

Edgar Filing: CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND - Form N-Q

CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND

Form N-Q

September 28, 2005

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

FORM N-Q

QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED  
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT FILE NUMBER: 811-21484

EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN CHARTER: Calamos Strategic Total  
Return Fund

ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES: 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville  
Illinois 60563

NAME AND ADDRESS OF AGENT FOR SERVICE: James S. Hamman, Jr., Secretary,  
Calamos Advisors, LLC,  
2020 Calamos Court,  
Naperville, Illinois  
60563

REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE: (630) 245-7200

DATE OF FISCAL YEAR END: October 31, 2005

DATE OF REPORTING PERIOD: July 31, 2005

CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND

ITEM 1. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2005 (UNAUDITED)

STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2005 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
-----		
CORPORATE BONDS (39.2%)		
	CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY (10.1%)	
\$ 4,338,000	Asbury Automotive Group, Inc.^	
	8.000%, 03/15/14	\$ 4,338,000
6,941,000	Aztar Corp.^	
	7.875%, 06/15/14	7,426,870
9,852,000	Beazer Homes USA, Inc.	
	8.375%, 04/15/12	10,627,845
4,338,000	Boyd Gaming Corp.	
	7.750%, 12/15/12	4,663,350
7,375,000	GBP EMI Group, PLC	
	9.750%, 05/20/08	14,250,344
17,352,000	Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company^	

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	7.857%, 08/15/11	17,612,280
7,808,000	Hovnanian Enterprises, Inc.^	
	7.750%, 05/15/13	8,315,520
6,073,000	IMAX Corp.^	
	9.625%, 12/01/10	6,505,701
8,242,000	Intrawest Corp.	
	7.500%, 10/15/13	8,530,470
6,602,000	Jarden Corp.	
	9.750%, 05/01/12	7,105,402
4,338,000	Kellwood Company	
	7.625%, 10/15/17	4,446,450
6,507,000	Landry's Restaurants, Inc.	
	7.500%, 12/15/14	6,466,331
	Mandalay Resort Group^	
18,693,000	10.250%, 08/01/07	20,515,568
5,639,000	7.625%, 07/15/13	6,005,535
11,279,000	Meritage Corp.^	
	7.000%, 05/01/14	11,448,185
5,206,000	NCL Holding, ASA*	
	10.625%, 07/15/14	5,570,420
4,338,000	Oxford Industries, Inc.	
	8.875%, 06/01/11	4,674,195
	Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc.	
7,808,000	8.250%, 03/15/12	8,256,960
4,464,000	8.750%, 10/01/13^	4,832,280
8,689,000	Reader's Digest Association, Inc.	
	6.500%, 03/01/11	8,949,670
5,639,000	CAD Rogers Cable, Inc.	
	7.250%, 12/15/11	4,837,180
8,676,000	CAD Rogers Wireless, Inc.	
	7.625%, 12/15/11	7,637,262
11,279,000	Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd.	
	7.500%, 10/15/27	12,406,900
4,338,000	Speedway Motorsports, Inc.	
	6.750%, 06/01/13	4,500,675
13,014,000	Standard Pacific Corp.	
	9.250%, 04/15/12	14,640,750
4,338,000	Vail Resorts, Inc.^	
	6.750%, 02/15/14	4,457,295
	Warner Music Group	
16,051,000	7.375%, 04/15/14^	16,652,913
2,169,000	GBP 8.125%, 04/15/14	3,888,367
		-----
		239,562,718
		-----

PRINCIPAL  
AMOUNT

VALUE

	CONSUMER STAPLES (3.5%)	
\$ 7,375,000	Central Garden & Pet Company	
	9.125%, 02/01/13	\$ 8,001,875
12,797,000	Chiquita Brands International, Inc.^	
	7.500%, 11/01/14	12,477,075
9,977,000	Del Monte Foods Company	
	8.625%, 12/15/12	11,024,585
14,749,000	Jean Coutu Group, Inc.^	
	8.500%, 08/01/14	14,693,691
	Rayovac Corp.^	

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20,823,000	7.375%, 02/01/15	20,666,828
5,206,000	8.500%, 10/01/13	5,518,360
5,466,000	Revlon, Inc.^	
	9.500%, 04/01/11	5,315,685
4,079,000	WH Intermediate Holdings, Ltd.	
	9.500%, 04/01/11	4,384,925
		-----
		82,083,024
		-----
	ENERGY (5.0%)	
	Chesapeake Energy Corp.^	
6,073,000	6.875%, 01/15/16	6,331,102
3,470,000	7.500%, 06/15/14	3,773,625
3,470,000	Comstock Resources, Inc.	
	6.875%, 03/01/12	3,539,400
12,841,000	Giant Industries, Inc.^	
	8.000%, 05/15/14	13,547,255
4,338,000	Houston Exploration Company	
	7.000%, 06/15/13	4,554,900
4,338,000	KCS Energy, Inc.	
	7.125%, 04/01/12	4,468,140
868,000	Lone Star Technologies, Inc.	
	9.000%, 06/01/11	930,930
	Overseas Shipholding Group, Inc.	
2,429,000	7.500%, 02/15/24	2,356,130
2,169,000	8.750%, 12/01/13	2,461,815
	Petroleo Brasileiro, SA	
14,316,000	9.125%, 07/02/13	16,320,240
13,448,000	8.375%, 12/10/18	14,355,740
	Premcor Refining Group, Inc.	
6,941,000	7.750%, 02/01/12^	7,548,338
1,735,000	7.500%, 06/15/15	1,882,475
9,826,000	Swift Energy Company^	
	9.375%, 05/01/12	10,759,470
6,550,000	Whiting Petroleum Corp.	
	7.250%, 05/01/12	6,697,375
17,352,000	Williams Companies, Inc.	
	7.750%, 06/15/31	19,781,280
		-----
		119,308,215
		-----
	FINANCIALS (2.5%)	
34,704,000	Dow Jones TRAC-X North	
	America High Yield Series 4 June	
	2010 Trust 3*^	
	8.000%, 06/29/10	35,311,320
13,014,000	Leucadia National Corp.^	
	7.000%, 08/15/13	13,241,745

