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: JANUARY 27, 2004

HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES INCORPORATED (EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN ITS CHARTER)

Maryland

(STATE OR OTHER JURISDICTION OF INCORPORATION OR ORGANIZATION) 0-2525

31-0724920

(COMMISSION FILE NO.)

(IRS EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER)

Huntington Center 41 South High Street Columbus, Ohio 43287 (614) 480-8300

(ADDRESS, INCLUDING ZIP CODE, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER
INCLUDING AREA CODE OF REGISTRANT'S
PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES)

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS.

On January 27, 2004, Huntington Bancshares Incorporated ("Huntington") and Unizan Financial Corp. ("Unizan") issued a news release announcing that they had entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of January 27, 2004. A copy of the news release describing this transaction is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this report, and is incorporated herein by reference. The materials used in connection with Huntington's conference call presentation on January 27, 2004 relating to the merger are attached as Exhibit 99.2 to this report, and are incorporated herein by reference.

This Current Report on Form 8-K contains certain forward-looking statements, including certain plans, expectations, goals, and projections, and including statements about the benefits of the merger between Huntington and Unizan, which are subject to numerous assumptions, risks, and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those contained or implied by such statements for a variety of factors including: the businesses of Huntington and Unizan may not be integrated successfully or such integration may take longer to accomplish than expected; the expected cost savings and any revenue synergies from the merger may not be fully realized within the expected timeframes; disruption from the merger may make it more difficult to maintain relationships with clients, associates, or suppliers; the required governmental approvals of the merger may not be obtained on the proposed terms and schedule; Unizan's stockholders may not approve the merger; changes in economic conditions; movements in interest rates; competitive pressures on product pricing and services; success and timing of other business strategies; the nature, extent, and timing of governmental actions and reforms; and extended disruption of vital infrastructure; and other factors described in Huntington's 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K/A, Unizan's 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K, and documents subsequently filed by Huntington and Unizan with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All forward-looking statements included in this Current Report on Form 8-K are based on information available at the time of the Report. Neither Huntington nor Unizan assume any obligation to update any forward-looking

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1 -- News Release of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated,

dated January 27, 2004.

Exhibit 99.2 -- Presentation materials, January 27, 2004.

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.

HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES INCORPORATED

Date: January 27, 2004 By: /s/ Richard A. Cheap

Richard A. Cheap, Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

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EXHIBIT NO. DESCRIPTION

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Exhibit 99.1 News Release of Huntington Bancshares

Incorporated, dated January 27, 2004.

Exhibit 99.2 Presentation materials, January 27, 2004.

</Table>

NEWS RELEASE [HUNTINGTON logo]

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JANUARY 27, 2004

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UNTZAN

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HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES AND UNIZAN FINANCIAL CORP. ANNOUNCE MERGER AGREEMENT o STRENGTHENS OHIO PRESENCE

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Huntington Bancshares Incorporated (NASDAQ: HBAN) and Canton, Ohio-based Unizan Financial Corp. (NASDAQ:UNIZ) today announced the signing of a definitive agreement to merge the two organizations.

Under the terms of the agreement, Unizan shareholders will receive 1.1424 shares of Huntington common stock, on a tax-free basis, for each share of Unizan. Based on the \$23.10 closing price of Huntington's common stock on January 26, 2004, this represents a price of \$26.39 per Unizan share, a 15% premium to their closing price of \$22.95, and values the transaction at approximately \$587 million. The merger was unanimously approved by both boards and is expected to close late in the second quarter of 2004, pending customary regulatory approvals, as well as Unizan shareholder approval. Huntington expects the purchase to be accretive to 2004 earnings, excluding one-time charges, and adds over 1% to earnings in 2005.

"This merger is a great addition to Huntington's Ohio franchise," said Thomas E. Hoaglin, chairman, president, and chief executive officer, "and we look forward to welcoming

Unizan's customers and associates to the Huntington family. We have a high regard for the Unizan management team, as well as their franchise, which has a local-decision based culture and customer base very similar to our own."

