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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC Form 424B3 February 24, 2003	C					
PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 55 DATED: February 19, 2003 (To Prospectus dated January 25, 2002, and Prospectus Supplement dated January 25, 2002)				Rule 424(b)(3) File No. 333-76894		
\$10,006,693,162 THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES B						
Principal Amount: \$250,0	Principal Amount: \$250,000,000		Floating Rate Notes [x] Book Entry Notes [x]			
Original Issue Date: 2/2	Original Issue Date: 2/24/2003		Fixed Rate Notes [] Certificated Notes []			
Maturity Date: 2/24/2004	Maturity Date: 2/24/2004		CUSIP#: 073928YR8			
Option to Extend Maturity:		No [x] Yes [] Final Maturity Date:				
Redeemable On	Redempt: Price(s	s)	Optional Repayment Date(s)	Repayment Price(s)		
N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A		
Applicable Only to Fixed	l Rate Not	tes:				
Interest Rate:	Interest Rate:					
Interest Payment Dates:						
Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:						
Interest Rate Basis:	Maximum Interest Rate: N/A					
[] Commercial Paper R	[] Commercial Paper Rate		Minimum Interest Rate: N/A			
[] Federal Funds Effe	[] Federal Funds Effective Rate					
[] Federal Funds Open	[] Federal Funds Open Rate		<pre>Interest Reset Date(s): *</pre>			
[] Treasury Rate	[] Treasury Rate		Interest Reset Period: Monthly			
[] LIBOR Reuters	[] LIBOR Reuters			<pre>Interest Payment Date(s): **</pre>		
[x] LIBOR Telerate	[x] LIBOR Telerate					
[] Prime Rate	[] Prime Rate					
[] CMT Rate	[] CMT Rate					
Initial Interest Rate: 1.3375% Interest Payment Period: Monthly						
Index Maturity: One Month						
Spread (plus or minus): N/A						
* On the 24th of each month prior to Maturity.						

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** On the 24th of each month and at Maturity.

The distribution of Notes will conform to the requirements set forth in Rule 2720 of the NASD Conduct Rules.