

FLAG FINANCIAL CORP  
Form 10-K  
March 16, 2006  
Table of Contents

---

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

---

### FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File No. 0-24532

---

## FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Georgia  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or organization)

58-2094179  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

3475 Piedmont Road,  
N.E., Suite 550, Atlanta, Georgia 30305

(Address of principal executive offices)

(404) 760-7700

(Registrant's telephone number)

---

Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: None

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: Common Stock, \$1.00 par value

---

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes  No

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 and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 12b-2): Yes  No

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the Registrant's outstanding Common Stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant on December 31, 2005, computed by reference to the closing price of the Common Stock on June 30, 2005, was approximately \$207,572,652. There were 16,889,773 shares of Common Stock outstanding as of February 21, 2006.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the Registrant's Proxy Statement for the 2006 Annual Meeting of Shareholders are incorporated by reference in Part III hereof.

---

**Table of Contents**

**FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2005**

Table of Contents

Item Number		Page Number
<b><u>PART I</u></b>		
ITEM 1.	<u>BUSINESS</u>	1
ITEM 1A.	<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	10
ITEM 2.	<u>PROPERTIES</u>	15
ITEM 3.	<u>LEGAL PROCEEDINGS</u>	16
ITEM 4.	<u>SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS</u>	16
<b><u>PART II</u></b>		
ITEM 5.	<u>MARKET FOR REGISTRANT S COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS</u>	17
ITEM 6.	<u>SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA</u>	18
ITEM 7.	<u>MANAGEMENT S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS</u>	19
ITEM 7A.	<u>QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK</u>	37
ITEM 8.	<u>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA</u>	39
ITEM 9.	<u>CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE</u>	83
ITEM 9A.	<u>CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES</u>	83
ITEM 9B.	<u>OTHER INFORMATION</u>	84
<b><u>PART III</u></b>		
ITEM 10.	<u>DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT</u>	85
ITEM 11.	<u>EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION</u>	85
ITEM 12.	<u>SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS</u>	85
ITEM 13.	<u>CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS</u>	85
ITEM 14.	<u>PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES</u>	86
<b><u>PART IV</u></b>		
ITEM 15.	<u>EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES</u>	86
	<u>SIGNATURES</u>	91
	<u>EXHIBIT INDEX</u>	92

**Table of Contents**

**SPECIAL CAUTIONARY NOTICE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Certain of the matters discussed in this document and in documents incorporated by reference herein, including matters discussed under the caption Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, may constitute forward-looking statements for purposes of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements may involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. The words expect, anticipate, intend, plan, believe, seek, estimate, and similar expressions are intended to identify the forward-looking statements. The Company's actual results may differ materially from the results anticipated in these forward-looking statements due to a variety of factors, including, without limitation:

- (1) The effects of future economic conditions;
- (2) Governmental monetary and fiscal policies, as well as legislative and regulatory changes;
- (3) The risks of unexpected changes in interest rates on the level and composition of deposits, loan demand, and the values of loan collateral, securities and interest rate protection agreements, as well as interest rate risks;
- (4) The effects of competition from other financial institutions and companies in the financial services industry;
- (5) The failure of assumptions underlying the establishment of reserves for possible loan losses and estimations of values of collateral and various financial assets and liabilities; and
- (6) Potential difficulties in integrating acquired businesses.

All written or oral forward-looking statements attributable to the Company are expressly qualified in their entirety by these cautionary statements.

---

**Table of Contents**

**PART I**

**ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

**The Company**

Flag Financial Corporation ( Flag or the Company ) is a bank holding company headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia and is registered under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended. The Company is the sole shareholder of Flag Bank (the Bank ) and was incorporated under the laws of the State of Georgia on February 9, 1993.

As a bank holding company, the Company facilitates the Bank's abilities to serve its customers' requirements for financial services. The holding company structure provides greater financial and operating flexibility than is available to the Bank. For example, the Company may assist the Bank in maintaining its required capital ratios by borrowing money and contributing the proceeds of the debt to the Bank as primary capital. Additionally, the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Company contain terms that provide a degree of anti-takeover protection to the Company that is currently unavailable to the Bank and its shareholders under regulations of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the FDIC ), but is permissible for the Company under Georgia law.

Flag provides several services through divisions of Flag Bank including mortgage services through Flag Mortgage, investment and insurance services through Flag Financial Services, payroll processing through Payroll Solutions and custom banking and cash management services through Smartstreet.

Flag's web site address is [www.flagbank.com](http://www.flagbank.com). You may obtain free electronic copies of our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and all amendments to those reports at the investor relations section of our web site. These reports are available on our web site as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file them with the SEC.

**The Bank**

Flag Bank is a state chartered bank organized under the laws of the State of Georgia with banking offices in the following cities and counties: Atlanta (Cobb County, DeKalb County, Fulton County and Gwinnett County), Unadilla (Dooly County), Vienna (Dooly County), Montezuma (Macon County), Buena Vista (Marion County), LaGrange (Troup County), Hogansville (Troup County), Jonesboro (Clayton County) and Cumming (Forsyth County), Georgia. Flag Bank was originally chartered in 1931 as Citizens Bank and became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company through a series of acquisitions commencing in 1998.

Flag Mortgage operates as a division of Flag Bank and operates mortgage loan production offices in Atlanta (Gwinnett County), Fayetteville (Fayette County), LaGrange (Troup County), Columbus (Muscogee County), Macon (Bibb County), Newnan (Coweta County), and Warner Robins (Houston County), Georgia.

Payroll Solutions operates as a division of Flag Bank and operates a payroll, human resources and benefits services office in Macon (Bibb County), Georgia. Smartstreet operates as a division of Flag Bank and offers custom banking and cash management services for community associations and management companies from its office in Norcross (Gwinnett County), Georgia.

**Business of the Bank.** The Bank's business consists primarily of attracting deposits from the general public and, with these and other funds, making residential mortgage loans, consumer loans, commercial loans, commercial real estate loans, residential construction loans and securities investments. In addition to deposits, sources of funds for the Bank's loans and other investments include amortization and prepayment of loans, loan origination and commitment fees, sales of loans or participations in loans, fees received for servicing loans sold to others and advances from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta ( FHLB ). The Bank's principal sources of

## **Table of Contents**

income are interest and fees collected on loans, including fees received for originating and selling loans and for servicing loans sold to others, and, to a lesser extent, interest and dividends collected on other investments and service charges on deposit accounts. The Bank's principal expenses are interest paid on deposits, interest paid on FHLB advances, employee compensation, federal deposit insurance premiums, office expenses and other overhead expenses.

While the Bank attempts to avoid concentrations of loans to a single industry or based on a single type of collateral, the various types of loans the Bank makes have certain risks associated with them. Consumer and commercial loans present risks which, among other things, include fraud, bankruptcy, economic downturn, deteriorated or non-existing collateral, changes in interest rates and customer financial problems. Real estate construction loans present risks related to, among other things, whether the builder is able to sell the property, whether the buyer is able to obtain permanent financing and the nature of changing economic conditions. Real estate mortgage loans present risks involving, among other things, economic and demographic changes, deterioration of collateral and customer financial problems.

The Company's primary asset is its stock in the Bank. Accordingly, its financial performance is determined primarily by the results of operations of the Bank. For information regarding the consolidated financial condition and results of operations of the Company as of December 31, 2005 and 2004 and for the three years in the period ended December 31, 2005, see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, and the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company and related notes presented in Part II hereof. All average balances presented in this report were derived based on daily averages.

## **Employees**

As of December 31, 2005, the Company (including the Bank) had 346 full-time and 15 part-time employees. The employees are not represented by any collective bargaining unit, and the Company considers its relationship with its employees to be good.

## **Competition**

The banking business in Georgia is highly competitive. The Bank competes not only with other banks and thrifts that are located in the same counties as the Bank and in surrounding counties, but with other financial service organizations including credit unions, finance companies, and certain governmental agencies. To the extent that the Bank must maintain noninterest earning reserves against deposits, it may be at a competitive disadvantage when compared with other financial service organizations that are not required to maintain reserves against substantially equivalent sources of funds. Also, other financial institutions with which the Bank competes may have substantially greater resources and lending capabilities due to the size of the organization.

## **Supervision and Regulation**

Both the Company and the Bank are subject to extensive state and federal banking regulations that impose restrictions on and provide for general regulatory oversight of their operations. These laws generally are intended to protect depositors and not shareholders. The following discussion describes the material elements of the regulatory framework that applies to us.

## ***The Company***

Because the Company owns all of the capital stock of the Bank, it is a bank holding company under the federal Bank Holding Company Act of 1956. As a result, the Company is primarily subject to the supervision, examination, and reporting requirements of the Bank Holding Company Act and the regulations of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the Federal Reserve). As a bank holding company located in Georgia, the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance also regulates and monitors all significant aspects of the Company's operations.

---

**Table of Contents**

**Acquisitions of Banks.** The Bank Holding Company Act requires every bank holding company to obtain the Federal Reserve's prior approval before:

Acquiring direct or indirect ownership or control of any voting shares of any bank if, after the acquisition, the bank holding company will directly or indirectly own or control more than 5% of the bank's voting shares;

Acquiring all or substantially all of the assets of any bank; or

Merging or consolidating with any other bank holding company.

Additionally, the Bank Holding Company Act provides that the Federal Reserve may not approve any of these transactions if it would result in or tend to create a monopoly or, substantially lessen competition or otherwise function as a restraint of trade, unless the anti-competitive effects of the proposed transaction are clearly outweighed by the public interest in meeting the convenience and needs of the community to be served. The Federal Reserve is also required to consider the financial and managerial resources and future prospects of the bank holding companies and banks concerned and the convenience and needs of the community to be served. The Federal Reserve's consideration of financial resources generally focuses on capital adequacy, which is discussed below.

Under the Bank Holding Company Act, if adequately capitalized and adequately managed, the Company or any other bank holding company located in Georgia may purchase a bank located outside of Georgia. Conversely, an adequately capitalized and adequately managed bank holding company located outside of Georgia may purchase a bank located inside Georgia. In each case, however, restrictions may be placed on the acquisition of a bank that has only been in existence for a limited amount of time or will result in specified concentrations of deposits. Currently, Georgia law prohibits acquisitions of banks that have been chartered for less than three years. Because the Bank has been incorporated for more than three years, this limitation does not apply to the Bank or to the Company.

**Change in Bank Control.** Subject to various exceptions, the Bank Holding Company Act and the Change in Bank Control Act, together with related regulations, require Federal Reserve approval prior to any person or company acquiring control of a bank holding company. Control is conclusively presumed to exist if an individual or company acquires 25% or more of any class of voting securities of the bank holding company. Control is rebuttably presumed to exist if a person or company acquires 10% or more, but less than 25%, of any class of voting securities and either:

The bank holding company has registered securities under Section 12 of the Securities Act of 1934; or

No other person owns a greater percentage of that class of voting securities immediately after the transaction.

Our common is registered under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The regulations also provide a procedure for challenging the rebuttable presumption of control.

**Permitted Activities.** A bank holding company is generally permitted under the Bank Holding Company Act to engage in or acquire direct or indirect control of more than 5% of the voting shares of any company engaged in the following activities:

Banking or managing or controlling banks; and

Any activity that the Federal Reserve determines to be so closely related to banking as to be a proper incident to the business of banking.

Activities that the Federal Reserve has found to be so closely related to banking as to be a proper incident to the business of banking include:

Factoring accounts receivable;

3



**Table of Contents**

Making, acquiring, brokering or servicing loans and usual related activities;

Leasing personal or real property;

Operating a non-bank depository institution, such as a savings association;

Trust company functions;

Financial and investment advisory activities;

Conducting discount securities brokerage activities;

Underwriting and dealing in government obligations and money market instruments;

Providing specified management consulting and counseling activities;

Performing selected data processing services and support services;

Acting as agent or broker in selling credit life insurance and other types of insurance in connection with credit transactions; and

Performing selected insurance underwriting activities.

Despite prior approval, the Federal Reserve may order a bank holding company or its subsidiaries to terminate any of these activities or to terminate its ownership or control of any subsidiary when it has reasonable cause to believe that the bank holding company's continued ownership, activity or control constitutes a serious risk to the financial safety, soundness, or stability of it or any of its bank subsidiaries.

In addition to the permissible bank holding company activities listed above, a bank holding company may qualify and elect to become a financial holding company, permitting the bank holding company to engage in activities that are financial in nature or incidental or complementary to financial activity. The Bank Holding Company Act expressly lists the following activities as financial in nature:

Lending, trust and other banking activities;

Insuring, guaranteeing, or indemnifying against loss or harm, or providing and issuing annuities, and acting as principal, agent, or broker for these purposes, in any state;

Providing financial, investment, or advisory services;

Issuing or selling instruments representing interests in pools of assets permissible for a bank to hold directly;

## Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

Underwriting, dealing in or making a market in securities;

Other activities that the Federal Reserve may determine to be so closely related to banking or managing or controlling banks as to be a proper incident to managing or controlling banks;

Foreign activities permitted outside of the United States if the Federal Reserve has determined them to be usual in connection with banking operations abroad;

Merchant banking through securities or insurance affiliates; and

Insurance company portfolio investments.

To qualify to become a financial holding company, the Bank and any other depository institution subsidiary of the Company must be well capitalized and well managed and must have a Community Reinvestment Act rating of at least satisfactory. Additionally, the Company must file an election with the Federal Reserve to become a financial holding company and must provide the Federal Reserve with 30 days written notice prior to engaging in a permitted financial activity. While the Company meets the qualification standards applicable to financial holding companies, the Company has not elected to become a financial holding company at this time.

---

## **Table of Contents**

**Support of Subsidiary Institutions.** Under Federal Reserve policy, the Company is expected to act as a source of financial strength for the Bank and to commit resources to support the Bank. This support may be required at times when, without this Federal Reserve policy, the Company might not be inclined to provide it. In addition, any capital loans made by the Company to the Bank will be repaid only after the Bank's deposits and various other obligations are repaid in full. In the unlikely event of the Company's bankruptcy, any commitment by it to a federal bank regulatory agency to maintain the capital of the Bank will be assumed by the bankruptcy trustee and entitled to a priority of payment.

### **The Bank**

The Bank is subject to extensive state and federal banking regulations that impose restrictions on and provide for general regulatory oversight of our operations. These laws are generally intended to protect depositors and not shareholders. The following discussion describes the material elements of the regulatory framework that applies to us.

Because the Bank is a commercial bank chartered under the laws of the State of Georgia, it is primarily subject to the supervision, examination and reporting requirements of the FDIC and the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance. The FDIC and Georgia Department of Banking and Finance regularly examine the Bank's operations and have the authority to approve or disapprove mergers, the establishment of branches and similar corporate actions. Both regulatory agencies have the power to prevent the continuance or development of unsafe or unsound banking practices or other violations of law. Additionally, the Bank's deposits are insured by the FDIC to the maximum extent provided by law. The Bank is also subject to numerous state and federal statutes and regulations that affect its business, activities and operations.

**Branching.** Under current Georgia law, the Bank may open branch offices throughout Georgia with the prior approval of the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance. In addition, with prior regulatory approval, the Bank may acquire branches of existing banks located in Georgia. The Bank and any other national or state-chartered bank generally may branch across state lines by merging with banks in other states if allowed by the laws of the applicable state (the foreign state). Georgia law, with limited exceptions, currently permits branching across state lines through interstate mergers.

Under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, states may "opt-in" and allow out-of-state banks to branch into their state by establishing a new start-up branch in the state. Currently, Georgia has not opted-in to this provision. Therefore, interstate merger is the only method through which a bank located outside of Georgia may branch into Georgia. This provides a limited barrier of entry into the Georgia banking market, which protects us from an important segment of potential competition. However, because Georgia has elected not to "opt-in", our ability to establish a new start-up branch in another state may be limited. Many states that have elected to "opt-in" have done so on a reciprocal basis, meaning that an out-of-state bank may establish a new start-up branch only if their home state has also elected to "opt-in". Consequently, until Georgia changes its election, the only way we will be able to branch into states that have elected to "opt-in" on a reciprocal basis will be through interstate merger.

**Prompt Corrective Action.** The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991 establishes a system of prompt corrective action to resolve the problems of undercapitalized financial institutions. Under this system, the federal banking regulators have established five capital categories (well capitalized, adequately capitalized, undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized and critically undercapitalized) in which all institutions are placed. The federal banking agencies have also specified by regulation the relevant capital levels for each of the other categories. At December 31, 2005, the Bank qualified for the well-capitalized category.

Federal banking regulators are required to take various mandatory supervisory actions and are authorized to take other discretionary actions with respect to institutions in the three undercapitalized categories. The severity of the action depends upon the capital category in which the institution is placed. Generally, subject to a narrow exception, the banking regulator must appoint a receiver or conservator for an institution that is critically undercapitalized.

---

**Table of Contents**

An institution that is categorized as undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized, or critically undercapitalized is required to submit an acceptable capital restoration plan to its appropriate federal banking agency. A bank holding company must guarantee that a subsidiary depository institution meets its capital restoration plan, subject to various limitations. The controlling holding company's obligation to fund a capital restoration plan is limited to the lesser of 5% of an undercapitalized subsidiary's assets at the time it became undercapitalized or the amount required to meet regulatory capital requirements. An undercapitalized institution is also generally prohibited from increasing its average total assets, making acquisitions, establishing any branches or engaging in any new line of business, except under an accepted capital restoration plan or with FDIC approval. The regulations also establish procedures for downgrading an institution to a lower capital category based on supervisory factors other than capital.

***FDIC Insurance Assessments.*** The FDIC has adopted a risk-based assessment system for insured depository institutions that takes into account the risks attributable to different categories and concentrations of assets and liabilities. The system assigns an institution to one of three capital categories: (1) well capitalized; (2) adequately capitalized; and (3) undercapitalized. These three categories are substantially similar to the prompt corrective action categories described above, with the undercapitalized category including institutions that are undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized, and critically undercapitalized for prompt corrective action purposes. The FDIC also assigns an institution to one of three supervisory subgroups based on a supervisory evaluation that the institution's primary federal regulator provides to the FDIC and information that the FDIC determines to be relevant to the institution's financial condition and the risk posed to the deposit insurance funds. Assessments range from 0 to 27 cents per \$100 of deposits, depending on the institution's capital group and supervisory subgroup. In addition, the FDIC imposes assessments to help pay off the \$780 million in annual interest payments on the \$8 billion Financing Corporation bonds issued in the late 1980s as part of the government rescue of the thrift industry. This assessment rate is adjusted quarterly and is set at 1.32 per \$100 of deposits for the first quarter of 2006.

The FDIC may terminate its insurance of deposits if it finds that the institution has engaged in unsafe and unsound practices, is in an unsafe or unsound condition to continue operations, or has violated any applicable law, regulation, rule, order or condition imposed by the FDIC.

***Community Reinvestment Act.*** The Community Reinvestment Act requires that, in connection with examinations of financial institutions within their respective jurisdictions, the Federal Reserve or the FDIC shall evaluate the record of each financial institution in meeting the credit needs of its local community, including low and moderate-income neighborhoods. These facts are also considered in evaluating mergers, acquisitions, and applications to open a branch or facility. Failure to adequately meet these criteria could impose additional requirements and limitations on the Bank. Additionally, we must publicly disclose the terms of various Community Reinvestment Act-related agreements.

***Other Regulations.*** Interest and other charges collected or contracted for by the Bank are subject to state usury laws and federal laws concerning interest rates. For example, under the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940, a lender is generally prohibited from charging an annual interest rate in excess of 6% on any obligation for which the borrower is a person on active duty with the United States military.

The Bank's loan operations are also subject to federal laws applicable to credit transactions, such as the:

Federal Truth-In-Lending Act, governing disclosures of credit terms to consumer borrowers;

Home Mortgage Disclosure Act of 1975, requiring financial institutions to provide information to enable the public and public officials to determine whether a financial institution is fulfilling its obligation to help meet the housing needs of the community it serves;

Equal Credit Opportunity Act, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, creed or other prohibited factors in extending credit;

---

**Table of Contents**

Fair Credit Reporting Act of 1978, governing the use and provision of information to credit reporting agencies, as amended by the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act, which became effective in 2004;

Fair Debt Collection Act, governing the manner in which consumer debts may be collected by collection agencies;

Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act of 1940, governing the repayment terms of, and property rights underlying, secured obligations of persons in military service; and

Rules and regulations of the various federal agencies charged with the responsibility of implementing these federal laws. In addition to the federal and state laws noted above, the Georgia Fair Lending Act ( GAFLA ) imposes restrictions and procedural requirements on most mortgage loans made in Georgia, including home equity loans and lines of credit. On August 5, 2003, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency issued a formal opinion stating that the entirety of GAFLA is preempted by federal law for national banks and their operating subsidiaries. GAFLA contains a provision that preempts GAFLA as to state banks in the event that the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency preempts GAFLA as to national banks. Therefore, the Bank is exempt from the requirements of GAFLA.

The deposit operations of the Bank are subject to:

The Right to Financial Privacy Act, which imposes a duty to maintain confidentiality of consumer financial records and prescribes procedures for complying with administrative subpoenas of financial records; and

The Electronic Funds Transfer Act and Regulation E issued by the Federal Reserve to implement that act, which govern automatic deposits to and withdrawals from deposit accounts and customers' rights and liabilities arising from the use of automated teller machines and other electronic banking services.

**Capital Adequacy**

The Company and the Bank are required to comply with the capital adequacy standards established by the Federal Reserve, in the case of the Company, and the FDIC, in the case of the Bank. The Federal Reserve has established a risk-based and a leverage measure of capital adequacy for bank holding companies. The Bank is also subject to risk-based and leverage capital requirements adopted by the FDIC, which are substantially similar to those adopted by the Federal Reserve for bank holding companies.

The risk-based capital standards are designed to make regulatory capital requirements more sensitive to differences in risk profiles among banks and bank holding companies, to account for off-balance-sheet exposure, and to minimize disincentives for holding liquid assets. Assets and off-balance-sheet items, such as letters of credit and unfunded loan commitments, are assigned to broad risk categories, each with appropriate risk weights. The resulting capital ratios represent capital as a percentage of total risk-weighted assets and off-balance-sheet items.

The minimum guideline for the ratio of total capital to risk-weighted assets is 8%. Total capital consists of two components, Tier 1 Capital and Tier 2 Capital. Tier 1 Capital generally consists of common stock, minority interests in the equity accounts of consolidated subsidiaries, noncumulative perpetual preferred stock, and a limited amount of qualifying cumulative perpetual preferred stock, less goodwill and other specified intangible assets. Tier 1 Capital must equal at least 4% of risk-weighted assets. Tier 2 Capital generally consists of subordinated debt, other preferred stock, and a limited amount of loan loss reserves. The total amount of Tier 2 Capital is limited to 100% of Tier 1 Capital. At December 31, 2005, the Bank's ratio of total capital to risk-weighted assets was 10.32% and our ratio of Tier 1 Capital to risk-weighted assets was 9.07%.