See accompanying notes to Schedule of Investments

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STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2005 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL  
AMOUNT

VALUE

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\$ 9,110,000	Senior Housing Properties Trust 8.625%, 01/15/12	\$ 10,271,525
		58,824,590
	HEALTH CARE (4.0%)	
1,909,000	Alpharma, Inc. ^ 8.625%, 05/01/11	1,909,000
4,338,000	Ameripath, Inc.^ 10.500%, 04/01/13	4,413,915
3,167,000	Bausch & Lomb, Inc. 7.125%, 08/01/28	3,333,267
12,147,000	Beverly Enterprises, Inc. 7.875%, 06/15/14	13,300,965
5,206,000	Leiner Health Products Group, Inc. 11.000%, 06/01/12	4,997,760
9,544,000	MedCath Corp.^ 9.875%, 07/15/12	10,665,420
6,073,000	Psychiatric Solutions, Inc.* 7.750%, 07/15/15	6,224,825
4,338,000	Quintiles Transnational Corp. 10.000%, 10/01/13	4,858,560
16,485,000	Service Corp. International^ 6.750%, 04/01/16	17,000,156
15,357,000	Tenet Healthcare Corp.* 9.250%, 02/01/15	15,894,495
11,713,000	Vanguard Health Systems, Inc. 9.000%, 10/01/14	12,796,453
		95,394,816
	INDUSTRIALS (3.8%)	
4,772,000	Accuride Corp. 8.500%, 02/01/15	4,974,810
5,770,000	American Airlines, Inc.^ 7.250%, 02/05/09	5,495,925
2,603,000	Armor Holdings, Inc.^ 8.250%, 08/15/13	2,830,762
14,316,000	CNH Global, NV^ 9.250%, 08/01/11	15,568,650
11,713,000	Cummins, Inc.^ 9.500%, 12/01/10	12,972,148
4,338,000	Gardner Denver, Inc.*^ 8.000%, 05/01/13	4,598,280
8,242,000	General Cable Corp. 9.500%, 11/15/10	8,612,890
4,338,000	Greenbrier Companies, Inc.* 8.375%, 05/15/15	4,544,055
8,676,000	Jacuzzi Brands, Inc. 9.625%, 07/01/10	9,586,980
3,258,000	Manitowoc Company, Inc. 10.500%, 08/01/12	3,697,830
4,338,000	Monitronics International, Inc. 11.750%, 09/01/10	4,544,055
5,206,000	Navistar International Corp.^ 7.500%, 06/15/11	5,401,225
2,603,000	Orbital Sciences Corp. 9.000%, 07/15/11	2,837,270
4,338,000	Sequa Corp. 8.875%, 04/01/08	4,717,575

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		-----
		90,382,455
		-----
PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
-----		
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (3.5%)	
\$20,823,000	Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.^	
	7.750%, 11/01/12	\$ 21,187,402
7,375,000	Celestica, Inc.^	
	7.875%, 07/01/11	7,633,125
4,338,000	Freescale Semiconductor, Inc.^	
	7.125%, 07/15/14	4,641,660
9,544,000	Iron Mountain, Inc.	
	6.625%, 01/01/16	9,138,380
2,169,000	GBP 7.250%, 04/15/14*	
	Lucent Technologies, Inc.	
	6.500%, 01/15/28	9,944,648
11,019,000		
	6.450%, 03/15/29^	5,123,205
5,661,000	Stratus Technologies, Inc.^	
	10.375%, 12/01/08	4,403,070
4,338,000	SunGard Data Systems Inc.*=\=	
	9.125%, 08/15/13	4,500,675
13,014,000	Telcordia Technologies*	
	10.000%, 03/15/13	12,688,650
		-----
		82,872,803
		-----
	MATERIALS (4.2%)	
10,845,000	Aleris International, Inc.	
	10.375%, 10/15/10	12,010,837
10,411,000	Arch Western Finance, LLC	
	6.750%, 07/01/13	10,749,357
2,603,000	Century Aluminum Company^	
	7.500%, 08/15/14	2,681,090
13,647,000	Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc.^	
	10.125%, 02/01/10	15,216,405
8,242,000	Georgia-Pacific Corp.	
	7.375%, 12/01/25	8,983,780
8,676,000	IPSCO, Inc.	
	8.750%, 06/01/13	9,738,810
7,158,000	Novelis, Inc.*	
	7.250%, 02/15/15	7,354,845
	Steel Dynamics, Inc.	
	9.500%, 03/15/09^	7,593,300
7,080,000		
	9.500%, 03/15/09	316,388
295,000	U.S. Concrete, Inc.^	
6,941,000		
	8.375%, 04/01/14	6,698,065
	Union Carbide Corp.	
	7.875%, 04/01/23^	10,561,958
9,500,000		
	7.500%, 06/01/25	8,131,135
7,505,000		
		-----
		100,035,970
		-----
	TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES (2.0%)	
	Alamosa Holdings, Inc.^	
	8.500%, 01/31/12	12,265,912
11,279,000		
	11.000%, 07/31/10	4,967,010
4,338,000	AT&T Corp.	
19,087,000		

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3,904,000	9.750%, 11/15/31 IPCS Escrow Company	24,813,100
	11.500%, 05/01/12	4,450,560
		-----
		46,496,582
		-----

