| STAGE STORES INC |
|-------------------|
| Form 3 |
| December 28, 2001 |

FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE

COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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(f) of the Investment Company Act of |
| |

1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*

August Russell (Last) (First) (Middle) 65 East 55th Street, 32nd Floor (Street)

Glenn

New York \underline{NY} 10022 (City) (State) (Zip)

Edgar Filing: STAGE STORES INC - Form 3

| 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) | | | <u>December 28, 2001</u> | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| 3. IRS Identification Number | per of Reporting Person if an | n entity | | | | | |
| (Voluntary) | | | | | | | |
| 4. Issuer Name and Ticker | <u>Sta</u> | Stage Stores, Inc./STGS | | | | | |
| 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | | | |
| X Director Officer X 10% Owner Other | | | | | | | |
| | (specify below) | (specify | (specify below) | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| 6. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year) N/A | | | | | | | |
| 7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | | | |
| X Form Filed by One I | Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | | | |
| Table INon-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | | | |
| (Instr. 4) | (Instr. 4) | (Instr. 5) | (Instr. 5) | | | | |
| Common Stock | 172,330 | (D) | | | | | |
| (\$0.01 par value) | | | | | | | |

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

(I)

3,312,121

Common Stock

(\$0.01 par value)

See Note (1)

Edgar Filing: STAGE STORES INC - Form 3

(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 Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Securities: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| Stock Options | See Note (2) | 20,000 shares of Common Stock (\$0.01 par value) | See Note (2) | (I) | See Note (2) |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

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

or indirectly.

Explanation of Reponses:

- (1) Direct beneficial ownership is by the following affiliates of Glenn August in which he has a pecuniary interest: Oak Hill Securities Fund L.P. (1,681,506); Oak Hill Securities Fund II L.P. (1,546,879); Lerner Enterprises, LP (37,473); and P&PK Family Ltd. Partnership (46,263).
- (2) Direct beneficial ownership is by Oak Hill Advisors L.P., an affiliate of Glenn August in which he has a pecuniary interest. The options were initially issued to Glenn August, then assigned by him to Oak Hill Advisors L.P. as required by the contractual arrangement between them. The options were issued in three equal groupings and with per share exercise prices of \$13.75, \$15.00 and \$16.25 respectively. The right to exercise these options will vest over four years from August 24, 2001, with 25% of each group vesting at the end of each of the first four years following the date of grant, and will expire on the earlier of (i) sixty (60) days after the date Mr. August is no longer a Director of Stage Stores, Inc. and (ii) ten years from the date of the grant.

/s/ Glenn August

December 28, 2001

Edgar Filing: STAGE STORES INC - Form 3

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

^{*} If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).