

DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC
Form 4
June 19, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
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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 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 *
Pickens David T

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC [DRI]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)
5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE, P.O. BOX 593330
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
06/15/2006

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
SVP & President, Olive Garden

ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock					57,577	D	
Common Stock					594.16 ⁽¹⁾	I	Savings Plan

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 35.805	06/15/2006		A	59,430	06/15/2009 ⁽²⁾ 06/15/2016	Common Stock 59,430

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
Pickens David T 5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE P.O. BOX 593330 ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330	Director 10% Owner Officer SVP & President, Olive Garden

Signatures

Douglas E. Wentz, Attorney-in-fact for PICKENS, DAVID T., 5900 Lake Ellenor Drive,
P.O. Box 593330, Orlando, FL 32859-3330, Darden Restaurants, Inc. (DRI) 06/19/2006

__Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- The number of shares reported is based on a plan statement dated March 31, 2006 and is derived from an undivided interest in a fund
- (1) consisting of both Darden common stock and a small cash position that fluctuates from time to time. The number of shares reported may change based on the size of the cash position at the time of reporting.
 - (2) The option vests in two equal annual installments beginning 6/15/09.

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. Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) \$ 68.2 (8)01/28/2014 Common Stock
13,250 13,250 D

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
Reporting Owners	

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Director 10% Owner Officer Other

KOMANECKI JOSEPH J
MGIC PLAZA
250EAST KILBOURN AVENUE
MILWAUKEE, WI 53202

SVP, Controller & CAO

Signatures

Dan D. Stilwell,
Attorney-in-Fact 03/03/2008

__Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

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- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
These shares are subject to certain restrictions, and vest when such restrictions lapse. Partial vesting of these shares occurs on February 10 of each of the three years beginning in 2009, based on certain performance standards. If it is not possible to determine whether the performance standards have been met on any particular vesting date, the vesting date will be extended until such determination can be made. Any of these shares not vested as of February 10, 2011 will be forfeited.
- (1) These shares are subject to certain restrictions, and vest when such restrictions lapse. One-third of these shares vest on February 10 of each of the three years beginning in 2009.
- (2) These shares were awarded to the reporting person pursuant to the Issuer's 2002 Stock Incentive Plan and no price was paid by the reporting person for the shares.
- (3) Balance as of December 31, 2007.
Partial vesting of these options occurred on January 26 of each of the five years beginning in 2001, based on certain performance standards. Any portion of the option which did not vest at January 26, 2005 will become vested on January 26, 2009 based on the reporting person's continued service to the Issuer.
- (4) All of these options are vested and exercisable in full.
- (5) One-fifth of the option vests on January 22 of each of the five years beginning in 2004.
- (6) One-fifth of the option vests on January 28 of each of the five years beginning in 2005.
- (7)
- (8)

Remarks:

This form is signed by the reporting person's attorney-in-fact pursuant to a previously filed power of attorney.

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