-interest bearing transaction accounts	\$ 245,176	\$ 257,006	\$ 239,996	\$ 239,545	\$ 232,455
Interest bearing transaction accounts and savings deposits	563,344	568,380	571,614	565,041	542,237
Time deposits less than \$100,000	495,654	476,835	495,621	504,029	522,400
Time deposits greater than \$100,000	320,475	309,906	308,440	310,581	316,946
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total deposits	1,624,649	1,612,127	1,615,671	1,619,196	1,614,038
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase	84,781	80,342	53,053	86,705	57,759
Short-term debt	13,559	1,943	1,712	3,619	11,450
Long-term debt - parent company	8,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Long-term FHLB debt - affiliate banks	47,901	48,339	43,259	27,032	23,206
Trust preferred securities	17,250	17,250	17,250	17,250	17,250
Accrued interest and other liabilities	12,293	14,144	16,210	16,172	16,002
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,808,433	1,784,145	1,757,155	1,779,974	1,749,705
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY					
Capital stock	14,083	14,104	7,075	7,071	7,063
Surplus	35,846	36,545	44,536	44,495	44,392
Undivided profits	156,847	152,066	147,371	143,808	139,912
Accumulated other comprehensive income					
Unrealized appreciation on AFS securities	422	2,343	2,019	2,231	2,283
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	207,198	205,058	201,001	197,605	193,650
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$ 2,015,631	\$ 1,989,203	\$ 1,958,156	\$ 1,977,579	\$ 1,943,355
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Simmons First National Corporation	SFNC				
Consolidated Average Quarter-to-Date Balance Sheets					
For the Quarters Ended	Sep 30	Jun 30	Mar 31	Dec 31	Sep 30
(In thousands)	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003
ASSETS					
Cash and non-interest bearing balances due from banks	\$ 65,196	\$ 61,259	\$ 63,094	\$ 67,260	\$ 64,237
Interest bearing balances due from banks	35,458	57,314	51,151	33,780	26,468
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell	27,363	54,825	83,873	66,615	51,672
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents	128,017	173,398	198,118	167,655	142,377
Investment securities - held-to-maturity	156,828	196,382	204,910	216,785	234,541
Investment securities - available-for-sale	282,722	220,698	201,477	188,799	186,462
Mortgage loans held for sale	28,901	27,908	21,635	26,837	14,918
Assets held in trading accounts	2,306	1,091	762	2,966	2,470
Loans	1,313,382	1,268,044	1,254,720	1,262,300	1,268,801
Allowance for loan losses	(22,775)	(22,321)	(22,488)	(22,250)	(21,257)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net loans	1,290,607	1,245,723	1,232,232	1,240,050	1,247,544
Premises and equipment	45,789	46,284	46,729	47,512	47,219
Foreclosed assets held for sale, net	2,673	2,494	2,640	2,283	2,211
Interest receivable	12,893	12,935	13,076	14,493	15,001
Goodwill and core deposits, net	33,425	33,451	33,476	33,493	33,190
Other assets	17,974	16,669	16,567	16,614	16,001
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,002,135	\$ 1,977,033	\$ 1,971,622	\$ 1,957,487	\$ 1,941,934
LIABILITIES					
Non-interest bearing transaction accounts	\$ 242,271	\$ 238,537	\$ 230,222	\$ 227,461	\$ 225,054
Interest bearing transaction accounts	177,330	179,420	170,445	161,262	159,605
Savings deposits	385,344	395,322	396,872	392,754	384,101
Time deposits less than \$100,000	491,828	492,268	500,065	511,247	524,977
Time deposits greater than \$100,000	316,501	307,924	309,426	314,768	324,155
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total deposits	1,613,274	1,613,471	1,607,030	1,607,492	1,617,892
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase	89,986	68,102			