Keiser Doug Form 3 October 05, 2011

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0104

Expires:

response...

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement FREDS INC [FRED] Keiser Doug (Month/Day/Year) 10/03/2011 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 4300 NEW GETWELL ROAD (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) 10% Owner Director _X_ Form filed by One Reporting _X__ Officer Other Person MEMPHIS, TNÂ 38118 (give title below) (specify below) Form filed by More than One Senior Vice President Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 2. Amount of Securities 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Class A Common Stock D Â 5,000 (1) Â Class A Common Stock $1,516 \frac{(3)}{}$ D Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) 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

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

currently valid OMB control number.

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Date Exercisable and	3. Title and Amount of	4.	5.	6. Nature of Indirect
(Instr. 4)	Expiration Date	Securities Underlying	Conversion	Ownership	Beneficial
	(Month/Day/Year)	Derivative Security	or Exercise	Form of	Ownership
		(Instr. 4)	Price of	Derivative	(Instr. 5)
			Derivative	Security:	

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Option on Class A Common Stock	10/03/2016	10/03/2018	Class A Common	18,182 (2)	\$ 10.45	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Keiser Doug 4300 NEW GETWELL ROAD MEMPHIS, TN 38118	Â	Â	Senior Vice President	Â		

Signatures

Anita Ryan by power of attorney 10/05/2011

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) Mr. Keiser was awarded a grant of 5,000 shares of restricted stock upon his employment.
- (2) Mr. Keiser was awarded 18,182 options that will vest 20% per year over the next five years.
- (3) Mr. Keiser was awarded 1516 restricted shares.

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.

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