SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

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\text { WASHINGTON, D.C. } 20549
$$

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED

| NATIONSBANK CORPORATION |
| :---: |
| (Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter) |
| North Carolina 1-6523 56-0906609 |
| (State of Incorporation) (Commission (IRS Employer <br>  File Number) Identification No.) |
| NationsBank Corporate Center, Charlotte, North Carolina 28255 |
| (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code) |
| (704) 386-5000 |

(Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code)

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ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS.
Release of Third Quarter Earnings. On October 15, 1996, the Registrant announced financial results for the third quarter of fiscal 1996, reporting earnings of $\$ 625$ million and earnings per common share of $\$ 2.12$. A copy of the press release announcing the results of the Registrant's fiscal quarter ended September 30, 1996 is filed as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

ITEM 7. EXHIBITS.
The following exhibit is filed herewith:

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Exhibit No. Description of Exhibit
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    with respect to the Registrant's financial results
    for the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 1996.
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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

## EXHIBIT INDEX

## Exhibit No. Description of Exhibit

99.1 Press release dated October 15, 1996
with respect to the Registrant's financial results
for the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 1996.

## NATIONSBANK POSTED SOLID EARNINGS GROWTH OF 18응

IN THIRD QUARTER 1996
CHARLOTTE, NC, October 15, 1996 -- NationsBank achieved record earnings of $\$ 625$ million, or $\$ 2.12$ per common share in the third quarter of 1996 . The strong operating results in the third quarter reflected growth in revenues and continuation of balance sheet and capital management strategies.
"Our ongoing efforts to increase earnings and effectively manage capital have generated a 19 -percent return on equity this quarter," said Hugh L. McColl Jr., chairman and chief executive officer. "These results demonstrate the financial power which is the foundation for the next phase of our growth through the acquisition of Boatmen's Bancshares early in 1997."

Earnings Highlights (third quarter 1996 compared to third quarter 1995)

- -------------------
* Return on average common shareholders' equity was a record 19 percent
* Revenues (net interest income plus noninterest income) grew 14 percent to \$2.5 billion
* Net interest yield rose 34 basis points to 3.69 percent
* Efficiency ratio improved to 55.9 percent, reflecting flat quarterly expenses this year
* Capital ratios improved, with the equity to assets ratio rising to 7.09
percent from 6.56 percent
Third quarter earnings of $\$ 625$ million represented an 18 -percent increase from the $\$ 530$ million earned in the third quarter of 1995. Earnings per common share for the third quarter of 1996 rose nine percent to $\$ 2.12$, from $\$ 1.95$ per common share in the third quarter of 1995.

Operating net income for the first nine months of 1996 rose 26 percent to $\$ 1.82$
billion, or $\$ 6.07$ per common share. This compared to net income of $\$ 1.44$
billion, or $\$ 5.26$ per common share, in the first nine months of 1995 .
Third quarter 1996 results include the impact of several acquisitions and loan securitizations completed primarily in 1996 and at the end of 1995.

Net Interest Income
In the third quarter of 1996, average loans and leases grew nine percent over year-earlier levels to $\$ 121$ billion. This increase was driven primarily by a 14 -percent increase in average consumer loans. This loan growth, combined with a 34 basis-point increase in the net interest yield led to a 14 -percent increase in net interest income on a taxable-equivalent basis to $\$ 1.6$ billion in the third quarter 1996. The improvement in the net interest yield to 3.69 percent from 3.35 percent in the third quarter 1995 was primarily the result of balance sheet management initiatives. In conjunction with these initiatives, gains on sales of securities of $\$ 26$ million were taken in the third quarter 1996, up from \$3 million one year ago.

Noninterest Income

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Noninterest income rose 14 percent to $\$ 886$ million in the third quarter of 1996. The year-over-year increase was driven by higher income from mortgage servicing, investment banking and deposit accounts, which offset lower trading revenues.

## Efficiency

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Revenue growth outpaced expense growth over the past twelve months, improving the efficiency ratio to 55.9 percent, compared to 56.7 percent in the third quarter 1995.

## Credit Quality

Total nonperforming assets were $\$ 1.1$ billion on September 30, 1996, or . 93 percent of net loans, leases and factored receivables and other real estate owned. This compared to $\$ 1.0$ billion, or .90 percent of net levels on September 30, 1995. The allowance for credit losses totaled $\$ 2.3$ billion at September 30, 1996, equaling 236 percent of nonperforming loans, compared to $\$ 2.2$ billion, or 256 percent at September 30, 1995. In the third quarter of 1996 , net chargeoffs were $\$ 135$ million. Net charge-offs in the third quarter of 1996 equaled .44 percent of average net loans, leases and factored receivables, compared to .35 percent of average levels in the third quarter of 1995.

