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KROGER CO Form 8-K June 26, 2001

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report: June 26, 2001

THE KROGER CO. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

An Ohio Corporation (State or other jurisdiction (Commission File of incorporation)

No. 1-303 Number)

31-0345740 (IRS Employer Number)

1014 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH 45201 (Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number: (513) 762-4000

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Item 5. Other Events

> On June 26, 2001, the Company released its earnings for the first quarter of 2001. Attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 is the text of that release.

Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits:

99.1 Earnings release for first quarter 2001.

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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 hereto duly authorized.

THE KROGER CO.

June 26, 2001 By: (Paul Heldman)

Paul Heldman

Senior Vice President, Secretary

and General Counsel

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. Exhibit

99.1 Earnings release for first quarter 2001.