See accompanying notes to Schedule of Investments

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STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2005 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
	UTILITIES (0.6%)	
\$ 5,206,000	Calpine Corp.^	
	8.500%, 02/15/11	\$ 3,644,200
10,411,000	Edison International^	
	7.730%, 06/15/09	11,035,660
		-----
		14,679,860
		-----
	TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS	
	(Cost \$903,594,898)	929,641,033
		-----
CONVERTIBLE BONDS (9.4%)		
	CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY (1.9%)	
7,000,000	General Motors Corp.+	
	6.250%, 07/15/33	6,297,200
4,462,000	Lions Gate Entertainment Corp.^	
	3.625%, 03/15/25	4,551,240
32,000,000	Walt Disney Company^	
	2.125%, 04/15/23	33,120,000
		-----
		43,968,440
		-----
	ENERGY (1.3%)	
10,500,000	Cal Dive International, Inc.*^	
	3.250%, 12/15/25	12,468,750
15,000,000	Repsol YpF, SA	
	4.500%, 01/26/11	19,034,517
		-----
		31,503,267
		-----
	FINANCIALS (1.2%)	
8,700,000	Host Marriott Corp.*^	
	3.250%, 04/15/24	10,179,000
750,000	Travelers Property Casualty Corp.	
	4.500%, 04/15/32	18,007,500
		-----
		28,186,500
		-----
	INDUSTRIALS (1.4%)	
9,000,000	GATX Corp.	
	7.500%, 02/01/07	11,070,000

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16,000,000		Lockheed Martin Corp.^++ 3.018%, 08/15/33	17,003,040
4,500,000		Quanta Services, Inc. 4.500%, 10/01/23	5,073,750
			----- 33,146,790 -----
		INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (1.5%)	
16,500,000		Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.^++ 4.750%, 02/01/22	17,448,750
14,500,000		DST Systems, Inc.^ 4.125%, 08/15/23	17,363,750
			----- 34,812,500 -----
		MATERIALS (0.6%)	
10,700,000		Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc. 7.000%, 02/11/11	15,354,500
			-----
		UTILITIES (1.5%)	
14,000,000		Centerpoint Energy, Inc. 3.750%, 05/15/23	17,500,000
PRINCIPAL			VALUE
AMOUNT			
			-----
\$ 8,750,000	GBP	Scottish and Southern Energy, PLC 3.750%, 10/29/09	\$ 17,301,079
			----- 34,801,079 -----
		TOTAL CONVERTIBLE BONDS (Cost \$219,234,801)	221,773,076
			-----
		SYNTHETIC CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES (7.0%)	
		CORPORATE BONDS (6.0%)	
		CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY (1.5%)	
662,000		Asbury Automotive Group, Inc.^ 8.000%, 03/15/14	662,000
1,059,000		Aztar Corp.^ 7.875%, 06/15/14	1,133,130
1,503,000		Beazer Homes USA, Inc. 8.375%, 04/15/12	1,621,361
662,000		Boyd Gaming Corp. 7.750%, 12/15/12	711,650
1,125,000	GBP	EMI Group, PLC 9.750%, 05/20/08	2,173,781
2,648,000		Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company^ 7.857%, 08/15/11	2,687,720
1,192,000		Hovnanian Enterprises, Inc.^ 7.750%, 05/15/13	1,269,480
927,000		IMAX Corp.^ 9.625%, 12/01/10	993,049
1,258,000		Intrawest Corp. 7.500%, 10/15/13	1,302,030
1,007,000		Jarden Corp. 9.750%, 05/01/12	1,083,784
662,000		Kellwood Company 7.625%, 10/15/17	678,550
993,000		Landry's Restaurants, Inc.	

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	7.500%, 12/15/14	986,794
	Mandalay Resort Group^	
2,852,000	10.250%, 08/01/07	3,130,070
861,000	7.625%, 07/15/13	916,965
1,721,000	Meritage Corp.^	
	7.000%, 05/01/14	1,746,815
794,000	NCL Holding, ASA*	
	10.625%, 07/15/14	849,580
662,000	Oxford Industries, Inc.	
	8.875%, 06/01/11	713,305
	Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc.	
1,192,000	8.250%, 03/15/12	1,260,540
681,000	8.750%, 10/01/13^	737,182
1,326,000	Reader's Digest Association, Inc.	
	6.500%, 03/01/11	1,365,780
861,000	CAD Rogers Cable, Inc.	
	7.250%, 12/15/11	738,573
1,324,000	CAD Rogers Wireless, Inc.	
	7.625%, 12/15/11	1,165,483
1,721,000	Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd.	
	7.500%, 10/15/27	1,893,100
662,000	Speedway Motorsports, Inc.	
	6.750%, 06/01/13	686,825

See accompanying notes to Schedule of Investments

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STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2005 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
\$ 1,986,000	Standard Pacific Corp.	
	9.250%, 04/15/12	\$ 2,234,250
662,000	Vail Resorts, Inc.^	
	6.750%, 02/15/14	680,205
	Warner Music Group	
2,449,000	7.375%, 04/15/14^	2,540,838
331,000	GBP 8.125%, 04/15/14	593,384
		-----
		36,556,224
		-----
	CONSUMER STAPLES (0.5%)	
1,125,000	Central Garden & Pet Company	
	9.125%, 02/01/13	1,220,625
1,953,000	Chiquita Brands International, Inc.^	
	7.500%, 11/01/14	1,904,175
1,523,000	Del Monte Foods Company	
	8.625%, 12/15/12	1,682,915
2,251,000	Jean Coutu Group, Inc.^	
	8.500%, 08/01/14	2,242,559
	Rayovac Corp.^	
3,177,000	7.375%, 02/01/15	3,153,172
794,000	8.500%, 10/01/13	841,640
834,000	Revlon, Inc.^	



