

KAPLAN HAROLD S
Form 4
January 21, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
KAPLAN HAROLD S

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM INC [CBU]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
01/19/2005

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

102 WINDMERE CIRCLE

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

DALTON, PA 18414

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	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)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	09/20/2004		G	4,000 D <u>11</u>	195,252 <u>(2)</u>	D	
Common Stock					86,576 <u>(3)</u>	I	By H.N.T.M. Ltd. Partnership
Common Stock	09/20/2004		G	4,000 A \$ 0	4,000	I	By Charitable Foundation

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

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(9-02)

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option	\$ 24.84	01/19/2005		A	3,604	01/19/2005 01/19/2015	Common Stock	3,604
Phantom Stock (Stock Balance Plan)	\$ 0	01/19/2005		A	251.55	(4) (4)	Common Stock	251.55

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
KAPLAN HAROLD S 102 WINDMERE CIRCLE DALTON, PA 18414		X		

Signatures

Donna J. Drengel, as attorney-in-fact, pursuant to a power of attorney

01/21/2005

__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) Gift to the reporting person's charitable foundation.

(2) On April 12, 2004, the common stock of Community Bank System, Inc. split 2-for-1, resulting in the reporting person's acquisition of 99,626 additional shares of common stock.

(3)

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On April 12, 2004, the common stock of Community Bank System, Inc. split 2-for-1, resulting in H.N.T.M. Ltd. Partnership's acquisition of 43,288 additional shares of common stock.

- (4) Phantom Stock (Stock Balance Plan) may be exercised upon the later of the reporting person's attainment of age 55 or termination of service on Community Bank System, Inc.'s Board of Directors.

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

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