

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP
Form 10-Q
June 11, 2003

=====

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Quarter Ended April 30, 2003

Commission file number 1-12006

FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada
(State of incorporation)

88-0244792
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

733 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017
(Address of principal executive offices)
(Zip code)

(212) 599-8000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes X No
--- ---

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes X No
--- ---

At June 2, 2003, 18,519,543 shares of Registrant's common stock, \$.50 par value, were outstanding.

=====

FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q
for the quarter ended April 30, 2003

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part I - Financial Information	Page No.	
Item 1	Financial Statements	
	Consolidated Balance Sheets at April 30, 2003 (unaudited) and July 31, 2002 (audited)	3
	Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the nine months ended April 30, 2003 and 2002 (unaudited)	4
	Consolidated Income Statements for the three and nine months ended April 30, 2003 and 2002 (unaudited)	5
	Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended April 30, 2003 and 2002 (unaudited)	6
	Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	7-12
Item 2	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	12-19
Item 4	Controls and Procedures	19
Part II - Other Information		
Item 6	Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K	20-21
	Signatures	22
	Certifications	23-24
Exhibit 99.1	Section 906 Certification of Chief Executive Officer	25
Exhibit 99.2	Section 906 Certification of Chief Financial Officer	26

FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(In thousands, except par value)

April 30,
2003 *

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

ASSETS

Finance receivables	\$1,402,715	\$1,
Allowance for possible losses	(23,634)	

Finance receivables - net	1,379,081	1,
Cash	9,662	
Other assets	35,221	

TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,423,964	\$1,
=====		

LIABILITIES

Senior debt:		
Long-term	\$699,832	\$
Short-term	354,937	
Subordinated debt	--	
Accrued interest, taxes and other liabilities	59,221	

Total liabilities	1,113,990	1,

STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Preferred stock - \$1 par value, authorized 5,000,000 shares, none issued	--	
Common stock - \$.50 par value, authorized 100,000,000 shares; shares issued and outstanding: 18,518 (net of 149 treasury shares) at April 30, 2003 and 17,372 (net of 137 treasury shares) at July 31, 2002	9,259	
Additional paid-in capital	105,249	
Retained earnings	195,466	

Total stockholders' equity	309,974	

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$1,423,964	\$1,
=====		

3

FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY *
(In thousands)

	Common Stock - \$.50 Par Value			R
	Number of Shares	Par Value	Additional Paid-in Capital	

Nine months ended April 30, 2002				E

Balance at July 31, 2001	16,540	\$8,270	\$62,921	\$
Shares issued under employee stock plans	217	109	1,971	
Compensation recognized under employee				

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

stock plans	--	--	769	
Tax benefit from stock options	--	--	137	
Other	--	--	23	
Net earnings	--	--	--	

BALANCE AT APRIL 30, 2002	16,757	\$8,379	\$65,821	\$
=====				

Common Stock - \$.50 Par Value				

	Number		Additional	
	of		Paid-in	
	Shares	Par Value	Capital	

Nine months ended April 30, 2003				
=====				
Balance at July 31, 2002	17,372	\$8,686	\$67,595	\$
Conversion of subordinated debt	1,159	580	34,437	
Acquisition of treasury shares	(12)	(6)	(220)	
Shares issued under employee stock plans	132	66	1,097	
Shares canceled under employee stock plans	(133)	(67)	67	
Compensation recognized under employee stock plans	--	--	1,950	
Tax benefit from stock options	--	--	323	
Net earnings	--	--	--	

BALANCE AT APRIL 30, 2003	18,518	\$9,259	\$105,249	\$
=====				

4

FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENTS *
(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	Three months ended		Nine months
	April 30,		April
	2003	2002	2003

Finance income	\$30,692	\$34,188	\$98,941
Interest expense	9,995	11,852	33,725

Net finance income before provision for possible losses on finance receivables	20,697	22,336	65,216
Provision for possible losses on finance receivables	4,050	1,400	7,900

Net finance income	16,647	20,936	57,316
Salaries and other expenses	5,823	5,414	17,305
Loss on redemption of convertible debt	--	--	1,737

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Earnings before income taxes	10,824	15,522	38,274
Provision for income taxes	4,239	6,116	15,096
NET EARNINGS	\$6,585	\$9,406	\$23,178
EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE:			
Diluted	\$0.36	\$0.50	\$1.27
Basic	\$0.36	\$0.56	\$1.29

5

FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS *
(In thousands)

Nine months ended April 30,		2003
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net earnings		\$23,178
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Provision for possible losses on finance receivables		7,900
Depreciation and amortization		12,787
Loss on redemption of convertible debt		1,737
Increase in other assets		(3,159)
Decrease in accrued interest, taxes and other liabilities		(15,725)
Other		323
Net cash provided by operating activities		27,041
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Finance receivables - originated		(497,141)
Collections of finance receivables (including proceeds from asset sales)		506,958
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		9,817
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Commercial paper - maturities 90 days or less, net increase (decrease)		(102,486)
Commercial paper - maturities greater than 90 days:		
Proceeds		65,067
Repayments		(67,978)
Bank borrowings, net decrease		(60,230)
Proceeds from senior term notes issued		215,000
Proceeds from asset securitization financings		100,000
Repayments of senior term notes		(125,000)
Redemptions of subordinated debt		(59,598)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options		1,163
Acquisition of treasury shares		(226)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		(34,288)

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	2,570
Cash - beginning of period	7,092
<hr/>	
CASH - END OF PERIOD	\$9,662
<hr/>	
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:	
Interest paid	\$33,261
<hr/>	
Income taxes paid	\$17,816
<hr/>	

6

FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

In the opinion of the management of Financial Federal Corporation and Subsidiaries (the "Company"), the accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring items) necessary to present fairly the financial position at April 30, 2003 and the results of operations and cash flows of the Company for the three and nine month periods ended April 30, 2003 and 2002. These condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and note disclosures included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2002. The consolidated results of operations for the three and nine month periods ended April 30, 2003 and 2002 are not necessarily indicative of the results for the respective full years.

Effective August 1, 2002, the Company classified assets received to satisfy finance receivables (repossessed equipment) as other assets. Prior to August 1, 2002, the Company classified these assets as finance receivables. Assets received to satisfy finance receivables are initially written-down to their current estimated net liquidation value by a charge to the allowance for possible losses and any subsequent write-downs and recoveries are reflected in operating income. Certain prior year amounts were reclassified to reflect this change. Also effective August 1, 2002, the Company accelerated the non-accrual classification of finance receivables. Finance receivables with a contractual payment 90 days or more past due are classified as non-accrual; the prior threshold was 120 days. This change did not have a significant impact on the Company's results of operations and increased non-accrual finance receivables by \$5,306 at April 30, 2003. Management made these changes to conform to industry practice.