"We have previously stated an objective of deepening our Midwest market presence," he noted. "Unizan provides us access to three new areas in Ohio centered around Canton, Zanesville, and Newark, and further solidifies our presence in the Dayton-Springfield and Columbus areas." As a result of the merger, Huntington will have the #1 and #2 deposit market share positions in Muskingum and Stark counties, respectively, #2 deposit market share positions in the Columbus and Newark areas, and #5 deposit market position in the Dayton-Springfield area.

"Retaining customers and local management are key objectives," he continued. "We are pleased to announce that upon completion of the merger, Roger Mann, currently president and chief executive officer of Unizan, will become the president of a newly created region that includes Summit, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Muskingum counties. This continuity of leadership ensures customers will continue to deal with familiar people and preserves the same level of local commitment to our communities."

"During the last two years, we have built an attractive network of offices, created efficiencies in operations and focused on being a company that values integrity and high-level customer service," said Roger Mann. "Being part of Huntington is a great fit for our customers and communities. Huntington's marketplace position is that of the local bank with national resources. As such, their business model of local decision-making matches ours, and our customers will benefit from having access to a broader array of products and services."

Hoaglin and Mann noted that the number one priority is making the transition seamless and effortless for Unizan's customers, and the company will initiate an extensive communication program so customers will always be well informed prior to any changes taking place.

Upon completion of the merger, Huntington will have 381 offices, 751 ATMs, deposits of approximately \$20 billion as of December 31, 2003, on a pro forma basis. In Ohio, Huntington would operate 205 offices, 417 ATMs with deposits of approximately \$12 billion as of December 31, 2003, on a pro forma hasis.

ABOUT UNIZAN

Unizan Financial Corp., a \$2.7 billion holding company, is a premier financial services organization headquartered in Canton, Ohio. The company operates 45 full-service retail financial centers in five metropolitan markets in Ohio -- Canton, Columbus, Dayton, Newark and Zanesville. Through Unizan Financial Corp.'s subsidiaries, Unizan Bank, National Association; Unizan Financial Services Group, National Association; Unizan Banc Financial Services, Inc.; and Unizan Financial Advisors, Inc., the company offers its client base corporate and retail banking, Internet banking and wealth management products and services. Additionally, the company operates niche businesses in government guaranteed loan programs through its business lending centers in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus and Dayton, Ohio; Detroit, Michigan; Mt. Arlington, New Jersey; and Indianapolis, Indiana; as well as aircraft lending centers in Columbus; Orlando, Florida; and Sacramento, California.

ABOUT HUNTINGTON

Huntington Bancshares Incorporated is a \$30 billion regional bank holding company headquartered in Columbus, Ohio. Through its affiliated companies, Huntington has more than 138 years of serving the financial needs of its customers. Huntington provides innovative retail and commercial financial products and services through more than 300 regional banking offices in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia. Huntington also offers retail and commercial financial services online at www.huntington.com; through its technologically advanced, 24-hour telephone bank; and through its network of nearly 700 ATMs. Selected financial service activities are also conducted in other states including: Dealer Sales offices in Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Pennsylvania and Arizona; Private Financial Group offices in Florida; and Mortgage Banking offices in Florida, Maryland and New Jersey. International banking services are made available through the headquarters office in Columbus and additional offices located in the Cayman Islands and Hong Kong.

CONFERENCE CALL / WEBCAST INFORMATION

Huntington's senior management will host an investor conference call today, January 27th, at 12:00 noon EST. The call may be accessed via a live Internet webcast at www.huntington-ir.com or through a dial-in telephone number at 888-747-3526. Slides will be available at www.huntington-ir.com just prior to 12:00 noon EST on January 27, 2004 for review during the call. A replay of the webcast will be archived in the Investor Relations section of Huntington's web site www.huntington.com. A telephone replay will be available two hours after the completion of the call through February 10, 2004 at 888-266-2081; conference ID 378395.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENT

