



MONTANA
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ASSOCIATION

-- NEWS RELEASE --

DATE: May 12, 2009

MTA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED

The Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA) would like to announce the winner of our \$1,000 MTA Memorial Scholarship:

Cole D. Eddie

Cole is attending Glacier High School and is ranked 1 out of 258 students. He holds a 4.0 grade point average. After graduation, Cole plans to attend Montana State University in Bozeman, MT, and is interested in pursuing an Engineering degree. Cole is a member of the National Honor Society, lettered in Varsity Soccer and also received the Academic All-State recognition. He has been very active in both high school and community activities. His extracurricular pursuits include youth soccer and basketball, assistant bow hunter education instructor, and even working part-time with a local telecommunications company, Telmon. Cole's family is a customer of MTA member company, CenturyTel.

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These scholarships are available to any Montana student, regardless if their undergraduate studies are to be completed at a Montana college or university or at an out-of-state institution. These scholarships can be used at any accredited university, college or vocational technical center in the United States. The Scholarship Committee representing MTA member companies selects the scholarship recipient by taking into consideration grade point average, school and community activities and applicants' personal statement. The Memorial Scholarships are funded from donations provided in memory of rural telephone company directors and employees.

Since 1955, the Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA) has represented independent telecommunications service providers offering state-of-the-art telecommunications services to residential and business consumers throughout the state. MTA members have invested hundreds of millions of dollars in Montana's telecommunications infrastructure and continue to invest tens of millions each year in new facilities and services serving primarily rural Montana. They provide access to broadband Internet service to over three-quarters—and often nearly 100%--of their customers. MTA members employ, with outstanding salaries and benefits, nearly 650 proud Montanans who are dedicated to their jobs, their communities and the state's economic development.