BLISS TYRONE J Form 4 May 06, 2008

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

See Instruction

may continue.

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * **BLISS TYRONE J**

(First)

(Street)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

BANNER CORP [BANR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 10 SOUTH FIRST AVE. 05/05/2008

(Middle)

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify

(Check all applicable)

below) below) **Executive Vice President**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

WALLA WALLA, WA 99362

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial (I) Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

(A)

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Conversion Security or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

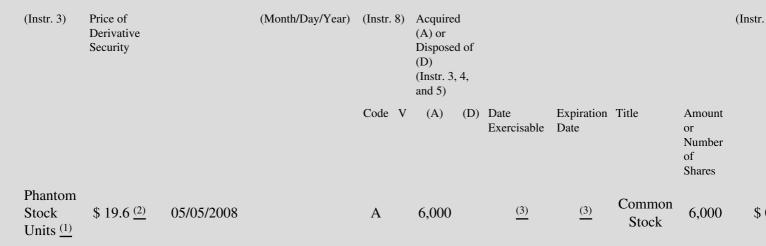
Execution Date, if any

5. Number 4. Transaction of Derivative Expiration Date Code Securities

6. Date Exercisable and (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8. Price **Underlying Securities** Deriva (Instr. 3 and 4) Securi

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BLISS TYRONE J 10 SOUTH FIRST AVE. WALLA WALLA, WA 99362

Executive Vice President

Signatures

/s/Tyrone J. 05/06/2008 Bliss

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Award of phantom stock units under the Banner Corporation Long-Term Incentive Plan.
- (2) Market price on May 5, 2008. Upon vesting, phantom stock units settle in cash at the value in excess of value as of the grant date, plus dividends.
- (3) Award vests on May 5, 2013. Each unit will be settled on the officer's separation from service, at a specified time or upon 60 months of continuous service as determined by the officer.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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