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 / OMB APPROVAL /
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 / hours per response..... 0.5 /
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 | FORM 4 |
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U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

[] Check this box if
 no longer subject
 to Section 16.
 Form 4 or Form 5
 obligations may
 continue. See
 Instruction 1(b).
 (Print or Type Responses)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*
 Belk, William I.

 (Last) (First) (Middle)
 6100 Fairview Road, #640

 (Street)
 Charlotte, NC 28210

 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Sonic Automotive, Inc. (SAH)

3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity
 (voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Year 3/02

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
 Director Officer 10% Owner Other

 (give title below) (specify below)

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
 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
 <TABLE>
 <CAPTION>

1. Title 7. Nature of In- Security direct (Instr. 3) Bene- ficial Owner- ship 4) (Instr. 4)	2. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	3. Trans- action Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Owner- ship Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr.
<S> <C>	<C>	<C>	<C> <C>	<C>	<C>
Class A Common Stock	3/6/02	M	10,000 A	\$ 7.80	D
Class A Common Stock	3/6/02	S	8,000 D	\$28.50 13,000	D
Children				6,000	I

</TABLE>

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

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) Securities	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Acquired (A) or Disposed of (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)
-------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------

(D)			Code	V	(A)
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
<C>					

Options to Purchase 10,000	\$7.80	03/06/02	M		
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</TABLE>

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

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

11. Nature of Indirect Derivative Securities Owned	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.	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Securities Beneficially
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