SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-A

FOR REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN CLASSES OF SECURITIES PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR 12(g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION (Exact name of registrant

as specified in its charter)

FIRST MERCHANTS CAPITAL TRUST I

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

INDIANA

(State of incorporation or organization)

35-1544218 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

DELAWARE

(State of incorporation or organization)

51-6523248 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

200 EAST JACKSON STREET MUNCIE, INDIANA 47305 (765) 747-1500

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrants' principal executive offices)

Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class to be registered

Name of each exchange on which each class is to be registered

NONE NOT APPLICABLE

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A. (c), check the following box. o

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A. (d), check the following box. \boxtimes

Securities Act registration statement file number to which this form relates: 333-75748 and 333-75748-01.

Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

CUMULATIVE TRUST PREFERRED SECURITIES OF FIRST MERCHANTS CAPITAL TRUST I

GUARANTEE BY FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION OF TRUST PREFERRED SECURITIES

ITEM 1. DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT'S SECURITIES TO BE REGISTERED

The information relating to the Registrants' securities required by Item 202 of Regulation S-K is hereby incorporated by reference to the information presented under the captions "Description of the Preferred Securities," "Description of the Debentures," "Description of the Guarantee," "Relationship Among the Preferred Securities, the Debentures, and the Guarantee" in the Registrants' Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1 to Registration Statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-75748 and 333-75748-01) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 3, 2002 (the "Form S-3"). The same sections of the Prospectus and Prospectus Supplement to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) shall, upon filing, be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein.

2.1	1 Certifi	Certificate of Trust of First Merchants Capital Trust I. (1) Trust Agreement of First Merchants Capital Trust I. (2) Form of Amended and Restated Trust Agreement of First Merchants Capital Trust I. (3) Form of % Cumulative Trust Preferred Security Certificate to be issued by First Merchants Capital Trust I (included as Exhibit D to Exhibit 2.3).			
2.2	2 Trust A				
2.3	3 Form o				
2.4					
2.5	5 Form o	Form of Preferred Securities Guarantee Agreement to be issued by First Merchants Corporation. (4)			
2.6	6 Form o	Form of Indenture. (5) Form of First Supplemental Indenture for Junior Subordinated Debentures. (6) Form of % Junior Subordinated Debenture (included as Exhibit A to Exhibit 2.7).			
2.7	7 Form o				
2.8	8 Form o				
(1)	Incorporated by	eference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Form S-3.			
(2) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Form S-3.					
(3) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.8 to the Form S-3.		eference to Exhibit 4.8 to the Form S-3.			
(4)	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the Form S-3.				
(5)	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.10 to the Form S-3.				
(6) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.11 to the Form S-3.					
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			SIGNATU se Act of 1	934, the registrant have duly caused this registration statement to be signed on	
			FIRST	MERCHANTS CORPORATION	
Dated:	April 1, 2002		By:	/s/ LARRY R HELMS	
				Larry R. Helms Senior Vice President and General Counsel	
		FIRST MERCHANTS CAPITAL TRUST I		MERCHANTS CAPITAL TRUST I	
Dated: April 1, 2002			By:	/s/ MICHAEL L. COX	
				Michael L. Cox Administrative Trustee	
			By:	/s/ LARRY R. HELMS	
				Larry R Helms Administrative Trustee	
			By:	/s/ MARK K. HARDWICK	
				Mark K. Hardwick Administrative Trustee	
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