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): August 17, 2004

Network Appliance, Inc. (Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 0-27130 (State or other jurisdiction of (Commission (I.R.S. Employer incorporation or organization) File Number) Identification Number)

77-0307520

495 East Java Drive Sunnyvale, CA 94089 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(408) 822-6000 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Ttem 12.

The information is furnished pursuant to "Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition" in accordance with SEC Release No. 33-8216 (March 27, 2003).

On August 17, 2004, Network Appliance, Inc. issued a press release announcing its earnings for the first quarter fiscal year 2005. The press release, attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1, is being furnished on this Form 8-K.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

August 17, 2004 By: /s/ Steven Gomo -----Steven J. Gomo Chief Financial Officer

Index to Exhibits

Exhibit Description -----

99.1 Press release of Network Appliance, Inc. issued on August 17, 2004.

Network Appliance Announces Results for First Quarter Fiscal Year 2005; Q1 Revenue Up 38% Year over Year; Eleventh Consecutive Quarter of Growth

SUNNYVALE, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Aug. 17, 2004--Network Appliance, Inc. (Nasdaq:NTAP), the leader in advanced networked storage solutions, today reported results for the first quarter of fiscal year 2005. Revenues for the first fiscal quarter were \$358.4 million, an increase of 38% compared to revenues of \$260.5 million for the same period a year ago and a 6% increase compared to \$337.0 million in the prior quarter.

For the first fiscal quarter, GAAP net income increased 73% to \$46.9 million, or \$0.13 per share(1) compared to GAAP net income of \$27.1 million, or \$0.08 per share for the same period in the prior year. Pro forma(2) net income for the first fiscal quarter increased 73% to \$49.9 million, or \$0.13 per share, compared to pro forma net income of \$28.7 million, or \$0.08 per share for the same period a year ago.

"NetApp demonstrated exceptional execution, a strong balance sheet, and continued cash generation during the quarter. We continue to drive our solutions deeper into our customers' data centers and mission-critical areas to solve significant issues around business continuity, regulatory compliance, and high data availability," said Dan Warmenhoven, CEO of Network Appliance. "Our focus is on expanding our market share and our results demonstrate that the market is continuing to move toward us."

Quarterly Highlights

Throughout the first quarter of fiscal year 2005, Network Appliance reinforced its leadership position by deploying new tier-one storage solutions, expanding partnerships, and enhancing its storage grid architecture. Customers deploying NetApp during the quarter for a variety of database, collaborative, and other data center and mission-critical applications included Audi AG, Canon, Catholic Healthcare West, China Everbright Bank, Ciena, City of Concord, ConocoPhillips, Fujitsu LTD, Gap Inc., GE Healthcare, Hearst Corporation, ING BHF Bank, Pixar, Progress Energy, Qualcomm, Sprint, Telstra, and University of Georgia. All levels of enterprise customers have chosen to deploy NetApp for a variety of reasons -- reduced complexity, a low total cost of ownership (TCO), and advanced management capabilities made possible through Data ONTAP(TM) and a range of additional storage software packages that unleash the value of enterprise data.

On the partners front, NetApp unveiled several new solution enhancements and partner offerings with McData, Ontrack Data Recovery, Oracle, Secure Computing, Symantec, Trend Micro, and VERITAS to address a variety of data concerns, including e-mail recovery, unified storage, and security issues facing enterprise customers.

For storage grid architectures, the company continued to set the pace for the rest of the industry in iSCSI and IP SAN (storage area network), with more than 700 real-world production deployments to date, and reinforced its leadership in other storage application areas such as data protection/recovery, disk-based nearline storage, and database storage. In database storage in particular, NetApp demonstrated its prowess with large Oracle(R) deployments at Universal Tax Systems and the South China Morning Post and received a prestigious SAP Pinnacle Award for innovation around storage for SAP environments. Finally, Network Appliance also debuted its new midrange unified storage models, the FAS920 and FAS920c. Designed to provide affordable enterprise-class performance, reliability and advanced data management features for midrange applications, the FAS920 can power applications in Fibre Channel and iSCSI SANs and network-attached storage (NAS) simultaneously.

