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A doctor, a lawyer, an engineer, an athlete and a journalist will be the first Montana State University graduates to receive the MSU Alumni Distinguished Service Award, Lloyd L. Callison of Gardiner, president of the MSU Alumni Association, announced.

Alumni signally honored by selection as the first recipients of the annual award are Dr. Jesse M. Bierman, class of 1921; Judge George E. Boldt, class of 1925; Fred Buck, class of 1906; Jack Daniels, class of 1955, and Mrs. Dorothy R. Powers, class of 1943.

The award will be presented at the Homecoming Roundup program in the University Theater at 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30, Callison said. It was established by the MSU Alumni Association to recognize alumni or former students "who, by their distinguished service to their University, the State, or the Nation, have brought honor to Montana State University and to themselves."

Final selection of the award winners was made by an anonymous committee appointed jointly by the president of the Alumni Association and the president of the University, according to Callison. They made their choice from nominations submitted by alumni and screened by a special alumni committee.

Dr. Bierman, a native of Kalispell, has traveled in Europe and Asia on health missions for public and private agencies during periods of leave from the University of California where, since 1947, she has been professor of maternal and child health in the School of Public Health and lecturer in pediatrics in the School of Medicine.
She served as chief of the World Health Organization's Section of Maternal and Child Health from March 1956 to July 1957. Before joining the University of California faculty she was chief of the Section of Maternal and Child Health of the California State Department of Public Health.

She is active in many professional societies and the author of numerous articles in medical journals. She was named Wooley Memorial Lecturer for the 1958 meeting of the American Women's Medical Association and has received many other honors, including the Theta Sigma Phi Award for Community Service in 1958.

After receiving a bachelor's degree at MSU in 1921, she took a doctor of medicine degree at the University of Chicago (Rush Medical College) and a master of public health degree at Columbia University (Institute of Public Health).

Judge Boldt, appointed U. S. district judge for the western district of the state of Washington in 1953, received national attention recently when he presided at the trial of teamster boss Dave Beck in Tacoma. He practiced law in Seattle, and later Tacoma, from 1927 until his appointment to the federal bench by President Eisenhower.

In 1955 he represented the United States in Geneva, Switzerland, at the first United Nations Congress on Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders. He is a member of the U. S. Judicial Conference Committee on Administration of Criminal Law and of the Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure for Federal Courts. He is active in professional and civic organizations.

The jurist spent three years on active duty as a lieutenant colonel with the OSS in the Burma campaign and China Theater, winning three battle stars, in World War II.

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Judge Boldt is a 1921 graduate of Stevensville High School. He was awarded a B. A. in 1925 and an LL. B. in 1926 by MSU and an honorary LL. D. by the College of Puget Sound.

Buck, a member of a pioneer Montana family, was also educated in Stevensville public schools and at MSU, where he earned a B. S. in mechanical engineering in 1906. He did graduate work at the University of California, Berkeley, and received a professional civil engineering degree from Montana State College, Bozeman, in 1930.

Since 1941 Buck has been state engineer for Montana. He has been associated with the State Water Conservation Board in various capacities since 1934, serving successively as chief office engineer, member of the board and consultant. In his long career of service to Montana he has been an engineer with the Montana Public Service Commission and the Montana Irrigation Commission.

Buck has served on many state and interstate committees and commissions concerned with resource development and as an expert witness in many public utility rate and service cases. He has held high office in professional and public organizations and has written many technical articles and engineering reports.

He is past president of the MSU Alumni Association and of the Association of Western Engineers and is a member of the National Reclamation Association and other professional groups.

Daniels, the only MSU athlete ever to compete in the Olympic Games, placed sixth in the modern pentathlon event in Rome this summer. He finished 13th in the same event in the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne, Australia.

The former Grizzly great captained the MSU swimming team for three years and won four letters in the sport. He demonstrated his athletic versatility as a top competitor in the pentathlon, which demands skill in swimming, horsback riding, fencing, cross-country running and pistol shooting.
After his graduation from MSU in 1955, he entered the army. He represented the United States in the 1956 Olympics as captain of the U. S. Army modern pentathlon team. He was one of 36 men, and the only foreign student, accepted last year for advanced study at the Royal Gymnastic Institute, Stockholm, Sweden. He is a charter life member of the Montana Sports Hall of Fame.

Daniels is currently doing physiological research for the Federal Aviation Agency, Oklahoma City, Okla. He is originally from Helmville.

Mrs. Powers, whose "Our Town" column in the Spokesman-Review has been an instrument of public service on many occasions, was named "Woman of Achievement for Spokane" in 1959 in recognition of community service and professional accomplishment. In 1960 she became the first woman to win an Ernie Pyle Memorial Award.

The many journalistic honors that have come her way include Theta Sigma Phi's National Headliner Award and first place for her column and for feature writing in the 1960 contest sponsored by the Allied Daily Newspapers of Washington and the professional chapter of Sigma Delta Chi at the University of Washington. She won 10 awards in the 1960 Inland Empire Press, Radio and TV contest, and she has received awards for her part in the fight against mental illness, inadequate prison facilities and other social ills.

Mrs. Powers was elected the first woman president of the Spokane Press Club in 1960 and is currently president of the Spokane Zonta Club, a service organization. Both she and Dr. Bierman have been recent speakers at the MSU Matrix Honor Table.

Mrs. Powers is a 1939 graduate of Anaconda High School and a 1943 journalism graduate of MSU. She became a benefactress of both schools in May when she gave $1,000 to the University to establish scholarships for AHS graduates who plan to major in journalism at MSU.

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