SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC
Form 4
July 02, 2001

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                                                /        OMB APPROVAL           /
                                                /-------------------------------/
                                                / OMB Number:        3235-0287 /
                                                / Expires: December 31, 2001   /
                                                / Estimated average burden     /
                                                / hours per response...... 0.5 /
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| FORM 4 |                       U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
+--------+                               WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
[_] Check this box if
    no longer subject         STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP
    to Section 16.
    Form 4 or Form 5       Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities
    obligations may           Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the
    continue. See            Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or
    Instruction 1(b).      Section 30(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

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1.  Name and Address of Reporting Person*

        Smith                         B.                            Scott
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
        (Last)                      (First)                       (Middle)
c/o Sonic Automotive, Inc.
5401 E. Independence Blvd.
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
                                  (Street)

       Charlotte                      NC                              28212
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
        (City)                      (State)                          (Zip)


2.  Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol    Sonic Automotive, Inc. (SAH)
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3.  I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity
    (voluntary)
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4.  Statement for Month/Year                  6/01
                              ------------------------------------------------

5.  If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
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6.  Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)


    _X_ Director    _X_ Officer             ___ 10% Owner    ___ Other
                        (give title below)
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(specify below)

President and COO

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)

__X__ Form filed by One Reporting Person
____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I--Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficiall Owned at End of Month (Instr. 3 a
		Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	
Class A Common Stock	6/22/01	M		40,000	A	$6.60	61,500

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	
			Code	V
Options to purchase	$6.60	6/22/01	M	

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

	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Numbe of De ative Secur ities Bene- ficia Owned at En of Month (Inst
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		
Options to purchase	(1)	11/17/02	Class A Common Stock	40,000		489,

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Explanation of Responses:

(1) Of the options to purchase a total of 40,000 shares of Sonic's Class A Common Stock shown for Mr. Smith in the table above, options to purchase 13,333 shares became exercisable on November 17, 1998, options to purchase 13,334 shares became exercisable on November 17, 1999, and options to purchase 13,333 shares became exercisable on November 17, 2000.

/s/ B. Scott Smith	6/29/01
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If this form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

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

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed.
If space provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.