FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | | | |
| 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

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* HATHORN SAMUEL C | | | | | | Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NATIONAL BEVERAGE CORP [FIZZ] Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify) | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|---|--------------------|--|--|-----|----------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| (Last) | ` | , | Middle) | | 12/00 | 12/06/2013 | | | | | | | | | below) | 1 | | below) | | |
| 8100 SW 10TH STREET SUITE 4000 | | | | | 4. If A | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | | |
| (Street) | ATION FI | L 3 | 33324 | | | | | | | | | | | X | | iled by Mor | | orting Person n One Repo | | |
| (City) | (S | tate) (| Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transacti Date (Month/Day) | | | | | | Execution Date, | | | Transaction Disposed C | | | urities Acquired (A) or sed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned | | Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amoui | nt (A) c | Pric | 9 | Following Reporter Transaction (Instr. 3 | ed ction(s) | | r. 4) | (Instr. 4) | |
| | 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) | Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | n Number I | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | 7. Title and Amou of Securities Underlying Derivative Securi (Instr. 3 and 4) | | of Derivati Security (Instr. 5 | | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4) | e (C s F lly C c | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | | Date Exercisable | | oiration te | Title | Amour or Numbe of Shares | r | | | | | | |
| KEEP STOCK OPTION | \$10.26 ⁽¹⁾ | 12/06/2013 | | | A | | 745 ⁽¹⁾ | | 12/06/2019 | 12/ | 05/2023 | COMMON STOCK | 745 | | \$0 | 36,745 | | D | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Under the company's Key Employee Equity Program ("KEEP") participants receive a grant equal to 50% of the number of shares of the company's common stock purchased on the open market. KEEP options are granted at an initial exercise price of 60% of the purchase price of the shares acquired and such price is reduced to the par value of the common stock over a 6 year vesting period. As a result of an open market purchase made by Mr. Hathom on September 16, 2013, he was granted KEEP options on December 6, 2013. Reference is made to Exhibit 10.8 of the company's 10-k for the year ended April 27, 2013.

/s/ Samuel C. Hathorn, Jr. 12/10/2013

** 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.