SIMMONS FIRST NATIONAL CORP Form 8-K July 18, 2003

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) July 17, 2003

SIMMONS FIRST NATIONAL CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Arkansas 0-6253 71-0407808 (State or other jurisdiction of (Commission (I.R.S. employer incorporation or organization) file number) identification No.)

501 Main Street, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

> (870) 541-1000 (Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

ITEM 9. REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

The following is the text of a press release issued by the registrant at 8:00 A.M. Central Standard Time on July 17, 2003.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 17, 2003

SIMMONS FIRST ANNOUNCES RECORD 2nd QUARTER EARNINGS

Pine Bluff, Arkansas Simmons First National Corporation today announced record second quarter earnings of \$6,529,000, or \$0.45 diluted earnings per share for the quarter ended June 30, 2003, compared to earnings of \$5,705,000, or \$0.40 diluted earnings per share for the same period in 2002. This represents an \$824,000, or 14.4% increase in the 2003 earnings over 2002. Return on average assets and return on average stockholders equity for the three-month period ended June 30, 2003, was 1.32% and 12.83%, compared to 1.18% and 12.17%, respectively, for the same period in 2002.

During the second quarter 2003, the Company recorded a nonrecurring \$0.03 addition to earnings per share. On June 30, 1998, the Company sold its \$1.2 billion residential mortgage-servicing portfolio. As a result of this sale, the Company

established a reserve for potential liabilities due to certain representations and warranties made on the sale date. The time period for making claims under the terms of the mortgage servicing sale s representations and warranties expired on June 30, 2003. Thus, the Company reversed this remaining reserve in the second quarter, which is reflected in the \$771,000 pre-tax gain on sale of mortgage servicing. Excluding this nonrecurring gain, the Company would have reported \$0.42 diluted earnings per share for the second quarter of 2003.

With second quarter earnings at a record level even excluding the nonrecurring gain, we are obviously pleased with the results, said J. Thomas May, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. The significant increase in earnings over the same quarter last year is primarily attributable to the increased volume of the Company's mortgage banking operation, improved asset quality as reflected in the provision for loan losses and the nonrecurring gain on sale of mortgage servicing.

Earnings for the six months ended June 30, 2003, were \$11,861,000, or \$0.82 diluted earnings per share. These earnings reflect an 11.4% increase in net income and a 10.8% increase in diluted earnings per share over the same six-month period last year.

As of June 30, 2003, asset quality remained strong with non-performing loans decreasing \$2.2 million from the same period last year. Correspondently, non-performing loans to total loans improved to 0.90% from 1.11% from the same period last year, and the allowance for loan losses improved to 191% of non-performing loans, compared to 149% from the same period last year. At quarter end, the allowance for loan losses equaled 1.73% of total loans.

P.O. BOX 7009 501 MAIN STREET PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS 71611-7009 (870) 541-1000

Total assets for the Corporation at June 30, 2003, were \$1.989 billion, an increase of \$44.5 million over the period ended June 30, 2002. Stockholders equity at the end of the second quarter of 2003 was \$205.1 million, a \$16.1 million, or 8.5%, increase from June 30, 2002.

J. Thomas May also noted, The ticker symbol for Simmons First will change on August 1, 2003 from SFNCA to SFNC to more accurately align our identity on Wall Street with the Company s name and make it more representative of our corporate name.

CONFERENCE CALL

Management will conduct a conference call to review this information at 3:00 p.m. CST (4:00 p.m. EST) on Thursday, July 17, 2003. Interested parties can listen to this call by calling 1-800-854-4175 (United States and Canada only) and ask for the Simmons First National Corporation conference call. A recorded playback of the call will be available the next morning by calling 1-800-642-1687. The passcode for this playback is 1186604 and the recording will be available through the end of business July 24, 2003. In addition, the call will also be available live or in recorded version on the Company s website at www.simmonsfirst.com under the webcast icon.

