

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC
Form 10-Q
October 15, 2003

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

FORM 10-Q

Quarterly Report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the quarterly period ended August 31, 2003

or

Transition Report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 1-8989

The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or
Organization)

13-3286161
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

383 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10179
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d)

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes [X] No
[]

As of October 13, 2003, the latest practicable date, there were 98,020,561 shares of Common Stock, \$1 par value, outstanding.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Available Information	3
PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Item 1. Financial Statements	
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition as of August 31, 2003 (Unaudited) and November 30, 2002 (Audited)	4
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income (Unaudited) for the three months and nine months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002	5
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited) for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002	6
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)	7
Independent Accountants' Report	30
Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	31
Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk	55
Item 4. Controls and Procedures	57
PART II. OTHER INFORMATION	
Item 1. Legal Proceedings	58
Item 5. Other Information	60
Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K	61
Signature	63

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. and its subsidiaries (Company) files current, annual and quarterly reports, proxy statements and other information required by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). You may read and copy any document the Company files at the SEC s public reference room located at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549, U.S.A. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference rooms. The Company s SEC filings are also available to the public from the SEC s web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of these reports, proxy statements and other information can also be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005, U.S.A.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The Company's public internet site is <http://www.bearstearns.com>. The Company makes available through its internet site, via a link to the SEC's internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>, its annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, proxy statements and Forms 3, 4 and 5 filed on behalf of directors and executive officers and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as soon as reasonably practicable after it electronically files such material with, or furnishes it to, the SEC.

In addition, the Company currently makes available on <http://www.bearstearns.com> its most recent annual report on Form 10-K, its quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the current fiscal year and its most recent proxy statement, although in some cases these documents are not available on that site as soon as they are available on the SEC's site. You will need to have on your computer the Adobe Acrobat Reader software to view these documents, which are in the .PDF format.

3

Part I - Financial Information

Item 1. Financial Statements

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition

(in thousands, except share data)	(Unaudited) August 31, 2003
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>	
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,153,
Cash and securities deposited with clearing organizations or segregated in compliance with federal regulations	7,655,
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	39,873,
Securities received as collateral	6,124,
Securities borrowed	58,559,
Receivables:	
Customers	23,499,
Brokers, dealers and others	5,204,
Interest and dividends	203,
Financial instruments owned, at fair value	
Pledged as collateral	31,794,
Not pledged as collateral	29,538,
Property, equipment and leasehold improvements, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$789,115 and \$722,690 in 2003 and 2002, respectively	406,
Other assets	3,680,
	<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>
Total Assets	\$ 209,693,
	<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Short-term borrowings	\$ 12,276,
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	46,654,
Obligation to return securities received as collateral	6,124,
Securities loaned	8,381,
Payables:	
Customers	65,574,
Brokers, dealers and others	3,953,
Interest and dividends	488,
Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value	29,054,
Accrued employee compensation and benefits	1,517,
Other liabilities and accrued expenses	1,230,
	<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>
	175,254,
	<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>
Commitments and contingencies (Note 3)	

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Long-term borrowings	26,999,
Guaranteed Preferred Beneficial Interests in Company Subordinated Debt Securities	562,
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Preferred stock	664,
Common stock, \$1.00 par value; 500,000,000 shares authorized as of August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002; 184,805,848 shares issued as of August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002	184,
Paid-in capital	2,924,
Retained earnings	4,694,
Employee stock compensation plans	2,093,
Unearned compensation	(174,
Treasury stock, at cost:	
Adjustable Rate Cumulative Preferred Stock Series A:	
2,520,750 shares as of August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002	(103,
Common stock: 86,839,927 and 84,781,479 shares as of August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, respectively	(3,407,
Total Stockholders' Equity	6,875,
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 209,693,

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Note: Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period amounts to conform to the current period's presentation.

4

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of
Income

	(Unaudited)		
	Three Months Ended		Nin
(in thousands, except share and per share data)	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	August 2003
REVENUES			
Commissions	\$ 279,888	\$ 297,191	\$ 789,
Principal transactions	724,023	556,892	2,502,
Investment banking	298,716	136,532	678,
Interest and dividends	503,135	543,653	1,459,
Other income	36,509	47,129	99,
Total revenues	1,842,271	1,581,397	5,530,
Interest expense	357,211	427,013	1,067,
Revenues, net of interest expense	1,485,060	1,154,384	4,463,
NON-INTEREST EXPENSES			
Employee compensation and benefits	681,745	595,616	2,131,
Floor brokerage, exchange and clearance fees	44,830	56,644	137,
Communications and technology	93,047	90,736	276,
Occupancy	34,788	35,476	102,
Advertising and market development	24,550	26,628	77,

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Professional fees	36,608	29,878	94,
Other expenses	87,315	74,202	308,
	-----	-----	-----
Total non-interest expenses	1,002,883	909,180	3,127,
	-----	-----	-----
Income before provision for income taxes	482,177	245,204	1,335,
Provision for income taxes	168,762	80,786	467,
	-----	-----	-----
Net income	\$ 313,415	\$ 164,418	\$ 868,
	=====	=====	=====
Net income applicable to common shares	\$ 305,621	\$ 156,094	\$ 844,
	=====	=====	=====
Basic earnings per share	\$ 2.54	\$ 1.32	\$ 7
	=====	=====	=====
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 2.30	\$ 1.23	\$ 6
	=====	=====	=====
Weighted average common shares outstanding:			
Basic	128,681,694	132,436,184	129,055,
	=====	=====	=====
Diluted	145,599,540	145,895,494	146,316,
	=====	=====	=====
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.15	\$ 0
	=====	=====	=====

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

5

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

***Condensed Consolidated Statements of
Cash Flows***

	(Unaud Nine Mont

	August 31,
(in thousands)	2003
-----	-----
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net income	\$ 868,079
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash used in operating activities:	
Noncash items included in net income:	
Depreciation and amortization	106,748
Deferred income taxes	(19,358)
Employee stock compensation plans	39,647
Other	8,445
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	
Cash and securities deposited with clearing organizations or segregated in compliance with federal regulations	(554,874)
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	(3,368,237)
Securities borrowed	(5,443,193)
Receivables from customers	(5,393,989)
Receivables from brokers, dealers and others	(3,846,252)
Financial instruments owned	(7,822,946)
Other assets	(382,439)
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	2,185,482
Securities loaned	2,742,458
Payables to customers	11,760,857
Payables to brokers, dealers and others	1,026,182

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased	4,632,965
Accrued employee compensation and benefits	352,494
Other liabilities and accrued expenses	24,630

Cash used in operating activities	(3,083,301)

CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
Net payments for short-term borrowings	(2,133,509)
Net proceeds from issuance of long-term borrowings	8,916,194
Redemption of preferred stock issued by a subsidiary	--
Issuance of common stock	71,930
Redemption of preferred stock	(27,660)
Payments for retirement of long-term borrowings	(5,739,402)
Treasury stock purchases - common stock	(398,785)
Cash dividends paid	(77,565)

Cash provided by (used in) financing activities	611,203

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Purchases of property, equipment and leasehold improvements - net	(29,187)
Purchases of investment securities and other assets	(102,527)
Proceeds from sales of investment securities and other assets	237,196

Cash provided by investing activities	105,482

Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(2,366,616)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	5,520,285

Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 3,153,669
	=====

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Note: Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period amounts to conform to the current period's presentation.

6

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

For a more complete discussion of The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. and its subsidiaries ("Company") accounting policies, refer to Note 1, "Summary of Significant Accounting Policies" of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002 filed by the Company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Basis of Presentation

The condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company. All material intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation. The Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Condition as of August 31, 2003, the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income for the three months and nine months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002 and the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002 are unaudited. The November 30, 2002 Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Condition and related information was derived from the audited financial statements.

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") with respect to the Form 10-Q and reflect all adjustments which in the opinion of management are normal and recurring, which are necessary for a fair statement of the results for the interim periods presented. In accordance with such rules and regulations, certain disclosures that are normally included in annual financial statements have been omitted. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002 filed by the Company under the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

The condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These principles require management to make certain estimates and assumptions, including those regarding inventory valuations, stock compensation, certain accrued liabilities and the potential outcome of litigation, which may affect the amounts reported in the condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ materially from these estimates. The nature of the Company's business is such that the results of any interim period may not be indicative of the results to be expected for an entire fiscal year.

The Company, through its principal operating subsidiaries, Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. ("Bear Stearns"), Bear, Stearns Securities Corp. ("BSSC"), Bear, Stearns International Limited ("BSIL") and Bear Stearns Bank plc ("BSB"), is primarily engaged in business as a securities

7

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

broker-dealer and operates in three principal segments: Capital Markets, Global Clearing Services and Wealth Management. Capital Markets is comprised of the institutional equities, fixed income and investment banking areas. Global Clearing Services is composed of the clearance business for prime broker and fully disclosed clients. Wealth Management is comprised of the Private Client Services ("PCS") and asset management areas. See Note 9, "Segment Data," of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board "FASB" issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards "SFAS" No. 150, "Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of both Liabilities and Equity." SFAS No. 150 establishes standards for classifying and measuring certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. SFAS 150 is effective for financial instruments entered into or modified after May 31, 2003, and otherwise is effective at the beginning of the first interim period beginning after June 15, 2003. The Company will adopt SFAS No. 150 as required in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2003 and does not expect a material impact on the consolidated financial statements.

In January 2003, the FASB issued FIN No. 46 Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities an Interpretation of ARB No. 51. FIN No. 46 provides guidance on the consolidation of certain entities in which equity investors do not have the characteristics of a controlling financial interest or do not have sufficient equity at risk for the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support. Such entities are referred to as variable interest entities (VIEs). FIN No. 46 requires the primary beneficiary of a VIE to consolidate the entity. For existing entities, the provisions of FIN No. 46 do not apply until the end of the first interim period ending after December 15, 2003. For new entities, FIN No. 46 was effective after January 31, 2003. See Note 11, Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, for a further discussion.

8

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

2. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial instruments owned and financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, consisting of the Company's proprietary trading inventories, at fair value, were as follows:

(in thousands)	August 31, 2003	November 30, 2002

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS OWNED:		
US government and agency	\$ 6,035,838	\$ 5,754,144
Other sovereign governments	869,419	1,064,850
Corporate equity and convertible debt	11,055,212	7,746,419

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Corporate debt and other	8,614,507	7,337,940
Mortgages, mortgage- and asset-backed	23,027,695	20,019,289
Derivative financial instruments	11,730,313	11,522,026
	\$61,332,984	\$53,444,668
=====		
FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS SOLD, BUT NOT YET PURCHASED:		
US government and agency	\$ 8,712,375	\$ 8,206,597
Other sovereign governments	1,126,393	1,209,421
Corporate equity and convertible debt	7,237,845	4,935,396
Corporate debt and other	2,291,418	2,213,984
Mortgage- and asset-backed	444,557	--
Derivative financial instruments	9,241,650	7,855,875
	\$29,054,238	\$24,421,273
=====		

As of August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, all financial instruments owned that were pledged to counterparties where the counterparty has the right, by contract or custom, to rehypothecate these securities are classified as "Financial Instruments Owned, Pledged as Collateral" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, represent obligations of the Company to deliver the specified financial instrument at the contracted price and thereby create a liability to purchase the financial instrument in the market at prevailing prices. These transactions result in off-balance-sheet risk as the Company's ultimate obligation to purchase such securities may exceed the amount recognized in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

9

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

3. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

In the ordinary course of business, the Company has commitments in connection with various activities, the most significant of which are as follows:

Commercial Lending

In connection with certain of the Company's business activities, the Company provides financing or financing commitments to investment-grade and non-investment-grade companies in the form of senior and subordinated debt, including bridge financing. Commitments have varying maturity dates and are generally contingent on the accuracy and validity of certain representations, warranties and contractual conditions applicable to the borrower. Commercial lending commitments to investment-grade borrowers aggregated approximately \$1.3 billion at August 31, 2003 (gross commitments of \$1.9 billion less \$0.6 billion of associated hedges). Commercial lending commitments to non-investment-grade borrowers approximated \$959.7 million at August 31, 2003.

Private Equity-Related Investments and Partnerships

In connection with the Company's merchant banking activities, the Company has commitments to invest in merchant banking or private equity-related investment funds as well as commitments to invest directly in private equity-related investments. At August 31, 2003, such commitments aggregated \$615.3 million. These commitments will be funded, if called, through the end of the respective investment periods, the longest of such periods ending in 2011.

Underwriting

In connection with the Company's mortgage-backed securitizations and fixed income underwriting, the Company had commitments to purchase and sell new issues of securities aggregating \$222.8 million at August 31, 2003.

Letters of Credit

At August 31, 2003, the Company was contingently liable for unsecured letters of credit of approximately \$2.4 billion and letters of credit of \$872.5 million secured by financial instruments, primarily used to provide collateral for securities borrowed and to satisfy margin requirements at option and commodity exchanges.

Borrow Versus Pledge

At August 31, 2003, the Company had pledged securities, primarily US government and agency securities with a market value of approximately \$3.5 billion as collateral for securities borrowed, with an approximate market value of \$3.4 billion.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

3. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (continued)

Chapter 13 and Other Credit Card Receivables

The Company had commitments to purchase Chapter 13 and other credit card receivables of \$164.9 million at August 31, 2003.

With respect to certain of the commitments outlined above, the Company utilizes various hedging strategies to actively manage its market, credit and liquidity exposures. Additionally, since these commitments may expire unused, the total commitment amount may not necessarily reflect the actual future cash funding requirements.

Litigation

In the normal course of business, the Company has been named as a defendant in various lawsuits that involve claims for substantial amounts. Also, the Company is involved from time to time in investigations and proceedings by governmental agencies and self-regulatory organizations. Although the ultimate outcome of the various matters cannot be ascertained at this time, it is the opinion of management, after consultation with counsel, that the resolution of the foregoing matters will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the Company, taken as a whole. Such resolution may, however, have a material effect on the operating results in any future period, depending on the level of income for such period. Litigation costs other than professional fees are reflected in "Other Expenses" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income.