Description of Business

The Company provides collateralized lending, financing and leasing services nationwide to middle-market businesses in the general construction, road and infrastructure construction and repair, road transportation, manufacturing and waste disposal industries. The Company lends against, finances and leases a wide range of revenue-producing/essential-use equipment such as cranes, earth movers, machine tools, personnel lifts, trailers and trucks.

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company uses derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to the effects of changes in market interest rates on its debt. The Company does not use derivatives for speculation and the Company does not trade derivatives. The fair value of derivatives is recorded as an asset or liability and any changes in fair value are recorded in earnings. For derivatives designated as a fair value hedge, the hedged asset or liability is recorded at fair value and any changes in fair value are recorded in earnings. The changes in fair value of the derivative designated as a fair value hedge and the hedged asset or liability will offset in correlation to the effectiveness of the hedging relationship. If certain conditions are met, these changes will offset exactly. The Company does not have any cash flow hedges.

Derivatives designated as a hedge must be linked to a specific asset, liability or firm commitment and the risk management objective and strategy must be documented at inception of the hedging relationship as well as the method to be used to determine the effectiveness/ineffectiveness of the hedging relationship.

Stock-Based Compensation

The Company adopted the disclosure-only provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation," and therefore applies Accounting Principles Board Opinion ("APB") No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees," and related Interpretations to account for its stock options. Under APB No. 25, compensation expense is not recorded for stock options granted with an exercise price at least equal to the stock's market price on the grant date. Since the exercise price of all of the Company's stock options equaled the stock's market price on the respective grant dates, compensation expense has not been recorded. The Company records compensation expense for restricted stock awards based on the stock's market price on the grant date and the vesting period. If the expense recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123 were applied, compensation expense would have been recorded for stock options

7

based on their fair value computed with an option-pricing model. The effect on net earnings and earnings per share had the Company recorded compensation expense using the fair value method under SFAS No. 123 follows:

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	April 30,		April 30,	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Net earnings, as reported	\$6,585	\$9,406	\$23,178	\$27,460
Add: Compensation expense recorded for restricted stock awards (after-tax)	352	299	1,190	469
Deduct: Total stock-based compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards (after-tax)	(956)	(810)	(2,591)	(2,054)
Pro forma net earnings	\$5,981	\$8,895	\$21,777	\$25,875
Diluted earnings per common share:				

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

As reported	\$0.36	\$0.50	\$1.27	\$1.48
Pro forma	0.33	0.48	1.19	1.40
Basic earnings per common share:				
As reported	\$0.36	\$0.56	\$1.29	\$1.65
Pro forma	0.33	0.53	1.21	1.56

New Accounting Standards

On August 1, 2002, the Company adopted SFAS No. 145, "Rescission of FASB Statements No. 4, 44, and 64, Amendment of FASB Statement No. 13, and Technical Corrections." SFAS No. 4, "Reporting Gains and Losses from Extinguishment of Debt," required debt extinguishment gains and losses to be classified as an extraordinary item. Due to the rescission of SFAS No. 4, the \$1,737 loss the Company incurred on its August 2002 convertible debt redemption (see Note 3) was reported as a separate item in operating earnings instead of an extraordinary item net of income taxes.

In November 2002, the FASB issued Interpretation ("FIN") No. 45, "Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others." FIN No. 45 requires a guarantor to record a liability for the fair value of its guarantees when issued and disclose them in detail in its interim and annual financial statements. The disclosure requirements are effective for financial statements of periods ending after December 15, 2002. The recognition and measurement provisions are applicable prospectively to guarantees issued or modified after December 31, 2002. The Company generally does not issue guarantees and did not have any material guarantees at April 30, 2003. Therefore, FIN No. 45 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In December 2002, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued SFAS No. 148, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation--Transition and Disclosure." SFAS No. 148 provides alternative methods of transition for a voluntary change to expense stock-based employee compensation and requires prominent disclosures in annual and interim financial statements about the method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation and the effect of the method used on reported results. The required disclosures appear in the above Stock-Based Compensation section. The Company does not currently plan to make a voluntary change to record expense for stock options.

In January 2003, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 46, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities--an interpretation of ARB No. 51." Variable interest entities often are created for a single specified purpose, for example, to facilitate securitization, leasing, hedging, research and development, reinsurance or other transactions or arrangements. FIN No. 46 requires certain variable interest entities to be consolidated by the primary beneficiary (the business enterprise that will absorb a majority of the expected losses or receive a majority of the expected residual returns of the variable interest entity). FIN No. 46 applies to variable interest entities created or acquired after January 31, 2003. For variable interest entities created or acquired on or prior to January 31, 2003, the Company is required to apply FIN No. 46 no later than August 1, 2003. The Company has one variable interest entity (a special purpose entity that it established for its asset securitization facility). This entity is already fully consolidated under current accounting rules and will continue to be fully consolidated under FIN No. 46. The Company does not expect the adoption of FIN No. 46 will have a material impact on its results of operations or financial position.

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

NOTE 2 - FINANCE RECEIVABLES

Finance receivables comprise installment sale agreements and secured loans (including line of credit arrangements), collectively referred to as loans, with fixed or floating (indexed to the prime rate) interest rates, and investments in direct financing leases as follows:

	April 30, 2003	July 31, 2002
Loans:		
Fixed rate	\$1,042,973	\$1,009,275
Floating rate	90,408	100,558
Total loans	1,133,381	1,109,833
Direct financing leases	269,334	326,636
Finance receivables	\$1,402,715	\$1,436,469

Direct financing leases include residual values of \$45,973 at April 30, 2003 and \$57,432 at July 31, 2002.

Non-performing assets comprise finance receivables classified as non-accrual (income recognition has been suspended) and assets received to satisfy finance receivables (repossessed equipment) as follows:

	April 30, 2003	July 31, 2002
Finance receivables classified as non-accrual	\$44,469	\$29,374
Assets received to satisfy finance receivables	28,753	23,788
Non-performing assets	\$73,222	\$53,162

The activity of the allowance for possible losses follows:

	Three months ended April 30,		Nine months ended April 30,	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Beginning balance	\$23,742	\$23,023	\$24,171	\$21,938
Provision	4,050	1,400	7,900	4,025
Write-downs	(4,195)	(1,519)	(9,338)	(4,586)
Recoveries	37	678	901	2,205
Ending balance	\$23,634	\$23,582	\$23,634	\$23,582
Percentage of finance receivables	1.68%	1.69%	1.68%	1.69%
Net credit losses *	\$4,158	\$841	\$8,437	\$2,381
Loss ratio **	1.18%	0.24%	0.79%	0.23%

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

=====

* write-downs less recoveries
 ** net credit losses over average finance receivables, annualized

The Company also provides commitments to extend credit. These commitments contain off-balance sheet risk. The Company uses the same credit policies and procedures in making these commitments as it does for finance receivables, as the credit risks are substantially the same. At April 30, 2003 and July 31, 2002, the unused portion of these commitments was \$5,568 and \$5,636, respectively.