GENERAL

Statements in this press release that are not historical facts should be considered forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements of this type speak only as of the date of this news release. By nature, forward-looking statements involve inherent risk and uncertainties. Various factors, including, but not limited to, economic conditions, credit quality, interest rates, loan demand and changes in the assumptions used in making the forward-looking statements, could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Additional information on factors that might affect Simmons First National Corporation s financial results is included in its Form 10-K filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Simmons First National Corporation is a financial holding company, with community banks in Pine Bluff, Jonesboro, Lake Village, Rogers, Russellville, Searcy and El Dorado, Arkansas. The Company s seven banks are conducting financial operations from 64 offices, of which 62 are financial centers, in 34 communities.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: BARRY L. CROW

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Simmons First National Corporation (870) 541-1350

Ticker symbol: SFNCA

Simmons First National Corporation Consolidated End of Period Balance Sheets For the Quarters Ended (In thousands)	Jun 30 2003	Mar 31 	Dec 31 2002	Sep 30 2002	SFNCA Jun 302002
ASSETS					
Cash and non-interest bearing balances due from					
banks	\$ 71,168	\$ 74,609	\$ 76,452	\$ 71,814	\$ 63,416
Interest bearing balances due from banks Federal funds sold and securities purchased	43,623	32,631	28,473	22,564	31,557
under agreements to resell	35,625	51,400	86,620	26,150	67,880
Cash and cash equivalents	150,416	158,640	191,545	120,528	162,853
Investment securities	432,938	413,669	404,048	421,384	419,700
Mortgage loans held for sale	30,700	26,223	33,332	25,096	10,440
Assets held in trading accounts	212	11,349	192	1,013	14,140
Loans	1,286,842	1,257,455	1,257,305	1,281,634	1,247,625
Allowance for loan losses	(22,229)	(21,826)	(21,948)	(21,688)	(20,608)
Net loans	1,264,613	1,235,629	1,235,357	1,259,946	1,227,017
Premises and equipment	45,980	46,125	47,047	47,551	45,192
Foreclosed assets held for sale, net	2,700	2,426	2,705	2,263	2,394
Interest receivable	11,985	13,519	13,133	15,074	14,528
Goodwill	32,877	32,877	32,877	32,877	31,819
Core deposits, net	562	587	613	593	419
Other assets	16,220	17,112	16,730	17,030	16,159
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,989,203	\$ 1,958,156	\$ 1,977,579	\$ 1,943,355	\$ 1,944,661
LIABILITIES					
Non-interest bearing transaction accounts	\$ 257,006	\$ 239,996	\$ 239,545	\$ 232,455	\$ 229,091
Interest bearing transaction accounts and savings					
deposits	568,380	571,614	565,041	542,237	535,680
Time deposits less than \$100,000	476,835	495,621	504,029	522,400	523,354
Time deposits greater than \$100,000	309,906	308,440	310,581	316,946	328,698
Total deposits	1,612,127	1,615,671	1,619,196	1,614,038	1,616,823
Federal funds purchased and securities					
sold under agreements to repurchase	80,342	53,053	86,705	57,759	68,947
Short-term debt	1,943	1,712	3,619	11,450	5,003
Long-term debt - parent company	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	12,000
Long-term FHLB debt - affiliate banks	48,339	43,259	27,032	23,206	20,320
Trust preferred securities	17,250	17,250	17,250	17,250	17,250
Accrued interest and other liabilities	14,144	16,210	16,172	16,002	15,395
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,784,145	1,757,155	1,779,974	1,749,705	1,755,738

				SFNCA
Jun 30	Mar 31	Dec 31	Sep 30	Jun 30
2003	2003	2002	2002	2002
14,104	7,075	7,071	7,063	7,062
36,545	44,536	44,495	44,392	44,384
152,066	147,371	143,808	139,912	135,838
2,343	2,019	2,231	2,283	1,639
205,058	201,001	197,605	193,650	188,923
\$ 1,989,203	\$ 1,958,156	\$ 1,977,579	\$ 1,943,355	\$ 1,944,661
	2003 14,104 36,545 152,066 2,343 205,058	2003 2003 14,104 7,075 36,545 44,536 152,066 147,371 2,343 2,019 205,058 201,001	2003 2003 2002 14,104 7,075 7,071 36,545 44,536 44,495 152,066 147,371 143,808 2,343 2,019 2,231 205,058 201,001 197,605	2003 2003 2002 2002 14,104 7,075 7,071 7,063 36,545 44,536 44,495 44,392 152,066 147,371 143,808 139,912 2,343 2,019 2,231 2,283 205,058 201,001 197,605 193,650

