SMOOTH LANDING
Upward mobility is part of plan
Engineer's career takes off in field of airport design

By Stefanie Murray
Lansing State Journal

About 10 p.m. on the night before Valentine's Day, 1996, Michael Borta was hustling through Meijer like a madman.

Charging down the baby aisle, he grabbed anything within reach - diapers, bottles and blankets - because a few hours earlier, he'd unexpectedly become a father.

"In a short time, my wife and I went from being nonparents to having a week-old baby," said Borta, who's been a Lansing-based airport engineer for more than 30 years. "We had absolutely nothing."

It all started that morning with a phone call from the adoption agency the couple had worked with for several years. The agency needed to place a baby boy: Did the Bortas want him?

They did. They named him Joshua Michael. Borta picked him up that very day. And life hasn't been the same since.

Bringing Joshua home was an adventure for Borta, 55, who is a meticulous and detail-oriented person, traits that spill over from his passion for engineering.

He's spent several decades perfecting the craft in Lansing, both as an engineer with the state's bureau of aeronautics and as an entrepreneur. Today, he runs the Lansing branch of R.W. Armstrong & Associates Inc., an engineering company that locally specializes in airports. Borta's the guy who decides how to build and expand airports.

"I've always really enjoyed math and science," said Borta, a 1970 graduate of Michigan Technological University who's now one of the foremost airport engineering experts in the state.

But his beginnings in the field were humble. After graduation, Borta married his wife, Vickie, in August 1970 and went to work shovelling coal in Calumet. "It was character building," Borta laughed of the physical, sooty job.

He later worked for a Grand Haven factory before landing with the Michigan Bureau of Aeronautics as an electrical engineer.

That job forced Borta and his wife to move to Lansing, where they rented a furnished apartment across from Capital City Airport for $150 a month. Borta, who was making $5.07 an hour, had to take out a $110 loan to buy the couple's first black and white television.

And that's where they stayed until January 1981, when Borta and aeronautics co-worker John Whitworth formed Whitworth-Borta Inc., an airport engineering and consulting firm.

"We had two offices - a spare room in my house and one in his," Borta said. "It never entered my mind that it could fail."

It didn't, although the firm struggled in the beginning. Starting with just under $1,000 in capital investment, Borta and Whitworth led the company to an $18,000 gross profit that year - good for a startup business, bad for two guys trying to make a living.

Borta's wife worked as the firm's only employee in the beginning. Her pay? "Lunch at McDonald's," Borta said.

As bigger projects came in, they hired longtime friend Gordon Bogner as the firm's main civil engineer, as well as other employees.

"I think it was one of those operations where you are going on a shoestring and a prayer," Bogner said. "It was a couple years from the time I joined that we really took off."

When the company grew, Borta got his pilot's license so he could fly to clients around
the state. He sold his half of the company to Whitworth in 1995. That move coincided with Joshua’s arrival.

Borta and his wife had been waiting for an international adoption, but nothing panned out. After one particular disappointment, Vickie wrote a poem “that would tear your heart out,” Borta said, about the pain of the process.

Unbeknownst to her, Borta typed the poem and mailed it to the agency. Days later, Joshua arrived. He instantly became the center of the Bortas’ world.

“We know the time he’s a little kid is going to be over in a flash,” Borta said.

“It’s very difficult for Josh to make a demand that will get me upset. I’m generally a softie.”

That’s a sentiment Bogner, who works with Borta at R.W. Armstrong, echoes. “It’s tough for him to have to reprimand the employees, because in a small firm you’re much closer to the people above and below you,” Bogner said. “We’re all so close.”

Contact Stefanie Murray at 377-1016 or stamurray@lsj.com.

GRAPHIC: NEXT WEEK; KARL GLARNER; owner, Red Salamander; ROD SANFORD, Lansing State Journal; Devoted dad: Engineer Mike Borta’s biggest challenge was becoming a father with less than a day’s notice. Box: The Michael Borta file; * Age: 55 * Residence: DeWitt; * Family: wife of 34 years, Vickie; son, Joshua, 8. * Education: Electrical engineering degree from Michigan Technological University; professional engineer certification in Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. * Interesting fact: Borta says the one thing people may not realize about him is his religious faith. He’s very involved with his church, St. Stephen Lutheran in Lansing. “I think there’s a more powerful thing in life besides coincidence and happenstance,” Borta said.
BACKCOUNTRY CLASSICAL: Festival brings music, people to the UP

BY MARK STRYKER
FREE PRESS
MUSIC WRITER
CALUMET, Mich.

