

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 56,000 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 financially needy Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Fully one-third of the needy 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 difference.

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Mount Mary OT major grateful for Tuition Grant



Beth Helterbran of Milwaukee, a junior at Mount Mary College

When you ask Mount Mary College occupational therapy major Beth Helterbran what she will be doing in her profession, she will answer, "As opposed to focusing

only on exercising and strengthening damaged or injured muscles (although that is part of what we do), we get people doing tasks, accomplishing meaningful activity that brings purpose to their lives."

That is why Beth chose occupational therapy as a career, and her career choice is one reason she is glad to be at Mount Mary.

Beth wasn't sure what she wanted to do when she chose a college. She picked Mount Mary for the same reasons many students do:

small classes, personal attention, close community, opportunities in athletics and leadership.

But once she was at Mount Mary, she couldn't help but learn about occupational therapy, one of the college's best-known programs. It didn't take her long to select it as her major. And she is happy with her choice.

However, her major is far from Beth's only interest on campus. Wanting to have a positive impact on student life, she became involved with

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Tuition Grant a major factor in keeping servant-leader at Carthage and in Wisconsin



Ryan Schaible of Waukesha, a junior at Carthage College

Practically any college or university would be eager to admit a student like Ryan

Schaible. One reason is his several commitments to religious and volunteer activities at Carthage College, which can make him a difficult man to track down at times.

Colleges in at least two other states sought to attract Ryan. The Wisconsin Tuition Grant is one of the factors in his selection of Carthage over alternatives outside Wisconsin.

"It wasn't the main part of my choice, but every little helps," says Ryan. The Tuition Grant was part of a much larger

financial aid package provided by the college. At Carthage, Ryan is majoring in religion. He is active in student religious groups, and is a member of Carthage's Gospel Messengers singing group.

"The religion department here seemed to be most fitting," Ryan says. "This seemed like the place that would be most beneficial for me."

Ryan has not been disappointed by his choice of the college along Lake

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BETH HELTERBRAN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

student government early on, and her fellow students became aware of her as well, electing her president at the end of her sophomore year. As president, she is interested in everything that goes on at Mount Mary; and if something needs to be done, she will find a way to do it.

When Beth saw that students who prefer to study late in the evening were being asked to leave the campus cyber café at 10:00 p.m., she organized them to request that the hours be extended. When she noticed that her fellow students were not taking the time to nominate deserving faculty members to receive the annual campus “Excellence in Teaching” award, she requested and got a change in the nominating system to make it easier for them.

In addition to her student government activities, Beth is doing occupational therapy field

work. She has worked with the Girl Scouts in Milwaukee on making fitness and well-being part of their futures, and she will soon be helping developmentally disabled seniors at Goodwill Industries.

When asked why the Wisconsin Tuition Grant funding is important to her, Beth responded, “Advances in medicine are helping people to live longer and more productive lives. Highly trained occupational therapists will be needed to help them do that. Grant money allows me to spend more time on my studies and to develop skills through campus activities. Both of these are vitally important to my success. If it weren’t for this financial aid, I would be working full time in addition to going to classes, and my education would suffer. I am grateful for the help of my Wisconsin Tuition Grant.”

FACT OF THE MONTH

“The single biggest predictor of income growth is the number of college-educated people in your town.”

Carol Coletta, president of CEOs for Cities, an urban planning group, as reported in The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel December 13, 2006, in an editorial titled “The power of education,” p. 20A.

RYAN SCHAIBLE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Michigan in Kenosha.

“My education here has opened a lot of opportunities, like having dinner with the cardinal from Honduras,” he says.

The cardinal is Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga, who spoke at Carthage in fall 2006. Ryan met the cardinal briefly two years ago when he joined a group that assisted at a Honduran orphanage.

When Rodriguez Maradiaga visited Carthage, Ryan participated in an academic procession in his honor. He

was one of a handful of Carthage students invited to a dinner with the cardinal, where he had the chance to discuss interfaith relations with one of the world’s most prominent religious leaders.

Another opportunity for Ryan at Carthage was the chance to join a group of 17 students who spent spring break 2006 on Mississippi’s Gulf Coast, helping to clean up the damage from Hurricane Katrina.

Students slept on cots and helped pay for the buses they rode south. For Ryan, the trip was direct action, an alternative to

backbiting and recriminations about the aftermath of the storm.

“Too often, the talk is about politics, who did or didn’t do something,” he says. “Instead of sitting around complaining, it was getting down there and helping clean someone’s house.”

If Carthage is glad Ryan enrolled, the feeling is mutual. “I’ve been extremely satisfied with my time here, both in and out of the classroom,” he says. “I feel I made the right decision.”

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