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Simmons First National Corporation Consolidated Average Quarter-to-Date Balance Sheets For the Quarters Ended (In thousands)	Jun 30 _2003	Mar 31 	Dec 31 _2002	Sep 30 _2002	SFNCA Jun 30 _2002
ASSETS					
Cash and non-interest bearing balances due from banks	\$ 61,259	\$ 63,094	\$ 67,260	\$ 64,237	\$ 62,778
Interest bearing balances due from banks	57,314	51,151	33,780	26,468	35,893
Federal funds sold and securities purchased					
under agreements to resell	54,825	83,873	66,615	51,672	62,789
Cash and cash equivalents	173,398	198,118	167,655	142,377	161,460
Investment securities - held-to-maturity	196,382	204,910	216,785	234,541	215,155
Investment securities - available-for-sale	220,698	201,477	188,799	186,462	233,045
Mortgage loans held for sale	27,908	21,635	26,837	14,918	10,591
Assets held in trading accounts	1,091	762	2,966	2,470	1,379
Loans	1,268,044	1,254,720	1,262,300	1,268,801	1,232,458
Allowance for loan losses	(22,321)	(22,488)	(22,250)	(21,257)	(20,860)
Net loans	1,245,723	1,232,232	1,240,050	1,247,544	1,211,598
Premises and equipment	46,284	46,729	47,512	47,219	44,975
Foreclosed assets held for sale, net	2,494	2,640	2,283	2,211	2,174
Interest receivable	12,935	13,076	14,493	15,001	15,121
Goodwill and core deposits, net	33,451	33,476	33,493	33,190	32,251
Other assets	16,669	16,567	16,614	16,001	16,302
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,977,033	\$ 1,971,622	\$ 1,957,487	\$ 1,941,934	\$ 1,944,051
LIABILITIES					
Non-interest bearing transaction accounts	\$ 238,537	\$ 230,222	\$ 227,461	\$ 225,054	\$ 225,170
Interest bearing transaction accounts	179,420	170,445	161,262	159,605	157,264
Savings deposits	395,322	396,872	392,754	384,101	377,364
Time deposits less than \$100,000	492,268	500,065	511,247	524,977	531,390

Simmons First National Corporation Consolidated Average Quarter-to-Date Balance Sheets					SFNCA
For the Quarters Ended (In thousands) Time deposits greater than \$100,000	Jun 30 _2003 307,924	Mar 31 <u>2003</u> 309,426	Dec 31 _2002 314,768	Sep 30 <u>2002</u> 324,155	Jun 30 2002 326,056
Total deposits	1,613,471	1,607,030	1,607,492	1,617,892	1,617,244
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase Short-term debt Long-term debt Accrued interest and other liabilities	68,102 963 76,162 14,173	84,839 1,679 62,744 14,413	78,335 6,383 52,130 16,014	59,765 7,223 49,094 15,186	77,834 2,259 44,451 14,256
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,772,871	1,770,705	1,760,354	1,749,160	1,756,044
TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	204,162	200,917	197,133	192,774	188,007
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$ 1,977,033	\$ 1,971,622	\$ 1,957,487	\$ 1,941,934	\$ 1,944,051

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Simmons First National Corporation Consolidated Average Year-to-Date Balance Sheets For the Quarters Ended (In thousands)		Jun 30 2003		Mar 31 _2003		Dec 31 _2002		Sep 30 _2002		SFNCA Jun 30 _2002
ASSETS										
Cash and non-interest bearing balances due from	\$	62,171	\$	62.004	\$	65,594	\$	<i>(5</i> 021	\$	65 125
banks	Ф	54,250	Ф	63,094 51,151	Ф	41,314	Ф	65,031 43,854	Ф	65,435 52,691
Interest bearing balances due from banks Federal funds sold and securities purchased		34,230		31,131		41,314		45,654		32,091
under agreements to resell		69,269		83,873		65,199		64,722		71,355
Cash and cash equivalents		185,690		198,118		172,107		173,607		189,481
Investment securities - held-to-maturity		200,623		204,910		214,846		214,193		203,850
Investment securities - available-for-sale		211,141		201,477		216,018		225,191		244,877
Mortgage loans held for sale		24,789		21,635		16,560		13,097		12,171
Assets held in trading accounts		928		762		1,784		1,386		835
Loans	1	,261,418		1,254,720		1,251,072		1,247,289		1,236,354
Allowance for loan losses		(22,404)		(22,488)		(21,318)		(21,003)		(20,874)
Net loans	1	,239,014		1,232,232		1,229,754		1,226,286		1,215,480
Premises and equipment		46,505		46,729		46,085		45,604		44,782
Foreclosed assets held for sale, net		2,567		2,640		2,101		2,040		1,953
Interest receivable		13,005		13,076		15,045		15,231		15,348