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623,000	9.500%, 04/01/11 WH Intermediate Holdings, Ltd. 9.500%, 04/01/11	811,065 669,725
		----- 12,525,876 -----
	ENERGY (0.8%)	
927,000	Chesapeake Energy Corp.^ 6.875%, 01/15/16	966,397
530,000	7.500%, 06/15/14	576,375
530,000	Comstock Resources, Inc. 6.875%, 03/01/12	540,600
1,959,000	Giant Industries, Inc.^ 8.000%, 05/15/14	2,066,745
662,000	Houston Exploration Company 7.000%, 06/15/13	695,100
662,000	KCS Energy, Inc. 7.125%, 04/01/12	681,860
132,000	Lone Star Technologies, Inc. 9.000%, 06/01/11	141,570
371,000	Overseas Shipholding Group, Inc. 7.500%, 02/15/24	359,870
331,000	8.750%, 12/01/13	375,685
2,184,000	Petroleo Brasileiro, SA 9.125%, 07/02/13	2,489,760
2,052,000	8.375%, 12/10/18	2,190,510
1,059,000	Premcor Refining Group, Inc. 7.750%, 02/01/12^	1,151,663
265,000	7.500%, 06/15/15	287,525
1,499,000	Swift Energy Company^ 9.375%, 05/01/12	1,641,405
1,000,000	Whiting Petroleum Corp. 7.250%, 05/01/12	1,022,500
2,648,000	Williams Companies, Inc. 7.750%, 06/15/31	3,018,720
		----- 18,206,285 -----
PRINCIPAL		VALUE
AMOUNT		
	FINANCIALS (0.4%)	
\$ 5,296,000	Dow Jones TRAC-X North America High Yield Series 4 June 2010 Trust 3*^ 8.000%, 06/29/10	\$ 5,388,680
1,986,000	Leucadia National Corp.^ 7.000%, 08/15/13	2,020,755
1,390,000	Senior Housing Properties Trust 8.625%, 01/15/12	1,567,225
		----- 8,976,660 -----
	HEALTH CARE (0.6%)	
291,000	Alpharma, Inc. ^ 8.625%, 05/01/11	291,000
662,000	Ameripath, Inc.^ 10.500%, 04/01/13	673,585
483,000	Bausch & Lomb, Inc. 7.125%, 08/01/28	508,357

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1,853,000	Beverly Enterprises, Inc. 7.875%, 06/15/14	2,029,035
794,000	Leiner Health Products Group, Inc. 11.000%, 06/01/12	762,240
1,456,000	MedCath Corp.^ 9.875%, 07/15/12	1,627,080
927,000	Psychiatric Solutions, Inc.* 7.750%, 07/15/15	950,175
662,000	Quintiles Transnational Corp. 10.000%, 10/01/13	741,440
2,515,000	Service Corp. International^ 6.750%, 04/01/16	2,593,594
2,343,000	Tenet Healthcare Corp.* 9.250%, 02/01/15	2,425,005
1,787,000	Vanguard Health Systems, Inc. 9.000%, 10/01/14	1,952,298
		----- 14,553,809 -----
	INDUSTRIALS (0.6%)	
728,000	Accuride Corp. 8.500%, 02/01/15	758,940
880,000	American Airlines, Inc.^ 7.250%, 02/05/09	838,200
397,000	Armor Holdings, Inc.^ 8.250%, 08/15/13	431,737
2,184,000	CNH Global, NV^ 9.250%, 08/01/11	2,375,100
1,787,000	Cummins, Inc.^ 9.500%, 12/01/10	1,979,103
662,000	Gardner Denver, Inc.*^ 8.000%, 05/01/13	701,720
1,258,000	General Cable Corp. 9.500%, 11/15/10	1,314,610
662,000	Greenbrier Companies, Inc.* 8.375%, 05/15/15	693,445
1,324,000	Jacuzzi Brands, Inc. 9.625%, 07/01/10	1,463,020
497,000	Manitowoc Company, Inc. 10.500%, 08/01/12	564,095
662,000	Monitronics International, Inc. 11.750%, 09/01/10	693,445

See accompanying notes to Schedule of Investments

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STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2005 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
\$ 794,000	Navistar International Corp.^ 7.500%, 06/15/11	\$ 823,775
397,000	Orbital Sciences Corp. 9.000%, 07/15/11	432,730

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662,000	Sequa Corp. 8.875%, 04/01/08	719,925
		-----
		13,789,845
		-----
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (0.5%)	
3,177,000	Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.^ 7.750%, 11/01/12	3,232,597
1,125,000	Celestica, Inc.^ 7.875%, 07/01/11	1,164,375
662,000	Freescale Semiconductor, Inc.^ 7.125%, 07/15/14	708,340
	Iron Mountain, Inc.	
1,456,000	6.625%, 01/01/16	1,394,120
331,000	GBP 7.250%, 04/15/14*	551,207
	Lucent Technologies, Inc.	
1,681,000	6.500%, 01/15/28	1,517,103
864,000	6.450%, 03/15/29^	781,920
662,000	Stratus Technologies, Inc.^ 10.375%, 12/01/08	671,930
662,000	SunGard Data Systems Inc.*=\= 9.125%, 08/15/13	686,825
1,986,000	Telcordia Technologies* 10.000%, 03/15/13	1,936,350
		-----
		12,644,767
		-----
	MATERIALS (0.7%)	
1,655,000	Aleris International, Inc. 10.375%, 10/15/10	1,832,912
1,589,000	Arch Western Finance, LLC 6.750%, 07/01/13	1,640,643
397,000	Century Aluminum Company^ 7.500%, 08/15/14	408,910
2,083,000	Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc.^ 10.125%, 02/01/10	2,322,545
1,258,000	Georgia-Pacific Corp. 7.375%, 12/01/25	1,371,220
1,324,000	IPSCO, Inc. 8.750%, 06/01/13	1,486,190
1,092,000	Novelis, Inc.* 7.250%, 02/15/15	1,122,030
	Steel Dynamics, Inc.	
1,080,000	9.500%, 03/15/09^	1,158,300
45,000	9.500%, 03/15/09	48,263
1,059,000	U.S. Concrete, Inc.^ 8.375%, 04/01/14	1,021,935
	Union Carbide Corp.	
1,450,000	7.875%, 04/01/23^	1,612,088
1,145,000	7.500%, 06/01/25	1,240,526
		-----
		15,265,562
		-----
	TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES (0.3%)	
1,721,000	Alamosa Holdings, Inc.^ 8.500%, 01/31/12	1,871,587
662,000	11.000%, 07/31/10	757,990

