# Edgar Filing: COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORP - Form 8-K 

## COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORP

Form 8-K
February 07, 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): February 6, 2003

COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION


NOT APPLICABLE
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure:
On February 6, 2003, Commercial Federal Corporation (the "Corporation") issued a press release announcing the results of its operations for the fourth quarter and the year ended December 31, 2002. That press release included selected financial and operational information including activity in the loans serviced for other institutions for the three months ended December 31, 2002. That activity as originally made public was in error. The following presents such information for the three months ended December 31, 2002, as originally filed with the press release and the revised amounts.
(In Thousands)

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| Beginning balance | \$ | 9,773,436 | \$ | 9,773,436 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Additions to portfolio |  | 517 |  | 1,412,803 |
| Purchases of loans to service |  | 1,776,291 |  | 1,776,291 |
| Loan payments |  | $(18,489)$ |  | $(1,427,804)$ |
| Other items, net |  | - |  | $(2,971)$ |
| Ending balance | \$ | 11,531,755 | \$ | 11,531,755 |

These revisions did not affect the ending balance of loans serviced for other institutions as reported.

Pursuant to Regulation $F D$, the Corporation's press release for the fourth quarter and the year ended December 31, 2002 that was released to the public on February 6, 2003 follows. This press release includes the corrected selected financial and operational information filed as reported above.

Date: February 6, 2003

Contact: John J. Griffith
Investor Relations Director
(402) 514-5336

Commercial Federal Reports 23\% Increase in 2002 EPS
OMAHA, Nebraska, February 6, 2003 -- Commercial Federal Corporation (NYSE: CFB), the parent company of Commercial Federal Bank, one of the largest financial institutions in the Midwest, today announced net income of $\$ 108.5$ million, or $\$ 2.37$ per diluted share, for the year ended December 31, 2002. This compares to net income of $\$ 97.7$ million, or $\$ 1.93$ per diluted share, for the year ended December 31, 2001.

Net income for the quarter ended December 31, 2002 was $\$ 26.3$ million, or $\$ .58$ per diluted share, compared to net income of $\$ 25.1$ million, or $\$ .53$ per diluted share, for the quarter ended December 31, 2001.

Results of operations for 2002 compared with the prior year are affected by the required changes in 2002 in the accounting for goodwill acquired in business combinations. For 2001, adjusted earnings per diluted share would have been \$2.10 including the benefit of eliminating goodwill amortization totaling \$8.1 million.

William A. Fitzgerald, chairman of the board and chief executive officer stated, "The Company had an outstanding quarter and record year, in spite of the continued weakness in the national economy. Record low interest rates led continued strong performance of the Company's mortgage banking operations. The Company's core banking operations produced solid financial results and enhanced the strength of our balance sheet.

Return on average assets (ROA) and return on average equity (ROE) for 2002 were .. $82 \%$ and $14.30 \%$, respectively. This compares to an ROA of $.76 \%$ and ROE of $12.23 \%$ for 2001. Book value per share increased to $\$ 16.74$ at the end of 2002 , from $\$ 15.98$ at the end of 2001.

Mr. Fitzgerald concluded, "As we begin 2003, Commercial Federal remains focused on our strategy to expand share in our high growth core markets and provide long-term value for our investors."

Chief Financial Officer David S. Fisher stated, "We are pleased with the

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Company's financial results for 2002, which were strengthened by record mortgage loan volume due to the low interest rate environment. Mortgage loan volumes increased more than $40 \%$ from 2001. Given economic uncertainties, we cannot predict that this level of mortgage volume will continue through 2003.

Mr. Fisher concluded, "Core consumer and commercial banking units are performing well and Commercial Federal's credit risk profile remains solid. As we continue to successfully grow loans and deposits, earnings will grow over the long-term."

Highlights of the Quarter

## Net Interest Income

Net interest income totaled $\$ 80.4$ million for the fourth quarter of 2002 , compared to $\$ 82.1$ million for the 2002 third quarter and $\$ 82.1$ million for the fourth quarter of 2001. For the year, net interest income totaled $\$ 327.7$ million, compared with $\$ 307.4$ million for 2001 . The net interest margin for the quarter decreased to $2.67 \%$, compared with $2.82 \%$ for the same period last year and 2.77\% for the quarter ended September 30, 2002.

