

UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC
 Form 4
 December 11, 2006

FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL
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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 *
 HEFFERNAN JAMES P

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC
 [UNFI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 C/O UNITED NATURAL FOODS
 INC, 260 LAKE ROAD
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 12/07/2006

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

DAYVILLE, CT 06241

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

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | |
| Common Stock | 12/07/2006 | | A | | 1,064 | A | \$ 0 6,256 D |
| Restricted Common Stock | 12/07/2006 | | A | | 2,128 (1) | A | \$ 0 8,384 D |

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

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 (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) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 36.6 | 12/07/2006 | | A | 2,660 | (2) 12/07/2016 | Common Stock | 2,660 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| HEFFERNAN JAMES P C/O UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC 260 LAKE ROAD DAYVILLE, CT 06241 | X | | | |

Signatures

Mark Shamber (Power of Attorney, in fact) _____ 12/11/2006
 **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) The shares vest in two equal annual installments beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant.
- (2) The stock option vests as follows: one-third vests immediately and the remaining stock options become exercisable in two equal annual installments beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant.
- (3) United Natural Foods, Inc.'s closing price on the NASDAQ National Market on December 7, 2006.

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.