Simmons First National Corporation Consolidated Average Year-to-Date Balance Sheets					SFNCA
For the Quarters Ended	Jun 30	Mar 31	Dec 31	Sep 30	Jun 30
(In thousands)	2003	2003	2002	2002	2002
Goodwill and core deposits, net	33,464	33,476	32,808	32,576	32,262
Other assets	16,617	16,567	16,236	16,107	16,164
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,974,343	\$ 1,971,622	\$ 1,963,344	\$ 1,965,318	\$ 1,977,203
LIABILITIES					
Non-interest bearing transaction accounts	\$ 234,403	\$ 230,222	\$ 226,128	\$ 225,680	\$ 225,997
Interest bearing transaction accounts	174,957	170,445	159,171	158,466	157,888
Savings deposits	396,093	396,872	381,283	377,418	374,021
Time deposits less than \$100,000	496,144	500,065	532,807	540,072	547,743
Time deposits greater than \$100,000	308,671	309,426	326,735	330,767	334,128
Total deposits	1,610,268	1,607,030	1,626,124	1,632,403	1,639,777
Federal funds purchased and securities					
sold under agreements to repurchase	76,424	84,839	78,518	78,580	88,144
Short-term debt	994	1,679	5,435	5,116	4,044
Long-term debt	69,816	62,744	47,117	45,428	43,564
Accrued interest and other liabilities	14,292	14,413	15,203	14,928	14,799
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,771,794	1,770,705	1,772,397	1,776,455	1,790,328
TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	202,549	200,917	190,947	188,863	186,875
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$ 1,974,343	\$ 1,971,622	\$ 1,963,344	\$ 1,965,318	\$ 1,977,203

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Simmons First National Corporation Consolidated Statements of Income - Quarter-to-Date					SFNCA
For the Quarters Ended (In thousands, except per share data)	Jun 30 2003	Mar 31 2003	Dec 31 2002	Sep 30 2002	Jun 30 2002
INTEREST INCOME					
Loans	\$ 22,526	\$ 22,239	\$ 23,265	\$ 23,853	\$ 23,668
Federal funds sold and securities purchased					
under agreements to resell	160	214	197	207	264
Investment securities	4,005	3,984	4,092	4,636	4,858
Mortgage loans held for sale, net of unrealized gains (losses)	352	300	383	206	185
Assets held in trading accounts	7	2	38	30	18
Interest bearing balances due from banks	156	135	115	104	150
TOTAL INTEREST INCOME	27,206	26,874	28,090	29,036	29,143
INTEREST EXPENSE					
Time deposits	5,121	5,517	6,275	6,904	7,356
Other deposits	1,263	1,327	1,506	1,608	1,590

Simmons First National Corporation Consolidated Statements of Income - Quarter-to-Date					SFNCA
For the Quarters Ended	Jun 30	Mar 31	Dec 31	Sep 30	Jun 30
(In thousands, except per share data)	2003	2003	2002	2002	2002
Federal funds purchased and securities					
sold under agreements to repurchase	194	223	249	236	316
Short-term debt	7	5	27	30	12
Long-term debt	1,363	922	854	841	818
TOTAL INTEREST EXPENSE	7,948	7,994	8,911	9,619	10,092
NET INTEREST INCOME	19,258	18,880	19,179	19,417	19,051
Provision for loan losses	2,196	2,197	2,562	2,864	2,436
NET INTEREST INCOME AFTER PROVISION					
FOR LOAN LOSSES	17,062	16,683	16,617	16,553	16,615
NON-INTEREST INCOME	· 				
Trust income	1,166	1,576	1,257	1,406	1,205
Service charges on deposit accounts	2,639	2,454	2,655	2,648	2,543
Other service charges and fees	317	479	353	321	365
Income on sale of mortgage loans, net of commissions	1,463	1,164	1,281	962	738
Income on investment banking, net of commissions	597	531	323	250	248
Credit card fees	2,512	2,319	2,675	2,598	2,550
Other income	951	781	717	960	886
Gain on sale of mortgage servicing	771				
Loss on sale of securities, net			(10)		
TOTAL NON-INTEREST INCOME	10,416	9,304	9,251	9,145	8,535
NON-INTEREST EXPENSE					
Salaries and employee benefits	10,603	10,742	10,220	10,029	9,840
Occupancy expense, net	1,272	1,331	1,265	1,201	1,155
Furniture & equipment expense	1,219	1,382	1,393	1,439	1,310
Loss on foreclosed assets	127	35	25	69	40
Deposit insurance	67	69	70	72	76
Other operating expenses	4,649	4,635	4,642	4,710	4,428
TOTAL NON-INTEREST EXPENSE	17,937	18,194	17,615	17,520	16,849
NET INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	9,541	7,793	8,253	8,178	8,301
Provision for income taxes	3,012	2,461			