

Vance James Michael
 Form 3
 December 16, 2005

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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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(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Vance James Michael
 (Last) (First) (Middle)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement
 (Month/Day/Year)
 12/07/2005

3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 STEAK & SHAKE CO [SNS]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

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

36 S.
 PENNSYLVANIA, SUITE 500
 (Street)

INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204
 (City) (State) (Zip)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
 Officer ____ Other
 (give title below) (specify below)
 V.P. of I.T.

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Common Stock | 0 | D | ^ |

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (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 Security: Direct (D) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | | |

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| | | | | Amount or Number of Shares | | or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | |
|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|---|
| Option | 08/04/2004 ⁽¹⁾ | 08/04/2009 ⁽¹⁾ | Common stock | 2,850 | \$ 17.14 | D | Â |
| Option | 09/14/2005 ⁽¹⁾ | 09/14/2010 ⁽¹⁾ | Common Stock | 3,500 | \$ 19.75 | D | Â |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|----------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Vance James Michael 36 S. PENNSYLVANIA SUITE 500 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204 | Â | Â | Â V.P. of I.T. | Â |

Signatures

David C. Milne,
Attorney-in-Fact

12/16/2005

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* 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).

(1) These options vest at a rate of 20% on date of grant and 20% each anniversary thereafter until fully vested.

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

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.