4. GUARANTEES

In the ordinary course of business, the Company issues various guarantees to counterparties in connection with certain derivative, leasing, securitization and other transactions. On February 28, 2003, the Company adopted the new disclosure requirements for guarantees in accordance with FASB Interpretation ("FIN") No. 45, "Guarantors Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others." On January 1, 2003, the Company adopted the recognition requirements of FIN No. 45, requiring the Company to recognize a liability at the inception of certain guarantees for obligations it has undertaken in issuing the guarantees. The adoption of FIN No. 45 did not have a material effect on the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

The guarantees covered by FIN No. 45 include contracts that contingently require the guarantor to make payments to the guaranteed party based on changes related to an asset, a liability or an equity security of the guaranteed party, contracts that contingently require the guarantor to make payments to the guaranteed party based on another entity's failure to perform under an agreement and indirect guarantees of the indebtedness of others, even though the payment to the guaranteed party may not be based on changes to an asset, liability or equity security of the guaranteed party. In addition, FIN No. 45 covers certain indemnification agreements that contingently require the guarantor to make payments to the indemnified party, such as an adverse judgment in a lawsuit or the imposition of additional taxes due to either a change in the tax law or an adverse interpretation of the tax law.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

The following table sets forth the maximum payout/notional amounts associated with the Company's guarantees as of August 31, 2003:

(in millions)	Amount of Guarantee Expiration Per Period			
	Less Than One Year	One to Three Years	Three to Five Years	Grea than Yea
Derivative contracts (notional) (1)	\$140,370	\$127,317	\$ 82,783	\$ 56,
Municipal securities	2,011	431	--	-
Residual value guarantee	--	--	570	-

(1) The carrying value of these derivatives approximated \$7 billion.

Derivative Contracts

The Company's dealer activities cause it to make markets and trade a variety of derivative instruments. Certain derivative contracts that the Company has entered into meet the accounting definition of a guarantee under FIN No. 45. Derivatives that meet the FIN No. 45 definition of guarantees include credit default swaps (whereby a default or significant change in the credit quality of the underlying financial instrument may obligate the Company to make a payment), certain written call and put options, swaptions, as well as floors, caps and collars. Since the Company does not track the counterparties' purpose for entering into a derivative contract, it has disclosed derivative contracts that are likely to be used to protect against a change in an underlying financial instrument, regardless of their actual use.

12

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

4. GUARANTEES (continued)

On certain of these contracts, such as written interest rate caps and floors and foreign currency options, the maximum payout cannot be quantified since the increase in interest rates and foreign exchange rates is not contractually limited by the terms of the contracts. As such, the Company has disclosed notional amounts as a measure of the extent of its involvement in these classes of derivatives rather than maximum payout. Notional amounts do not represent the maximum payout and generally overstate the Company's exposure to these contracts. These derivative contracts are recorded at fair value which approximated \$7 billion at August 31, 2003.

In connection with these activities, the Company attempts to mitigate its exposure to market risk by entering into a variety of offsetting derivative contracts and security positions. For a discussion of derivatives, see Risk Management and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002.

Residual Value Guarantee

The Company has entered into an operating lease arrangement for its worldwide headquarters at 383 Madison Avenue (the "Synthetic Lease"). Under the terms of the Synthetic Lease, the Company is obligated to make monthly payments based on the lessor's underlying interest costs. The Synthetic Lease expires on August 15, 2008, after which the Company may request a renewal. If the lease renewal cannot be negotiated, the Company has the right to purchase the building for the amount of the then outstanding indebtedness of the lessor or to arrange for the sale of the property with the proceeds of the sale to be used to satisfy the lessor's debt obligation. If the sale of the property does not generate sufficient proceeds to satisfy the lessor's debt obligation, the Company is required to fund the shortfall up to a maximum residual value guarantee. As of August 31, 2003, there was no expected shortfall and the residual value guarantee approximated \$570 million.

13

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

4. GUARANTEES (continued)

Municipal Securities

In 1997, the Company established a program whereby it has created a series of municipal securities trusts in which it has retained interests. These trusts purchase fixed-rate, long-term, highly rated, insured or escrowed municipal bonds financed by the issuance of trust certificates. Certain of the trust certificates entitle the holder to receive future payments of principal and variable interest and to tender such certificates at the option of the holder on a periodic basis. The Company acts as placement agent and as liquidity provider. The purpose of the program is to allow the Company's clients to purchase synthetic short-term, floating-rate municipal debt that does not otherwise exist in the marketplace. In the Company's capacity as liquidity provider to the trusts, the maximum exposure to loss at August 31, 2003 was approximately \$2.44 billion, which represents the outstanding amount of all trust certificates. This exposure to loss is mitigated by the underlying municipal bonds. The underlying municipal bonds in the trusts are either AAA- or AA-rated, insured or escrowed to maturity. Such bonds had a market value net of related hedges approximating \$2.40 billion at August 31, 2003.

Indemnifications

The Company provides representations and warranties to counterparties in connection with a variety of commercial transactions, including certain asset sales and securitizations and occasionally indemnifies them against potential losses caused by the breach of those representations and warranties. To mitigate these risks with respect to assets being securitized that have been originated by third parties, the Company seeks to obtain appropriate representations and warranties from such third party originators upon acquisition of such assets. The Company generally performs due-diligence on assets purchased and maintains underwriting standards for assets originated. The Company may also provide indemnifications to some counterparties to protect them in the event additional taxes are owed or payments are withheld, due either to a change in or adverse application of certain tax laws. These indemnifications generally are standard contractual terms and are entered into in the normal course of business. Generally, there are no stated or notional amounts included in these indemnifications, and the contingencies triggering the obligation to indemnify are not expected to occur.

14

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

4. GUARANTEES (continued)

Maximum payout information under these indemnifications is not readily available because of the number, size, and lives of these transactions. In implementing this accounting interpretation, the Company reviewed its experience with the indemnifications on these structures. Based on such experience, it is unlikely that the Company will have to make significant payments under these arrangements.

Other Guarantees

The Company is a member of numerous exchanges and clearinghouses. Under the standard membership agreements, members are generally required to guarantee the performance of other members. Under these agreements, if a member becomes unable to satisfy its obligations to the clearinghouse, other members would be required to meet shortfalls. To mitigate these performance risks, the exchanges and clearinghouses often require members to post collateral. The Company's maximum potential liability under these arrangements cannot be quantified. However, the potential for the Company to be required to make payments under these arrangements is unlikely. Accordingly, no contingent liability is recorded in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for these arrangements.

5. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

Bear Stearns and BSSC are registered broker-dealers and, accordingly, are subject to Rule 15c3-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Net Capital Rule") and the capital rules of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. ("NYSE"), the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") and other principal exchanges of which Bear Stearns and BSSC are members. Included in the computation of net capital of Bear Stearns, as defined, is \$961.4 million, relating to the net capital of BSSC in excess of 5.5% of aggregate debit items arising from customer transactions, as defined. At August 31, 2003, Bear Stearns' net capital of \$2.42 billion exceeded the minimum requirement by \$2.35 billion.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

5. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS (continued)

BSIL and Bear Stearns International Trading Limited ("BSIT"), London-based broker-dealer subsidiaries, are subject to the regulatory capital requirements of the Financial Services Authority.

BSB, an Ireland-based bank principally involved in the trading and sales of fixed income products, is registered in Ireland and is subject to the regulatory capital requirements of the Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland.

At August 31, 2003, Bear Stearns, BSSC, BSIL, BSIT and BSB were in compliance with their respective regulatory capital requirements.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

6. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Earnings per share ("EPS") is computed in accordance with SFAS No. 128, "Earnings Per Share." Basic EPS is computed by dividing net income applicable to common shares, adjusted for costs related to vested shares under the Capital Accumulation Plan for Senior Managing Directors, as amended ("CAP Plan"), as well as the effect of the redemption of preferred stock, by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding. Common shares outstanding includes vested units issued under certain stock compensation plans, which will be distributed as shares of common stock. Diluted EPS includes the determinants of Basic EPS and, in addition, gives effect to dilutive potential common shares related to stock compensation plans.

The computations of Basic and Diluted EPS are set forth below:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Mo
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	August 3 2003

(in thousands, except per share amounts)			

Net income	\$ 313,415	\$ 164,418	\$ 868,079
Preferred stock dividends	(7,794)	(8,324)	(23,580)
Redemption of preferred stock	--	4,622	719
Income adjustment (net of tax) applicable to deferred compensation arrangements-vested shares	21,037	14,662	60,698

Net earnings used for basic EPS	326,658	175,378	905,916
Income adjustment (net of tax) applicable to deferred compensation arrangements-nonvested shares	7,522	3,616	21,554

Net earnings used for diluted EPS	\$ 334,180	\$ 178,994	\$ 927,470
=====			
Total basic weighted average common shares outstanding (1)	128,682	132,436	129,056

Effect of dilutive securities:			
Employee stock options	2,666	1,607	2,229
CAP and restricted units	14,252	11,852	15,031

Dilutive potential common shares	16,918	13,459	17,260

6. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Weighted average number of common shares outstanding and dilutive potential common shares	145,600	145,895	146,316
Basic EPS	\$ 2.54	\$ 1.32	\$ 7.02
Diluted EPS	\$ 2.30	\$ 1.23	\$ 6.34

(1) Includes 29,608,468 and 33,935,786 vested units for the three months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002, respectively, and 29,913,893 and 34,289,663 vested units for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002, respectively, issued under certain stock compensation plans which will be distributed as shares of common stock.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

7. CASH FLOW INFORMATION

For purposes of the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, the Company has defined cash equivalents as liquid investments not held for sale in the ordinary course of business with original maturities of three months or less. Cash payments for interest approximated interest expense for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002. Income taxes paid totaled \$288.9 million and \$220.1 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002, respectively.

8. DERIVATIVES AND HEDGING ACTIVITIES

SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," as amended by SFAS No. 138, "Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities," establishes accounting and reporting standards for stand-alone derivative instruments, derivatives embedded within other contracts or securities and for hedging activities. It requires that all derivatives, whether stand-alone or embedded within other contracts or securities (except in very defined circumstances) be carried on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Condition at their then fair value. SFAS No. 133 requires that all derivatives be carried at fair value, including those used as hedges. SFAS No. 133 also requires items designated as being hedged, previously carried at accrued values, now be marked to market for the risk being hedged, provided that the intent to hedge is fully documented. Any resultant net change in value for both the hedging derivative and the hedged item is recognized in earnings immediately, such net effect being deemed the "ineffective" portion of the hedge. The gains and losses associated with the ineffective portion of the fair value hedges are included in "Principal Transactions" revenues in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income and were not material for the three months and nine months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002.

In April 2003, the FASB issued SFAS No. 149, "Amendment of Statement 133 on Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." SFAS No. 149 amends and clarifies financial accounting and reporting for derivative instruments, including certain derivative instruments embedded in other contracts and for hedging activities under SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." In general, SFAS No. 149 is effective for contracts entered into or modified after June 30, 2003 and for hedging relationships designated after June 30, 2003. The Company adopted SFAS No. 149 as required in the third quarter of fiscal 2003 with no impact on the consolidated financial statements.

To measure derivative activity, notional or contract amounts are frequently used. Notional/contract amounts are used to calculate contractual cash flows to be exchanged and are generally not actually paid or received, with the exception of currency swaps, foreign exchange forwards and mortgage-backed securities forwards. The notional/contract amounts

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

8. DERIVATIVES AND HEDGING ACTIVITIES (continued)

of financial instruments that give rise to off-balance-sheet market risk are indicative only to the extent of involvement in the particular class of financial instrument and are not necessarily an indication of overall market risk.

As of August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, the Company had notional/contract amounts of approximately \$1.8 trillion and \$1.6 trillion, respectively, of derivative financial instruments, of which \$304.0 billion and \$421.1 billion, respectively, were listed futures and option contracts. The aggregate notional/contract value of derivative contracts is a reflection of the level of activity and does not represent the amounts that are recorded in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. The Company's derivative financial instruments outstanding, which either are used to hedge trading positions, fixed-rate debt, or are part of its derivative dealer activities, are marked to fair value.

The Company's derivatives had a weighted average maturity of approximately 4.4 years and 3.9 years at August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, respectively.

The maturities of notional/contract amounts outstanding for derivative financial instruments as of August 31, 2003 were as follows:

(in billions)	Less Than One Year	One to Three Years	Three to Five Years	Greater Than Five Years
Swap agreements, including options, swaptions, caps, collars and floors	\$ 235.4	\$ 356.1	\$ 340.6	\$ 456.9
Futures contracts	73.8	36.6	8.9	
Forward contracts	68.1			
Options held	108.3	28.5	0.7	0.1
Options written	69.7	6.9	0.5	0.1
Total	\$ 555.3	\$ 428.1	\$ 350.7	\$ 457.1
Percent of total	30.9%	23.9%	19.6%	25.6%

Derivatives Credit Risk

Derivative financial instruments represent contractual commitments between counterparties that derive their value from changes in an underlying interest rate, currency exchange rate, index (e.g., Standard & Poor's 500 Index), reference rate (e.g., London Interbank Offered Rate "LIBOR"), or asset value referenced in the related contract. Some derivatives, such as futures contracts, certain options and indexed referenced warrants, can be traded on an exchange. Other derivatives, such as interest rate and currency swaps, caps, floors, collars, swaptions, equity swaps and options, credit derivatives, structured notes and forward contracts, are negotiated in the over-the-counter markets. Derivatives generate both on- and

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

8. DERIVATIVES AND HEDGING ACTIVITIES (continued)

off-balance-sheet risks depending on the nature of the contract. The Company is engaged as a dealer in over-the-counter derivatives and, accordingly, enters into transactions involving derivative instruments as part of its customer-related and proprietary trading activities.

