#### PIPER JAFFRAY COMPANIES

Form 3

August 15, 2006

## FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person \* Statement PIPER JAFFRAY COMPANIES [PJC] A May Benjamin T (Month/Day/Year) 08/11/2006 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 800 NICOLLET (Check all applicable) MALL, Â SUITE 800 (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director \_X\_\_ Officer Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Head, High-Yield Stru. Product Person MINNEAPOLIS, MNÂ 55402 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 5) (Instr. 4) Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Â Common Stock 445 D Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
		Title	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D)	

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Date Expiration Amount or or Indirect Exercisable Date Number of (I) Shares (Instr. 5)

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

May Benjamin T

800 NICOLLET MALL SUITE 800 Â Â Head, High-Yield Stru. Product Â

MINNEAPOLIS, MNÂ 55402

**Signatures** 

/s/ James L. Chosy for Benjamin T. May

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## **Explanation of Responses:**

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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<sup>\*\*</sup> Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).