

NIEHAUS ROBERT P  
 Form 4  
 April 01, 2003  
 SEC Form 4

<p><b>FORM 4</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).</p>	<p><b>UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION</b>                  Washington, D.C. 20549</p> <p><b>STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP</b></p> <p>Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940</p>	<p>OMB APPROVAL</p> <hr/> <p>OMB Number: 3235-0287                  Expires: January 31, 2005                  Estimated average burden hours per response. . . . . 0.5</p>	
<p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  <b>Niehaus, Robert P.</b></p> <p>_____                  (Last) (First)                  (Middle)  <b>38 Fountain Square Plaza</b></p> <p>_____                  (Street)  <b>Cincinnati, OH 45263</b></p> <p>_____                  (City) (State)                  (Zip)</p>	<p>2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p><b>Fifth Third Bancorp                  FITB</b></p> <p>3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)</p>	<p>4. Statement for (Month/Day/Year)</p> <p><b>03/28/2003</b></p> <p>5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)</p>	<p>6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer                  (Check all applicable)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)</p> <p>Description <b><u>Executive Vice President</u></b></p> <p>7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person  <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p>

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	A/D	Price			
Common Stock	03/28/2003		J(1)(2)		75,000	D		128,861	D	
Common Stock	03/28/2003		J(1)(2)		75,000	A		75,000	I	by Trusts(2)
Common Stock	03/28/2003		G		1,233	D		127,628	D	
Common Stock	03/28/2003		J(3)		78	A		50,897	I	by FLP, LP(4)
Common Stock								73,427	I	by Spouse

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)													
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr.8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable(DE) and Expiration Date(ED) (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr.5)	9. N D S B O F R T (I
				Code	V	A	D	DE	ED	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		
Option to Purchase	\$51.46	03/28/2003		A		70,000		03/28/2003(5)	03/28/2013	Common Stock	70,000	0(6)	8

**Explanation of Responses:**

- (1) The reporting person has established a series of Grantor Retained Annuity Trusts (GRATs) in connection with his tax and estate planning. On March 28, 2003, the reporting person contributed 75,000 shares directly to his GRATs.  
 (2) Transfer to various GRATs of which the reporting person is a beneficiary.  
 (3) Transfer of shares to Niehaus Investors Limited Partnership by adult children of the reporting person.  
 (4) Niehaus Investors Limited Partnership (a family limited partnership) of which the reporting person, his spouse and their three children are the only partners.  
 (5) Indicates grant date. Options are exercisable as follows: 25% six months from grant date; 50% one year from grant; 75% two years from grant and 100% three years from grant.  
 (6) Issued pursuant to Fifth Third Bancorp 1998 Long-Term Incentive Stock Plan. No consideration paid.  
 (7) Includes total number of unexercised option grants previously reported.

**By:**

**Date:**

/s/ Paul L. Reynolds,

04/01/2003

Attorney-in-Fact for Robert P. Niehaus

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

SEC 1474 (9-02)

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not

required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.