The Company's dealer activities require it to make markets and trade a variety of derivative instruments. In connection with these activities, the Company attempts to mitigate its exposure to market risk by entering into hedging transactions which may include over-the-counter derivative contracts or the purchase or sale of interest-bearing securities, equity securities, financial futures and forward contracts. In this regard, the utilization of derivative instruments is designed to reduce or mitigate market risks associated with holding dealer inventories or in connection with arbitrage-related trading activities. The Company also utilizes interest rate and currency swaps as well as futures contracts and US treasury

positions to hedge its debt issuances as part of its asset and liability management.

Credit risk arises from the potential inability of counterparties to perform in accordance with the terms of the contract. At any point in time, the Company's exposure to credit risk associated with counterparty non-performance is generally limited to the net replacement cost of over-the-counter contracts net of the value of collateral held. Such financial instruments are reported at fair value on a net-by-counterparty basis pursuant to enforceable netting agreements. Exchange-traded financial instruments, such as futures and options, generally do not give rise to significant unsecured counterparty exposure due to the Company's margin requirements, which may be greater than those prescribed by the individual exchanges. Options written generally do not give rise to counterparty credit risk since they obligate the Company (not its counterparty) to perform.

The Company has controls in place to monitor credit exposures by assessing the future creditworthiness of counterparties and limiting transactions with specific counterparties. The Company also seeks to control credit risk by following an established credit approval process, monitoring credit limits and requiring collateral where appropriate.

20

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

8. DERIVATIVES AND HEDGING ACTIVITIES (continued)

The following table summarizes the counterparty credit quality of the Company's exposure with respect to over-the-counter derivatives (including foreign exchange and forward-settling mortgage transactions) as of August 31, 2003:

Over-the-Counter Derivative Credit Exposure (1)
(\$ in millions)

Rating (2)	Exposure	Collateral (3)	Exposure, Net of Collateral (4)	Percenta of Exposu Net of Collater
AAA	\$1,943	\$ 768	\$1,261	35
AA	1,955	810	1,247	35
A	1,255	605	730	21
BBB	301	225	182	5
BB and lower	596	1,502	154	4
Non-rated	3	--	3	0

(1) Excluded are covered transactions structured to ensure that the market values of collateral will at all times equal or exceed the related exposures. The net exposure for these transactions will, under all circumstances, be zero.

(2) Internal counterparty credit ratings, as assigned by the Company's Credit Department, converted to rating agency equivalents.

(3) For lower-rated counterparties, the Company generally receives collateral in excess of the current market value of derivatives contracts.

(4) In calculating exposure net of collateral, collateral amounts are limited to the amount of current exposure for each counterparty. Excess collateral is not applied to reduce exposure because such excess in one counterparty portfolio cannot be applied to deficient collateral in a different counterparty portfolio.

9. SEGMENT DATA

The Company operates in three principal segments -- Capital Markets, Global Clearing Services and Wealth Management. These segments offer different products and services and are managed separately as different levels and types of expertise are required to effectively manage the segments' transactions.

The Capital Markets segment comprises the institutional equities, fixed income and investment banking areas. The Capital Markets segment operates as a single integrated unit that provides the sales, trading and origination effort for various fixed income, equity and advisory products and services. Each of the three businesses works in tandem to deliver these services to institutional and corporate clients.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

9. SEGMENT DATA (continued)

Institutional equities consists of sales, trading and research in areas such as institutional domestic and international equity sales, block trading, convertible bonds, over-the-counter equities, equity derivatives, risk and convertible arbitrage and NYSE, American Stock Exchange and International Securities Exchange specialist activities. Fixed income includes sales, trading and research for institutional clients in a variety of products such as mortgage- and asset-backed securities, corporate and government bonds, municipal and high yield products, foreign exchange and fixed income derivatives. Investment banking provides services in capital raising, strategic advice, mergers and acquisitions and merchant banking. Capital raising encompasses the Company's underwriting of equity, investment-grade and high yield debt products.

The Global Clearing Services segment provides execution, clearing, margin lending and securities borrowing to facilitate customer short sales to clearing clients worldwide. Prime brokerage clients include hedge funds and clients of money managers, short sellers, arbitrageurs and other professional investors. Fully disclosed clients engage in either the retail or institutional brokerage business.

The Wealth Management segment is comprised of the PCS and asset management areas. PCS provides high-net-worth individuals with an institutional level of investment service, including access to the Company's resources and professionals. Asset management manages equity, fixed income and alternative assets for leading corporate pension plans, public systems, endowments, foundations, multi-employer plans, insurance companies, corporations, families and high net-worth individuals in the US and abroad. The three business segments comprise many business areas with interactions among each. Revenues and expenses include those that are directly related to each segment. Revenues from intersegment transactions are based upon specific criteria or agreed-upon rates with such amounts eliminated in consolidation. Individual segments also include revenues and expenses relating to various items, including corporate overhead and interest, which are internally allocated by the Company primarily based on balance-sheet usage or expense levels. The Company generally evaluates performance of the segments based on net revenues and profit or loss before provision for income taxes.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

9. SEGMENT DATA (continued)

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002
NET REVENUES				
Capital Markets				
Institutional Equities	\$ 200,506	\$ 288,609	\$ 666,313	\$ 811,128
Fixed Income	720,128	407,333	2,276,535	1,411,128
Investment Banking	299,742	163,583	710,945	710,945
Total Capital Markets	1,220,376	859,525	3,653,793	3,011,128
Global Clearing Services	200,929	191,506	564,112	564,112
Wealth Management	126,351	124,037	366,341	366,341
Other (1)	(62,596)	(20,684)	(121,032)	(121,032)
Total net revenues	\$ 1,485,060	\$ 1,154,384	\$ 4,463,214	\$ 4,411,128
PRE-TAX INCOME				

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Capital Markets	\$ 540,942	\$ 257,716	\$ 1,490,832	\$ 1,0
Global Clearing Services	68,456	66,637	158,404	2
Wealth Management	9,851	(3,202)	20,518	
Other (1)	(137,072)	(75,947)	(334,248)	(2)

Total pre-tax income	\$ 482,177	\$ 245,204	\$ 1,335,506	\$ 1,0
=====				

(in thousands)	As of		
	August 31, 2003	November 30, 2002	August 31, 2002

SEGMENT ASSETS			
Capital Markets	\$ 141,399,233	\$ 123,332,776	\$ 132,351,443
Global Clearing Services	70,222,923	60,754,131	53,872,141
Wealth Management	3,599,983	3,555,762	3,586,731
Other (1)	(5,529,139)	(2,788,246)	(4,587,291)

Total segment assets	\$ 209,693,000	\$ 184,854,423	\$ 185,223,024
=====			

(1) Includes consolidation and elimination entries, unallocated revenues (predominantly interest), and certain corporate administrative functions, including certain legal costs and costs related to the CAP Plan. CAP Plan costs approximated \$50 million and \$32 million for the three months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002, respectively, and \$144 million and \$131 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002, respectively.

23

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

10. TRANSFERS OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Securitizations

The Company regularly securitizes commercial and residential mortgages, consumer receivables and other financial assets. Interests in these securitized assets may be retained in the form of senior or subordinated securities or as residual interests. These retained interests are included in "Financial Instruments Owned" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition and are carried at fair value. Securitization transactions are generally treated as sales, with resulting gain or loss included in "Principal Transactions" revenue in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. Consistent with the valuation of similar inventory, fair value is determined by broker-dealer price quotations and internal valuation pricing models that utilize variables such as yield curves, prepayment speeds, default rates, loss severity, interest rate volatilities and spreads. The assumptions used for pricing variables are primarily based on observable transactions in similar securities and are further verified by external pricing sources, when available. During the quarters ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002, the Company executed securitization transactions of approximately \$36.1 billion and \$25.5 billion, respectively, including securitizations of its own assets of approximately \$25.9 billion and \$16.4 billion, respectively. Securitizations of its own assets include \$14.4 billion and \$9.9 billion, respectively, in agency mortgage-backed securities; \$11.3 billion and \$5.5 billion, respectively, in non-agency mortgage-backed securities; and \$0.2 billion and \$1.0 billion, respectively, in other asset-backed securities. The Company is an active market maker in these securities and therefore may retain interests in assets it securitizes, predominantly highly rated or government agency-backed securities. Retained interests in assets the Company securitized, including senior and subordinated securities, approximated \$3.5 billion and \$2.3 billion at August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, respectively. As of August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, retained interests include \$2.5 billion and \$1.7 billion in agency mortgage-backed securities, respectively; \$0.8 billion and \$0.4 billion in non-agency mortgage-backed securities, respectively, and \$0.2 billion and \$0.2 billion in other asset-backed securities, respectively.

The models employed in the valuation of retained interests use discount rates that are based on the swap curve. Key points on the swap curve at August 31, 2003 were 2.24% for two-year swaps and 4.96% for 10-year swaps. These models also consider prepayment speeds, as well as credit losses. Credit losses are considered through option-adjusted spreads that also utilize additional factors such as liquidity and optionality.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

10. TRANSFERS OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES (continued)

Key valuation assumptions used in measuring the current fair value of retained interests in assets the Company securitized at August 31, 2003 were as follows:

	Agency Mortgage-Backed	Other Mortgage-Backed	As
Weighted average life (years)	7.24	5.19	
Average prepayment speeds (annual rate)	7% - 45%	0.1% - 39%	
Credit losses	1.28%	8.04%	

The following hypothetical sensitivity analysis as of August 31, 2003 illustrates the potential change in fair value of these retained interests due to a specified change in the key valuation assumptions. The interest rate changes represent a parallel shift in the swap curve. This shift considers the effect of other variables, including prepayments. The remaining valuation assumptions are changed independently.

(in millions)	Agency Mortgage-Backed	Other Mortgage-Backed	Other Asset-Backed
Interest rates			
50 basis point increase	\$ (54.8)	\$ (7.4)	\$ (2.1)
100 basis point increase	(113.9)	(16.5)	(4.3)
50 basis point decrease	47.9	4.3	1.5
*80 basis point decrease	71.4	3.8	3.2
Prepayment speeds			
10% increase	1.9	(11.4)	n/a
20% increase	3.6	(21.9)	n/a
10% decrease	(2.3)	12.6	n/a
20% decrease	(5.4)	26.6	n/a
Credit losses			
10% adverse change	(7.5)	(9.7)	(1.8)
20% adverse change	(14.8)	(18.5)	(3.5)
10% favorable change	7.7	10.9	1.5
20% favorable change	15.7	23.3	3.0

* In previous quarters this table presented a 100 basis point shift in the swap curve, however the level of interest rates at August 31, 2003 made such an assumption impractical.

The previous table should be viewed with caution since the changes in a single variable generally cannot occur without changes in other variables or conditions that may counteract or amplify the effect of the changes outlined in the table. In addition, the table does not consider the change in fair value of hedging positions which would generally offset the changes detailed in the table, nor does it consider any corrective action that the Company may take in response to changes in these conditions. The effect of hedges is not presented because hedging positions are established on a macro level and allocating the effect would not be practicable.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

10. TRANSFERS OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES (continued)

The following table summarizes cash flows from securitization trusts related to securitization transactions during the quarter ended August 31, 2003:

(in millions)	Agency Mortgage-Backed	Other Mortgage-Backed	Other Asset-Backed
Cash flows received from retained interests	\$112.5	\$47.0	\$3.6
Cash flows from servicing	n/a	1.2	n/a

Collateralized Financing Arrangements

The Company enters into secured borrowing or lending agreements to obtain collateral necessary to effect settlements, finance inventory positions, meet customer needs or re-lend as part of its dealer operations.

The Company receives collateral under reverse repurchase agreements, securities borrowing transactions, derivative transactions, customer margin loans and other secured money-lending activities. In many instances, the Company is permitted to rehypothecate such securities. The Company also pledges financial instruments owned to collateralize certain financing arrangements. These securities are recorded as "Financial Instruments Owned, Pledged As Collateral" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

At August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, the Company had received securities pledged as collateral that can be repledged, delivered or otherwise used with a fair value of approximately \$210 billion and \$184 billion, respectively. This collateral was generally obtained under reverse repurchase, securities borrowing or margin lending agreements. Of these securities received as collateral, those with a fair value of approximately \$129 billion and \$116 billion were delivered or repledged, generally as collateral under repurchase or securities lending agreements or to cover short sales at August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, respectively.

26

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

11. CONSOLIDATION OF VARIABLE INTEREST ENTITIES

In January 2003, FASB issued FIN No. 46, Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities an Interpretation of ARB No. 51. FIN No.46 provides guidance on the consolidation of certain entities in which the equity investors do not have the characteristics of a controlling financial interest or do not have sufficient equity at risk for the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support. Such entities are referred to as variable interest entities (VIEs). FIN No. 46 requires the primary beneficiary of a VIE to consolidate the entity. The Company regularly creates or transacts with entities that may be VIEs. These entities are an essential part of its securitization, asset management and structured finance businesses. In addition, the Company purchases and sells instruments that may be variable interests.

The Company adopted the provisions of FIN No. 46 for VIEs created after January 31, 2003 and for VIEs in which the Company acquired an interest after January 31, 2003. The Company will adopt FIN No. 46 as it relates to its interests in VIEs that existed prior to January 31, 2003, as required, on February 28, 2004. Although the Company is still evaluating the impact of FIN No. 46 relating to interests in VIEs that existed prior to January 31, 2003, it is reasonably possible that FIN No. 46 will require consolidation of, or additional disclosures related to, the entities described below.

The Company acts as transferor, seller, investor, structurer, underwriter or derivative counterparty in securitization transactions. These transactions typically involve entities that are qualifying special purpose entities as defined in SFAS No. 140. However, occasionally such entities are VIEs. The VIEs in these transactions own the securitized assets and issue beneficial interests in the assets. The holders of the beneficial interest have no recourse to the Company, only to the assets held by the VIE. In certain of these VIEs, the Company is the primary beneficiary through its ownership of certain beneficial interests, which it may sell in the normal course of business.

