

MCDONALDS CORP  
Form 8-K  
September 30, 2003

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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): September 24, 2003

McDONALD'S CORPORATION  
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in Charter)

Delaware  
(State or other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

1-5231  
(Commission File No.)

36-2361282  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

One McDonald's Plaza  
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523  
(630) 623-3000  
(Address and Phone Number of Principal Executive Offices)

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Item 5. Other Events.

On September 24, 2003, McDonald's Corporation (the "Company") issued a press release announcing the Company's annual cash dividend. The press release is furnished as Exhibit 99 and attached hereto.

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SIGNATURE

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.

McDONALD'S CORPORATION

(Registrant)

Date: September 30, 2003

By: /s/ MATTHEW H. PAULL

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Matthew H. Paull  
Corporate Executive Vice President and

Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.

99

News Release of McDonald's Corporation issued September 24, 2003:  
McDonald's Revitalization Plan on Track - 70% Dividend Increase...Biggest in 25 Years

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QuickLinks

Item 5. Other Events.

SIGNATURE

Exhibit Index