9

NOTE 3 - DEBT

Debt comprised the following:

	April 30, 2003	July 31, 2002
=====		
Senior debt:		
Fixed rate term notes due 2003-2010	\$ 427,000	\$ 423,750
Floating rate term notes due 2003-2010	173,000	86,250

Total term notes	600,000	510,000
Asset securitization financings	325,000	225,000
Commercial paper	121,769	227,166
Bank borrowings	8,000	68,230

Total senior debt	1,054,769	1,030,396

Subordinated debt		
4.5% convertible subordinated notes	--	91,188
8.0% subordinated debentures	--	2,290

Total subordinated debt	--	93,478

Total debt	\$1,054,769	\$1,123,874
=====		

Senior Term Notes

In April 2003, the Company issued \$200,000 of fixed and floating rate unsecured senior term notes. The Company received \$115,000 in April 2003 and chose to delay funding on the remaining \$85,000 until June 2003 to more closely match the maturities of existing term debt. The debt issuance includes \$112,000 of fixed rate notes with a weighted average rate of 4.5% and \$88,000 of notes indexed to three-month LIBOR with a weighted average rate of 2.4% at April 30, 2003. The notes are due at maturity as follows: \$155,000 in five years and \$45,000 in seven years. The floating rate notes cannot be prepaid for eighteen or twenty-four months after issuance (based on their respective term) and thereafter can be prepaid without penalty.

In August 2002, the Company received the remaining \$100,000 of its July 2002 \$200,000 issuance of fixed and floating rate unsecured senior term notes. The debt issuance includes \$112,500 of fixed rate notes and \$87,500 of floating rate notes. The notes are due at maturity as follows: \$55,500 in three years, \$76,000 in four years and \$68,500 in five years. The floating rate notes cannot be prepaid for twelve to eighteen months after issuance (based on their respective term) and thereafter can be prepaid without penalty.

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Interest on fixed rate notes is generally payable semi-annually. Interest rates on floating rate notes are indexed to LIBOR and generally change every thirty to ninety days. Prepayments of fixed rate notes are subject to a premium based on yield maintenance formulas.

Asset Securitization Financings

In August 2002, the Company completed a third transaction under its asset securitization facility obtaining an additional \$100,000. The Company structured the terms of the facility so that securitization proceeds would be recorded as secured borrowings on its consolidated balance sheet and not as sales of receivables. Therefore, gains on sales of securitized receivables would not be recorded. The secured borrowings are without recourse to the Company. The terms of the facility provide for committed revolving financing for a one year term that, if not renewed prior to the current expiration date of March 27, 2004, can be converted into term debt at the Company's option. Finance receivables include \$412,715 and \$265,301 of securitized receivables at April 30, 2003 and July 31, 2002, respectively.

The unsecured senior debt agreements of the Company's major operating subsidiary limit the amount of finance receivables that the subsidiary can securitize to 40% of its finance receivables outstanding, approximately \$557,000 at April 30, 2003. Therefore, the Company could securitize an additional \$144,285 of finance receivables at April 30, 2003. The amount that the Company can borrow under the securitization facility is limited to 94% of securitized receivables.

Bank Borrowings

At April 30, 2003, the Company had \$400,000 of committed unsecured revolving credit facilities with various banks expiring as follows: \$265,000 within one year and \$135,000 on various dates from August 2004 through April 2006. Borrowings under these facilities generally mature between one and ninety days and bear interest based on domestic money market rates or LIBOR.

Subordinated Debt

In July 2002, the Company called its 4.5% convertible subordinated notes due May 2005 for redemption. The redemption was completed in August 2002; \$56,223 of the notes were redeemed for cash and \$34,965 of the notes were

10

converted into 1,159,000 shares of the Company's common stock at the stated conversion price of \$30.15625 per share. The Company paid a \$1,085 prepayment premium equal to 1.93% of the principal amount of the notes redeemed for cash. The premium, combined with the expensing of unamortized deferred debt issuance costs (which were being amortized over the term of the notes), resulted in a \$1,737 pre-tax loss.

In October 2002, the Company redeemed for cash its 8.0% subordinated debentures due in March 2003 for their principal amount.

Other

The debt agreements of the Company's major operating subsidiary contain certain restrictive covenants including limitations on the subsidiary's indebtedness, encumbrances, investments, dividends and other distributions to the Company, sales of assets, mergers and other business combinations, capital expenditures, interest coverage and net worth. None of the debt agreements contain a material adverse change clause. Based on the minimum net worth requirements of these agreements, the amount of equity that the Company could distribute was indirectly limited to \$151,600 at April 30, 2003.

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Long-term senior debt comprised the following:

	April 30, 2003	July 31, 2002
Term notes	\$420,000	\$277,000
Bank borrowings and commercial paper supported by bank credit facilities expiring after April 30, 2004 and July 31, 2003, respectively	129,769	185,000
Asset securitization financings	150,063	115,841
Total long-term senior debt	\$699,832	\$577,841

NOTE 4 - DERIVATIVES

In April 2003, the Company entered into an interest rate swap agreement with a notional amount of \$12,500 as a fair value hedge of the \$12,500 of seven-year fixed rate term notes issued in April 2003. Under the terms of the swap, the Company will receive a fixed rate equal to the rate of the hedged debt and will pay a floating rate indexed to six-month LIBOR on the notional amount. The swap expires on the notes' maturity date. The swap effectively converted the fixed rate notes to a floating rate and was structured to allow the use of the "short-cut" method of measuring hedge effectiveness as defined in SFAS No. 133. As a result, there is no hedge ineffectiveness from the swap.

NOTE 5 - EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE

Earnings per common share ("EPS") was calculated as follows (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Three months ended April 30,		Nine months ended April 30,	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Net earnings (used for basic EPS)	\$6,585	\$9,406	\$23,178	\$27,460
Effect of convertible securities	--	710	115	2,168
Adjusted net earnings (used for diluted EPS)	\$6,585	\$10,116	\$23,293	\$29,628
Weighted average common shares outstanding (used for basic EPS)	18,061	16,674	17,935	16,610
Effect of dilutive securities:				
Stock options	71	489	257	419
Restricted stock	3	--	41	--
Convertible notes	--	3,024	166	3,024
Adjusted weighted average common shares and assumed conversions (used for diluted EPS)	18,135	20,187	18,399	20,053

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Net earnings per common share:				
Diluted	\$0.36	\$0.50	\$1.27	\$1.48
=====				
Basic	\$0.36	\$0.56	\$1.29	\$1.65
=====				

11

NOTE 6 - STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

In March 2003, the Company received 12,000 shares of its common stock at an average market price of \$18.72 per share from certain of its officers to satisfy their minimum income tax withholding requirements resulting from the vesting of their restricted stock. These shares are included in the 149,000 shares held in treasury at April 30, 2003.