## Capital Strength

Total shareholders' equity climbed to $\$ 13.3$ billion on September 30, 1996, up 11 percent from levels one year ago. This represented 7.09 percent of period-end assets, compared to 6.56 percent at September 30 , 1995. Book value per common share rose four percent to $\$ 45.77$ at the end of the third quarter 1996, from one year ago. NationsBank repurchased approximately 13 million of its common shares
in the third quarter 1996.

NationsBank Corporation is a bank holding company that provides financial
products and services nationally and internationally to individuals, businesses, corporations, institutional investors and government agencies. Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., NationsBank has primary retail banking operations in nine states and the District of Columbia. As of September 30, 1996, NationsBank had total assets of $\$ 188$ billion.

<TABLE>
NATIONSBANK CORPORATION FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS
<CAPTION>
\begin{tabular}{cccccc} 
THREE MONTHS & \multicolumn{3}{c}{ NINE MONTHS } \\
ENDED & SEPTEMBER & 30 & ENDED & SEPTEMBER & 30 \\
1996 & 1995 & 1996 & 1995 &
\end{tabular}

FINANCIAL OPERATING SUMMARY
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline <S> & <C> & <C> & <C> & <C> \\
\hline Net income & \$625 & \$530 & \$1,820 & \$1,440 \\
\hline Earnings per common share & 2.12 & 1.95 & 6.07 & 5.26 \\
\hline Fully diluted earnings per common share & 2.09 & 1.93 & 5.99 & 5.19 \\
\hline Cash basis earnings (1) & 658 & 559 & 1,911 & 1,530 \\
\hline Cash basis earnings per share & 2.24 & 2.06 & 6.38 & 5.59 \\
\hline Average common shares issued & 292.633 & 270.306 & 297.772 & 272.790 \\
\hline Average fully diluted common shares issued & 298.067 & 274.994 & 303.077 & 277.505 \\
\hline Price per share of common stock at period end & \$86.875 & \$67.250 & \$86.875 & \$67.250 \\
\hline Common dividends paid & 169 & 135 & 518 & 409 \\
\hline Common dividends paid per share & . 58 & . 50 & 1.74 & 1.50 \\
\hline Preferred dividends paid & 3 & 2 & 11 & 6 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

OPERATING EARNINGS SUMMARY (Taxable-equivalent in millions)
\begin{tabular}{lrrrr} 
Net interest income & \(\$ 1,616\) & \(\$ 1,420\) & \(\$ 4,811\) & \(\$ 4,122\) \\
Provision for credit losses & \((145)\) & \((100)\) & \((455)\) & \((240)\) \\
Gains on sales of securities & 26 & 3 & 34 & 8 \\
Noninterest income & 886 & 776 & 2,688 & 2,232 \\
Other real estate owned expense & \((6)\) & \((7)\) & \((13)\) & \((10)\) \\
Other noninterest expense & \((1,400)\) & \((1,245)\) & \((4,199)\) & \((3,821)\) \\
& & & & \\
Income before income taxes & 977 & 847 & 2,866 & 2,291 \\
Income taxes - including & & & & 851 \\
FTE adjustment* & 352 & 317 & 1,046 & 851,440 \\
Net income & \(\$ 625\) & \(\$ 530\) & \(\$ 1,820\) & \(\$ 1,4\)
\end{tabular}

AVERAGE BALANCE SHEET SUMMARY (In billions)
\begin{tabular}{lrrrr} 
Loans and leases, net & \(\$ 121.197\) & \(\$ 111.455\) & \(\$ 122.729\) & \(\$ 107.763\) \\
Securities held for investment & 3.173 & 14.101 & 3.730 & 16.389 \\
Securities available for sale & 16.388 & 11.891 & 19.227 & 10.132 \\
Total securities & 19.561 & 25.992 & 22.957 & 26.521 \\
Earning assets & 174.299 & 168.452 & 179.465 & 166.219 \\
Total assets & 197.923 & 190.501 & 203.093 & 187.487 \\
Noninterest-bearing deposits & 24.190 & 21.519 & 24.000 & 20.866 \\
Interest-bearing deposits & 83.525 & 77.152 & 84.200 & 78.641 \\
Total deposits & 107.715 & 98.671 & 108.200 & 99.507 \\
Shareholders' equity & 13.133 & 11.487 & 13.276 & 11.299 \\
Common shareholders' equity & 13.014 & 11.450 & 13.163 & 11.263
\end{tabular}

