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FIFTH THIRD BANCORP Form 8-K March 27, 2003

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): March 27, 2003

FIFTH THIRD BANCORP (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio 0-8076 31-0854434 (State or other jurisdiction (Commission (IRS Employer of incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

Fifth Third Center
38 Fountain Square Plaza, Cincinnati, Ohio
(Address of principal executive offices)

45263 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (513) 579-5300

Not Applicable (Former name or address, if changed since last report)

Item 5. Other Events and Regulation FD Disclosure

On March 27, 2003, Fifth Third Bancorp issued a press release regarding an authorization by the Board of Directors to repurchase shares of its common stock. The press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits

Exhibit 99.1 - Fifth Third Announces Share Repurchase Authorization

SIGNATURES

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.

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FIFTH THIRD BANCORP (Registrant)

March 27, 2003

/s/ Neal E. Arnold

Neal E. Arnold Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer