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APPLEBEES INTERNATIONAL INC

Form 8-K

January 28, 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 SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) January 28, 2003  
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Commission File Number: 000-17962

Applebee's International, Inc.  
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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
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43-1461763  
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(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

4551 W. 107th Street, Suite 100, Overland Park, Kansas 66207  
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(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

(913) 967-4000  
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(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

None  
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(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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Item 5. Other Events

On January 28, 2003, Applebee's International, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release entitled "Applebee's International Reports January Comparable

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Sales; Fourth Quarter Earnings Conference Call to be Broadcast over the Internet." The release contained the following information.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Carol DiRaimo,  
Director of Investor Relations  
(913) 967-4109

Applebee's International Reports January Comparable Sales;  
Fourth Quarter 2002 Earnings Conference Call to be Broadcast over the Internet

Overland Park, Kan., January 28, 2003 -- Applebee's International, Inc. (Nasdaq:APPB) today reported comparable sales for the four-week period ended January 26, 2003.

Comparable sales for company restaurants increased 4.2 percent, including the 21 franchise restaurants in Washington, D.C. acquired in November 2002. Excluding the acquired restaurants, comparable sales for company restaurants increased 4.1 percent, reflecting an increase in guest traffic of approximately 2.5 to 3.0 percent, combined with a higher average check. System-wide comparable sales increased 3.3 percent for the January period, and comparable sales for franchise restaurants increased 3.0 percent.

### Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

Applebee's International, Inc. (the "Company") also included information regarding its fourth quarter earnings conference call in the press release. These comments are included below.

The company will release complete fourth quarter and fiscal year 2002 results after the market closes on February 12, 2003, and a conference call will be held on Thursday morning, February 13, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. Central Time (11:00 a.m. Eastern Time). The conference call will be broadcast live over the Internet and a replay will be available shortly after the call on the Investor Relations section of the company's website ([www.applebees.com](http://www.applebees.com)).

Applebee's International, Inc., headquartered in Overland Park, Kan., develops, franchises and operates restaurants under the Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar brand, the largest casual dining concept in the world. As of January 26, 2003, there were 1,502 Applebee's restaurants operating system-wide in 49 states and nine international countries. Additional information on Applebee's International can be found at the company's website ([www.applebees.com](http://www.applebees.com)).

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### 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.

APPLEBEE'S INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
(Registrant)

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Date: January 28, 2003  
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By: /s/ Steven K. Lumpkin  
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Steven K. Lumpkin  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer