



-- NEWS RELEASE --

DATE: March 27, 2009

MTA/CORE SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED

The Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA) in conjunction with CORE Telecom Systems, joined forces to offer the MTA/CORE Scholarship. We would like to announce the winner of our \$1243.00 scholarship:

Darbi L. Brady

Darbi is a senior attending Fairfield High School in Fairfield, MT. She is Valedictorian of her class of 2009 and plans to pursue her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Nursing. She plans to attend Carroll College located in Helena, MT. Her mother works at 3Rivers Telephone Cooperative.

This scholarship was available to all dependents of full or part-time employees, current directors, or owners (or their spouse) of an rural telephone company or independent telephone system in Montana. The scholarships can be used at any university, college or vocational technical center in the United States. The Scholarship Committee representing suppliers and member companies selects the scholarship recipient by taking in consideration grade point average, past accomplishments, future goals, and extra curricular activities.

About MTA: Since 1955, the Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA) has represented independent telecommunications service providers throughout Montana, offering local residential and business phone services, as well as a full spectrum of other services including broadband and dial-up internet; satellite TV, competitive local exchange and wireless services, long distance, etc. MTA members have over \$500 million of plant (telecommunications infrastructure assets) in service in Montana and invest over \$50 million each year in new facilities and services serving primarily rural Montana. They provide access to broadband internet service to over 80% - and often near 100% - of their customers, with highest quality communications service in the industry. MTA members employ 635 proud Montanans, earning over \$50 million in salary and benefits.

About CORE Telecom Systems: CORE is an integrated supplier of brand new and secondary re-used equipment. CORE celebrates 2009 in its 10th year of dedicated service to the IOC market by delivering many manufacturers and products of the telecommunications industry. Our specialization includes a wide range of equipment for central office switching technologies, broadband and transmission products, remote outdoor cabinets, a full line of fiber optic material, complete power systems and a wide variety of batteries by industry leading manufacturers. CORE Telecom Systems is a full service organization helping today's service providers remain profitable in an ever changing telecommunications environment.