

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

/-----/
 / OMB APPROVAL /
 /-----/
 / OMB Number: 3235-0362 /
 / Expires: October 31, 2001 /
 / Estimated average burden /
 / hours per response..... 1.0 /
 /-----/

+-----+
 | FORM 5 |
 +-----+

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

Check box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).
 ANNUAL 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

Form 3 Holdings Reported
 Form 4 Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*

Rachor, Jeffrey C.

 (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)

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

4. Statement for Month/Year 12/01

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)
 Executive VP of Retail Operations
7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (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 of Security 7. Nature of In- direct Bene- ficial Indirect ship	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) (A) or Amount (D) Price	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at the end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Owner- ship Form: Direct (D) or (I) (Instr.

<S> <C> <C> <C> <C> <C> <C> <C>

<C>

</TABLE>

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

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	3. Transaction	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Acquired (A) or Disposed of (Instr. 3, 4,
(D) and 5)	Exercise Price of Derivative Security	Date (Month/Day/Year)		

(A)

<S> <C> <C> <C> <C>

Options to purchase	\$16.51	10/11/01	A	40,000
---------------------	---------	----------	---	--------

</TABLE>

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

6. Date Exercisable and Expiration of In-Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative	9. Number of Derivative Secur-	10. Ownership of Derivative
---	---	------------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------------------

