

DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC

Form 4

August 28, 2007

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

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

## OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**LEDSINGER CHARLES A JR**

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)  
**08/24/2007**

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

**ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330**

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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

| 1. Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities<br>Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Common<br>Stock                       |                                         |                                                             |                                         | (A)<br>or<br>(D)                                                           | 0                                                                                                                  | D                                                                    |                                                                   |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially 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.**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

# Edgar Filing: DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC - Form 4

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of<br>Underlying Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. P<br>Der<br>Sec<br>(Ins             |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                                       |                                         |                                                             | Code V (A) (D)                          |                                                                                                                    | Date<br>Exercisable<br>Expiration<br>Date                      | Title                                                               | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |
| Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)                | \$ 42.33                                                              | 08/24/2007                              |                                                             | A                                       | 642                                                                                                                | 02/24/2008 08/24/2017                                          | Common<br>Stock                                                     | 642 \$ 1                               |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                                                 | Relationships                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                                                                                | Director 10% Owner Officer Other |
| LEDSINGER CHARLES A JR<br>5900 LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE<br>P.O. BOX 593330<br>ORLANDO, FL 32859-3330 | X                                |

## Signatures

Douglas E. Wentz, Attorney-in-fact for CHARLES A. LEDSINGER, JR., 5900 Lake Ellenor Drive, P.O. Box 593330, Orlando, FL 32859-3330 08/28/2007

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) The Reporting Person elected to take his quarterly cash retainer for serving as a director in the form of stock options, the number of stock options issued being the amount of cash allocated divided by the price 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.