

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 4

April 09, 2003

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person  
 Bidwell, Martin J.  
 3300 Central Avenue  
 Middletown, OH 45044
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 First Financial Bancorp (FFBC)
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)  
 282-58-5303
4. Statement for Month/Day/Year  
 04/08/2003
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  
 Director                       10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)     Other (specify below)
7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  
 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. Title of Security	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Execution Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)	5. Amount or Price	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities
Common Stock							2136
Common Stock							0
FFBC (Directors Fee Stock Plan)	04/08/2003		P	193	A \$16.4725		2440

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

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Derivative Security Exercise Price of	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Execution Date (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities
1999 (NQ) Stock Option	\$20.671					04/27/2009	Common Stock

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2002 (NQ) \$18.84  
Stock  
Option

04/23/2012 Common  
Stock

Explanation of Responses:

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

/s/ Terri J. Ziepfel

DATE

04/09/2003