

**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**

December 8, 2003

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(Date of earliest event reported)

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First Federal Bancshares of Arkansas, Inc.

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas	0-28312	71-0785261
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

1401 Highway 62-65 North, Harrison, Arkansas	72601
(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)

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(870) 741-7641

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(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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Not Applicable

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(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

**Item 5. Other Events and Required FD Disclosure**

On December 8, 2003, First Federal Bancshares of Arkansas, Inc. issued a press release announcing a two for one stock split. A copy of the press release is included as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits**

- (a) Not applicable.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) The following exhibit is included with this Report:

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release, dated December 8, 2003

## SIGNATURES

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

FIRST FEDERAL BANCSHARES OF  
ARKANSAS, INC.

By: /s/ Larry J. Brandt  
Name: Larry J. Brandt  
Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: December 8, 2003

# FIRST FEDERAL BANCSHARES

1401 Highway 62-65 North  
P. O. Box 550  
Harrison, AR 72601

FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
**Larry J. Brandt/President-CEO**  
**Tommy Richardson/EVP-COO**  
**Sherri Billings/EVP-CFO**  
**870-741-7641**

## **FIRST FEDERAL BANCSHARES OF ARKANSAS, INC. ANNOUNCES 2-FOR-1 STOCK SPLIT**

**Harrison, Arkansas – December 8, 2003** – (NASDAQ NMS:FFBH) First Federal Bancshares of Arkansas, Inc. (the "Corporation"), a unitary savings and loan holding company for First Federal Bank of Arkansas, FA (the "Bank") announced today that its Board of Directors at their meeting on November 25, 2003 declared a two for one stock split on the common stock of the Corporation payable on December 31, 2003 to the stockholders of record at the close of business on December 17, 2003.

The purpose of the stock split, which will be in the form of a stock dividend of one share for each share held on December 17, 2003, is to increase the number of outstanding shares and the liquidity of the Corporation's common stock. As of December 8, 2003, the Corporation had approximately 2.67 million shares of common stock outstanding. Certificates for the new shares will be issued on or about December 31, 2003.

Larry J. Brandt, President/CEO of the Corporation, stated, "This split is intended to improve the liquidity for the Corporation's common stock and create further interest in and awareness of our common stock. In addition, our stock has experienced a significant increase in market valuation over the last year and the stock split will lower the market price and make our common stock more affordable. We believe this stock split further demonstrates our commitment to enhancing shareholder value."

The Bank, in its 69<sup>th</sup> year, conducts business from 16 offices in the Northcentral and Northwest Arkansas. At September 30, 2003, the Corporation had total assets of \$695.8 million, total liabilities of \$622.2 million and stockholders' equity of \$73.6 million.