FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/
Form 4
April 09, 2003

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
   Thatcher, Perry D.
   7 Gardner Place
   Middletown, OH 45042
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
   First Financial Bancorp (FFBC)
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
   269-26-4883
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)
   (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. 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. Amo
			Code	V	Amount	A/D	Price	Securi Benefi Owned Follow Report Transa
Common Stock								5163
Common Stock								5613
Common Stock	04/08/2003		J		9.9566	A	$0.0000	161.45