PRINCIPAL  
AMOUNT

VALUE

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\$ 2,913,000	AT&T Corp. 9.750%, 11/15/31	\$ 3,786,900
596,000	IPCS Escrow Company 11.500%, 05/01/12	679,440
		-----
		7,095,917
		-----
	UTILITIES (0.1%)	
794,000	Calpine Corp.^ 8.500%, 02/15/11	555,800
1,589,000	Edison International^ 7.730%, 06/15/09	1,684,340
		-----
		2,240,140
		-----
	TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS	141,855,085
		-----

NUMBER OF CONTRACTS		VALUE
-----		
	OPTIONS (1.0%)	
	CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY (0.5%)	
1,600	eBay, Inc.# Call, 01/20/07, Strike 42.50	1,168,000
7,450	Home Depot, Inc.# Call, 01/20/07, Strike 40.00	5,662,000
6,000	YUM! Brands, Inc.# Call, 01/20/07, Strike 50.00	4,710,000
		-----
		11,540,000
		-----
	CONSUMER STAPLES (0.1%)	
3,000	Altria Group, Inc.# Call, 01/20/07, Strike 65.00	2,220,000
		-----
	ENERGY (0.2%)	
750	Amerada Hess Corp.# Call, 01/20/07, Strike 100.00	2,193,750
3,800	Chevrontexaco Corp.# Call, 01/20/07, Strike 60.00	2,090,000
		-----
		4,283,750
		-----
	FINANCIALS (0.0%)	
1,500	Allstate Corp.# Call, 01/20/07, Strike 55.00	1,470,000
		-----
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (0.2%)	
4,800	Apple Computer, Inc.# Call, 01/20/07, Strike 37.50	5,520,000
		-----
	TOTAL OPTIONS	25,033,750
		-----
	TOTAL SYNTHETIC CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES (Cost \$159,256,380)	166,888,835
		-----

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NUMBER OF SHARES		VALUE
-----		
CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED STOCKS (23.0%)		
	CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY (4.1%)	
2,325,000	Ford Motor Company Capital Trust II 6.500%	96,975,750
		-----

See accompanying notes to Schedule of Investments

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STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2005 (UNAUDITED)

NUMBER OF SHARES		VALUE
-----		
	CONSUMER STAPLES (1.1%)	
1,105,000	Albertson's, Inc. 7.250%	\$ 25,138,750
		-----
	ENERGY (1.6%)	
110,000	Amerada Hess Corp. 7.000%	11,193,600
210,700	Chesapeake Energy Corp.* 5.000%	26,495,525
		-----
		37,689,125
		-----
	FINANCIALS (10.4%)	
1,325,000	Chubb Corp. 7.000%	42,890,250
27,600,000	Fortis, NV (Assurant)* 7.750%	30,739,500
650,000	Genworth Financial, Inc. 6.000%	22,789,000
515,000	Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. 7.000%	37,692,850
725,000	Lazard, Ltd. 6.625%	17,813,250
1,250,000	Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc. 6.250%	32,312,500
460,000	Merrill Lynch & Company, Inc. 6.750%	16,980,440
675,000	Metlife, Inc. 6.375%	18,677,250
470,000	National Australia Bank, Ltd. 7.875%	18,494,500
35,000	State Street Corp. 6.750%	7,770,000
		-----
		246,159,540
		-----



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980,000	Bank of America Corp.	42,728,000
1,372,000	Citigroup, Inc.	59,682,000
477,000	Federal National Mortgage Association	26,645,220
568,700	General Growth Properties, Inc.^	26,148,826
176,000	Jefferson-Pilot Corp.	8,829,920
559,600	Mills Corp.^	36,407,576
1,395,100	New York Community Bancorp, Inc.^	25,614,036
2,428,000	Washington Mutual, Inc.	103,141,440
		-----
		374,094,472
		-----
	HEALTH CARE (11.7%)	
4,146,000	Bristol-Myers Squibb Company^	103,567,080
1,300,000	Johnson & Johnson	83,148,000
1,755,000	Merck & Company, Inc.^	54,510,300
1,407,000	Pfizer, Inc.	37,285,500
		-----
		278,510,880
		-----
	INDUSTRIALS (6.3%)	
630,000	Caterpillar, Inc.	33,963,300
819,000	General Electric Company	28,255,500
450,000	Masco Corp.^	15,259,500
350,000	R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company^	12,617,500
870,000	Raytheon Company	34,217,100
920,000	Waste Management, Inc.	25,870,400
		-----
		150,183,300
		-----
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (3.3%)	
1,382,000	Intel Corp.	37,507,480
650,000	Microsoft Corp.	16,646,500
1,500,000	Nokia Corp.	23,925,000
		-----
		78,078,980
		-----
	MATERIALS (1.2%)	
215,000	Bemis Company, Inc.	5,805,000
400,000	Lubrizol Corp.	17,600,000
270,000	RPM International, Inc.^	5,062,500
		-----
		28,467,500
		-----

