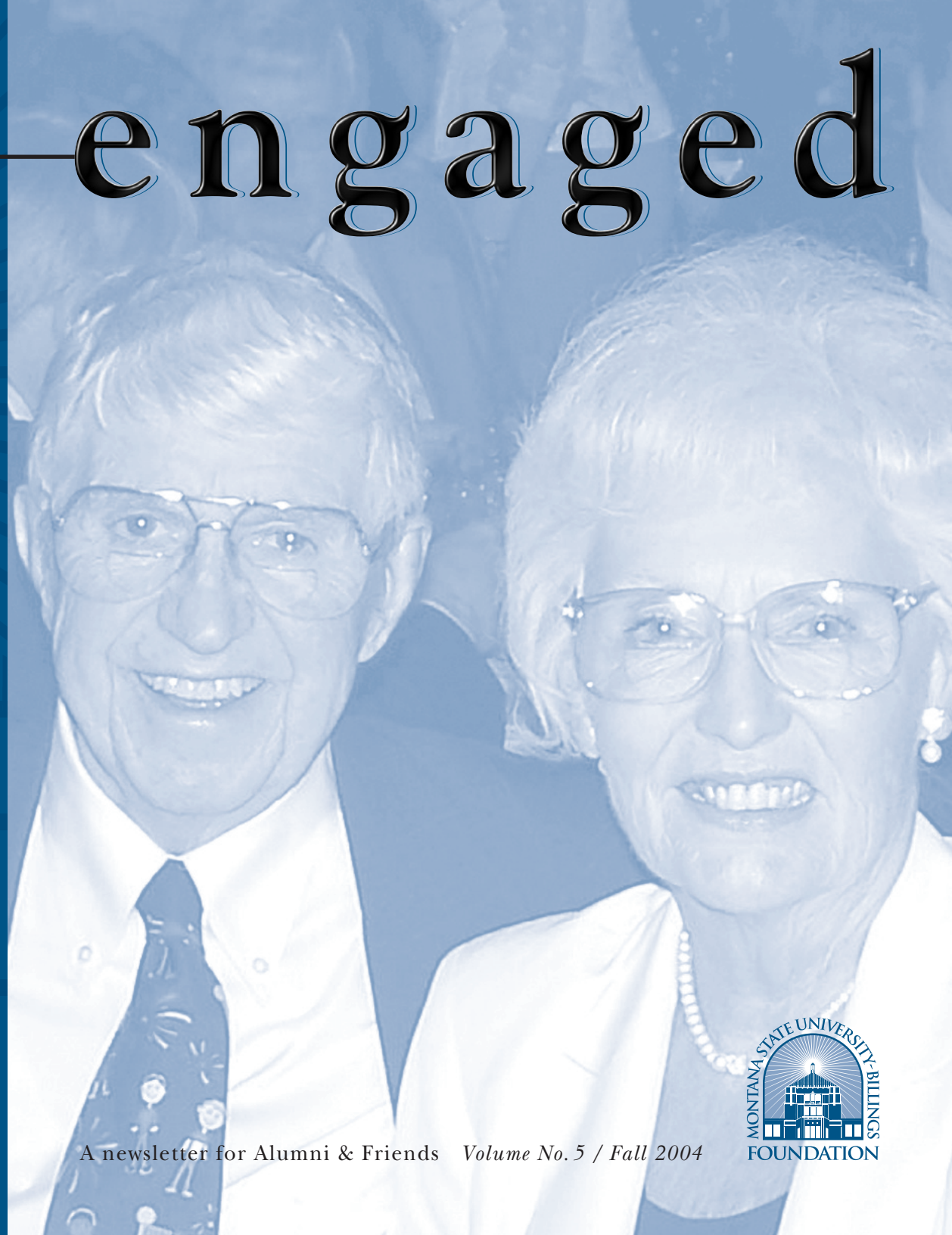


engaged



People,
Pride &
Promise

The Campaign for Excellence at
Montana State University-Billings



A newsletter for Alumni & Friends *Volume No. 5 / Fall 2004*



People, Pride & Promise:

The Campaign for Excellence at Montana State University-Billings



On June 25, 2004, Montana State University-Billings publicly announced the largest volunteer fundraising effort in the University's 77-year history, *People, Pride & Promise: The Campaign for Excellence at Montana State University-Billings*. This campaign is a bold effort to raise \$21 million to provide the resources needed to create and ensure a vibrant future for the University and its nearly 5,000 current students, the many generations yet to enroll, and the thousands of individuals who benefit from the intellectual capital, research, and outreach programs at MSU-Billings.

