

Rust Steven W  
 Form 3  
 October 15, 2007

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL  
 OMB Number: 3235-0104  
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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *		2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â Rust Steven W		(Month/Day/Year)	BANNER CORP [BANR]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
		09/25/2007		
10 SOUTH 1ST AVENUE			(Check all applicable)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
	(Street)		<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
			(give title below) (specify below)	
			Executive Vice President	

WALLA  
 WALLA, WA 99362  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share	125 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	Â

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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 control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Title	Amount or Number of		

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			Shares		(I) (Instr. 5)		
Phantom Stock Units <sup>(2)</sup>	Â <sup>(3)</sup>	Â <sup>(3)</sup>	Common Stock	3,500	\$ 38.54 <sup>(4)</sup>	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Rust Steven W 10 SOUTH 1ST AVENUE WALLA WALLA, WA 99362	Â	Â	Â Executive Vice President	Â

## Signatures

/s/Steven W. Rust  
10/15/2007

Signature of Reporting Person      Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) Includes direct ownership of 55 shares through Employee Stock Ownership Plan.
- (2) Award of Phantom Stock Units under the Banner Corporation Long-Term Incentive Plan.
- (3) Award vests on July 1, 2011. Each unit will be settled upon separation from service, at a specified time or upon 60 months of continuous service as determined by the participant.
- (4) Market price on July 1, 2006. Upon vesting, phantom stock units settle in cash at the value in excess of the value as of the grant date, plus dividends.

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.