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FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 4

January 07, 2003

- Name and Address of Reporting Person Marcum, Stephen S.
 - P.O. Box 747

Hamilton, OH 45012

- Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol First Financial Bancorp (FFBC)
- 3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary) 275-42-1219
- 4. Statement for Month/Day/Year 01/06/2003
- 5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)
- 6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
 - (X) Director () 10% Owner
 - () Officer (give title below) () Other (specify below)
- 7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
 - (X) Form filed by One Reporting Person
 - () Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

TABLE I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

+	1	action Date (Month/	action action Date Code (Month/			+		
	Year)	Year)	Code	V	Amount 	A/D	Price	Transa
Common Stock			*	,				24410 12128. 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Common Stock Common Stock								9853 9853
Common Stock								9726
Common Stock FFBC (Directors Fee Stock Plan)	01/06/2003		Р		145	А	\$17.0985	36894 2247

TABLE II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

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	1.	2.	3.	3A.	4.	5.	6.	7.
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 	 Conver-	•	 Execu- tion	•		 Numbe		 Date Exerc:	isahle	Title a of Unde Securit +	ies
	Exercise	•	Date	•				and Expirat			Amount
1						-		(Month/Day	•		or
						_		+			Number
Derivative	: ative	Day/	Day/	+	-+	+	+	+Date Exer-	Expira-		of
-	-							cisable		Title	Shares
+ 1999 (NQ) Stock	\$20.671	+	+	+	-+	+	+	+	04/27/2009	Common Stock	+
Option 1996 (NQ) Stock Option	\$10.8941								04/23/2006	Common Stock	
2002 (NQ) Stock	\$18.84								04/23/2012	Common Stock	

Explanation of Responses:

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON /s/ Terri J. Ziepfel

DATE 01/07/2003

Option