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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):

October 18, 2005

## Huntington Bancshares Incorporated

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland

0-2525

31-0724920

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission  
File Number)

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

41 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio

43287

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

614-480-8300

Not Applicable

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:

- 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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**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On October 18, 2005, Huntington issued a news release announcing, among other things, that the board of directors authorized a new share repurchase program for up to 15 million shares. Purchases will be made from time-to-time in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions depending on market conditions. The current share repurchase authorization, announced April 27, 2004, with 3.1 million shares remaining, has been cancelled and replaced by this new authorization. A copy of the news release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Report, and is incorporated herein by reference.

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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.

*October 24, 2005*

Huntington Bancshares Incorporated

*By: Richard A. Cheap*

*Name: Richard A. Cheap*

*Title: Secretary*

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Exhibit Index

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	News release of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated, dated October 18, 2005

# NEWSRELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 2005

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## HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES INCORPORATED

- **DECLARES QUARTERLY CASH DIVIDEND ON ITS COMMON STOCK**
- **ANNOUNCES NEW 15 MILLION SHARE REPURCHASE AUTHORIZATION**

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Huntington Bancshares Incorporated (NASDAQ: HBAN) today announced that the board of directors has declared a quarterly cash dividend on its common stock of \$0.215 per common share. The dividend is payable January 3, 2006, to shareholders of record on December 16, 2005.

Huntington Bancshares also announced that the board of directors today authorized a new share repurchase program for up to 15 million shares. This represents 7% of the 229 million shares outstanding as of September 30, 2005, and \$324 million worth of stock based on the closing price of \$21.60 on October 17, 2005. Purchases will be made from time-to-time in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions depending on market conditions. The current share repurchase authorization announced April 27, 2004, with 3.1 million shares remaining, has been cancelled and replaced by this new program.

“This authorization provides the capacity for future share repurchases whenever market conditions or other factors deem that to be appropriate, including share repurchases related to the Unizan merger,” Hoaglin said.

### About Huntington

Huntington Bancshares Incorporated is a \$33 billion regional bank holding company headquartered in Columbus, Ohio. Through its affiliated companies, Huntington has more than 139 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 [huntington.com](http://huntington.com); through its technologically advanced, 24-hour telephone bank; and through its network of over 900 ATMs. Selected financial service activities are also conducted in other states including: Dealer Sales offices in Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, and Arizona; Private Financial and Capital Markets Group offices in Florida; and Mortgage Banking offices in Maryland and New Jersey. International banking services are made available through the headquarters office in Columbus and an office located in the Cayman Islands and an office located in Hong Kong.

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