The Company's net interest margin continues to compress as the rates on the Company's earning assets continue to decline with the drop in market interest rates, while the rate reductions have not resulted in similar reductions in the rates paid on deposits and borrowings. Further interest rate reductions in market rates during 2003 would place additional pressure on the Company's net interest margin.

## Noninterest Income

The Company's retail and mortgage banking operations continued to generate strong results in the fourth quarter. Retail banking fees are a major portion of recurring noninterest income. The primary components of this income include deposit-related fees and charges, debit card and transaction-related revenues, and other retail fees. For the 2002 fourth quarter, retail fees totaled \$14.3 million compared to $\$ 14.6$ million for the September 30,2002 quarter and $\$ 14.4$ million for the fourth quarter of 2001. Retail fee income was $\$ 55.3$ million for 2002 compared to $\$ 53.5$ million for 2001. Retail fee income for 2002 increased $7.0 \%$ over 2001 after adjusting for the $\$ 1.6$ million in fee income lost from the 34 branches sold in 2001.

The mortgage banking business includes activities associated with the Company's mortgage servicing and mortgage banking operations, offset by the amortization and valuation adjustments related to its mortgage servicing rights asset. During the 2002 fourth quarter, the Company recorded an impairment adjustment of $\$ 9.6$ million. In addition, amortization of existing mortgage servicing rights increased by $\$ 3.8$ million over the September 30,2002 quarter. The Company offset this impairment and amortization by realizing $\$ 12.3$ million in pre-tax gains on the sales of securities and changes in fair values of hedging instruments. For 2002, the Company recorded impairment losses totaling $\$ 60.4$ million on its mortgage servicing rights compared to $\$ 19.1$ million for 2001. These losses were offset by pre-tax gains on the sales of securities and loans totaling $\$ 76.8$ million and $\$ 24.2$ million, respectively, for calendar years 2002 and 2001.

## Operating Expenses

General and administrative expenses for the quarter totaled $\$ 74.1$ million compared with $\$ 61.7$ million for the September 30,2002 quarter and $\$ 64.8$ million
for the 2001 fourth quarter. Expenses for the 2002 fourth quarter included charges and losses totaling $\$ 8.5$ million, resulting from asset impairment losses, prepayment of debt, adjustments to deferred loan costs and an additional charitable trust contribution.

Credit Quality Overview
Overall credit quality remains strong as the Company continues to aggressively manage its nonperforming assets portfolio. In the quarter ended December 31, 2002, nonperforming assets decreased by $\$ 10.4$ million to $\$ 114.0$ million, compared to $\$ 124.4$ million at September 30, 2002. For the year nonperforming assets fell by $\$ 17.5$ million. Total NPAs represented $.87 \%$ of total assets at the end of 2002, compared to . 92\% at September 30, 2002 and $1.02 \%$ at December 31, 2001.

Net charge-offs in the fourth quarter of 2002 totaled $\$ 13.1$ million, compared with $\$ 3.4$ million for the September 30, 2002 quarter. Charge-offs for the 2002 quarter included $\$ 8.8$ million in specific reserves previously allocated on $\$ 11.0$ million of nonresidential nonperforming loans. For the year, net loan charge-offs totaled $\$ 27.0$ million, compared to $\$ 19.8$ million for the year ending December 31, 2001.

During the 2002 fourth quarter, the Company added $\$ 9.7$ million to the loan loss allowance. Allowance for losses on loans totaled $\$ 106.3$ million at December 31, 2002, compared with $\$ 102.5$ million at December 31, 2001. The allowance for losses to nonresidential nonperforming assets at December 31, 2002 was 353\%, compared to 258\% at September 30, 2002 and 243\% at December 31, 2001.

Balance Sheet and Capital Ratios
Total assets at December 31, 2002 were $\$ 13.1$ billion, compared to $\$ 13.5$ billion at September 30, 2002 and $\$ 12.9$ billion at December 31, 2001. Total deposits increased $\$ 276$ million in the quarter ended December 31, 2002, with core deposit products, including checking, money market and savings accounts accounting for $\$ 253$ million of this increase. For the year, deposits increased $\$ 43$ million totaling $\$ 6.4$ billion at December 31, 2002.

