KROGER CO Form 5

Check this box if

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5 obligations

may continue.

Reported

Form 4 or Form

March 11, 2005 FORM 5 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

OMB APPROVAL

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ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Washington, D.C. 20549

See Instruction Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 1(b). Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section Reported 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Form 4 Transactions

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer VAN OFLEN MARY ELIZABETH Symbol KROGER CO [KR] (Check all applicable) (Middle) 3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Last) (First) (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner _ Officer (give title X 01/29/2005 Other (specify below) below) 1014 VINE STREET V.P. & Corp. Controller (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting Filed(Month/Day/Year) (check applicable line)

CINCINNATI, OHÂ 45202

(State)

(Zip)

(City)

X 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 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Transaction Acquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect Execution Date, if (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned at end Indirect (I) Ownership of Issuer's (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) (A) Fiscal Year or (Instr. 3 and 4) Amount (D) Price 9,973.0243 Common Â Â Â Â Â Â Â D Stock

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

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

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

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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. Num of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) of Dispo of (E) (Institute, and	vative rities nired or osed 0)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour or Number of Shar
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 6.375	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	04/19/2005	Common Stock	4,40
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 10.375	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(2)	04/17/2006	Common Stock	14,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 13.4375	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(3)	05/14/2007	Common Stock	8,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 22.2344	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(3)	04/15/2008	Common Stock	8,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 27.1719	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(3)	05/26/2009	Common Stock	9,00
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 27.1719	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(4)	05/26/2009	Common Stock	9,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 16.5938	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(3)	02/10/2010	Common Stock	4,50
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 16.5938	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(5)	02/10/2010	Common Stock	4,50
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 24.43	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(3)	05/09/2011	Common Stock	4,50
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 24.43	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(6)	05/09/2011	Common Stock	4,50
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 22.995	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(3)	05/09/2012	Common Stock	4,50
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 22.995	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(7)	05/09/2012	Common Stock	4,50
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 14.925	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(3)	12/12/2012	Common Stock	9,00
	\$ 17.31	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	(3)	05/06/2014		12,00

Non-Qualified Common Stock Option Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
--	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
VAN OFLEN MARY ELIZABETH 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI. OH 45202	Â	Â	V.P. & Corp. Controller	Â			

Signatures

/s/ Mary Elizabeth Van
Oflen

**Signature of Reporting Date

**Page Description 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 total amount of securities directly owned by the reporting person includes shares in the Company's employee benefit plans which are deemed to be 'tax-conditioned plans' pursuant to Rule 16b-3, to the extent disclosed on reports received from plan trustees.
- These options were granted under an option plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments in whole share amounts over a (2) three-year period, at the rate of one-third per year commencing one year after the date of grant, with the remainder vesting three years from the date of grant.
- (3) These options were granted under an option plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments in whole amounts over a five-year period, at the rate of 20% per year commencing one year from the date of grant.
- These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved a 75% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 15% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 252% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.
- These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved an 81% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 16% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 280% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.
- These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved a 78% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 15% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 208% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.
- These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved a 55% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 13% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 185% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.

Reporting Owners 3