The Company also acts as portfolio manager and/ or underwriter in several collateralized debt obligation transactions. In these transactions, the Company establishes a trust that purchases a portfolio of assets and issues trust certificates that represent interests in the portfolio of assets. In addition to receiving variable compensation for managing the portfolio, the Company may also retain certain trust certificates. In certain of these transactions these interests result in the Company becoming the primary beneficiary of these entities. The holders of the trust certificates have recourse only to the underlying assets of the trusts and not to other assets of the Company.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

11. CONSOLIDATION OF VARIABLE INTEREST ENTITIES (continued)

Assets held by VIEs, which are not currently consolidated, in which the Company is the primary beneficiary as discussed in the preceding two paragraphs approximated \$1 billion. The Company's maximum exposure to loss as a result of its relationship with these VIEs is approximately \$8.6 million which represents the fair value of its interests.

The Company also owns significant variable interests in several VIEs related to collateralized debt obligations or asset securitizations for which the Company is not the primary beneficiary and therefore does not consolidate these entities. In aggregate, these VIEs have assets approximating \$3.4 billion. The Company's maximum exposure to loss from these entities approximates \$17.3 million at August 31, 2003.

12. STOCK COMPENSATION PLANS

In December 2002, the FASB issued SFAS No. 148 "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation-- Transition and Disclosure," which amends SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation." SFAS No. 148 provides three alternative methods of transition for a voluntary change to fair value accounting for stock-based compensation as permitted under SFAS No. 123. It also requires prominent disclosures about the method of accounting for stock-based compensation and its effect on reported results. The three alternatives are: 1) the prospective method in which fair value expense would be recognized for all awards granted in the year of adoption, but not previous awards, 2) the modified prospective method in which fair value expense would be recognized for the unvested portion of all prior stock options granted and those granted in the year of adoption, and 3) the retroactive restatement method which is similar to the modified prospective method, except that all prior periods are restated. The Company has adopted fair value accounting for stock-based compensation for fiscal 2003 using the prospective method provided by SFAS No. 148. Commencing with all grants made after November 30, 2002, the Company expenses the fair value of stock options issued to employees over the related vesting period.

The cost related to stock-based compensation included in the determination of net income for the three months and nine months ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002 is less than that which would have been recognized if the fair value based method had been applied to stock option awards since the original effective date of SFAS No. 123. The following table illustrates the effect on net income and earnings per share if the fair value based method had been applied to all outstanding and unvested awards in each period.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

12. STOCK COMPENSATION PLANS (continued)

(in millions, except per share amounts)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	August 31, 2003
Net income, as reported	\$ 313.4	\$ 164.4	\$ 868.1
Add: Stock-based employee compensation plans expense included in reported net income, net of related tax effects	5.8	4.5	22.7
Deduct: Total stock-based employee compensation plans			

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

expense determined under the fair value based method, net of related tax effects	(19.1)	(16.0)	(62.6)
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>			
Pro forma net income	\$ 300.1	\$ 152.9	\$ 828.2
<hr style="border-top: 3px double black;"/>			
Earnings per share:			
Basic - as reported	\$ 2.54	\$ 1.32	\$ 7.02
Basic - pro forma	\$ 2.43	\$ 1.24	\$ 6.71
Diluted - as reported	\$ 2.30	\$ 1.23	\$ 6.34
Diluted - pro forma	\$ 2.20	\$ 1.15	\$ 6.06
<hr style="border-top: 3px double black;"/>			

29

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of
The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.

We have reviewed the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of financial condition of The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. and subsidiaries as of August 31, 2003, and the related condensed consolidated statements of income for the three month and nine month periods ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002 and cash flows for the nine month periods ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002. These financial statements are the responsibility of The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.'s management.

We conducted our review in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A review of interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures to financial data and of making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to such condensed consolidated financial statements for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We have previously audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the consolidated statement of financial condition of The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. and subsidiaries as of November 30, 2002, and the related consolidated statements of income, cash flows and changes in stockholders' equity for the fiscal year then ended (not presented herein) included in The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002; and in our report dated January 15, 2003, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of financial condition as of November 30, 2002 is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the consolidated statement of financial condition from which it has been derived.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP
New York, New York
October 14, 2003

30

Item 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The Company's principal business activities -- investment banking, securities and derivatives sales and trading, clearance and brokerage -- are, by their nature, highly competitive and subject to various risks, including volatile trading markets and fluctuations in the volume of market activity. Consequently, the Company's net income and revenues have been, and are likely to continue to be, subject to wide fluctuations, reflecting the effect of many factors, including general economic conditions, securities market conditions, the level and volatility of interest rates and equity prices, competitive conditions, liquidity of global markets, international and regional political conditions, regulatory developments, monetary and fiscal policy, investor sentiment, availability and cost of capital, technological changes and events, and the size, volume and timing of transactions.

Item 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Certain statements contained in this discussion are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements concerning management's expectations, strategic objectives, business prospects, anticipated economic performance and financial condition and other similar matters are subject to risks and uncertainties, including those described in the prior paragraph, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of the document in which they are made. We disclaim any obligation or undertaking to provide any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement to reflect any change in our expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which the forward-looking statement is based.

For a description of the Company's business, including its trading in cash instruments and derivative products, its underwriting and trading policies, and their respective risks, and the Company's risk management policies and procedures, see the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002.

Critical Accounting Policies

The condensed consolidated financial statements of the Company are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These principles require management to make certain estimates and assumptions which could materially affect reported amounts in the financial statements. Critical accounting policies are those policies that are the most important to the financial statements and/or those that require significant management judgment related to matters that are uncertain.

Valuation of Financial Instruments

The Company has identified the valuation of financial instruments as a critical accounting policy due to the complex nature of certain of its products, the degree of judgment required to appropriately value these products and the pervasive impact of such valuation on the financial condition and earnings of the Company.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The Company's financial instruments can be aggregated in three broad categories: (1) those valued based on quoted market prices or for which the Company has independent external valuations, (2) those whose fair value is determined based on readily observable price levels for similar instruments and/or models or methodologies that employ data that are observable from objective sources, and (3) those whose fair value is estimated based on internally developed models or methodologies utilizing significant assumptions or other data that are generally less readily observable from objective sources.

(1) Financial Instruments Valued Based on Quoted Market Prices or for Which the Company Has Independent External Valuations

The Company's valuation policy is to use quoted market prices from securities and derivatives exchanges where they are available and reliable. Financial instruments valued based on quoted market prices are primarily exchange-traded derivatives and listed equities. Financial instruments that are most typically valued via alternative approaches but for which the Company typically receives independent external valuation information include US treasuries, most mortgage-backed securities and corporate, emerging market, high yield and municipal bonds. Unlike most equities, which tend to be traded on exchanges, the vast majority of fixed income trading (including US treasuries) occurs in over-the-counter markets, and, accordingly, the Company's valuation policy is based on its best estimate of the prices at which these financial instruments trade in those markets. The Company is an active dealer in most of the over-the-counter markets for these financial instruments, and typically has considerable insight into the trading level of financial instruments held in inventory and/or related financial instruments that it uses as a basis for its valuation.

(2) Financial Instruments Whose Fair Value is Determined Based on Internally Developed Models or Methodologies That Employ Data That Are Readily Observable from Objective Sources

The second broad category consists of financial instruments for which the Company does not receive quoted prices; therefore, models or other methodologies are utilized to value these financial instruments. Such models are primarily industry-standard models that consider various assumptions, including time value, yield curve, volatility factors, prepayment speeds, default rates, loss severity, current market and contractual prices for the underlying financial instruments, as well as other relevant economic measures. Substantially all these assumptions are observable in the marketplace, can be derived from observable data or are supported by observable levels at which transactions are executed in the marketplace. A degree of subjectivity is required to determine appropriate models or methodologies as well as appropriate underlying assumptions. This subjectivity makes these valuations inherently less reliable than quoted market prices. Financial instruments in this category include non-exchange-traded derivatives such as interest rate swaps, certain mortgage-backed securities and certain other cash instruments. For

an indication of the Company's involvement in derivatives, including maturity terms, see the table setting forth notional/contract amounts outstanding in Note 8, "Derivatives and Hedging Activities" of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

For a description of the Company's business, including its trading in cash instruments and derivative products, its underwriting and trading policies, and their respective risks, and the Company's risk management policies and procedures, see the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002.

(3) Financial Instruments Whose Fair Value is Estimated Based on Internally Developed Models or Methodologies Utilizing Significant Assumptions or Other Data That Are Generally Less Readily Observable from Objective Sources

Certain complex financial instruments and other investments have significant data inputs that cannot be validated by reference to readily observable data. These instruments are typically illiquid, long-dated or unique in nature and therefore engender considerable judgment by traders and their management, who, as dealers in many of these instruments, have the appropriate knowledge to estimate data inputs that are less readily observable. For certain instruments, extrapolation or other methods are applied to observed market or other data to estimate assumptions that are not observable. At August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, such positions (primarily fixed income cash positions) aggregated approximately \$3.0 billion and \$3.1 billion, respectively, in "Financial Instruments Owned" and \$582 million and \$328 million, respectively, in "Financial Instruments Sold, But Not Yet Purchased" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

As part of the Company's fixed income activities, the Company participates in the underwriting, securitization and trading of non-performing mortgage-related assets, real estate assets and certain residuals. In addition, the Company has a portfolio of Chapter 13 and other credit card receivables from individuals. Certain of these high yield positions have limited price observability. In these instances, fair values are determined by statistical analysis of historical cash flows, default probabilities, recovery rates, time value of money and discount rates considered appropriate given the level of risk in the instrument and associated investor yield requirements.

As a major dealer in derivatives, the Company is engaged in structuring and acting as principal in complex derivative transactions. Complex derivatives include certain long-dated equity derivatives, certain credit and municipal derivatives and other exotic derivative structures. These non-exchange-traded instruments may have immature or limited markets and, by their nature, involve complex valuation methodologies and models, which are often refined to correlate with the market risk of these instruments.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

In recognition of the importance the Company places on the accuracy of its valuation of financial instruments as described in the three categories above, the Company engages in an ongoing internal review of its valuations. Members of the Controllers and Risk Management Departments perform analysis of internal valuations, typically on a monthly basis but often on an intra-month basis as well. These departments are independent of the trading areas responsible for valuing the positions. Results of the monthly validation process are reported to the Mark-to-Market (MTM) Committee, which is composed of senior managing directors from the Risk Management and Controllers Departments. The MTM Committee is responsible for ensuring that the approaches used to independently validate the Company's valuations are robust, comprehensive and effective. Typical approaches include valuation comparisons with external sources, comparisons with observed trading, independent comparisons of key model valuation inputs, independent trade modeling and a variety of other techniques.

Merchant Banking

As part of its merchant banking activities, the Company participates from time to time in principal investments in leveraged transactions. As part of these activities, the Company originates, structures and invests in merger, acquisition, restructuring and leveraged capital transactions, including leveraged buyouts. The Company's principal investments in these transactions are generally made in the form of equity investments, equity-related investments or subordinated loans and have not historically required significant levels of capital investment.

Equity securities acquired as a result of leveraged acquisition transactions are reflected in the consolidated financial statements at their initial cost until significant transactions or developments indicate that a change in the carrying value of the securities is appropriate. Generally, the carrying values of these securities will be increased only in those instances where market values are readily ascertainable by reference to substantial transactions occurring in the marketplace or quoted market prices. Reductions to the carrying value of these securities are made in the

event that the Company's estimate of net realizable value has declined below the carrying value (see "Merchant Banking and Private Equity Investments" for additional details).

See Note 1, "Summary of Significant Accounting Policies," in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002 for a more comprehensive listing of significant accounting policies.

Business Environment

The business environment during the third quarter ended August 31, 2003 was characterized by a strengthening U.S. economy and continued low inflation. The Federal Reserve Board (the "Fed") met twice during the quarter and at its June 25, 2003 meeting cut the federal funds rate 25 basis points to 1.00% from 1.25%. A shift in sentiment along with upbeat forecasts for economic growth precipitated a sell-off in U.S. Treasuries. Long term interest rates, as measured by the 10-year Treasury bond, were extremely volatile. On an intra-day basis, the 10-Year Treasury bond yield climbed from 3.07% on June 16, 2003 to 4.67% on August 14, 2003. The Fed's suggestion that low rates could be maintained for a considerable period eased the sell-off in the treasury markets. Better than expected corporate profits along with economic reports evidencing strong consumer spending and accelerating capital spending served to push the major U.S. equity indices higher during the August 2003 quarter. For the quarter ended August 31, 2003, the Dow Jones Industrial Average ("DJIA") increased 6.4%, while the Standard & Poor's 500 Index ("S&P 500") and the Nasdaq Composite Index increased 4.6% and 13.4%, respectively.

34

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

While the major U.S. equity market indices showed improvement during the August 2003 quarter on positive economic data, average daily trading volumes declined on both the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") and NASDAQ when compared to the August 2002 quarter. Average daily trading volume on the NYSE and NASDAQ decreased 13.5% and 4.8%, respectively from the quarter ended August 31, 2002. Equity capital markets activities increased fueled by an increase in equity market indices. Business conditions were favorable in the fixed income markets. A combination of low interest rates, a steep yield curve and continued tightening of corporate credit spreads resulted in strong demand for domestic debt issuances and strong secondary market activity. Mortgage-backed securities underwriting continued to benefit from favorable market conditions despite the drop in residential mortgage refinancings.