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements, including certain plans, expectations, goals, and projections, and including statements about the benefits of the merger between Huntington and Unizan, which are subject to numerous assumptions, risks, and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those contained or implied by such statements for a variety of factors including: the businesses of Huntington and Unizan may not be integrated successfully or such integration may take longer to accomplish than expected; the expected cost savings and any revenue synergies from the merger may not be fully realized within the expected timeframes; disruption from the merger may make it more difficult to maintain relationships with clients, associates, or suppliers; the required governmental approvals of the merger may not be obtained on the proposed terms and schedule; Unizan's stockholders may not approve the merger; changes in economic conditions; movements in interest rates; competitive pressures on product pricing and services; success and timing of other business strategies; the nature, extent, and timing of governmental actions and reforms; and extended disruption of vital infrastructure; and other factors described in Huntington's 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K/A, Unizan's 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K, and documents subsequently filed by Huntington and Unizan with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All

forward-looking statements included in this news release are based on information available at the time of the release. Neither Huntington nor Unizan assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MERGER AND WHERE TO FIND IT

Huntington and Unizan will be filing relevant documents concerning the transaction with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including a registration statement on Form S-4 which will include a proxy statement/prospectus. Stockholders will be able to obtain a free copy of the proxy statement/prospectus, as well as other filings containing information about Huntington and Unizan, at the Securities and Exchange Commission's

internet site (http://www.sec.gov). Copies of the proxy statement/prospectus and the filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission that will be incorporated by reference in the proxy statement/prospectus can also be obtained, without charge, by directing a request to Huntington Bancshares Incorporated, Huntington Center, 41 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43287, Attention: Investor Relations, 614-480-4060, or Unizan Financial Corp., 220 Market Avenue South, Canton, Ohio, 44702, Attn: Media Relations, 330-438-4858.

STOCKHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS, AND OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE, BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

The directors and executive officers of Unizan and other persons may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the proposed merger. Information regarding Unizan's directors and executive officers is available in its proxy statement filed with the SEC by Unizan on March 14, 2003. Other information regarding the participants in the proxy solicitation and a description of their direct and indirect interests, by security holdings or otherwise, will be contained in the proxy statement/prospectus and other relevant materials to be filed with the SEC when they become available.



and

UNIZAN Financial Corp. An
Expanding
Ohio
Presence





This presentation contains certain forward-looking statements, including certain plans, expectations, goals, and projections, and including statements about the benefits of the merger between Huntington and Unizan, which are subject to numerous assumptions, risks, and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those contained or implied by such statements for a variety of factors including: the businesses of Huntington and Unizan may not be integrated successfully or such integration may take longer to accomplish than expected; the expected cost savings and any revenue synergies from the merger may not be fully realized within the expected timeframes; disruption from the merger may make it more difficult to maintain relationships with clients, associates, or suppliers; the required governmental approvals of the merger may not be obtained on the proposed terms and schedule; Unizan's stockholders may not approve the merger; changes in economic conditions; movements in interest rates; competitive pressures on product pricing and services; success and timing of other business strategies; the nature, extent, and timing of governmental actions and reforms; and extended disruption of vital infrastructure; and other factors described in Huntington's 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K/A, Unizan's 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K, and documents subsequently filed by Huntington and Unizan with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All forward-looking statements included in this news release are based on information available at the time of the release. Neither Huntington nor Unizan assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statement.

A Good Strategic Fit



- Strengthens Ohio presence
- Attractive financial benefits
- Low execution risk

Strengthens Ohio Presence



• Ohio deposit market share... 5.4% to 6.5%

Three new markets

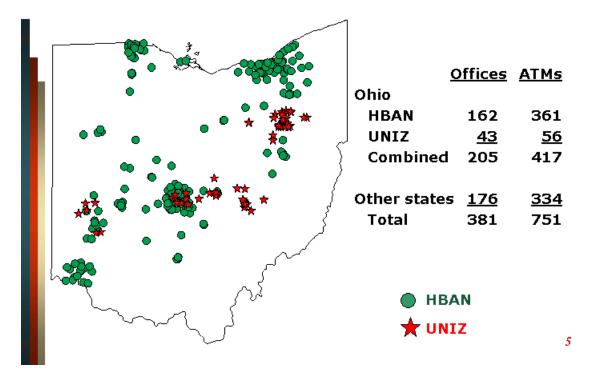
Canton 19% deposit market share - #2
Newark 13% deposit market share - #2
Zanesville 43% deposit market share - #1

