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1

<SROS>NASDAQ

<REPORTING-OWNER>

0001193124

Director

</REPORTING-OWNER>

<SUBJECT-COMPANY>

Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

0000886163

<IRS-NUMBER>77-0160744

</SUBJECT-COMPANY>

<PERIOD>04/30/03

4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 4

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

[] Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person(s)

Blissenbach, Henry F.

10275 Science Center Drive

San Diego, California 92121

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (LGND)

3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (Voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Day/Year

04/30/2003

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)

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

[X] Director [] 10% Owner

[] Officer (give title below) [] Other (specify below)

Director &

Compensation Committee

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)

[X] Form filed by One Reporting Person

[] Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

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

1) Title of Security	2) Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/Year)	3) Trans- action Code V	4) Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) A or D Price	5) Amount of Securities D or Ownership End of Month I	6) Amount of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	7) Nature of
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<S> Common Stock	<C> 04/30/03	<C> P	<C> 5,000	<C><C> A \$9.0500	<C> 5,000	<C><C> D Direct
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<CAPTION>

Table II (PART 1) Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (Columns 1 through 6)

1) Title of Derivative Security	2) Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3) Trans- action Date	4) Trans- action Code V	5) Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) A D	6) Date Exercisable and Expiration Date Exercisable Expiration
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<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
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<CAPTION>

Table II (PART 2) Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (Columns 1,3 and 7 through 11)

1) Title of Derivative Security	3) Trans- action of Underlying	7) Title and Amount	8) Price of Deri- Derivative	9) Number of Derivative Indirect	10) 11) Nature of
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Date	Securities	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Beneficially Owned at End of Month	D	Beneficial Ownership
-	Title					

<FN>

Explanation of Responses:

</FN>

</TABLE>

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

/S/ By: Barbara J. Olson

For: Henry F. Blissenbach

DATE 05/01/03