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BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC
Form 13F-HR
November 15, 2004

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

Form 13F

Form 13F COVER PAGE

Report for the Calendar Year or Quarter Ended: September 30, 2004

Check here if Amendment []; Amendment Number: _____
This Amendment (Check only one.): [] is a restatement.
 [] adds new holdings entries.

Institutional Investment Manager Filing this Report:

Name: Berkshire Hathaway Inc.

Address: 1440 Kiewit Plaza

 Omaha, NE 68131

Form 13F File Number: 28- 4545

The institutional investment manager filing this report and the person by whom it is signed hereby represent that the person signing the report is authorized to submit it, that all information contained herein is true, correct and complete, and that it is understood that all required items, statements, schedules, lists, and tables, are considered integral parts of this form.

Person Signing this Report on Behalf of Reporting Manager:

Name: Marc D. Hamburg

Title: Vice President

Phone: 402-346-1400

Signature, Place, and Date of Signing:

(s) Marc D. Hamburg Omaha, NE November

[Signature] [City, State] [Date]

Report Type (Check only one.):
[] 13F HOLDINGS REPORT. (Check here if all holdings of this reporting manager are reported in this report.)

[] 13F NOTICE. (Check here if no holdings reported are in this report, and all holdings are reported by other reporting manager(s).)

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[x] 13F COMBINATION REPORT. (Check here if a portion of the holdings for this reporting manager are reported in this report and a portion are reported by other reporting manager(s).)

List of Other Managers Reporting for this Manager:

| Form 13F File Number | Name |
|----------------------|--|
| 28- 5194 ----- | General Re - New England Asset Management, Inc. ----- |

Form 13F SUMMARY PAGE

Report Summary:

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Number of Other Included Managers: | 17 ----- |
| Form 13F Information Table Entry Total: | 61 ----- |
| Form 13F Information Table Value Total: | \$ 33,856,547 ----- (thousands) |

Confidential Information has been omitted from the public Form 13F and filed with the Commission. Included in this information is information regarding Berkshire's position in Sun Trust Banks Inc. included in its June 30, 2004, public Form 13F

List of Other Included Managers:

Provide a numbered list of the name(s) and Form 13F file number(s) of all institutional investment managers with respect to which this report is filed, other than the manager filing this report.

[If there are no entries in this list, state "NONE" and omit the column headings and list entries.]

| NO. | FORM 13F FILE NUMBER | NAME |
|-----|----------------------|---|
| 1. | 28-5678 | Berkshire Hathaway Life Insurance Co. of Nebraska |
| 2. | 28- | BH Columbia Inc. |
| 3. | 28-5676 | BHG Life Insurance Co. |
| 4. | 28-719 | Blue Chip Stamps |
| 5. | 28-554 | Buffett, Warren E. |
| 6. | 28-1517 | Columbia Insurance Co. |
| 7. | 28-2226 | Cornhusker Casualty Co. |
| 8. | 28-852 | GEICO Corp. |

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| | | |
|-----|---------|------------------------------------|
| 9. | 28-101 | Government Employees Ins. Corp. |
| 10. | 28-1066 | National Fire & Marine |
| 11. | 28-718 | National Indemnity Co. |
| 12. | 28-5006 | National Liability & Fire Ins. Co. |
| 13. | 28-717 | OBH Inc. |
| 14. | 28-2740 | Plaza Investment Managers |
| 15. | 28-1357 | Wesco Financial Corp. |
| 16. | 28-3091 | Wesco Financial Ins. Co. |
| 17. | 28-3105 | Wesco Holdings Midwest, Inc. |

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC.
Form 13F Information Table
September 30, 2004