Enhanced deposit market share

Dayton-Springfield 4% to 6%Columbus 18% to 19%

A Stronger Ohio Presence







A Stronger Ohio Presence

8.			
		Deposits	Market
Rank	Institution	(\$MM)	Share
Stark Cou	nty (Canton)		
<u>3tark coa</u> 2	Unizan	\$887	18.9 %
2	Offizari	\$887	18.9 %
Muskingu	m County (Zanesville)		
1	Unizan	\$519	43.4
<u>Columbu</u>	s MSA		
2	Huntington	\$4,960	17.6
10	Unizan	400	1.4
2	Pro Forma Huntington	\$5,360	19.0
Dayton-S	Springfield MSA		
9	Huntington	\$376	3.6
10	Unizan	246	2.4
5	Pro Forma Huntington	\$622	5.9
	ounty (Newark)		
2	Unizan	\$189	11.1
10	Huntington	31	1.8
2	Pro Forma Huntington	\$220	12.9 %
Deposits as of June 30, 2003			
Source - SNL Financial as of	1-23-04		

Source - SNL Financial as of 1-23-04

Attractive Financial Benefits



- Immediately accretive to both GAAP and cash EPS (excluding merger charges)
- 0.72% and 1.01% accretion to GAAP EPS in 2004 and 2005, respectively
- 0.74% and 1.49% accretion to cash EPS in 2004 and 2005, respectively
- Reduces auto loan and lease concentration... 28% to 26%

Low Execution Risk



- Retention of local management
- Familiarity with management
- Similar "local bank" business culture
- Low credit risk
- Conservative cost savings
- Single bank charter
- Single technology platform
- Right sized acquisition

Transaction Summary



Price Per Share: \$ 26.39 *

Transaction Value: \$587MM

Fixed Exchange Ratio: 1.1424 HBAN shares

Market Premium: 15% (over the 1-26-04 closing price)

Consideration: 100% stock

(10% share repurchase to follow)

Anticipated Closing: 2Q04

Structure: Tax-free exchange

*Based on HBAN's 1-26-04 closing price of \$23.10

Reasonable Multiples



	Transaction	Comparable
	<u>Multiples</u>	Transactions (1)
Price/LTM EPS	20.3 X (2	22.5 X
Price/estimated EPS	14.3 (3	19.5
Price/stated book value	189.4 % (2	242.2 %
Price/tangible book value	299.9 (2	276.4
Core deposit premium	23.6 (2	23.29
Market premium	15.0 (4	19.9

⁽¹⁾ Median of U.S. bank transactions announced since 12/31/02 with deal values between \$250 MM and \$1 B

^{(2) @ 9/30/03}

⁽³⁾ UNIZ's estimated 2004 EPS reflects the annualized after-tax impact of balance sheet restructuring and fair market value adjustments excluding cost savings.

⁽⁴⁾ Based on UNIZ's closing price of \$22.95 on 1/26/04

Pro Forma GAAP Earnings



	Pro Forma for:		
	2004 1	2005	
HBAN First Call EPS Estimates	\$1.65	\$1.79	
UNIZ First Call EPS Estimates ²	1.18	1.28	
HBAN First Call Earnings	\$382.8 MM	\$415.3 MM	
UNIZ First Call Earnings ²	13.1	28.3	
Cost of Funds for Share Buyback	(.9)	(1.8)	
Anticipated Cost Savings ³	4.1	10.9	
Balance Sheet Restructuring	4.6	8.3	
Purchase Accounting Adjustments ⁴	.9	(.2)	
Pro Forma Net Income	\$404.6 MM	\$460.8 MM	
Pro Forma GAAP EPS	\$1.66	\$1.81	
HBAN's Current First Call Estimate	\$1.65	\$1.79	
Accretion	.72%	1.01%	

¹ Assumes a June 30, 2004 closing, and excludes one-time restructuring charge

² First Call median 2004 estimate, grown at 8.5% for 2005

³ Assumes 25% of Unizan's core NonInterest expense

⁴ Includes amortization of Trust and Core Deposit Intangibles, as well as accretion from Fair Market Value Adjustments

