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PATHFINDER BANCORP INC
Form 8-K
April 25, 2003

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 (Date of earliest event reported): April 25, 2003

Pathfinder Bancorp, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Federal

000-23601

16-1540137

(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

(Commission File No.)

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE: (315) 343-0057

NOT APPLICABLE

(FORMER NAME OR FORMER ADDRESS, IF CHANGED SINCE LAST REPORT)

Item 5. Other Events

On April 25, 2003, Pathfinder Bancorp, Inc. issued the enclosed first quarter earnings release.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT 99 EARNINGS RELEASE DATED APRIL 25, 2003

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.

PATHFINDER BANCORP, INC.

Date: April 25, 2003

By: /s/ Thomas W. Schneider

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Thomas W. Schneider
President and Chief Executive
Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

The following Exhibit is filed as part of this report:

Exhibit 99 Press Release

EXHIBIT 99

CONTACT: Thomas W. Schneider - President, CEO
James A. Dowd - Vice President, CFO
Telephone: (315) 343-0057

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PATHFINDER BANCORP, INC. ANNOUNCES FIRST QUARTER EARNINGS

Oswego, New York, April 25, 2003 Pathfinder Bancorp, Inc., the mid-tier holding company of Pathfinder Bank, (NASDAQ SmallCap Market; symbol: PBHC, listing: PathBcp) announced reported net income of \$520,000, or \$0.21 per share, for the quarter ended March 31, 2003 as compared to \$551,000, or \$.22 per share for the same period in 2002.

"First quarter earnings were down 6% from the prior year as the Company continues to absorb the costs associated with branch expansion and the operation of a commercial bank subsidiary, without fully realizing the revenue potential of this growth," according to Thomas W. Schneider, President and Chief Executive Officer. "Deposit and loan growth has been strong over the last year as total assets increased by 13% and deposit levels rose by 22%. We anticipate revenue growth to reflect the expansion of markets and diversification of services offered."

Net interest income for the three months ended March 31, 2003, increased 9% to \$2.4 million when compared to the same period during 2002. Interest expense decreased \$190,000 combined with a slight increase in interest income of \$12,000. Net interest rate spread was relatively consistent comparing 3.67% for the quarter ended March 31, 2003 to 3.69% for the same period in 2002. Interest earning assets increased 1% to \$255.2 million as compared to \$253.3 million at December 31, 2002. The increase in earning assets is primarily attributable to a \$2.8 million increase in net loans receivable, partially offset by an \$830,000 decrease in investment securities and a \$379,000 decrease in loans held for sale. Total deposits increased 3% to \$211.4 million at March 31, 2003 compared to \$204.5 million at December 31, 2002. The increase in deposits is primarily attributable to the increase in the money market management account.

Provision for loan losses for the quarter ended March 31, 2003 decreased 35% to \$106,000 from \$162,000 for the same period in 2002. The Company had non-performing loans of \$1.8 million at March 31, 2003. The allowance for loan losses to non-performing loans and to total loans was 82% and .83%, respectively, at March 31, 2003.

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The Company's non-interest income is principally comprised of fees on deposit accounts and transactions, loan servicing, commissions, and net securities and loan sale gains and losses. Non-interest income, net of gains and losses from the sale of securities, loans and other real estate, decreased 3% to \$356,000 for the quarter ended March 31, 2003 compared to \$366,000 for the same period in the prior year. The decrease in non-interest income is primarily attributable to a \$32,000 decrease in the value of bank owned life insurance, partially offset by a \$19,000 increase in service charges on deposit accounts and a \$4,000 increase in loan servicing fees. Net gains and losses from the sale of securities, loans and other real estate increased \$170,000 to \$208,000 for the quarter ended March 31, 2003 compared to 38,000 for the same period in the prior year.

