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BARNES & NOBLE INC  
Form 8-K  
August 25, 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): August 25, 2003

BARNES & NOBLE, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware

(State or other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1-12302

06-1196501

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(Commission File Number)

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(IRS Employer Identification No.)

122 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY

10011

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(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

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(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code (212) 633-3300  
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(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)  
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Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release of Barnes & Noble, Inc., dated August 21, 2003

Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On August 21, 2003, Barnes & Noble, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release announcing its financial results for the fiscal quarter ended August 2,

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2003. A copy of this press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

The information in this Form 8-K and the Exhibit attached hereto shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

### Use of Non-GAAP Financial Information

To supplement the Company's consolidated financial statements presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), the Company uses non-GAAP measures of EBITDA (defined by the Company as operating profit (loss) before depreciation, amortization and impairment charge, less the minority interest in GameStop Corp.'s EBITDA) for the 13 and 26 weeks ended August 2, 2003 and August 3, 2002.

The Company's management reviews these non-GAAP measures internally to evaluate the Company's performance and manage its operations. In addition, since the Company has historically provided non-GAAP results and guidance to the investment community, the Company believes that the inclusion of non-GAAP financial measures provides consistent and comparable measures to help investors understand the Company's current and future operating results. The non-GAAP measures included in the press release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 have been reconciled to the comparable GAAP measure as required under SEC rules regarding the use of non-GAAP financial measures. The Company urges investors to carefully review the GAAP financial information included as part of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and quarterly earnings releases.

### SIGNATURE

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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 hereunto duly authorized.

BARNES & NOBLE, INC.  
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Joseph J. Lombardi

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Name: Joseph J. Lombardi  
Title: Chief Financial Officer

Date: August 25, 2003