

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 55,000 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 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.

WTG Achievers is published monthly by the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU), 122 W. Washington Avenue, Madison, WI 53703-2718; 608-256-7761; mail@waicuweb.org. For more information, or for back issues of **WTG Achievers**, visit our Web site: www.waicuweb.org

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WTG assists a second sibling at Carthage



Lindsay Workman of Kenosha, a senior at Carthage College

Like many college students, Carthage senior Lindsay Workman benefits from the Wisconsin Tuition Grant.

"It lowers my tuition so I can pursue my dream of a career

in education," she says. "I honestly don't know what my alternatives would have been had I not received it. I would be lost."

Kate, Lindsay's sister, also attends Carthage and receives the Wisconsin Tuition Grant. [Kate was profiled in *WTG Achievers*, Volume 3, No. 6.] The more children in a family who attend college at the same time, the more stress it places on the family resources, and the more important financial aid becomes. Lindsay says having her older sister, Kate, on campus is very helpful. "I know I can count on her if I have a problem."

Lindsay has received other grants, including the Tri-County Grant, Carthage Alumni Grant, and the Sibling Grant. To help pay for the balance of her tuition, she works as a telephone operator for the college during the academic school year and in the bakery department of a local grocery store during the summer.

Lindsay finds the experience of Carthage life enlightening and broadening.

"I have become more responsible and mature since

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Viterbo University's extensive clinical experiences prepare WTG recipient for nursing



John Sheski of West Bend, a recent graduate of Viterbo University

When John Sheski changed his major from chemistry to nursing, he was looking for a nursing department with a great reputation. He found that and a lot more at Viterbo.

Sheski was able to attend Viterbo because of the financial aid package he received, which included a Wisconsin Tuition Grant. "Money was a concern because I work all summer to pay my tuition. A Viterbo Scholarship and the WTG definitely assisted me in making the decision to go there."

"The nursing program at Viterbo has a terrific reputation throughout the Midwest," he says. "There are a lot of hands-on and clinical experiences. There are two hospitals in La Crosse and a pediatrics ward at the hospital

in Marshfield that we visit, and I think it is important to see how different hospitals function. The professors really care about what you learn rather than just if you pass or fail their class. They make sure you'll succeed and be a good nurse."

Sheski decided to enter the three-year nursing program at Viterbo after majoring in chemistry at a state school. He says the change "just kind of fit me." "Just kind of fit" him it did — this past summer Sheski earned an internship at the prestigious Mayo

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LINDSAY WORKMAN *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

I started living on campus,” she says. “Even though I have lived in Kenosha my entire life, I never realized how beautiful Lake Michigan is until I came to Carthage.”

Lindsay excelled at Mary D. Bradford High School, where she was on the honor roll. She was a finalist for Carthage’s Lincoln Scholarship and a runner-up for the Kenosha Police and Fire Association Scholarship, both offering full tuition to Carthage. Although she did not win the awards, the experience solidified her desire to attend the school.

“I chose Carthage because of the small class sizes and the one-on-one contact students have with the faculty. When I observed that, I knew Carthage was the place to be.”

The Carthage senior was born and raised in Kenosha. Her father is a detective/sergeant

in the Kenosha County Controlled Substance Unit, and her mother is a health and information specialist at Frank Elementary in Kenosha.

Associate professor of education James Igleheart is one of her favorite professors. “He has the type of personality and teaching style that keeps students interested. I feel like I can talk to him about anything — academics and beyond.”

Lindsay is pursuing an elementary education major and a minor in communications. After graduation, Lindsay would like to teach second grade. She plans to attend graduate school and pursue a master’s degree.

“Ever since I was seven years old, I have wanted to be a teacher,” she says. “I love children.”

FACT OF THE MONTH

Wisconsin’s private colleges and universities produce 75.9 percent of their graduates in four years, compared with 39.8 percent for graduates of public 4-year campuses in the state. Completion of their bachelor’s degree on time helps graduates of independent colleges reduce their costs and gets them into the workforce sooner.

JOHN SHESKI *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

Clinic. He said he landed the position thanks in no small part to a letter of recommendation written by a professor.

“It really helped that the professor knew me so well, and I think that came across in the letter,” he says. “That internship will look great on future resumes for jobs and graduate schools. It’s like ‘Oh wow, you worked at Mayo.’” Sheski’s eventual goal is to become a certified nurse anesthetist.

The nursing program averages one teacher to every six students. “The close relationship between faculty and students, with faculty practicing with students in

their areas of expertise and the amount of clinical time are what separate us from a lot of schools, says Wendy Wegner, a nursing professor at Viterbo. “All students receive the same experience and all specialty areas are required clinical rotations, including child care centers, community health agencies, long-term care facilities, medical/surgical units, pediatrics, psychiatric/mental health, and critical care units.”

The placement rate for Viterbo nursing graduates averages 100 percent, and students score above average on their state board exams. Wegner credits Viterbo’s liberal arts education for

producing graduates who have “the technical knowledge and scientific thinking skills but also can make ethical decisions and provide holistic nursing care to patients, families, and communities.”

Sheski says he found a close-knit campus community at Viterbo. “What I like is the professors say ‘hi’ when you walk past,” he says. “You can also wake up 10 minutes before class and make it on time. The Viterbo community is very friendly, and you know everyone.”

Sheski graduated in May, and, true to expectation, he had a job waiting.

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*



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