PART I

Item 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make judgments, assumptions, and estimates that affect the amounts reported in the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes. Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2002 and Note 1 herein describe the significant accounting policies and methods used in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements. Estimates are used for, but not limited to, the accounting for the allowance for possible losses on finance receivables, impairments of finance receivables, assets received to satisfy receivables and residual values on direct financing leases. The following critical accounting policies are impacted significantly by judgments, assumptions, and estimates used in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The allowance for possible losses on finance receivables is estimated by management based on total finance receivables, credit losses incurred, the level of non-accrual/delinquent finance receivables and management's current assessments of the risks inherent in the Company's finance receivables from national and regional economic conditions, industry conditions, concentrations, the financial condition of counterparties (includes the obligor/lessee and other parties the Company may have recourse to such as equipment vendors/manufacturers and owners/affiliates of the obligor/lessee), equipment collateral values and other factors. Changes in the level of the allowance may be necessary based on unexpected changes in these factors.

Impaired finance receivables are written-down to the current estimated fair value of the underlying collateral. Assets received to satisfy receivables are written-down to their current estimated fair value less selling costs. Management estimates these amounts based on the prevailing market value and condition of the collateral. Adverse changes in the collateral's market value and condition would cause the Company to incur additional write-downs.

The Company records residual values on its direct financing leases at the lowest of (i) any stated purchase option, (ii) the present value at the

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

end of the initial lease term of rentals due under any renewal options or (iii) the estimated fair value of the equipment at the end of the lease. The Company may not be able to realize the full amount of the estimated residual value recorded due to subsequent adverse changes in equipment values which would cause the Company to incur a write-down.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Comparison of three months ended April 30, 2003 to three months ended April 30, 2002

Net earnings decreased by 30% to \$6.6 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from \$9.4 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2002. The decrease was due to (i) the provision for higher credit losses, increased legal and other costs and lower finance income resulting from higher non-performing assets and (ii) the effects of continued low market interest rates. These factors were partially offset by decreased salary expense and the reduction of interest expense from the conversion of \$35.0 million of debt into equity.

Finance income decreased by 10% to \$30.7 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from \$34.2 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2002. The decrease resulted from (i) the lower net yield of finance receivables from continued low market interest rates and (ii) to a lesser extent, the increase in non-accrual finance receivables. These factors were slightly offset by

12

the less than 1% (\$6 million) increase in average finance receivables outstanding to \$1.413 billion in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from \$1.407 billion in the third quarter of fiscal 2002.

Interest expense, incurred on borrowings used to fund finance receivables, decreased by 16% to \$10.0 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from \$11.9 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2002. The decrease resulted from lower average market interest rates, the August 2002 conversion/redemption of debt, and to a lesser extent, a lower weighted average rate on the Company's fixed rate term debt. These factors were slightly offset by the less than 1% (\$8 million) increase in average debt outstanding (excluding the conversion of \$35.0 million of debt into equity).

Net finance income before provision for possible losses on finance receivables decreased by 7% to \$20.7 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from \$22.3 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2002. Net finance income before provision for possible losses expressed as a percentage of average finance receivables outstanding ("net interest margin") decreased to 6.0% in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from 6.5% in the third quarter of fiscal 2002. The decrease resulted from the effects of continued low market interest rates and the increase in non-accrual finance receivables, which were partially offset by the effect of the decrease in the Company's leverage to 3.4 at April 30, 2003 from 4.6 at April 30, 2002.

The provision for possible losses on finance receivables increased to \$4.1 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from \$1.4 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2002 due to higher net credit losses (write-downs of receivables less subsequent recoveries). The increase in net credit losses resulted from higher amounts of non-performing assets, declining equipment values, a weak resale market and general economic conditions. The provision for possible losses is determined by the amount required to increase the allowance for possible losses to a level considered appropriate by

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

management. Management estimated the allowance based on various factors as described in the Critical Accounting Policies section herein.

Salaries and other expenses increased by 7% to \$5.8 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from \$5.4 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2002. The increase resulted from increased legal and other costs associated with non-performing assets and, to a lesser extent, increases in the costs of being a public company (includes internal and external audit costs, legal fees and insurance). These factors were partially offset by the decrease in salary expense due to work force reductions and the decrease in the bonus component of the CEO's compensation. Salaries and other expenses expressed as a percentage of average finance receivables outstanding ("expense ratio") increased to 1.7% in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from 1.6% in the third quarter of fiscal 2002 resulting from the increase in expenses.

Diluted earnings per share decreased by 28% to \$0.36 per share in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from \$0.50 per share in the third quarter of fiscal 2002, and basic earnings per share decreased by 35% to \$0.36 per share in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from \$0.56 per share in the third quarter of fiscal 2002. The percentage decrease in diluted earnings per share was lower than the percentage decrease in net earnings primarily due to the decrease in the number of dilutive shares outstanding from the August 2002 redemption of convertible debt. The percentage decrease in basic earnings per share was higher than the percentage decrease in net earnings primarily due to the issuance of 1.16 million shares of common stock from the August 2002 conversion of \$35.0 million of debt.

Comparison of nine months ended April 30, 2003 to nine months ended April 30, 2002

Net earnings decreased by 16% to \$23.2 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from \$27.5 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2002. Excluding the \$1.7 million loss on the redemption of the Company's convertible debt in fiscal 2003 (\$1.1 million after-tax), net earnings decreased by 11% to \$24.3 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2003. The decrease was due to (i) the provision for higher credit losses, increased legal and other costs and lower finance income resulting from higher non-performing assets, (ii) the effects of continued low market interest rates and, to a lesser extent, (iii) increases in the costs of being a public company. These factors were partially offset by higher average finance receivables and the reduction of interest expense resulting from the conversion of \$35.0 million of debt into equity.

Finance income decreased by 4% to \$98.9 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from \$103.4 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2002. The decrease resulted from (i) the lower net yield of finance receivables resulting from continued low market interest rates and (ii) the increase in non-accrual finance receivables. These factors were partially offset by the 5% (\$63 million) increase in average finance receivables outstanding to \$1.429 billion in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from \$1.366 billion in the first nine months of fiscal 2002.

