ATHEROGENICS INC Form SC 13G February 14, 2005

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# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

washington, D.C. 20049
SCHEDULE 13G
Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
(Amendment No. ) *
Atherogenics, Inc.
(Name of Issuer)
Common Stock
(Title of Class of Securities)
047439104
(CUSIP Number)
December 31, 2004
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)
Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:
[X] Rule 13d-1(b)
[ ] Rule 13d-1(c)
[ ] Rule 13d-1(d)
*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.
The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).
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1

CUSIP No. 0474	139104	13G	Page 2 of 9 Pages
1 NAME OF F	REPORTING PERS		
		FICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON	
Columb	oia Wanger Ass	set Management, L.P. 04-3519872	
2 CHECK THE	APPROPRIATE	BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*	(a) [_
Not Ap	plicable		(b) [_]
3 SEC USE C	ONLY		
4 CITIZENSE	HIP OR PLACE C	DF ORGANIZATION	
Delawa	are		
NUMBER OF	5 SOLE VC	TING POWER	
SHARES	None	2	
BENEFICIALLY	6 SHARED	VOTING POWER	
OWNED BY	2,00	01,300	
EACH	7 SOLE DI	ISPOSITIVE POWER	
REPORTING	None	<u> </u>	
PERSON	8 SHARED	DISPOSITIVE POWER	
WITH	2 <b>,</b> 00	01,300	
9 AGGREGATE	AMOUNT BENEF	FICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PEF	RSON
2,001,			
10 CHECK BOX	IF THE AGGRE	EGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CEF	RTAIN SHARES*
Not Ap	pplicable		[_]
		ESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9	
5.4%			
12 TYPE OF F	REPORTING PERS	SON*	
IA			

CUSIP No. 0474		13G	Page 3 of 9 Page:
	REPORTING PERSON	TION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON	
WAM Ac	equisition GP, Inc		
2 CHECK THE	E APPROPRIATE BOX	IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*	
	pplicable		(a) [i (b) [i
3 SEC USE C			
4 CITIZENSE	HIP OR PLACE OF OF	RGANIZATION	
Delawa	are		
NUMBER OF	5 SOLE VOTING	G POWER	
SHARES	None		
BENEFICIALLY	6 SHARED VOTI	ING POWER	
OWNED BY	2,001,30	00	
EACH	7 SOLE DISPOS		
REPORTING	None		
PERSON	8 SHARED DISE	POSITIVE POWER	
WITH	2,001,30	)0	
9 AGGREGATE	E AMOUNT BENEFICIA	ALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTI	ING PERSON
2,001,	300		
10 CHECK BOX	IF THE AGGREGATE	E AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUE	
Not Ap	pplicable		[_:
11 PERCENT C	OF CLASS REPRESENT	TED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9	
5.4%			
12 TYPE OF F	REPORTING PERSON*		

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Item 1(a)	Name of Issuer:
	Atherogenics, Inc.
Item 1(b)	Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:
	8995 Westside Parkway Alpharetta, Georgia 30004
Item 2(a)	Name of Person Filing:
	Columbia Wanger Asset Management, L.P. ("WAM") WAM Acquisition GP, Inc., the general partner of WAM ("WAM GP")
Item 2(b)	Address of Principal Business Office:
	WAM and WAM GP are both located at:
	227 West Monroe Street, Suite 3000 Chicago, Illinois 60606
Item 2(c)	Citizenship:
	WAM is a Delaware limited partnership and WAM GP is a Delaware corporation.
Item 2(d)	Title of Class of Securities:
	Common Stock
Item 2(e)	CUSIP Number:
	047439104
Item 3	Type of Person:
	(e) WAM is an Investment Adviser registered under section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940; WAM GP is the General Partner of the Investment Adviser.
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T+om 4	Ownership (at December 31, 2004):

	(a) Amount owned "beneficially" within the meaning of rule 13d-3:				
	2,001,300				
	(b) Percent of class:				
	5.4% (based on 37,341,847 shares outstanding as of October 29, 2004)				
	(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:				
	(i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: none				
	(ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 2,001,300				
	<pre>(iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition     of: none</pre>				
	(iv) shared power to dispose or to direct disposition of: 2,001,300				
Item 5	Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:				
	Not Applicable				
Item 6	Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person:				
	The shares reported herein have been acquired on behalf of discretionary clients of WAM. Persons other than WAM and WAM GP are entitled to receive all dividends from, and proceeds from the sale of, those shares.				
Item 7	Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company:				
	Not Applicable				
Item 8	Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:				
	Not Applicable				
Item 9	Notice of Dissolution of Group:				
	Not Applicable				
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Item 10 Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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#### SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 14, 2005

The undersigned corporation, on the date above written, agrees and consents to the joint filing on its behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with its beneficial ownership of the security reported herein.

WAM Acquisition GP, Inc. for itself and as general partner of COLUMBIA WANGER ASSET MANAGEMENT, L.P.

By: /s/ Bruce H. Lauer

Bruce H. Lauer Senior Vice President and

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Secretary

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#### EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit 1 Joint Filing Agreement dated as of February 14, 2005 by and among Columbia Wanger Asset Management, L.P. and WAM Acquisition GP, Inc.

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EXHIBIT 1

#### JOINT FILING AGREEMENT

The undersigned hereby agree to the joint filing of the Schedule 13G to which this Agreement is attached.

Dated: February 14, 2005

WAM Acquisition GP, Inc. for itself and as general partner of COLUMBIA WANGER ASSET MANAGEMENT, L.P.

By: /s/ Bruce H. Lauer

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Bruce H. Lauer Senior Vice President and Secretary

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