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) November 19, 2005

VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

New Jersey (State or Other Jurisdiction

1-11277 (Commission File Number)

22-2477875 (I.R.S. Employer

of Incorporation)

Identification Number)

1455 Valley Road, Wayne, New Jersey (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

07470 (Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code (973) 305-8800

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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 (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- " 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))

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE REPORT

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers

Leonard J. Vorcheimer, a Director and Chairman of the Audit Committee of Valley National Bancorp, died on November 19, 2005.

Andrew B. Abramson, a Director since 1994 and Vice Chairman of the Audit Committee will assume the duties of Chairman of the Audit Committee immediately.

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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.

Dated: November 23, 2005 VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP

By: /s/ Alan D. Eskow

Alan D. Eskow Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)