Interest expense decreased by 12% to \$33.7 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from \$38.5 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2002. The decrease resulted from lower average market interest rates and the

August 2002 conversion/redemption of debt, which were partially offset by the 5% (\$53 million) increase in average debt outstanding (excluding the

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

conversion of \$35.0 million of debt into equity).

Net finance income before provision for possible losses on finance receivables increased by less than 1% to \$65.2 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from \$64.9 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2002. Net interest margin decreased to 6.1% in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from 6.4% in the first nine months of fiscal 2002. The decrease resulted from the effects of continued low market interest rates and the increase in non-accrual finance receivables, which were partially offset by the effect of the decrease in the Company's leverage.

The provision for possible losses on finance receivables increased to \$7.9 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from \$4.0 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2002 due to higher net credit losses. The increase in net credit losses resulted from higher amounts of non-performing assets, declining equipment values, a weak resale market and general economic conditions.

Salaries and other expenses increased by 11% to \$17.3 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from \$15.6 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2002. The increase resulted from increased legal and other costs associated with non-performing assets and, to a lesser extent, increases in the costs of being a public company. Salary expense was the same since salary increases were offset by work force reductions. The expense ratio increased to 1.6% in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from 1.5% in the first nine months of fiscal 2002. The increase resulted from the increase in expenses, partially offset by the increase in average finance receivables outstanding.

Diluted earnings per share decreased by 14% to \$1.27 per share in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from \$1.48 per share in the first nine months of fiscal 2002, and basic earnings per share decreased by 22% to \$1.29 per share in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from \$1.65 per share in the first nine months of fiscal 2002. The percentage decrease in diluted earnings per share was lower than the percentage decrease in net earnings primarily due to the decrease in the number of dilutive shares outstanding from the August 2002 redemption of convertible debt. The percentage decrease in basic earnings per share was higher than the percentage decrease in net earnings primarily due to the issuance of 1.16 million shares of common stock from the August 2002 conversion of \$35.0 million of debt. Diluted and basic earnings per share for the first nine months of fiscal 2003, excluding the after-tax loss on redemption of convertible debt, were \$1.33 and \$1.36, respectively.

The amounts of net earnings, diluted earnings per share and basic earnings per share excluding the \$1.1 million after-tax loss on the redemption of the Company's convertible debt are considered non-GAAP financial measures. The Company's management believes that these amounts would be useful to investors in comparing the Company's current operating performance to past and future fiscal periods. The excluded loss was a result of the Company calling its 4.5% convertible subordinated notes for redemption. The notes were called to eliminate their dilutive effect. This was a one-time, non-recurring event.

RECEIVABLE PORTFOLIO AND ASSET QUALITY

Finance receivables outstanding decreased by 2% (\$34.0 million) to \$1.403 billion at April 30, 2003 from \$1.437 billion at July 31, 2002. Finance receivables comprise installment sale agreements and secured loans (collectively referred to as "loans") and investments in direct financing leases. At April 30, 2003, loans were 81% (\$1.133 billion) of finance

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

receivables, and leases were 19% (\$269.3 million) of finance receivables.

Finance receivables originated in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 and 2002 were \$158 million and \$208 million, respectively, and finance receivables originated in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 and 2002 were \$497 million and \$605 million, respectively. Finance receivables collected in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 and 2002 were \$167 million and \$168 million, respectively, and finance receivables collected in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 and 2002 were \$507 million and \$494 million, respectively. Originations decreased due to weak demand for equipment financing caused by general economic conditions.

The Company's underwriting policies and procedures require obtaining a first lien on equipment financed or ownership of equipment leased. The equipment financed/leased by the Company generally possesses certain characteristics that can mitigate losses. The equipment collateral typically has an economic life exceeding the term of the transaction, historically low levels of technological obsolescence, use in multiple industries, ease of access and transporting, and a broad, established resale market. The Company also does not finance/lease aircraft and railcars, computer related

14

equipment, fixtures and telecommunications equipment. The Company's finance receivables are concentrated in four industries as follows: construction related - 38%, road transportation - 32%, waste services - 14% and manufacturing - 12%.

The Company has an allowance for possible losses on finance receivables on its balance sheet. The purpose of the allowance is to account for any losses that have been incurred at the balance sheet date. Losses are recorded when management has reason to expect that all amounts contractually due on impaired finance receivables will not be collected from the combination of the obligor/lessee, any guarantor and the sale of any collateral repossessed by the Company.

The allowance for possible losses decreased to \$23.6 million at April 30, 2003 from \$24.2 million at July 31, 2002 and resulted from the decreases in total, non-accrual and delinquent finance receivables. The allowance level was 1.68% of finance receivables at April 30, 2003 and at July 31, 2002. Management periodically reviews the allowance to determine that its level is appropriate.

Net credit losses increased to \$4.2 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from \$841,000 in the third quarter of fiscal 2002. Net credit losses, expressed as a percentage of average finance receivables outstanding ("loss ratio"), increased to 1.18% in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 from 0.24% in the third quarter of fiscal 2002. Net credit losses increased to \$8.4 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from \$2.4 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2002. The loss ratio increased to 0.79% in the first nine months of fiscal 2003 from 0.23% in the first nine months of fiscal 2002. Net credit losses have been increasing primarily due to the increased amount of non-performing assets, declining equipment values, a weak resale market and general economic conditions.

Effective August 1, 2002, the Company accelerated the non-accrual classification of finance receivables. Finance receivables with a contractual payment 90 days or more past due are classified as non-accrual; the prior threshold was 120 days. This change did not have a significant impact on the Company's operations. In addition, the Company has reclassified assets received to satisfy finance receivables (repossessed

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

equipment) from finance receivables to other assets. The Company made these changes to conform to industry practice. The amounts of non-accrual finance receivables and repossessed equipment for the previous five fiscal quarters are presented below (in millions):

	4/30/2003	1/31/2003	10/31/2002	7/31/2002	4/30/2002
Non-accrual finance receivables*	\$44.5	\$46.7	\$36.7	\$29.4	\$27.7
Repossessed equipment	28.7	33.1	23.4	23.8	21.8
Total non-performing assets	\$73.2	\$79.8	\$60.1	\$53.2	\$49.5
Percentage of total finance receivables	5.2%	5.6%	4.2%	3.7%	3.5%

* includes \$5.3 million (0.4% of total receivables), \$8.4 million (0.6% of total receivables) and \$3.1 million (0.2% of total receivables) at April 30, 2003, January 31, 2003 and October 31, 2002, respectively arising from the acceleration of the non-accrual classification of finance receivables from 120 to 90 days

Delinquent finance receivables (transactions with a contractual payment 60 or more days past due) were \$29.8 million (2.1% of total finance receivables) at April 30, 2003 compared to \$32.4 million (2.3% of total finance receivables) at July 31, 2002 and \$42.3 million (3.0% of total finance receivables) at April 30, 2002. Approximately half of the Company's non-accrual finance receivables at April 30, 2003 were not delinquent.

