

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 27, 2005

ASHLAND INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Kentucky

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-2918

(Commission File Number)

61-0122250

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

50 E. RiverCenter Boulevard, Covington, Kentucky
(Address of principal executive offices)

41012-0391
(Zip Code)

P.O. Box 391, Covington, Kentucky
(Mailing Address)

41012-0391
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (859) 815-3333

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))

Item 5.02(b)

On January 27, 2005, Ashland Inc. announced that Jane C. Pfeiffer and William L. Rouse, Jr. have retired from the Ashland Inc. Board of Directors (the "Board"), both effective January 27, 2005, in accordance with the mandatory retirement policy of the Board.

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.

ASHLAND INC.

(Registrant)

Date: January 27, 2005

/s/ J. Marvin Quin

Name: J. Marvin Quin
Title: Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

