

# First Monday



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*From the desk of: Marilynn Miller, President and CEO  
Monday, March 1, 2004, 8:00 a.m.*

**An Inspirational Legacy.** Frances Barker, who died November 1, 2003, used her estate plans to help Montana State University-Billings students. Her charitable remainder unitrust gave her a lifetime income and some tax benefits. At her passing, the money remaining in the trust was distributed to her favorite charitable organizations, with twenty-five percent, which amounted to more than \$70,000, coming to MSU-Billings Foundation for need-based scholarships for student-athletes. We are very grateful for Mrs. Barker's careful planning and generosity.

**People, Pride & Promise Campaign Pledges.** Many thanks to the following donors who made commitments during February.

- **John and Victoria Cech** pledged \$15,000 over five years. \$10,000 will be deposited in the College of Technology (COT) Endowment, and the remaining \$5,000 will be directed to a COT annual needs account. John is dean of the MSU-Billings College of Technology, and Victoria is Operations Director of Saint Vincent Healthcare's Mansfield Education Center.
- **Eakle and Sue Barfield** committed \$10,000 for the Facilities Services Scholarship Endowment. Eakle is Director of Facilities Services at MSU-Billings, and Dr. Susan Barfield is Assistant Professor of Educational Theory and Practice and Music.
- **Craig Anderson and John Hedge** (also known as the Merrill Lynch Anderson-Hedge Team) pledged \$10,000 over the next five years. Craig and John, investment performance advisors and financial planners, have allowed their gifts to remain unrestricted to be used as needed.
- **Weber, Dobson & Jensen, PC**, committed \$2,500 for the Accounting Program in the College of Business. John Weber, Terry Dobson, and Ed Jensen ('76) own the Weber, Dobson & Jensen accounting firm.

**Three Yellowjackets Earn Academic Honors.** On February 19, Jerett Skrifvars, a senior men's basketball player at Montana State University-Billings, was named to the District VII Academic All-America First Team as announced by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). Also earning District VII

honors were senior men's basketball player Dave Carse and junior women's basketball player Robyn Milne, who were each named to the second team.

**Welcome to Underriner Motors**, our newest Wine and Food Festival Corporate Sponsor. Underriner Motors joins other \$5,000 Corporate Sponsors, **Albertsons** and **Fortin Enterprises**, as well as \$10,000 Corporate Partners, **Billings Gazette**, **Briggs Distributing**, **Computers Unlimited**, **Sodhexo**, and **Wells Fargo Bank/Private Client Services**, in support of the 2004 Wine and Food Festival. Since its inception in 1993, the Festival has netted \$1.5 million for scholarships and University programs.

**Wine 101.** Wine and Food Festival 2004 dates are May 10–15, but our popular preview events, the **Wine 101 Seminars**, will be held **March 24 and 25**. This is your opportunity to get answers to your questions about “reds”, “whites”, “sparkling”, and wine and food pairings. The two seminars complement one another; each is unique in content. Scrumptious wine and food tastings accompany the educational presentation. Tickets are \$40 per evening or \$60 for both evenings, and go on sale March 8 at the MSU-Billings Foundation office (406-657-2244).

**Montana Agricultural Conference.** On February 20, the College of Business and the offices of U.S. Senator Max Baucus sponsored a conference: International Agriculture Issues Affecting Montana and the Regional Economy. More than 85 people from around the state attended to discuss issues involving Montana-Cuba trade opportunities and Mad Cow/bovine spongiform encephalopathy disease. Satellite connections from Great Falls, Helena, and Washington, DC were used to expand conference discussions.

**MSU-Billings at the *New York Times*.** On February 20, editor Janna Huhtala, and advisor Nancy Swanson of the *Retort*, the MSU-Billings student newspaper, participated in a workshop at the *New York Times* offices, exploring the role of the press in a democratic society, studying the editing process, meeting *New York Times* managing editors, and working directly in the *Times* newsroom.

**Prefer e-mail?** If you would prefer to receive *First Monday* electronically, please contact Campaign Associate Joy Hayworth ([jhayworth@msubillings.edu](mailto:jhayworth@msubillings.edu)).

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*First Monday* is provided to the supporters of the Montana State University-Billings Foundation to advance the cause of philanthropy.

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