

# WTG *Achievers*

Vol. 1, No.4

November 2000

## 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.*

WTG Achievers is published monthly by the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU)  
16 N. Carroll St., Suite 200  
Madison, WI 53703  
608-256-7761  
Fax 608-256-7065  
mail@waicuweb.org

Dr. Rolf Wegenke  
President  
Dr. Mari McCarty  
VP for Research and Information, Editor  
Mr. David Dies  
VP for Public Policy  
Ms. Carol Hart  
Executive Assistant

## Ripon Senior Prepares for Life of Service



*Johanna McMurry of Beaver Dam, a senior at Ripon College*

"College is important to me because it will enable me to more effectively serve others," said Johanna McMurry, a

Ripon College senior from Beaver Dam. "That is my goal and purpose in life."

During the course of her college career, Johanna has been an exemplary student. She has maintained a 3.9 GPA, two on-campus jobs, and involvement in many student organizations. Her humility is solid and her gratitude is great.

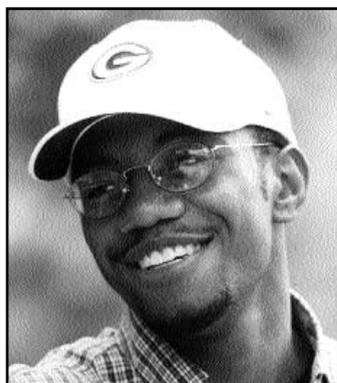
"I've received a great deal of scholarship aid," she said, "and that represents a lot of trust that I will take my education seriously and do the best I can. I can't imagine doing any less — it would make me feel like I was cheating someone."

Johanna, who will graduate from Ripon debt free in May, 2001, is the recipient of the Densmore R. Dickinson and Rath Scholarships and a Wisconsin Tuition Grant. She comes from a family of seven, where honesty, perseverance, love, and faith serve as cornerstones in her life. A sociology-anthropology and religion major and Spanish minor, Johanna maintains that she would not have been able to attend Ripon College without the scholarship aid she has received.

"I love Ripon more with each passing day," she said. "The faculty and staff go out of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Fascination With Computers Leads to Success at Marquette



*William Baker of Milwaukee, a sophomore at Marquette University*

William Baker is one of those young people who took apart radios just to see how they

worked. He also loved computers, even though his family didn't own one when he was growing up.

Much of William's knowledge was acquired during his time in the computer club at Hartford Avenue Elementary School in Milwaukee, where he learned how to design spread sheets and how to make PowerPoint presentations.

"Somehow, I had an innate curiosity about computers," William explained. "And I loved video games so much that I always wanted to make my own."

William's propensity to tinker with electronic equipment has led to an academic career at Marquette University in Milwaukee with a double major in computer and electrical engineering.

Although William is only in his second year at Marquette, he is no stranger to the campus. For three of his high school summers, William participated in "Science and Mathematics at Marquette" — a program that links promising middle and high school students with hands-on science and math programs in a university setting.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**JOHANNA McMURRY** *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

their way to help you, and they are sincerely interested in your happiness and success. That concern and interest has always impressed me and left me feeling almost unworthy of all the extreme respect I've always been shown."

But Johanna has worked hard for the respect she has earned, and her mission to help others seems to permeate all she does at Ripon. She has worked as a resident assistant for the past three semesters, "to help and learn about others," and as a writer in the Office of College Relations for nearly three years.

As secretary for Campus Christian Fellowship, an interdenominational student group, she has planned several events and led weekly devotions. She is a member of Amnesty International, which raises awareness of injustices around the world, and Societas Trezvost, a substance-free living group. A tutor on campus and in the community, Johanna worked with youth this summer as a camp counselor in Green Lake, Wisconsin.

Johanna is special, according to those who know her. She's the type who bypasses a typical spring break to join in on a conference focused on race relations. As a first-year student she participated in the Ripon College/Fisk University Exchange, a gathering designed to bring black and white students together for the betterment of race relations. Justice and equality are important to Johanna.

Johanna is spending the fall semester in Chicago with the Associated Colleges of the Midwest's Urban Education program. There, she is learning more about how a wide variety of people interrelate. "Ripon has helped me to place more confidence in myself and strive to do what I can with what I have," she said.

And her plans after commencement next spring? "I want to work with people in a non-profit situation," said Johanna. "I love children, sharing my faith, and caring about people. I'm grateful for the help and financial support that made my education possible."

**FACT OF THE MONTH**

**In 2000-2001, the state allocation for financial aid through the Wisconsin Tuition Grant for needy Wisconsin students attending private colleges and universities is \$21,038,600. This appropriation represents less than one-tenth of one percent of the state budget.**

**WILLIAM BAKER** *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

William is especially interested in structured programming, in which he and his classmates design programs using Java, which he considers easier than its predecessor, C++. While he likes designing computer programs, he wants to work on a computer's insides as well.

William's post-graduation plan is to work in software design. He is also considering attending graduate school. Frank Pope, William's uncle and a computer engineer for Johnson Controls Inc., has served as William's mentor, helping him select courses and balance his academic and personal life.

Time management can be difficult, William acknowledges. "It seems like there aren't enough hours in the day to do what I want to do," he said.

Marquette appeals to William in many ways. He appreciates its excellent engineering program and proximity to his family and friends. Most important, however, were the Wisconsin Tuition Grant and other financial aid William received that helped him afford to attend Marquette. He said he is also impressed with Marquette's small class sizes and the personalized attention that comes with them.

William has also received a grant through Marquette's Educational Opportunity Program, which helps low-income and first-generation college students afford higher education. In addition, he earned two Masonic scholarships for the 1999-2000 academic year.

"My father says, 'you'd better do well because you're not just doing this for yourself. You're doing it for your brother, your sisters, your aunt, your uncle, me and your mom,'" William said.

With the help of the Wisconsin Tuition Grant, William is doing well for all of us.

**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*



*From here, you can go anywhere.*