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FIRST BANCTRUST CORP  
Form 8-K  
February 23, 2004

UNITED STATES  
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): February 23, 2004  
(February 17, 2004)

FIRST BANCTRUST CORPORATION

-----  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE	000-32535	37-1406661
State or other jurisdiction of Incorporation	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

206 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE, PARIS, IL 61944

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(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(217) 465-6381

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(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(a) Exhibits.

Exhibit Number

99.1 Press Release, dated February 17, 2004 issued  
by First BancTrust Corporation

ITEM 12. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION).

The following information, including the Exhibit attached hereto, shall  
not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities

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Exchange Act of 1934.

On February 17, 2004, First BancTrust Corporation issued a news release to report its financial results for the year ended December 31, 2003. The release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 hereto.

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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 BANCTRUST CORPORATION

Dated: February 18, 2004

/s/Terry J. Howard

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Terry J. Howard  
President and Chief Executive  
Officer

Dated: February 18, 2004

/s/Ellen M. Litteral

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Ellen M. Litteral  
Chief Financial Officer and  
Treasurer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number

99.1 Press Release, dated February 17, 2004 issued by First BancTrust Corporation

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