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

[_] Check box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).									
1.	Name and Address of Repor	ting Person*							
HUGH	ES	DAVID		н.					
(Last)	(First)		(Middle)					
5900	LAKE ELLENOR DRIVE, P.O.	BOX 593330							
		(Street)							
ORLAI	NDO	FL		32859-3330					
((City)	(State)		(Zip)					
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol DARDEN RESTAURANTS, INC. (DRI)									
3.	IRS Identification Number	of Reporting Pe	rson,	if an Entity (Voluntary)					
4.	Statement for Month/Year								
09/1	9/2002								
5.	If Amendment, Date of Ori	ginal (Month/Yea	 r)						
6.	Relationship of Reporting (Check all applicable)	Person to Issue	 r						
	<pre>[X] Director [_] Officer (give title</pre>	below)		10% Owner Other (specify below)					

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check applicable line)

1

Table I Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned							
	2.	3. Transaction Code	4. Securities Ac Disposed of ((Instr. 3, 4	D)			
itle of Security	Transaction Date		11110 0110				
Instr. 3) 	(mm/dd/yy)	Code V		(D) 			
ommon Stock							
If the Form is filed by 4(b)(v).		ng Person, se	e Instruction				
eminder: Report on a separat owned directly or i		or securitie	0 2011011014111				

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

	2. Conversion or Exercise 3. Price Transof action Deriv Date ative (Month/SecurDay/ity Year)	Trans-	(Instr.		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		Expiration Date		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
1. Title of Derivative		Date					(Month/Day/Year) Date Expira-			Amount or Number
Security (Instr. 3)		Day/				(D)	Exer- cisable	tion	Title	of Shares
Stock Option (Right to buy)	\$24.16	09/19/02	A	V	3,000		09/19/03	09/19/12	Common Stock	3,000
Phantom Stock Units	1-for-1	09/19/02	А	V	4,139		(2)	(2)	Common Stock	4,139

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Represents amount of securities beneficially owned as of 9/19/02.
- (2) The reporting person elected to defer a portion of the annual director's grant under the Darden Restaurants, Inc. Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors to be paid out in Darden Restaurants, Inc. common stock upon the reporting person's termination of board service.
- (3) Includes phantom stock units acquired pursuant to a dividend equivalent reinvestment feature of the Darden Restaurants, Inc., Compensation Plan for

Non-Employee Directors.

/s/ Douglas E. Wentz 09/23/02

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

for HUGHES, DAVID H.
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.