The Company's asset quality statistics in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 reflect continued weak economic and industry conditions as well as the uncertainty caused by the war. These factors have increased the possibility that customers will pay late, stop paying, declare bankruptcy or liquidate their businesses and also caused equipment values to decline. A continuation of these conditions could result in higher net credit losses and non-performing assets. Increases in net credit losses would have a negative effect on earnings through additional increases in the provision for possible losses and increases in non-performing assets would have a negative effect on earnings by reducing finance income and increasing credit losses. Although net credit losses have been increasing and may continue to increase, the current and expected levels are within current and historical industry experience.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Company's operations and growth are dependent upon the continued availability of funds to originate or acquire finance receivables, to purchase portfolios of finance receivables and to repay maturing debt. The Company may obtain funds from many sources, including operating cash flow, private and public issuances of term debt, conduit and term securitizations

of finance receivables, borrowings under committed unsecured revolving credit facilities, dealer placed and directly issued commercial paper and sales of common and preferred equity. Management believes that the Company's sources of liquidity are well diversified. The Company is not dependent on any single funding source or on any single credit provider. Management believes,

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

but cannot assure, that sufficient liquidity is available to the Company to support its future operations and growth.

The Company's senior term notes are rated "BBB" by Fitch, Inc. ("Fitch") and the Company's commercial paper is rated "F-2" by Fitch. The Company's access to capital markets at competitive rates is partly dependent on these credit ratings. Fitch last reported that its ratings outlook for the Company is stable. The debt agreements of the Company's major operating subsidiary contain certain restrictive covenants including limitations on the subsidiary's indebtedness, encumbrances, investments, dividends and other distributions to the Company, sales of assets, mergers and other business combinations, capital expenditures, interest coverage and net worth. None of the debt agreements contain a material adverse change clause. Based on the minimum net worth requirements of these agreements, the amount of equity that the Company could distribute was indirectly limited to \$151.6 million at April 30, 2003.

Total debt decreased by 6% (\$69.1 million) to \$1.055 billion at April 30, 2003 from \$1.124 billion at July 31, 2002 and stockholders' equity increased by 25% (\$61.4 million) to \$310.0 million at April 30, 2003 from \$248.6 million at July 31, 2002. As a result, leverage (debt-to-equity ratio) decreased to 3.4 at April 30, 2003 from 4.5 at July 31, 2002. The decrease in debt and the increase in equity were primarily due to the conversion of \$35.0 million of debt into equity in August 2002 and net earnings of \$23.2 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2003.

Debt comprised the following (in millions):

	April 30, 2003		July 31, 2002	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Senior term notes	\$ 600.0	57%	\$ 510.0	46%
Asset securitization financings	325.0	31	225.0	20
Commercial paper	121.8	11	227.2	20
Borrowings under bank credit facilities	8.0	1	68.2	6
Subordinated debt	--	--	93.5	8
Total debt	\$1,054.8	100%	\$1,123.9	100%

Senior Term Notes

In April 2003, the Company issued \$200.0 million of unsecured senior term notes to thirteen insurance companies. The Company received \$115.0 million in April 2003 and chose to delay funding on the remaining \$85.0 million until June 2003 to more closely match the maturities of existing term debt. The Company used the proceeds to repay borrowings under bank credit facilities, commercial paper and maturing term debt. The debt issuance includes \$112.0 million of fixed rate notes and \$88.0 million of floating rate notes due at maturity as follows: \$155.0 million in April and June 2008 and \$45.0 million in April and June 2010.

In August 2002, the Company received the remaining \$100.0 million of its July 2002 \$200.0 million debt issuance of fixed and floating rate unsecured senior term notes and used the proceeds to repay borrowings under bank credit facilities and commercial paper.

In the first nine months of fiscal 2003, the Company repaid \$115.0 million of unsecured senior term notes at maturity with proceeds from borrowings under bank credit facilities. The Company also prepaid a 6.4%

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

\$10.0 million unsecured senior term note at principal with proceeds from borrowings under bank credit facilities.

At April 30, 2003, the \$600.0 million of senior term notes comprised \$555.0 million of private placements and medium term notes with insurance companies and \$45.0 million of bank term loans.

Bank Credit Facilities

At April 30, 2003, the Company had \$400.0 million of committed unsecured revolving credit facilities from twelve banks (a \$25.0 million decrease from July 31, 2002). This includes \$205.0 million of facilities with original terms ranging from two to five years and \$195.0 million of facilities with an original term of one year. At April 30, 2003, \$8.0 million was outstanding under the multi-year facilities, maturing between one and ninety days.

16

These facilities provide the Company with a dependable, low-cost source of funds and support for its commercial paper program. The Company can borrow the full amount under each facility. None of the facilities are for commercial paper back-up only. These facilities may or may not be renewed upon expiration.

Commercial Paper

The Company issues commercial paper directly and through a \$350.0 million program. The Company's commercial paper is unsecured and matures within 270 days. The Company has not obtained commitments from any purchaser of its commercial paper for additional or future purchases. Increases in commercial paper are generally offset by decreases in bank and other borrowings, and vice versa. The Company's current policy is to maintain committed revolving credit facilities from banks so that the aggregate amount available there under exceeds commercial paper outstanding.

Asset Securitization Financings

In August 2002, the Company obtained \$100.0 million from a third transaction under its asset securitization facility established in July 2001. The Company used the proceeds to repay borrowings under bank credit facilities and commercial paper. The Company structured the terms of the facility so that any securitization proceeds would be classified as debt and not as sales of receivables for financial reporting purposes. Therefore, the Company has not recorded any gains on sales of securitized receivables. At April 30, 2003, the Company had \$325.0 million of asset securitization financings accounted for as secured borrowings included in senior debt on its April 30, 2003 Consolidated Balance Sheet.

Borrowings under the securitization facility are limited to a minimum level of securitized receivables. When borrowings exceed the minimum level, the Company can repay the excess or securitize more receivables. The Company can securitize more receivables during the term of the facility. The facility expires March 27, 2004. The Company currently intends to renew the facility for another year. Upon the expiration of the facility, the Company can repay borrowings outstanding or convert them into term debt. The term debt would be repaid monthly in amounts equal to the collections of securitized receivables. Currently, the Company would exercise the conversion option if the facility was not renewed. Based on the contractual payments of the \$412.7 million of securitized receivables at April 30, 2003, the term debt would be fully repaid by May 2005.