OTHER OPERATING FINANCIAL DATA
\begin{tabular}{lcccc} 
Net interest yield & \(3.69 \%\) & \(3.35 \%\) & \(3.58 \%\) & \(3.31 \%\) \\
\begin{tabular}{l} 
Return on average assets \\
Return on average common
\end{tabular} & 1.26 & 1.10 & 1.20 & 1.03 \\
\begin{tabular}{l} 
shareholders' equity
\end{tabular} & 19.00 & 18.29 & 18.36 & 17.02 \\
Equity to assets ratio & & & & \\
\begin{tabular}{ll} 
(period end)
\end{tabular} & 7.09 & 6.56 & 7.09 & 6.56 \\
Gross charge-offs (in millions) & \(\$ 194\) & \(\$ 151\) & \(\$ 628\) & \(\$ 425\) \\
Net charge-offs (in millions) & 135 & 99 & 447 & 265 \\
\% of average loans, leases and \\
factored accounts receivable, net & \(.44 \%\) & \(.35 \%\) & \(.48 \%\) & \(.33 \%\) \\
Efficiency ratio & 55.92 & 56.67 & 55.97 & 60.14
\end{tabular}

REPORTED RESULTS (Operating results including merger-related charge)
\begin{tabular}{lrrrr} 
Net income & \(\$ 625\) & \(\$ 530\) & \(\$ 1,743\) & \(\$ 1,440\) \\
Earning per common share & 2.12 & 1.95 & 5.82 & 5.26 \\
Fully diluted earnings per & & & &
\end{tabular}
\begin{tabular}{lrrrr}
\begin{tabular}{c} 
common share \\
Return on average common \\
shareholders' equity
\end{tabular} & 2.09 & 1.93 & 5.73 & 5.19 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
(1) Cash basis earnings equal net income excluding amortization of intangibles.
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<CAPTION>
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\begin{tabular}{cr} 
SEPTEMBER 30 \\
1996 & 1995
\end{tabular}

BALANCE SHEET SUMMARY (In billions)
<S>
Loans and leases, net
Securities held for investment
Securities available for sale
Total securities
Earning assets
Factored accounts receivable
Mortgage servicing rights
Goodwill, core deposit and
other intangibles
Total assets
Noninterest-bearing deposits
Interest-bearing deposits
Total deposits
Shareholders' equity
Common shareholders' equity
Per common share (not in billions)
RISK-BASED CAPITAL
Tier 1 capital \$11.128 \$10.232

Tier 1 capital ratio
7.05\% 7.16\%

Total capital
\(\$ 19.031 \quad \$ 16.048\)

Total capital ratio
\(12.05 \% 11.23 \%\)
Leverage ratio
\(6.30 \% \quad 5.96 \%\)

Common shares issued (in millions)
\(288.112 \quad 270.544\)

Allowance for credit losses
\$2.319 \$2.166
Allowance for credit losses
as \% of net loans, leases
and factored accounts receivable \(1.90 \%\) 1.89\%
Allowance for credit losses
as \% of nonperforming loans
\(235.64 \quad 255.57\)
Nonperforming loans \$.984 \$.848
\(\begin{array}{lll}\text { Nonperforming assets } & 1.135 & 1.038\end{array}\)
Nonperforming assets as of:
Total assets
Net loans, leases, factored accounts
receivable and other real estate owned .93\% .90\%

OTHER DATA
Full-time equivalent headcount
63,142 58,370
Banking centers 1,980 1,821
609
</TABLE>
<TABLE>
BUSINESS UNIT RESULTS - Three months ended September 30, 1996 (in millions)
<CAPTION>
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline & \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Total Revenue} & \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Net Income} & Return on Equity & \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Average Loans and Leases, net} \\
\hline <S> & <C> & <C> & <C> & <C> & <C> & <C> & <C> \\
\hline General Bank & \$1,802 & 72\% & \$423 & 68\% & 24\% & \$77,862 & 64\% \\
\hline Global Finance & 525 & 21 & 135 & 22 & 14 & 35,801 & 29 \\
\hline Financial Servi & ces 164 & 7 & 43 & 7 & 14 & 8,068 & 7 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
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