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Billings Chamber of Commerce  
Convention and Visitors Bureau



# Media Release

## Billings Chamber/CVB and Stockman Bank Announce 2008 Ag Advocate of the Year

Billings, MT, March 3, 2008: The Billings Chamber of Commerce/Convention and Visitors Bureau and Stockman Bank are pleased to name Taylor Brown the 2008 Ag Advocate of the Year. Stockman Bank President Butch Bratsky first announced the Ag Advocate of the Year Award in 1999 to give annual recognition to a person who has made a major contribution to the agriculture industry. The award committee this year selected Brown as the recipient for his work as the Fundraising Chair for the Montana State University Animal Bioscience Building. Once constructed, this building will be a state of the art Animal Science Facility located on the MSU campus in Bozeman, Montana. The building is being funded with a combination of private donations and public funding. With this teaching facility and the completion of the USDA-ARS Genomics Research Center, Montana will attract world class faculty and transform the beef industry. Montana is already known as the Seed Stock Capital of the World and with this facility, the state will be on the cutting edge of technology in animal genetics and feed efficiency, to name a few, for decades to come.

Brown is widely known as one of the nation's leaders in the field of agricultural broadcasting. With perhaps the most recognized voice in the intermountain west, Brown has played a huge role as an advocate for western agriculture since he joined the Northern Broadcasting System as a regional farm broadcaster in 1979. Today as it's owner, he heads up a team that every market day produces over three dozen news, market, weather and sports information programs for over 80 affiliated radio stations in 6 states; plus two daily Ag television programs that are seen on 9 Montana and Wyoming TV stations. Born in Sheridan, Wyoming, Brown grew up on his family's cattle ranch in eastern Montana near Sand Springs. He attended high school in Lewistown where he was active in Future Farmers of America. Brown earned his bachelor's degree in Agriculture from Montana State University in Bozeman. Brown is a past National President of the National Association and currently serves as the President of the NAFB Foundation. His many achievements in broadcasting include being named America's "Farm Broadcaster of the Year", and receiving the prestigious "Oscar in Agriculture" award for radio, along with accolades from a host of agricultural organizations that represent the grain and livestock industries. Brown and his wife Shannon have three children, Travis, Courtney, and Colter, and they are active in the Huntley Project community, near Billings.

***"Billings is Changing. Your Chamber is Leading the Way."***

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For Immediate Release

2008 Ag Advocate of the Year - Taylor Brown

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