The unsecured senior debt agreements of the Company's major operating subsidiary limit the amount of finance receivables that the subsidiary can securitize to 40% of its finance receivables outstanding, approximately

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

\$557.0 million at April 30, 2003. Therefore, the Company could securitize an additional \$144.3 million of finance receivables at April 30, 2003. The amount that the Company can borrow under the securitization facility is limited to 94% of securitized receivables.

Convertible Notes

In July 2002, the Company called its 4.5% convertible subordinated notes due in May 2005 for redemption. The redemption was completed in August 2002; \$56.2 million of the notes were redeemed for cash and \$35.0 million of the notes were converted into 1.16 million shares of the Company's common stock at the stated conversion price of \$30.15625 per share. The Company called the notes because they were an expensive form of financing considering their dilution and their cost relative to current market interest rates. The Company also had the resources to do so from the July 2002 \$200 million debt issuance and the August 2002 \$100.0 million asset securitization financing. The Company paid a \$1.1 million prepayment premium equal to 1.93% of the principal amount of the notes redeemed for cash.

MARKET INTEREST RATE RISK AND SENSITIVITY

The Company's earnings are sensitive to fluctuations in market interest rates (includes LIBOR, rates on U.S. Treasury securities, money market rates and the prime rate). Changes in these rates affect the Company's finance income and interest expense. Generally, based on the current mix of fixed rate and floating rate finance receivables and debt, increases in rates would have a negative impact on earnings, and decreases in rates would have a positive impact on earnings because the Company has more floating rate and short-term debt than fixed rate term debt, and more fixed rate finance receivables than floating rate finance receivables. As a result, if market interest rates rise, the Company's borrowing costs would increase faster than the yield on its finance receivables. Conversely, if market interest rates decline, the Company's borrowing costs would decrease faster than the yield on its finance receivables. These effects would diminish over time. In addition, since the Company's interest earning assets exceed its interest bearing liabilities, eventually, lower market interest rates would reduce net earnings and higher rates would increase net earnings. These broad statements do not take into account the effects of economic and other conditions that could accompany interest rate fluctuations.

17

The net yield of finance receivables less the weighted average cost of borrowed funds represents the net interest spread, an important measure of a finance company's profitability. The net interest spread for the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2003 and 2002 follow:

	Three months ended April 30,		Nine months ended April 30,	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Net yield of finance receivables	8.9%	10.0%	9.3%	10.1%
Weighted average cost of borrowed funds	3.9	4.5	4.2	4.9
Net interest spread	5.0%	5.5%	5.1%	5.2%

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

The effect of continued low market interest rates started to reduce the Company's net interest spread in the second quarter of fiscal 2003. This is expected to continue since the net yield of finance receivables will decline (as new finance receivables are booked at rates that are lower than the rates on finance receivables collected) more than the Company's cost of funds further reducing the Company's net interest spread.

The Company monitors and manages its exposure to market interest rate fluctuations through risk management procedures that include using certain derivative financial instruments and changing the proportion of its fixed rate term debt versus its floating rate and short term debt. The Company may use derivatives to hedge its exposure to interest rate risk on certain debt obligations. The Company does not use derivatives for speculation and the Company does not trade derivatives.

In April 2003, the Company entered into an interest rate swap agreement with a notional amount of \$12.5 million as a fair value hedge of its 4.96% \$12.5 million seven-year fixed rate term notes issued in April 2003. Under the terms of the swap, the Company will receive a fixed rate equal to the rate of the hedged debt and will pay a floating rate indexed to six-month LIBOR (2.42% at April 30, 2003) on the notional amount. The swap expires on the notes' maturity date. The swap effectively converted the fixed rate notes to a floating rate. The Company may swap all or a portion of the \$50.0 million of fixed rate term notes remaining to be funded under the April 2003 debt issue when the proceeds are received in June 2003.

At April 30, 2003, \$1.311 billion (93%) of finance receivables were fixed rate and \$91.9 million (7%) were indexed to the prime rate. Finance receivables provide for monthly payments for periods of two to five years. The Company experiences some prepayments that accelerate the scheduled maturities of finance receivables. At April 30, 2003, \$450.0 million of fixed rate finance receivables are scheduled to mature within one year and the weighted average remaining maturity of fixed rate finance receivables is approximately two years.

Fixed rate term debt of \$427.0 million and stockholders' equity of \$310.0 million totaled \$737.0 million at April 30, 2003. Since fixed rate finance receivables exceeds this amount significantly, the net interest spread would be affected by fluctuations in market interest rates. The Company does not match the maturities of its debt to its finance receivables.

Management periodically calculates the effect on net earnings of a hypothetical, immediate 100 basis point (1.0%) increase in market interest rates. At April 30, 2003, such a hypothetical adverse change in rates would reduce quarterly net earnings by approximately \$600,000. Actual future changes in market interest rates may differ materially and their effect on net earnings may also differ materially due to changes in finance receivable and debt repricing structures. In addition, any other factors that may accompany an actual immediate 100 basis point increase in market interest rates were not considered in the calculation.

NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

On August 1, 2002, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 145, "Rescission of FASB Statements No. 4, 44, and 64, Amendment of FASB Statement No. 13, and Technical Corrections." SFAS No. 4, "Reporting Gains and Losses from Extinguishment of Debt," required debt extinguishment gains and losses to be classified as an extraordinary item. Due to the rescission of SFAS No. 4, the \$1.7 million loss the Company incurred on its August 2002 convertible debt redemption was reported as a separate item included in operating earnings instead of an extraordinary item

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

net of income taxes.

18

In November 2002, the FASB issued Interpretation ("FIN") No. 45, "Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others." FIN No. 45 requires a guarantor to record a liability for the fair value of its guarantees when issued and disclose them in detail in its interim and annual financial statements. The disclosure requirements are effective for financial statements of periods ending after December 15, 2002. The recognition and measurement provisions are applicable prospectively to guarantees issued or modified after December 31, 2002. The Company generally does not issue guarantees and did not have any material guarantees at April 30, 2003. Therefore, FIN No. 45 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In December 2002, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued SFAS No. 148, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation--Transition and Disclosure." SFAS No. 148 provides alternative methods of transition for a voluntary change to expense stock-based employee compensation and requires prominent disclosures in annual and interim financial statements about the method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation and the effect of the method used on reported results. The required disclosures appear in Note 1, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Form 10-Q. The Company does not currently plan to make a voluntary change to record expense for stock options.