See accompanying notes to Schedule of Investments

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STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2005 (UNAUDITED)

NUMBER OF SHARES		VALUE
	TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES (9.4%)	
900,000	CAD BCE Inc.	\$ 21,800,580
1,850,000	Bellsouth Corp.^	51,060,000
3,071,000	SBC Communications, Inc.^	75,085,950

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1,465,000	Sprint Corp.^	39,408,500
1,039,000	Verizon Communications, Inc.	35,564,970
		-----
		222,920,000
		-----
	TOTAL COMMON STOCKS	
	(Cost \$1,434,513,539)	1,500,253,584
		-----

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
-----		
SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS (2.3%)		
\$ 9,057,000	Citigroup, Inc. 3.190%, 08/01/05	9,057,000
45,000,000	UBS Finance, Inc. 3.190%, 08/01/05	45,000,000
		-----
	TOTAL SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS	
	(Cost \$54,057,000)	54,057,000
		-----

NUMBER OF SHARES		VALUE
-----		
INVESTMENT OF CASH COLLATERAL FOR SECURITIES ON LOAN (21.8%)		
516,733,485	Bank of New York Institutional Cash Reserve Fund current rate 3.400% (Cost \$516,733,485)	516,733,485
		-----
	TOTAL INVESTMENTS (166.0%)	
	(Cost \$3,830,352,499)	3,934,255,113
		-----

NUMBER OF CONTRACTS		VALUE
-----		
WRITTEN OPTION (-0.1%)		
2,342	Caterpillar, Inc.# Call, 08/20/05, Strike 47.50 (Premium Received \$390,968)	(1,522,300)
		-----
	PAYABLE UPON RETURN OF SECURITIES ON LOAN (-21.8%)	(516,733,485)
		-----
	OTHER ASSETS, LESS LIABILITIES (1.5%)	34,448,653
		-----
	PREFERRED SHARES AT REDEMPTION VALUE INCLUDING DIVIDENDS PAYABLE (-45.6%)	(1,080,455,366)
		-----
	NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS (100.0%)	\$ 2,369,992,615
		-----

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS



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NOTE: VALUES FOR SECURITIES DENOMINATED IN FOREIGN CURRENCIES ARE SHOWN IN U.S. DOLLARS.

- \* 144A SECURITIES ARE THOSE THAT ARE EXEMPT FROM REGISTRATION UNDER RULE 144A OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED. THESE SECURITIES ARE GENERALLY ISSUED TO QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYERS ("QIBS"), SUCH AS THE FUND. ANY RESALE OF THESE SECURITIES MUST GENERALLY BE EFFECTED THROUGH A SALE THAT IS EXEMPT FROM REGISTRATION (E.G. A SALE TO ANOTHER QIB), OR THE SECURITY MUST BE REGISTERED FOR PUBLIC SALE. AT JULY 31, 2005, THE MARKET VALUE OF 144A SECURITIES THAT COULD NOT BE EXCHANGED TO THE REGISTERED FORM WAS \$195,487,345 OR 8.2% OF NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS OF THE FUND.
  - ^ SECURITY, OR PORTION OF SECURITY, IS ON LOAN.
  - # NON-INCOME PRODUCING SECURITY.
  - + SECURITY IS PURCHASED AT A PRICE THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE VALUE, IF ANY, OF ACCRUED BUT UNPAID INTEREST.
  - ++ VARIABLE RATE SECURITY. THE INTEREST RATE SHOWN IS THE RATE IN EFFECT AT JULY 31, 2005.
- SECURITY POSITION IS HELD IN A SEGREGATED ACCOUNT AS COLLATERAL FOR WRITTEN OPTIONS AGGREGATING A TOTAL MARKET VALUE OF \$12,625,722.
- =\= WHEN-ISSUED SECURITY. TO BE DELIVERED/SETTLED AFTER JULY 31, 2005.

### FOREIGN CURRENCY ABBREVIATIONS

CAD Canadian Dollar  
EUR European Monetary Unit  
GBP British Pound Sterling

See accompanying notes to Schedule of Investments

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### NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (UNAUDITED)

#### NOTE 1

PORTFOLIO VALUATION. In computing the net asset value of the Fund, portfolio securities that are traded on a securities exchange in the United States, except an option security, are valued at the last reported sale price as of the time of valuation, or lacking any current reported sale at the time of valuation, at the mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations. Each option security traded on a securities exchange in the United States is valued at the last current reported sale price as of the time of valuation if the last current reported sale price falls within the consolidated bid/ask quote for the option security. If the last current reported sale price as of the time of valuation does not fall within the consolidated bid/ask quote for such option security, such security is valued at the mid-point of the consolidated bid/ask quote for the option security. Each security traded in the over-the-counter market and quoted on the NASDAQ National Market System, is valued at the Nasdaq Official Closing Price ("NOCP"), as determined by Nasdaq, or lacking an NOCP, the last current reported sale price as of the time of valuation by Nasdaq, or lacking any current reported sale on Nasdaq at the time of valuation, at the mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations. Each over-the-counter option that is not traded through the Options Clearing Corporation is valued by the counterparty, or if the counterparty's price is not readily available then by using the Black-Scholes method. Each other security traded over-the-counter is valued at the mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations. Short-term

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securities with maturities of 60 days or less are valued at amortized cost, which approximates market value.

When market quotations are not readily available or when the valuation methods mentioned above are not reflective of the fair value of the security, the security is priced at a fair value following procedures and/or guidelines approved by the Board of Trustees, which may include utilizing a systematic fair valuation model provided by an independent pricing system. The Fund may also use fair value pricing if the value of a security it holds is, pursuant to Board of Trustees' guidelines, materially affected by events occurring before the Fund's pricing time but after the close of the primary market or exchange on which the security is traded. These procedures may utilize valuations furnished by pricing services approved by the Board of Trustees, which may be based on market transactions for comparable securities and various relationships between securities that are generally recognized by institutional traders, a computerized matrix system, or appraisals derived from information concerning the securities or similar securities received from recognized dealers in those securities. When fair value pricing is employed, the value of the portfolio security used to calculate the Fund's net asset value may differ from quoted or official closing prices.

