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Awards given to law graduates at University of Montana

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AWARDS GIVEN TO LAW GRADUATES
AT UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

MISSOULA--

Awards were presented to 26 graduating law students during the 79th Annual Commencement ceremonies at the University of Montana in Missoula Sunday, June 13. There were 65 law graduates this spring at UM.

Law graduates who received awards included the following:

Steven P. Ruffatto, Brockton, was awarded the Prentice-Hall Tax Award, a Prentice-Hall Federal Tax Guide with weekly supplementation for the calendar year of the award to the graduating senior receiving the highest grades in Federal Tax.

Ruffatto also received the Allen Smith Co. Award. The publishers of the Revised Codes of Montana award annually a complete set of the annotated statutes to a graduating senior who will practice in Montana and who is designated by the faculty for excellence in scholarship.

As the graduating third-year student who received the highest grade in the course, Corporations, Ruffatto won the Wall Street Journal Award, which includes a one-year subscription to the "Wall Street Journal" and an inscribed medallion.

He was also the recipient of the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Award, a cash award for the UM law graduate who demonstrated the highest proficiency in three UM Law School courses-- Oil and Gas, Natural Resources and Water Law.

John L. Alke, Helena, and Jean H. Ellison, Stevensville--Bancroft Whitney Award. A five-volume set of Bancroft's Probate Practice with supplements is awarded each year by the Bancroft-Whitney Co. to senior students designated by the faculty for proficiency in trial practice.

Dana L. Christensen, Missoula--the International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award. The IATL awards an inscribed plaque to the member of the senior class who excels in trial and appellate work as reflected by performance in Legal Writing IV and Courtroom and Office Practice courses.

Thomas R. Napton, Missoula--Bureau of National Affairs Award. The BNA awards annually a subscription for one year to "United States Law Week" to the member of the graduating class who has made the most satisfactory progress during the senior year.

Randall H. Gray, Great Falls--a cash award from the Association of Trial Lawyers of America for the best Environmental Law essay dealing specifically with questions of energy policy.

Jeannette E. Berry, Bozeman, and Noel K. Larrivee, Whitefish--the Emmett C. Angland Memorial Award. This is an annual cash award for a senior who is enrolled in Legal Aid, and who has demonstrated concern, conviction and courage in the rendition of legal services.

For the first time, "Special Commendation" awards were presented to acknowledge outstanding performance in the Legal Aid Program, energy and devotion which far exceeded course requirements and which signifies the utmost in professional responsibility. Recipients are /Donald W. Molloy, Missoula; Larry D. Epstein, Cut Bank; Daniel A. Piedalue, Missoula and Gerald A. Bollinger, Missoula.

A total of 12 memberships in the American Judicature Society (AJS) were donated by the UM Law School to outstanding senior class members--Charles R. Anderson, Butte; Michael B. Anderson, Bozeman; James R. Carlson, Miles City; Maxon R. Davis, Buffalo, N.Y.; Mae Nan Ellingson, Missoula; Allan L. Karell, Ballantine; Donald W. Molloy, Malta; Daniel C. Murphy, Butte; Robert C. Pyfer, East Helena; Steven P. Ruffatto, Brockton; Christopher B. Swartley, Souderton, Pa., and Karen S. Townsend, Missoula.

The Hon. W. J. Jameson, Billings, senior judge for the U.S. District Court of Montana, donated five AJS memberships to the outstanding senior class members--Thomas R. Bobstock, Whitefish; D. Robert Lohn, Missoula; W. Corbin Howard, Billings; John L. Alke, Helena, and Gerald A. Bollinger, Missoula.