

DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC

Form 4

August 01, 2008

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
LYONS DANIEL M

(Last) (First) (Middle)

5900 LAKE ELLENOR
DRIVE, P.O. BOX 593330

(Street)

ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC
[DRI]3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
07/30/20084. If Amendment, Date Original
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

☐ Director ☐ 10% Owner
☒ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)

SVP Human Resources

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person
☐ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person**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)
Common Stock	07/30/2008		A	679 ⁽¹⁾	A \$ 0	73,420	D
Common Stock	07/30/2008		F	179	D \$ 32.9	73,241	D
Common Stock						363.073 ⁽²⁾	I Savings Plan

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

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(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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following the Reported Transaction (Instr. 10)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
LYONS DANIEL M 5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE P.O. BOX 593330 ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330	SVP Human Resources

Signatures

Douglas E. Wentz, Attorney-in-fact for LYONS, DANIEL M., 5900 Lake Ellenor Drive,
P.O. Box 593330, Orlando, FL 32859-3330, Darden Restaurants, Inc. (DRI) 08/01/2008

____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).
- (1) Reflects the issuance of common stock upon the vesting of performance stock units that are not derivative securities on July 30, 2008.
- The number of shares reported is based on a plan statement dated July 31 2008, and is derived from an undivided interest in a fund
- (2) 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 and dividend reinvestments.

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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