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DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC

Form 4 September 23, 2002

U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549

FORM 4

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Section 30(1) of the investment company Act of 1940													
[_] Check box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).													
1.	1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*												
Sastre		Maria		A									
	(Last)	(First)		(Middle)									
5900 Lake Ellenor Drive, P.O. Box 593330													
		(Street)											
Orla	ando	FL		32859-3330									
	(City)	(State)		(Zip)									
3.	DARDEN RESTAURANTS, INC. (DRI) 3. IRS Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an Entity (Voluntary) 4. Statement for Month/Year												
09/1	19/2002 												
5.	If Amendment, Date of C	riginal (Month/Yea:	ב)										
6.	6. Relationship of Reporting Person to Issuer (Check all applicable)												
	<pre>[X] Director [_] Officer (give titl</pre>	e below)		10% Owner Other (specify below)									
7.	Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check applicable line)												
	<pre>[X] Form filed by one [_] Form filed by more</pre>	rson											

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______ Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Transaction (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Code Transaction (Instr. 8) (A) 1. Price Amount or Title of Security (mm/dd/yy) Code V (Instr. 3) (D) 09/19/02 A V 2,070 A Common Stock ______ If the Form is filed by more than one Reporting Person, see Instruction Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. (Print or Type Response) (Over) FORM 4 (continued) Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) ______

2. Conver- 5. 7.

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Secur-	3. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	8)	Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) (D)	Expiration (Month/Da) Date Exer-	on Date ay/Year) Expira- tion	Title and of Underl Securitie (Instr. 3	ying s and 4)
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$24.16	09/19/02	A V	3,000	09/19/03	09/19/12	Common Stock	3,000
					:=====			

Explanation of Responses:

1 Represents amount of securities beneficially owned as of 9/19/02.

/s/ Douglas E. Wentz 09/23/2002
-----**Signature of Reporting Person Date

BY: DOUGLAS E. WENTZ, Attorney-in-fact

for SASTRE, MARIA A
5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE
P.O. BOX 593330
ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32859-3330
DARDEN RESTAURANTS, INC. (DRI)
09/19/2002

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations.

See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.