Stockholders' equity was $\$ 756.5$ million at December 31, 2002, compared with $\$ 745.9$ million at September 30, 2002 and $\$ 734.7$ million at December 31, 2001. The capital ratios of the Company's banking subsidiary continued to exceed regulatory requirements for classification as "well-capitalized," the highest regulatory standard.

Capital Management
During the quarter, the Company redeemed all of the fixed-rate 9.375 \% cumulative trust preferred securities of the CFC Preferred Trust. This redemption totaled $\$ 45$ million plus accrued interest. The redemption was funded primarily from the proceeds of a new term and revolving credit agreement dated December 30,2002 . The Company repurchased 259,200 shares of its common stock during the last half of 2002 at a cost of $\$ 6.2$ million. These repurchased shares were part of the 500,000-share buyback authorization passed by the Company's Board of Directors in February 2002. In November

2002, the Board authorized the repurchase of an additional five million shares of the Company's stock. This repurchase is expected to be completed by June 30, 2004.

Commercial Federal Corporation is the parent company of Commercial Federal Bank, a $\$ 13.1$ billion federal savings bank that operates branches located in Nebraska,

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Iowa, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Arizona. Commercial Federal provides consumer and commercial banking services including mortgage origination and servicing, commercial and industrial lending, small business banking, construction lending, cash management, brokerage and insurance services, and Internet banking.

Commercial Federal's Web site, http://www.comfedbank.com, will host a live webcast of the investor conference call to discuss 2002 fourth quarter results on Thursday, February 6, 2003 at 10:30 a.m. Central Time. The site also includes access to company news releases, annual reports, quarterly financial statements, and SEC filings.

Certain statements contained in this release are forward-looking in nature. These statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause Commercial Federal's actual results or financial condition to differ materially from those expressed in or implied by such statements. Factors of particular importance to Commercial Federal include, but are not limited to, changes in general economic conditions, changes in interest rates, changes in regulations or accounting methods, and price levels and conditions in the public securities markets generally.

COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION<br>(Dollars in Thousands)

| ASSETS | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } 31, \\ 2002 \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Jnaudited) |
| Cash (including short-term investments of \$505, \$368 and \$590) | \$ | 200,581 |
| Investment securities available for sale, at fair value |  | 1,296,050 |
| Mortgage-backed securities available for sale, at fair value |  | $1,632,622$ |
| Loans held for sale, net |  | 868,569 |
| Loans receivable, net of allowances of \$106,148, \$109,493 and \$102,359 |  | 7,703,016 |
| Federal Home Loan Bank stock |  | 283,193 |
| Real estate, net |  | 51,482 |
| Premises and equipment, net |  | 148,374 |
| Bank owned life insurance |  | 228,958 |
| Other assets |  | 483,540 |
| Core value of deposits, net of accumulated amortization of $\$ 61,268$, $\$ 59,719$ and $\$ 54,900$ |  | 22,365 |
| Goodwill |  | 162,717 |
| Total Assets | \$ | 13,081,467 |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY |  |  |

[^0]Total Liabilities ..... $12,324,946$
Commitments and Contingencies
Stockholders' Equity:
Preferred stock, $\$ .01$ par value; $10,000,000$ shares authorized; none issuedCommon stock, $\$ .01$ par value; $120,000,000$ shares authorized;$45,189,112,45,226,837$ and $45,974,648$ shares issued and outstanding452
Additional paid-in capital ..... 61,713
Retained earnings ..... 797,778
Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net ..... $(103,422)$
Total Stockholders' Equity ..... 756,521
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity ..... \$ 13,081,467
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COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
(Dollars in Thousands Except Per Share Data)
(Unaudited)

|  | December 31, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 |  |
| Interest Income: |  |  |
| Investment securities | \$ | 18,55 |
| Mortgage-backed securities |  | 19,88 |
| Loans receivable |  | 151,57 |
| Total interest income |  | 190,01 |
| Interest Expense: |  |  |
| Deposits |  | 42,04 |
| Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank |  | 60,98 |
| Other borrowings |  | 6,59 |
| Total interest expense |  | 109,62 |
| Net Interest Income |  | 80,38 |
| Provision for Loan Losses |  | (9,73 |
| Net Interest Income After Provision for Loan Losses 70,65 |  |  |
| Other Income (Loss): |  |  |
| Retail fees and charges 14,34 |  |  |
| Loan servicing fees, net (3) (3) (3) |  |  |
| Mortgage servicing rights valuation adjustment (9,58 |  |  |
| Gain (loss) on sales of securities and changes |  |  |
| in fair values of derivatives, net |  | 12,26 |
| Gain on sales of loans |  | 14,53 |

