FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

TATEMENT OF CHANGES IN DENERIOIAL ON

l	OMB APPROVAL								
l	OMB Number:	3235-0287							
l	Estimated average burden								
l	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).

## 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* PARSHALL B LYNNE							2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol ISIS PHARMACEUTICALS INC [ ISIS ]								5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)					
															r		10% Ov	vner		
(Last) (First) (Middle) 2292 FARADAY AVENUE							3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/01/2005								(give title		Other (spec below)			
															Executive Vice President					
(Street)							4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable					
•			92008			Line)  X Form filed by One Repo									rting Persor	ı				
(City) (State) (Zip)					_									Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				ting		
		Tal	ble I - No	n-Deri	ivativ	re Se	curitie	s Ac	quired,	Dis	posed of	f, or Ber	neficiall	y Owned						
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da						Execution Date,			3. 4. Securit Transaction Code (Instr.		ies Acquired (A) or Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5		Benefici Owned I	es ally Following	Form (D) or	: Direct r Indirect str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership			
									Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reporte Transac (Instr. 3	orted saction(s) r. 3 and 4)			(Instr. 4)		
Common	Stock		1/200	2005 01/01/2005		J	V	924(1)	A \$4.		5 10	),154		D						
			Table II -								osed of, onvertib			Owned						
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deems Execution if any (Month/Da	Date,	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		of		6. Date Exercisa Expiration Date (Month/Day/Yea			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Numbe derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	e s Illy	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
					Code	ode V	(A)		Date Exercisab		Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares							
Employee Stock Option (right to	\$5.8	01/03/2005	01/03/2005		A		30,263		01/03/2009	(2)	01/02/2012	Common Stock	30,263	\$0	30,26	3	D			

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Reporting 924 shares acquired under the Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 2000 Employee Stock Purchase Plan on January 1, 2005.
- 2. Grant of 1-3-05 to reporting person of stock options under the Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 1989 Stock Option Plan. 25% of the shares subject to the option will vest and become exercisable on 1-3-06. Thereafter, the remaining shares subject to the option vest and become exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments, at the rate of 7,566 shares per year for the first 3 years, then 7,565 shares for the remaining 1 year. The option is exercisable as to 0 shares on 1-3-05.

## Remarks:

B. Lynne Parshall 01/04/2005

\*\* 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.