

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 8-K

April 24, 2006

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**  
**FORM 8-K**  
**CURRENT REPORT**  
**PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE**  
**SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
**Date of Report: April 24, 2006**  
**FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP.**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

0-12379  
(Commission File  
Number)

31-1042001  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

300 High Street  
Hamilton, Ohio  
(Address of principal executive  
offices)

45011  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (513) 867-5447

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On April 24, 2006, First Financial Bancorp. issued its earnings press release that included the results of operations and financial condition for the first quarter of 2006. A copy of the earnings press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

Also on April 24, 2006, First Financial Bancorp. held its first-quarter 2006 earnings conference call and webcast. A copy of the slides used in the conference call is attached as Exhibit 99.2.

**Item 9.01 Exhibits.**

(c) Exhibit:

99.1 First Financial Bancorp. Press Release dated April 24, 2006.

99.2 First Financial Bancorp. First-Quarter 2006 Earnings Conference Call and Webcast slides.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP.**

By: /s/ J. Franklin Hall  
J. Franklin Hall  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

Date: April 24, 2006

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**Exhibit Index**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
99.1	First Financial Bancorp. Press Release dated April 24, 2006.
99.2	First Financial Bancorp. First-Quarter 2006 Earnings Conference Call and Webcast slides.