The business environment during the third quarter ended August 31, 2002 was characterized by a slowing U.S. economy and generally low inflation. The Fed met three times during the quarter and left the Federal Funds rate unchanged at 1.75%. While consumers continued to sustain the economy, the lack of capital spending and continued uncertainties about the accuracy and reliability of corporate earnings and uncertainties surrounding geopolitical stability combined to precipitate a decline in all the major stock market indices during the quarter ended August 31, 2002. During the fiscal 2002 third quarter, the DJIA, the S&P 500, and the NASDAQ declined 12.7%, 14.2%, and 18.6%, respectively. Trading volumes on the exchanges increased year over year. Average daily trading volume during the quarter ended August 31, 2002 on the NYSE increased 44.5% while average daily trading volume on the NASDAQ increased 15.1% from the quarter ended August 31, 2001. While there was significant growth in NYSE and NASDAQ equity trading volumes during the quarter, equity capital markets activities experienced a seasonal slowdown which was exacerbated by weak global economic conditions and deteriorating corporate debt markets experienced in the aftermath of the Worldcom default. Fixed income new issuance, primarily in mortgage-backed securities, continued to benefit from a steep yield curve and the low level of interest rates.

Results of Operations

In the discussion to follow, results for the quarter ended August 31, 2003 will be compared with the results for the quarter ended August 31, 2002 and results for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 will be compared with the results for the nine months ended August 31, 2002.

Three Months Ended August 31, 2003 Compared to Three Months Ended August 31, 2002

The Company reported net income of \$313.4 million, or \$2.30 per share (diluted), for the quarter ended August 31, 2003, which represented an increase of 90.6% from \$164.4 million, or \$1.23 per share (diluted), for the quarter ended August 31, 2002.

35

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Revenues, net of interest expense ("net revenues") increased 28.6% to \$1.49 billion for the quarter ended August 31, 2003 from \$1.15 billion for the quarter ended August 31, 2002 due to an increase in principal transactions, investment banking revenues and net interest revenues, partially offset by a decrease in commission revenues.

Commission revenues for the quarter ended August 31, 2003 decreased 5.8% to \$279.9 million from \$297.2 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002. Clearance and retail commission revenues decreased a combined 5.5% to \$117.5 million in the 2003 quarter from \$124.4 million in the 2002 quarter reflecting reduced trading activity levels of prime brokerage customers. Institutional commissions decreased 9.9% to \$136.5 million from \$151.6 million in the 2002 quarter, reflecting reduced average daily trading volumes.

The Company's principal transactions revenues by reporting categories were as follows:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended		
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	% Increase (Decrease)
Fixed income	\$566,739	\$370,881	52.8%
Equity	28,217	69,715	(59.5)%
Derivative financial instruments	129,067	116,296	11.0%
Total principal transactions	\$724,023	\$556,892	30.0%

Revenues from principal transactions in the quarter ended August 31, 2003 increased 30.0% to \$724.0 million from \$556.9 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002, reflecting strong performances in the Company's fixed income activities, partially offset by reduced equity revenues. Fixed income revenues increased 52.8% to \$566.7 million from \$370.9 million in the 2002 quarter primarily due to increases in the high yield and distressed areas, as well as increases in mortgage-backed securities, municipal and corporate bond areas. These business areas continued to benefit from a favorable interest rate environment characterized by a steep yield curve, narrowing of corporate credit spreads and a low level of interest rates. Revenues derived from equity activities declined 59.5% to \$28.2 million during the 2003 quarter from \$69.7 million in the 2002 quarter primarily attributable to a decrease in the risk and convertible arbitrage, specialist and over-the-counter market-making areas as a result of reduced equity market volumes and lower market volatility. Revenues from derivative financial instruments increased 11.0% to \$129.1 million in the 2003 quarter from \$116.3 million for the 2002 quarter. The increase was primarily in the fixed income derivatives and foreign exchange areas reflecting increased customer order flow, partially offset by decreases in the electronic listed options market-making and credit derivatives areas. The electronic listed options market-making business was exited in the second quarter of 2003, reflecting a \$25 million decline in net revenues.

Investment banking revenues increased 118.8% to \$298.7 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2003 from \$136.5 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002. Investment banking revenues includes underwriting, advisory services and merchant banking revenues. Underwriting revenues increased 87.7% to \$144.0 million in the 2003 quarter from \$76.7 million in the 2002 quarter, reflecting higher levels of equity, high yield and municipal new issue activity. Advisory services revenues increased 6.2% to \$62.7 million from \$59.1 million in the 2002 quarter. Merchant banking revenues were \$92.0 million in the 2003 quarter compared to revenues of \$0.7 million in the 2002 quarter. The increase in merchant banking revenues was principally attributable to the sale in a secondary offering of approximately 6.5 million shares of Aeropostale, Inc. during the 2003 quarter and an increase in the market value of the Company's remaining investment of 3.8 million shares.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Net interest revenues, interest and dividend revenues less interest expense, were \$145.9 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2003, a 25.1% increase from \$116.6 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002. The increase in net interest revenues was attributable to higher average customer margin and customer short balances.

Non-Interest Expenses

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended		
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	% (
Employee compensation and benefits	\$ 681,745	\$ 595,616	
Floor brokerage, exchange and clearance fees	44,830	56,644	
Communications and technology	93,047	90,736	
Occupancy	34,788	35,476	
Advertising and market development	24,550	26,628	
Professional fees	36,608	29,878	
Other expenses	87,315	74,202	
Total non-interest expenses	\$1,002,883	\$ 909,180	

Non-interest expenses rose 10.3% to \$1.0 billion during the 2003 quarter from \$909.2 million in the 2002 quarter. Employee compensation and benefits for the quarter ended August 31, 2003 was \$681.7 million, up 14.5% from \$595.6 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002, attributable to increased net revenues. Employee compensation and benefits as a percentage of net revenues was 45.9% for the 2003 quarter compared to 51.6% for the 2002 quarter. Full-time employees increased to 10,515 at August 31, 2003 from 10,493 at August 31, 2002.

Non-compensation expenses were \$321.1 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2003, an increase of 2.4% from \$313.6 million in the quarter ended August 31, 2002. Non-compensation expenses as a percentage of net revenues for the quarter ended August 31, 2003 decreased to 21.6%, compared with 27.2% in the quarter ended August 31, 2002. Other expenses increased due to an increase in Capital Accumulation Plan ("CAP Plan") costs. Expenses related to the CAP Plan were \$50 million for the 2003 quarter, an increase of 56.3% from \$32 million in the 2002 quarter due to higher earnings. Excluding the CAP Plan costs, other expenses were down 11.6% to \$37.3 million from \$42.2 million for the 2002 quarter. Professional fees were \$36.6 million in the 2003 quarter, an increase of 22.5% from \$29.9 million in the 2002 quarter, reflecting increased legal professional services and temporary help. Partially offsetting the increase in other expenses and professional fees was a decline in floor brokerage, exchange and clearance fees which was due to lower trading volumes for futures and options associated with the reduction of the Company's electronic options market-making business. The significant increase in revenues combined with continued focus on cost control measures enabled the Company to achieve a pre-tax profit margin of 32.5% for the 2003 quarter as compared to a pre-tax profit margin of 21.2% for the 2002 quarter.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The Company's effective tax rate was 35.0% for the quarter ended August 31, 2003 compared to 32.9% for the quarter ended August 31, 2002 as a result of decreased tax preference items relative to the level of income. The tax rate for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 was 35.0% and for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002 was 33.0%.

Business Segments

The remainder of "Results of Operations" is presented on a business segment basis. The Company's three business segments--Capital Markets, Global Clearing Services and Wealth Management--are analyzed separately due to the distinct nature of the products they provide and the clients they serve. Certain Capital Markets products are distributed by the Wealth Management and Global Clearing Services distribution networks, with the related revenues of such intersegment services allocated to the respective segments. Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period amounts to conform to the current period's presentation, including reclassification of certain revenues in the Capital Markets segment from institutional equities and fixed income to investment banking and reclassification of certain revenues and expenses from the Other segment to the Global Clearing Services segment.

The following segment operating results exclude certain unallocated revenues (predominantly interest) as well as certain corporate administrative functions, such as certain legal costs and costs related to the CAP Plan.

Capital Markets

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended		
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	% (Decrease/ Increase)
Net revenues			
Institutional equities	\$ 200,506	\$ 288,609	(30.5%)
Fixed income	720,128	407,333	76.8%
Investment banking	299,742	163,583	83.2%
Total net revenues	\$1,220,376	\$ 859,525	42.0%
Pre-tax income	\$ 540,942	\$ 257,716	109.9%

The Capital Markets segment comprises the institutional equities, fixed income and investment banking areas. The Capital Markets segment operates as a single integrated unit that provides the sales, trading and origination effort for various fixed income, equity and advisory products and services. Each of the three businesses works in tandem to deliver these services to institutional and corporate clients.

Institutional equities consists of sales, trading and research in such areas as institutional domestic and international equity sales, block trading, convertible bonds, over-the-counter equities, equity derivatives, risk and convertible arbitrage and NYSE, American Stock Exchange and International Securities Exchange specialist activities. Fixed income includes sales, trading and research for institutional clients in a variety of products such as mortgage- and asset-backed securities, corporate and government bonds, municipal and high yield products, foreign exchange and fixed income derivatives. Investment banking provides services in capital raising, strategic advice, mergers and acquisitions and merchant banking. Capital raising encompasses the Company's underwriting of equity, investment-grade and high yield debt products.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Net revenues for Capital Markets were \$1.22 billion for the quarter ended August 31, 2003, an increase of 42.0% from \$859.5 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002. Pre-tax income for Capital Markets was \$540.9 million in the 2003 quarter, an increase of 109.9% from \$257.7 million in the 2002 quarter. Pre-tax profit margin was 44.3% for the 2003 quarter compared to 30.0% for the 2002 quarter.

Institutional equities net revenues for the quarter ended August 31, 2003 decreased 30.5% to \$200.5 million from \$288.6 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002. While market indices showed improvement during the 2003 quarter on positive economic data, average daily trading volumes declined on both the NYSE and NASDAQ when compared to the August 2002 quarter. As a result, institutional equity commissions volume on the Company's U.S. listed and over-the-counter businesses declined. The decline in average daily trading volume negatively affected the Company's specialist activities conducted through its greater than 50% ownership interest in Bear Hunter Holdings. In addition, market volatility levels continued to decline, which served to adversely impact net revenues attributable to the convertible arbitrage activities. Equity derivatives revenues also declined primarily reflecting a \$24.6 million decline in net revenues related to the Company's listed options market making business, which was exited in the second quarter of 2003.

Fixed income net revenues increased to \$720.1 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2003, an increase of 76.8% from \$407.3 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002. Favorable fixed income market conditions continued to benefit the Company's fixed income activities, particularly in the high yield and distressed, mortgage-backed securities and interest rate derivatives areas. These business areas benefited from a steep yield curve, tightening corporate credit spreads and a low interest rate environment. During the 2003 quarter, the increase in the 10-year Treasury rate created volatility across the mortgage and interest rate product areas as interest rates rose and mortgage refinancing activities fell. Despite the decline in the mortgage refinancing index, mortgage backed securities activities remained strong, reflecting increased new issue volumes which were partially offset by a decrease in secondary trading revenues. Improved market conditions in the credit markets when compared to the August 2002 quarter resulted in a significant increase in net revenues in the Company's credit product areas. In particular, high yield and distressed net revenues increased due to increased customer trading activity resulting from improved market conditions. Interest rate and foreign exchange revenues also increased as a result of improved customer order flow.

Investment banking net revenues for the quarter ended August 31, 2003 increased 83.2% to \$299.7 million from \$163.6 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002. Investment banking net revenues includes underwriting revenues, advisory services and merchant banking revenues. Underwriting revenues increased 47.2% to \$156.6 million in the 2003 quarter from \$106.4 million in the 2002 quarter reflecting higher levels of

new issue activity and increased market share.

39

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

In particular, the Company's high yield and leveraged finance areas performed well. Equity underwriting also increased significantly. Advisory services revenues decreased to \$51.1 million from \$56.5 million in the 2002 quarter, reflecting the Company's lower level of completed mergers and acquisitions activity. Merchant banking revenues were \$92.0 million in the 2003 quarter as compared to revenues of \$0.7 million in the 2002 quarter, principally attributable to the Company's investment in Aeropostale, Inc. reflecting the secondary offering of approximately 6.5 million shares during 2003 quarter and an increase in the market value of the Company's remaining investment of 3.8 million shares. The Company's quarterly merchant banking revenues in any quarter are not indicative of merchant banking revenues for the full year.

Global Clearing Services

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended		
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	% Increase
Net revenues	\$200,929	\$191,506	4.9%
Pre-tax income	\$ 68,456	\$ 66,637	2.7%

The Global Clearing Services segment provides execution, clearing, margin lending and securities borrowing to facilitate customer short sales to clearing clients worldwide. Prime brokerage clients include hedge funds and clients of money managers, short sellers, arbitrageurs and other professional investors. Fully disclosed clients engage in either the retail or institutional brokerage business. At August 31, 2003, the Company held approximately \$188 billion in equity in Global Clearing Services client accounts compared with \$155 billion at August 31, 2002.

Net revenues for Global Clearing Services increased 4.9% to \$200.9 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2003 from \$191.5 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002. Commission revenues were \$81.0 million in the 2003 quarter, a decrease of 7.1% from \$87.2 million in the 2002 quarter primarily reflecting reduced levels of prime brokerage customer activity. Net interest revenues were \$117.2 million, a 15.5% increase from \$101.4 million in the 2002 quarter, reflecting increased revenues from higher levels of average customer margin and customer short balances. Improving U.S. equity market conditions experienced during the quarter benefited average customer margins balances and customer short balances in the Company's prime brokerage business.

Average customer margin balances were \$42.1 billion during the quarter ended August 31, 2003 compared to \$33.7 billion during the quarter ended August 31, 2002. Customer margin balances totaled \$40.9 billion at August 31, 2003 compared to \$32.5 billion at August 31, 2002. Average customer short balances were \$67.3 billion during the 2003 quarter compared to \$52.1 billion during the 2002 quarter and totaled \$65.7 billion at August 31, 2003, an increase from \$52.6 billion at August 31, 2002. Average free credit balances were \$20.8 billion during the 2003 quarter compared to \$19.4 billion during the 2002 quarter and totaled \$19.8 billion at August 31, 2003, an increase from \$18.3 billion at August 31, 2002.