In corporate news, Network Appliance recently announced that it is the recipient of a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) from the governor of North Carolina to assist in any expansion of newly acquired NetApp offices in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. NetApp also added two new members to its board of directors: Mark Leslie and George Shaheen.

- -- The NetApp quarterly results conference call will be broadcast live via the Internet at http://investors.netapp.com/ on Tuesday, August 17, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. Pacific time. This press release and any other information related to the call will also be posted to the Web site at that location. The conference call will also be available live in a listen-only format at (866) 800-8649 in the United States and (617) 614-2703 outside the United States. The passcode for both numbers is 19115940.
- -- A replay will be available for 72 hours following completion of the live call by dialing (888) 286-8010 in the United States and (617) 801-6888 outside the United States, replay code 62837719.

About Network Appliance

Network Appliance is a world leader in unified storage solutions for today's data-intensive enterprise. Since its inception in 1992, Network Appliance has delivered technology, product, and partner firsts that continue to drive "The evolution of storage.(TM)" Information about Network Appliance(TM) solutions and services is available at www.netapp.com.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements include market and marketshare trends which benefit the Company, and continued customer acceptance of the Company's products. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results could vary. Factors that could impact our ability to achieve our goals include: general economic and industry conditions, including expenditure trends for storage- related products; our ability to deliver new product architectures and products which meet market acceptance; our ability to design products which compete effectively from a price and performance perspective; and other important factors as described in Network Appliance, Inc.'s reports and documents filed from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our most recently submitted 10-K and 10-Q.

(1) Earnings per share represents the diluted number of shares for all periods presented.

(2) Pro forma results for all periods presented exclude amortization of intangible assets, stock compensation, net gain on investments, and the related effects on income taxes.

NetApp is a registered trademark and Network Appliance, Data ONTAP, and The evolution of storage are trademarks of Network Appliance, Inc. in the U.S. and other countries. All other brands or products are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders and should be treated as such.

Network Appliance Usage of Pro Forma Financials

The Company refers to the non-GAAP financial measures cited above in making operating decisions because they provide meaningful supplemental information regarding the Company's operational performance. In addition, these non-GAAP financial measures facilitate management's internal comparisons to the Company's historical operating results and comparisons to competitors' operating results. We include these non-GAAP financial measures in our earnings announcement because we believe they are useful to investors in allowing for greater transparency with respect to supplemental information used by management in its financial and operational decision-making such as employee compensation planning. In addition, we have historically reported similar non-GAAP financial measures to our investors and believe that the inclusion of comparative numbers provides consistency in our financial reporting at this time.

NETWORK APPLIANCE, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (In thousands) (Unaudited)

| | July 30, 2004 | April 30, 2004 |
|--|------------------|-------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS: Cash and cash equivalents Short-term investments Accounts receivable, net Inventories Prepaid expenses and other Deferred income taxes | | 566,816 |
| Total current assets | 1,125,106 | 1,089,236 |
| PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, net | 392,588 | 370,717 |
| GOODWILL INTANGIBLE ASSETS, net OTHER ASSETS | 82,642 | 31,718 93,779 |
| | 1,921,087 | |

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

| CURRENT LIABILITIES: | | |
|---|---------------|-----------------|
| Accounts payable | \$ 51,691 | \$ 52,719 |
| Income taxes payable | 15,172 | 16,033 |
| Accrued compensation and related benefits | 50,866 | 65 , 186 |
| Other accrued liabilities | 46,775 | 43,683 |
| Deferred revenue | 182,801 | 166,602 |
| | | |
| Total current liabilities | 347,305 | 344,223 |
| LONG-TERM DEFERRED REVENUE | 126,355 | 112,337 |
| LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS | 4,787 | 4,858 |
| | 478,447 | 461,418 |
| | | |
| | 1 1 1 0 6 1 0 | 1 415 040 |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | 1,442,640 | 1,415,848 |
| | 1,921,087 | 1,877,266 |
| | | ======= |

