ROSS STORES INC

Form 4 April 13, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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obligations 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).

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **BALMUTH MICHAEL** Issuer Symbol ROSS STORES INC [ROST] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) _X_ Director 10% Owner _X__ Officer (give title _ Other (specify 4440 ROSEWOOD DR. 04/12/2006 below) Vice Chairman, Pres. & CEO (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

PLEASANTON, CA 94588

(Ctata)

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-	Derivative	Secu	rities Acquir	ed, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit or 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)
Common Stock	04/12/2006		M	40,849	A	\$ 19.31	565,015	D	
Common Stock	04/12/2006		S	40,849	D	\$ 29.4223	524,166	D	

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

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Person

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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)	TransactionDerivative Code Securities		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		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	04/12/2006		M	40,849	<u>(1)</u>	01/30/2013	Common	40,8	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	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 04/13/2006

**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 options vest monthly in the third year and 60% of the options vest 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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