40

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Wealth Management

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended		
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	% Increase
Net revenues	\$ 126,351	\$ 124,037	1.9%
Pre-tax income (loss)	\$ 9,851	\$ (3,202)	407.7%

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The Wealth Management segment is composed of the Private Client Services ("PCS") and asset management areas. PCS provides high-net-worth individuals with an institutional level of investment service, including access to the Company's resources and professionals. PCS maintains approximately 500 account executives in its principal office, six regional offices and two international offices. Asset management manages equity, fixed income and alternative assets for leading corporate pension plans, public systems, endowments, foundations, multi-employer plans, insurance companies, corporations, families and high net-worth individuals in the US and abroad.

Net revenues for Wealth Management were \$126.4 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2003, an increase of 1.9% from \$124.0 million for the quarter ended August 31, 2002. PCS revenues increased 7.9% to \$98.4 million in the 2003 quarter from \$91.2 million in the 2002 quarter primarily due to improved customer activity levels. In addition, the continued expansion of the Company's PCS sales force contributed positively to net revenues. Asset management revenues decreased 15.0% to \$27.9 million in the 2003 quarter from \$32.9 million in the 2002 quarter reflecting reduced performance fees on alternative investment products, principally hedge fund products. Pre-tax income for Wealth Management approximated \$9.9 million in the 2003 quarter compared to pre-tax loss of \$3.2 million for the 2002 quarter.

Assets under management were \$25.7 billion at August 31, 2003, reflecting a 10.8% increase from \$23.2 billion in assets under management at August 31, 2002.

Nine Months Ended August 31, 2003 Compared to Nine Months Ended August 31, 2002

The Company reported net income of \$868.1 million, or \$6.34 per share (diluted), for the nine months ended August 31, 2003, which represented an increase of 26.2% from \$687.8 million, or \$5.10 per share (diluted), for the nine months ended August 31, 2002. Results for nine months ended August 31, 2002 reflect a merchant banking gain of \$260.8 million, included in investment banking revenues, from an investment in and the subsequent IPO of Aeropostale, Inc.

Revenues, net of interest expense increased 11.5% to \$4.5 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 from \$4.0 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2002. The increase in net revenues was primarily due to an increase in principal transactions as well as an increase in net interest revenues, partially offset by declines in merchant banking and commission revenues.

41

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Commission revenues for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 decreased 5.4% to \$789.5 million from \$834.9 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2002. The decrease was primarily due to decreases in clearance and retail commissions due to reduced customer activity during the 2003 period. Clearance and retail commission revenues declined a combined 10.6% to \$330.4 million in the 2003 period from \$369.6 million in the 2002 period. Institutional commissions also decreased to \$394.6 million for the 2003 period from \$405.8 million in the 2002 period as a result of reduced trading volumes, partially offset by an increase in futures commissions to \$57.5 million in the 2003 period from \$45.8 million in the 2002 period.

The Company's principal transactions revenues by reporting categories were as follows:

(in thousands)	Nine Months Ended		
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	% Incr (Decr)
Fixed income	\$1,953,727	\$1,283,699	52
Equity	161,556	254,803	(36)
Derivative financial instruments	387,119	384,931	0
Total principal transactions	\$2,502,402	\$1,923,433	30

Revenues from principal transactions for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 increased 30.1% to \$2.5 billion from \$1.9 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2002, primarily due to strong results from the Company's fixed income activities, reflecting the low level of short-term interest rates and a steep yield curve. Additionally, the tightening of corporate credit spreads resulted in increased secondary trading activity and improved customer order flow. Fixed income revenues increased 52.2% to \$1.95 billion from \$1.28 billion in the 2002 period, reflecting strong performances from the Company's mortgage- and asset-backed securities, high yield and distressed and corporate bonds areas. Revenues derived from equity activities declined 36.6% to \$161.6 million during the 2003 period from \$254.8 million in the 2002 period. Equity-related

businesses continued to be pressured by weak equity market conditions, particularly in the over-the-counter stock and specialist areas. In addition, risk arbitrage revenues remained at low levels, reflecting the continued depressed level of industry-wide announced mergers and acquisitions activity. These results were partially offset by an increase in convertible arbitrage activities. Revenues from derivative financial instruments increased 0.6% to \$387.1 million in the 2003 period from \$384.9 million for the 2002 period. Increases in the foreign exchange and fixed income derivatives areas were substantially offset by a decline in the equity derivatives area, particularly the Company's listed options market making business.

Investment banking revenues decreased 9.8% to \$678.8 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 from \$752.2 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2002. Investment banking net revenues include underwriting, advisory services and merchant banking revenues. Underwriting revenues were \$332.7 million in the 2003 period compared to \$332.6 million in the 2002 period. Advisory services revenues increased 53.0% to \$216.5 million from \$141.5 million in the 2002 period due to a higher level of completed mergers and acquisitions activity. Merchant banking revenues were \$129.6 million in the 2003 period as compared to revenues of \$278.1 million in the 2002 period. Merchant banking revenues for both periods largely related to the realized and unrealized gains in an investment in and the subsequent offerings of Aeropostale, Inc.

42

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Net interest revenues, interest and dividend revenues less interest expense, were \$392.7 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2003, a 9.7% increase from \$358.1 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2002. The increase in net interest revenues was principally due to increased revenues attributable to higher levels of average customer margin and customer short balances.

Non-Interest Expenses

(in thousands)	Nine Months Ended		
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	% I (D
Employee compensation and benefits	\$2,131,815	\$1,942,827	
Floor brokerage, exchange and clearance fees	137,050	144,831	
Communications and technology	276,531	288,828	
Occupancy	102,819	116,911	
Advertising and market development	77,267	80,351	
Professional fees	94,056	95,473	
Other expenses	308,170	293,824	
Total non-interest expenses	\$3,127,708	\$2,963,045	

Employee compensation and benefits for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 were \$2.13 billion, up 9.7% from \$1.94 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2002. Employee compensation and benefits as a percentage of net revenues was 47.8% for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 compared to 48.6% for the period ended August 31, 2002. Employee compensation and benefits as a percentage of net revenues without the impact of the merchant banking revenues was 49.0% for the nine months ended August 2003, 51.5% for the nine months ended August 31, 2002 and 50.9% for the year ended November 30, 2002.

Non-compensation expenses were \$995.9 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2003, a decrease of 2.4% from \$1.0 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2002. Non-compensation expenses as a percentage of net revenues for the 2003 period declined to 22.3%, compared with 25.5% in the 2002 period. The decline in occupancy and communications and technology costs were primarily attributable to the completion of the Company's relocation of its corporate headquarters to 383 Madison Avenue in March 2002. Floor brokerage, exchange and clearance fees decreased 5.4% to \$137.1 million in the 2003 period compared with \$144.8 million in the 2002 period, reflecting lower trading volumes for futures and options associated with the reduction of the Company's electronic options market making business. These decreases were partially offset by increase in other expenses. Excluding CAP Plan costs, other expenses were up slightly by 1.1% to \$164.2 million from \$162.4 million for the period ended August 31, 2002, primarily due to a \$20.5 million charge in the 2003 period for the impairment of goodwill associated with the 2001 acquisition of an electronic options market maker, substantially offset by other expense reductions. Expenses related to the CAP Plan were \$144 million for the 2003 period, an increase of 9.6% from approximately \$131 million in the 2002 period. The expense control measures enabled the Company to achieve a pre-tax profit margin of 29.9% for the 2003 period versus 25.9% in the 2002 period.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The Company's effective tax rate increased to 35.0% in the 2003 period compared to 33.75% for the 2002 period primarily due to a decrease in tax preference items as a percentage of earnings. The Company's effective tax rate for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002 was 33.0%.

Business Segments

Capital Markets

(in thousands)	Nine Months Ended		
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	% (Decrease/ Increase)
Net revenues			
Institutional equities	\$ 666,313	\$ 835,351	(20.1%)
Fixed income	2,276,535	1,474,137	54.4%
Investment banking	710,945	790,408	(10.1%)
Total net revenues	\$3,653,793	\$3,099,896	17.9%
Pre-tax income	\$1,490,832	\$1,092,452	36.5%

Net revenues for Capital Markets were \$3.7 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2003, an increase of 17.9% from \$3.1 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2002. Pre-tax income for Capital Markets was \$1.5 billion in the 2003 period, an increase of 36.5% from \$1.1 billion in the 2002 period. Pre-tax profit margin was 40.8% for the 2003 period compared to 35.2% for the 2002 period.

Institutional equities net revenues for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 decreased 20.2% to \$666.3 million from \$835.4 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2002. The decrease was attributable to decreases in the electronic listed options market-making, specialist and equity derivatives business areas. In the second quarter of 2003, the Company exited the electronic listed options market-making business. In addition, risk arbitrage revenues declined due to the depressed level of industry-wide announced mergers and acquisitions activity, which consequently provided fewer risk arbitrage opportunities. The decreases were partially offset by an increase in convertible arbitrage revenues, generally attributable to improvement of corporate credit spreads. Market share increases in both listed and over-the-counter institutional equity businesses also partially offset this decline.

Fixed income net revenues increased to \$2.28 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2003, an increase of 54.4% from \$1.47 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2002, primarily reflecting strong results from the mortgage-backed, high yield and distressed, corporate bonds, foreign exchange, government bonds and interest rate derivatives areas. These businesses benefited from the low level of interest rates, a steep yield curve and narrowing of corporate credit spreads. Mortgage-backed securities revenues increased significantly as residential mortgage refinancing activity reached record levels driving record new issue activity. As a result, customer activity increased and secondary trading volumes achieved record levels. High yield and distressed revenues increased reflecting improved secondary trading activities, and revenues from interest rate products increased reflecting improved results in the Company's interest rate swap and government bond areas.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Investment banking net revenues for the nine months ended August 31, 2003 decreased 10.1% to \$710.9 million from \$790.4 million in the nine months ended August 31, 2002. Investment banking net revenues includes underwriting revenues, advisory services and merchant banking revenues. Underwriting revenues decreased 2.2% to \$387.5 million in the 2003 period from \$396.3 million in the 2002 period, due to lower levels of equity new issue volume. Advisory services revenues increased to \$193.8 million from \$115.9 million in the 2002 period, reflecting the Company's higher level of completed mergers and acquisitions activity. Merchant banking revenues were \$129.6 million in the 2003 period as compared to revenues of \$278.2 million in the 2002 period. Merchant banking revenues for both periods were largely related to realized and unrealized gains in the Company's investment in and subsequent offerings of Aeropostale, Inc.

Global Clearing Services

(in thousands)	Nine Months Ended		
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	% Decrease
Net revenues	\$564,112	\$597,794	(5.6)%
Pre-tax income	\$158,404	\$209,737	(24.5)%

Net revenues for Global Clearing Services decreased 5.6% to \$564.1 million in the 2003 period from \$597.8 million for the 2002 period. Commission revenues were \$231.0 million in the 2003 period, a decrease of 10.8% from \$259.1 million in the 2002 period reflecting reduced levels of fully disclosed and prime brokerage customer activity. Net interest revenues were \$325.1 million, a 0.6% decline from \$326.9 million in the 2002 period, primarily reflecting decreased financing spreads. The decline in pre-tax income reflects the reduction in net revenues combined with certain legal settlements that were allocated to the segment in the 2003 period. Such settlements were previously provided for by the Company.

Average customer margin balances were \$39.0 billion during the 2003 period compared to \$34.9 billion during the 2002 period. Customer margin balances totaled \$40.9 billion at August 31, 2003 compared to \$32.5 billion at August 31, 2002. Average customer short balances were \$61.7 billion during the 2003 period compared to \$55.0 billion during the 2002 period and totaled \$65.7 billion at August 31, 2003, an increase from \$52.6 billion at August 31, 2002. Average free credit balances were \$19.3 billion during the 2003 period compared to \$19.2 billion during the 2002 period and totaled \$19.8 billion at August 31, 2003, an increase from \$18.3 billion at August 31, 2002.

45

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Wealth Management

(in thousands)	Nine Months Ended		
	August 31, 2003	August 31, 2002	% (Decrease) Increase
Net revenues	\$366,341	\$373,949	(2.0)%
Pre-tax income	\$ 20,518	\$ 7,259	182.7%

Net revenues for Wealth Management were \$366.3 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2003, a decrease of 2.0%, from \$373.9 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2002. PCS revenues increased slightly to \$273.7 million in the 2003 period from \$272.3 million in the 2002 period. Equity market conditions improved during the later part of the 2003 period which resulted in an increase in individual investor activity. Asset management revenues decreased 8.9% to \$92.6 million in the 2003 period from \$101.6 million in the 2002 period, reflecting reduced management fees associated with the decline in assets under management for mutual funds and proprietary hedge fund products. Pre-tax income for Wealth Management approximated \$20.5 million in the 2003 period compared to pre-tax income of \$7.3 million for the 2002 period.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Financial Leverage

The Company maintains a highly liquid balance sheet, with the vast majority of the Company's assets consisting of cash, marketable securities inventories and collateralized receivables arising from customer-related and proprietary securities transactions.

Collateralized receivables consist of resale agreements secured predominantly by US government and agency securities, customer margin loans and securities borrowed, which are typically secured by marketable corporate debt and equity securities. The nature of the Company's business as a securities dealer requires it to carry significant levels of securities inventories to meet its customer and proprietary trading needs.

Additionally, the Company's role as a financial intermediary for customer activities, which it conducts on a principal basis, together with its customer-related activities in its clearance business, results in significant levels of customer-related balances, including customer margin debt,

securities borrowed and repurchase activity. The Company's total assets and financial leverage can fluctuate, depending largely on economic and market conditions, volume of activity and customer demand.

