

First Monday



From the desk of: Marilyn Miller, President and CEO
Monday, November 1, 2004, 8:00 a.m.

Rick Engum ('85) was the speaker at a College of Business alumni gathering October 6. Currently Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the North American Group for Coca-Cola Enterprises, Rick attended then-Eastern Montana College as a part-time student between 1975 and 1985. A Billings native and West High graduate, Rick has worked for Coca-Cola Enterprises since 1974. He talked to students and alumni about his professional path through Coca-Cola and discussed how his education, CPA designation, Montana work ethic, and company loyalty helped him rise through the corporate ranks to his current position. He gave special credit to two professors, Randy Howard and Joanne Sheridan, for contributing to his success. Rick, his wife Lynn, son Taylor, and daughter Kacie live in Marietta, Georgia.

Red Lodge Event. On September 29, an Alumni Leadership gathering was held at Bridge Creek in Red Lodge, Montana. Chancellor Ron Sexton ('59 & '64); Bruce Parker, People, Pride & Promise Campaign Co-Chair; Bernie Harrington ('84), Campaign Events Chair; Bob Carr, Special Assistant to the Chancellor; Dick Buckley, Development Officer; College of Business Dean Joe Michels; and Joy Hayworth ('96), Campaign Associate were on hand to greet the following alumni and friends: John & LaVetta Bradford, Sue & Marv Kauffman, David & Kelley Evans, Jim & Trish Hilderman, Troy Nearpass ('83), Jim Moore, Glory Mahon, Don & Karen Kinney, Ralph & Sue Glidden, Eakle & Sue Barfield, Dan Dutton, Marybeth Royal ('38), Irene Waples ('42), Phil & Martha Robertson, Loren ('70) & Marlene ('78) Maurer. Guests and campus representatives enjoyed visiting and reminiscing about "Eastern."

Thanks to these donors for their commitments to the People, Pride & Promise Campaign.

- **Shelley & Larry Van Atta** pledged \$10,000 toward scholarships in memory of Shelley's father and in honor of her mother: the **Sonny O'Day Athletic Scholarship** and the **Carra B. George Educational Scholarship**. Shelley is Director of University Relations at MSU-Billings and Larry is Senior Vice President-Investments with the Van Atta Wealth Management Group at Piper Jaffray, Inc., in Billings.
- **David Kem & Judith Raines** pledged an additional \$2,500 to the **Florence Steele Kem Scholarship**. The Florence Steele Kem Scholarship Fund was established by David and Judith in 1996 in honor of David's mother, Florence, a 1931 alumna. Every year since 1996, the scholarship has benefited an Early Childhood Development student.

Boise Event. The MSU-Billings Foundation was in Boise, Idaho on October 21 for an Alumni Leadership Dinner. The dinner was hosted by **Steve Scanlin ('69)**, **Michelle Finch ('82)**, and **Butch Wolf ('68)** at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel. Bernie Harrington ('84), Campaign Events Chair, joined Foundation staff in bringing news and greetings from MSU-Billings to those attending.

- **Ed McLuskie ('70)** of Boise, is a Professor in the Department of Communication at Boise State University. Ed said some of the greatest influences in his life were "Eastern"

professors. Glen “Doc” Johnson and Anne Arnold were two who made a significant impact on his life. Ed credits another professor, Richard “Dick” Boyland, as his mentor and lifelong friend.

- **Lynda Mehrens ('74)** of Boise, has been a Special Education teacher for 31 years and works for the Boise Schools. Lynda said she received an outstanding education at EMC both inside and outside the classroom, as she was active in student life and organizations.
- **Michael Bogdaniec ('78)** of Meridian, Idaho, is the founder and owner of Bitterroot Investments. After teaching high school bookkeeping and accounting and serving for years as Chief Controller at Montana Power Company, he moved to Boise to retire. However, he started his investment company shortly after the move. Michael credits his business sense to the education he received at EMC.
- **Steve Scanlin ('69)** of Boise, is an attorney at Scanlin Law Offices. Steve came to EMC as a 20-year-old veteran, got involved in student life, and says that doing so made a significant impact on his life. Steve was a member of the Student Union Board and the Student Legislature, and heavily involved in the student activist movement on campus. Steve’s daughter, Katie Scanlin, also attended the event.
- **Michelle Finch ('82)** of Boise, is an attorney at Finch & Broadbent. Michelle grew up in Thompson Falls, Montana. Michelle said Billings is where she got her start in law and she had opportunities at EMC that she wouldn’t have experienced had she attended school elsewhere.
- **Butch Wolf ('68)** of Boise, is Duty Officer for National Mobilization for the National Interagency Fire Center and also teaches courses at Boise State University. Butch transferred to EMC from Boise State to complete his Physical Education degree. He has many fond memories of the exceptional teachers and energetic campus atmosphere at “Eastern” and feels blessed to still have many close friends from his days in Billings.

All enjoyed reminiscing about professors, events, and notable visitors to campus such as Barry Goldwater, Robert Kennedy, Vincent Price, Roger Miller, Mike Mansfield and the Beach Boys.

Reno Charette, Director of the Big Horn Teacher Project at MSU-Billings, was named the "2004 Indian Educator of the Year" by the Montana Indian Education Association, for being the person "who has encouraged and promoted Indian Education in Montana, and, by example, inspiring others." Reno Charette has 10 years of experience in grant administration for federal programs serving American Indian populations. Her Master of Arts degree in History specialized in the American West. Charette is a member of the Crow Nation and a descendent of the Turtle Montana Chippewa.

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

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

Montana State University-Billings Foundation ▲ 1500 University Drive ▲ Billings, MT 59101
Phone: 406-657-2244 ▲ Fax: 406-657-1600 ▲ E-mail: foundation@msubillings.edu