

WTG Achievers

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About the WTG

The twenty private, or independent, colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 58,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need financial help to attend the college of their choice.

The State of Wisconsin created the Wisconsin Tuition Grant (WTG) in 1965 to help qualified Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Fully one-third of the low-income students who apply for the WTG are turned away every year for lack of funds. Each month WTG Achievers brings you success stories of Wisconsinites for whom the WTG has made a significant difference.

WTG Achievers is published monthly by the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU), 122 W. Washington Avenue, Madison, WI 53703-2723; 608-256-7761; mail@waicu.org.

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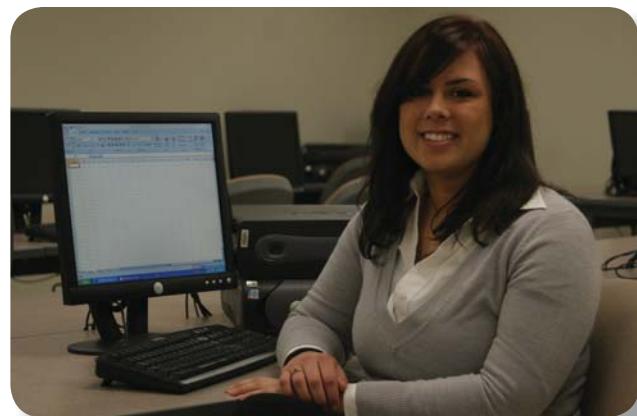
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WTG adds up to success for Viterbo accounting major

Receiving a Wisconsin Tuition Grant was a very important factor in making Viterbo University student Christina Breuer's college education possible.

"It was definitely helpful," said Christina, a junior accounting major from Glen Haven. "I have four younger siblings in my family who all need to go to college, so every bit helps."



Christina Breuer, from Glen Haven, has found a sense of place during her college years.

Christina is making the most of her college experience. When she's not studying, she

is an active member of the Viterbo softball team, a volunteer for community service projects, and an accounting clerk for the La Crosse Historical Society.

Coming from

a small-town high school, Christina wanted to attend

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From the football field to the lab with help from the WTG

No one likes a football injury, but because of such an injury, St. Norbert College gained a student who now is studying on a pre-med track with longer-range plans for a doctorate in biology.

The student is Cale Steven Mark Anderson, a native of Niagara in northern Wisconsin and a graduate of Niagara High School. Cale is one of four boys in the family; his parents are Mark and Janet Anderson.



Cale Steven Mark Anderson, of Niagara, came to college for football but is making a bigger mark in medicine.

Cale was a star athlete and letter-winner at Niagara High School, playing football, basketball, track, soccer, and golf.

He initially planned to play college football while studying for a degree in international business, but then sustained that injury.

The mishap derailed the first part of Cale's plan.

Part two—pursuit of an undergraduate degree—was also "stop and go" for a while.

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Christina Breuer continued from page 1

a modest-sized college that would let her be independent but still close enough to home so she could easily visit her family. Viterbo University in La Crosse was the answer.

Choosing Viterbo was definitely the right decision, Christina said, because of the smaller class sizes and the close-knit community.

"Walking across campus, you recognize almost everyone," she said. "There is always someone you know or had a class with. I'm always stopping to have a conversation. It really does feel like a community."

In addition to an excellent student-to-teacher ratio, Viterbo provides students with a distinctive ethics- and values-based curriculum. Students are also required to complete a significant number of community service hours, ensuring

they learn the importance of giving back to the community. Viterbo, the only private college in southwest Wisconsin, offers students their choice of 51 majors in a variety of fields.

Christina describes her college career so far as "very successful." She is a regular member of the dean's list and has made several close friends.

Upon graduating next year, she would like to remain in Wisconsin and work as an accountant in the La Crosse area. Meanwhile, Christina is making her parents proud and serving as a positive role model for her younger siblings.

And someday when those younger brothers and sisters are seniors in high school, Christina knows what her best advice will be. "Make the most of college," says the oldest daughter in this Wisconsin family, "because it goes by fast."

FACT OF THE MONTH

In 2007-08, Wisconsin's private colleges enrolled more than 21,000 state residents who received need-based aid. That's nearly 50% of degree-seeking undergraduates at the private colleges.

At University of Wisconsin campuses, the rate was 38%.

Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board, Wisconsin State Student Financial Aid Data for 2007-08.

Cale Steven Mark Anderson continued from page 1

Cale's college path began with a few twists and turns. Starting at a technical school, Cale first transferred to a public university before realizing "I had more potential than I thought I had in high school."

A family crisis that affected his father challenged Cale to push his educational goals higher. "My dad lost his job and only had a two-year education to fall back on."

Around that same time, Cale met up with a friend, Zach Behnke, a St. Norbert College graduate who had majored in chemistry. Cale recalls that Zach talked up

"all the great things at St. Norbert," which helped make his decision easier.

The help of a friend, a career-ending football injury, a lack of challenging classes at his previous institution, and his father's experience all combined to lead Cale on a path to St. Norbert.

Cale made the transfer, and after two years he already has a biology major and a chemistry minor. Building on his earlier studies, Cale is increasing his work in chemistry and is planning another minor in business.

Commenting on his Wisconsin Tuition Grant, Cale said, "The value of this scholarship is twofold—I can focus on my studies more" (Ed. note: even though he holds down three jobs now) "and the grant means I can manage my student loans more easily."

In addition to an already impressive class load, Cale is making plans for his post-graduate education, plans the former football star-turned-biologist says are closer to reality, thanks to the Wisconsin Tuition Grant.

Wisconsin's Private Colleges and Universities

Alverno College Milwaukee
Beloit College Beloit
Cardinal Stritch University Milwaukee
Carroll University Waukesha
Carthage College Kenosha
Concordia University Wisconsin Mequon
Edgewood College Madison

Lakeland College Sheboygan
Lawrence University Appleton
Marian University Fond du Lac
Marquette University Milwaukee
Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design Milwaukee
Milwaukee School of Engineering Milwaukee

Mount Mary College Milwaukee
Northland College Ashland
Ripon College Ripon
St. Norbert College De Pere
Silver Lake College Manitowoc
Viterbo University La Crosse
Wisconsin Lutheran College Milwaukee