The Company's total assets at August 31, 2003 increased to \$209.7 billion from \$184.9 billion at November 30, 2002. The Company's total capital base, which consists of long-term debt, preferred equity issued by subsidiaries and total stockholders' equity, increased to \$34.4 billion at August 31, 2003 from \$30.6 billion at November 30, 2002 primarily due to a net increase in long-term debt and an increase in equity from the Company's earnings.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The amount of long-term debt, as well as total capital, that the Company maintains is driven by its asset composition. The Company's ability to support increases in total assets is a function of its ability to obtain short-term secured and unsecured funding, as well as its access to longer-term sources of capital (i.e., long-term debt and equity). The Company regularly measures and monitors its total capital requirements, which are primarily a function of the self-funding ability of its assets. The equity portion of total capital is primarily a function of on- and off-balance-sheet risks (i.e., market, credit and liquidity) and regulatory capital requirements. As such, the liquidity and risk characteristics of assets being held are the primary determinants of both total capital and the equity portion thereof, thus significantly influencing the amount of leverage that the Company can employ.

Given the nature of the Company's market-making and customer-financing activity, the overall size of the balance sheet fluctuates from time to time. The Company's total assets at quarter end are frequently lower than would be observed on an average basis. At quarter end, the Company typically uses excess cash to finance high-quality, highly liquid securities inventory that otherwise would be funded via the repurchase agreement market. In addition, the Company reduces its matched book repurchase and reverse repurchase activities at quarter end. Finally, the Company may reduce the aggregate level of inventories through ordinary course, open market activities in the most liquid portions of the balance sheet, which are principally US government and agency securities and agency mortgage pass-through securities. At August 31, 2003, total assets of \$209.7 billion were approximately 7.7% lower than the average of the month-end balances observed over the trailing twelve-month period. Despite reduced total assets at quarter end, the Company's overall market, credit and liquidity risk profile is not changed materially, since the reduction in asset balances is typically in highly liquid, short-term instruments that are financed on a secured basis. This periodic reduction verifies the inherently liquid nature of the balance sheet and provides consistency with respect to creditor constituents' evaluation of the Company's financial condition.

The following table presents total assets, adjusted assets, and net adjusted assets with the resultant leverage ratios at August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002. With respect to a comparative measure of financial risk and capital adequacy, the Company believes that the low-risk, collateralized nature of its resale and securities borrowed assets renders net adjusted leverage as the most relevant measure.

(in billions, except ratios)	August 31, 2003	November 30, 2002
Total assets	\$ 209.7	\$ 184.9
Adjusted assets (1)	\$ 163.7	\$ 142.7
Net adjusted assets (2)	\$ 105.1	\$ 89.6
Leverage ratio (3)	28.2	26.6
Adjusted leverage ratio (4)	22.0	20.5
Net adjusted leverage ratio (5)	14.1	12.9

(1) Adjusted assets is Total assets less securities purchased under agreements to resell and securities received as collateral.

(2) Net adjusted assets is Adjusted assets less securities borrowed.

(3) Leverage ratio equals Total assets divided by stockholders' equity and preferred stock issued by subsidiaries.

(4) Adjusted leverage ratio equals Adjusted assets divided by stockholders' equity and preferred stock issued by subsidiaries.

(5) Net adjusted leverage ratio equals Net adjusted assets divided by stockholders' equity and preferred stock issued by subsidiaries.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Funding Strategy

The Company's general funding strategy seeks to ensure liquidity and diversity of funding sources to meet the Company's financing needs at all times and in all market environments. The Company attempts to finance its balance sheet by maximizing, where economically competitive, its use of secured funding. Short-term sources of cash consist principally of collateralized borrowings, including repurchase transactions, sell/buy arrangements, securities lending arrangements and customer free credit balances. In addition, with respect to short-term, unsecured financing, the Company's emphasis on diversification by product, geography, maturity and instrument results in prudent, moderate usage of more credit-sensitive, potentially less stable funding. Short-term unsecured funding includes commercial paper, medium-term notes and bank borrowings, which generally have maturities ranging from overnight to one year. Due to the collateralized nature of the borrowing, the Company views its secured funding as inherently less credit sensitive and therefore a more stable source of funding. The Company seeks to prudently manage its reliance on short-term unsecured borrowings by maintaining an adequate total capital base and extensive use of secured funding.

In addition to short-term funding sources, the Company utilizes equity and long-term debt, including fixed-rate and floating-rate notes as well as medium-term notes as longer-term sources of unsecured financing. The firm regularly monitors and analyzes the size, composition and liquidity characteristics of its asset base in the context of each asset's ability to be used to obtain secured financing. This analysis results in a determination of the Company's aggregate need for longer-term funding sources (i.e., long-term debt and equity). The Company views long-term debt as a stable source of funding which effectively strengthens its overall liquidity profile.

The Company maintains an alternative funding strategy focused on the liquidity and self-funding ability of the underlying assets. The objective is to maintain sufficient cash capital (i.e., equity plus long-term debt maturing in more than twelve months) and funding sources to enable the Company to refinance short-term, unsecured borrowings with fully secured borrowings. The Company prepares an analysis that focuses on a twelve-month time period and assumes that the Company does not liquidate assets and cannot issue any new unsecured debt, including commercial paper. Within this context, the Company monitors its cash position and the borrowing value of unencumbered, unhypothecated marketable securities in relation to its unsecured debt maturing over the next twelve months, striving to maintain the ratio of liquidity sources to maturing debt at 100% or greater. Within this analytical framework, the Company also endeavors to maintain cash capital in excess of that portion of its assets that cannot be funded on a secured basis. These two measures, liquidity ratio and net cash capital, are complementary and constitute the core elements of the Company's alternative funding models and, consequently, its approach to funding and liquidity risk management.

In addition, the Company monitors the maturity profile of its unsecured debt to minimize refinancing risk, maintains relationships with a broad global base of debt investors and bank creditors, establishes and adheres to strict short-term debt investor concentration limits, and periodically tests its secured and unsecured committed credit facilities. The Company also maintains available sources of short-term funding that exceed actual utilization, thus allowing it to endure changes in investor appetite and credit capacity to hold the Company's debt obligations.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The Company has in place a committed revolving credit facility ("Facility") totaling \$3.08 billion, which permits borrowing on a secured basis by Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. ("Bear Stearns"), Bear, Stearns Securities Corp. ("BSSC") and certain other subsidiaries. The Facility also provides that The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. may borrow up to \$1.54 billion of the Facility on an unsecured basis. Secured borrowings can be collateralized by both investment-grade and non-investment-grade financial instruments as the Facility provides for defined advance rates on a wide range of financial instruments eligible to be pledged. The Facility contains financial covenants that require, among other things, maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company and net capital of BSSC. The Facility terminates in February 2004, with all loans outstanding at that date payable no later than February 2005. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Facility at August 31, 2003.

The Company has in place a \$1.5 billion committed revolving securities repo facility ("Repo Facility"), which permits borrowings secured by a broad range of collateral at prespecified advance rates under a repurchase arrangement, by Bear, Stearns International Limited ("BSIL"), Bear Stearns International Trading Limited ("BSIT") and Bear Stearns Bank plc ("BSB"). The Repo Facility contains financial covenants that require, among other things, maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company. The Repo Facility terminates in August 2004, with all repos outstanding at that date payable no later than August 2005. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Repo Facility at August 31, 2003.

The Company has in place a \$300 million committed revolving credit facility ("Credit Facility"), which permits borrowing on a secured basis at prespecified advance rates collateralized by Japanese securities. The Credit Facility contains financial covenants that require, among other

things, maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company and net capital of BSSC. The Credit Facility terminates in December 2003, with all loans outstanding at that date payable no later than December 2004. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Credit Facility at August 31, 2003.

The Company also maintains a series of committed credit facilities to support liquidity needs for the financing of non-investment grade loans, auto loans, residential mortgages, commercial mortgages and listed options. The facilities are expected to be drawn from time to time and expire at various times over the course of the next twelve months. All of these facilities contain a term out option of one year or more for borrowings outstanding at expiration. The banks providing these facilities are committed to provide up to an aggregate of approximately \$1.7 billion.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Capital Resources

The Company conducts a substantial portion of its operating activities within its regulated subsidiaries Bear Stearns, BSSC, BSIL, BSIT and BSB. In connection therewith, a substantial portion of the Company's long-term borrowings and equity is used to fund investments in, and advances to, these regulated subsidiaries, including subordinated debt advances. All subordinated debt advances to regulated entities for use as regulatory capital are funded with long-term debt issued by the Company, which have maturities equal to or greater than the maturity of the subordinated debt advance. The Company regularly monitors the nature and significance of assets or activities conducted outside the regulated subsidiaries and attempts to fund such assets with either capital or borrowings having maturities consistent with the nature and self-funding ability of the assets being financed.

Long-term debt totaling \$23.2 billion and \$18.8 billion had remaining maturities beyond one year at August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, respectively. The Company's access to external sources of financing, as well as the cost of that financing, is dependent upon various factors and could be adversely affected by a deterioration of the Company's operating performance and/or the Company's long- and short-term debt ratings.

At August 31, 2003, the Company's long-term/short-term debt ratings were as follows:

	Rating

Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited (1)	A (high) /R-1 (middle)
Fitch (2)	A+/F1+
Moody's Investors Service (3)	A2/P-1
Standard & Poor's (4)	A/A-1
Rating & Investment Information, Inc.	A+/nr

nr - does not assign a short-term rating	

(1) On August 26, 2003, Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited upgraded the Company's long-term debt ratings from "A" to "A (high)" with a "stable" trend, while simultaneously affirming the Company's short-term credit ratings.

(2) On March 28, 2003, Fitch revised the outlook for the Company's long-term debt ratings from "negative" to "stable," while simultaneously affirming the Company's credit ratings.

(3) On February 6, 2003, Moody's Investors Service revised the outlook on the Company's long-term debt ratings from "stable" to "positive," while simultaneously affirming the Company's credit ratings. In addition, on June 24, 2003, Moody's placed on review for possible upgrade the long-term ratings of the Company.

(4) On April 9, 2003, Standard & Poor's revised the outlook for the Company's long-term debt ratings from "negative" to "stable," while simultaneously affirming the Company's credit ratings.

Stock Repurchase Program

The Company has various employee stock compensation plans designed to increase the emphasis on stock-based incentive compensation and align the compensation of its key employees with the long-term interests of stockholders. Such plans provide for annual grants of stock units and stock options. The Company intends to offset the potentially dilutive impact of the annual grants by purchasing common stock throughout the year in open market and private transactions. On January 8, 2003, the Board of Directors of the Company approved an amendment to the Stock Repurchase Program ("Repurchase Program") to replenish the previous authorizations to allow the Company to purchase up to \$1.0 billion of common stock in fiscal 2003 or beyond. During the quarter ended August 31, 2003, the Company purchased under the current authorization a total of 2,435,072 shares at a cost of approximately \$168.6 million. Approximately \$641.9 million is available to be purchased under the current authorization as of August 31, 2003.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Cash Flows

Cash and cash equivalents decreased \$2.4 billion to \$3.2 billion at August 31, 2003. Cash used in operating activities was \$3.1 billion, primarily attributable to an increase in financial instruments owned, securities borrowed and receivables from customers, partially offset by an increase in payables to customers and financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased. Cash provided by financing activities of \$611.2 million reflected net proceeds from issuances of long-term borrowings, partially offset by payments for retirement of long-term borrowings and net payments relating to short-term borrowings. Cash provided by investing activities of \$105.5 million reflected proceeds from net sales of investment securities and other assets, partially offset by purchases of property, equipment and leasehold improvements.

Regulated Subsidiaries

As registered broker-dealers, Bear Stearns and BSSC are subject to the net capital requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the NYSE and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, which are designed to measure the general financial soundness and liquidity of broker-dealers. BSIL and BSIT, London-based broker-dealer subsidiaries, are subject to the regulatory capital requirements of the Financial Services Authority. Additionally, BSB is subject to the regulatory capital requirements of the Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland. At August 31, 2003, Bear Stearns, BSSC, BSIL, BSIT and BSB were in compliance with their respective regulatory capital requirements.

Merchant Banking and Private Equity Investments

At August 31, 2003, the Company held investments in 19 transactions with an aggregate recorded value of approximately \$120.4 million, reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition in "Other Assets." Sixteen transactions are private principal investments aggregating \$34.0 million at August 31, 2003. Three transactions are principal investments in public entities, aggregating \$86.4 million at August 31, 2003, whereby the Company may have large concentrated holdings, which are valued at a discount to the quoted market value due to restrictions on sale. Included in these public principal investments is the Company's holding in Aeropostale, Inc. On July 28, 2003, Aeropostale, Inc. completed a secondary equity offering of approximately 7.2 million shares, of which the Company has sold approximately 6.5 million shares. At August 31, 2003, the Company retained an ownership interest of approximately 3.8 million shares in Aeropostale, Inc., representing approximately 10.3% of its outstanding common shares. Also in connection with the Company's merchant banking activities, the Company has investments in private equity-related investment funds aggregating \$209.1 million at August 31, 2003. In addition to the various direct and indirect principal investments, the Company has made commitments to invest in private equity - related investments and partnerships (see the summary table under "Commitments").

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

High Yield Positions

As part of the Company's fixed income activities, it participates in the underwriting, securitization and trading of non-investment-grade debt securities, non-performing mortgage-related assets, non-investment-grade commercial and leveraged loans and securities of companies that are the subject of pending bankruptcy proceedings (collectively, "high yield positions"). Also included in high yield positions is a portfolio of Chapter 13 and other credit card receivables from individuals. Non-investment-grade debt securities have been defined as non-investment-grade corporate debt, asset securitization positions and emerging market debt rated BB+ or lower or equivalent ratings recognized by credit rating agencies. At August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, the Company held high yield positions approximating \$4.8 billion and \$3.6 billion, respectively, substantially all of which are in "Financial Instruments Owned" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition, and \$823.4 million and \$561.4 million, respectively, reflected in "Financial Instruments Sold, But Not Yet Purchased" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. Included in these amounts is a portfolio of non-performing mortgage-related assets as well as a portfolio of Chapter 13 and other credit card receivables aggregating \$1.6 billion and \$1.2 billion at August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, respectively.

