# 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): November 17, 2003

## **AVI BioPharma, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Oregon** (State or other jurisdiction of

incorporation or organization)

0-22613

(Commission File Number)

93-0797222 (IRS Employer Identification Number)

One S.W. Columbia, Suite 1105 Portland, OR 97258

(Address of principal executive offices)

(503) 227-0554 Registrant s telephone number, including area code

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### Item 5. Other Events and Regulation FD Disclosure.

The information set forth below pursuant to Item 12 shall also be deemed filed pursuant to Item 5.

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

**Exhibit Number** 

99.1

**Description** Press Release dated November 17, 2003 announcing publication of two preclinical studies evaluating the potential of AVI s NEUGENE antisense compounds in prostate cancer models.

#### Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

AVI BioPharma, Inc. (the Company ) issued a press release on November 17, 2003, before the opening of trading in its Common Stock on the Nasdaq National Market System. A copy of the press release is filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

The Press Release announced publication of two preclinical studies evaluating the potential of AVI s NEUGEN® antisense compounds in prostate cancer models.

### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Portland, State of Oregon, on November 18, 2003.

AVI BioPharma, Inc.

By:

/s/ ALAN P.TIMMINS Alan P. Timmins President and Chief Operating Officer (Principal Operating Officer)