---

## **Table of Contents**

In addition, the Federal Reserve has established minimum leverage ratio guidelines for bank holding companies. These guidelines provide for a minimum ratio of Tier 1 Capital to average assets, less goodwill and other specified intangible assets, of 3% for bank holding companies that meet specified criteria, including having the highest regulatory rating and implementing the Federal Reserve's risk-based capital measure for market risk. All other bank holding companies generally are required to maintain a leverage ratio of at least 4%. At December 31, 2005, our leverage ratio was 10.58%. The guidelines also provide that bank holding companies experiencing internal growth or making acquisitions will be expected to maintain strong capital positions substantially above the minimum supervisory levels without reliance on intangible assets. The Federal Reserve considers the leverage ratio and other indicators of capital strength in evaluating proposals for expansion or new activities.

Failure to meet capital guidelines could subject a bank or bank holding company to a variety of enforcement remedies, including issuance of a capital directive, the termination of deposit insurance by the FDIC, a prohibition on accepting brokered deposits, and certain other restrictions on its business. As described above, significant additional restrictions can be imposed on FDIC-insured depository institutions that fail to meet applicable capital requirements.

### **Payment of Dividends**

The Company is a legal entity separate and distinct from the Bank. The principal sources of the Company's cash flow, including cash flow to pay dividends to its shareholders, are dividends that the Bank pays to its sole shareholder, the Company. Statutory and regulatory limitations apply to the Bank's payment of dividends. If, in the opinion of the federal banking regulator, the Bank were engaged in or about to engage in an unsafe or unsound practice, the federal banking regulator could require, after notice and a hearing, that it stop or refrain from engaging in the questioned practice. The federal banking agencies have indicated that paying dividends that deplete a depository institution's capital base to an inadequate level would be an unsafe and unsound banking practice. Under the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991, a depository institution may not pay any dividend if payment would cause it to become undercapitalized or if it already is undercapitalized. Moreover, the federal agencies have issued policy statements that provide that bank holding companies and insured banks should generally only pay dividends out of current operating earnings. See "The Bank Prompt Corrective Action."

The Georgia Department of Banking and Finance also regulates the Bank's dividend payments and must approve dividend payments that would exceed 50% of the Bank's net income for the prior year. Our payment of dividends may also be affected or limited by other factors, such as the requirement to maintain adequate capital above regulatory guidelines.

At December 31, 2005, the Bank could pay cash dividends of up to \$4.8 million without prior regulatory approval.

### **Restrictions on Transactions with Affiliates**

The Company and the Bank are subject to the provisions of Section 23A of the Federal Reserve Act. Section 23A places limits on the amount of:

A bank's loans or extensions of credit to affiliates;

A bank's investment in affiliates;

Assets a bank may purchase from affiliates, except for real and personal property exempted by the Federal Reserve;

Loans or extensions of credit made by a bank to third parties collateralized by the securities or obligations of affiliates; and

A bank's guarantee, acceptance or letter of credit issued on behalf of an affiliate.

## **Table of Contents**

The total amount of the above transactions is limited in amount, as to any one affiliate, to 10% of a bank's capital and surplus and, as to all affiliates combined, to 20% of a bank's capital and surplus. In addition to the limitation on the amount of these transactions, each of the above transactions must also meet specified collateral requirements. The Bank must also comply with other provisions designed to avoid the taking of low-quality assets.

The Company and the Bank are also subject to the provisions of Section 23B of the Federal Reserve Act which, among other things, prohibit an institution from engaging in the above transactions with affiliates unless the transactions are on terms substantially the same, or at least as favorable to the institution or its subsidiaries, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with nonaffiliated companies.

The Bank is also subject to restrictions on extensions of credit to its executive officers, directors, principal shareholders and their related interests. These extensions of credit (1) must be made on substantially the same terms, including interest rates and collateral, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with third parties, and (2) must not involve more than the normal risk of repayment or present other unfavorable features.

## **Privacy**

Financial institutions are required to disclose their policies for collecting and protecting confidential information. Customers generally may prevent financial institutions from sharing nonpublic personal financial information with nonaffiliated third parties except under narrow circumstances, such as the processing of transactions requested by the consumer or when the financial institution is jointly sponsoring a product or service with a nonaffiliated third party. Additionally, financial institutions generally may not disclose consumer account numbers to any nonaffiliated third party for use in telemarketing, direct mail marketing or other marketing to consumers.

## **Anti-Terrorism and Money Laundering Legislation**

The Bank is subject to the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (the USA PATRIOT Act), the Bank Secrecy Act, and rules and regulations of the Office of Foreign Assets Control (the OFAC). These statutes and related rules and regulations impose requirements and limitations on specified financial transactions and account relationships, intended to guard against money laundering and terrorism financing. The Bank has established a customer identification program pursuant to Section 326 of the USA PATRIOT Act and the Bank Secrecy Act, and otherwise has implemented policies and procedures to comply with the foregoing rules.

## **Proposed Legislation and Regulatory Action**

New regulations and statutes are regularly proposed that contain wide-ranging proposals for altering the structures, regulations and competitive relationships of financial institutions operating or doing business in the United States. We cannot predict whether or in what form any proposed regulation or statute will be adopted or the extent to which our business may be affected by any new regulation or statute.

## **Effect of Governmental Monetary Policies**

Our earnings are affected by domestic economic conditions and the monetary and fiscal policies of the United States government and its agencies. The Federal Reserve Bank's monetary policies have had, and are likely to continue to have, an important impact on the operating results of commercial banks through its power to implement national monetary policy in order, among other things, to curb inflation or combat a recession. The monetary policies of the Federal Reserve affect the levels of bank loans, investments and deposits through its control over the issuance of United States government securities, its regulation of the discount rate applicable to

## **Table of Contents**

member banks and its influence over reserve requirements to which member banks are subject. We cannot predict the nature or impact of future changes in monetary and fiscal policies.

### **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

An investment in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Investors should carefully consider the risks described below and the other information in this report before deciding to invest in shares of our common stock. While these are the risks and uncertainties that we believe are the most important for you to consider, they are not the only risks or uncertainties facing us or that may adversely affect our business. If any of the following risks or uncertainties actually occurs, our business, financial condition and operating results would likely suffer.

#### **Our business is subject to the success of the local economies where we operate.**

Our success depends significantly upon the growth in population, income levels, deposits and housing needs in our primary and secondary markets. If the communities in which we operate do not grow or if prevailing economic conditions locally or nationally are unfavorable, our business may not succeed. Adverse economic conditions in the State of Georgia or the metropolitan Atlanta area, including the loss of certain significant employers, affect the ability of our customers to repay their loans to us and generally affect our financial condition and results of operations. We are less able than a larger institution to spread the risks of unfavorable local economic conditions across a large number of diversified economies. Moreover, we cannot give any assurance that we will benefit from any market growth or favorable economic conditions in our primary market areas if they do occur.

In addition, the market value of the real estate securing loans as collateral could be adversely affected by unfavorable changes in market and economic conditions. Any sustained period of increased payment delinquencies, foreclosures or losses caused by adverse market or economic conditions in the State of Georgia or the metropolitan Atlanta area could adversely affect the value of our assets, our revenues, results of operations and financial condition.

#### **Changes in economic conditions, particularly an economic slowdown, could hurt our business.**

Our business is directly affected by political and market conditions, broad trends in industry and finance, legislative and regulatory changes, changes in governmental monetary and fiscal policies and inflation, all of which are beyond our control. Any deterioration in economic conditions could result in the following consequences, any of which could hurt our business materially:

\*loan delinquencies may increase;

\*problem assets and foreclosures may increase;

\*demand for our products and services may decline; and

\*collateral for loans made by us may decline in value, in turn reducing our clients' borrowing power.

#### **A downturn in the real estate market could hurt our business.**

If there is a significant decline in real estate values in Georgia, the collateral for our loans will provide less security. As a result, our ability to recover on defaulted loans by selling the underlying real estate would be diminished, and we would be more likely to suffer losses on defaulted loans.

The results of operations of banking institutions are materially affected by general economic conditions, the monetary and fiscal policies of the federal government and the regulatory policies of governmental authorities as well as other factors that affect market rates of interest. Our profitability significantly depends on net interest income, which is the difference between interest income on interest-earning assets, like loans and investments,



---

**Table of Contents**

and interest expense on interest-bearing liabilities, like deposits and borrowings. Thus, any change in general market interest rates, whether as a result of changes in monetary policies of the Federal Reserve or otherwise, could have a significant effect on our net interest income. These changes are beyond our control and we cannot fully insulate ourselves from the effect of rate changes.

**We may face risks with respect to future expansion and acquisitions or mergers.**

We continuously seek to acquire other financial institutions or parts of those institutions and may engage in de novo branch expansion, acquisitions or mergers in the future. We may also consider and enter into new lines of business or offer new products or services. We also may receive future inquiries and have discussions with potential acquirors of us. Acquisitions and mergers involve a number of risks, including:

- \*the time and costs associated with identifying and evaluating potential acquisition and merger partners;
- \*the estimates and judgments used to evaluate credit, operations, management and market risks with respect to the target institution may not be accurate;
- \*the time and costs of evaluating new markets, hiring experienced local management and opening new offices, and the time lags between these activities and the generation of sufficient assets and deposits to support the costs of the expansion;
- \*our inability to finance an acquisition and possible dilution to our existing shareholders;
- \*the diversion of our management's attention to the negotiation of a transaction, and the integration of the operations and personnel of the combining businesses;
- \*entry into new markets where we lack experience;
- \*the incurrence and possible impairment of goodwill associated with an acquisition and possible adverse short-term effects on our results of operations; and
- \*the risk of loss of key employees and customers.

**We may incur substantial costs to expand and we can give no assurance that such expansion will result in the levels of profits we seek.**

There can be no assurance that our ongoing integration efforts with respect to our recent acquisition of First Capital Bancorp or any effort for future mergers or acquisitions will be successful. Also, we may issue equity securities, including common stock and securities convertible into shares of our common stock in connection with future acquisitions, which could cause ownership and economic dilution to our current shareholders. There is no assurance that, following our acquisition of First Capital Bancorp or any future merger or acquisition, our integration efforts will be successful or that our company, after giving effect to the acquisition, will achieve profits comparable to, or better than, our historical experience.

**Our recent operating results may not be indicative of our future operating results.**

We may not be able to sustain our historical rate of growth or may not even be able to grow our business at all. In addition, our recent and rapid growth, including our growth through mergers and acquisitions, may distort some of our historical financial ratios and statistics. In the future, we may not have the benefit of a favorable interest rate environment, a strong residential mortgage market, or the ability to find suitable candidates for acquisition. Various factors, such as economic conditions, regulatory and legislative considerations and competition, may also impede or prohibit our ability to expand our market presence. If we experience a significant decrease in our historical rate of growth, our results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected due to a high percentage of our operating costs being fixed expenses.

## **Table of Contents**

**Our continued pace of growth may require us to raise additional capital in the future, but that capital may not be available when it is needed.**

We are required by federal and state regulatory authorities to maintain adequate levels of capital to support our operations. We may at some point need to raise additional capital to support our continued growth. Our ability to raise additional capital, if needed, will depend on conditions in the capital markets at that time, which are outside our control, and on our financial performance. Accordingly, we may not be able to raise additional capital if needed on terms acceptable to us. If we cannot raise additional capital when needed, our ability to further expand our operations through internal growth and acquisitions could be materially impaired.

**Increases in interest rates may negatively affect our earnings and the value of our assets.**

Changes in interest rates may affect the level of our interest income, the primary component of our gross revenue, as well as the level of our interest expense, our largest recurring expenditure. In a period of rising interest rates, our interest expense could increase in different amounts and at different rates while the interest that we earn on our assets may not change in the same amounts or at the same rates. Accordingly, increases in interest rates could decrease our net interest income. In addition, an increase in interest rates may decrease the demand for consumer and commercial credit, including real estate loans, which would directly affect our asset growth and related fee income.

**Changes in the level of interest rates also may negatively affect the value of our assets and our ability to realize gains from the sale of our assets, all of which will ultimately affect our earnings.**

A decline in the market value of our assets may limit our ability to borrow additional funds or result in our lenders requiring additional collateral from us under our loan agreements. As a result, we could be required to sell some of our loans and investments under adverse market conditions, upon terms that are not favorable to us, in order to maintain our liquidity. If those sales are made at prices lower than the amortized costs of the investments, we will incur losses.

**Our loan portfolio includes a substantial amount of commercial and industrial loans which include risks that may be greater than the risks related to residential loans.**

Commercial and industrial loans generally carry larger loan balances and involve a greater degree of financial and credit risks than home equity loans or residential mortgage loans. Any significant failure to pay on time by our customers would hurt our earnings. The increased financial and credit risk associated with these types of loans is a result of several factors, including the concentration of principal in a limited number of loans and borrowers, the size of loan balances, the effects of general economic conditions on income-producing properties and the increased difficulty of evaluating and monitoring these types of loans. In addition, when underwriting a commercial or industrial loan, we may take a security interest in commercial real estate and, in some instances upon a default by the borrower, we may foreclose on and take title to the property, which may lead to potential financial risk for us under applicable environmental laws. If hazardous substances were discovered on any of these properties, we may be liable to governmental entities or third parties for the costs of remediation of the hazard, as well as for personal injury and property damage. Many environmental laws can impose liability regardless of whether we knew of, or were responsible for, the contamination. Furthermore, the repayment of loans secured by commercial real estate is typically dependent upon the successful operation of the related real estate or commercial project. If the cash flow from the project is reduced, the borrower's ability to repay the loan may be impaired. This cash flow shortage may result in the failure to make loan payments. In such cases, we may be compelled to modify the terms of the loan. In addition, the nature of these loans is such that they are generally less predictable and more difficult to evaluate and monitor. As a result, repayment of these loans may, to a greater extent than residential loans, be subject to adverse conditions in the real estate market or economy. If our allowance for loan losses is not sufficient to cover actual loan losses, our earnings could decrease.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Our loan customers may not repay their loans according to the terms of these loans and the collateral securing the payment of these loans may be insufficient to assure repayment.**

We may experience significant loan losses, which could have a material adverse effect on our operating results. Management makes various assumptions and judgments about the collectibility of our loan portfolio, including the creditworthiness of our borrowers and the value of the real estate and other assets serving as collateral for the repayment of many of our loans. We maintain an allowance for loan losses in an attempt to cover any loan losses which may occur. In determining the size of the allowance, we rely on an analysis of our loan portfolio based on historical loss experience, volume and types of loans, trends in classification, volume and trends in delinquencies and non-accruals, national and local economic conditions and other pertinent information. As we expand into new markets, our determination of the size of the allowance could be understated due to our lack of familiarity with market-specific factors.

### **If our assumptions are wrong, our current allowance may not be sufficient to cover future loan losses, and adjustments may be necessary to allow for different economic conditions or adverse developments in our loan portfolio.**

Material additions to our allowance would materially decrease our net income. In addition, federal and state regulators periodically review our allowance for loan losses and may require us to increase our provision for loan losses or recognize further loan charge-offs, based on judgments different than those of our management. Any increase in our allowance for loan losses or loan charge-offs as required by these regulatory agencies could have a negative effect on our operating results.

### **Competition from financial institutions and other financial service providers may adversely affect our profitability.**

The banking business is highly competitive and we experience competition in each of our markets from many other financial institutions. We compete with commercial banks, credit unions, savings and loan associations, mortgage banking firms, consumer finance companies, securities brokerage firms, insurance companies, money market funds and other mutual funds, as well as other super-regional, national and international financial institutions that operate offices in our primary market areas and elsewhere.

We compete with these institutions both in attracting deposits and in making loans. In addition, we have to attract our customer base from other existing financial institutions and from new residents. Many of our competitors are well-established and larger financial institutions. We may face a competitive disadvantage as a result of our smaller size, lack of geographic diversification and inability to spread our marketing costs across a broader market and can give no assurance that our competitive strategy will be successful.

### **We are subject to extensive regulation that could limit or restrict our activities.**

We operate in a highly regulated industry and are subject to examination, supervision, and comprehensive regulation by various federal and state agencies. Our compliance with these regulations is costly and restricts certain of our activities, including payment of dividends, mergers and acquisitions, investments, loans and interest rates charged, interest rates paid on deposits and locations of offices. We are also subject to capitalization guidelines established by our regulators, which require us to maintain adequate capital to support our growth.

The laws and regulations applicable to the banking industry could change from time to time and we cannot predict the effects of these changes on our business and profitability. Because government regulation greatly affects the business and financial results of all commercial banks and bank holding companies, our cost of compliance could adversely affect our ability to operate profitably.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Risks associated with unpredictable economic and political conditions may be amplified as a result of our limited market areas.**

Conditions such as inflation, recession, unemployment, high interest rates, short money supply, scarce natural resources, international disorders, terrorism and other factors beyond our control may adversely affect our profitability. Because the majority of our borrowers are individuals and businesses located and doing business in Georgia, our success will depend significantly upon the economic conditions in Georgia or metropolitan Atlanta and the counties in which we maintain presence. Unfavorable economic conditions in Georgia or metropolitan Atlanta may result in, among other things, deterioration in credit quality or a reduced demand for credit and may harm the financial stability of our customers. Due to our limited market areas, these negative conditions may have a more noticeable effect on us than would be experienced by a larger institution more able to spread these risks of unfavorable local economic conditions across a large number of diversified economies.

### **We depend on our ability to attract and retain key personnel; we rely heavily on our management team, and the unexpected loss of key personnel may adversely affect our operations.**

Our success to date has been influenced strongly by our ability to attract and to retain senior management experienced in banking and financial services. Retention of senior managers and appropriate succession planning will continue to be critical to the successful implementation of our strategies. It is also important as we grow to be able to attract and retain additional qualified senior and middle management. We maintain a limited number of key-man life insurance policies and maintain bank-owned life insurance policies on most of our executive and senior officers to offset liabilities under employment contracts. The unexpected loss of services of any key management personnel, or the inability to recruit and retain qualified personnel in the future, could have an adverse effect on our business and financial results.

### **If a significant number of borrowers, guarantors and related parties fail to perform as required by the terms of their loans, we will sustain losses.**

A significant source of risk arises from the possibility that losses will be sustained because borrowers, guarantors and related parties may fail to perform in accordance with the terms of their loans. We have adopted underwriting and credit monitoring procedures and credit policies, including the establishment and review of the allowance for credit losses, that management believes are appropriate to minimize this risk by assessing the likelihood of nonperformance, tracking loan performance, and diversifying our credit portfolio. These policies and procedures, however, may not prevent unexpected losses that could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

### **Our status as a holding company makes us dependent on dividends from Flag Bank to meet our obligations.**

We are a holding company and conduct almost all of our operations through Flag Bank. We do not have any significant assets other than the stock of Flag Bank. Accordingly, we depend on the cash flow of Flag Bank to meet our obligations. Our right to participate in any distribution of earnings or assets of Flag Bank is subject to the prior claims of creditors of Flag Bank. Under federal and state law, Flag Bank is limited in the amount of dividends that Flag Bank can pay to us without prior regulatory approval. Also, bank regulators have the authority to prohibit Flag Bank from paying dividends if they think the payment would be an unsafe and unsound banking practice.

### **Our ability to pay dividends is limited and we may be unable to pay future dividends.**

Our ability to pay dividends is limited by regulatory restrictions and the need to maintain sufficient consolidated capital. The ability of Flag Bank to pay dividends to us is limited by its obligation to maintain

## **Table of Contents**

sufficient capital and by other general restrictions applicable to Georgia banks and banks that are regulated by the FDIC. If we fail to satisfy these regulatory requirements, we will be unable to pay dividends on our common stock.

### **Failure to successfully execute our strategy could adversely affect our performance.**

Our financial performance and profitability depend on our ability to execute our corporate growth strategy. Continued growth may present operating and other problems that could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. Accordingly, there can be no assurances that we will be able to execute our growth strategy or maintain the level of profitability that we have recently experienced.

### **Our internal operations are subject to a number of risks.**

We are subject to certain operations risks, including, but not limited to, data processing system failures and errors, customer or employee fraud and catastrophic failures resulting from terrorist acts or natural disasters. We maintain a system of internal controls to mitigate against such occurrences and maintain insurance coverage for such risks that are insurable, but should such an event occur that is not prevented or detected by our internal controls and uninsured or in excess of applicable insurance limits, it could have a significant adverse impact on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

### **The trading volume in our common stock has been low and the future sale of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market could depress the price of our common stock.**

The trading volume in our common stock on the Nasdaq National Market has been relatively low when compared with larger companies listed on the Nasdaq National Market or national stock exchanges. We cannot say with any certainty that a more active and liquid trading market for our common stock will develop. Because of this, it may be more difficult for an investor to sell a substantial number of shares for the same price at which he or she could sell a smaller number of shares. We cannot predict the effect, if any, that future sales of our common stock in the market, or the availability of shares of common stock for sale in the market, will have on the market price of our common stock. We, therefore, can give no assurance that sales of substantial amounts of common stock in the market, or the potential for sales of large amounts of common stock in the market, would not cause the price of our common stock to decline or impair our future ability to raise capital through sales of our common stock.

### **There is fluctuation in the trading market for our common stock and investors may be unable to resell shares of our common stock at or above the price paid for them.**

The price of our common stock has been, and will likely continue to be, subject to fluctuations based on, among other things, economic and market conditions for financial services companies and the stock market in general, as well as changes in investor perceptions of our company.

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol FLAG. The maintenance of an active public trading market depends, however, upon the existence of willing buyers and sellers, the presence of which is beyond our control or the control of any market maker, and there can be no assurance that investors will be able to resell shares at or above the price paid for them. The market price of our common stock could drop significantly if shareholders sell or are perceived by the market as intending to sell large blocks of our shares.

## **ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

The executive offices of the Company are located at 3475 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 550, Atlanta, Georgia 30305. The Company leases this property. The Company and the Bank conduct business from facilities owned

**Table of Contents**

and leased by the Bank, all of which are in good condition and are adequate for the Bank's current and foreseeable needs. The Company and Flag Bank provide services or perform operational functions at 27 locations, of which 13 locations are owned and 14 are leased. See Item 1 Business for a list of the locations in which the Company and the Bank have offices.

**ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

The Company and the Bank are periodically involved as plaintiff or defendant in various other legal actions in the ordinary course of their business. We do not believe that such litigation presents a material risk to the Company's business, financial condition or results of operations.

**ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS**

No matter was submitted by the Company to a vote of its shareholders during the fourth quarter of 2005.

**Table of Contents****PART II****ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS**

The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices for the Flag common stock, as reported by the NASDAQ Stock Market, and the cash dividends paid per share of common stock for the periods indicated.

<b>Quarter</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Dividend</b>
<b>2005</b>			
<b>Fourth</b>	<b>\$ 17.05</b>	<b>\$ 15.75</b>	<b>\$ 0.06</b>
<b>Third</b>	<b>16.93</b>	<b>14.34</b>	<b>0.06</b>
<b>Second</b>	<b>16.07</b>	<b>14.07</b>	<b>0.06</b>
<b>First</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>14.52</b>	<b>0.06</b>
<b>2004</b>			
Fourth	\$ 15.44	\$ 13.33	\$ 0.06
Third	14.10	12.84	0.06
Second	13.15	12.25	0.06
First	13.40	12.45	0.06

Subject to board approval, the Company pays quarterly dividends on the first business day of January, April, July and October. See Item 1 Business Supervision and Regulation Payment of Dividends for information regarding regulatory restrictions on the Company's ability to pay dividends.

