

DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC
 Form 3
 August 05, 2005

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 Person *		2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â Richmond C Bradford		(Month/Day/Year)	DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC [DRI]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	08/01/2005	
5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE,Â P.O. BOX 593330			4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
(Street)				
ORLANDO,Â FLÂ 32859-3330			(Check all applicable)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
			(give title below) (specify below)	
			SVP, Corporate Controller	

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	24,494	D	Â

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

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

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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			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Richmond C Bradford 5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE P.O. BOX 593330 ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330	Â	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

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.

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