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COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION
MORTGAGE SERVICING RIGHTS AND MORTGAGE BANKING OPERATIONS
(In Thousands)
(Unaudited)


| Year Ended | Year Ended |  |
| :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $12 / 31 / 02$ | $12 / 31 / 01$ | Th |

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```
Mortgage Banking Income:
    Loan servicing fees $
    Amortization of mortgage servicing rights
    Loan servicing fees, net
    Mortgage servicing rights valuationadjustment
    39,124
    (31,025)
    8,099
(60,417)
        (19,058)
    Gain (loss) on sales of securities
        and changes in fair value of
        deriviatives
            Mortgage servicing rights
                valuation adjustment, net
    Gain on sales of loans
    Total mortgage banking income
    39,772
    (17,092)
    ------------------------------------------
    40,583
    15,422
\[
\mathrm{F}-4
\]
    Colorado $ 2,015,845
    Nebraska 1,740,421
    Iow, 780,71
```

Iowa

```659,671
```

Oklahoma ..... 555,275
Missouri ..... 287,587
Arizona ..... 197,528
Minnesota

```Total deposits\(\$ 6,439,041\)
```

Deposits by Type:
Checking accounts:
Interest bearing ..... \$ 494,847
Noninterest bearing ..... 974,483

```Total checking\(1,469,330\)
```

Money market accounts ..... 505,679

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| Savings accounts | $1,618,593$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| Total core deposits | 3,593,602 |
| Certificates of deposit - non core | $2,845,439$ |
| Total deposits | \$ 6,439,041 |