The Company's ability to pay cash dividends is further subject to continued payment of interest that is owed on junior subordinated debentures issued in connection with the Company's prior issuances of trust preferred securities. As of December 31, 2005, the Company had approximately \$46.8 million of junior subordinated debentures outstanding. The Company has the right to defer payment of interest on each of the junior subordinated debentures for a period not exceeding 20 consecutive quarters. If the Company defers, or fails to make, interest payments on the junior subordinated debentures, the Company will be prohibited, subject to certain exceptions, from paying cash dividends on common stock until all deferred interest is paid and interest payments on the junior subordinated debentures resumes.

The Company did not repurchase any shares of its common stock during the fourth quarter of 2005.

**Table of Contents****ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA**

The following selected financial data is derived from and should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements, which are included elsewhere in this report.

(In thousands except per share data)	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
<b>FOR THE YEAR</b>					
Net interest income	\$ 39,745	30,564	25,987	24,302	23,980
Provision for loan losses	750	1,845	1,321	4,549	2,488
Noninterest income	9,463	11,468	10,365	7,395	10,668
Noninterest expense	34,282	29,509	26,202	31,005	25,701
Income taxes	4,600	3,310	2,724	(2,028)	1,753
Extraordinary item	-	-	-	165	696
Net earnings (loss)	9,576	7,368	6,105	(1,994)	4,010
<b>PER COMMON SHARE</b>					
Basic earnings (loss) per share	\$ 1.01	0.88	0.72	(0.24)	0.51
Diluted earnings (loss) per share	0.96	0.82	0.67	(0.24)	0.51
Cash dividends declared	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24
Book value	11.79	8.14	7.65	7.24	7.33
<b>KEY PERFORMANCE RATIOS</b>					
Return on average assets	0.99%	0.99%	0.95%	(0.36)%	0.72%
Return on average stockholders' equity	11.12%	11.19%	9.64%	(3.39)%	7.12%
Net interest margin, tax equivalent basis	4.50%	4.48%	4.50%	4.86%	4.83%
Efficiency ratio	69.67%	70.21%	72.08%	97.82%	74.18%
Dividend payout ratio	21.46%	27.38%	33.35%	N/A	46.27%
Average equity to average assets	8.94%	8.86%	9.81%	10.49%	10.04%
<b>CREDIT QUALITY RATIOS</b>					
Allowance for loan losses	\$ 16,779	8,602	6,685	6,888	7,345
Nonperforming assets	6,937	5,310	7,426	11,083	20,547
Allowance for loan losses to loans	1.37%	1.42%	1.38%	1.80%	1.95%
Nonperforming assets to total assets	0.41%	0.64%	1.05%	1.74%	3.60%
Net (recoveries) charge-offs to average loans	(0.14)%	0.06%	0.37%	1.37%	0.45%
<b>AT YEAR END</b>					
Loans, net	\$ 1,205,046	596,101	477,095	374,784	368,967
Earning assets	1,512,312	772,387	647,481	569,755	512,942
Assets	1,702,861	828,337	703,857	636,131	570,202
Deposits	1,283,952	706,847	570,570	509,731	440,582
Stockholders' equity	204,800	69,202	65,260	60,749	54,023
Common shares outstanding, net of treasury	16,874	8,503	8,528	8,394	7,370
<b>AVERAGE BALANCES</b>					
Loans	\$ 712,590	541,502	417,395	366,571	378,867
Earning assets	892,598	690,187	587,484	511,737	508,752
Assets	963,281	743,082	645,430	560,984	560,816
Deposits	804,854	612,712	516,067	442,645	449,985
Stockholders' equity	86,111	65,854	63,299	58,865	56,294
Weighted average shares outstanding - basic	9,440	8,396	8,471	8,201	7,808
Weighted average shares outstanding - diluted	10,007	8,982	9,063	N/A	7,844



---

**Table of Contents**

**ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**General**

Flag Financial Corporation (Flag or the Company) is a bank holding company that owns 100 percent of the common stock of Flag Bank (the Bank). The Bank is a full-service, retail oriented bank primarily engaged in retail banking, small business, residential and commercial real estate lending and mortgage banking. Flag also owns Flag Financial Corporation Statutory Trust, Flag Financial Statutory Trust II, Flag Financial Statutory Trust III and First Capital Statutory Trust, subsidiaries whose sole purpose was to issue Trust Preferred Securities.

The following discussion focuses on significant changes in the financial condition and results of operations of Flag during the three years ended December 31, 2005. This discussion and the financial information contained herein are presented to assist the reader in understanding and evaluating the financial condition, results of operations and future prospects of Flag and should be read as a supplement to and in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and Related Notes.

**Executive Summary**

Earnings - Flag recorded record earnings in 2005 of \$9.6 million, or \$0.96 per diluted share, an increase of 30% from \$7.4 million, or \$0.82 per diluted share, in 2004. In 2005, Flag continued to grow its earnings through balance sheet growth while remaining focused on improvements in credit quality.

Flag continued building its metro Atlanta franchise through its merger with First Capital Bancorp (First Capital). Flag completed its acquisition of First Capital on November 21, 2005. The acquisition gives Flag total assets of \$1.7 billion and 27 offices in metro Atlanta, western and central Georgia. Results of operations from the former First Capital are included in Flag's annual results from the date of the merger. See Note 2 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

Net interest income improved \$9.2 million or 30.0% to \$39.7 million in 2005 from \$30.6 million in 2004. Average interest-earning assets grew \$202.4 million or 29.3% in 2005 compared to 2004 while average interest-bearing liabilities increased \$172.7 million or 27.5%. In 2005, the yield on interest-earning assets increased to 7.13% from 6.23% in 2004 while the cost of interest-bearing liabilities increased to 2.94% from 1.92% in 2004. The inclusion of First Capital's loan and investment portfolios during the fourth quarter of 2005 caused a decline in the yield in interest-earning assets while at the same time the cost of interest-bearing liabilities increased.

Noninterest income decreased \$2.0 million or 17.5% to \$9.5 million in 2005 compared to \$11.5 million for 2004. Noninterest income in 2005 includes pre-tax losses on sales of investment securities of \$1.1 million. Flag initiated a repositioning of its balance sheet in the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2005 and sold \$67.6 million in fixed-rate investments recognizing pre-tax losses on sales of investment securities of \$1.2 million. While this action resulted in a current charge to earnings, management believes the end result will be an expanded net interest margin, an improved interest rate risk position and increased profitability. In 2005, other noninterest income includes fees generated by Payroll Solutions totaling \$2.2 million. Flag purchased Payroll Solutions in December 2004 to expand the suite of services to customers by providing payroll, human resources and benefits services. Included in 2004 noninterest income, is a \$3.0 million gain on the sale of Flag's Thomaston, Georgia, branch and gains on sales of investment securities of \$700,000.

Noninterest expense increased to \$34.3 million in 2005, an increase of \$4.8 million or 16.2%, compared to \$29.5 million in 2004. Salaries and employee benefits increased \$3.0 million, primarily as a result of an increase in production personnel in metro Atlanta and the addition of Payroll Solutions totaling \$1.1 million in 2005. These additions were also a driving factor in increases in other noninterest expenses including occupancy and communications and data.

---

## **Table of Contents**

Balance Sheet Growth - Flag's total assets grew by approximately \$874.5 million or 105.6% in 2005. The Company's balance sheet growth is primarily attributable to its merger with First Capital and its continued organic growth. Gross loans, including loans held for sale, increased \$619.8 million as the Company continued to expand its lending activities in metropolitan Atlanta. Increases due to organic growth totaled \$128.3 million while the merger with First Capital added gross loans of \$491.5 million. Demand deposits (interest-bearing and noninterest-bearing) improved by \$308.4 million or 77.7% during 2005 while total deposits grew by \$577.1 million or 81.6% during 2005. Increases in deposits due to organic growth totaled \$113.1 million while the merger with First Capital added deposits of \$464.0 million. Organic balance sheet growth is principally attributable to Flag's ability to successfully attract new customers in metropolitan Atlanta while continuing to grow its relationships with existing customers.

Credit Quality - The ratio of nonperforming assets to total assets continues to improve. Nonperforming assets were at 0.41% of total assets at December 31, 2005, compared to 0.64% at December 31, 2004. Past due and classified loan trends also improved in 2005. Annualized net recoveries to average loans were at 0.14% for the year ended December 31, 2005, compared to annualized net charge-offs of 0.06% for the year ended December 31, 2004. The improving credit quality at Flag is due largely to a comprehensive loan monitoring program as well as efforts that focus loan production efforts in areas management believes provide higher quality credits. The allowance for loan losses totaled \$16.8 million at December 31, 2005, compared to \$8.6 million at December 31, 2004. The allowance for loan losses represented 1.37% of gross loans at December 31, 2005, compared to 1.42% of gross loans at December 31, 2004. While the allowance for loan loss to gross loans decreased, the ratio of the allowance for loan losses to nonperforming loans increased to 2.89 times compared to 2.00 times. The increase in coverage corresponds directly with the improvement in credit quality during 2005. Also, reflecting the improvement in credit quality during 2005, is the decrease in loan loss provision for the year ended December 31, 2005, which totaled \$750,000, compared to \$1.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2004.

## **Acquisition and Disposition Activity**

In November 2005 Flag acquired 100 percent of the outstanding common shares of First Capital, a bank holding company headquartered in Norcross, Georgia. First Capital was the parent company of First Capital Bank, a community bank with five banking offices in the north metro Atlanta market. The merger accelerated Flag's strategy to continue to grow its presence in the metro Atlanta area. The consideration for the acquisition was a combination of cash and common stock with an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$137.6 million. The total consideration consisted of \$19.1 million in cash, approximately 6.9 million shares of Flag Financial common stock with a value of approximately \$112.7 million and 784,000 in stock options with a value of approximately \$5.8 million. See Note 2 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

The accounting principles we follow and our methods of applying these principles conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and with general practices within the banking industry. In connection with the application of those principles, we have made judgments, estimates and assumptions which, in the case of estimating our allowance for loan losses (ALL), have been critical to the determination of our financial position and results of operations. Management assesses the adequacy of the ALL regularly during the year, and formally prior to the end of each calendar quarter. This assessment includes procedures to estimate the allowance and test the adequacy and appropriateness of the resulting balance.

This estimation process can affect our estimated loan loss expense for a given period. Generally, the allowance for loan losses increases as the outstanding balance of loans or the level of classified or impaired loans increases. Loans or portions of loans that are deemed uncollectible are charged against and reduce the allowance. The allowance is replenished by means of a provision for loan losses that is charged as an expense. As a result, our estimate of the allowance for loan losses affects our earnings directly.

## **Table of Contents**

The ALL consists of two portions (1) allocated amounts representing the potential exposures on specifically identified credits and other exposures readily predictable by historical or comparative experience; and (2) an unallocated amount representative of inherent loss which is not readily identifiable. Even though the ALL is composed of two components, the entire ALL is available to absorb any credit losses. Allocated amounts are used on loans where management has determined that there is an increased probability or severity of loss than on the loan portfolio as a whole. We base the allocation for these unique loans primarily on risk rating grades assigned to each of these loans as a result of our loan management and review processes. We then assign each risk-rating grade a loss ratio, which is determined based on the experience of management, discussions with banking regulators and our independent loan review process. We estimate losses on impaired loans based on estimated cash flows discounted at the loan's original effective interest rate or based on the underlying collateral value. To the extent that management does not believe that a certain loan's risk is appropriately represented by the risk rating grades, a specific review of the credit is performed which would result in a specific allocation for that particular loan.

Unallocated amounts are particularly subjective and do not lend themselves to exact mathematical calculation. The unallocated amount represents estimated inherent credit losses which may exist, but have not yet been identified, as of the balance sheet date. In estimating the unallocated amount, we consider such matters as changes in the local or national economy, the depth or experience in the lending staff, any concentrations of credit in any particular industry group, and new banking laws or regulations. After we assess applicable factors, we evaluate the aggregate unallocated amount based on our management's experience. We then evaluate the resulting ALL balance by comparing the balance in the ALL to historical trends and peer information. Our management then evaluates the result of the procedures performed, including the result of our testing, and concludes on the appropriateness of the balance of the ALL in its entirety.

The audit committee of our board of directors reviews the assessment prior to the filing of quarterly and annual financial information. In assessing the adequacy of the ALL, we also rely on an ongoing independent loan review process. We undertake this process both to ascertain whether there are loans in the portfolio whose credit quality has weakened over time and to assist in our overall evaluation of the risk characteristics of the entire loan portfolio. Our loan review process includes the judgment of management, input from our independent loan reviewer, and reviews that may have been conducted by bank regulatory agencies as part of their usual examination process.

See Provision and Allowance for Loan Losses for additional information.

## **Results of Operations**

### **Net Income**

Flag recorded record net earnings in 2005 of \$9.6 million or \$0.96 per diluted share, compared to net earnings in 2004 of \$7.4 million or \$0.82 per diluted share and net earnings in 2003 of \$6.1 million or \$0.67 per diluted share. Results of operations from the former First Capital are included in Flag's annual results from the date of the merger.

### **Net Interest Income**

Net interest income (the difference or spread between interest income on earning assets and interest expense on borrowed funds) is the largest component of Flag's operating income. Flag manages net interest income in a manner that realizes the largest spread while accepting certain levels of credit, liquidity and interest rate risks. Managing these risks requires systems and processes to identify and evaluate these risks at various levels in the organization. Net interest income increased \$9.2 million or 30.0% to \$39.7 million in 2005, compared to \$30.6 million and \$26.0 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. Flag's change in net interest income during 2005 and 2004 was primarily the result of annual increases in average interest-earning assets of 29.3% and 17.5%, respectively.

---

**Table of Contents**

Flag's net interest margin, taxable equivalent (net interest income divided by average interest-earning assets) remained stable in 2005 at 4.50% compared to 4.48% in 2004 and 4.50% in 2003. The inclusion of First Capital's loan and investment portfolios during the fourth quarter of 2005 caused a decline in the yield in interest-earning assets while at the same time the cost of interest-bearing liabilities increased. Flag has employed an aggressive growth strategy in earning assets for the last three years, resulting in double digit growth rates in earning assets in 2005, 2004 and 2003 and lower incremental margins than what Flag has historically managed.

Flag initiated a repositioning of its balance sheet designed to further reduce its exposure to an anticipated continued increase in interest rates and to improve net interest margin and net interest income levels. In the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2005, Flag sold \$67.6 million in fixed-rate investments and reinvested the proceeds in a combination of fixed-rate and variable rate investments with a higher average yield. While this action resulted in a current charge to earnings, management believes the end result will be an expanded net interest margin, an improved interest rate risk position and increased future profitability.

Total interest income in 2005 increased \$20.7 million or 48.5% to \$63.3 million, compared to \$42.6 million and \$36.5 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. The increase is primarily due to higher levels of average interest-earning assets which grew \$202.4 million or 29.3% to \$892.6 million during 2005 compared to \$690.2 million and \$587.5 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. Yields on average interest-earning assets in 2005 increased to 7.13% compared to 6.23% and 6.29% in 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Interest income on loans increased \$18.7 million or 50.6% to \$55.8 million in 2005 compared to \$37.1 million and \$30.1 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. Average loans outstanding (including mortgage loans held-for-sale) increased 31.6% in 2005 to \$712.6 million, compared to average balances of \$541.5 million and \$417.4 million for 2004 and 2003, respectively. As a percentage of average interest-earning assets, loans outstanding averaged approximately 79.8% during 2005 compared to 78.5% in 2004 and 71.0% in 2003. The yield on loans outstanding (including mortgage loans held-for-sale) during 2005 was 7.86% compared to 6.88% and 7.25% during 2004 and 2003, respectively. The increase in yield is primarily attributable to re-pricing of the adjustable rate loan portfolio as a result of the rising rate environment.

Interest income on investments increased \$812,000 or 16.0% to \$5.9 million in 2005 compared to \$5.1 million and \$5.8 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. Average investment securities increased \$13.1 million or 10.9% to \$132.9 million during 2005. This compares to averages of \$119.8 million and \$135.1 million for 2004 and 2003, respectively. As a percentage of average interest-earning assets, investment securities decreased to 14.9% from 17.4% in 2004 and from 23.0% in 2003. This downward trend is due to Flag's reliable lending lines of business and the rapid growth in the Company's loan portfolio since early 2002. Taxable equivalent yield on investment securities for 2005 was 4.58%, compared to 4.41% and 4.51% for 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Interest on federal funds sold and other interest-bearing deposits in banks increased \$1.1 million or 221.3% to \$1.6 million in 2005 compared to \$494,000 and \$619,000 in 2004 and 2003, respectively. Interest on federal funds sold and other interest-bearing deposits increased primarily as a result of a higher average balance of federal funds sold and an increase in the yields. Average federal funds sold and other interest-bearing deposits increased \$18.3 million or 63.3% to \$47.1 million compared to \$28.9 million and \$35.0 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. The yield on federal funds sold and other interest-bearing deposits in banks increased to 3.37% in 2005 from 1.71% and 1.77% in 2004 and 2003, respectively. The increase in yield reflects the impact of the continued rise in the discount rate over the past 12 months. Short-term investments averaged approximately 5.3% of earning assets in 2005 compared to 4.2% of earning assets in 2004 and 6.0% in 2003.

Total interest expense in 2005 increased \$11.5 million or 95.2% to \$23.5 million, compared to \$12.1 million in 2004 and \$10.6 million in 2003. Increases in 2005, reflected both the increase in average interest-bearing liabilities and the rising interest rate environment experienced during the year. Average interest-bearing liabilities increased \$172.7 million or 27.5% to \$800.6 million in 2005 compared to \$627.9 million and \$534.6 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. The cost of interest-bearing liabilities increased to 2.94% in 2005 compared to 1.92% and 1.97% in 2004 and 2003, respectively.

**Table of Contents**

Interest expense on interest-bearing demand deposits (money market and interest-bearing checking accounts) increased \$3.8 million or 74.2% to \$8.9 million during 2005 compared to \$5.1 million and \$3.3 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. The increase is the result of growth in average interest-bearing demand deposit balances and the cost of deposits. Average interest-bearing demand deposits increased \$49.5 million or 15.9% to \$361.9 million in 2005 compared to \$312.4 million and \$224.1 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. The cost of interest-bearing demand deposits increased to 2.46% in 2005 compared to 1.64% and 1.49% in 2004 and 2003, respectively. Interest expense on time deposits increased \$6.1 million or 109.5% to \$11.7 million in 2005 compared to \$5.6 million and \$6.2 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. Average time deposits increased \$119.8 million or 51.2% compared to \$233.8 million and \$225.0 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. The cost of time deposits increased to 3.31% in 2005 compared to 2.39% and 2.75% in 2004 and 2003, respectively. The increase in the cost of deposits is primarily attributable to increased pricing of Flag's deposit products as a result of the rising rate environment.

Interest expense on FHLB advances and other borrowings increased \$675,000 or 95.7% to \$1.4 million in 2005 compared to \$705,000 and \$815,000 in 2004 and 2003, respectively. Average FHLB advances and other borrowings decreased \$4.2 million or 9.4% to \$39.8 million in 2005 from \$44.0 million and \$56.0 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. While average FHLB advances and other borrowings declined, the interest costs associated with FHLB advances increased as a result of the rising rate environment. The cost of FHLB advances and other borrowings increased to 3.46% in 2005 compared to 1.60% and 1.45% in 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Interest expense on junior subordinated debt increased \$874,000 or 192.9% to \$1.3 million compared to \$453,000 in 2004. Average junior subordinated debt increased \$11.4 million or 110.9% to \$21.7 million in 2005 compared to \$10.3 million in 2004. As a result of the rising rate environment, the cost of junior subordinated debt increased to 6.11% in 2005 compared to 4.40% in 2004, reflecting the increase in base rate on the variable rate debt. During 2005, Flag issued \$25.8 million in junior subordinated debt for uses related to the merger with First Capital and for other general corporate purposes.

**Table of Contents**

Table 1 presents for the three years ended December 31, 2005, average balances of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities, and the weighted average interest rates earned and paid on those balances. In addition, interest rate spreads, net interest margins and the ratio of interest-earning assets versus interest-bearing liabilities for those years are presented.

**Table 1 Consolidated Average Balances, Interest, and Rates Taxable Equivalent Basis**

(dollars in thousands)

	Years Ended December 31,								
	2005			2004			2003		
	Average Balance	Interest Income/Expense	Weighted Average Rate	Average Balance	Interest Income/Expense	Weighted Average Rate	Average Balance	Interest Income/Expense	Weighted Average Rate
<b>ASSETS</b>									
Interest-earning assets:									
Loans <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 712,590	56,001	7.86%	\$ 541,502	37,239	6.88%	\$ 417,395	30,268	7.25%
Taxable investment securities	125,578	5,540	4.41%	111,994	4,707	4.20%	125,754	5,413	4.30%
Tax-free investment securities <sup>(1)</sup>	7,284	539	7.41%	7,815	571	7.31%	9,359	676	7.22%
Interest-bearing deposits in other banks	16,142	513	3.18%	16,607	349	2.10%	18,034	432	2.40%
Federal funds sold	31,004	1,074	3.46%	12,269	145	1.18%	16,942	187	1.10%
Total interest-earning assets	892,598	63,667	7.13%	690,187	43,011	6.23%	587,484	36,976	6.29%
Other assets	70,683			52,895			57,946		
Total assets	\$ 963,281			\$ 743,082			\$ 645,430		
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>									
Interest-bearing liabilities:									
Interest-bearing demand deposits	\$ 361,914	8,899	2.46%	\$ 312,374	5,108	1.64%	\$ 224,103	3,346	1.49%
Savings deposits	21,231	131	0.62%	22,647	130	0.57%	25,182	148	0.59%
Time deposits	353,686	11,714	3.31%	233,846	5,591	2.39%	224,988	6,180	2.75%
Federal funds purchased and repurchase agreements	2,176	79	3.63%	4,721	70	1.48%	4,287	58	1.35%
FHLB advances and other borrowings	39,841	1,380	3.46%	43,992	705	1.60%	56,033	815	1.45%
Junior subordinated debentures	21,704	1,327	6.11%	10,292	453	4.40%	-	-	-
Total interest-bearing liabilities	800,552	23,530	2.94%	627,872	12,057	1.92%	534,593	10,547	1.97%
Noninterest-bearing demand deposits	68,023			43,845			41,794		
Other liabilities	8,595			5,511			5,744		
Stockholders' equity	86,111			65,854			63,299		
Total liabilities and Stockholders' equity	\$ 963,281			\$ 743,082			\$ 645,430		
Net interest/rate spread		40,137	4.19%		30,954	4.31%		26,429	4.32%
Tax-equivalent adjustment		392			390			442	
Net interest income		39,745			30,564			25,987	
Net interest margin, taxable equivalent			4.50%			4.48%			4.50%
Interest-earning assets/ interest-bearing liabilities			111%			110%			110%

(1)Tax equivalent basis



**Table of Contents**

Table 2 shows the change in net interest income from 2005 to 2004 and from 2004 to 2003 due to changes in volumes and rates.

