

BUSINESS BUZZ

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Whiz kid from University of Arizona meets oracle from Omaha

MY BUDDY & ME

Any college kid that can set up a lunch for himself and 75 other students with billionaire investor Warren Buffett is going places.

Meet University of Arizona senior Max Burke.

The finance major and Pittsburgh native discovered that Buffett invites students from select schools to Berkshire Hathaway Inc. headquarters in Omaha, Neb.

The waiting list is long, and Burke didn't have much time.

He's set to graduate in May and join Credit Suisse's investment-banking division in New York as an M&A analyst.

He began to network.

Burke learned that another student had attended a guest lecture given by a former business colleague of Buffett. He called the man in Pennsylvania, who helped set up the meeting.

The students who were chosen had to submit an online application and be interviewed. Those who made the cut were encouraged to read *The Warren Buffett Way* and the Berkshire Hathaway annual report before leaving.

Late last month, in Nebraska, students from UA's Eller College of Management joined graduate students from the University of California-Berkeley and the London Business

School.

They toured the Nebraska Furniture Mart and Borsheim's, both Berkshire companies, and met with Buffett for a question-and-answer session and lunch.

"His responses were thought-provoking and profound yet extremely entertaining as he integrated his quick-witted humor into each response," Burke wrote in an e-mail to

The Buzz. "The trip was truly an amazing experience."

(Burke is spending the holidays in Dubai with his father, stepmother and brothers who live there.)

And there may be more to this story.

Buffett has asked the students to come back in May to attend the Berkshire Hathaway annual shareholders meeting.



UA senior Max Burke networked to set up a lunch Q&A with business legend Warren Buffett.