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

OMB APPROVAL

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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

Filed By Romeo and Dye's Section 16 Filer www.section16.net

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*	2. Date of Event	4. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	
	Requiring Statement	Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (ISIS)	
Holmlund Jon T.	Month/Day/Year		
	04/02/03		
(Last) (First) (Middle)	3. I.R.S. Identification	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s)	6. If Amendment,
	Number of Reporting	to Issuer (Check all applicable)	Date of Original
2292 Faraday Avenue	Person, if an entity	Director 10% Owner	(Month/Day/Year)
	(voluntary)	X Officer Other	04/02/03
(Street)		(give title below) (specify below	7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing
			(Check Applicable Line)
Carlsbad, CA 92008		Vice President	X Form filed by One Reporting Person
			Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
(City) (State) (Zip)	Table I — Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned		
1. Title of Security 2.	Amount of	3. Ownership Form:	4. Nature of Indirect
(Instr. 4) So	ecurities	Direct (D)	Beneficial Ownership
B	eneficially	or Indirect (I)	(Instr. 5)
O	wned	(Instr. 5)	
(I	nstr. 4)	, , ,	
Common Stock	5,5	593 D	

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

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Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) 1. Title of Derivative Security 2. Date Exercisable 3. Title and Amount of 4. Conversion or 5. Ownership 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial and Expiration Date (Instr. 4) Securities Exercise Price of lForm Ownership Month/Day/ Year) Underlying Derivative Derivative of Derivative (Instr. 5) Security Security Security: (Instr. 4) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) Date Amount or Expiration Title (Instr. 5) Exercisable Date Number of Shares Employee Stock Option (right to 01/01/2002 12/31/2007 Common Stock 8,750 12.3125 D buy) 01/01/2003 12/31/2008 Common Stock 12.9375 Employee Stock Option (right to 10,000 D (1) 01/05/2010 Common Stock 30,000 6.8100 D Employee Stock Option (right to buy) 02/28/2010 Common Stock <u>(2)</u> 5,000 Employee Stock Option (right to 16.0000 D (buv 01/01/2011 Common Stock <u>(3)</u> 8,000 Employee Stock Option (right to 9.6250 D buy) Employee Stock Option (right to (4) 01/01/2012 Common Stock 6,000 21.0500 D <u>(5)</u> 06/15/2012 Common Stock 25,000 Employee Stock Option (right to 7.4100 D 01/01/2013 Common Stock Employee Stock Option (right to <u>(6)</u> 9,000 6.8400 D buv) (7) 03/15/2013 Common Stock 10,000 4.1600 D Employee Stock Option (right to

Explanation of Responses:

FORM 3 (continued)

- (1) 25% of the shares subject to the option vested and became exercisable on 01/06/2001. Thereafter, the remaining shares subject to the option vest and become exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments, at the rate of 7,500 shares per year. The option is exercisable as to 10,000 shares on 04/02/2003.
- (2) 25% of the shares subject to the option vested and became exercisable on 03/01/2001. Thereafter, the remaining shares subject to the option vest and become exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments, at the rate of 1,250 shares per year. The option is exercisable as to 3,854 shares on 04/02/2003.
- (3) 25% of the shares subject to the option vested and became exercisable on 01/02/2002. Thereafter, the remaining shares subject to the option vest and become exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments, at the rate of 2,000 shares per year. The option is exercisable as to 4,500 shares on 04/02/2003.
- (4) 25% of the shares subject to the option vested and became exercisable on 01/02/2003. Thereafter, the remaining shares subject to the option vest and become

^{*} If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).

exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments, at the rate of 1,500 shares per year. The option is exercisable as to 1,875 shares on 04/02/2003.

(5) 25% of the shares subject to the option vested and became exercisable on 06/16/2003. Thereafter, the remaining shares subject to the option vest and become exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments, at the rate of 6,250 shares per year. The option is exercisable as to 0 shares on 04/02/2003.

(6) 25% of the shares subject to the option vested and became exercisable on 01/02/2004. Thereafter, the remaining shares subject to the option vest and become exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments, at the rate of 2,250 shares per year. The option is exercisable as to 0 shares on 04/02/2003.

(7) 25% of the shares subject to the option vested and became exercisable on 03/16/2004. Thereafter, the remaining shares subject to the option vest and become exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments, at the rate of 2,500 shares per year. The option is exercisable as to 0 shares on 04/02/2003.

By: /s/ <u>Jon T. Holmlund</u>

Jon T. Holmlund

**Signature of Reporting Person

04/28/2003

Date

**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.

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