

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 4

Statement of changes in beneficial ownership of securities

Filing Date: **2004-05-18** | Period of Report: **2004-05-17**
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ISSUER

BANNER CORP

CIK: **946673** | IRS No.: **911691604** | State of Incorporation: **WA** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**
SIC: **6036** Savings institutions, not federally chartered

Mailing Address
*10 S FIRST AVENUE
WALLA WALLA WA 99362*

Business Address
*10 S FIRST AVENUE
WALLA WALLA WA 99362
5095273636*

REPORTING OWNER

FOSTER JESSE G

CIK: **1187848**
Type: **4** | Act: **34** | File No.: **000-26584** | Film No.: **04816021**

Mailing Address
*C/O BANNER CORP
PO BOX 907
WALLA WALLA WA 99362*

Business Address
*C/O BANNER CORP
PO BOX 907
WALLA WALLA WA 99362
5095273636*

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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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

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. Name and Address of Reporting Person FOSTER JESSE G			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol BANNER CORP [BANR]			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) Vice Chairman of the Board		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/17/2004					
C/O BANNER CORP, PO BOX 907			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check applicable line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(Street) 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 (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share (1)	05/17/2004		A		12.99	A	\$26.76	70,533 (2)	D	

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

Explanation of Responses:

- Phantom Stock Units acquired pursuant to deferred compensation agreement; settled in stock at termination of service.
- Includes direct ownership of 1,098 shares through Deferred Compensation Plan and 4,990 shares through Employee Stock Ownership Plan. Also includes indirect ownership of 249 shares through spouse.

Signatures

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

* 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).

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.