Quietly begun in 2002, to date the Campaign has raised more than \$14 million towards our \$21 million goal. Our success demonstrates the dedication, commitment, and admiration of our alumni, friends, businesses, and corporations across America. The University has identified several priority areas that will strengthen its reputation as one of the Northwest's finest public universities. New scholarship funds, building renovations and campus renewal, programs and services, and endowments will have a tremendous impact on our students and

faculty, and on the economic vitality of our community and this region.

Neither of us are graduates of MSU-Billings, but we believe strongly in the value of higher education and in the critical role Montana State University-Billings plays in our community and the surrounding region. Higher education creates great earning potential and lifelong benefits. Economically, our community reaps significant benefits from the presence of a major university that helps attract new businesses, meets the training needs of the existing workforce,

and provides qualified, well-trained employees.

We hope you are as proud of this fine institution as we are and we invite you to join us in this exciting endeavor. Our success will ensure Montana State University-Billings a distinguished future as a leader in public higher education. To learn more, go to www.msubillings.edu/foundation and click on *People, Pride & Promise*, or call Kathie Riggs, Campaign Director, 406-657-2244.

Bruce Parker, Co-chair
Pat Davison, Co-chair



Bruce Parker (left) and Pat Davison share a hearty handshake at the public announcement event on June 25, 2004.

Don and Marilyn Floberg

giving comes naturally



The Floberg name has been part of the Billings business community since 1959, when Don relocated from Bellevue, Washington and founded a real estate company, now called Prudential Floberg Realtors.

Both Don and Marilyn have been active participants in their profession. Early in his career, Don helped found the local Multiple Listing Service and spearheaded the successful effort to require continuing education for licensed Montana realtors. He has served as President of the Montana Association of Realtors. Marilyn has served on the National Advisory Council for Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, has written a book, *Practice in Real Estate Mathematics*, and currently serves on the Montana Board of Realty Regulation.

Both Marilyn and Don have felt the importance of “giving back” to their community in a variety of ways. Marilyn served as the first woman chair of the Billings Area Chamber of Commerce and also chair of the Deaconess Billings Clinic Board, among many other commitments through the years. She currently serves on

the Advisory Board for First Interstate Bank-Billings, the Montana State University-Billings Foundation Board of Trustees, and the MSU-Billings College of Business Advisory Board.

Don has served the Billings Association of Realtors, the Boy Scouts of America, and is currently on the Board for Habitat for Humanity. He founded Playhouse Parade, a semi-annual event that raises funds for local nonprofits serving youth at risk – one of the 2004 beneficiaries was the MSU-Billings Alumni Association.

Marilyn and Don are privileged to have five children and eight grandchildren and enjoy camping in beautiful Montana and family trips near and far. They feel fortunate to be part of a community that is as friendly and giving as Billings, Montana.

In an additional gesture of “giving back” to their community, Don and Marilyn chose to make a significant contribution to Montana State University-Billings that will have an immediate impact on the College of Business, establish an

endowment for its future needs, and create an income stream for the Flobergs’ retirement.

Their initial cash gift established the Marilyn & Don Floberg College of Business Faculty Excellence Endowment to help the College of Business continue to hire top-notch faculty. A charitable remainder trust was also established using appreciated real estate. The Flobergs will receive a lifetime income stream, and, at their deaths, the remainder of the trust will be added to the Marilyn & Don Floberg College of Business Faculty Excellence Endowment.

Charitable remainder trusts provide a flexible estate planning tool and are an excellent way for donors to contribute more than may be possible with a current cash gift. Our planned giving website provides a variety of giving options allowing you to personalize each scenario. Please visit www.msubillings.edu/foundation/PlannedGiving.htm or contact Dick Buckley at (800) 430-MSUB or email at rbuckley@msubillings.edu.



Don and Marilyn Floberg

Mary Peterson

finding her way despite hardship



Despite taking a long path with several roadblocks, Mary Peterson found her way to Montana State University-Billings and a life she never intended to live. Mary embodies the spirit that many MSU-Billings students possess: a desire to achieve great things despite obstacles.

Born and raised in Deer Lodge, Montana, Mary describes her childhood as “the version of small-town America depicted on the Andy Griffith Show.” Raised by hard-working descendents of homesteader/ranchers, Mary learned the value of overcoming hardships and working together as a family.

While working one summer as a car hop at the A&W, sixteen-year-old Mary met a handsome young man who had just finished four years in the army. They married that December and within a year



Mary Peterson

had the first of eight children. Mary planned to live the rest of her life as “the Walton mom, baking bread, growing a garden, and rocking babies.”

