

FREDS INC  
Form 4  
May 15, 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 \*  
Holligan Mike

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
4300 NEW GETWELL ROAD  
(Street)

MEMPHIS, TN 3818

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
FREDS INC [FRED]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
03/20/2006

4. 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)  
Vice President

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Code V Amount (D) Price   |  |                                   |

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.**

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(9-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|

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| (Instr. 3)                              | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year)          | (Instr. 8)       | Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable          | Expiration<br>Date | Title                      | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---|------|---|-----|-----|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Option on<br>Class A<br>Common<br>Stock | \$ 15.37                           | 03/20/2006 <sup>(1)</sup> | J <sup>(1)</sup> | 2,000 <sup>(1)</sup>  |      |   |     |     | 06/09/2010 <sup>(2)</sup> | 06/09/2012         | Class A<br>Common<br>Stock | 2,000                                  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                             | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| Holligan Mike<br>4300 NEW GETWELL ROAD<br>MEMPHIS, TN 3818 |               |           | Vice<br>President |       |

## Signatures

Anita Ryan by power of attorney  
 Date: 05/15/2006  
 \*\*Signature of Reporting Person

## 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 2005 option grant dated 6/9/2005 was performance based and cancelled due to non-performance on 3/20/2006
- (2) The 2005 option grant dated 6/9/2005 had graded vesting of 10% per year for the first 4 grant anniversaries and 60% on the fifth anniversary

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.