

COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM INC

Form 8-K

October 29, 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):

10/28/04

COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Washington
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

0-20288
(Commission File Number)

91-1422237
(IRS Employer

Identification No.)

**1301 A Street
Tacoma, WA**

98402

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(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (253) 305-1900

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

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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Items to be Included in this Report

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On October 28, 2004, we issued a press release announcing our third quarter 2004 financial results. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

- (a) Financial statements. not applicable
- (b) Pro forma financial information. not applicable
- (c) The following exhibit is being furnished herewith:

99.1 Press Release dated October 28, 2004 announcing third quarter 2004 financial results.

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.

Date: October 29, 2004

COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM, INC.

/s/ Melanie J. Dressel

Melanie J. Dressel
President and Chief Executive Officer