A devastating diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis for her husband Joe and his rapidly deteriorating health changed Mary’s life and the lives of her eight

children. Mary moved Joe and their children to Billings to be closer to medical facilities. After several years, Mary found the courage to place Joe in a nursing home.

Later, Mary was remarried to a widower, her soul mate who encouraged her to continue to live despite the tragedy in her life. Over the next 20 years, Mary and Pete successfully combined their two families.

Before her second marriage, Mary began taking night classes at Eastern Montana College, but gave up because of family pressures. She discovered a passion for teaching while volunteering in her children’s schools, but never thought she would become a professional teacher. However, that changed when Mary’s daughter Callie transferred from a college in Utah to Eastern Montana College.

Mary went with Callie to the admissions office to help her enroll and walked out of Admissions Officer Cindy Dell’s office as a college student. Mary and Callie spent the next two years driving 50 miles one way to attend classes. Mary had to take a semester off after a car accident killed her 18 year-old son. She resumed classes the following spring semester and graduated two years later in 1997 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Education at age 48. Mary began working on her Master’s in Education and was half way through when her daughter Heather died.

Mary felt like giving up but realized that, “the pursuit of my education has helped me look to the future when the pain of my losses felt like they were smothering the life out of me.” She credits her ability to continue with her Master’s program to the support of her husband and family. Mary will graduate with her Master’s degree in December 2004.

Patricia Noel Drain to Speak at MSU-Billings

Alumna Patricia Noel Drain will be at MSU-Billings to speak on October 27 & 28. Patricia is an international author and professional speaker who has over 20 years experience as a business owner in the executive recruiting industry.

She will be giving a presentation for business people October 27, 2004 on her new business book titled “7 Secrets For Building a Business That Has Value”.

Also a children’s author, on October 28, 2004 she will be presenting “Develop Confidence with Patricia Drain” a motivational talk for educators. Montana teacher renewal credits will be available for this seminar.

For more information please call Jill Hirschi or Jeanne Moller at (406) 657-2244 or 888-430-MSUB.

Sam Hartpence

a campus inspiration



Sam Hartpence, of Custer, South Dakota, has jumped into life at Montana State University-Billings with both feet. During his two years at MSU-Billings, Sam has been involved with virtually every aspect of campus living from Jazz Band to the Borealis Research Team. Sam has impressed peers, faculty, and staff with his affable personality and his desire to learn.

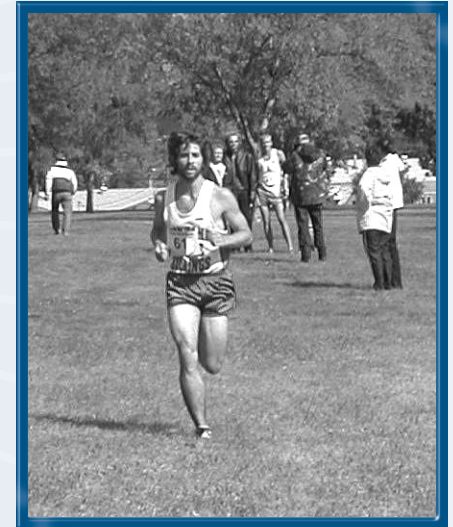
During his first visit in 2002, Sam felt he needed MSU-Billings just as much as MSU-Billings needed him. His commitment to his studies and his university is amazing; over the last two years, he has spent less than one month away from campus. He chose to be a Resident Assistant over summer break, works on special projects during spring breaks, and takes intersession classes during winter holiday breaks. He “cannot imagine himself being happier anywhere else.” Sam describes himself as “a new building without scaffolding” when he attempts to achieve things on his own. He credits his successes to the network of support he has found at MSU-Billings. Sam’s successes are many. He is a member of the Borealis Research Team working to build and

program a computer to measure ozone density as a function of altitude in real time. This is something that has never been done before and is gaining national attention from the scientists at NASA.

In addition to his research and 20 classroom credits, Sam is a member of Jazz Band (which would actually give him 23 credits, but he can’t afford to pay for 3 additional credits at this time), is a member of the Yellowjacket Cross-County team, spent a season on the soccer team, recently recorded an original music CD with his sister, is currently averaging 90 miles a week while training for a marathon, and worked 20 hours a week as a tutor for Upward Bound and the academic Support Center. Sam managed to maintain this schedule while earning a GPA of 3.73 for the Spring 2004 semester.

Sam is a math major with a physics minor and an option to teach. He plans to teach math and physics at the high school level. He already knows that having summers off will be just too boring for him, so he intends to get a graduate degree in acoustics which will tie together his interests in music recording, scientific research, and architecture.

