LUNDY RUSS II Form 4 January 05, 2005

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

January 31, Expires:

2005

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response... 0.5

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

may continue.

See Instruction

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

	1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * LUNDY RUSS II		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol STAGE STORES INC [STGS]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check an applicable)			
10201 S. MAIN	N STREET		(Month/Day/Year) 01/03/2005	Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specify below) SVP, Peebles Stores			
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check			
HOUSTON, T	X 77025		Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			

(City)	(State)	Zip) Table	e I - Non-D	erivative	Secur	ities Acqu	uired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficial	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securi n(A) or Di (Instr. 3,	spose	d 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	01/03/2005		M	1,250	A	\$ 30.13	1,250	D	
Common Stock	01/03/2005		S	953 (1)	D	\$ 41.24	297	D	
Common Stock	01/03/2005		S	297 (1)	D	\$ 41.2	0	D	

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

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number.

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)	Secur Acqu (A) o Dispo (D)	rities nired or osed of r. 3, 4,	6. Date Exercis Expiration Dat (Month/Day/Y	e	7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 30.13	01/03/2005		M		1,250	11/04/2003	11/04/2013	Common Stock	1,250

Reporting Owners

Deporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
Panarting Owner Name / Address	Relatio

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

LUNDY RUSS II 10201 S. MAIN STREET HOUSTON, TX 77025

SVP, Peebles Stores

Signatures

/s/ Russ Lundy, 01/05/2005

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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) This sale was made pursuant to a pre-established, written plan for trading securities pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 adopted by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
- On November 4, 2003, the reporting person was granted stock options for 15,000 shares with per share exercise price of \$30.13. The right to exercise these options vests over four years from November 4, 2003, with 25% vesting at the end of each of the first four years following the date of grant, and will expire on the earlier of (i) sixty days after the termination of the reporting person's employment with the Company, or (ii) ten years from the date of grant. The stock options exercised and reported on this Form 4 are a portion of that grant.

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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