Securities that are principally traded in a foreign market are valued at the last current sale price at the time of valuation or lacking any current or reported sale at the time of valuation, at the mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations as of the close of the appropriate exchange or other designated time. Trading in securities on European and Far Eastern securities exchanges and over-the-counter markets is normally completed at various times before the close of business on each day on which the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") is open. Trading of these securities may not take place on every NYSE business day. In addition, trading may take place in various foreign markets on Saturdays or on other days when the NYSE is not open and on which the Fund's net asset value is not calculated. As stated above, if the market prices are not readily available or are not reflective of the fair value of the security, the security will be priced at a fair value following procedures approved by the Board of Trustees. In light of the judgment involved in fair value decisions, there can be no assurance that a fair value assigned to a particular security is accurate.

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INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS. Short-term investment transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Long-term investment transactions are recorded on a trade date plus one basis, except for fiscal quarter ends, which are recorded on trade date.

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION. Except for securities of foreign issuers valued by a pricing service, values of investments and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars using a rate selected by the advisor from rates quoted by any major bank or dealer in the particular currency market, as reported by a recognized quotation dissemination service.

OPTION TRANSACTIONS. For hedging and investment purposes, the Fund may purchase or write (sell) put and call options. One of the risks associated with purchasing an option among others, is that the Fund pays a premium whether or not the option is exercised. Additionally, the Fund bears the risk of loss of premium and change in market value should the counterparty not perform under the contract. Put and call options purchased are accounted for in the same manner as portfolio securities. The cost of securities acquired through the

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exercise of call options is increased by premiums paid. The proceeds from securities sold through the exercise of put options are decreased by the premiums paid.

When the Fund writes an option, an amount equal to the premium received by the Fund is recorded as a liability and is subsequently adjusted to the current value of the option written. Premiums received from writing options that expire unexercised are treated by the Fund on the expiration date as realized gains from investments. The difference between the premium and the amount paid on effecting a closing purchase transaction, including brokerage commissions, is also treated as a realized gain, or, if the premium is less than the amount paid for the closing purchase transaction, as a realized loss. If a written call option is exercised, the premium is added to the proceeds from the sale of the underlying security or currency in determining whether the Fund has realized a gain or loss. If a written put option is exercised, the premium reduces the cost basis of the securities purchased by the Fund. The Fund as writer of an option bears the market risk of an unfavorable change in the price of the security underlying the written option.

WHEN-ISSUED/DELAYED-DELIVERY TRANSACTIONS. The Funds may purchase or sell securities on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis. The transactions involve a commitment to purchase or sell securities for a predetermined price or yield, with payment and delivery taking place beyond July 31, 2005.

### NOTE 2

INVESTMENTS. The following information is presented on an income tax basis as of July 31, 2005. Differences between amounts for financial statements and Federal income tax purposes are primarily due to timing differences.

The cost basis of investments for federal income tax purposes at July 31, 2005 was as follows:

Cost basis of investments	\$3,838,889,061
	=====
Gross unrealized appreciation	240,185,242
Gross unrealized depreciation	(144,819,190)
	-----
Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	\$ 95,366,052
	=====

### NOTE 3

SYNTHETIC CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES. The Fund may establish a "synthetic" convertible instrument by combining separate securities that possess economic characteristics similar to a convertible

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security, i.e., an income component and the right or obligation to convert to an equity security ("convertible component"). The income component is achieved by investing in non-convertible, fixed income securities such as bonds, preferred stocks, money market instruments, and other instruments that provide an income component. The convertible component is achieved by investing in warrants or options to buy common stock at a certain exercise price, or options on a stock index. In establishing a synthetic instrument, the Fund may pool a basket of fixed-income securities and a basket of warrants or options that produce the economic characteristics similar to a convertible security. Within each basket

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of fixed-income securities and warrants or options, different companies may issue the fixed-income and convertible components, which may be purchased separately and at different times.

The Fund may purchase synthetic securities created by other parties, typically investment banks, including convertible structured notes. Convertible structured notes are fixed-income debentures linked to equity. Convertible structured notes have the attributes of a convertible security; however, the investment bank that issued the convertible note assumes the credit risk associated with the investment, rather than the issuer of the underlying common stock into which the note is convertible. Purchasing synthetic convertible securities may offer more flexibility than purchasing a convertible security. Different companies may issue the fixed-income and convertible components, which may be purchased separately and at different times.

### NOTE 4

PREFERRED SHARES. There are unlimited shares of Auction Rate Cumulative Preferred Shares ("Preferred Shares") authorized. The Preferred Shares have rights as determined by the Board of Trustees. The 43,200 shares of Preferred Shares outstanding consist of seven series, 7,040 shares of M, 7,040 shares of TU, 7,040 shares of W, 7,040 shares of TH, 7,040 shares of F, 4,000 shares of A, and 4,000 shares of B. The Preferred Shares have a liquidation value of \$25,000 per share plus any accumulated but unpaid dividends whether or not declared.

Dividends on the Preferred Shares are cumulative at a rate typically reset every seven or twenty-eight days based on the results of an auction. Dividend rates ranged from 1.81% to 3.61% for the nine months ended July 31, 2005. Under the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Fund may not declare dividends or make other distributions on shares of common stock or purchase any such shares if, at the time of the declaration, distribution or purchase, asset coverage with respect to the outstanding Preferred Shares would be less than 200%.

