

FIFTH THIRD BANCORP  
Form 8-K  
January 18, 2005

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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT**  
**TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE**  
**SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): January 18, 2005

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**FIFTH THIRD BANCORP**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

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**OHIO**

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

**0-8076**  
(Commission File Number)

**31-0854434**  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

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**Fifth Third Center**

**38 Fountain Square Plaza, Cincinnati, Ohio**  
**(Address of Principal Executive Offices)**

**45263**  
**(Zip Code)**

**(513) 534-5300**

**(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)**

**Not Applicable**

**(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)**

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- .. Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - .. Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 8.01 Other Events**

On January 18, 2005 the Registrant issued a Press Release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1. In the Release, the Registrant announced a Share Repurchase Program as authorized by the Board of Directors to acquire in the open market or in any private transaction, from time-to-time and in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations, up to 20 million common shares for the issuance of stock based compensation awards and other corporate purposes.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release of Fifth Third Bancorp dated January 18, 2005.

**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.

January 18, 2005

**FIFTH THIRD BANCORP**  
(Registrant)

/s/ R. Mark Graf

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R. Mark Graf  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer