FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* CATO WAYLAND H JR						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CATO CORP [CTR]									5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner Officer (give title V Other (specify				
(Last) (First) (Middle) 13777 BALLANTYNE CORPORATE PLACE SUITE 300					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/08/2002									See Remarks below. 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable					
(Street) CHARLOTTE NC 28277			28277 (Zip)	4.1	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date) Table II - Derivati					2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year			te, To a sear) 8	3. Transact Code (In 8) Code	tion istr.	4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4) 5)		or Price	nd F	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		Form (D) o	n: Direct r Indirect istr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
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 (6. Date Exercisable Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)			e and	7. Title and Amou of Securities Underlying Derivative Securi (Instr. 3 and 4)		De Se	Price of rivative curity str. 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	ly	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership t (Instr. 4)
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exerc	cisable	Expi Date	iration	Title	or Number of Share	s					
STARS ⁽¹⁾	(2)	01/08/2002		J		1 ⁽²⁾		(:	(2)	((2)	Class A Common Stock	200,00	0	(2)	1 ⁽²⁾		I	Cato Family Investments Limited Partnership

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. STARS is an acronym for a secured forward sale transaction designated as a Special Term Appreciation Retention Sale.
- 2. On 1/8/2002, the Cato Family Investments Limited Partnership, pursuant to STARS agreements with a bank counterparty, agreed to sell 200,000 shares of class A common stock of The Cato Corporation (the "Shares") at approximately 76% of a floor price of \$18.1968 (\$2,754,996) which the Partnership received on 1/11/2002. The Partnership agreed to deliver the Shares in increments to the counterparty over ten business days in Feb. 2005 (the "Settlement Dates"). The Partnership pledged the Shares to secure its obligations to the counterparty. On the Settlement Dates, the Partnership will have the option of (a) paying cash to the counterparty and reclaiming the pledged Shares, (b) delivering all the pledged Shares to the counterparty or (c) if the market price of the Shares exceeds the floor price, settling with most of the pledged Shares and reclaiming some of the pledged Shares

Remarks:

This is a filing to report a possible derivative security acquired by the Cato Family Investments Limited Partnership. At that time the reporting person was a director and more than 10% owner of the Issuer.

/s/ Wayland H. Cato, Jr.

10/25/2004

** Signature of Reporting Person

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.