| Column 1 Name of Issuer | Column 2 Title of Class | Column 3 CUSIP Number | Column 4 Market Value (In Thousands) | Column 5 Shares or Principal Amount \$ | Column 6 Investment Discretion | | | Co O Ma |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | | | | | (a) Sole | (b) Shared- Defined | (c) Shared- Other | |
| American Express Co. | Com | 025816 10 9 | 886,419 | 17,225,400 | | X | | 5,2,6 |
| | | | 411,404 | 7,994,634 | | X | | 5,10, |
| | | | 6,188,368 | 120,255,879 | | X | | 5,11, |
| | | | 99,992 | 1,943,100 | | X | | 5,4,1 |
| | | | 215,704 | 4,191,687 | | X | | 5,13 |
| American Standard Companies | Com | 029712 10 6 | 408,473 | 10,497,900 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| Block H & R | Com | 093671 10 5 | 709,207 | 14,350,600 | | X | | 5,11, |
| Coca Cola | Com | 191216 10 0 | 71,770 | 1,792,000 | | X | | 5,13 |
| | | | 71,129 | 1,776,000 | | X | | 5,12, |
| | | | 288,584 | 7,205,600 | | X | | 5,4,1 |
| | | | 1,607,671 | 40,141,600 | | X | | 5,2,6 |
| | | | 5,604,821 | 139,945,600 | | X | | 5,11, |
| | | | 366,025 | 9,139,200 | | X | | 5,10, |
| Comcast Corp | CLA SPL | 20030N 20 0 | 139,600 | 5,000,000 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| Comdisco Holding Co. | Com | 200334 10 0 | 25,066 | 1,179,592 | | X | | 5,11, |
| | | | 6,234 | 293,367 | | X | | 5,2,6 |
| | | | 354 | 16,669 | | X | | 5,10, |
| Costco Wholesale Corp. | Com | 22160K 10 5 | 218,094 | 5,254,000 | | X | | 5,11, |
| First Data Corporation | Com | 319963 10 4 | 348,000 | 8,000,000 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| Gannett Inc. | Com | 364730 10 1 | 288,771 | 3,447,600 | | X | | 5,11, |
| Gap Inc. | Com | 364760 10 8 | 279,750 | 15,000,000 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| The Gillette Co. | Com | 375766 10 2 | 2,504,400 | 60,000,000 | | X | | 5,11, |
| | | | 868,192 | 20,800,000 | | X | | 5,2,6 |
| | | | 267,136 | 6,400,000 | | X | | 5,10, |
| | | | 267,136 | 6,400,000 | | X | | 5,4,1 |
| | | | 33,392 | 800,000 | | X | | 5,12, |
| | | | 66,784 | 1,600,000 | | X | | 5,13 |
| HCA Inc. | Com | 404119 10 9 | 381,500 | 10,000,000 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| | | | 95,383 | 2,500,200 | | X | | 5,2,6 |

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38,150 1,000,000 X 5,13

 22,757,509

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC.
 Form 13F Information Table
 September 30, 2004

| Column 1 Name of Issuer | Column 2 Title of Class | Column 3 CUSIP Number | Column 4 Market Value (In Thousands) | Column 5 Shares or Principal \$ | Column 6 Investment Discretion | | | Column 7 Other |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | | (a) Sole | (b) Shared- Defined | (c) Shared- Other | |
| Iron Mountain Inc. | Com | 462846 10 6 | 234,775 | 6,935,750 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| M & T Bank Corporation | Com | 55261F 10 4 | 573,919 | 5,997,060 | | X | | 5,11, |
| | | | 52,252 | 546,000 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| | | | 15,857 | 165,700 | | X | | 5,10, |
| Moody's | Com | 615369 10 5 | 1,182,277 | 16,140,300 | | X | | 5,11, |
| | | | 575,723 | 7,859,700 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| Mueller Industries | Com | 624756 10 2 | 58,494 | 1,361,900 | | X | | 5,11, |
| Nike Inc. | Com | 654106 10 3 | 472,800 | 6,000,000 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| Outback Steakhouse Inc. | Com | 689899 10 2 | 75,535 | 1,818,800 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| Petrochina Co LTD | ADR | 71646E 10 0 | 3,919 | 72,900 | | X | | 5,11, |
| | | | 31,509 | 586,100 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| Pier 1 Imports Inc. | Com | 720279 10 8 | 144,640 | 8,000,000 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| Sealed Air Corporation | Com | 81211K 10 0 | 51,601 | 1,113,300 | | X | | 5,11, |
| Servicemaster Company | Com | 81760N 10 9 | 72,165 | 5,611,600 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| Shaw Communications Inc. | ClB | 82028K 20 0 | 366,960 | 22,000,000 | | X | | 5,8,9 |
| Torchmark Corp. | Com | 891027 10 4 | 4,124 | 77,551 | | X | | 5,1,1 |
| | | | 23,917 | 449,728 | | X | | 5,2,6 |
| | | | 45,862 | 862,400 | | X | | 5,11, |
| | | | 34,019 | 639,700 | | X | | 5,10, |
| USG Corporation | Com | 903293 40 5 | 118,495 | 6,500,000 | | X | | 5,11, |
| Washington Post Co. | ClB | 939640 10 8 | 822,760 | 894,304 | | X | | 5,11, |
| | | | 136,446 | 148,311 | | X | | 5,1,3 |
| | | | 596,312 | 648,165 | | X | | 5,10, |
| | | | 34,026 | 36,985 | | X | | 5,12, |
| Wells Fargo & Co. Del | Com | 949746 10 1 | 769,381 | 12,902,590 | | X | | 5,2,6 |
| | | | 60,918 | 1,021,600 | | X | | 5,4,1 |
| | | | 7,213 | 120,970 | | X | | 5,10, |
| | | | 83,124 | 1,394,000 | | X | | 5,12, |
| | | | 155,328 | 2,604,860 | | X | | 5,13 |
| | | | 2,290,052 | 38,404,360 | | X | | 5,11, |
| Wesco Finl Corp. | Com | 950817 10 6 | 2,004,635 | 5,703,087 | | X | | 5,4,1 |

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| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| | ----- |
| | 11,099,038 |
| | ----- |
| GRAND TOTAL | \$33,856,547 |
| | ===== |