| OMB APPROVAL              |
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# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549

## FORM 4

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

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

| Name and Address of Reporting<br>Person* (Last, First, Middle) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or<br>Trading Symbol   | 3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (Voluntary) |
|--|--|---|
| Lowe, Kenneth, W.  | The E. W. Scripps Company (SSP)  | _   |
| 312 Walnut Street, 28th Floor                                  | 4. Statement for Month/Day/Year 04/15/2003   | 5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)                            |
| (Street)   | 6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check All Applicable)                                    | 7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)                   |
| Cincinnati, OH 45202   | X Director o 10% Owner   | x Form filed by One Reporting Person  |
| (City) (State) (Zip)   | <ul><li>X Officer (give title below)</li><li>O Other (specify below)</li><li>President &amp; CEO</li></ul> | O Form filed by More than One Reporting Person                                |

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).

|   |  |                                      | Table I - Non-Deri  | vative Sec               | urities A | cqui | ired, Dispo                              | sed o            | f, or B | ene | ficially Owned  |    |   |    |  |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------|------|--|------------------|---------|-----|---|----|---|----|--|
| • | Title of Security 2. (Instr. 3)                        | Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2a. Deemed Execution<br>Date, if any.<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transac<br>(Instr. 8) |           | 4.   | Securities A or Disposed (Instr. 3, 4 ar | of (D)           |         | 5.  | Amount of Securities<br>Beneficially Owned<br>Following Reported<br>Transactions(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. | Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|   |  |                                      |   | Code                     | V         |      | Amount                                   | (A)<br>or<br>(D) | Price   |     |   |    |   |    |  |
|   | Class A Common<br>Shares, \$.01 par<br>value per share |                                      |   |                          |           |      |  |                  |         |     | 30,374  |    | I   |    | Wife's trust   |
|   | Class A Common<br>Shares, \$.01 par<br>value per share |                                      |   |                          |           |      |  |                  |         |     | 105,490   |    | D   |    |  |

| Class A Common                    | 4/15/2003 | F | V | 5,129 D \$ | \$79.20 10,675 | I | Wife's trust |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|---|------------|----------------|---|--------------|
| Shares, \$.01 par value per share |           |   |   |            |                |   |              |
| value per share                   |           |   |   |            |                |   |              |

Common Voting
Shares, \$.01 par
value per share

None

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# Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise<br>Price of Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | Ba. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. | Transacti<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | on | 5. | Number of Derivati<br>Acquired (A) or Dis<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |     |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|----|---------------------------------|----|----|--|-----|
|  |  |                                      |  |    | Code                            | v  |    | (A)  | (D) |
| Option   | \$16.35  | 12/16/93                             |  |    | A                               | V  |    | 1  |     |
| Option   | \$18.76  | 12/9/94                              |  |    | A                               | V  |    | 1  |     |
| Option   | \$34.50  | 1/10/97                              |  |    | A                               | V  |    | 1  |     |
| Option   | \$47.22  | 1/15/98                              |  |    | A                               | V  |    | 1  |     |
| Option   | \$49.00  | 1/24/00                              |  |    | A                               | V  |    | 1  |     |
| Deferred Stock Units                             |  |                                      |  |    |                                 |    |    |  |     |
| Option   | \$52.79  | 10/1/00                              |  |    | A                               | V  |    | 1  |     |
| Option   | \$64.25  | 1/25/01                              |  |    | A                               | V  |    | 1  |     |
| Option   | \$75.11  | 2/20/02                              |  |    | A                               | V  |    | 1  |     |
| Option   | \$79.97  | 2/26/03                              |  |    | A                               | V  |    | 1  |     |

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| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned - Continued (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |  |                    |    |                         |                                  |    |  |    |  |     |   |     |  |
|--|--|--------------------|----|-------------------------|----------------------------------|----|--|----|--|-----|---|-----|--|
|  | Date Exercisab<br>Expiration Dat<br>(Month/Day/Yea | e                  | 7. | Title and A of Underlyi | ing Securities                   | 8. | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. | Number of Derivative<br>Securities Beneficially Owned<br>Following Reported Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | 10. | Ownership Form of<br>Derivative Security:<br>Direct (D) or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 11. | Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|  | Date<br>Exercisable                                | Expiration<br>Date |    | Title                   | Amount or<br>Number of<br>Shares |    |  |    |  |     |   |     |  |
|  | 12/16/94   | 12/16/03           |    | Class A<br>Common       | 16,200                           |    |  |    |  |     | D   |     |  |
|  | 12/9/95  | 12/9/04            |    | Class A<br>Common       | 40,500                           |    |  |    |  |     | D   |     |  |
|  | 1/10/98  | 1/9/07             |    | Class A<br>Common       | 23,500                           |    |  |    |  |     | D   |     |  |
|  | 1/15/99  | 1/14/08            |    | Class A<br>Common       | 30,000                           |    |  |    |  |     | D   |     |  |
|  | 1/24/01  | 1/23/10            |    | Clas A<br>Common        | 60,000                           |    |  |    |  |     | D   |     |  |
|  | *  | *                  |    | Class A<br>Common       | 19,207                           |    |  |    |  |     | D   |     |  |
|  | 10/1/01  | 9/30/10            |    | Class A<br>Common       | 60,000                           |    |  |    |  |     | D   |     |  |
|  | 1/25/02  | 1/24/11            |    | Class A<br>Common       | 100,000                          |    |  |    |  |     | D   |     |  |
|  | 2/20/03  | 2/19/12            |    | Class A<br>Common       | 125,000                          |    |  |    |  |     | D   |     |  |
|  | 2/26/04  | 2/25/13            |    | Class A<br>Common       | 125,000                          |    |  |    | 10   |     | D   |     |  |

### **Explanation of Responses:**

\*-The deferred stock units automatically convert into Class A Common shares on 1/15/04.

| /s/ M. Denise Kuprionis, Attorney-in-fact for<br>Kenneth W. Lowe | 4/16/2003 |
|--|-----------|
| **Signature of Reporting Person                                  | Date      |

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

<sup>\*</sup> Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).