NETWORK APPLIANCE, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (In thousands, except per share amounts) (Unaudited)

| | | Quarter Ended | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | | July 30, 2004 | August 1, 2003 |
| | | | |
| REVENUES: | | | |
| Product | revenue | \$324 , 627 | \$235 , 786 |
| Service | revenue | 33,794 | 24,723 |
| | Total revenues | 358,421 | 260,509 |

| COST OF REVENUES: | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Cost of product revenue | 114,215 | 85,039 |
| Cost of service revenue | 29,248 | 19,347 |
| Total cost of revenues | 143,463 | 104,386 |
| GROSS MARGIN | | 156,123 |
| | | |
| | | |
| OPERATING EXPENSES: | 100 011 | |
| Sales and marketing | 103,311 | 79,356 |
| Research and development | 38,703 | 31,541 12,265 |
| General and administrative | | |
| Stock compensation | 2,104 | 654 |
| Total operating expenses | 161,000 | 123,816 |
| | | |
| | 50 050 | |
| INCOME FROM OPERATIONS | 53,958 | 32,307 |
| OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES), net: | | |
| Interest income | 4.082 | 3,045 |
| Other expenses, net | | (47) |
| Net gain on investments | | 145 |
| 5 | | |
| Total other income, net | 3,170 | 3,143 |
| | | |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES | 57 , 128 | 35,450 |
| | 10.000 | 0 0 0 0 0 |
| PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES | 10,266 | 8,377 |
| | | |
| NET INCOME | \$ 46,862 | \$ 27 , 073 |
| | ======= | |
| NET INCOME PER SHARE: | | |
| BASIC | \$ 0.13 | \$ 0.08 |
| | | |
| | | |
| DILUTED | | \$ 0.08 |
| | | |
| SHARES USED IN PER SHARE CALCULATION: | | |
| BASIC | 356,743 | 341,687 |
| | | |
| | 0.7.0 0.7.1 | 250 407 |
| DILUTED | , | 358,497 ======= |
| | | |

NETWORK APPLIANCE, INC. PRO FORMA (1) CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (In thousands, except per share amounts) (Unaudited)

| | | Quarter Ended | |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | | July 30, 2004 | August 1, 2003 |
| REVENUES: | revenue | \$324.627 | \$235,786 |
| | revenue | 33,794 | 24,723 |
| | Total revenues | 358,421 | 260,509 |

| Cost of product revenue Cost of service revenue | | 83,675 19,347 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Total cost of revenues | 142,605 | 103,022 |
| GROSS MARGIN | | 157,487 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES: Sales and marketing Research and development General and administrative | 38,703 | 79,356 31,541 12,265 |
| Total operating expenses | 157,421 | 123,162 |
| INCOME FROM OPERATIONS | 58,395 | 34,325 |
| OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES), net | 3,170 | 2,998 |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES | 61,565 | 37,323 |
| PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES | 11,697 | 8,584 |
| NET INCOME | \$ 49,868 | \$ 28,739 |
| NET INCOME PER SHARE: BASIC | \$ 0.14 | \$ 0.08 |
| DILUTED | \$ 0.13 | |
| SHARES USED IN PER SHARE CALCULATION: BASIC | 356,743 ====== | 341,687 |
| DILUTED | 372,974 | 358,497 |

(1) Pro forma results of operations exclude amortization of intangible assets, stock compensation, net gain on investments and the related effects on income taxes.

NETWORK APPLIANCE, INC. RECONCILIATION OF NON-GAAP AND GAAP IN THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (In thousands, except per share amounts) (Unaudited)

| | Quarter Ended | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | August 1, 2003 |
| SUMMARY RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME | | |
| NET INCOME | \$46,862 | \$27 , 073 |
| Adjustments: Amortization of intangible assets Stock compensation Net gain on investments Income tax effect | 2,333 2,104 (1,431) | 1,364 654 (145) (207) |