In January 2003, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 46, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities--an interpretation of ARB No. 51." Variable interest entities often are created for a single specified purpose, for example, to facilitate securitization, leasing, hedging, research and development, reinsurance or other transactions or arrangements. FIN No. 46 requires certain variable interest entities to be consolidated by the primary beneficiary (the business enterprise that will absorb a majority of the expected losses or receive a majority of the expected residual returns of the variable interest entity). FIN No. 46 applies to variable interest entities created or acquired after January 31, 2003. For variable interest entities created or acquired on or prior to January 31, 2003, the Company is required to apply FIN No. 46 no later than August 1, 2003. The Company has one variable interest entity (a special purpose entity that it established for its asset securitization facility). This entity is already fully consolidated under current accounting rules and will continue to be fully consolidated under FIN No. 46. The Company does not expect the adoption of FIN No. 46 will have a material impact on its results of operations or financial position.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this document may include the words or phrases "can be," "expects," "plans," "may," "may affect," "may depend," "believe," "estimate," "intend," "could," "should," "would," "if" and similar words and phrases that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements are subject to various known and unknown risks and uncertainties and the Company cautions that any forward-looking information provided by or on its behalf is not a guarantee of future performance. The Company's actual results could differ materially from those anticipated by such forward-looking statements due to a number of

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

factors, some beyond the Company's control, including, without limitation, (i) the ability to obtain funding on acceptable terms, (ii) changes in the risks inherent in the Company's receivables portfolio and the adequacy of the Company's reserves, (iii) changes in market interest rates, (iv) changes in economic, financial and market conditions, (v) changes in competitive conditions and (vi) the loss of key executives or personnel. Forward-looking statements apply only as of the date made and the Company is not required to update forward-looking statements for subsequent or unanticipated events or circumstances.

Item 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

- a. Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures. The Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have conducted an evaluation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-14(c) and 15d-14(c) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) within 90 days of the date of this report and each has concluded that such disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of such date to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Company's reports filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms.
- b. Changes in internal controls. There were no significant changes in the Company's internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect these controls subsequent to the date of their evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

19

PART II

Item 6. EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

(a) Exhibits:

Page No.

Exhibit No. Description of Exhibit

Exhibit No.	Description of Exhibit
3.1	(a) Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant
3.2	(a) By-laws of the Registrant
3.3	(a) Form of Restated and Amended By-laws of the Registrant
3.4	(f) Certificate of Amendment of Articles of Incorporation dated December 9, 1998
3.5	(f) Restated By-laws of the Registrant as amended through December 30, 1998
3.6	(g) Restated By-laws of the Registrant as amended through March 7, 2000
4.8	(c) Indenture dated January 14, 1998 for Financial Federal Credit Inc.'s Rule 144A Medium Term Note Program
4.12	(d) Specimen Common Stock Certificate
4.13	(h) Indenture dated September 20, 2000 for Financial Federal Credit Inc.'s \$200 million Rule 144A Medium Term Note program
10.8	(a) Form of Commercial Paper Note issued by the Registrant
10.9	(a) Form of Commercial Paper Note issued by Financial Federal Credit Inc.
10.10	(a) Stock Option Plan of the Registrant and forms of related stock option agreements

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

- 10.21 (b) Form of Commercial Paper Dealer Agreement of Financial Federal Credit Inc.
- 10.22 (b) Form of Deferred Compensation Agreement with certain officers as filed under the Top Hat Plan with the Department of Labor
- 10.25 (e) Amended and Restated 1998 Stock Option/Restricted Stock Plan of the Registrant
- 10.26 (g) Deferred Compensation Agreement dated March 7, 2000 between the Registrant and Clarence Y. Palitz, Jr.
- 10.27 (h) 2001 Management Incentive Plan for the Chief Executive Officer of the Registrant
- 10.28 (h) Form of Restricted Stock Agreement dated February 27, 2001 between the Registrant and its Chief Executive Officer
- 10.29 (h) Form of Restricted Stock Agreement dated February 27, 2001 between the Registrant and senior officers
- 10.30 (i) Form of Restricted Stock Agreement dated March 1, 2002 between the Registrant and its Chief Executive Officer
- 10.31 (i) Form of Restricted Stock Agreement dated March 1, 2002 between the Registrant and senior officers
- 10.32 (j) Supplemental Retirement Benefit dated June 4, 2002 between the Registrant and its Chief Executive Officer
- 10.33 (k) Agreement to defer vested restricted stock dated February 26, 2003 between the Registrant and its Chief Executive Officer
- 10.34 (k) Agreement to defer vested restricted stock dated February 26, 2003 between the Registrant and its Chief Executive Officer
- 99.1 * Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, dated June 10, 2003
- 99.2 * Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, dated June 10, 2003

* filed herewith

Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to:

- (a) the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration No. 33-46662).
- (b) the Company's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 1996.
- (c) one of the Company's Forms 10-Q for the fiscal year ended July 31, 1998.
- (d) the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-56651).
- (e) the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-50962).
- (f) one of the Company's Forms 10-Q for the fiscal year ended July 31, 1999.
- (g) one of the Company's Forms 10-Q for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2000.

20

- (h) one of the Company's Forms 10-Q for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2001.
- (i) one of the Company's Forms 10-Q for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2002.
- (j) the Company's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2002.
- (k) the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 31, 2003.

(b) Reports on Form 8-K:

The Company filed on a report on Form 8-K dated February 5, 2003 reporting, under Item 5, the announcement of Michael C. Palitz resigning as Executive Vice President and Treasurer.

21

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

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 thereunto duly authorized.

FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION

(Registrant)

By: /s/ Steven F. Groth

Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

By: /s/ David H. Hamm

Vice President and Controller
(Principal Accounting Officer)

June 10, 2003

(Date)

22

CERTIFICATIONS

CERTIFICATION OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I, Paul R. Sinsheimer, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Financial Federal Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this quarterly report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this quarterly report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this quarterly report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this quarterly report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the registrant and we have:

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

- a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this quarterly report is being prepared;
 - b) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this quarterly report (the "Evaluation Date"); and
 - c) presented in this quarterly report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of the Evaluation Date;
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent function):
- a) all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls; and
6. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have indicated in this quarterly report whether or not there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Date: June 10, 2003

/s/ Paul R. Sinsheimer

Paul R. Sinsheimer
Chief Executive Officer and President

23

CERTIFICATION OF PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL OFFICER

I, Steven F. Groth, certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Financial Federal Corporation;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this quarterly report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this quarterly report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial

Edgar Filing: FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 10-Q

information included in this quarterly report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this quarterly report;

4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the registrant and we have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this quarterly report is being prepared;
 - b) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this quarterly report (the "Evaluation Date"); and
 - c) presented in this quarterly report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of the Evaluation Date;
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent function):
 - a) all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls; and
6. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have indicated in this quarterly report whether or not there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Date: June 10, 2003

/s/ Steven F. Groth

Steven F. Groth
Chief Financial Officer and
Senior Vice President