

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC  
Form 8-K  
March 16, 2006

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 (Date of earliest event reported) March 16, 2006

**THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

DELAWARE  
(State or Other  
Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation)

File No. 1-8989  
(Commission File  
Number)

13-3286161  
(IRS Employer  
Identification  
Number)

383 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10179

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 272-2000

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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)
- 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 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On March 16, 2006, The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. (the Registrant ) issued a press release announcing financial results for its quarter ended February 28, 2006. A copy of the press release is filed as Exhibit 99 to this Form 8-K and by this reference incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

This information shall be considered filed for purposes of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Item 8.01. Other Events.

The Board of Directors of the Registrant declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of 28 cents per share on the outstanding shares of common stock payable April 28, 2006 to stockholders of record on April 18, 2006. Also, the Board of Directors of the Registrant declared regular quarterly dividends on the outstanding shares of Preferred Stock, Series E, F & G all payable April 15, 2006 to stockholders of record on March 31, 2006. A copy of the press release is filed as Exhibit 99 to this Form 8-K and by this reference incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

This information shall be considered filed for purposes of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibit:

(99) Press Release, dated March 16, 2006.

Signature

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.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Farber  
Jeffrey M. Farber  
Controller  
(Principal Accounting Officer)

Dated: March 16, 2006

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EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
(99)	Press Release, dated March 16, 2006.