Operating expenses increased 30% to \$2.2 million for the quarter ended March 31, 2003, when compared to the same period in the prior year. The increase in operating expenses was due to a \$329,000 increase in salary and employee benefits, a \$77,000 increase in building occupancy expenses, a \$56,000 increase in the amortization of intangible asset and an \$87,000 increase in other expenses. These increases were partially offset by a \$20,000 decrease in data processing expenses and an \$18,000 decrease in professional and other services. The increase in salaries and employee benefits was primarily due to the salaries and benefits associated with an additional branch location, an increase in pension benefit costs, an increase in health insurance benefits and the hiring of a senior commercial loan officer in the second quarter of 2002.

On March 18, 2003, the Board of Directors of Pathfinder Bancorp, Inc. declared a \$0.10 per share cash dividend to shareholders of record as of March 31, 2003, payable on April 14, 2003.

Pathfinder Bancorp, Inc. is the mid-tier holding company of Pathfinder Bank, a New York chartered savings bank headquartered in Oswego, New York. The Bank has six full service offices located in its market area consisting of Oswego County. Financial highlights for Pathfinder Bancorp, Inc. are attached. Presently, the only business conducted by Pathfinder Bancorp, Inc. is the 100% ownership of Pathfinder Bank and Pathfinder Statutory Trust I.

This release may contain certain forward-looking statements, which are based on management's current expectations regarding economic, legislative, and regulatory issues that may impact the Company's earnings in future periods. Factors that could cause future results to vary materially from current management expectations include, but are not limited to, general economic conditions, changes in interest rates, deposit flows, loan demand, real estate values, and competition; changes in accounting principles, policies, or guidelines; changes in legislation or regulation; and economic, competitive, governmental, regulatory, and technological factors affecting the Company's operations, pricing, products, and services.

PATHFINDER BANCORP, INC. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

(dollars in thousands except per share amounts)

For the three months
ended March 31,
(Unaudited)

2003 2002

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CONDENSED INCOME STATEMENT

Interest income	\$ 4,001	\$ 3,989
Interest expense	1,600	1,790
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Net interest income	2,401	2,199
Provision for loan losses	106	162
	-----	-----
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	2,295	2,037
Other income	564	404
Other expense	2,202	1,690
	-----	-----
Income before taxes	657	751
Provision for income taxes	137	200
	-----	-----
Net income	\$ 520	\$ 551
	=====	=====

KEY EARNINGS RATIOS

Return on average assets	0.74%	0.90%
RETURN ON AVERAGE ASSETS - CASH EARNINGS*	0.82%	0.93%
Return on average equity	9.93%	9.67%
RETURN ON AVERAGE EQUITY - CASH EARNINGS*	10.94%	9.98%
Net interest margin (tax equivalent)	3.84%	3.96%

SHARE AND PER SHARE DATA

Basic weighted average shares outstanding	2,446,387	2,571,520
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.22
Diluted earnings per share	0.21	0.21
CASH EARNINGS PER SHARE - BASIC	0.22	0.22
Cash dividends per share	0.10	0.07
Book value per share	8.56	8.63

	(Unaudited)		(Unaudited)	(Un
	March 31,	December 31,	March 31,	Ma
	2003	2002	2002	

SELECTED BALANCE SHEET DATA

Assets	\$ 282,638	\$ 279,056	\$ 249,814	\$
Earning assets	255,157	253,319	229,657	
Total loans	183,345	180,482	171,663	
Deposits	211,446	204,522	173,784	
Borrowed Funds	41,860	42,860	50,071	
Trust Preferred Debt	5,000	5,000	-	
Shareholders' equity	20,936	23,230	22,866	

ASSET QUALITY RATIOS

Net loan charge-offs to average loans	0.15%	0.89%	0.05%
Allowance for loan losses to period end loans	0.83%	0.82%	1.08%
Allowance for loan losses to nonperforming loans	81.99%	86.57%	47.42%
Nonperforming loans to period end loans	1.01%	0.95%	2.20%
Nonperforming assets to total assets	1.17%	1.11%	1.76%

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* Cash earnings excludes noncash charges for amortization relating to intangibles and the allocation of ESOP stock