BOLAND JULIE Form 4 October 25, 2004

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

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

January 31, Expires: 2005

Form 5 obligations

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form filed by More than One Reporting

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

SECURITIES

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

may continue.

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **BOLAND JULIE** Issuer Symbol FREDS INC [FRED] (Check all applicable) (Middle) (Last) (First) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify 4300 NEW GETWELL ROAD 10/25/2004 below) Vice President (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by 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 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned (I) Following (Instr. 4) (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.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Person

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5. Number	6. Date Exercisable and	7. Title and Amount of	8. Pt
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	onof	Expiration Date	Underlying Securities	Deri
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	Derivative	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)	Secu

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr.	8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)					(In	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Option on Class A Common Stock	\$ 14.6	10/25/2004		A		800		<u>(1)</u>	09/08/2011	Class A Common Stock	800	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
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Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BOLAND JULIE
4300 NEW GETWELL ROAD
MEMPHIS, TN 38118

Vice
President

Signatures

/s/ Julie Boland 10/25/2004

**Signature of 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) 10% of shares are exercisable on 9/8/2005, 9/8/2006, 9/8/2007, 9/8/2008 and 60% on 9/8/2009. Vesting can be accelerated if the company generates a 5% Operating Profit or better in the most recently completed fiscal year.

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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