Pro Forma Cash Earnings



	Pro Forma for:		
	2004 ¹	2005	
HBAN Cash Net Income ²	\$383.3 MM	\$415.8MM	
UNIZ First Call Earnings ²	14.1	30.4	
Cost of Funds for Share Buyback	(.9)	(1.8)	
Anticipated Cost Savings ³	4.1	10.9	
Balance Sheet Restructuring	4.6	8.3	
Pro Forma Net Income	\$405.2 MM	\$463.6 MM	
Pro Forma Cash EPS	\$1.66	\$1.82	
HBAN's Current Cash Estimate	\$1.65	\$1.79	
Accretion	.74%	1.49%	

¹ Assumes a June 30, 2004 closing, and excludes one-time restructuring charge

² GAAP EPS estimates plus pro forma intangible amortization; Unizan's 2004 GAAP estimate is grown at 8.5% for 2005

³ Assumes 25% of Unizan's core NonInterest expense

Estimated Cost Savings



(\$ MM)		Percent of Unizan's
Salary and benefits	\$11.3	Expenses 16.8%
Other expenses	<u>5.5</u>	<u>8.2</u>
Total cost savings, pre-tax	\$16.8	25.0%
Total cost savings, after-tax	\$10.9	

Estimated Merger Charges



(\$ MM)

Severance and other personnel related	\$13.2
Conversion and integration	4.5
Contract termination	3.0
Transaction costs	2.9
Other charges	2.0
Total charges, pre-tax	\$25.6
Total charges, after-tax	\$19.9

Impact on Capital (1)



Projected TCE ratio trends:

12/03 actual	6.80%
6/04 @ close	6.47%
12/04	6.62%
12/05	6.87%

- TCE ratio rebuilds rapidly
- Consistent with TCE 6.50%-6.75% target
- Reduced concentration of auto loans and leases... 28% @ 12/03 26%

(1) Assumes no additional capital management and 7% asset growth

Combined Loans and Deposits – 12/31/03



	HE	BAN	U	NIZ	Comb	ined
(\$MM)	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
Total C&I and CRE	\$ 9,486	42.5%	\$ 920	46.5%	\$10,406	42.8%
Total Aircraft	0	0.0	133	6.8	133	0.5
Auto Loans and leases	4,894	21.9	90	4.5	4,984	20.5
Home Equity	3,792	17.0	342	17.4	4,167	17.1
Residential RE	2,531	11.3	450	22.9	2,981	12.3
Other Consumer	373	1.7	33	1.7	373	1.5
Total Consumer	11,589	51.9	915	46.5	12,504	51.5
Total Loans & Leases	21,075	94.4	1,968	100.0	23,043	94.8
Auto Operating Leases	1,260	5.6	0	0.0	1,260	5.2
Total	\$22,335	100.0%	\$1,968	100.0%	\$24,303	100.0%
Total Auto Exposure	\$ 6,154	27.7%	\$ 90	4.5%	\$ 6,244	25.7%
Non-interest Bearing Deposits	\$ 6,411	34.7%	\$ 207	10.6%	\$ 6,618	32.3%
Interest Bearing Deposits	12,076	65.3	1,769	89.5	13,845	67.7
Total Deposits	\$18,487	100.0%	\$1,976	100.0%	\$20,464	100.0%
Total Equity	\$ 2,275		\$ 303		\$ 2,578	
Total Assets	\$30,484		\$2,727		\$33,211	

Summary



- Complementary business culture
 - Local bank decision-making
 - Access to national resources
- · Builds on Ohio franchise
- · Financially attractive
 - Accretive
 - Conservative assumptions
 - No reliance on revenue enhancements
- Low risk integration
- · Adds niche businesses
 - SBA lending
 - Personal aircraft lending

Additional Information About the Merger and Where to Find It



Huntington and Unizan will be filing relevant documents concerning the transaction with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including a registration statement on Form S-4 which will include a proxy statement/prospectus. Stockholders will be able to obtain a free copy of the proxy statement/prospectus, as well as other filings containing information about Huntington and Unizan, at the Securities and Exchange Commission's internet site (http://www.sec.gov). Copies of the proxy statement/prospectus and the filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission that will be incorporated by reference in the proxy statement/prospectus can also be obtained, without charge, by directing a request to Huntington Bancshares Incorporated, Huntington Center, 41 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43287, Attention: Investor Relations, 614-480-4060, or Unizan Financial Corp., 220 Market Avenue South, Canton, Ohio, 44702, Attn: Media Relations, 330-438-4858.

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