**Table 2 Rate/Volume Variance Analysis Taxable Equivalent Basis**

(dollars in thousands)

	Years Ended December 31,					
	2005 Compared to 2004			2004 Compared to 2003		
	Volume	Rate/ Yield	Net Change	Volume	Rate/ Yield	Net Change
<b>Interest income:</b>						
<b>Loans</b>	\$ 13,463	5,299	18,762	\$ 8,542	(1,571)	6,971
<b>Taxable investment securities</b>	599	234	833	(578)	(128)	(706)
<b>Tax-free investment securities</b>	(39)	7	(32)	(113)	8	(105)
<b>Interest-bearing deposits in banks</b>	(15)	179	164	(30)	(53)	(83)
<b>Federal funds sold</b>	649	280	929	(55)	13	(42)
<b>Total interest income</b>	<b>14,657</b>	<b>5,999</b>	<b>20,656</b>	<b>7,766</b>	<b>(1,731)</b>	<b>6,035</b>
<b>Interest expense:</b>						
<b>Interest-bearing demand deposits</b>	1,218	2,573	3,791	1,444	318	1,762
<b>Savings deposits</b>	(9)	10	1	(15)	(3)	(18)
<b>Time deposits</b>	3,969	2,155	6,124	212	(802)	(590)
<b>Federal funds purchased</b>	(92)	101	9	6	6	12
<b>FHLB advances and other borrowings</b>	(144)	818	674	(193)	84	(109)
<b>Junior subordinated debentures</b>	698	176	874	453	-	453
<b>Total interest expense</b>	<b>5,640</b>	<b>5,833</b>	<b>11,473</b>	<b>1,907</b>	<b>(397)</b>	<b>1,510</b>
<b>Net interest income</b>	<b>\$ 9,017</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>9,183</b>	<b>\$ 5,859</b>	<b>(1,334)</b>	<b>4,525</b>

**Noninterest Income**

Total noninterest income decreased \$2.0 million or 17.5% to \$9.5 million in 2005 compared to \$11.5 million in 2004 and \$10.4 million in 2003. The majority of Flag's noninterest income has traditionally come from several sources including service charges on deposit accounts and revenue from mortgage banking activities. Major sources of noninterest income considered to be non-recurring are the sales of branches and bank locations.

Service charges on deposit accounts decreased \$399,000 or 10.9% in 2005 to \$3.3 million from \$3.7 million in 2004 and \$3.4 million in 2003. While Flag maintained strong growth in deposits during 2005, most of the organic growth came from higher-balance money market and interest-checking balances where customers carry balances sufficient to qualify for reduced or eliminated fees.

Mortgage banking activities include origination fees, service release premiums and the gain on the sale of mortgage loans originated solely for the purpose of being sold. Income from mortgage banking operations increased \$424,000 or 17.6% to \$2.8 million in 2005 compared to \$2.4 million in 2004 and \$4.2 million in 2003. During the third quarter of 2004, Flag acquired several offices of a mortgage and construction lending practice from another Atlanta based bank. Flag purchased approximately \$35 million in mortgage and construction loans. In 2003, the lower interest rate environment provided borrowers with record low rate opportunities and pushed mortgage revenues to record levels for Flag and the mortgage industry.

Noninterest income in 2005 includes pre-tax losses on sales of investment securities of \$1.1 million compared to gains of \$700,000 and \$136,000 in 2004 and 2003, respectively. As discussed previously, Flag





---

## **Table of Contents**

initiated a repositioning of its balance sheet in the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2005 and sold \$67.6 million in fixed-rate investments recognizing pre-tax losses on sales of investment securities of \$1.2 million. While this action resulted in a current charge to earnings, management believes the end result will be an expanded net interest margin, an improved interest rate risk position, increased profitability and enhanced shareholder value.

Included in 2004 noninterest income, is a \$3.0 million pre-tax gain on the sale of Flag Financial's Thomaston, Georgia, branch.

In 2005, other noninterest income includes fees generated by Payroll Solutions totaling \$2.2 million. Flag purchased Payroll Solutions in December 2004 to expand the suite of services to customers by providing payroll, human resources and benefits services. Also included in other noninterest income are gains on sales of other real estate owned totaling \$515,000 in 2005 compared to gains totaling \$150,000 and \$118,000 in 2004 and 2003, respectively.

### **Noninterest Expenses**

Salaries and employee benefits increased \$3.0 million or 17.1% to \$20.7 million in 2005 compared to \$17.7 million and \$15.8 million in 2003. The increase in salaries and benefits relates primarily to increases in production personnel in metro Atlanta and the addition of Payroll Solutions personnel totaling \$1.1 million. In 2004, Flag's acquisition of the mortgage and construction lending offices in the third quarter added approximately twenty employees, most of which were lending officers. Flag also added several positions in its operations group in order to continue the high level of service to internal and external customers. These increases in personnel are reflected in salaries and employee benefits in both 2005 and 2004.

Occupancy expense increased slightly by \$296,000 or 8.1% to \$4.0 million in 2005 compared to \$3.7 million and \$3.5 million during 2003. Office space leased by Payroll Solutions and rental expense related to the purchase of the mortgage and construction offices during the third quarter of 2004 contributed to the increase. Decreases in occupancy expense in 2004 related to the divestiture of the Thomaston, Georgia branch were offset by increases in rent expense related to the purchase of the aforementioned mortgage and construction offices in 2004.

Professional fees increased \$664,000 or 52.0% to \$1.9 million in 2005 compared to \$1.3 million and \$811,000 in 2004 and 2003, respectively. Continued compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act was the largest component of the increase in 2005. Included in professional fees in 2004, are charges relating to business acquisitions and the divestiture of the Thomaston, Georgia branch amounting to approximately \$280,000 for 2004.

Communications and data expense increased \$260,000 or 12.1% to \$2.4 million in 2005 compared to \$2.2 million and \$2.1 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. The increase in 2005 and 2004 is due to additional personnel, primarily production personnel in metro Atlanta and Payroll Solutions.

Other noninterest expenses increased \$320,000 or 8.5% to \$4.1 million in 2005 compared to \$3.8 million and \$3.1 million in 2004 and 2003, respectively. Marketing expense increased \$282,000 in 2005, primarily due to increased marketing efforts in the metro Atlanta area. In 2005, meals and travel and entertainment increased \$89,000 and education and training increased \$48,000 compared to 2004. These increases are due to increased personnel in the metro Atlanta area and the addition of Payroll Solutions. Amortization expense increased \$80,000 due to higher balances of amortizable intangible assets. Larger amounts of other operating expenses in 2004 relate to the divestiture and/or closing of branches not included in occupancy expense. Also, for 2004 Flag recorded approximately \$400,000 of write-downs in other real estate and incurred certain non-recurring expenses relating to the business acquisitions affected during the year.

**Table of Contents****Investment Securities**

The composition of the investment securities portfolio reflects management's strategy of maintaining an appropriate combination of liquidity, interest rate risk and yield. Flag seeks to maintain an investment portfolio with minimal credit risk, investing mostly in obligations of the United States Treasury or other state and federal governmental agencies.

Investment securities increased during 2005 to \$228.4 million from \$111.4 million at December 31, 2004 reflecting the merger with First Capital. Included in investment securities acquired from First Capital were mortgage-backed securities totaling \$71.6 million. At December 31, 2005, all investment securities outstanding were classified as available-for-sale.

In December of 2005, Flag initiated a repositioning of its balance sheet designed to further reduce its exposure to an anticipated continued increase in interest rates and to improve net interest margin and net interest income levels. In the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2005, Flag sold \$67.6 million in fixed-rate investments and reinvested the proceeds in a combination of fixed-rate and variable rate investments with a higher average yield.

At December 31, 2005, gross unrealized gains in the total portfolio amounted to \$791,000 and gross unrealized losses amounted to \$475,000.

Investment securities available-for-sale at December 31, 2005 are summarized as follows (dollars in thousands):

	<b>December 31, 2005</b>			Estimated Fair Value
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	
U.S. Treasuries and agencies	\$ 93,401	58	13	93,446
State, county and municipals	7,344	158	68	7,434
Equity securities	334	-	46	288
Mortgage-backed securities	103,145	164	77	103,232
Corporate debt securities	2,784	4	-	2,788
Trust preferred securities	21,118	407	271	21,254
	<b>\$ 228,126</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>228,442</b>

At December 31, 2005, unrealized losses in the investment portfolio related to debt, equity and trust preferred securities. The unrealized losses on the debt and equity securities arose due to changing interest rates and market conditions and are considered to be temporary because of acceptable investment grades where the U.S. Government largely backs the repayment sources of principal and interest. At December 31, 2005, 1 of 26 securities issued by state, county and municipals contained unrealized losses and 21 out of 56 securities issued by U.S. Government agencies and Government sponsored corporations, including mortgage-backed securities, contained unrealized. One out of 4 equity securities contained unrealized losses at December 31, 2005.

The unrealized losses on the trust preferred securities arose due to changing interest rates and market conditions and are considered to be temporary. At December 31, 2005, 8 of 24 trust preferred securities contained unrealized losses.

At December 31, 2004, unrealized losses in the investment portfolio related to debt, equity and trust preferred securities. The unrealized losses on the debt and equity securities arose due to changing interest rates and market conditions and are considered to be temporary because of acceptable investment grades where the repayment sources of principal and interest are largely backed by the U.S. Government. At December 31, 2004, none of the 29 securities issued by state and political subdivisions contained unrealized losses while 21 out of 97 securities issued by U.S. Government agencies and Government sponsored corporations, including mortgage-backed securities, contained unrealized losses and 3 of the 3 equity securities contained unrealized losses.

**Table of Contents**

The unrealized losses on the trust preferred securities arose due to changing interest rates and market conditions and are considered to be temporary. At December 31, 2004, 2 of 11 trust preferred securities contained unrealized losses.

Table 3 reflects the carrying amount of the investment securities portfolio for the past three years.

**Table 3 Carrying Value of Investment Securities Available-for-Sale**

(dollars in thousands)

	2005	2004	2003
Investment securities available-for-sale:			
U.S. Treasuries and agencies	\$ 93,446	55,252	60,361
State, county and municipal	7,434	7,160	9,028
Equity securities	288	283	238
Mortgage-backed securities	103,232	28,464	28,054
Corporate debt securities	2,788	1,534	2,143
Trust preferred securities	21,254	18,697	22,741
	\$ 228,442	111,390	122,565

**Loans**

Net loans (loans outstanding excluding mortgage loans held-for-sale, less allowance for loan losses and net of deferred loan fees and unearned income) increased \$608.9 million or 102.2% to \$1.2 billion from \$596.1 million in 2004. In 2005, the Company continued to increase the pace of commercial and construction lending in Atlanta, Georgia, while maintaining reliable loan growth in its traditional markets in Central and West Georgia. Net loans acquired in the merger with First Capital totaled \$483.2 million. Flag concentrates its lending activities in several areas that management believes provides adequate diversification with acceptable yield and risk levels. These areas include, but are not limited to construction, commercial real estate, agricultural and correspondent lending (lending services to other community banks).

Table 4 shows the changes in the composition of Flag's loan portfolio from December 31, 2005 through December 31, 2001.

**Table 4 Loan Portfolio**

(dollars in thousands)

	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Commercial/financial/agricultural	\$ 126,293	57,231	50,435	56,052	74,569
Real estate construction	448,336	176,111	100,108	68,169	65,052
Real estate mortgage	626,189	355,575	315,610	240,182	213,748
Installment loans to individuals	20,961	15,644	17,287	15,848	17,793
Lease financings	46	142	340	1,421	5,153
Total loans	1,221,825	604,703	483,780	381,672	376,315
Less: Allowance for loan losses	16,779	8,602	6,685	6,888	7,348
Total net loans	\$ 1,205,046	596,101	477,095	374,784	368,967
	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
As a percent of total loans:					
Commercial/financial/agricultural	10.3%	9.5%	10.4%	14.7%	19.8%
Real estate construction	36.7%	29.1%	20.7%	17.7%	17.3%
Real estate mortgage	51.3%	58.8%	65.2%	62.9%	56.8%

Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

Installment loans to individuals	1.7%	2.6%	3.6%	4.2%	4.7%
Lease financings	-	-	0.1%	0.5%	1.4%
Total loans	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Table of Contents**

Table 5 represents the expected maturities for commercial, financial, and agricultural loans and real estate construction loans at December 31, 2005. The table also presents the rate structure for these loans that mature after one year.

**Table 5 Loan Portfolio Maturity**

(dollars in thousands)

	Maturity in Months				Rate Structure for Loans with Maturities Over One Year	
	12 or less	13-60	Over 60	Total	Fixed	
					Variable Rates	Rates
Commercial, financial, and agricultural	\$ 39,332	56,978	30,091	126,401	59,047	28,022
Real estate construction	332,058	107,456	9,394	448,908	112,521	4,329
	\$ 371,390	164,434	39,485	575,309	171,568	32,351

**Provision and Allowance for Loan Losses**

Table 6 presents an analysis of activities in the allowance for loan losses for the past five years. An allowance for possible losses is provided through charges to Flag's earnings in the form of a provision for loan losses. The provision for loan losses was \$750,000 in 2005, \$1.8 million in 2004 and \$1.3 million in 2003. Flag's decrease in the provision for loan losses was due to the continued improvement in credit quality.

Management determines the level of the provision for loan losses based on outstanding loan balances, the levels of nonperforming assets, and reviews of assets classified as substandard, doubtful, or loss and larger credits, together with an analysis of historical loss experience and current economic conditions.

As shown in Table 6, the allowance for loan losses increased to \$16.8 million from \$8.6 million at December 31, 2004. The improvement in credit quality is reflected by net recoveries of charged-off loans and a lower level of nonperforming assets to total assets. Net recoveries for 2005 totaled \$970,000 or 0.14% of average loans outstanding for the year. Net recoveries in 2005, includes a commercial loan credit that Flag charged-off during 2003. This loan paid off in the fourth quarter of 2005 and Flag recorded a \$1.4 million recovery. These amounts compared to net charge-offs of \$328,000 or 0.06% for 2004 and \$1.5 million or 0.37% for 2003. The allowance for loan losses was 1.37% of gross loans at December 31, 2005 compared to 1.42% and 1.38% at December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively. The allowance for loan losses to nonperforming loans was 2.89 times, 2.00 times and 1.34 times for 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Management believes that the allowance for loan losses is both adequate and appropriate. However, the future level of the allowance for loan losses is highly dependent upon loan growth, loan loss experience and other factors, which cannot be anticipated with a high degree of certainty.

**Table of Contents****Table 6 Analysis of the Allowance for Loan Losses**

(dollars in thousands)

	Years Ended December 31,				
	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Average loans	\$ 712,590	541,502	417,395	366,571	378,867
Allowance for loan losses, beginning of period	\$ 8,602	6,685	6,888	7,348	6,583
Charge-offs for the period:					
Commercial/financial/agricultural	(297)	(107)	(410)	(1,009)	(400)
Real estate construction loans	-	-	-	(284)	(24)
Real estate mortgage loans	(617)	(506)	(1,289)	(3,737)	(980)
Installment loans to individuals	(90)	(188)	(189)	(462)	(453)
Lease financings	(1)	(77)	(18)	(77)	(206)
Total charge-offs	(1,005)	(878)	(1,906)	(5,569)	(2,063)
Recoveries for the period:					
Commercial/financial/agricultural	1,569	269	86	107	102
Real estate construction loans	-	-	-	2	-
Real estate mortgage loans	363	173	148	316	134
Installment loans to individuals	43	108	136	100	34
Lease financings	-	-	12	35	70
Total recoveries	1,975	550	382	560	340
Net recoveries (charge-offs) for the period	970	(328)	(1,524)	(5,009)	(1,723)
Provision for loan losses	750	1,845	1,321	4,549	2,488
Allowance related to assets acquired	6,457	400	-	-	-
Allowance for loan losses, end of period	\$ 16,779	8,602	6,685	6,888	7,348
Ratio of allowance to total loans	1.37%	1.42%	1.38%	1.80%	1.95%
Ratio of net recoveries (charge-offs) to average loans during the period	0.14%	(0.06)%	(0.37)%	(1.37)%	(0.45)%

**Asset Quality**

At December 31, 2005, nonperforming assets totaled \$6.9 million, compared to \$5.3 million at the end of 2004. At December 31, 2005 and 2004, nonaccrual loans were \$5.7 million and \$4.2 million, respectively. At December 31, 2005 and 2004, the ratio of nonperforming loans to total loans was 0.58% and 0.89%, respectively. Nonperforming assets to total assets stood at 0.41% at December 31, 2005 compared to 0.64% at December 31, 2004. The decrease in nonperforming loans to total loans and nonperforming assets to total assets in 2005 is attributed to a combination of Flag's stricter credit culture that focuses more heavily on the quality of the borrower's financial condition and collateral values, a comprehensive loan review program and strict management of problem assets. At December 31, 2005, there were no commitments to advance additional funds on any loan classified as nonaccrual.

Flag had impaired loans of approximately \$1.1 million and \$4.8 million at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, with a total allowance for loan losses related to these loans of approximately \$803,000 and \$1.3 million, respectively. The average balance of impaired loans was approximately \$1.3 million, \$5.1 million and \$5.1 million during 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively. Interest income on impaired loans of approximately \$19,000, \$196,000 and \$143,000 was recognized for cash payments received in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.





**Table of Contents**

Table 7 summarizes the nonperforming assets for each of the last five years.

**Table 7 Risk Elements**

(dollars in thousands)

	<b>2005</b>	2004	<b>December 31,</b>		
			2003	2002	2001
Loans on nonaccrual	<b>\$ 5,694</b>	4,224	4,685	9,243	17,122
Loans past due 90 days and still accruing	<b>120</b>	74	309	122	594
Other real estate owned	<b>1,123</b>	1,012	2,432	1,718	2,831
Total nonperforming assets	<b>\$ 6,937</b>	5,310	7,426	11,083	20,547
Total nonperforming loans as a percentage of loans	<b>0.58%</b>	0.89%	1.56%	2.96%	5.57%

**Risk Elements**

There may be additional loans within Flag's loan portfolio that may become classified as conditions may dictate; however, management was not aware of any such loans that are material in amount at December 31, 2005. At December 31, 2005, management was unaware of any known trends, events, or uncertainties that will have, or that are reasonably likely to have a material effect on the Bank's or Flag's liquidity, capital resources or operations.

**Deposits and Borrowings**

Total deposits increased \$577.1 million or 81.6% during 2005, totaling \$1.3 billion at December 31, 2005. This compares to \$706.8 million at December 31, 2004. Deposits acquired in the merger with First Capital totaled \$464.0 million. The increase in Flag's organic deposit base in 2005 is attributable to an aggressive sales effort in metro Atlanta. Demand deposits (interest-bearing and noninterest-bearing) increased \$308.4 million in 2005 to \$705.2 million at December 31, 2005, while time deposits increased \$270.2 million to \$559.3 million at December 31, 2005. Demand and time deposits acquired in the merger with First Capital totaled \$248.6 million and \$215.4 million, respectively.

The maturities of time deposits of \$100,000 or more issued by the Bank at December 31, 2005, are summarized in Table 8. All are evidenced by certificates of deposit; the Bank does not have other time deposits in amounts over \$100,000.

**Table 8 Maturities of Time Deposits Over \$100,000**

(dollars in thousands)

Three months or less	\$ 47,411
Over three months through six months	49,422
Over six months through twelve months	160,434
Over twelve months	64,677
	<b>\$ 321,944</b>

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, the Bank held \$177.6 million and \$133.1 million, respectively, in certificates of deposit obtained through the efforts of third party brokers. The weighted average cost at December 31, 2005 and 2004 was 3.71% and 3.38%, respectively. The weighted average maturity at December 31, 2005 and 2004 was 12.4 months and 17.6 months, respectively.



---

**Table of Contents**

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, the Bank was a shareholder in the FHLB. Advances from the FHLB increased to \$143.5 million at December 31, 2005 from \$25.0 million at December 31, 2004, reflecting the merger with First Capital. FHLB advances acquired in the merger with First Capital totaled \$118.5 million. The funds were obtained at rates competitive with other sources of funding with similar maturities. Management anticipates continued utilization of this short and long-term source of funds to minimize interest rate risk and to fund growth in earning assets when profitable to do so.

Other borrowings as of December 31, 2005 consisted of a revolving line of credit with a bank with a total commitment amount of \$15.0 million and no outstanding balance. The line of credit bears interest at 1 month LIBOR plus 115 basis points, is secured by the common stock of the Bank and has various covenants and restrictions. Management believes that Flag and the Bank were in compliance with all covenants and restrictions at December 31, 2005. There were no other borrowings outstanding at December 31, 2005. Other borrowings as of December 31, 2004 consisted of a line of credit with a bank with a total commitment amount of \$11.0 million and interest at 0.5% below the prime rate. This line of credit was repaid and closed during 2005. Borrowings outstanding at December 31, 2004 were \$4.3 million, with an interest rate of 4.75%.

Flag has entered into line of credit agreements with various financial institutions to purchase federal funds with an aggregate commitment amount of \$77.0 million at December 31, 2005. There were no federal funds purchased outstanding as of December 31, 2005 or 2004.

Flag has entered into a line of credit agreement with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta ( FRB ) through which Flag would pledge a portion of its unencumbered loan portfolio to secure a commitment totaling \$150.8 million and \$149.5 million at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. The commitment level varies proportional to the collateral balances but Flag anticipates the commitment to remain in excess of \$125 million. Flag did not use the line during 2005 or 2004 and established the line in order to enhance the Bank's liquidity ratios and preparedness.

Flag has outstanding junior subordinated debentures totaling \$46.8 million at December 31, 2005. All junior subordinate debentures presently qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting. For additional information on Flag's subordinated junior debentures, see Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Through its acquisition of First Capital, the Company recorded \$6.6 million in 9.0% fixed rate junior subordinated debentures (the Debentures ). The Debentures are due January 17, 2032 and may be redeemed on or after January 17, 2007. Such debentures presently qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting.

In 2005, the Company closed two private offerings of Preferred Securities and invested in junior subordinated debentures. The proceeds from the junior subordinated debentures were used to finance the merger with First Capital and other general operating expenses.

On November 10, 2005, the Company issued \$15.5 million in floating rate junior subordinated debentures (the November 2005 Debentures ). The November 2005 Debentures are due December 30, 2035 and may be redeemed after five years and sooner in certain specific events, including in the event that certain circumstances render them ineligible for treatment as Tier 1 capital, subject to prior approval by the Federal Reserve Board, if then required. Such debentures presently qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting. At December 31, 2005, the floating rate securities had a 5.93% interest rate, which will reset quarterly at the three-month LIBOR rate plus 1.40%.

On July 18, 2005, the Company issued \$10.3 million in floating rate junior subordinated debentures (the July 2005 Debentures ). The July 2005 Debentures are due September 30, 2035 and may be redeemed after five years, and sooner in certain specific events, including in the event that certain circumstances render them ineligible for treatment as Tier 1 capital, subject to prior approval by the Federal Reserve Board, if then required. Such debentures presently qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting. At December 31, 2005, the floating rate securities had a 6.03% interest rate, which will reset quarterly at the three-month LIBOR rate plus 1.50%.

---

## **Table of Contents**

On April 15, 2004, the Company issued \$14.4 million in floating rate junior subordinated debentures (the 2004 Debentures ). The 2004 Debentures are due April 15, 2034 and may be redeemed after five years, and sooner in certain specific events, including in the event that the certain circumstances render them ineligible for treatment as Tier 1 capital, subject to prior approval by the Federal Reserve Board, if then required. Such debentures presently qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting. At December 31, 2005, the floating rate securities had a 7.28% interest rate, which will reset quarterly at the three-month LIBOR rate plus 2.75%.

