

CAPITOL FILE



EXCLUSIVE

Kate Beckinsale

REVEALS HER POLITICAL
PROWESS IN NOTHING
BUT THE TRUTH

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INAUGURATION ISSUE
WASHINGTON'S FINEST
FROM FASHION TO LOBBYISTS

INAUGURAL *file*

Fly

YOUR OWN WAY

Fractional membership in Flexjet's private program means luxurious, hassle-free travel to the inauguration and other festivities year-round.

BY DANIELLA BRODSKY

DELAYS, BAD FOOD, SECURITY HEADACHES—commercial flying has certainly lost the glamour of its early days. To the rescue: private air travel. And with the services of fractional providers like Bombardier Flexjet, there's no need to fork over millions of dollars for your own plane or to settle for charter prices.

Transportation manufacturing giant Bombardier offers a fractional ownership program, Flexjet, with shares starting at one-sixteenth ownership, the equivalent of 50 hours of flying annually. "It's approximately 40 percent more cost-efficient than chartering single flights," says Martha Dowd, Flexjet's regional sales director. Buy-what-you-need options make sense both for owners who don't use their planes on a regular basis and for travelers who must take trips on short notice. With just 10 hours' advance notice, clients can breeze right onto planes 30 seconds before takeoff and land at any of the Fixed Base Operator (FBO) private-jet terminals that Flexjet services. Flexjet manages the crews, hangars, fuel, insurance, and maintenance, while you focus on what you'd like for your catered meal: How does your favorite dish from Merone's sound?

"An inauguration is the busiest time for private-jet traffic in the industry, followed only by [trips to] the Super Bowl," says John Hovis, assistant general manager at Dulles FBO Landmark Aviation.

Mike Bennett, general manager of Signature Flight Support, another Dulles FBO, won't disclose how it will top the George Bush impersonator who provided entertainment for guests arriving by private jet for the 2005 inaugural festivities, but he says catering, limousine service, and hotel vendors are already in place. "Anytime there's a new administration, we expect a big show," says John Meehan of Landmark. And Flexjet can certainly get the players there with ease. Bombardier Challenger and Learjet aircraft fly at altitudes of up to 45,000 feet—above traffic and weather—which means faster travel. *Call 703-860-1162 or visit flexjet.com.*