```
During calendar year 2001, deposits totaling $446,267 were sold
pursuant to the branch divestiture initiative. The following details
the sale of these deposits by the applicable 2001 quarter:
    Core deposits ($171,737 total)
    Certificates of deposit ($274,530 total)
    Total deposits sold ($446,267)
Loans Receivable, before allowance for losses:
    Single-family fixed 
    Single-family fixed 
        Total single-family
        3,780,202
    Commercial real estate
    Construction (net of LIP)
    Multi-family
    Consumer and other
        Total loans receivable, before allowance for losses
    Single-family fixed 
    1,503,213
                            568,170
        273,072
    1,684,507
    $ 7,809,164
```

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COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION
ALLOWANCE FOR LOSSES ON LOANS
(Unaudited)

(In Thousands) $\quad$ December 31, | September |
| :---: |
| 2002 |

THREE MONTHS ENDED:

| Beginning balance | $\$ 109,724$ | $\$ 104,0$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Provision charged to operations | 9,731 | 9,1 |
| Charges | $(14,550)$ | $(4,3$ |
| Recoveries | 1,430 | $(44)$ |

TWELVE MONTHS ENDED:


$$
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$$

COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION
NONPERFORMING ASSETS AND LOANS
(Dollars in Thousands)
(Unaudited)


Nonperforming Assets:
Nonperforming loans:
Residential real estate
Residential construction
43,939

2,455 $\quad \$ \quad$| 42,306 |
| ---: |
| 2,562 |

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| Cash, investment securities and FHLB stock | \$ | 1,779,824 |  | \$ 1,802,135 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mortgage-backed securities |  | 1,632,622 |  | 1,746,689 | 1, |
| Loans receivable, net |  | 8,571,585 |  | 8,898,950 | 8, |
| Intangible assets |  | 185,082 |  | 186,631 |  |
| Other assets |  | 912,354 |  | 855,916 |  |
| Total assets |  | 13,081,467 |  | 13,490,321 | 12, |
| Deposits |  | 6,439,041 |  | 6,163,289 | 6, |
| Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank |  | 4,848,997 |  | 5,508,180 | 4, |
| Other borrowings |  | 603,306 |  | 615,193 |  |
| Other liabilities |  | 433,602 |  | 457,741 |  |
| Stockholders' equity |  | 756,521 |  | 745,918 |  |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity |  | 13,081,467 |  | 13,490,321 | 12, |
| Book value per common share | \$ | 16.74 |  | \$ 16.49 | \$ |
| Tangible book value per common share (1) | \$ | 12.65 |  | \$ 12.37 | \$ |
| Stock price | \$ | 23.35 |  | \$ 21.77 | \$ |
| Common shares outstanding |  | 45,189,112 |  | 45,226,837 | 45, |
| Weighted average shares outstanding |  | 45,485,399 |  | 45,791,436 | 47 |
| Nonperforming assets | \$ | 113,969 |  | \$ 124,378 | \$ |
| Nonperforming assets to total assets |  | . $87 \%$ |  | . $92 \%$ |  |
| Weighted average interest rates (durings) : |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yield on interest-earning assets |  | 6.23\% |  | 6.41\% |  |
| Rate on interest-bearing liabilities |  | 3.56\% |  | 3.64\% |  |
| Net interest rate spread |  | 2.67\% |  | 2.77\% |  |
| Net yield on interest-earning assets |  | 2.64\% |  | 2.69\% |  |
| Loans serviced for other institutions |  | 11,531,755 |  | \$ 9,773,436 |  |

Three months ended:

| Return on average assets | $.78 \%$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Return on average equity | $14.27 \%$ | $.79 \%$ |
| Return on average tangible equity (2) | $19.09 \%$ | $13.61 \%$ |
| Average equity to average assets | $5.49 \%$ | $5.90 \%$ |
| G \& expenses to average assets | $2.21 \%$ | $5.80 \%$ |
| Operating efficiency ratio | $60.97 \%$ | $56.83 \%$ |

Twelve months ended:

| Return on average assets | $.82 \%$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |
| :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Return on average equity | $14.30 \%$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |
| Return on average tangible equity (2) | $19.02 \%$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |
| Average equity to average assets | $5.76 \%$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |
| G \& A expenses to average assets | $1.96 \%$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |
| Operating efficiency ratio | $57.68 \%$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |

(1) Determined by dividing total stockholders' equity less core value of deposits and goodwill by common shares outstanding.
(2) Determined by dividing net income by average stockholders' equity minus the average balances of core value of deposits and goodwill.

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COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION<br>AVERAGE BALANCES AND REGULATORY CAPITAL<br>(Dollars in Thousands)<br>(Unaudited)

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } 31, \\ 2002 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { September } 30, \\ 2002 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { June } 30, \\ 2002 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Three Months Ended: |  |  |  |
| Average Balances: |  |  |  |
| Total assets | \$ 13, 408,194 | \$ 13,511,423 | \$ 12,924,321 |
| Total loans, net | 8,851,961 | 8,865,656 | 8,447,815 |
| Total loans, before allowances | 8,960,880 | 8,971,536 | 8,550,402 |
| Total mortgage-backed securities | 1,741,933 | 1,797,775 | 1,834,009 |
| Total deposits | 6,277,235 | 6,186,698 | 6,256,952 |
| Total stockholders' equity | 736,489 | 783,612 | 776,414 |
| Total interest-earning assets | 12,191,686 | 12,205,340 | 11,703,685 |
| Total interest-bearing liabilities | 12,286,057 | 12,296,090 | 11,815,264 |


|  | Year |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year to Date: | Ended | Ended |
| $12 / 31 / 02$ |  |  |

$\qquad$

Average Balances:
Total assets \$13,175,562 \$ 12,857,135

Total loans, net
8,638,609 8,782,321
Total loans, before allowances
8,743,759 8,872,003
Total mortgage-backed securities
1,799,174
$1,690,967$
Total deposits
6,258,302 7,122,069
Total stockholders' equity
758,659
798,889
Total interest-earning assets
$11,931,794$
$11,724,847$
Total interest-bearing liabilities
$12,034,963$
11,704,421


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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 thereunto duly authorized.

|  |  | COMMERCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | (Registrant) |
| Date: | February 7, 2003 | /s/ David S. Fisher |
|  |  | David S. Fisher |
|  |  | Executive Vice President and |
|  |  | Chief Financial Officer |
|  |  | (Duly Authorized Officer) |


[^0]:    Liabilities:
    Deposits 6,439,041

    Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank
    Other borrowings
    $4,848,997$

    Other liabilities
    603,306