In accordance with FASB Interpretation No. 46, the Trusts are not consolidated with the Company. Accordingly, the Company does not report the securities issued by the Trusts as liabilities, and instead reports as liabilities the junior subordinated debentures issued by the Company and held by the Trusts, as these are not eliminated in consolidation. The Trust Preferred Securities are recorded as junior subordinated debentures on the balance sheets, but subject to certain limitations qualify for Tier 1 capital for regulatory capital purposes.

### **Asset-Liability Management**

The primary objective of Flag's asset and liability management program is to control exposure to interest rate risk (the exposure to changes in net interest income due to changes in market interest rates) so as to enhance its earnings and protect its net worth against potential loss resulting from interest rate fluctuations.

Historically, the average term to maturity or repricing (rate changes) of assets (primarily loans and investment securities) has exceeded the average repricing period of liabilities (primarily deposits and borrowings). Table 9 provides information about the amounts of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities outstanding as of December 31, 2005, that are expected to mature, prepay or reprice in each of the future time periods shown (i.e., the interest rate sensitivity). As presented in this table, at December 31, 2005, the liabilities subject to rate changes within one year exceeded Flag's assets subject to rate changes within one year. Flag's primary source of funding has been demand deposits (interest-bearing and noninterest-bearing) instead of time deposits and wholesale borrowings with longer maturities. This method of funding earning assets has issues concerning interest rate risk, liquidity and profitability, all of which were contemplated and measured by the Company. Flag concluded that this strategy is the most profitable method of funding growth in earning assets of the Company for the foreseeable future and has committed significant sales, marketing and training resources at being successful in this effort. Where interest rate risk is concerned, Flag considered factors such as account size, relationship strength and historical rate levels needed to remain competitive. Generally speaking, it is the opinion of management that these deposits are less sensitive to rate movements than the earning assets they are funding. Flag uses an interest rate simulation model that uses management assumptions and theories regarding rate movements and the impact each movement will have on individual components of the balance sheet. This approach, believed to produce more accurate results than the approach summarized in the following table, indicates that Flag's balance sheet is, in fact, asset sensitive, meaning a rising rate environment would have a positive impact on Flag's net interest income. At December 31, 2005, Flag's simulation model indicated that a 100 basis points increase or decrease over the next twelve months would increase net interest income approximately 5.17%, and decrease net interest income approximately 6.67% in the rising and declining rate scenarios, respectively, versus the projection under unchanged rates.

Management carefully measures and monitors interest rate sensitivity and believes that its operating strategies offer protection against interest rate risk. As required by various regulatory authorities, Flag's Board of Directors has established an interest rate risk policy, which sets specific limits on interest rate risk exposure. Adherence to this policy is reviewed by Flag's executive committee and presented at least annually to the Board of Directors.

**Table of Contents**

**Table 9 Interest Rate Sensitivity Analysis**

(dollars in thousands)

December 31, 2005					
	Interest Rate Sensitivity in Months				Total
	12 or less	13-36	37-60	Over 60	
<b>Interest-earning assets:</b>					
Loans	\$ 994,277	111,809	69,340	48,050	1,223,476
Loans held-for-sale	11,665	-	-	-	11,665
Investment securities	22,739	29,375	90,075	86,253	228,442
Other investments	11,044	5,393	-	2,325	18,762
Interest-bearing deposits in other banks	6,783	-	-	-	6,783
Federal funds sold	23,184	-	-	-	23,184
<b>Total interest-earning assets</b>	<b>1,069,692</b>	<b>146,577</b>	<b>159,415</b>	<b>136,628</b>	<b>1,512,312</b>
<b>Interest-bearing liabilities:</b>					
Time deposits	428,027	92,545	38,253	488	559,313
NOW and money market accounts	532,464	-	-	-	532,464
Savings accounts	19,450	-	-	-	19,450
Federal funds purchased and Repurchase agreements	4,142	-	-	-	4,142
Junior subordinated debentures	40,207	-	-	6,584	46,791
Other borrowings	-	-	-	-	-
FHLB advances	129,591	6,023	2,899	4,956	143,469
<b>Total interest-bearing liabilities</b>	<b>1,153,881</b>	<b>98,568</b>	<b>41,152</b>	<b>12,028</b>	<b>1,305,629</b>
Interest rate sensitivity gap	(84,189)	48,009	118,263	124,600	206,683
Cumulative interest rate sensitivity gap	\$ (84,189)	(36,180)	82,083	206,683	
Cumulative interest rate sensitivity gap to total assets	(4.94%)	(2.12%)	4.82%	12.14%	

Table 10 represents the contractual maturity of investment securities by maturity date and average yields based on carrying amount at December 31, 2005. Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because issuers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without prepayment penalties. It should be noted that the composition and maturity/repricing distribution of the investment portfolio is subject to change depending on rate sensitivity, capital needs, and liquidity needs.

**Table 10 Maturities of Securities Available-for-sale**

(dollars in thousands)

	Contractual Maturity in Years								Total
	Within 1 Year		After One But Within Five Years		After Five But Within Ten Years		After 10 Years		
	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	
U.S. Treasury and agencies	\$ 9,399	4.29%	\$ 79,328	5.01%	\$ 4,719	5.14%	-	-	\$ 93,446
State, county and municipals	865	4.63%	1,209	5.13%	2,417	5.03%	2,943	4.41%	7,434
Equity securities	84	-	-	-	200	-	4	-	288
Mortgage-backed securities	-	-	-	-	26,961	5.21%	76,271	5.02%	103,232
Corporate debt securities	-	-	-	-	2,494	6.75%	294	5.66%	2,788
Trust preferred securities	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,254	7.04%	21,254
	<b>\$ 10,348</b>	<b>4.29%</b>	<b>\$ 80,537</b>	<b>5.01%</b>	<b>\$ 36,791</b>	<b>5.27%</b>	<b>\$ 100,766</b>	<b>5.43%</b>	<b>\$ 228,442</b>



---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Liquidity**

The objective of liquidity management is to ensure that sufficient funding is available, at reasonable cost, to meet the ongoing operational cash needs of Flag and to take advantage of income producing opportunities as they arise. While the desired level of liquidity will vary depending upon a variety of factors, it is the primary goal of Flag to maintain a sufficient level of liquidity in all expected economic environments. Liquidity is defined as the ability of a bank to convert assets into cash or cash equivalents without significant loss and to raise additional funds by increasing liabilities. Liquidity management involves maintaining Flag's ability to meet the daily cash flow requirements of the Bank's customers, both depositors and borrowers.

The primary objectives of asset-liability management are to provide for adequate liquidity in order to meet the needs of customers and to maintain an optimal balance between interest-sensitive assets and interest-sensitive liabilities; so that Flag can also meet the investment requirements of its shareholders as market interest rates change. Daily monitoring of the sources and uses of funds is necessary to maintain a position that meets both requirements.

The asset portion of the balance sheet provides liquidity primarily through loan principal repayments and the maturities and sales of securities. Mortgage loans held-for-sale totaled \$11.7 million at December 31, 2005, and typically turns over every 45 days as the closed loans are sold to investors in the secondary market. Real estate-construction and commercial loans that mature in one year or less amounted to \$371.4 million, or 30.4% of the loan portfolio (excluding mortgage loans held-for-sale) at December 31, 2005. Other short-term investments such as federal funds sold are additional sources of liquidity.

The liability section of the balance sheet provides liquidity through depositors' interest-bearing and noninterest-bearing deposit accounts. Federal funds purchased, FHLB advances, other borrowings and securities sold under agreements to repurchase are additional sources of liquidity and represent Flag's incremental borrowing capacity. These sources of liquidity are short-term in nature and are used as necessary to fund asset growth and meet other short-term liquidity needs. See *Off Balance Sheet Arrangements and Contractual Obligations* for additional information.

As disclosed in Flag's consolidated statements of cash flows included in the consolidated financial statements, net cash provided from operating activities was \$6.3 million during 2005. The major source of cash by operating activities is net earnings during 2005 of \$9.6 million. Net cash used by investing activities was \$97.1 million and consisted primarily of an increase in net loans in 2005. Net cash provided by financing activities was \$121.2 million, and consisted mostly of the growth in deposits and proceeds from the issuance of junior subordinated debt securities during 2005.

In the opinion of management, Flag's liquidity position at December 31, 2005 is sufficient to meet its expected cash flow requirements. Reference should be made to the consolidated statements of cash flows appearing in the consolidated financial statements for the three-year analysis of the changes in cash and cash equivalents resulting from operating, investing and financing activities.

### **Off Balance Sheet Arrangements and Contractual Obligations**

Flag is a party to financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk in the normal course of business to meet the financing needs of its customers. These financial instruments consist of commitments to extend credit and standby letters of credit. Commitments to extend credit are agreements to lend to a customer as long as there is no violation of any condition established in the contract. Standby letters of credit are written conditional commitments issued by the Bank to guarantee the performance of a customer to a third party. Commitments generally have fixed expiration dates or other termination clauses and may require payment of a fee. A commitment involves, to varying degrees, elements of credit and interest rate risk in excess of the amount recognized in the balance sheets. Flag's exposure to credit loss in the event of non-performance by the other party to the instrument is represented by the contractual notional amount of the instrument.

**Table of Contents**

Since certain commitments are expected to expire without being drawn upon, the total commitment amounts do not necessarily represent future cash requirements. Flag uses the same credit policies in making commitments to extend credit as they do for on-balance-sheet instruments. Collateral held for commitments to extend credit varies but may include accounts receivable, inventory, property, plant, equipment, and income-producing commercial properties.

The following table summarizes Flag's off-balance-sheet financial instruments whose contract amounts represent credit risk as of December 31, 2005 and 2004 (dollars in thousands):

	2005	2004
Commitments to extend credit	<b>\$ 398,512</b>	142,036
Standby letters of credit	<b>\$ 13,670</b>	3,650

The following table presents additional information about Flag's contractual obligations as of December 31, 2005, which by their terms have maturity and termination dates subsequent to December 31, 2005 (dollars in thousands):

	Next 12 months	13-36 Months	37-60 months	More than 60 months	Total
Certificates of deposit	\$ 428,027	92,545	38,253	488	559,313
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	4,142	-	-	-	4,142
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	-	34,004	84,468	24,997	143,469
Junior subordinated debt	-	-	-	46,791	46,791
Minimum operating lease commitments	1,227	2,168	1,514	1,112	6,021

**Capital Resources and Dividends**

Stockholders' equity at December 31, 2005 increased \$135.6 million or 195.9% to \$204.8 million from \$69.2 million at December 31, 2004. The primary factors contributing to the increase in 2005 include the issuance of 6.9 million shares of common stock, with a value of \$112.7 million and the issuance of 784,000 in stock options, with a value of 5.8 million, both in consideration of the merger with First Capital, options and warrants exercised totaling \$10.2 million and net earnings of \$9.6 million. In 2005, Flag declared dividends on its common stock totaling \$2.5 million.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act ( FDICIA ) requires federal banking agencies to take prompt corrective action with regard to institutions that do not meet minimum capital requirements. As a result of FDICIA, the federal banking agencies introduced an additional capital measure called the Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio. The Tier 1 ratio is the ratio of core capital to risk adjusted total assets. Note 13 to the Consolidated Financial Statements presents a summary of FDICIA's capital tiers compared to Flag's and the Bank's actual capital levels. The Bank exceeded all requirements of a well-capitalized institution at December 31, 2005. See Business-Supervision and Regulation-Capital Adequacy.

**Table 11 Equity Ratios**

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2005	2004	2003
Return on average assets	<b>0.99%</b>	0.99%	0.95%
Return on average equity	<b>11.12%</b>	11.19%	9.64%
Dividend payout ratio	<b>21.46%</b>	27.38%	33.35%
Average equity to average assets	<b>8.94%</b>	8.86%	9.81%



---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Provision for Income Taxes**

The provision for income taxes in 2005 was \$4.6 million, compared to \$3.3 million in 2004 and \$2.7 million in 2003. Flag's effective tax rates were 32.5%, 31.0% and 30.9% in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively. The tax rates for 2005, 2004 and 2003 are lower than the statutory federal rate of 34% primarily due to interest income on tax-exempt securities and general business credits. The effect of tax-exempt interest income and general business credits is greater in years that income (loss) before taxes is lower. See Flag's consolidated financial statements for an analysis of income taxes.

### **Impact of Inflation and Changing Prices**

The consolidated financial statements and related financial data presented herein have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America which require the measurement of financial position and operating results in terms of historical dollars without considering changes in relative purchasing power over time due to inflation.

Unlike most industrial companies, virtually all of the assets and liabilities of a financial institution are monetary in nature. As a result, interest rates generally have a more significant impact on a financial institution's performance than does the effect of inflation. The liquidity and maturity structures of Flag's assets and liabilities are critical to the maintenance of acceptable performance levels.

### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In addition to the adoption of SFAS No. 123(R) in the first quarter of 2006, see Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information, the following are other recent accounting pronouncements affecting Flag.

In November 2005, the FASB issued FSP Nos. FAS 115-1 and 124-1, *The Meaning of Other-Than-Temporary Impairment and Its Application to Certain Investments*, which addresses the determination as to when an investment is considered impaired, whether that impairment is other than temporary, and the measurement of an impairment. The FSP also includes accounting considerations subsequent to the recognition of an other-than-temporary impairment and requires certain disclosures about unrealized losses that have not been recognized as other-than-temporary impairments. The guidance in the FSP amends SFAS No. 115, *Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities*, SFAS No. 124, *Accounting for Certain Investments Held by Not-for-Profit Organizations*, and APB Opinion No. 18, *The Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock*. The new disclosure requirements of FSP Nos. FAS 115-1 and 124-1 are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2005.

In May 2005, the FASB issued SFAS No. 154, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*, which replaces APB Opinion No. 20, *Accounting Changes*, and SFAS No. 3, *Reporting Accounting Changes in Interim Financial Statements*, and provides guidance on the accounting for and reporting of accounting changes and error corrections. SFAS No. 154 applies to all voluntary changes in accounting principle and requires *retrospective application* (a term defined by the statement) to prior periods' financial statements, unless it is impracticable to determine the effect of a change. It also applies to changes required by an accounting pronouncement that does not include specific transition provisions. In addition, SFAS No. 154 redefines *restatement* as the revising of previously issued financial statements to reflect the correction of an error. The statement is effective for accounting changes and corrections of errors made in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2005. Flag will adopt SFAS No. 154 beginning January 1, 2006.

### **ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

The Company's net interest income and the fair value of its financial instruments (interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities) are influenced by changes in market interest rates. The Company actively

**Table of Contents**

manages its exposure to interest rate fluctuations through policies established by its senior management and Board of Directors. The Company's senior management implements asset/liability management policies, develops and implements strategies to improve balance sheet positioning and net interest income and regularly assesses the interest rate sensitivity of the Bank.

The Company's asset-liability management committee (ALCO) utilizes an interest rate simulation model to monitor and evaluate the impact of changing interest rates on net interest income and the market value of its investment portfolio. The ALCO policy limits the maximum percentage changes in net interest income and investment portfolio equity, assuming a simultaneous, instantaneous change in interest rate. These percentage changes are as follows:

Changes in Interest Rates (In Basis Points)	Percentage Change in Net Interest Income	Percent Change in Market Value of Portfolio Equity
200	20%	-
300	-	10%

As of December 31, 2005, the Company was in compliance with its ALCO policy. See also Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Asset-Liability Management.

**Table of Contents**

**ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA**

The following financial statements are included herein:

Report of Independent Registered Public Accountants

Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2005 and 2004

Consolidated Statements of Earnings for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

**Table of Contents**

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Directors

Flag Financial Corporation

Atlanta, Georgia

We have audited management's assessment, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Controls over Financial Reporting, that Flag Financial Corporation maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005, based on criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Flag Financial Corporation's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on management's assessment and an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, evaluating management's assessment, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and that receipts and expenditures of the Company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the Company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, management's assessment that Flag Financial Corporation maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005, is fairly stated, in all material respects, based on criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by COSO. Also in our opinion, Flag Financial Corporation maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005, based on criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by COSO.

**Table of Contents**

To the Board of Directors

Flag Financial Corporation

Page 2

Management's assessment of internal control over financial reporting excluded First Capital Bancorp, Inc., which was acquired on November 21, 2005. The acquired business represented approximately 43% of the Company's consolidated assets at December 31, 2005, as well as 7% of the Company's net interest income and 10% of the Company's income before income taxes for the year ended December 31, 2005. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting of the Company also excluded an evaluation of the internal control over financial reporting of First Capital Bancorp, Inc.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of the Flag Financial Corporation and subsidiary as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the related statements of earnings, comprehensive income, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2005, and our report dated March 11, 2006, expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

/s/ Porter Keadle Moore, LLP

Atlanta, Georgia

March 11, 2006

**Table of Contents**

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Directors

Flag Financial Corporation

Atlanta, Georgia

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Flag Financial Corporation and subsidiary as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the related statements of earnings, comprehensive income, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2005. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Flag Financial Corporation and subsidiary as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2005, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the effectiveness of Flag Financial Corporation and subsidiary's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated March 11, 2006, expressed an unqualified opinion on management's assessment of the effectiveness of Flag Financial Corporation's internal control over financial reporting and an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of Flag Financial Corporation's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Porter Keadle Moore, LLP  
Atlanta, Georgia

March 11, 2006

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Consolidated Balance Sheets****December 31, 2005 and 2004**

<u>Assets</u>		
	2005	2004
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Cash and due from banks	\$ 45,506	13,345
Other interest-bearing deposits in banks	2,085	13,397
Federal funds sold	23,184	13,574
Cash and cash equivalents	70,775	40,316
Other interest-bearing deposits in banks	4,698	5,473
Investment securities available-for-sale	228,442	111,390
Other investments	18,762	13,161
Mortgage loans held-for-sale	11,665	10,688
Loans, net	1,205,046	596,101
Premises and equipment, net	13,985	14,458
Intangible assets	115,034	20,919
Other assets	34,454	15,831
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,702,861</b>	<b>828,337</b>
<u>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</u>		
Deposits:		
Demand	\$ 172,725	48,812
Interest-bearing demand	532,464	347,940
Savings	19,450	20,940
Time	237,369	113,854
Time, over \$100,000	321,944	175,301
<b>Total deposits</b>	<b>1,283,952</b>	<b>706,847</b>
Repurchase agreements	4,142	2,295
Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank	143,469	25,000
Other borrowings	-	4,300
Junior subordinated debentures	46,791	14,433
Other liabilities	19,707	6,260
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>1,498,061</b>	<b>759,135</b>
Commitments		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock (No par value, 10,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding)	-	-
Common stock (\$1 par value, 20,000 shares authorized, 18,425 and 10,054 shares issued in 2005 and 2004, respectively)	18,425	10,054
Additional paid-in capital	148,062	27,954
Retained earnings	51,692	44,642
Accumulated other comprehensive income	125	56
Less: treasury stock, at cost; 1,551 shares in 2005 and 2004	(13,504)	(13,504)

Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

Total stockholders' equity	204,800	69,202
	<b>\$ 1,702,861</b>	828,337

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Consolidated Statements of Earnings****For the Years Ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003**

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
	<i>(In thousands except per share data)</i>		
<b>Interest income:</b>			
Interest and fees on loans	<b>\$ 55,815</b>	37,066	30,083
Interest on investment securities	<b>5,873</b>	5,061	5,832
Interest on federal funds sold and other interest-bearing deposits in banks	<b>1,587</b>	494	619
<b>Total interest income</b>	<b>63,275</b>	42,621	36,534
<b>Interest expense:</b>			
Deposits	<b>20,744</b>	10,829	9,674
Borrowings	<b>2,786</b>	1,228	873
<b>Total interest expense</b>	<b>23,530</b>	12,057	10,547
Net interest income before provision for loan losses	<b>39,745</b>	30,564	25,987
Provision for loan losses	<b>750</b>	1,845	1,321
<b>Net interest income after provision for loan losses</b>	<b>38,995</b>	28,719	24,666
<b>Noninterest income:</b>			
Service charges on deposit accounts	<b>3,261</b>	3,660	3,417
Mortgage banking activities	<b>2,834</b>	2,410	4,241
(Loss) gain on sales of investment securities available-for-sale	<b>(1,064)</b>	700	136
Gain on sale of branch	<b>-</b>	3,000	-
Other	<b>4,432</b>	1,698	2,571
<b>Total noninterest income</b>	<b>9,463</b>	11,468	10,365
<b>Noninterest expense:</b>			
Salaries and employee benefits	<b>20,728</b>	17,703	15,750
Professional fees	<b>1,941</b>	1,277	811
Postage, printing and supplies	<b>1,122</b>	914	973
Communications	<b>2,412</b>	2,152	2,103
Occupancy	<b>3,975</b>	3,679	3,511
Other	<b>4,104</b>	3,784	3,054
<b>Total noninterest expense</b>	<b>34,282</b>	29,509	26,202
Earnings before provision for income taxes	<b>14,176</b>	10,678	8,829
Provision for income taxes	<b>4,600</b>	3,310	2,724
<b>Net earnings</b>	<b>\$ 9,576</b>	7,368	6,105
<b>Basic earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 1.01</b>	0.88	0.72

Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

Diluted earnings per share	\$	<b>0.96</b>	0.82	0.67
----------------------------	----	-------------	------	------

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

## FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY

## Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income

For the Years Ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003

	2005	2004	2003
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Net earnings	<b>\$ 9,576</b>	7,368	6,105
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:			
Unrealized losses on investment securities available-for-sale:			
Unrealized losses arising during the period, net of tax benefit of \$(305), \$(448) and \$(385), respectively	<b>(497)</b>	(721)	(629)
Reclassification adjustment for losses (gains) included in net earnings, net of tax of \$(404), \$266 and \$52, respectively	<b>660</b>	(434)	(84)
Unrealized losses on cash flow hedges, net of tax benefit of \$(58), \$0 and \$(46), respectively	<b>(94)</b>	-	(75)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	<b>69</b>	(1,155)	(788)
Comprehensive income	<b>\$ 9,645</b>	6,213	5,317

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders Equity****For the Years Ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003**

