FREDS INC Form 4 May 15, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

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Estimated average burden hours per response...

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * **MURKS WAYNE**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

FREDS INC [FRED]

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

Director 10% Owner

(Check all applicable)

(Month/Day/Year) 4300 NEW GETWELL

X_ Officer (give title 03/20/2006 below)

Other (specify below) Vice President

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

MEMPHIS, TN 38118

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3)

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (T) Following (Instr. 4)

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

Reported (A) Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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

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

7. Title and Amount of **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

MURKS WAYNE 4300 NEW GETWELL MEMPHIS, TN 38118

Vice President

Signatures

Anita Ryan by power of attorney

05/15/2006

**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 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.

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