

HANKS WILLIAM BRUCE

Form 4

August 16, 2005

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

Check this box  
if no longer  
subject to  
Section 16.  
Form 4 or  
Form 5  
obligations  
may continue.  
*See Instruction*  
1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF  
SECURITIES**

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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
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2005  
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
HANKS WILLIAM BRUCE

(Last) (First) (Middle)

2802 BRAMBLE

(Street)

MONROE, LA 71201

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
CENTURYTEL INC [CTL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
08/16/2005

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

☒ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☐ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
☐ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

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

| 1. Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired<br>(A) or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
|                                       |   |   | Code                                 | V   | Amount   | (A)<br>or<br>(D)   | Price   |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 08/16/2005                              |   | M                                    |   | 34,700   | A  | \$<br>13.5  |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 08/16/2005                              |   | S                                    |   | 34,700   | D  | \$<br>35.5  |
| Common<br>Stock                       |   |   |                                      |   |  |  | 0   |
| Common<br>Stock                       |   |   |                                      |   |  |  | 0   |
|                                       |   |   |                                      |   |  |  | I By 401(k)   |
|                                       |   |   |                                      |   |  |  | I By ESOP   |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
information contained in this form are not**

SEC 1474  
(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<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and Amount<br>Underlying Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                                     |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
|   |   |   |   | Code                                    | V (A) (D)  | Date Exercisable   | Expiration<br>Date | Title  | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Shares |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy)    | \$ 13.5   | 08/16/2005                              |   | M                                       | 34,700   | 02/24/1997 <sup>(1)</sup>                                      | 02/24/2007         | Common<br>Stock  | 34,700                              |
| Director<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy)    | \$ 29.06  |   |   |   |  | 05/10/2003   | 05/10/2012         | Common<br>Stock  | 4,000                               |
| Director<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy)    | \$ 32.18  |   |   |   |  | 05/09/2004   | 05/09/2013         | Common<br>Stock  | 6,000                               |
| Director<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy)    | \$ 29.7   |   |   |   |  | 05/07/2005   | 05/07/2014         | Common<br>Stock  | 6,000                               |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy)    | \$ 34.63  |   |   |   |  | 02/21/2001 <sup>(2)</sup>                                      | 02/21/2010         | Common<br>Stock  | 30,000                              |

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

HANKS WILLIAM BRUCE  
2802 BRAMBLE  
MONROE, LA 71201

X

## Signatures

By: Kay C. Buchar,  
Attorney-In-Fact

08/16/2005

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## 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) One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable immediately, one-third are exercisable on 2/24/98, and one-third are exercisable on 2/24/99.
- (2) One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable 2/21/2001, one-third are exercisable on 2/21/2002, and one-third are exercisable on 2/21/2003.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.  
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