There seem no limits to what this impressive young man can achieve. As the recipient of the Ellen Shields scholarship, Sam feels his accomplishments are the result of a partnership with the generous donor who has helped him pursue his dreams. “There is no end to what I can accomplish as long as I surround myself with people who inspire and support me.” Scholarships are an important part of the educational experience at MSU-Billings, allowing thousands of men and women to continue their education. If you are interested in establishing a scholarship, please contact Susan Rhodes at 657-2244 or srhodes@msubillings.edu.



Sam Hartpence running on hard work and optimism.

Visit an illuminating destination...
www.msubillings.edu/foundation



Visit www.msubillings.edu/foundation and find how easy it is to stay in touch with your University. It's illuminating!

- Find out about new projects on campus.
- Learn about upcoming events.
- Get detailed planned giving information.
- Make a gift to the University online!
- And much more...

Learn more about **People, Pride & Promise: The Campaign for Excellence at Montana State University-Billings** by visiting www.msubillings.edu/foundation. The campaign focuses on scholarships, building renovations and campus renewal, technology and lab equipment, student services, and endowment funds.

Steve Scanlin

a life of service and generosity



Steve Scanlin

“Being actively involved” has been an integral part of Steve Scanlin’s life, not only during his college years at then-EMC (BSEd ’69), but later as well. A Red Lodge native, Steve quickly became assimilated into college life in Billings in the mid-60s and found a niche serving his classmates on the Union Activities Board and Student Senate. Steve identifies his involvement on campus and the education he received at EMC as the springboards for his interests in serving people and pursuing additional degrees.

Moving on to complete his Masters in Social Work at Portland State University, Steve was honored as Social Worker of the Year by the Idaho Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. After earning his Juris Doctorate at the University of Idaho, he served four years in the Idaho Legislature as a representative. Other accomplishments include four years with the Office of the Governor of Idaho as Special Representative and eight years as Deputy Attorney General for Idaho. At one point he also served as legislative assistant to U.S. Senator Max

Baucus of Montana. Steve established his own law firm, Scanlin Law Offices in Boise, Idaho, in 1995.

With these impressive credentials, one might think Steve’s undergraduate years would be a faded memory, but just the opposite is true. With deep fondness, Steve recalls college friends and “great times” during his years at Montana State University-Billings. Good experiences at MSU-Billings, both in campus-community service and in acquiring a quality education, have been foundational for many of Steve’s later accomplishments.

Upon learning of *People, Pride and Promise: the Campaign for Excellence at MSU-Billings*, Steve took an immediate interest, and when asked to serve on the National Campaign Leadership Council (NCLC), he readily consented. Harkening back to his college years, Steve realized that through his NCLC service he could again become actively involved in Montana State University-Billings and make a meaningful difference in the lives of today’s students by helping the Campaign succeed.

His own generous gift to the People, Pride & Promise Campaign – naming MSU-Billings Foundation beneficiary of his retirement plan – gives strong testimony to Steve’s belief in MSU-Billings’ administration, faculty, and students. A good education has been, for Steve, a life-changing experience, and, by designating his gift for student scholarships, Steve has ensured that future students will have access to a similar experience. Steve’s decision to name the Foundation as beneficiary of his retirement plan allows his gift to grow over time to touch the lives of many students well in the future. Steve’s gift also makes him a member of the MSU-Billings honorary planned giving club: the Beardsley Society.

The MSU-Billings Foundation has many deferred or planned giving options. Our planned giving website provides a variety of giving options allowing you to personalize each scenario to your needs. Please visit www.msubillings.edu/foundation/PlannedGiving.htm or contact Dick Buckley at (800) 430-MSUB or email at rbuckley@msubillings.edu.

Gifts of Retirement Plans

An oft-overlooked source of charitable giving is the retirement plan, and there are many different types that can be used: IRA, 401k, 403b. The most common method of retirement plan giving is very simple: by naming Montana State University-Billings Foundation as beneficiary of your retirement plan, you can assure a gift to fund scholarships, programs, or capital improvements at MSU-Billings. The beneficiary arrangement can be accomplished in a few minutes by completing a simple form you can get from your plan administrator. Your retirement plan remains intact, providing a lifetime of income as it was designed to do, and the remainder comes to MSU-Billings Foundation at your passing. Details of how you wish to have your gift utilized when received by MSU-Billings Foundation can be arranged with Dick Buckley, Development Officer by calling 406-657-2244, or toll free at 888-430-6782, or through email to: rbuckley@msubillings.edu.

Those with large estates often find retirement plan gifts provide significant tax advantages over gifts of other assets. As with all financial planning, check with your professional advisors.

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