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.
( ) check this box it no longer subject to section is.
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
ANDERSON, STEFAN S.
2705 WEST TWICKINGHAM DRIVE
MUNCIE, IN 47304
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION FRME
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
###-##-####
4. Statement for Month/Year
NOVEMBER 30, 1998
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
(X) Director ( ) 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) ( ) Other
(specify below)
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD AND PRESIDENT
7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
<ul><li>(X) Form filed by One Reporting Person</li><li>( ) Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</li></ul>
( ) Form Tiled by More Chan one Reporting Person
Table I Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
1. Title of Security   2.   3.   4. Securities Acquired (A)   5. Amount of   6. Dir   7. Nature
Transaction   or Disposed of (D)   Securities   ect   Benefic

1. Title of Security	2.  3.  4.Securities Acc   Transaction   or Disposed of 		5.Amount of   Securities   Beneficially   Owned at   End of Month	6.Dir  7.Nature of Indirect    ect   Beneficial Ownership    (D)or      Indir      ect(I)
Common Stock	11-04- G*  V 1568  1998	D   	101,062 	D
	11-04- G**  V 1567  1998	D   	1,875 	I  Spouse   
Table II Derivative S	Securitites Acquired, Disposed of,	, or Beneficially	Owned	

1.Title of Derivative	2.Con-	3.	4.	5.Num	oer o	f De	6.Da+	ce Exer	7. Title and A	Amount	8.Price	9.Number	10. 11.Nature of
Security	version	Trans	action	riva	tive	Secu	cisar	ble and	of Underlyi	ing	of Deri	of Deriva	Dir Indirect
	or Exer			riti	es Ac	qui	Expi	ration	Securities		vative	tive	ect Beneficial
	cise			red(	A) or	Dis	Date/	(Month/			Secu	Securities	(D) Ownership
	Price of			pose	d of(I	D)	Day/Y	/ear)			rity	Benefi	or
	Deriva-						Date	Expir			1	ficially	Ind
	tive					A/	Exer	- ation	Title and	Number	1	Owned at	ire
	Secu-					D	cisa	- Date	of Shares		1	End of	ct
	rity	Date	Code \	V  Amou	unt	 	ble	 			<u> </u>	Month	(I)
Employee Stock Option	I	ı	1 1	I		ı	ı	1 1		I	I	41,549	D
(Right to Buy)	İ	İ		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	İ	<u> </u>		İ 	İ	İ	İ
			1 1	1			1	1 1	ı	I	1	1	1 1

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON Stefan S. Anderson (Confirming Signature on File)

December 1, 1998

Explanation of Responses:
\*Gifts by reporting person to children and children's

spouses
\*\*Gifts by spouse of reporting person to children and children's