

THE FORBES 400 HIT THE \$1 TRILLION MARK IN AGGREGATE INCOME, AS A RECORD 313 BILLIONAIRES MAKE THE LIST

NEW YORK, NY (October 4, 2004)—For the first time since 2000, "the combined net worth of the U.S.' wealthiest climbed to \$1 trillion, up \$45 billion in 12 months," according to *Forbes'* international edition (p. 31). This was aided in no small part by the inclusion of 313 billionaires—the most ever—on this year's list. Up 5% from 2003, 2004's grand total reflects the strong influence of the world of finance and investing, which claims 24 of the 45 new members of the 400. With \$750 million needed to earn a place on the list, the tech giants are well represented once again in the top 10, with Bill Gates (#1) and Paul Allen (#3) retaining their 2003 spots, and Michael Dell (#9) and Lawrence Ellison (#10) trading places as they remain in the ranking's highest echelon. Repeating at #2 is Warren Buffett, the biggest gainer in dollars from last year, up \$5 billion.

The Top 10 and the wealth that put them there:

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>WEALTH (U.S. \$)</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>2003 RANK</u>
1	Bill Gates	\$48 billion	Microsoft	1
2	Warren Buffett	\$41 billion	Berkshire Hathaway	2
3	Paul Allen	\$20 billion	Microsoft; investments	3
4	Helen R. Walton	\$18 billion	Wal-Mart	4
5	S. Robson Walton	\$18 billion	Wal-Mart	5
6	John T. Walton	\$18 billion	Wal-Mart	6
7	Jim C. Walton	\$18 billion	Wal-Mart	7
8	Alice L. Walton	\$18 billion	Wal-Mart	8
9	Michael Dell	\$14.2 billion	Dell	10
10	Lawrence Ellison	\$13.7 billion	Oracle	9

The person with the largest increase percentage-wise is casino mogul Steve Wynn at 100%—earning \$1.3 billion, up from last year's \$650 million—ascending to #215 from his previous #377 spot. For more, visit www.forbes.com.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

PRODIGAL SON (p. 20)—Cleaning up after his billionaire father, John Tyson struggles to make Tyson Foods not only the world's largest meat producer, but also the best.

THE BARTENDER (p. 29)—After selling Grey Goose vodka for \$2 billion, 84-year-old Sidney Frank is planning a new fortune—in wine, tequila and energy drinks.

THE RAIL WORLD (p. 86)—How a private luxury train chugged past South Africa's legendary state-owned Blue Train.

CONTACT: Meghan Womack 212-367-4157 or mwomack@forbes.com