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DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC

Form 3

August 05, 2005

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC [DRI] A Richmond C Bradford (Month/Day/Year) 08/01/2005 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 5900 LAKE ELLENOR (Check all applicable) DRIVE, P.O. BOX 593330 (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director _X__ Officer Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting SVP, Corporate Controller Person ORLANDO, FLÂ 32859-3330 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Â Common Stock 24,494 D Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) 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.

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

1. Title of Derivative	2. Date Exercisable and	3. Title and Amount of	4.	5.	6. Nature of Indirect
Security	Expiration Date	Securities Underlying	Conversion	Ownership	Beneficial
(Instr. 4)	(Month/Day/Year)	Derivative Security	or Exercise	Form of	Ownership
		(Instr. 4)	Price of	Derivative	(Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Title	Derivative	Security:	
			Security	Direct (D)	

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		Expiration Date		Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/22/2001(1)	06/22/2009	Common Stock	9,000	\$ 14.63	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/22/2001(1)	06/22/2009	Common Stock	6,875	\$ 14.63	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	11/26/2000	05/26/2010	Common Stock	1,227	\$ 12.48	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/21/2002(1)	06/21/2010	Common Stock	29,925	\$ 10.5	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/20/2003(1)	06/20/2011	Common Stock	37,500	\$ 17.09	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/19/2004(1)	06/19/2012	Common Stock	26,000	\$ 27.27	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/19/2005(1)	06/19/2013	Common Stock	7,500	\$ 19.32	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/19/2005(1)	06/19/2013	Common Stock	13,500	\$ 19.32	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/15/2006(1)	06/15/2014	Common Stock	13,750	\$ 21.16	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/15/2006(1)	06/15/2014	Common Stock	7,500	\$ 21.16	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/16/2007(1)	06/16/2015	Common Stock	13,750	\$ 33.1	D	Â
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/16/2007(1)	06/15/2015	Common Stock	7,000	\$ 33.1	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
reporting o when I while / I wan ess	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
Richmond C Bradford 5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE P.O. BOX 593330 ORLANDO Â FLÂ 32859-3330	Â	Â	SVP, Corporate Controller	Â	

Signatures

Douglas E. Wentz, Attorney-in-fact for RICHMOND, C. BRADFORD, 5900 Lake Ellenor Drive, P.O. Box 593330, Orlando, FL 32859-3330, Darden Restaurants, Inc. (DRI)

08/05/2005

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reporting Owners 2

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Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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 option vests in three equal annual installments beginning the date indicated.

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.