FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

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OMB APPROVAL

Estimated average burden	
hours per	0.5
resnonse.	0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <sup>*</sup> CHAPPLE THOMAS L			2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>GANNETT CO INC /DE/</u> [ GCI ]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner
(Last)	(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earlies 05/13/2003		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/13/2003	X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)   SrVP, C Admn O and Gen Counsel
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
(City)	(State)	(Zip)		X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
			1	

## Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	if any	3. Transa Code ( 8)					5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
			Code V		Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(Instr. 4)
Common Stock	05/13/2003		М		5,000	Α	32	9,982.499	D	
Common Stock	05/13/2003		S		5,000	D	76.43	4,982.499(1)	D	

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. Transa Code ( 8)		of		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	32	05/13/2003		М			5,000	12/12/1996 <sup>(2)</sup>	12/12/2003	Common Stock	5,000	<b>\$</b> 0	12,200	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. The reporting person also holds 1,745.973 shares of common stock indirectly through the Issuer's 401(k) plan, based on a plan statement dated as of March 31, 2003.

2. The initial option for 19,200 shares vested in four equal annual installments beginning on December 12, 1996.

<u>Thomas L. Chapple</u>

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

05/14/2003 Date

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

\* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).