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IUPPENLATZ MARK J Form 5 February 12, 2002

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			/ / OMB APPR /				
			// / OMB Number: /	3235-0362 /			
			/ / Expires: PENDIN /	G /			
			/ Estimated avera / hours per respo /	ge burden /			
	+		TED STATES	,			
F	DRM 5	SECURITIES AND	EXCHANGE COMMISSI n, D.C. 20549	ON			
[_]	Check box if no longer subject ANNUAL 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						
[_]	Form 3 Holdings Repor	ted					
[_]	Form 4 Transactions F						
1.	Name and Address of Reporting Person*						
	Iuppenlatz,	Mark		J.			
	(Last)	(First)		(Middle)			
	c/o Sonic Automotive, Inc. 5401 E. Independence Blvd.						
	(Street)						
	Charlotte,	NC		28212			
	(City)	(State)		(Zip)			
2.	Issuer Name and Ticke	er or Trading Symbol Son	ic Automotive, In	c. (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)

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[:	X] Director		itle below)	[_] 10% Own	er [_]	Other (specify be	Low)	
V	ice President	of Corporate						
-	ndividual or J X Form Filed Form Filed	by One Repor	ting Person		ble line)			
	INon-Deriva						ned	
1. Ti	tle of Securit	у 2.	Trans- 3 action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	. Trans- action Code (Instr. 8)	4. Secur or Di (Inst	ities Acquire sposed of (D) r. 3, 4 and 5	ed (A) 5.	Amount of Securiti Benefici Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Y (Instr.
	the form is fi)(v).	led by more	than one rep	orting perso	n, see in	struction		
Tabl	e IIDerivati (e.g., puts	ve Securitie, calls, war	-	-		-	d	
	itle of Deriva ecurity (Instr	-	2. Conve sion Exerc Price Deriv ative Secur	or ise of	3. Trans- action Date (Month Day/ Year)		Transac- tion Code (Instr. 8)

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Options to purchase		\$1 	6.51	10/11/01	A	A 	
<pre>cisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/ Year)</pre>		Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)			9. Number of Deriv- ative Secur- ities Bene- ficially	10	
Date	Expira- tion	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		Owned at End of Year (Instr. 4)		
4/11/02		Class A common sto	ck				
Explanation	of Responses						
	Mark J. Iuppe	nlatz	2-7-02	2			
 **Si	**Signature of Reporting Person						

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

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