SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
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FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15 (d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
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DATE OF REPORT: JULY 14, 1999
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HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES INCORPORATED
(EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN ITS CHARTER)

| Maryland | 0-2525 | 31-0724920 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (STATE OR OTHER | (COMMISSION FILE NO.) | (IRS EMPLOYER |
| JURISDICTION OF |  | IDENTIFICATION NUMBER) |
| INCORPORATION OR |  |  |
| ORGANIZATION) |  |  |

$\qquad$

Huntington Center 41 South High Street Columbus, Ohio 43287
(614) 480-8300
(ADDRESS, INCLUDING ZIP CODE, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER
INCLUDING AREA CODE OF REGISTRANT'S
PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES)

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS.

On July 14, 1999, Huntington Bancshares Incorporated ("Huntington") issued a news release announcing its earnings for the second quarter and six months ended June 30, 1999. The information contained in the news release, which is attached as an exhibit to this report, is incorporated herein by reference.

The information contained or incorporated by reference in this Current Report on Form 8-K may contain forward-looking statements, including certain plans, expectations, goals, and projections, which are subject to numerous assumptions, risks, and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those contained or implied by such statements for a variety of factors, including: changes in economic conditions; movements in interest rates; competitive pressures on product pricing and services; success and timing of business strategies; the successful integration of acquired businesses; the nature, extent, and timing of governmental actions and reforms; the risks of Year 2000 disruption; and extended disruption of vital infrastructure.

ITEM
7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.
(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99 -- News release of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated, dated July 14, 1999.

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.

HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES INCORPORATED

Date: July 30, 1999
By: /s/ Judith D. Fisher
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Judith D. Fisher, Executive Vice
President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. Description Page
99 * News release of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated issued on July 14, 1999.


* Filed with this report.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SUBMITTED: JULY 14, 1999
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:
MEDIA

## ANALYSTS

- -----

KIP EDWARDSON (614) 480-4433

| LAURIE COUNSEL | $(614)$ | $480-3878$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| CHERI GRAY | $(614)$ | $480-3803$ |

## HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES REPORTS 16\% INCREASE IN EARNINGS PER SHARE FOR SECOND QUARTER

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Huntington Bancshares Incorporated (NASDAQ: HBAN; www.huntington.com) today reported record second quarter earnings of $\$ 105.0$ million, or $\$ .50$ per common share--diluted, representing a $16.3 \%$ increase in earnings per share over the same period last year. These results compare with net income and earnings per share of $\$ 92.3$ million and $\$ .43$ a year ago. For the recent three months, Huntington's return on equity (ROE) was $19.48 \%$ and its return on assets (ROA) was $1.47 \%$ versus $17.70 \%$ and $1.42 \%$, respectively, in the second quarter of 1998. On a cash basis, earnings per share grew $17.8 \%$ to $\$ .53$, with a corresponding ROE of $30.61 \%$ and ROA of $1.61 \%$.
"Our second quarter results demonstrate continued progress toward achieving our 1999 earnings goal. We began the year with a strong commitment to becoming a more efficient organization, and I am pleased to report that we are delivering results, as evidenced by the sharp improvement in efficiency from $58.78 \%$ a year ago to $50.93 \%$ today," said Frank Wobst, chairman and chief executive officer. "Other key performance ratios are also the highest they have been in recent years. Importantly, we have been able to sustain solid loan growth while maintaining the excellent credit quality for which Huntington has long been known."

Net interest income for the second quarter was $\$ 26.1$ million, up $5.5 \%$ from the year-ago quarter. This improvement was primarily driven by loan growth and was achieved despite a managed reduction in investment securities.

Non-interest income (excluding gains from securities and loan sales) increased 20.1\% attributable to overall growth in fee-based activities. Brokerage and insurance income was up nearly $50 \%$ from a year ago, due to an expanded sales force of licensed investment
-more-
Visit the Huntington web site at www.huntington.com representatives as well as high demand for Huntington's proprietary annuity product. Electronic banking revenue strengthened as a result of competitive fee pricing and a growing on-line banking customer base. Over the past twelve months, Web Bank users have increased from 35,000 to more than 70,000 . Service charges on deposit accounts were up 18.5\% from last year, reflecting an increase in fees generated by cash management products as well as expansion in Florida.

Non-interest expense for the recent three months was $\$ 202.1$ million, down $2.2 \%$ compared with second quarter 1998 , despite significant expansion in the Florida market. Excluding the impact of last year's Florida acquisition, non-interest expense declined 10\% from the same period last year. Personnel costs were down $7 \%$ as the company has substantially completed its planned staffing reductions. The efficiency ratio improved for the fourth consecutive quarter and is approaching the $50 \%$ level targeted by management for December 1999.

Loan growth continues to be strong, benefited by the favorable economic climate in Huntington's key markets. On an annualized basis, average total loans increased nearly $10 \%$ from the first three months of the year, excluding residential real estate portfolio lending. Commercial lending, which is predominantly to small- and middle-market companies, was up $10.4 \%$. Consumer lending also gained momentum in the quarter, increasing $8.7 \%$, led by automobile financing and the company's home equity product. In the second quarter, Huntington entered the automobile financing market in Florida, where loan production in just three months has already surpassed some of the company's more mature markets.

Credit quality improved from the previous quarter. Net charge-offs represented .38\% of total loans, down 14 basis points from the previous quarter, and reached their lowest level in three years. Nonperforming assets dropped to
$\$ 93.6$ million, or $.46 \%$ of total loans and other real estate. Coverage ratios were 382\% of nonperforming loans and 311\% of nonperforming assets. The allowance for loan losses as a percent of total loans was 1.46\% at June 30, 1999.

Huntington's average equity to average assets was $7.52 \%$ in the recent three month period. The company and its bank subsidiary continue to maintain healthy capital positions, exceeding requirements for a "well-capitalized" institution. Tier I and total risk based capital ratios were $7.29 \%$ and $10.65 \%$, respectively, at June 30, 1999.

Huntington's Board of Directors declared a $10 \%$ stock dividend on May 19, 1999. The ex-dividend date of this distribution was July 12, 1999. Accordingly, the share price of Huntington's common stock adjusted on that date. However, the per share information included in the above paragraphs has not been restated for this pending dividend, which will be paid July 30, 1999.

Huntington Bancshares is a regional bank holding company headquartered in Columbus, Ohio with assets of $\$ 28$ billion. Through its affiliated companies, The Huntington has more than 133 years of serving the financial needs of its customers.

The Huntington provides innovative products and services through its more than 600 offices in Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, and West Virginia. International banking services are made available through the headquarters office in Columbus and additional offices located in the Cayman Islands and Hong Kong. The Huntington also offers products and services through its technologically-advanced, 24-hour telephone bank, a network of more than 1,300 ATMs and its Web Bank at www.huntington.com.

For faxed copies of current news releases, please call our fax-on-demand service, Company News on Call, at (800) 758-5804 extension 423276.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENT DISCLOSURE:
This press release contains certain forward-looking statements, including certain plans, expectations, goals, and projections, which are subject to numerous assumptions, risks, and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those contained or implied by such statements for a variety of factors including: changes in economic conditions; movements in interest rates; competitive pressures on product pricing and services; success and timing of business strategies; the successful integration of acquired businesses; the nature, extent, and timing of governmental actions and reforms; the risks of Year 2000 disruption; and extended disruption of vital infrastructure.
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