

# WTG *Achievers*

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## About WTG

*The 21 private, or independent, colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to Wisconsin, educating over 50,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need help to attend the college of their choice.*

*The State of Wisconsin created the Wisconsin Tuition Grant (WTG) in 1965. Its goal is to help financially needy Wisconsin citizens to succeed. There are only enough funds allocated to WTG to cover about half of the needy students who apply every year. Each month WTG Achievers brings you success stories of two Wisconsinites for whom WTG has made a difference.*

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## Concordia Senior Ready to Teach Others



*Nathan Johnson of Sheboygan, a senior at Concordia University Wisconsin*

Nathan Johnson's dream to become a teacher is within reach, thanks to aid like the Wisconsin Tuition Grant.

A senior at Concordia University Wisconsin in Mequon, Nathan will fulfill his student-teaching experience next fall, and graduate in December 2001.

"Educating others is a great chance for me to give partial payment for the wonderful educational opportunities I have had," he says. "I especially appreciate the chance to attend a fine private university like Concordia."

Nathan grew up in Sheboygan and attended Sheboygan Lutheran High School. He says he and his family shared wonderful blessings, but there

was never an abundance of disposable income in his household, so conserving money was a way of life. "My father and mother have always emphasized serving others before enriching ourselves," he notes. That's why they were not in a position to pay for Nathan's college education.

However, with financial help from several sources, the tradition of service to others will continue. The Office of Financial Aid at Concordia University worked with Nathan and his family to make

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## Northland Sophomore Learns Through Research and Service



*Kim Keding of Arpin, a sophomore at Northland College*

Kim Keding has one word to describe her experience thus far at Northland College: "Intense."

Kim, now finishing up her sophomore year, has been focusing not only on coursework, but also on the activities of the Wolf Research Team and *Drifts*, the student newspaper at Northland.

In addition, the Arpin, Wisconsin native is secretary for the Northland College Student Association (NCSA) and works on orientation programs for new students. She also tutors other students and works as a student advisor for first-year students. In addition, Kim worked last year as a tour guide and campus host for prospective

students. And last summer, after her freshman year, Kim served as a counselor for Upward Bound.

It was Northland College's Wolf Research Team that initially captured Kim's attention. During a visit with the Stevens Point Upward Bound program, she learned about the Wolf Research Team and the opportunity it offers students to work in the field, tracking and researching wolves.

"I've always loved wolves, ever since I was a little girl,

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**NATHAN JOHNSON** *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

college affordable. A \$2,300 Wisconsin Tuition grant was part of a package that enabled Nathan to prepare to become a successful teacher.

“I want to be a teacher at the middle-school or high-school level,” says Nathan. “Teaching will not be a high-paying position, but I want to serve others. The next generations of American children will need guidance just as badly as I have needed it, and my goal and hope is to be a servant and a leader to them.”

“I cannot imagine a better career than teaching,” Nathan explains. “I have the greatest respect for people who build buildings and cure diseases, but a good teacher helps set those people on the path to accomplish those great things. Teachers play a role not only with the rich and famous, but with everyday citizens like me and my family.”

Nathan says the small class sizes and personal attention at Concordia have allowed him to develop wonderful friendships with faculty, staff, and students. He also finds the insistence on excellence to be a real challenge to the “good enough” attitudes he sees elsewhere.

Nathan has taken advantage of many opportunities to be involved and help others. He is active with peer tutoring, the Student Life Judicial Board, and a Youth Ministry program that mentors middle- and high-school students.

Nathan is looking forward to beginning his teaching career and is grateful for all the support he has received. “The Wisconsin Tuition Grant and other financial aid have most certainly helped me to receive a quality education. My goal is to use this preparation to help future generations achieve excellence as well.”

**FACT OF THE MONTH**

**A college education leads to success in the workplace. A recent survey by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education shows that, even more than preparation for a career, graduates valued the communication and critical-thinking skills they acquired in college.**

**KIM KEDING** *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

and was excited about the opportunity to learn more about them,” she said.

Kim was accepted at Northland College, and signed up with psychology professor Jack Stewart to study the animals. She is presently tracking two wolf packs in Northern Wisconsin.

The location of Northland College in the far north of Wisconsin was perfect for Kim. She is the oldest daughter in her family, and her parents wanted her to stay close to home, says Kim, “but I wanted to be a little more independent and experience living away from home.”

Northland’s proximity has allowed her to experience a great environmental liberal arts college and still keep in close touch with her family.

Kim is majoring in secondary education with a broadfield emphasis in social studies. She is a teaching assistant for a general psychology course and has found an unexpected interest in statistics, thanks to mathematics professor Derek Ogle, himself a Northland graduate.

This spring, Kim is taking a Northland travel course on Australian culture, which includes visits to Australia’s national

parks, the Great Barrier Reef, and Ayres Rock. The trip is designed to give Northland students an understanding of the cultural and environmental concerns of the country “down under.”

As the oldest of five children, Kim would have found it impossible to pay for college without the financial aid that Northland was able to marshal for her.

“The Wisconsin Tuition Grant and other aid helped me attend a school I otherwise would not have been able to afford,” says Kim. “I’m really grateful for this opportunity.”

**Wisconsin’s Private Colleges and Universities**

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

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

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

**WISCONSIN'S  
 PRIVATE COLLEGES**

*From here, you can go anywhere.*