ROSS STORES INC

Form 4

March 27, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

OMB APPROVAL

Expires:

January 31, 2005

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue.

Check this box

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 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Add BALMUTH M	-	ng Person *	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ROSS STORES INC [ROST]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check an applicable)		
4440 ROSEWOOD DR.			(Month/Day/Year) 03/24/2006	_X_ Director 10% Owner Specify below)		
(Street)			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		
PLEASANTO	N, CA 9458	38		Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City	y) (State)	(Zip) Tab	ole I - Non-	Derivative	Secui	rities Acquir	red, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	(Month/Day/Year)		3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit corr Dispos (Instr. 3, 4	ed of (` '	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)
Commo Stock	on 03/24/2006		M	50,000	A	\$ 19.31	574,166	D	
Commo Stock	on 03/24/2006		S	50,000	D	\$ 28.8197	524,166	D	
Commo Stock	on 03/24/2006		M	50,000	A	\$ 19.31	574,166	D	
Commo	on 03/24/2006		S	50,000	D	\$ 28.7796	524,166	D	

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 Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Expiration Date Un		Underlying S	7. Title and Amour Underlying Securit (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Sh	
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 19.31	03/24/2006		M	50,000	<u>(1)</u>	01/30/2013	Common Stock	50,0	
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 19.31	03/24/2006		M	50,000	<u>(1)</u>	01/30/2013	Common Stock	50,0	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
Toporting O when I while , I was also	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
BALMUTH MICHAEL 4440 ROSEWOOD DR. PLEASANTON, CA 94588	X		Vice Chairman, Pres. & CEO			

Signatures

/s/ MICHAEL BALMUTH, VICE CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT AND CEO

**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) The option becomes vested and exercisable over a four-year period as follows: 40% of the option vests monthly in the third year and 60% of the option vests monthly in the fourth year.

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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