DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC Form DEFA14A August 11, 2014

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report: August 11, 2014 (Date of earliest event reported)

DARDEN RESTAURANTS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Commission File Number: 1-13666

Florida (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 59-3305930 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

1000 Darden Center Drive, Orlando, Florida 32837 (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(407) 245-4000 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable (Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- " Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- x Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 8.01. Other Events.

Darden Restaurants, Inc. issued a news release dated August 11, 2014 entitled "Darden Completes Repurchase of \$900 Million of Previously Announced \$1 Billion Debt Retirement; Affirms Annual EPS Outlook and Provides Quarterly EPS Expectations," a copy of which is filed as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description
	News Release dated August 11, 2014 entitled "Darden Completes Repurchase of \$900 Million of
99.1	Previously Announced \$1 Billion Debt Retirement; Affirms Annual EPS Outlook and Provides Quarterly EPS Expectations."

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

DARDEN RESTAURANTS, INC.

By: /s/ C. Bradford Richmond C. Bradford Richmond Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Date: August 11, 2014

EXHIBIT INDEX

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Description of Exhibit
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