| PRO FORMA NET INCOME | \$49,868 | \$28,739 |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| DILUTED PRO FORMA NET INCOME PER SHARE | | \$0.08 |
| SHARES USED IN DILUTED PRO FORMA NET INCOME PER SHARE CALCULATION: | | 358,497 |
| DETAILED RECONCILIATION OF SPECIFIC ITEMS: | | |
| COST OF REVENUES | \$143 , 463 | \$104,386 |
| Adjustment: Amortization of intangible assets | (858) | (1,364) |
| PRO FORMA COST OF REVENUES | \$142 , 605 | \$103,022 |
| GROSS MARGIN Adjustment: | \$214 , 958 | \$156 , 123 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 858 | 1,364 |
| PRO FORMA GROSS MARGIN | \$215,816 | \$157,487 |
| SALES AND MARKETING EXPENSES Adjustments: | \$103,311 | \$79 , 356 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | (207) | |
| PRO FORMA SALES AND MARKETING EXPENSES | \$103,104 | \$79,356 |
| GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES Adjustments: | \$16,882 | \$12 , 265 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | (1,268) | |
| PRO FORMA GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES | | \$12,265 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES Adjustments: | \$161 , 000 | \$123,816 |
| Stock compensation Amortization of intangible assets | (2,104) (1,475) | (654) |
| PRO FORMA OPERATING EXPENSES | - | \$123,162 |

NETWORK APPLIANCE, INC. RECONCILIATION OF NON-GAAP AND GAAP IN THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (In thousands, except per share amounts) (Unaudited)

| INCOME FROM OPERATIONS | \$53,958 | \$32 , 307 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Adjustments: | | |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 2,333 | 1,364 |
| Stock compensation | 2,104 | 654 |
| | | |
| PRO FORMA INCOME FROM OPERATIONS | \$58 , 395 | \$34,325 |
| | | ======= |

| TOTAL OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES), NET Adjustments: | \$3,170 | \$3,143 |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Net gain on investments | | (145) |
| PRO FORMA TOTAL OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES), NET | \$3,170 | \$2,998 |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES Adjustments: | \$57,128 | \$35,450 |
| Amortization of intangible assets Stock compensation Net gain on investments | • | 1,364 654 (145) |
| PRO FORMA INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES | \$61,565 | - |
| PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES Adjustments: | \$10 , 266 | \$8 , 377 |
| Income tax effect | 1,431 | 207 |
| PRO FORMA PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES | \$11,697 | |

NETWORK APPLIANCE, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (In thousands - unaudited)

| | Three Mont | hs Ended |
|---|--|---|
| | July 30, 2004 | August 1, 2003 |
| Cash Flows from Operating Activities: Net income Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | \$46 , 862 | \$27 , 073 |
| Depreciation Amortization of patents Amortization of intangible assets Stock compensation | 451 2,333 2,104 | 13,426 150 1,364 654 (145) |
| Net (gain) loss on investments Allowance for doubtful accounts (reversal) Deferred rent Changes in assets and liabilities: | (154) | |
| Accounts receivable Inventories Prepaid expenses and other assets Accounts payable Income taxes payable Accrued compensation and related benefits Other accrued liabilities | (3,330) (1,261) (1,029) 4,831 (14,319) | 9,638 (5,796) (2,306) 2,202 2,602 (5,271) (1,708) |
| Deferred revenue Net cash provided by operating activities | | 14,912 56,776 |
| Cash Flows from Investing Activities: Purchases of short and long-term investments Redemptions of short and long-term investments Purchases of property and equipment Proceeds from disposal of property and equipment Proceeds from sales of investments Purchase of patents Purchases of equity securities | 35,645 (33,285) 298 | 92,581 (12,318) 105 |

| Net cash used in investing activities | (66 , 587) | (17,689) |
|--|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Cash Flows from Financing Activities: Proceeds from sale of common stock related to employee stock transactions Repurchases of common stock | | 24,256 (26,825) |
| - Net cash used in financing activities | (24,540) | (2,569) |
| Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents | (13,104) | 36 , 518 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents: Beginning of period | 241,149 | 284,161 |
| End of period = | \$228,045 | \$320,679 |
| Noncash Investing and Financing Activities: Deferred stock compensation, net of reversals Conversion of evaluation inventory to fixed assets Income tax benefit from employee stock transactions | 2,729 | \$1,668 661 9,874 |
| Supplemental cash flow information: Income taxes paid | 6,826 | 1,456 |

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