KROGER CO Form 4 March 11, 2005

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Expires: January 31, Expires: 2005

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * VAN OFLEN MARY ELIZABETH			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol KROGER CO [KR]						5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)				
(Last) 1014 VINE S	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/07/2005						Director 10% Owner Specify below) V.P. & Corp. Controller						
CINCINNA	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 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person						
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table	I - Non	ı-De	rivative S	ecurit	ties Acc	quired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	lly Owned		
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Da (Month/Day/Year) Execution any	med on Date, if Day/Year)	3. Transa Code (Instr.		4. Securit nAcquired Disposed (Instr. 3,	(A) o of (D)	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	03/07/2005			G	V	150	D	\$0	9,823.0243 (1)	D			

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

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 control number.

SEC 1474

(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	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Title		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Transactio		*		Amount of	Derivative	Deriv	
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	rear)	Under	, ,	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ties	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities		(Instr.	3 and 4)		Own	
	Security				Acquired						Follo
					(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						(IIISti
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
							^	Title Number			
						Exercisable Date	Date		of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

VAN OFLEN MARY ELIZABETH 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202

V.P. & Corp. Controller

Signatures

/s/ Mary Elizabeth Van Oflen, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in-Fact

03/10/2005

**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 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.

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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