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Treasury Stock	Total
	Shares	Amount					
	<i>(In thousands except share data)</i>						
Balance, December 31, 2002	9,638,501	\$ 9,639	23,463	35,225	1,999	(9,577)	60,749
Sale of common stock	12,000	12	126	-	-	-	138
Sale of warrants	-	-	12	-	-	-	12
Exercise of stock options	124,598	124	956	-	-	-	1,080
Change in accumulated other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	(788)	-	(788)
Net earnings	-	-	-	6,105	-	-	6,105
Dividends declared (\$0.24 per share)	-	-	-	(2,036)	-	-	(2,036)
Balance, December 31, 2003	9,775,099	\$ 9,775	24,557	39,294	1,211	(9,577)	65,260
Sale of common stock	6,000	6	72	-	-	-	78
Common stock issued in business purchase	236,723	237	3,077	-	-	-	3,314
Sale of warrants	-	-	6	-	-	-	6
Purchase of treasury stock (304,225 shares)	-	-	-	-	-	(3,927)	(3,927)
Exercise of stock options	35,750	36	242	-	-	-	278
Change in accumulated other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	(1,155)	-	(1,155)
Net earnings	-	-	-	7,368	-	-	7,368
Dividends declared (\$0.24 per share)	-	-	-	(2,020)	-	-	(2,020)
<b>Balance, December 31, 2004</b>	<b>10,053,572</b>	<b>\$ 10,054</b>	<b>27,954</b>	<b>44,642</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>(13,504)</b>	<b>69,202</b>
<b>Equity consideration issued in business acquisition</b>	<b>6,921,894</b>	<b>6,922</b>	<b>111,548</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>118,470</b>
<b>Exercise of warrants</b>	<b>1,230,000</b>	<b>1,230</b>	<b>6,909</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,139</b>
<b>Exercise of stock options</b>	<b>219,568</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>1,873</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,092</b>
<b>Change in accumulated other comprehensive income</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Net earnings</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,576</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,576</b>
<b>Dividends declared (\$0.24 per share)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,526)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,526)</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(222)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(222)</b>
<b>Balance, December 31, 2005</b>	<b>18,425,034</b>	<b>\$ 18,425</b>	<b>148,062</b>	<b>51,692</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>(13,504)</b>	<b>204,800</b>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

## FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY

## Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

For the Years Ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003

	2005	2004	2003
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net earnings	\$ 9,576	7,368	6,105
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:			
Depreciation, amortization and accretion	1,780	2,947	3,000
Provision for loan losses	750	1,845	1,321
Deferred tax (benefit) expense	(601)	128	3,168
Gain on sale of branch	-	(3,000)	-
Loss (gain) on sales of investment securities available-for-sale	1,064	(700)	(136)
Gain on sales of loans	(1,601)	(1,321)	(2,384)
Gain on sales of other real estate owned	(515)	(150)	(118)
Loss (gain) on disposals of premises and equipment Change in:	113	78	(936)
Mortgage loans held-for-sale	624	(5,133)	10,756
Other assets and liabilities	(4,851)	(2,876)	(3,276)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	6,339	(814)	17,500
Cash flows from investing activities (net of effect of branch sale and acquisitions):			
Net change in other interest-bearing deposits in banks	1,762	(2,798)	9,737
Proceeds from sales, calls and maturities of investment securities available-for-sale	152,819	75,640	105,263
Proceeds from sale of other investments	2,572	3,804	1,021
Purchases of investment securities available-for-sale	(131,379)	(66,608)	(90,858)
Purchases of other investments	(242)	(2,021)	(9,170)
Net change in loans	(129,357)	(137,541)	(103,633)
Proceeds from sales of other real estate owned	3,702	2,033	1,938
Purchases of premises and equipment	(1,231)	(1,788)	(898)
Proceeds from sales of premises and equipment	751	183	4,359
Cash paid in branch sale	-	(14,141)	-
Net cash acquired (paid) in business acquisitions	3,548	(1,647)	(735)
Net cash used by investing activities	(97,055)	(144,884)	(82,976)
Cash flows from financing activities (net of effect of branch sale and acquisitions):			
Net change in deposits	113,142	172,031	60,838
Proceeds from issuance of junior subordinated debentures	25,774	14,433	-
Change in federal funds purchased and repurchase agreements	(542)	(1,802)	2,763
Change in other borrowings	(4,300)	3,200	1,100
Proceeds from FHLB advances	-	15,000	5,000
Payments of FHLB advances	(21,075)	(48,000)	(5,000)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	2,092	278	1,080
Proceeds from exercise of warrants	8,139	-	-
Purchase of treasury stock	-	(3,927)	-
Proceeds from sale of common stock and warrants	-	84	150
Cash dividends paid	(2,055)	(2,020)	(2,028)
Net cash provided by financing activities	121,175	149,277	63,903

## Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

Net change in cash and cash equivalents	<b>30,459</b>	3,579	(1,573)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<b>40,316</b>	36,737	38,310
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<b>\$ 70,775</b>	40,316	36,737

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, continued****For the Years Ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003**

	2005	2004	2003
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:			
Cash paid during the year for:			
Interest	\$ 22,154	11,872	11,005
Income taxes	\$ 4,217	4,119	1,251
Supplemental schedule of noncash investing and financing activities:			
Real estate acquired through foreclosure	\$ 3,299	901	2,624
Change in unrealized losses on securities available-for-sale, net of tax	\$ (497)	(721)	(629)
Increase in dividends payable	\$ 471	6	8
Net assets acquired in acquisition, other than cash and cash equivalents	\$ 118,470	34,197	-
Assets disposed of in branch sale	\$ -	18,432	-
See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.			

---

**Table of Contents**

**FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY**

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

**(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Basis of Presentation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Flag Financial Corporation ( Flag ) and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Flag Bank (the Bank ). All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Flag is a bank holding company formed in 1994 whose business is conducted by the Bank. Flag is subject to regulation under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956. The Bank is primarily regulated by the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance ( DBF ) and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ( FDIC ). The Bank provides a full range of commercial, mortgage and consumer banking services in West-Central and Middle Georgia and metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia.

The accounting principles followed by Flag and its subsidiary, and the methods of applying these principles, conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ( GAAP ) and with general practices within the banking industry. In preparing financial statements in conformity with GAAP, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Actual results could differ significantly from those estimates. Material estimates common to the banking industry that are particularly susceptible to significant change in the near term include, but are not limited to, the determination of the allowance for loan losses, the valuation of real estate acquired in connection with or in lieu of foreclosure on loans, and valuation allowances associated with the realization of deferred tax assets which are based on future taxable income.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash equivalents include amounts due from banks, other interest-bearing demand deposits with banks with maturities less than 90 days and federal funds sold. Generally, federal funds are sold for one-day periods. As of December 31, 2005 and 2004, the Company maintained cash balances with well capitalized financial institutions totaling \$5.3 million and \$17.4 million, respectively, which exceeded federal deposit insurance limits. Reserve requirements maintained with the Federal Reserve Bank totaled \$7.2 million and \$895,000 at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

**Investment Securities**

Flag classifies its securities in one of three categories: trading, available-for-sale, or held-to-maturity. Trading securities are securities held for the purpose of generating profits on short-term differences in price. Securities held-to-maturity are those securities for which Flag has the ability and intent to hold to maturity. All other securities are classified as available-for-sale. As of December 31, 2005 and 2004, all of Flag s investment securities were classified as available-for-sale.

Trading and available-for-sale securities are recorded at fair value. Held-to-maturity securities are recorded at cost, adjusted for the amortization or accretion of premiums or discounts. Unrealized holding gains and losses on trading securities are included in earnings in the period in which the gain or loss occurs. Unrealized holding gains and losses, net of the related tax effect, on securities available-for-sale are excluded from earnings and are reported as a separate component of stockholders equity until realized. Transfers of securities between categories are recorded at fair value at the date of transfer.

A decline in the market value of any available-for-sale or held-to-maturity investment below cost that is deemed other than temporary is charged to earnings and establishes a new cost basis for the security. Premiums and discounts are amortized or accreted over the life of the related security as an adjustment of the yield. Realized gains and losses are included in earnings and the cost of securities sold is derived using the specific identification method.



---

**Table of Contents**

**FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY**

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued**

**(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued**

**Other Investments**

Other investments include Federal Home Loan Bank ( FHLB ) stock, other equity securities with no readily determinable fair value, an investment in a limited partnership and a note receivable. Flag owns a 43% interest in a limited partnership, which invests in multi-family real estate and passes low-income housing credits to the investors. Flag recognizes these tax credits in the year received. The note receivable, purchased in 2003, is from a joint venture among two super-regional banks and a large investment bank. The joint venture specializes in underwriting and pooling trust-preferred securities and offering for investment tranches that are differentiated by their claim on the cash flow from the pool of securities. Each tranche's interest rate is relative to its position in the pool. Flag's note is subordinate to several tranches that have obtained credit ratings, but senior to the material interest of the joint venture. These investments are carried at cost, which approximates fair value.

**Mortgage Loans Held-for-Sale**

Mortgage loans originated and intended for sale in the secondary market are carried at the lower of aggregate cost or market value. The amount by which cost exceeds market value is accounted for as a valuation allowance. Changes, if any, in the valuation allowance are included in the determination of net earnings in the period in which the change occurs. Flag has recorded no valuation allowance as of December 31, 2005 related to its mortgage loans held-for-sale as their cost approximates market value. Gains and losses from the sale of loans are determined using the specific identification method.

**Loans and Interest Income**

Loans that management has the intent and ability to hold for the foreseeable future or until maturity are reported at their outstanding unpaid principal balances, net of the allowance for loan losses, deferred loan fees and unamortized premiums or discounts on purchased loans. Interest income on loans is calculated by using the simple interest method on daily balances of the principal amount outstanding.

Flag considers a loan impaired when, based on current information and events, it is probable that all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement will not be collected. Impaired loans are measured based on the present value of expected future cash flows, discounted at the loan's effective interest rate or at the loan's observable market price, or the fair value of the collateral of the loan if the loan is collateral dependent. Interest income from impaired loans is recognized using a cash basis method of accounting during the time within that period in which the loans were impaired. Accrual of interest is discontinued on a loan when management believes, after considering economic and business conditions and collection efforts that the borrower's financial condition is such that collection of interest is doubtful.

**Allowance for Loan Losses**

The allowance for loan losses is established through provisions for loan losses charged to expense. Loans are charged against the allowance for loan losses when management believes that the collection of the principal is unlikely. The allowance is an amount which, in management's judgment, will be adequate to absorb losses on existing loans that may become uncollectible. The allowance is established through consideration of such factors, including, but not limited to, historical loss experience, changes in the nature and volume of the portfolio, adequacy of collateral, delinquency trends, loan concentrations, specific problem loans, and economic conditions that may affect the borrower's ability to pay.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued****Allowance for Loan Losses, continued**

Management believes that the allowance for loan losses is adequate. While management uses available information to recognize losses on loans, future additions to the allowance may be necessary based on changes in economic conditions. In addition, various regulatory agencies, as an integral part of their examination process, periodically review Flag's allowance for loan losses. Such agencies may require Flag to recognize additions to the allowance based on their judgments about information available to them at the time of their examination.

**Other Real Estate Owned**

Real estate acquired through foreclosure is carried at the lower of cost (defined as carrying value at foreclosure) or fair value less estimated costs to dispose. Fair value is defined as the amount that is expected to be received in a current sale between a willing buyer and seller other than in a forced or liquidation sale. Fair values at foreclosure are based on appraisals. Losses arising from the acquisition of foreclosed properties are charged against the allowance for loan losses. Subsequent writedowns are provided by a charge to operations through the allowance for losses on other real estate in the period in which the subsequent decline occurs.

**Premises and Equipment**

Premises and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Major additions and improvements are charged to the asset accounts while maintenance and repairs that do not improve or extend the useful lives of the assets are expensed currently. When assets are retired or otherwise disposed of, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts, and any gain or loss is reflected in earnings for the period.

Depreciation expense is computed using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Buildings and improvements	15-40 years
Furniture and equipment	3-10 years

**Securities Sold Under Agreements to Repurchase**

Securities sold under agreements to repurchase are secured borrowings from customers and are treated as financing activities and are carried at the amounts at which the securities will be subsequently reacquired as specified in the respective agreements.

**Income Taxes**

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recorded for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Future tax benefits, such as net operating loss carryforwards, are recognized to the extent that realization of such benefits is more likely than not. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which the assets and liabilities are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income tax expense in the period that includes the enactment date.

**Table of Contents**

**FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY**

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued**

**(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued**

**Income Taxes, continued**

In the event the future tax consequences of differences between the financial reporting bases and the tax bases of Flag's assets and liabilities results in deferred tax assets, an evaluation of the probability of being able to realize the future benefits indicated by such assets is required. A valuation allowance is provided when it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. In assessing the ability to realize the deferred tax assets, management considers the scheduled reversals of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income, and tax planning strategies.

A deferred tax liability is not recognized for portions of the allowance for loan losses for income tax purposes in excess of the financial statement balance, as described in Note 10. Such a deferred tax liability will only be recognized when it becomes apparent that those temporary differences will reverse in the foreseeable future.

**Stock-Based Compensation**

At December 31, 2005, Flag sponsors stock-based compensation plans, which are described more fully in Note 12. As permitted by SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, Flag currently accounts for these plans under the recognition and measurement principles of APB Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, and related Interpretations. No stock-based employee compensation cost is reflected in net earnings, as all options granted under those plans had an exercise price equal to the market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant.

Effective January 1, 2006, Flag will adopt the provisions of SFAS No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment*, which will require compensation expense to be recognized for share-based payments. SFAS No. 123(R) also requires the benefits of tax deductions in excess of recognized compensation cost to be reported as a financing cash flow, rather than as an operating cash flow as required under current literature. This requirement will reduce net operating cash flows and increase net financing cash flows in the periods after adoption. The amount of operating cash flows recognized in prior periods, for such excess tax deductions, were insignificant. Because the vast majority of Flag's stock options are tax qualifying, it is not expected that such recognized compensation expense will result in income tax benefits.

For the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, the fair value of each option is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes options-pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions: dividend yield ranging from 1.56% to 1.80%, risk free interest rate ranging from 4.24% to 4.38% and an expected life of 7 years. Volatility ranged from .2185 to .2436 in 2005, .2232 to .2941 in 2004, .2496 to .9803 in 2003. The weighted average grant-date fair value of options and warrants granted in 2005, 2004 and 2003 was \$4.62, \$3.44 and \$3.60, respectively.

Responsive to its plan of implementation of SFAS No. 123(R) and consistent with Flag's long-term compensation strategies, the Board of Directors of Flag approved the granting of 232,000 options in the fourth quarter of 2005 which were vested immediately. The vesting of such options is reflected in the 2005 pro forma net earnings disclosure. Based on its expected vesting of stock options in 2006, Flag anticipates that compensation expense relating to the adoption of SFAS No. 123(R) will approximate \$0.03 per share for basic earnings per share.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued****Stock-Based Compensation, continued**

The following table illustrates the effect on net earnings and earnings per share if Flag had applied the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123 to stock-based employee compensation. (in thousands, except per share amounts).

	<b>Year Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
Net earnings as reported	<b>\$ 9,576</b>	7,368	6,105
Deduct: Total stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair-value based method for all awards, net of tax	<b>(1,149)</b>	(234)	(525)
Pro forma net earnings	<b>\$ 8,427</b>	7,134	5,580
Basic earnings per share:			
As reported	<b>\$ 1.01</b>	0.88	0.72
Pro forma	<b>\$ 0.89</b>	0.85	0.66
Diluted earnings per share:			
As reported	<b>\$ 0.96</b>	0.82	0.67
Pro forma	<b>\$ 0.84</b>	0.79	0.62

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued****Net Earnings Per Common Share**

Flag is required to report earnings per common share with and without the dilutive effects of potential common stock issuances from instruments such as options, convertible securities and warrants on the face of the statements of operations. Basic earnings per common share are based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period while the effects of potential common shares outstanding during the period are included in diluted earnings per share. Additionally, Flag must reconcile the amounts used in the computation of both basic earnings per share and diluted earnings per share. Antidilutive stock options and warrants have not been included in the diluted earnings per share calculations. Antidilutive shares at December 31, 2005 and 2003 were 362,000 and 127,625, respectively. No options were antidilutive as of December 31, 2004. Earnings per common share amounts for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003 are as follows (in thousands, except per share amounts):

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2005**

	Net Earnings (Numerator)	Common Share (Denominator)	Per Share Amount
<b>Basic earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 9,576</b>	<b>9,440</b>	<b>\$ 1.01</b>
<b>Effect of dilutive securities - stock options and warrants</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>(0.05)</b>
<b>Diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 9,576</b>	<b>10,007</b>	<b>\$ 0.96</b>

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2004**

	Net Earnings (Numerator)	Common Share (Denominator)	Per Share Amount
<b>Basic earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 7,368</b>	<b>8,396</b>	<b>\$ 0.88</b>
<b>Effect of dilutive securities - stock options and warrants</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>(0.06)</b>
<b>Diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 7,368</b>	<b>8,982</b>	<b>\$ 0.82</b>

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2003**

	Net Earnings (Numerator)	Common Share (Denominator)	Per Share Amount
<b>Basic earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 6,105</b>	<b>8,471</b>	<b>\$ 0.72</b>
<b>Effect of dilutive securities - stock options and warrants</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>(0.05)</b>
<b>Diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 6,105</b>	<b>9,063</b>	<b>\$ 0.67</b>

---

**Table of Contents**

**FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY**

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued**

**(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued**

**Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities**

Flag recognizes the fair value of derivatives as assets or liabilities in the financial statements. The accounting for the changes in the fair value of a derivative depends on the intended use of the derivative instrument at inception. The change in fair value of instruments used as fair value hedges is accounted for in the income of the period simultaneous with accounting for the fair value change of the item being hedged. The change in fair value of the effective portion of cash flow hedges is accounted for in comprehensive income rather than income, and the change in fair value of foreign currency hedges is accounted for in comprehensive income as part of the translation adjustment. The change in fair value of derivative instruments that are not intended as a hedge and any hedge ineffectiveness is accounted for in the income of the period of the change.

**Goodwill and Intangible Assets**

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net identifiable assets acquired in a business combination. Goodwill and other intangible assets deemed to have an indefinite useful life are not amortized but instead are subject to an annual review for impairment.

Also in connection with business combinations involving banks and branch locations, Flag generally records core deposit intangibles representing the value of the acquired core deposit base. Core deposit intangibles are amortized over the estimated useful life of the deposit base, generally on a straight-line basis not exceeding 15 years. The remaining useful lives of core deposit intangibles are evaluated periodically to determine whether events and circumstances warrant a revision to the remaining period of amortization.

**Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In addition to the adoption of SFAS No. 123(R) in the first quarter of 2006, as previously disclosed, the following are other recent accounting pronouncements affecting Flag.

In November 2005, the FASB issued FSP Nos. FAS 115-1 and 124-1, *The Meaning of Other-Than-Temporary Impairment and Its Application to Certain Investments*, which addresses the determination as to when an investment is considered impaired, whether that impairment is other than temporary, and the measurement of an impairment. The FSP also includes accounting considerations subsequent to the recognition of an other-than-temporary impairment and requires certain disclosures about unrealized losses that have not been recognized as other-than-temporary impairments. The guidance in the FSP amends SFAS No. 115, *Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities*, SFAS No. 124, *Accounting for Certain Investments Held by Not-for-Profit Organizations*, and APB Opinion No. 18, *The Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock*. The new disclosure requirements of FSP Nos. FAS 115-1 and 124-1 are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2005.

In May 2005, the FASB issued SFAS No. 154, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*, which replaces APB Opinion No. 20, *Accounting Changes*, and SFAS No. 3, *Reporting Accounting Changes in Interim Financial Statements*, and provides guidance on the accounting for and reporting of accounting changes and error corrections. SFAS No. 154 applies to all voluntary changes in accounting principle and requires *retrospective application* (a term defined by the statement) to prior periods' financial statements, unless it is impracticable to determine the effect of a change. It also applies to changes required by an accounting pronouncement that does not include specific transition provisions. In addition, SFAS No. 154 redefines *restatement* as the revising of previously issued financial statements to reflect the correction of an error. The statement is effective for accounting changes and corrections of errors made in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2005. Flag will adopt SFAS No. 154 beginning January 1, 2006.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued****Reclassifications**

Certain reclassifications have been made to the 2004 and 2003 financial statements to conform with classifications for 2005.

**(2) Business Combinations****Other Acquisitions and Dispositions**

On November 21, 2005, Flag acquired 100 percent of the outstanding common shares of First Capital Bancorp ( First Capital ), a bank holding company headquartered in Norcross, Georgia. First Capital was the parent company of First Capital Bank, a community bank with five banking offices in the north metro Atlanta market. The merger accelerated Flag's strategy to continue to grow its presence in the metro Atlanta area. The consideration for the acquisition was a combination of cash and common stock with an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$137.6 million. The total consideration consisted of \$19.1 million in cash, approximately 6.9 million shares of Flag Financial common stock with a value of approximately \$112.7 million and 784,000 stock options with a value of approximately \$5.8 million. The value of the shares of common stock issued of \$16.28 was based on the average closing price of Flag's common stock for the 20 trading days immediately preceding the merger. First Capital's results of operations are included in consolidated financial results from the acquisition date.

The following table summarizes the estimated fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the date of acquisition net of cash paid as part of the purchase price consideration (in thousands):

<b>Assets:</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,287
Interest-bearing deposits in other banks	987
Federal funds sold	1,261
Investment securities available-for-sale	139,374
Other investments	7,934
Loans, net	483,246
Premises and equipment, net	685
Goodwill	90,470
Core deposit intangible	3,594
Other assets	14,156
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 743,994</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Deposits	\$ 463,963
Federal funds purchased and repurchase agreements	2,389
FHLB advances	139,544
Junior subordinated debt	6,584
Other liabilities	13,044
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 625,524</b>
<b>Net assets acquired</b>	<b>\$ 118,470</b>

## Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

Based on an evaluation of its estimated useful life, the core deposit intangible will be amortized over nine years using the straight line method. The goodwill will not be amortized and will not be deductible for tax purposes. In conjunction with the merger, Flag accrued certain merger related expenses related to severance and personnel related charges, professional fees, contract termination costs, systems conversion and related



**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(2) Business Combinations, continued****Other Acquisitions and Dispositions, continued**

charges. The severance and personnel related costs include severance, employee retention, payments related to change in control provisions of employment contracts and other costs associated with employee termination. Professional fees include investment bankers, legal and accounting fees. Contract termination costs include amounts owed to service providers as a result of early termination of service contracts. Systems conversion and related charges include charges necessary to convert the operations of acquired branches. At December 31, 2005, accrued merger costs of \$1.5 million remained unpaid. The remaining accrued costs are expected to be paid in 2006.

The following table presents a summary of merger accrual activity for 2005 (in thousands):

	Accrued at acquisition	Utilized	Balance at December 31, 2005
Severance and personnel related charges	\$ 2,181	(674)	1,507
Professional fees	3,417	(3,414)	3
Contract termination costs	256	(256)	-
Systems conversion and related charges	522	(494)	28
Other merger related charges	580	(580)	-
Total	\$ 6,956	(5,418)	1,538

The following unaudited condensed income statements disclose the pro forma results of Flag as though the First Capital acquisition had occurred at the beginning of the respective periods (in thousands).

	Twelve months ended December 31, 2005 (unaudited)			
	Flag Financial Corporation <sup>1</sup>	First Capital Bancorp <sup>2</sup>	Pro Forma Adjustments <sup>3</sup>	Pro Forma Combined
Net interest income	\$ 39,745	23,467	(600)	62,612
Provision for loan losses	750	500	-	1,250
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	38,995	22,967	(600)	61,362
Noninterest income	9,463	241		9,704
Noninterest expense	34,282	16,186	128	50,596
Provision for income taxes	4,600	2,590	(248)	6,942
Net earnings	\$ 9,576	4,432	(480)	13,528
Basic earnings per share	\$ 1.01			0.81
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.96			0.78

## Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

The reported results of Flag Financial Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2005 includes the results of First Capital from the November 21, 2005 acquisition date.

