

# WTG *Achievers*

Vol. 5, No. 10

May 2005

## 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 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 website: www.waicuweb.org

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## Marian student blooms with WTG support



*Heidi Bremer of Arcadia, a senior at Marian College of Fond du Lac*

If there was a Marian College "Ms. Marian" award, Heidi Bremer probably would win it.

Heidi, who majors in management with a political science minor, is an almost

ubiquitous presence on the Marian campus. She has been a member of Student Senate all four years, the last two as president. She is vice president of the Business Club and president of the student chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management.

She was a First Year Student Leader for two years and a member of the Marian College Campus Activities Board for two years. She served on a North Central Association of Colleges and Schools reaccreditation self-study subcommittee. And she has worked four years on campus

in food service, the Center for Academic Support and Excellence, and the Sabre Central information desk.

This is not the same person who came to Marian in the fall of 2001 as a self-described "really shy" person. But Heidi says, "It seemed that the more people I met, the more networks I could set up and the more friendships I was able to have."

Her biggest Student Senate accomplishment, as she sees it, is working on what she said she was going to do when

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## WTG makes possible a nursing education for Viterbo woman who plans to stay in the state



*Katy Tyler of Port Edwards, a junior at Viterbo University*

Katy Tyler left her hometown of Port Edwards to attend Viterbo University and fulfill her life-long vision of

becoming a nurse.

Katy has been drawn to nursing ever since her youth, but her goal to help others almost didn't happen. As is often the case with aspiring students, finances became a factor. "My dad is retired now and the money that I received from the Wisconsin Tuition Grant (WTG), made up for the lost income and has relieved some of the burden of huge student loans."

Katy chose to enroll in the nursing program at Viterbo. "The university has a great

nursing program and the faculty is wonderful. I would have hated to miss out on all of the benefits of this experience simply because I couldn't afford it," she said, expressing her appreciation for the assistance the WTG provides.

Although it's hard for Katy to pinpoint the exact reason why she chose nursing as a career, it seems that destiny had a role to play from the very beginning.

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**HEIDI BREMER** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

campaigning for president — specifically, to work toward better coordination of on-site housing and meal plans, so that smaller meal option plans were available for students who live in campus housing with cooking facilities.

“A lot of empty promises were made by previous Senate executives. So my goal was to follow through on my promises,” Heidi says. The meal plan work required coordination with the college’s business office and the college’s food service provider.

She also worked hard to make the Student Senate more visible on campus. “Every time I check my e-mail, there’s another faculty member asking for a student to serve on a committee. We’ve gotten more students involved, and more students’ voices are being heard.”

Heidi credits her management professor,

Dr. Jeffrey Reed and other business administration faculty for helping her make contacts to get a job as a human resources/safety generalist at Michels Corp. in Brownsville before her graduation. “I’ve definitely changed as a person” since coming to Marian, she says. “The faculty I’ve been in close contact with, the staff people — they’ve helped me with career decisions and in stressful situations.”

Heidi’s receiving the Wisconsin Tuition Grant all four years helped make her Marian education possible. “Without it, I probably wouldn’t have been able to get through Marian,” she says. “It’s definitely helped with my financial situation.”

The WTG is so important to Heidi that she participated in WAICU Students Day, a day-long program involving WAICU students at the State Capitol in Madison on April 7.

**FACT OF THE MONTH**

*“The percentage of Wisconsin’s adult population with a college degree has declined when compared to other states, from 32nd place in 2001 to 35th place in 2003.”*

<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/Ranking/>

**KATY TYLER** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Since birth, Katy has frequented hospitals and clinics for various reasons. “I decided to become a nurse due to my long history of being accident prone,” she jokes. “I ended up in the emergency room so many times from broken bones that it really made me appreciate nurses and everything they do for individual patients as well as the community.” Katy’s experience with skilled healthcare staff allowed her to see the value of their positions, but this wasn’t the only reason she was drawn to a nursing career. A more serious circumstance brought

her family in contact with the medical profession. “I was born with a heart defect, and my parents told me what they had to go through; so as a nurse, I wanted to be able to help others who are experiencing the same types of struggles.”

It is this concern for others in her community that has prompted Katy to stay in Wisconsin where she aspires to one day become an emergency room nurse at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Marshfield. “I had an internship at the hospital this past summer and can really

see working with such a dedicated team.”

Until that day arrives, Katy remains busy on campus, both in and out of the classroom. She is a member of the Viterbo University Student Activities Board and serves as an ambassador for the admission office. Katy works hard to realize her goal of becoming a nurse. “I always felt like being a nurse was my calling, because it will allow me to make a difference in someone’s life and really feel like the things I do are contributing to making them well.”

**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*

