

CENTURYTEL INC
Form 4
February 18, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
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).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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 *
SWEASY NEIL

(Last) (First) (Middle)

100 CENTURYTEL DRIVE

(Street)

MONROE, LA 71203

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CENTURYTEL INC [CTL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
02/17/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
VP and Controller

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V Amount (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 02/17/2005 | | A | 1,900 A \$ 0 | 4,663.72 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 3,786.6 | I | By 401(k) (1) |
| Common Stock | | | | | 4,305.64 | I | By ESOP (2) |
| Common Stock | | | | | 1,282.58 | I | By Stock Bonus Plan (3) |

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

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.

SEC 1474
(9-02)

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

| 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable Expiration Date | Title Amount or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 33.4 | 02/17/2005 | | A | 6,500 | 02/17/2005 ⁽⁴⁾ 02/17/2015 | Common Stock 6,500 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 13.33 | | | | | ⁽⁵⁾ 01/02/2007 | Common Stock 2,250 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 46.19 | | | | | 04/07/2000 04/07/2009 | Common Stock 2,820 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 34.63 | | | | | 02/21/2001 ⁽⁶⁾ 02/21/2010 | Common Stock 12,000 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 28.03 | | | | | 05/21/2002 ⁽⁷⁾ 05/21/2011 | Common Stock 13,000 |
| Employee Stock Option | \$ 32.99 | | | | | 02/25/2003 ⁽⁸⁾ 02/25/2012 | Common Stock 13,000 |

(right to
buy)

Employee
Stock

Option \$ 27.48

02/24/2004⁽⁹⁾ 02/24/2013

Common
Stock

13,0

(right to
buy)

Employee
Stock

Option \$ 28.34

02/25/2004⁽¹⁰⁾ 02/25/2014

Common
Stock

6,50

(right to
buy)

Phantom
Stock

Units

\$ 0 ⁽¹¹⁾

(12)

(12)

Common
Stock

103

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |

SWEASY NEIL
100 CENTURYTEL DRIVE
MONROE, LA 71203

VP and Controller

Signatures

By: Kay C. Buchart,
Attorney-In-Fact

02/18/2005

 Signature of Reporting Person

 Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- (1) As of most recent statement available
 - (2) As of December 31, 2003, the most recent statement available.
 - (3) As of December 31, 2003, the most recent statement available.
 - (4) One-third of the options are exercisable immediately, one-third are exercisable 2/17/06, and one-third are exercisable 2/17/07.
 - (5) Options were 50% exercisable on 01/02/99 and 50% exercisable on 01/02/2000.
 - (6) One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable 2/21/2001, one-third are exercisable on 2/21/2002, and one-third are exercisable on 2/21/2003.
 - (7) One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable 5/21/02, one-third are exercisable 5/21/03, and one-third are exercisable 5/21/04.
 - (8) One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable 2/25/03, one-third are exercisable 2/25/04, and one-third are exercisable 2/25/05.
 - (9) One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable 2/24/04, one-third are exercisable 2/24/05, and one-third are exercisable 2/24/06.
 - (10) One-third of the options are exercisable immediately, one-third are exercisable 2/25/05, and one-third are exercisable 2/25/06.
 - (11) Security converts on a 1-to-1 basis.

Edgar Filing: CENTURYTEL INC - Form 4

- (12) The reported phantom stock units were acquired under CTE's excess benefit plan and will be settled upon the reporting person's termination of service.

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.