<sup>2</sup> Represents First Capital Bancorp results from January 1, 2005 through November 20, 2005.

<sup>3</sup> Pro forma adjustments include the following items: amortization of core deposit intangibles of \$128,000, net of First Capital historical amortization of \$271,000, accretion of loan purchase account adjustment of \$571,000, net of First Capital historical amortization of \$55,000, accretion of securities purchase accounting adjustment of \$476,000, net of First Capital historical accretion of \$166,000, amortization of deposit purchase accounting adjustment of \$698,000, net of First Capital historical accretion of \$345,000, accretion of junior subordinated debt accounting adjustments of \$7,000, and reversal of First Capital short-term and long-term borrowings historical accretion of \$152,000. Additionally, interest expense includes \$804,000 for funding costs as though the funding for the cash component of the transaction occurred January 1, 2004.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(2) Business Combinations, continued****Other Acquisitions and Dispositions, continued**

	Twelve months ended December 31, 2004 (unaudited)			
	Flag Financial Corporation <sup>1</sup>	First Capital Bancorp <sup>2</sup>	Pro Forma Adjustments <sup>3</sup>	Pro Forma Combined
Net interest income	\$ 30,564	18,433	(247)	48,750
Provision for loan losses	1,845	1,325	-	3,170
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	28,719	17,108	(247)	45,580
Noninterest income	11,468	1,094		12,562
Noninterest expense	29,509	13,235	227	42,971
Provision for income taxes	3,310	1,755	(268)	4,797
<b>Net earnings</b>	<b>\$ 7,368</b>	<b>3,212</b>	<b>(206)</b>	<b>10,374</b>
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.88			0.63
<b>Diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 0.82</b>			<b>0.60</b>

<sup>1</sup> Represents results of Flag Financial Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Represents results of First Capital Bancorp for the year ended December 31, 2004.

<sup>3</sup> Pro forma adjustments include the following items: amortization of core deposit intangibles of \$227,000, net of First Capital historical amortization of \$172,000, accretion of loan purchase account adjustment of \$551,000, net of First Capital historical accretion of \$35,000, accretion of securities purchase accounting adjustment of \$536,000, net of First Capital historical accretion of \$106,000, amortization of deposit purchase accounting adjustment of \$511,000, net of First Capital historical accretion of \$220,000, accretion of junior subordinated debt accounting adjustments of \$7,000, and reversal of First Capital short-term and long-term borrowings historical accretion of \$96,000. Additionally, interest expense includes \$734,000 for funding costs as though the funding for the cash component of the transaction occurred January 1, 2004.

On December 2, 2004, Flag purchased substantially all of the assets of Payroll Solutions, Inc. ( "Payroll Solutions" ), a provider of payroll, human resources and benefits services to small and medium-sized businesses primarily in Georgia. Total consideration for the purchase was \$4.7 million including 236,723 shares of Flag common stock or \$3.3 million and the assumption of debt of approximately \$1.4 million. Of the total number of shares of the Common Stock issued under the Asset Purchase Agreement, 47,143 shares were held in escrow at December 31, 2004 and were released during 2005 upon accomplishment of certain business objectives. The purchase of Payroll Solutions expands the suite of services that the Bank offers its business customers.

The following table summarizes the estimated fair values of the assets acquired at the date of acquisition of Payroll Solutions (in thousands):

Premises and equipment	\$ 72
Goodwill	4,613
<b>Total assets acquired</b>	<b>\$ 4,685</b>

During the third quarter of 2004, Flag acquired a mortgage and construction lending practice of another Atlanta based bank. Flag purchased approximately \$35.0 million in mortgage and construction loans and assumed several property leases with market based rents and terms. Total consideration for the purchase will be paid over the course of 60 months and totals approximately \$930,000 in cash. During 2005 and 2004, payments were made of \$192,000 and \$155,000, respectively. The acquisition of these mortgage and construction lending offices is in

accordance with Flag's strategy to continue to grow its noninterest income.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(2) Business Combinations, continued****Other Acquisitions and Dispositions, continued**

During the first quarter of 2004, Flag sold its Thomaston, Georgia branch to another Georgia based bank. After \$635,000 in expenses related directly to the sale of the branch, Flag recorded an after tax gain of approximately \$1.5 million. Included in the sale was approximately \$1.7 million of premises and equipment, \$16.7 million in loans and \$35.8 million in deposits. Flag's decision to sell this branch was due to its continued focus on developing its banking presence where Flag maintains high market share and in developing its metro Atlanta presence.

**Intangible Assets and Goodwill**

As of December 31, 2005, Flag had recorded intangible assets that are subject to amortization totaling \$5.1 million with accumulated amortization of \$343,000. As of December 31, 2004, Flag had intangible assets of \$900,000 with accumulated amortization of \$195,000. The weighted average amortization period for Flag's core deposit intangibles is 9.2 years and the amortization period for intangibles created by customer lists is being recognized over 7.0 years. Flag recognized amortization expense on these intangibles of \$170,000 in 2005, \$90,000 in 2004 and \$83,000 in 2003.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004 are as follows (in thousands):

	<b>2005</b>	2004
Balance as of January 1st	<b>\$ 20,191</b>	14,137
Goodwill acquired during the year	<b>90,129</b>	6,054
Balance as of December 31st	<b>\$ 110,320</b>	20,191

Flag tests its goodwill for impairment on an annual basis using the expected present value of future cash flows. Management estimates there is no impairment of goodwill as of December 31, 2005 and 2004.

**(3) Investment Securities**

Investment securities available-for-sale at December 31, 2005 and 2004 are summarized as follows (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	December 31, 2005		Estimated Fair Value
		Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	
U.S. Treasuries and agencies	\$ 93,401	58	13	93,446
State, county and municipals	7,344	158	68	7,434
Equity securities	334	-	46	288
Mortgage-backed securities	103,145	164	77	103,232
Corporate debt securities	2,784	4	-	2,788
Trust preferred securities	21,118	407	271	21,254
	<b>\$ 228,126</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>228,442</b>



**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(3) Investment Securities, continued**

	December 31, 2004			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value
U.S. Treasuries and agencies	\$ 55,407	83	238	55,252
State, county and municipals	6,839	321	-	7,160
Equity securities	309	-	26	283
Mortgage-backed securities	29,704	353	59	29,998
Trust preferred securities	19,041	284	628	18,697
	\$ 111,300	1,041	951	111,390

Unrealized losses and fair value, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, as of December 31, 2005 and 2004 are summarized as follows (in thousands):

	December 31, 2005					
	Less than 12 Months		12 Months or More		Total	
	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
U.S. Treasuries and agencies	\$ 35,645	13	-	-	35,645	13
State, county and municipals	931	68	-	-	931	68
Equity securities	84	46	-	-	84	46
Mortgage-backed securities	28,620	77	-	-	28,620	77
Trust Preferred securities	8,000	25	3,466	246	11,466	271
	\$ 73,280	229	3,466	246	76,746	475

	December 31, 2004					
	Less than 12 Months		12 Months or More		Total	
	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
U.S. Treasuries and agencies	\$ 52,521	238	-	-	52,521	238
Equity securities	-	-	283	26	283	26
Mortgage-backed securities	5,824	33	1,441	26	7,265	59
Trust Preferred securities	3,185	628	-	-	3,185	628
	\$ 61,530	899	1,724	52	63,254	951

At December 31, 2005, unrealized losses in the investment portfolio related to debt, equity and trust preferred securities. The unrealized losses on the debt and equity securities arose due to changing interest rates and market conditions and are considered to be temporary because of acceptable investment grades where the U.S. Government largely backs the repayment sources of principal and interest. At December 31, 2005,

## Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

1 of 26 securities issued by state, county and municipals contained unrealized losses while 21 out of 56 securities issued by U.S. Government agencies and Government sponsored corporations, including mortgage-backed securities, contained unrealized losses. One of 4 equity securities contained unrealized losses at December 31, 2005.



**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(3) Investment Securities, continued**

The unrealized losses on the trust preferred securities arose due to changing interest rates and market conditions and are considered to be temporary. At December 31, 2005, 8 of 24 trust preferred securities contained unrealized losses.

At December 31, 2004, unrealized losses in the investment portfolio related to debt, equity and trust preferred securities. The unrealized losses on the debt and equity securities arose due to changing interest rates and market conditions and are considered to be temporary because of acceptable investment grades where the repayment sources of principal and interest are largely backed by the U.S. Government. At December 31, 2004, none of the 29 securities issued by state and political subdivisions contained unrealized losses while 21 out of 97 securities issued by U.S. Government agencies and Government sponsored corporations, including mortgage-backed securities, contained unrealized losses and 3 of the 3 equity securities contained unrealized losses.

The unrealized losses on the trust preferred securities arose due to changing interest rates and market conditions and are considered to be temporary. At December 31, 2004, 2 of 11 trust preferred securities contained unrealized losses.

The amortized cost and estimated fair value of investment securities available-for-sale at December 31, 2005, by contractual maturity, are shown below (in thousands). Expected maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value
U.S. Treasuries and agencies, state, county and municipals and corporate debt:		
Within 1 year	\$ 10,259	10,264
1 to 5 years	80,486	80,537
5 to 10 years	9,564	9,630
More than 10 years	24,338	24,491
Equity securities	334	288
Mortgage-backed securities	103,145	103,232
	\$ 228,126	228,442

Proceeds from sales of securities available-for-sale during 2005, 2004 and 2003 totaled approximately \$109.4 million, \$12.1 million and \$24.3 million, respectively. Gross gains of approximately \$169,000, \$700,000 and \$209,000 and gross losses of approximately \$1.233 million, \$0 and \$73,000 were realized on those sales during 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Securities with a carrying value of approximately \$163.4 million were pledged to secure FHLB and other public deposits at December 31, 2005. Securities with a carrying value of approximately \$74.7 million at December 31, 2004 were pledged to secure advances from the FHLB and other public deposits.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(4) Loans**

Major classifications of loans at December 31, 2005 and 2004 are summarized as follows (in thousands):

	2005	2004
Commercial, financial and agricultural	\$ 126,293	57,231
Real estate construction	448,336	176,111
Real estate mortgage	626,189	355,575
Installment loans to individuals	20,961	15,644
Lease financings	46	142
Gross loans	1,221,825	604,703
Less allowance for loan losses	16,779	8,602
	<b>\$ 1,205,046</b>	596,101

Flag concentrates its lending activities in the origination of permanent residential mortgage loans, residential construction loans, commercial mortgage loans, commercial business loans, and consumer installment loans. The majority of Flag's real estate loans are secured by real property located in West-Central and Middle Georgia and metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia.

Mortgage loans secured by 1-4 family residences totaling approximately \$57.9 million and \$58.2 million were pledged as collateral for outstanding FHLB advances as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. At December 31, 2005, \$61.9 million in multi-family and commercial loans were also pledged as collateral for outstanding FHLB advances. In addition, Flag has pledged certain commercial and real estate loans to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta totaling \$220.0 million and \$205.0 million at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, to secure a line of credit established for liquidity purposes.

Activity in the allowance for loan losses is summarized as follows for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003 (in thousands):

	2005	2004	2003
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 8,602	6,685	6,888
Provisions charged to operations	750	1,845	1,321
Loans charged-off	(1,005)	(878)	(1,906)
Recoveries on loans previously charged-off	1,975	550	382
Allowance related to purchase transactions	6,457	400	-
Balance at end of year	\$ 16,779	8,602	6,685

At December 31, 2005, nonperforming assets totaled \$6.9 million, compared to \$5.3 million at the end of 2004. At December 31, 2005 and 2004, nonaccrual loans were \$5.7 million and \$4.2 million, respectively. At December 31, 2005 and 2004, the ratio of nonperforming loans to total loans was 0.58% and 0.89%, respectively. Nonperforming assets to total assets stood at 0.41% at December 31, 2005 compared to 0.64% at December 31, 2004. The decrease in nonperforming loans to total loans and nonperforming assets to total assets in 2005 is attributed to a combination of Flag's comprehensive loan review program and its strict management of problem assets. At December 31, 2005, there were no commitments to advance additional funds on any loan classified as nonaccrual.



**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(4) Loans, continued**

Nonperforming assets are detailed as follows for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004 (in thousands):

	2005	2004
Loans on nonaccrual	<b>\$ 5,694</b>	4,224
Loans past due 90 days and still accruing	<b>120</b>	74
Other real estate owned	<b>1,123</b>	1,012
Total nonperforming assets	<b>\$ 6,937</b>	5,310
Total nonperforming loans as a percentage of loans	<b>0.58%</b>	0.89%

Flag had impaired loans of approximately \$1.1 million and \$4.8 million at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, with a total allowance for loan losses related to these loans of approximately \$803,000 and \$1.3 million, respectively. The average balance of impaired loans was approximately \$1.3 million, \$5.1 million and \$5.1 million during 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively. Interest income on impaired loans of approximately \$19,000, \$196,000 and \$143,000 was recognized for cash payments received in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

**(5) Premises and Equipment**

Premises and equipment at December 31, 2005 and 2004 are summarized as follows (in thousands):

	2005	2004
Land and land improvements	<b>\$ 3,532</b>	4,099
Buildings and improvements	<b>12,949</b>	12,558
Furniture and equipment	<b>9,684</b>	15,227
	<b>26,165</b>	31,884
Less accumulated depreciation	<b>12,180</b>	17,426
	<b>\$ 13,985</b>	14,458

Depreciation expense approximated \$1.5 million, \$1.9 million and \$2.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Premises and equipment acquired through the merger with First Capital in 2005 consisted of \$64,000 in leasehold improvements and \$621,000 in furniture and fixtures.

During the first quarter of 2005, Flag sold one of its banking centers with a net book value of \$828,000 and recognized a pre-tax gain of \$36,000.

During the first quarter of 2004, Flag sold its Thomaston, Georgia branch to another Georgia based bank and recorded an after tax gain of approximately \$1.5 million. Included in the sale was premises and equipment with an approximate cost basis of \$1.7 million.



**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(6) Time Deposits**

At December 31, 2005, contractual maturities of time deposits are summarized as follows (in thousands):

Year ending December 31,	
2006	\$ 428,028
2007	58,650
2008	33,895
2009	32,373
2010	5,879
Thereafter	488
	<b>\$ 559,313</b>

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, the Bank held \$177.6 million and \$133.1 million, respectively, in certificates of deposits obtained through the efforts of third party brokers. The weighted average cost at December 31, 2005 and 2004 was 3.71% and 3.38%, respectively. The weighted average maturity at December 31, 2005 and 2004 was 12.4 months and 17.6 months, respectively.

**(7) Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank**

FHLB advances as of December 31, 2005 are as follows:

	December 31,	
	2005	2004
FHLB advances, interest payable at fixed rates ranging from 4.51% to 5.92%; advances mature at various maturity dates from October 24, 2007 through January 17, 2012; weighted average rate at December 31, 2005 is 4.99%.	<b>\$ 13,878</b>	-
FHLB advances, interest payable at variable rates ranging from 3.21% to 4.55%; advances mature at various maturity dates from September 17, 2007 through April 25, 2012; weighted average rate at December 31, 2005 is 4.09%.	<b>129,591</b>	25,000
	<b>\$ 143,469</b>	25,000

Contractual maturities of FHLB advances as of December 31, 2005 are as follows:

2006	\$ -
2007	31,996
2008	2,008
2009	30,249
2010	54,219
Thereafter	24,997

## Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

Total	\$ 143,469
-------	------------

Flag has \$15.9 million in FHLB advances subject to be called in 2006 and \$25.0 million in FHLB advances subject to be called in 2007.

The weighted average interest rate on advances was 4.22% and 2.50% at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. Advances from FHLB are collateralized by FHLB stock, certain investment securities and certain first mortgage, multifamily and commercial real estate loans.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(8) Other Borrowings**

Other borrowings as of December 31, 2005 consisted of a revolving line of credit with a bank with a total commitment amount of \$15.0 million and no outstanding balance. The line of credit bears interest at 1 month LIBOR plus 115 basis points, is secured by the common stock of the Bank and has various covenants and restrictions. Management believes that Flag and the Bank were in compliance with all covenants and restrictions at December 31, 2005. There were no other borrowings outstanding at December 31, 2005. Other borrowings as of December 31, 2004 consisted of a line of credit with a bank with a total commitment amount of \$11.0 million and interest at 0.5% below the prime rate. This line of credit was repaid and closed during 2005. Borrowings outstanding at December 31, 2004 were \$4.3 million, with an interest rate of 4.75%.

Flag has entered into line of credit agreements with various financial institutions to purchase federal funds with an aggregate commitment amount of \$77.0 million at December 31, 2005. There were no federal funds purchased outstanding as of December 31, 2005 or 2004.

Flag has entered into a line of credit agreement with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta ( FRB ) through which Flag would pledge a portion of its unencumbered loan portfolio to secure a commitment totaling \$150.8 million and \$149.5 million at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. The commitment level varies proportional to the collateral balances but Flag anticipates the commitment to remain in excess of \$125 million. Flag did not use the line during 2005 or 2004 and established the line in order to enhance the Bank's liquidity ratios and preparedness.

**(9) Junior Subordinated Debt**

Through its acquisition of First Capital, the Company recorded \$6.6 million in fixed rate Junior Subordinated Debentures (the Debentures ). First Capital Statutory Trust I ( FCST I ) issued 6,200 fixed rate Preferred Securities having a liquidation amount of \$1,000 each. The proceeds from such issuances, together with the proceeds of the related issuance of common securities of FCST I in the amount of \$192,000, were invested in the fixed rate Debentures of First Capital. The fixed rate on these financial instruments is identical at 9.0%. The Debentures are due January 17, 2032 and may be redeemed on or after January 17, 2007. Such debentures presently qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting. The sole assets of FCST I are the Debentures. Flag owns all of the common securities of FCST I.

On November 10, 2005, the Company closed a private offering of 15,000 floating rate Preferred Securities offered and sold by Flag Financial Statutory Trust III ( Trust III ) having a liquidation amount of \$1,000 each. The proceeds from such issuances, together with the proceeds of the related issuance of common securities of Trust III purchased by the Company in the amount of \$464,000, were invested in floating rate Junior Subordinated Debentures (the November 2005 Debentures ) of the Company totaling \$15.5 million. The November 2005 Debentures are due December 30, 2035 and may be redeemed after five years, and sooner in certain specific events, including in the event that certain circumstances render them ineligible for treatment as Tier 1 capital, subject to prior approval by the Federal Reserve Board, if then required. Such debentures presently qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting. The sole assets of Trust III are the November 2005 Debentures. The November 2005 Debentures are unsecured and rank junior to all senior debt of the Company and on par with the debentures issued in connection with the Company's other trust preferred securities. The Company owns all of the common securities of Trust III. At December 31, 2005, the floating rate securities had a 5.93% interest rate, which will reset quarterly at the three-month LIBOR rate plus 1.40%.



---

**Table of Contents**

**FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY**

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued**

**(9) Junior Subordinated Debt, continued**

On July 18, 2005, the Company closed a private offering of 10,000 floating rate Preferred Securities offered and sold by Flag Financial Statutory Trust II ( Trust II ) having a liquidation amount of \$1,000 each. The proceeds from such issuances, together with the proceeds of the related issuance of common securities of Trust II purchased by the Company in the amount of \$310,000, were invested in floating rate Junior Subordinated Debentures (the July 2005 Debentures ) of the Company totaling \$10.3 million. The July 2005 Debentures are due September 30, 2035 and may be redeemed after five years, and sooner in certain specific events, including in the event that certain circumstances render them ineligible for treatment as Tier 1 capital, subject to prior approval by the Federal Reserve Board, if then required. Such debentures presently qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting. The sole assets of Trust II are the July 2005 Debentures. The July 2005 Debentures are unsecured and rank junior to all senior debt of the Company and on par with the debentures issued in connection with the Company's other trust preferred securities. The Company owns all of the common securities of Trust II. At December 31, 2005, the floating rate securities had a 6.03% interest rate, which will reset quarterly at the three-month LIBOR rate plus 1.50%.

On April 15, 2004, the Company closed a private offering of 14,000 floating rate Preferred Securities offered and sold by Flag Financial Corporation Statutory Trust (the Trust ) having a liquidation amount of \$1,000 each. The proceeds from such issuances, together with the proceeds of the related issuance of common securities of the Trust purchased by the Company in the amount of \$433,000, were invested in floating rate Junior Subordinated Debentures (the 2004 Debentures ) of the Company totaling \$14.4 million. The 2004 Debentures are due April 15, 2034 and may be redeemed after five years, and sooner in certain specific events, including in the event that the certain circumstances render them ineligible for treatment as Tier 1 capital, subject to prior approval by the Federal Reserve Board, if then required. Such debentures presently qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting. The sole assets of the Trust are the 2004 Debentures. The 2004 Debentures are unsecured and rank junior to all senior debt of the Company and on par with the debentures issued in connection with the Company's other trust preferred securities. The Company owns all of the common securities of the Trust. At December 31, 2005, the floating rate securities had a 7.28% interest rate, which will reset quarterly at the three-month LIBOR rate plus 2.75%.

In accordance with FASB Interpretation No. 46, the Trusts are not consolidated with the Company. Accordingly, the Company does not report the securities issued by the Trusts as liabilities, and instead reports as liabilities the junior subordinated debentures issued by the Company and held by the Trusts, as these are not eliminated in consolidation. The Trust Preferred Securities are recorded as junior subordinated debentures on the balance sheets, but subject to certain limitations qualify for Tier 1 capital for regulatory capital purposes.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(10) Income Taxes**

The following is an analysis of the components of income tax expense for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003 (in thousands):

	2005	2004	2003
Current	\$ 5,201	3,182	(444)
Deferred	(601)	128	3,168
	\$ 4,600	3,310	2,724

The differences between income tax expense and the amount computed by applying the statutory federal income tax rate to earnings before taxes for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003 are as follows (in thousands):

	2005	2004	2003
Pretax income at statutory rate	\$ 4,820	3,631	3,002
(Deduct) add:			
Tax-exempt interest income	(190)	(216)	(245)
State income taxes, net of federal effect	274	76	130
Increase in cash surrender value of life insurance	(99)	(53)	(55)
General business credits	(191)	(123)	(120)
Other	(14)	(5)	12
	\$ 4,600	3,310	2,724

The following summarizes the net deferred tax asset. The deferred tax asset is included as a component of other assets at December 31, 2005 and 2004 (in thousands).

	2005	2004
Deferred tax assets:		
Allowance for loan losses	\$ 6,168	3,113
Net operating loss carryforwards and credits	478	479
Nondeductible interest on nonaccrual loans	111	90
Nondeductible expenses	1,453	59
Nondeductible loss	33	298
Acquisition purchase accounting basis difference	1,929	-
Other	326	255
Total gross deferred tax assets	10,498	4,294
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Premises and equipment	(51)	495
Tax installment sale	345	351
Goodwill and core deposit intangibles	3,162	1,213
Unrealized gain on securities available-for-sale	40	35

Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

Other	<b>44</b>	47
Total gross deferred tax liabilities	<b>3,540</b>	2,141
Net deferred tax asset	<b>\$ 6,958</b>	2,153

**Table of Contents**

**FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY**

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued**

**(10) Income Taxes, continued**

As of December 31, 2005, Flag has federal net operating losses totaling approximately \$103,000 that will expire in 2007 and state net operating loss carryforwards totaling approximately \$1.0 million that will begin to expire in 2007 unless previously utilized.

