

Layman John R
 Form 4
 July 31, 2007

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 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Layman John R

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 BANNER CORP [BANR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 10 SOUTH FIRST AVENUE
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 07/30/2007

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

WALLA WALLA, WA 99362
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 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 Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				(A) or (D)	Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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	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)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
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	Derivative Security		or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Stock Units ⁽¹⁾	\$ 30.66 ⁽²⁾	07/30/2007	A			2,000			⁽³⁾	⁽³⁾	Common Stock	2,000
Option to buy Common Stock	\$ 30.88	07/30/2007	A			17,500			07/30/2008 ⁽⁴⁾	07/30/2017	Common Stock	17,500

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Layman John R 10 SOUTH FIRST AVENUE WALLA WALLA, WA 99362			X	

Signatures

/s/John R.
Layman 07/31/2007
 **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) Award of phantom stock units under the Banner Corporation Long-Term Incentive Plan.
- (2) Market price on July 30, 2007. Upon vesting, phantom stock units settle in cash at the value in excess of the value as of the grant date, plus dividends.
- (3) Award vests on July 30, 2012. Each unit will be settled on the director's separation from service, at a specified time or upon 60 months of continuous service as determined by the director.
- (4) Options awarded pursuant to 2001 Stock Option Plan; options are exercisable at rate of 20% each year beginning 7/30/08.
- (5) Market price on July 30, 2007.

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.