

# DYLAN WERST

## Targeted Rural UnderServed Track

WWAMI  
**TRUST**  
UW MEDICINE

Montana

Entering Class of 2013

*TRUST seeks to provide a continuous connection between rural, small city underserved communities, medical education, and health professionals in our region. Our goal is to create a full-circle pipeline by guiding qualified students through a special curriculum that connects continuity communities in WWAMI to the University of Washington School of Medicine and its network of affiliated residency programs in an effort to help meet the workforce needs of the region.*

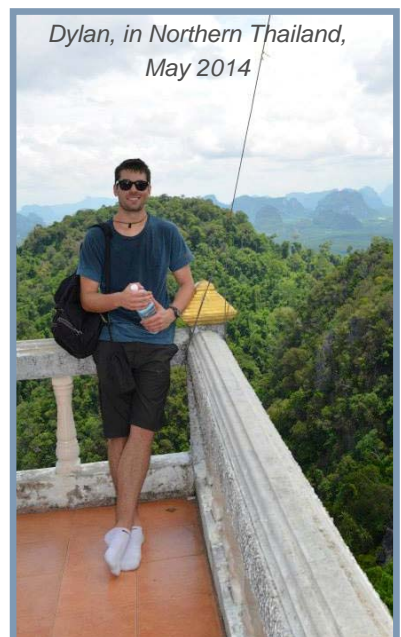
Sawatdee Libby!

That's Thai for "greetings" (I'm pretty sure, never really got the hang of it). Last summer I came down for a week before medical school and I just couldn't stay away, so this time around I'll be spending a month working with the doctors and staff at the Libby Clinic and Cabinet Peaks Medical Center. I'm originally from nearby Trout Creek and I attended high school at Noxon, so I'm very pleased to be returning to the northwest part of the state, which I know as "real Montana".

After high school, I pursued a degree in biology from Carroll College, where I became an active member of the student body legislature and extracurricular groups, including a medical/dental trip to Moldova where I assisted a dentist working in the poverty stricken country. After graduating with a biology degree, I worked in Helena for a year and volunteered at the local ski hill as ski patrol.

I went back to the grind of wild land firefighting in the Clearwater National Forest for the summer of 2012 and on the Idaho Panhandle Hotshots in 2013, where I was working when I found out I'd been accepted into med school.

My first year of medical school is behind me, which was comprised mostly of studying, biking to class, and trying to find time to sleep. After my spring semester, I went on a trip to Thailand to expand my horizons. I rode and bathed elephants, trekked ancient jungles and ruins, snorkeled in crystal clear waters, and became very accustomed to sunburns and sweating for 18 hours straight. In Libby this summer, aside from learning all I can about medicine, I'm going to spend downtime training for an August triathlon, as well as a little mountain biking, reading, and yes, sleeping. Again, I'm very excited to be back in Libby working with Dr. Rice and everyone involved with the Libby healthcare system.



Dylan, in Northern Thailand,  
May 2014



Dylan, center, on the  
North Rim of the  
Grand Canyon with  
the North Fork Fire  
Crew in 2009

Dylan



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