The Internal Revenue Code ( IRC ) was amended during 1996 and the IRC section 593 reserve method for loan losses for thrift institutions was repealed. Effective January 1, 1996, certain banks that have been merged into the Bank began to compute their tax bad debt reserves under the rules of IRC section 585, which apply to commercial banks. In years prior to 1996, these banks obtained tax bad debt deductions approximating \$2.9 million in excess of their financial statement allowance for loan losses for which no provision for federal income tax was made. These amounts were then subject to federal income tax in future years pursuant to the prior IRC section 593 provisions if used for purposes other than to absorb bad debt losses. Effective January 1, 1996, approximately \$2.9 million of the excess reserve is subject to recapture only if the Bank ceases to appropriately qualify pursuant to the provisions of IRC section 585.

**(11) Stockholders Equity**

During 2005, in connection with the merger, the Company issued 6,921,894 shares of common stock to the former shareholders of First Capital. In private placements of common stock and warrants, the Company sold 6,000 shares of common stock in 2004 and 12,000 shares in 2003 at prices of \$11.50 and \$13.01 per share, respectively, representing in each case the fair market value of the stock. See Note 12 for information about the warrants. The proceeds were used for general corporate purposes. In December 2004, the Company issued 236,723 shares of common stock in a business purchase transaction.

Shares of preferred stock may be issued from time to time in one or more series as established by resolution of the Board of Directors of Flag, up to a maximum of 10,000,000 shares. Each resolution shall include the number of shares issued, preferences, special rights and limitations as determined by the Board.

**(12) Employee and Director Benefit Plans**

**Defined Contribution Plan**

Flag sponsors the Flag Financial Profit Sharing Thrift Plan that is qualified pursuant to IRC section 401(k). The plan allows eligible employees to defer a portion of their income by making contributions into the plan on a pretax basis. The plan provides a matching contribution based on a percentage of the amount contributed by the employee. The plan also provides that the Board of Directors may make discretionary profit-sharing contributions. The plan allows participants to direct contributions to be invested in the common stock of Flag. The trustee of the plan is required to purchase the Flag stock at market value. At December 31, 2005 and 2004, 272,647 shares with a market value of \$4.6 million and 227,230 shares with a market value of \$3.4 million, respectively, of the Company's common stock were held by the plan. During the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, the Company contributed approximately \$576,000, \$413,000 and \$475,000, respectively, to this plan under its matching provisions.

**Nonqualified Directors Retirement Plans**

The Bank sponsors postretirement benefit plans to provide retirement benefits to certain of their Board of Directors and executives and to provide death benefits for their designated beneficiaries. Under these plans, the Bank purchased split-dollar universal life insurance contracts on the lives of each participant. At December 31, 2005 and 2004, the cash surrender value of the insurance contracts was approximately \$9.8 million and \$6.5 million, respectively, and the accrued liability was \$2.6 million and \$786,000, respectively.

---

**Table of Contents**

**FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY**

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued**

**(12) Employee and Director Benefit Plans, continued**

**Nonqualified Directors Retirement Plans, continued**

During the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, the Company expensed approximately \$186,000, \$460,000 and \$84,000, respectively, for retirement benefits. Expenses incurred for benefits were approximately \$5,000 during 2005, \$5,000 during 2004 and \$6,000 during 2003. The increase in the accrued liability at December 31, 2005 includes \$1.7 million related to post retirement benefits plans acquired through the merger with First Capital.

**Director Fee Deferral Plan and Rabbi Trust**

Through its merger with First Capital, Flag sponsors a deferral plan that allows certain directors to defer all or a portion of their director fees. The director may elect to defer no fees, 50% of fees, or 100% of fees. The deferred fees are invested, at the discretion of each director, in Company stock or other nonemployer securities and placed in a rabbi trust. The accounts of the rabbi trust have been consolidated with the accounts of the Company in the consolidated financial statements. Shares of Company stock held by the rabbi trust total 36,310 at December 31, 2005. Nonemployer equity securities held by the rabbi trust are recorded at fair value of \$116,000. The fair value of the assets held by the rabbi trust is recorded as a deferred compensation liability and amounted to \$680,000 at December 31, 2005. The increase in fair value over the cost of the assets held by the rabbi trust is recorded as an expense. Flag incurred no cost related to this plan in 2005. The plan, in addition to allowing diversification of investments, may be settled in cash, Company stock or a combination of both.

**Stock Option Plan and Warrants**

Flag sponsors an employee stock incentive plan and a director stock incentive plan. The plans were adopted for the benefit of directors and key officers and employees in order that they may purchase Flag stock at a price equal to the fair market value on the date of grant. A total of 1,314,000 shares were reserved for possible issuance under the employee plan and approximately 267,000 shares were reserved under the director plan. The options generally vest over a four-year period and expire after ten years. The plans expired in 2004 and a new plan was adopted. A total of 543,000 shares were reserved for the benefit of directors and key officers and employees under the new plan.

In connection with the Company's private placements described in Note 11, warrants for 6,000 shares and 12,000 shares were issued for the purchases of common stock for \$1 per warrant during 2004 and 2003, respectively. The warrants allow each holder to purchase one additional share of common stock for each share purchased in connection with the applicable private placement and were issued as of the date of issuance of common stock sold in the private placement. The warrants are exercisable for a period of ten years following the 2004 and 2003 issuance at prices of \$11.50 and \$13.01 per share, respectively.

On August 16, 2005, Flag's Board of Directors approved the reduction of exercise prices and forfeiture of the remaining term of the Company's common stock warrants in order to induce the warrant holders to immediately exercise the warrants to facilitate the consummation of the merger with First Capital. On November 14, 2005, Flag and certain of the warrant holders entered into Warrant Modification Agreements to amend the Warrant Agreements and Form of Warrants to reflect the Warrant Adjustments. Pursuant to the Warrant Modification Agreements the warrant holders exercised their warrants and the Company issued a total of 1,230,000 shares of common stock in consideration for an aggregate exercise price of \$8.1 million.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(12) Employee and Director Benefit Plans, continued****Stock Option Plan and Warrants, continued**

The following table summarizes the warrants which were adjusted and their years of issuance, original weighted exercise prices and adjusted weighted exercise prices:

Year of Issuance	Number of Warrants	Original Weighted Exercise Price	Adjusted Weighted Exercise Price
2002	1,212,000	\$ 9.21	\$ 6.59
2003	12,000	11.50	8.23
2004	6,000	13.01	9.31

First Capital had stock option plans for key employees with similar provision as Flag's plan. Options under First Capital's acquired plans were converted at the exchange ratio effective for common shares of 1.6 per share. Options outstanding under the plans are reflected in the following table as being assumed through acquisition. No options are available for grant under the acquired plans.

A summary of activity in the warrants and stock option plans is presented below.

	2005		2004		2003	
	Shares	Weighted Average Price Per Share	Shares	Weighted Average Price Per Share	Shares	Weighted Average Price Per Share
Outstanding, beginning of year	2,018,065	\$ 9.45	2,030,415	\$ 9.30	2,152,427	\$ 9.21
Granted during the year	436,500	16.05	100,000	12.88	23,100	12.91
Acquisition of First Capital	784,299	7.91	-	-	-	-
Cancelled during the year	(42,630)	8.49	(76,600)	10.74	(28,014)	11.37
Exercised during the year	(1,449,578)	7.12	(35,750)	7.77	(117,098)	7.78
Outstanding, end of year	1,746,656	\$ 10.58	2,018,065	\$ 9.45	2,030,415	\$ 9.30

A summary of options and warrants outstanding as of December 31, 2005 is presented below:

Options and Warrants Outstanding	Range of Price per Share	Weighted Average Price Per Share	Years Remaining	Options and Warrants Currently Exercisable	Weighted Average Price Per Share
448,431	\$ 3.47 - 6.75	\$ 6.06	4	448,431	\$ 6.06
455,081	6.76 - 10.00	8.24	5	438,012	8.29
843,144	10.01 - 16.36	14.26	8	562,244	13.92
1,746,656	\$ 3.47 - 16.36	\$ 10.58	6	1,448,687	\$ 9.79

## Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

The fair value of each option is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes options-pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions: dividend yield ranging from 1.56% to 1.80%, risk free interest rate ranging from 4.24% to 4.38% and an expected life of 7 years. Volatility ranged from .2185 to .2436 in 2005, .2232 to .2941 in 2004, .2496 to .9803 in 2003. The weighted average grant-date fair value of options and warrants granted in 2005, 2004 and 2003 was \$4.62, \$3.44 and \$3.60, respectively.

---

**Table of Contents**

**FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY**

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued**

**(12) Employee and Director Benefit Plans, continued**

**Long-Term Incentive Plan**

On December 22, 2005, the Compensation Committee approved a long-term incentive program including two elements: stock option grants and a three-year long-term cash incentive plan. Each is described below.

**Stock Option Program:** Under the stock option program, certain key executives and employees received incentive and non-qualified stock options. The non-qualified options vested immediately, while the incentive stock options vest in annual one-third increments, with the first third vesting on the date of grant. The stock options were issued under Flag's existing stock option plan described previously. In 2005, 197,631 incentive and 122,369 non-qualified stock options were issued under the program. The exercise price for all options was \$16.36 per share, representing the fair market value of the common stock on the date of grant. Each option expires on December 28, 2015.

**Long-Term Cash Incentive Plan.** The long-term cash incentive plan is a three-year plan based on market capitalization increase. Its term began on January 1, 2006 and will end on December 31, 2008. Essentially, no payouts will be earned if the compounded annual growth in market capitalization over the three-year term is 10% or less. Any market capitalization increase in excess of an annualized 10% growth will be considered to be incremental market capitalization, and 8% of this amount will be used to fund a cash incentive pool. Certain key executives and employees will be entitled to portions of the pool as allocated by the plan, and the Compensation Committee may adjust the initial allocations. Payments will be earned on December 31, 2008 based on the annualized growth in market capitalization, measured as of that date.

**(13) Regulatory Matters**

Flag and the Bank are subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by the Federal banking agencies. Failure to meet minimum capital requirements can initiate certain mandatory, and possibly additional discretionary, action by regulators that, if undertaken, could have a direct material effect on the Bank's financial statements. Under capital adequacy guidelines and the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action, the Bank must meet specific capital guidelines that involve quantitative measures of the Bank's assets, liabilities, and certain off-balance sheet items as calculated under regulatory accounting practices. The Bank's capital amounts and classification are also subject to qualitative judgments by the regulators about components, risk weightings, and other factors.

Quantitative measures established by regulation to ensure capital adequacy require the Bank to maintain minimum amounts and ratios of total and Tier 1 capital (as defined) to risk-weighted assets (as defined), and of Tier 1 capital (as defined) to average assets (as defined). Management believes, as of December 31, 2005 that Flag and the Bank meet all capital adequacy requirements to which they are subject.

At December 31, 2005, the most recent notification from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation categorized the Bank as well capitalized under the regulatory framework for prompt corrective actions. Minimum ratios required by the Bank to ensure capital adequacy are 8% for total capital to risk weighted assets and 4% each for Tier 1 capital to average assets. Minimum ratios required by the Bank to be well capitalized under prompt corrective action provisions are 10% for total capital to risk weighted assets, 6% for Tier 1 capital to risk weighted assets and 5% for Tier 1 capital to average assets. Minimum amounts required for capital adequacy purposes and to be well capitalized under prompt corrective action provisions are presented below for Flag and the Bank. Prompt corrective action provisions do not apply to bank holding companies.



**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(13) Regulatory Matters, continued**

	Actual		For Capital Adequacy Purposes		To Be Well Capitalized Under Prompt Corrective Action Provisions	
	Amount	Ratio	Amount	Ratio	Amount	Ratio
	(000 s)		(000 s)		(000 s)	
<b>As of December 31, 2005:</b>						
<b>Total Capital (to Risk Weighted Assets)</b>						
Flag consolidated	\$ 150,925	11.56%	\$ 104,423	8.00%	N/A	N/A
Flag Bank	\$ 133,369	10.32%	\$ 103,345	8.00%	\$ 129,182	10.00%
<b>Tier 1 Capital (to Risk Weighted Assets)</b>						
Flag consolidated	\$ 134,767	10.32%	\$ 52,212	4.00%	N/A	N/A
Flag Bank	\$ 117,211	9.07%	\$ 51,673	4.00%	\$ 77,509	6.00%
<b>Tier 1 Capital (to Average Assets)</b>						
Flag consolidated	\$ 134,767	9.98%	\$ 54,039	4.00%	N/A	N/A
Flag Bank	\$ 117,211	10.58%	\$ 44,333	4.00%	\$ 55,417	5.00%
<b>As of December 31, 2004:</b>						
<b>Total Capital (to Risk Weighted Assets)</b>						
Flag consolidated	\$ 70,013	11.23%	\$ 49,869	8.00%	N/A	N/A
Flag Bank	\$ 67,035	10.74%	\$ 49,917	8.00%	\$ 62,397	10.00%
<b>Tier 1 Capital (to Risk Weighted Assets)</b>						
Flag consolidated	\$ 62,203	9.98%	\$ 24,915	4.00%	N/A	N/A
Flag Bank	\$ 59,225	9.49%	\$ 24,959	4.00%	\$ 37,438	6.00%
<b>Tier 1 Capital (to Average Assets)</b>						
Flag consolidated	\$ 62,203	8.12%	\$ 30,642	4.00%	N/A	N/A
Flag Bank	\$ 59,225	7.79%	\$ 30,425	4.00%	\$ 38,031	5.00%

Flag consolidated has included \$45.2 million of trust preferred securities as qualifying Tier I capital for regulatory reporting at December 31, 2005. On March 1, 2005, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve adopted a final rule that allows the continued inclusion of trust preferred securities up to 25 percent of all core capital elements, net of intangibles. Amounts of restricted core capital elements in excess of these limits generally may be included in Tier II capital. The final rule provides a five year transition period ending March 31, 2009 for application of the quantitative limits.

Banking regulations limit the amount of dividends the Bank can pay to Flag without prior regulatory approval. These limitations are a function of excess regulatory capital and net earnings in the year the dividend is declared. In 2006, the Bank can pay dividends of approximately \$4.8 million without prior regulatory approval.

**(14) Commitments**

Flag is a party to financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk in the normal course of business to meet the financing needs of its customers and to manage its cost of funds. These financial instruments include

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(14) Commitments, continued**

commitments to extend credit and standby letters of credit. These instruments involve, to varying degrees, elements of credit risk in excess of the amounts recognized in the consolidated balance sheets. The contract amounts of these instruments reflect the extent of involvement the Bank has in particular classes of financial instruments.

Commitments to originate first mortgage loans and to extend credit are agreements to lend to a customer as long as there is no violation of any condition established in the contract. Commitments generally have fixed expiration dates or other termination clauses and may require payment of a fee. Since many of the commitments are expected to expire without being drawn upon, the total commitment amounts do not necessarily represent future cash requirements. The Bank evaluates each customer's creditworthiness on a case-by-case basis. The amount of collateral obtained, if deemed necessary by the Bank upon extension of credit, is based on management's credit evaluation of the counterparty. The Bank's loans are primarily collateralized by residential and commercial real properties, automobiles, savings deposits, accounts receivable, inventory and equipment.

Standby letters of credit are written conditional commitments issued by the Bank to guarantee the performance of a customer to a third party. Those guarantees are primarily issued to support public and private borrowing arrangements. Most letters of credit extend for less than one year. The credit risk involved in issuing letters of credit is essentially the same as that involved in extending loan facilities to customers.

Flag's exposure to credit loss in the event of nonperformance by the other party to the financial instrument for commitments to extend credit and standby letters of credit is represented by the contractual amount of those instruments. The Bank uses the same credit policies in making commitments and conditional obligations as it does for on-balance sheet instruments. All standby letters of credit are secured at December 31, 2005 and 2004.

	2005	2004
Financial instruments whose contract amounts represent credit risk (in thousands):		
Commitments to extend credit	\$ 398,512	142,036
Standby letters of credit	\$ 13,670	3,650

Flag maintains an overall interest rate risk-management strategy that incorporates the use of derivative instruments to minimize significant unplanned fluctuations in earnings that are caused by interest rate volatility. The goal is to manage interest rate sensitivity by modifying the repricing or maturity characteristics of certain assets and liabilities so that the net interest margin is not, on a material basis, adversely affected by certain movements in interest rates. Flag views this strategy as a prudent management of interest rate sensitivity, such that earnings are not exposed to undue risk presented by changes in interest rates.

Derivative instruments are used as part of Flag's interest rate risk-management strategy. By using derivative instruments, Flag is exposed to credit and market risk. If the counterparty fails to perform, credit risk is equal to the extent of the fair-value gain in a derivative. When the fair value of a derivative contract is positive, this generally indicates that the counterparty owes Flag, and, therefore, creates a repayment risk for Flag. When the fair value of a derivative contract is negative, Flag owes the counterparty and, therefore, it has no repayment risk. Flag minimizes the credit (or repayment) risk in derivative instruments by entering into transactions with high-quality counterparties that are reviewed periodically.

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(14) Commitments, continued**

Flag's derivative activities are monitored by its asset-liability management committee as part of that committee's oversight of Flag's asset-liability and treasury functions. Flag's asset-liability committee is responsible for implementing various hedging strategies that are developed through its analysis of data from financial simulation models and other internal and industry sources. The resulting hedging strategies are then incorporated into the overall interest rate risk management.

Flag's objective in using derivatives is to add stability to net interest income and to manage its exposure to interest rate movements or other identified risks. To accomplish this objective, Flag primarily uses interest rate swaps and floors as part of its cash flow hedging strategy. Interest rate swaps designated as cash flow hedges involve the receipt of fixed-rate amounts in exchange for floating-rate payments over the life of the agreements without exchange of the underlying principal amount. Interest rate floors designated as cash flow hedges involve the receipt of variable rate amounts over the life of the agreement if the Prime interest rate decreases below a certain rate. Through the merger with First Capital, Flag is a party to an interest rate corridor contract. An interest rate corridor is a combination of buying a cap (floor) at a given strike rate and selling another cap (floor) at a higher (lower) rate and provides a range of interest rate protection when compared to caps and floors alone. Interest rate corridors place a rate protection range on a portion of variable rate debt based on a notional amount and maturity date.

At December 31, 2005, the Company had interest rate swaps, interest rate floors and an interest rate corridor designated as cash flow hedges. No fair value hedges were outstanding. The following table summarizes the outstanding derivative instruments at December 31, 2005 and 2004 (dollars in thousands):

**2005****Interest Rate Swaps**

Type	Transaction Date	Term Date	Notional	Receive Rate	Pay Rate	Fair
						Value
Receive Fixed, Pay LIBOR Swap	June 2004	June 2006	\$ 15,000	3.00%	4.3788%	\$ (128)
Receive Fixed, Pay LIBOR Swap	June 2004	Dec 2006	5,000	3.27%	4.3788%	(76)
<b>Total Received Fixed Swaps</b>			<b>\$ 20,000</b>	<b>3.07%</b>	<b>4.3788%</b>	<b>\$ (204)</b>

**2005****Interest Rate Floors**

Type	Transaction Date	Term Date	Notional	Strike Rate	Current Rate	Fair
						Value
Prime Based Floor	May 2005	May 2008	\$ 50,000	5.50%	7.25%	\$ 3
Prime Based Floor	May 2005	May 2010	50,000	5.50%	7.25%	49
<b>Total Interest Rate Floors</b>			<b>\$ 100,000</b>	<b>5.50%</b>	<b>7.25%</b>	<b>\$ 52</b>

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(14) Commitments, continued**

2005						Fair
	Transaction Date	Term	Notional	Cap Purchased	Current Sold	Value
Interest Rate Corridor	Nov 2002	Nov 2007	\$ 5,000	4.00%	7.00%	\$ 72
2004						
Interest Rate Swaps						
Type	Transaction Date	Term Date	Notional		Receive Rate	Pay Rate
Receive Fixed, Pay LIBOR Swap	June 2004	Dec 2005	\$ 5,000		2.68%	1.84%
Receive Fixed, Pay LIBOR Swap	June 2004	June 2006	15,000		3.00%	1.84%
Receive Fixed, Pay LIBOR Swap	June 2004	Dec 2006	5,000		3.27%	1.84%
Total Received Fixed Swaps				\$ 25,000	2.99%	1.84%

During 2001, Flag settled a previously outstanding interest rate contract. The gain realized upon settlement was recognized over the original life of the contract, which expired during 2003.

As of December 31, 2005, the change in net unrealized loss of \$152,000, pretax, for derivatives designated as cash flow hedges is separately disclosed in comprehensive income. There are no unrealized gains or losses for the interest rate corridor in comprehensive income, as the change in fair value from the date of the merger to December 31, 2005 was immaterial. There were no unrealized gains or losses for derivatives designated as cash flow hedges disclosed in comprehensive income at December 31, 2004. For the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, no hedging ineffectiveness on cash flow hedges was recognized.

For the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, the Company had rent expense in the amount of \$962,000, \$926,000 and \$544,000, respectively. At December 31, 2005, minimum operating lease commitments are summarized as follows (in thousands):

Year ending December 31,	
2006	\$ 1,227
2007	1,112
2008	1,056
2009	906
2010	608
Thereafter	1,112
	\$ 6,021

---

**Table of Contents****FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued****(15) Related Party Transactions**

Flag conducts transactions with its directors and executive officers, including companies in which they have beneficial interest, in the normal course of business. It is the policy of Flag that loan transactions with directors and executive officers are made on substantially the same terms as those prevailing at the time for comparable loans to other persons. The following is a summary of activity for related party loans for 2005 (in thousands).

Balance at December 31, 2004	\$ 5,007
New loans	686
Repayments	(858)
Balance at December 31, 2005	\$ 4,835

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, deposits from directors, executive officers and their related interests aggregated approximately \$8.1 million and \$6.2 million. These deposits were taken in the normal course of business at market interest rates.

Table of Contents

## FLAG FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, continued

(16) Flag Financial Corporation (Parent Company Only) Financial Information  
Balance Sheets

December 31, 2005 and 2004

Assets

	2005	2004
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Cash	\$ 14,264	2,679
Other investments	5,934	7,523
Investment in subsidiary	220,659	77,483
Other assets	15,394	3,650
	<b>\$ 256,251</b>	91,335

Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 1,980	686
Other borrowings	2,000	7,014
Junior subordinated debentures	46,791	14,433
Other liabilities	680	-
Stockholders' equity	204,800	69,202
	<b>\$ 256,251</b>	91,335

## Statements of Operations

For the Years Ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003

	2005	2004	2003
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Income:			
Dividends from subsidiary	\$ 2,500	-	-
Interest income	671	735	572
Total income	3,171	735	572
Operating expenses:			
Interest expense	1,562	688	181
Loss on sale of other investments	-	-	(125)
Other	342	296	209
Total operating expenses	1,904	984	265

Edgar Filing: FLAG FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-K

Earnings (loss) before income tax benefit (expense) and dividends received in excess of earnings of subsidiary and equity in undistributed earnings of subsidiary	1,267	(249)	307
Income tax benefit (expense)			