

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
 Collins, Robert T.
 Gannett Co., Inc.
 1100 Wilson Boulevard
 Arlington, Virginia 22234
2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)
 February 2, 1998
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
4. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 Gannett Co., Inc.
 "GCI"
5. Relationship of Reporting Person to Issuer (Check all applicable)
 Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other
 (specify below)
 President, New Jersey Newspaper Group/Newspaper Division
6. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Common Stock	158,000	D	
Common Stock	600.103	I	(1)

Table II -- Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Stock Options	12/31/94 12/31/98	Common Stock	17,000 \$18.0625	D	
Stock Options	12/30/95 12/30/99	Common Stock	18,800 \$22.3750	D	
Stock Options	12/07/96 12/07/00	Common Stock	19,000 \$25.6875	D	
Stock Options	12/14/97 12/14/01	Common Stock	14,000 \$27.7500	D	
Stock Options	12/13/98 12/13/02	Common Stock	14,800 \$23.6250	D	
Stock Options	12/12/99 12/12/03	Common Stock	16,760 \$32.0000	D	
Stock Options	12/10/00 12/10/06	Common Stock	17,360 \$37.3750	D	
Stock Options	12/09/01 12/09/07	Common Stock	14,500 \$59.5000	D	

Explanation of Responses:
 (1) Held by the trustee of the Company's 401(k) Plan, Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company.
 SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
 /s/ Robert T. Collins