

COMMERCE BANCSHARES INC /MO/

Form 8-K

January 14, 2004

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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): January 14, 2004

Commerce Bancshares, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Missouri

0-2989

43-0889454

(State of Incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

1000 Walnut,
Kansas City, MO

64106

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

(816) 234-2000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition

SIGNATURE

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EX-99.1 Press Release

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The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K, including the exhibit, is furnished pursuant to Item 12 and shall not be deemed filed for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities under that Section. Furthermore, the information in this Current Report on Form 8-K, including the exhibit, shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into the filings of Commerce Bancshares, Inc. under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition

A copy of the press release issued January 14, 2004 by Commerce Bancshares, Inc. announcing Fourth Quarter 2003 earnings is furnished under Item 12 of this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 99.1.

All information included in this Current Report on Form 8-K is available on the Company's Internet site at <http://www.commercebank.com>.

SIGNATURE

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.

COMMERCE BANCSHARES, INC

By: \s\ Jeffery D. Aberdeen

Jeffery D. Aberdeen
Controller
(Chief Accounting Officer)

Date: January 14, 2004

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| Exhibit Number | Description |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 99.1 | Press release dated January 14, 2004 |