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Business

Visitors arriving for Berkshire meeting

BY VIRGIL LARSON AND STEVE JORDON (WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITERS)

Berkshire-Hathaway shareholders began showing up by the planeload Thursday for Saturday's annual meeting.



Warren Buffett, left, and Charlie Munger wait for the next question during a press conference as part last year's annual Berkshire Hathaway shareholders meeting at the Marriott in Omaha, Neb.

The first of the private planes, charters and fractional-ownership jets with people headed for the meeting began arriving Thursday morning, said John Mansfield, vice president and general manager of Elliott Aviation said Thursday afternoon.

"We have 18 or 20 yet to come today (Thursday)," Mansfield said. "Tomorrow (Friday), there will be 60 or so."

Most of the aircraft are fractional-ownership jets, he said, and a majority of those are NetJets, the fractional-ownership company owned by Berkshire-Hathaway. Elliott Aviation fuels and services the planes.

If past practices are a guide, most of the planes will leave Omaha Sunday between midmorning and midafternoon, Manfield said.

Jets on display

Eight Berkshire-affiliated private jets will be on display from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday at Elliott Aviation. Shareholders will be able to tour the planes and talk with pilots.

Among the planes will be a Citation 10, a 600 mph jet billed as the fastest commercial craft available.

The display is by Berkshire subsidiary NetJets, which sells fractional ownership of the aircraft, and Marquis Jets, which sells 25-hour blocks of flying time.

Reading material

There are no new books on Warren Buffett this year, says Diana Abbott, manager of the Bookworm in Countryside Village, 87th and Pacific Streets.

That won't stop Abbott, an authority on Buffett books, from having her annual Berkshire-weekend book-signing party.

James O'Loughlin, British author of "The Real Warren Buffett," and **Laura Rittenhouse, who wrote "Do Business With People You Can Tru\$t," will be at the Bookworm from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.**

O'Loughlin's book, which was published in hardcover last year, came out in paperback this year. Also signing books will be Joseph Treaster, author of "Paul Volcker: The Making of a Financial Legend."

For the first time, Abbott and other Bookworm employees will sell Buffett-selected books at the annual meeting. The Bookworm will have a spot, with 15 books and two videos for sale, among the Berkshire subsidiaries' displays at the Omaha Convention Center on Saturday.