The Preferred Shares are redeemable at the option of the Fund, in whole or in part, on any dividend payment date at \$25,000 per share plus any accumulated but unpaid dividends. The Preferred Shares are also subject to mandatory redemption at \$25,000 per share plus any accumulated but unpaid dividends, whether or not declared, if certain requirements relating to the composition of the assets and liabilities of the Fund as set forth in the Statement of Preferences are not satisfied.

The holders of Preferred Shares have voting rights equal to the holders of common stock (one vote per share) and will vote together with holders of shares of common stock as a single class except on matters affecting only the holders of Preferred Shares or the holders of common shares.

### NOTE 5

INTEREST RATE TRANSACTIONS. The Fund may enter into interest rate swap or cap transactions to attempt to protect itself from increasing dividend or interest expense on its leverage resulting from increasing short-term interest rates. A decline in interest rates may result in a decline in the value of the swap or cap, which may result in a decline in the net asset value of the Fund. In addition, if the counterparty to

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an interest rate swap or cap defaults, the Fund would not be able to use the anticipated receipts under the swap or cap to offset the dividend or interest payments on the Fund's leverage. At the time an interest rate swap or cap reaches its scheduled termination, there is a risk that the Fund would not be able to obtain a replacement transaction or that the terms of the replacement would not be as favorable as on the expiring transaction. In addition, if the Fund is required to terminate any swap or cap early due to the Fund failing to maintain a required 200% asset coverage of the liquidation value of the outstanding Preferred Shares or the Fund loses its credit rating on its Preferred Shares, then the Fund could be required to make a termination payment, in addition to redeeming all or some of the Preferred Shares. Details of the swap agreements outstanding as of July 31, 2005 were as follows:

Counterparty	Termination Date	Notional Amount (000)	Fixed Rate (Fund Pays)	Floating Rate (Fund Receives)	Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
Citibank NA	June 4, 2006	\$150,000	3.04%	1month LIBOR	\$ 1,281,744
Citibank NA	February 4, 2007	150,000	3.68%	1month LIBOR	1,118,046
Citibank NA	June 4, 2007	150,000	3.61%	1month LIBOR	1,745,195
Citibank NA	February 4, 2008	150,000	3.88%	1month LIBOR	1,611,177
Citibank NA	June 4, 2009	200,000	4.34%	1month LIBOR	385,904
Citibank NA	February 4, 2010	200,000	4.14%	1month LIBOR	2,501,360
					-----
					\$ 8,643,426

### NOTE 6

SECURITIES LENDING. During the period ended July 31, 2005, the Fund lent certain of its securities to broker-dealers and banks. Any such loan must be continuously secured by collateral in cash or cash equivalents maintained on a current basis in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned by the Fund. The Fund continues to receive the equivalent of the interest or dividends paid by the issuer on the securities loaned and also receives an additional return that may be in the form of a fixed fee or a percentage of the collateral. The Fund may pay reasonable fees to persons unaffiliated with the Fund for services in arranging these loans. The Fund has the right to call the loan and obtain the securities loaned at any time on notice of not more than five business days. The Fund does not have the right to vote the securities during the existence of the loan but could call the loan in an attempt to permit voting of the securities in certain circumstances. Upon return of the securities loaned, the cash or cash equivalent collateral will be returned to the borrower. In the event of bankruptcy or other default of the borrower, the Fund could experience both delays in liquidating the loan collateral or recovering the loaned securities and losses, including (a) possible decline in the value of the collateral or in the value of the securities loaned during the period while the Fund seeks to enforce its rights thereto, (b) possible subnormal levels of income and lack of access to income during this period, and (c) the expenses of enforcing its rights. In an effort to reduce these risks, Calamos Advisors LLC and the security lending agent will monitor the creditworthiness of the firms to which the Fund lends securities. At July 31, 2005, the Fund had securities valued at \$504,241,312 that were on loan to broker-dealers and banks and \$516,733,485 in cash or cash equivalent collateral.

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### ITEM 2. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

a) The registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have evaluated the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures within 90 days of this filing and have concluded that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures were effective, as of that date, in ensuring that information required to be disclosed by the registrant in this Form N-Q was recorded, processed, summarized, and reported timely.

b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the Investment Company Act of 1940) that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

### ITEM 3. EXHIBITS.

(a) Certification of Principal Executive Officer.

#### CERTIFICATION OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I, John P. Calamos, Sr., certify that:

1. I have reviewed this report on Form N-Q of Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund;

2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the schedules of investments included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the investments of the registrant as of the end of the fiscal quarter for which the report is filed;

4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the Investment Company Act of 1940) for the registrant and have:

a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this report based on such

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evaluation; and

d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting

which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial information; and

b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: September 28, 2005

/s/ John P. Calamos, Sr.

-----  
Principal Executive Officer

(b) Certification of Principal Financial Officer.

### CERTIFICATION OF PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL OFFICER

I, Patrick H. Dudasik, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this report on Form N-Q of Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund;

2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the schedules of investments included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the investments of the registrant as of the end of the fiscal quarter for which the report is filed;

4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the Investment Company Act of 1940) for the registrant and have:

a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

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b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this report based on such evaluation; and

d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting

which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial information; and

b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: September 28, 2005

/s/ Patrick H. Dudasik

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Principal Financial Officer

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund

By: /s/ John P. Calamos, Sr.

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Name: John P. Calamos, Sr.  
Title: Principal Executive Officer  
Date: September 28, 2005

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and



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the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund

By: /s/ John P. Calamos, Sr.

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Name: John P. Calamos, Sr.  
Title: Principal Executive Officer  
Date: September 28, 2005

By: /s/ Patrick H. Dudasik

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Name: Patrick H. Dudasik  
Title: Principal Financial Officer  
Date: September 28, 2005