Also included in the high yield positions are extensions of credit to highly leveraged companies. At August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, the amount outstanding to highly leveraged borrowers totaled \$812.1 million (gross position of \$832.1 million less \$20.0 million of associated hedges) and \$574.6 million (gross position of \$591.6 million less \$17.0 million of associated hedges), respectively. The largest industry

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

concentration was the telecommunications industry, which approximated 17.5% at August 31, 2003 and 18.0% at November 30, 2002 of these high yield positions. Additionally, the Company has lending commitments with these non-investment-grade borrowers (see the summary table under "Commitments"). The Company also has exposure to non-investment-grade counterparties through its trading-related derivative activities. These amounts, net of collateral, were \$157.0 million and \$192.0 million at August 31, 2003 and November 30, 2002, respectively.

The Company's Risk Management Department and senior trading managers monitor exposure to market and credit risk for high yield positions and establish limits for overall market exposure and concentrations of risk by individual issuer. High yield positions generally involve greater risk than investment-grade debt securities due to credit considerations, liquidity of secondary trading markets and increased vulnerability to changes in general economic conditions. The level of the Company's high yield positions, and the impact of such activities on the Company's results of operations, can fluctuate from period to period as a result of customer demand and economic and market considerations.

52

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Contractual Obligations

The Company's contractual obligations, excluding derivative financial instruments, as of August 31, 2003:

(in millions)	Payments Due By Period		
	Remaining Fiscal 2003	Fiscal 2004- 2005	Fiscal 2006- 2007
Long-term borrowings (1)	\$ 113	\$ 10,546	\$ 7,832
Future minimum lease payments (2)	11	100	93

(1) Amounts include fair value adjustment in accordance with SFAS No. 133.

(2) Includes 383 Madison Avenue in New York City.

Commitments

The Company's commitments as of August 31, 2003:

(in millions)	Amount of Commitment Expiration P		
	Remaining Fiscal 2003	Fiscal 2004- 2005	Fiscal 2006- 2007
Commercial loan commitments: (1)			
Investment-grade	\$ 271	\$ 1,069	\$ 315
Non-investment grade	28	284	338
Commitments to invest in private equity-related investments and partnerships (2)			
Underwriting commitments	223		
Letters of credit	1,503	1,648	65
Other commercial commitments (3)	450	289	8

(1) Commitments are shown gross of associated hedges of \$599 million for investment-grade borrowers.

(2) At August 31, 2003, commitments to invest in private equity-related investments and partnerships aggregated \$615 million. These commitments will be funded, if called, through the end of the respective investment periods, the longest of such periods ending in 2011.

(3) Includes certain commitments with no stated maturity.

See Note 3, "Commitments and Contingencies," of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

New Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards "SFAS" No. 150, "Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of both Liabilities and Equity." SFAS No. 150 establishes standards for classifying and measuring certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. SFAS 150 is effective for financial instruments entered into or modified after May 31, 2003, and otherwise is effective at the beginning of the first interim period beginning after June 15, 2003. The Company will adopt SFAS No. 150 as required in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2003 and does not expect a material impact on the consolidated financial statements.

In January 2003, the FASB issued FIN No. 46 Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities an Interpretation of ARB No. 51. FIN No. 46 provides guidance on the consolidation of certain entities in which equity investors do not have the characteristics of a controlling financial interest or do not have sufficient equity at risk for the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support. Such entities are referred to as variable interest entities (VIEs). FIN No. 46 requires the primary beneficiary of a VIE to consolidate the entity. For existing entities, the provisions of FIN No. 46 do not apply until the end of the first interim period ending after December 15, 2003. For new entities, FIN No. 46 was effective after January 31, 2003. See Note 11, Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, for a further discussion.

**Item 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES
ABOUT MARKET RISK**

For a description of the Company's risk management policies and Value-at-Risk ("VaR") model, including a discussion of the Company's primary market risk exposures, which include interest rate risk, foreign exchange rate risk and equity price risk and a discussion of how those exposures are managed, refer to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002. Commencing with the February 2003 quarter, leveraged lending activities are included in the VaR results.

The aggregate VaR presented below is less than the sum of the individual components (i.e., interest rate risk, foreign exchange rate risk, equity risk) due to the benefit of diversification among the risks. The following table illustrates the VaR for each component of market risk as of August 31, 2003, November 30, 2002 and August 31, 2002. Commodity risk has been excluded due to immateriality at August 31, 2003, November 30, 2002 and August 31, 2002.

(in millions)	August 31, 2003	November 30, 2002	August 31, 2002
MARKET RISK			
Interest rate	\$ 17.9	\$ 17.8	\$ 18.6
Currency	0.9	0.6	0.5
Equity	4.3	3.4	3.1
Diversification benefit	(4.6)	(3.7)	(3.4)
Aggregate VaR	\$ 18.5	\$ 18.1	\$ 18.8

The table below illustrates the high, low and average (calculated on a monthly basis) VaR for each component of market risk and aggregate market risk during the 2003 quarter:

(in millions)	High	Low	Average
MARKET RISK			
Interest rate	\$ 17.9	\$ 13.1	\$ 16.3
Currency	1.1	0.6	0.9
Equity	4.6	3.7	4.2

Aggregate VaR

18.5

13.8

16.9

The following charts represent a summary of the daily principal transactions revenues and reflect a combination of trading revenues, net interest revenues for certain trading areas and other revenues for the quarters ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002, respectively. These charts represent a historical summary of the results generated by the Company's trading activities as opposed to the probability approach used by the VaR model. The average daily trading profit was \$11.3 million and \$8.7 million for the quarters ended August 31, 2003 and August 31, 2002, respectively. During the quarter ended August 31, 2003, there were no days in which there was a trading loss. During the quarter ended August 31, 2002, there was one trading day in which the total daily trading loss exceeded the reported aggregate period end VaR amounts. The frequency distribution of the Company's daily net trading revenues reflects the Company's historical ability to manage its exposure to market risk and the diversified nature of its trading activities. No guarantee can be given regarding future net trading revenues or future earnings volatility. The Company believes that these results are indicative of its commitment to the management of market trading risk.

55

***QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES
ABOUT MARKET RISK***

DISTRIBUTION OF DAILY NET TRADING REVENUES

[Vertical bar graphs of Number of Trading days (y-axis) versus Daily Net Trading Revenues (x-axis) representing the following information appear here in paper format]

Quarter Ended August 31, 2003

<i>Daily Net Trading Revenues (\$ in millions)</i>	<i>Number of Trading Days</i>
(10)+	0
(10) - (5)	0
(5) - 0	0
0 - 5	9
5 - 10	20
10 - 15	20
15 - 20	8
20 - 25	6
25 - 30	0
30+	1

Quarter Ended August 31, 2002

<i>Daily Net Trading Revenues (\$ in millions)</i>	<i>Number of Trading Days</i>
(10)+	2
(10) - (5)	2
(5) - 0	6
0 - 5	14
5 - 10	13
10 - 15	13
15 - 20	6
20 - 25	3
25 - 30	2
30+	3

56

Item 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

As required by Rule 13a-15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act), the Company's management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of its disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act) were effective as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report. As required by Rule 13a-15(d) under the Exchange Act, the Company's management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the Company's internal control over financial reporting to determine whether any changes occurred during the quarter covered by this quarterly report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting. Based on that evaluation, there has been no such change during the quarter covered by this quarterly report.

57

Part II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Merrill Lynch Fundamental Growth Fund, Inc., et al. v. McKesson HBOC, Inc., et al.

As previously reported in the Company's Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2002 ("Form 10-K"), Bear Stearns is a defendant in litigation pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Francisco.

On September 26, 2003, the Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Francisco granted Merrill Lynch Fundamental Growth Fund, Inc.'s and Merrill Lynch Global Value Fund, Inc.'s (the "Merrill Lynch Funds") motion for leave to file a fourth amended complaint adding Bear Stearns as a defendant. Also named as defendants are McKesson HBOC, HBOC, certain present or former officers and/or directors of McKesson, HBOC and/or McKesson HBOC and Arthur Andersen. The complaint alleges, among other things, that Bear Stearns violated Section 25500 of the California Corporations Code and committed common law fraud and negligent misrepresentation in connection with allegedly false and misleading disclosure contained in a joint proxy statement/prospectus that was issued with respect to the McKesson/HBOC merger. Compensatory damages in an unspecified amount are sought.

Bear Stearns denies all allegations of wrongdoing asserted against it in this litigation, and believes that it has substantial defenses to these claims.

Kelly v. Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., et al.

As previously reported in the Company's Form 10-K and Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended February 28, 2003 ("First Quarter 2003 Form 10-Q") and May 31, 2003 ("Second Quarter 2003 Form 10-Q"), Bear Stearns is a defendant in litigation pending in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York.

On September 18, 2003, the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York, approved a stipulation among the parties dismissing this action with prejudice.

Levitt, et al. v. Bear Stearns, et al.

As previously reported in the Company's Form 10-K, Bear Stearns is a defendant in litigation pending in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

On August 13, 2003, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit reversed the district court order granting defendants' motion to dismiss and remanded this action to the district court.

Larry L. Cannon v. Citigroup Global Markets, Inc., et al.

As previously reported to the Company's Second Quarter 2003 Form 10-Q, Bear Stearns is a defendant in litigation pending in the United States District Court for the District of Colorado.

On August 5, 2003, plaintiff voluntarily dismissed this action without prejudice.

58

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Mutual Funds

Bear Stearns has received a subpoena from the Office of the New York State Attorney General and a voluntary request for information from the New York Regional Office of the SEC seeking information regarding trading in the shares of mutual funds. Bear Stearns is cooperating fully with these inquiries.

The Company also is involved from time to time in investigations and proceedings by governmental agencies and self-regulatory organizations.

59

Item 5. OTHER INFORMATION

In accordance with Section 10A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended by Section 202 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, non-audit services were approved by the Company's Audit Committee to be performed by Deloitte & Touche LLP, the Company's independent auditors, principally relating to the following: 1) agreed upon procedures relating to (a) securitization offerings and related periodic filings, (b) reports on internal controls, and (c) compliance by Bear Stearns Financial Products Inc. with certain contractual requirements; 2) readiness services in connection with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002; 3) tax related services; 4) issuance of comfort letters and consents relating to offerings of the Company's own securities; 5) reviews of quarterly financial statements; 6) consulting services with respect to client web-based technology; and 7) other accounting, attest and regulatory related services.

60

Item 6. EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

(a) Exhibits

(11) Computation of Per Share Earnings. (The calculation of per share earnings is in Note 6, "Earnings Per Share," of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Earnings Per Share) and is omitted here in accordance with Section (b) (11) of Item 601 of Regulation S-K)

(12) Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges

(15) Letter re: Unaudited Interim Financial Information

(31.1) Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

(31.2) Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

(32.1) Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

(32.2) Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

(b) Reports on Form 8-K

During the quarter, the Company filed the following Current Reports on Form 8-K.

(i) A Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 2, 2003 and filed on June 12, 2003, pertaining to an opinion of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP as to certain federal income tax consequences described in the Pricing Supplement, dated June 2, 2003, relating to the Medium Term Notes, Series B (linked to the rate of U.S. inflation) ("Inflation Linked Notes"), a consent in connection with the offering of the Inflation Linked

(b) Reports on Form 8-K

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Notes and a form of Inflation Linked Note.

(ii) A Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 18, 2003 and filed on June 20, 2003, pertaining to the Company's results of operations for the three months ended May 31, 2003.

(iii) A Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 18, 2003 and filed on June 25, 2003, pertaining to an opinion of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP as to the legality of the 2.875% Global Notes due 2008 ("2008 Global Notes") and to legality of the 4.65% Global Notes due 2018 ("2018 Global Notes") issued by the Company, certain federal income tax consequences in connection with the offering of the 2008 Global Notes and 2018 Global Notes and a consent in connection with the offering of the 2008 Global Notes and 2018 Global Notes.

61

EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

(iv) A current report on Form 8-K dated June 19, 2003 and filed on June 20, 2003, pertaining to an opinion of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP as to certain federal income tax consequences described in the Prospectus Supplement, dated June 19, 2003, relating to Income Notes (the "Income Notes"), a consent in connection with the offering of the Income Notes the Medium Term Notes, Series B, Distribution Agreement, the Income Notes Distribution Agreement, and forms of Medium Term Notes and Income Notes.

(v) A Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 10, 2003 and filed on July 24, 2003, pertaining to an opinion of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP as to certain federal income tax consequences described in the Pricing Supplement, dated July 10, 2003, relating to the Medium Term Notes, Series B (linked to the value of the Common Stock of Tyco International Ltd.) (the "Equity Linked Notes"), a consent in connection with the offering of the Equity Linked Notes and a form of Equity Linked Note.

(vi) A Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 17, 2003 and filed on July 23, 2003, pertaining to an opinion of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP as to the legality of the Accelerated Market Participation Securities ("AMPS") issued by the Company, certain federal income tax consequences in connection with offering of the AMPS, a consent in connection with the offering of the AMPS and the Underwriting Agreement, Warrant Agreement and form of AMPS.

62

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 thereunto duly authorized.

The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Marshall J Levinson
Marshall J Levinson
Controller
(Principal Accounting Officer)

Date: October 15, 2003

63

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
FORM 10-Q

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. Description

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

- (12) Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges
- (15) Letter re: Unaudited Interim Financial Information
- (31.1) Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15c-17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- (31.2) Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15c-17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- (32.1) Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- (32.2) Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002