There are few spots in Michigan more remote than the Keweenaw Peninsula, the northernmost mainland point of the state, jutting out into Lake Superior like a 75-mile-long thumb. Bald eagles, bears, moose and rainbow trout share the pristine backcountry with just 38,000 people. Conventional wisdom suggests that the chance of spying a bear would be far greater than spotting a baritone.

But on a recent Thursday, Donizetti's comedy "Don Pasquale" captivated an audience at the 700-seat Calumet Theatre, a cozy 104-year-old vaudeville house one-fourth the size of the Detroit Opera House. The production demanded no excuses: Here were promising young singers from across the country with fresh voices and contagious energy, a small but stylish orchestra of pros, good-quality conducting and direction, and modest but effective stagecraft.

The theater -- sporting restored plaster work and art nouveau murals on its proscenium and built in an era in which the nearby mines pumped out about half the nation's copper -- added an alluring charm to the evening.

The Upper Peninsula may not be the first place that comes to mind as a center for classical music, but it shouldn't be the last place, either. The Pine Mountain Music Festival, now in its 14th season, brings opera, symphony concerts and chamber music to a broad swath of the UP for five weeks every summer. From Maine to Oregon, classical festivals are as much a part of the summer landscape as baseball, but Pine Mountain is unique: a miracle of ambition, idiosyncrasy and geography.

The festival is one of the few in the United States that produces fully staged opera along with orchestra concerts and chamber music. It is also one of the few not tied to a wealthy resort playground or within a half-day drive of a major metropolitan area. Forty-one events this summer are spread between four regions divided by as many as 125 miles: Houghton-Calumet, Iron Mountain, Marquette and just over the Wisconsin border in Land O'Lakes.

The 2004 festival continues through July 18, closing with two performances of Puccini's "La Boheme" at the Rozsa (Ro-ZAY) Center for the Performing Arts, a $20-million theater opened in 2000 on the campus of Michigan Technological University in Houghton. The cast includes tenor Michael Rees Davis and sopranos Jane Jennings and Alicia Berneche, whose credits include the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, Chicago Lyric and Opera Pacific.

"This used to be a cultural wasteland," says Audrey Frair, a former violinist in the Keweenaw Symphony. "The Pine Mountain Music Festival has opened up the door to music as fine as you could hear anywhere. At the chamber music concert the other night, people were literally in tears." Economic boost

In a way, the festival recalls the heyday of the UP, when trains from Chicago brought stars to perform for mining barons in new palaces like the Calumet Theatre. John Philip Sousa's band played the theater in 1902, and Douglas Fairbanks, Sarah Bernhardt and Lillian Russell all appeared in plays between 1901 and 1911. When the mines began closing mid-century and the UP entered its steep decline, the flow of culture slowed to a trickle.

The isolation and depressed economic climate of the UP pose significant hurdles to fund-raising and audience development, but the festival has grown from its shoestring beginnings into the second-largest arts organization in the UP, with a $630,000 budget. (The Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum in Whitefish Point has a $1.5-million budget.)
The music feeds the aesthetic soul of UP residents, but the festival also has become an important economic engine, pumping an estimated $785,000 into the state annually, according to the festival's own impact study. Anecdotal evidence says it's also becoming a magnet for tourism and a key factor in retirement planning.

"If it weren't for the Pine Mountain Music Festival, I'm not sure we would have stayed here," says Betty Haro, who summers in Houghton and winters in Scottsdale, Ariz., with her husband John, a Keweenaw Peninsula native and retired architect from Albert Kahn Associates in Detroit.

The allure of the Great Lakes and family roots brought the Haros back to the UP, but it's culture that keeps them happy here -- not just the Pine Mountain festival but the Rozsa Center, the Sibelius Academy Music Festival at Finlandia University in Hancock and the Keweenaw National Historical Park, a federation of historic sites exploring the region's copper mining heritage.

After several years of eyeing Pine Mountain brochures, George and Doris Kimball of Oconomowoc, Wis. -- halfway between Madison and Milwaukee -- decided to spend a week in the UP earlier this summer. The two, who attend opera in Chicago and Milwaukee, spent their days hiking in the wilderness and nights at festival events. Doris Kimball said that they wanted to combine nature with music but that the festival was the top draw.

"It was just delightful," she says. "We'd like to come back." Ambitious plans

Since 1995, the festival's executive director has been Kathy Tompkins, a spark plug in bangs and pants, whose leadership has been key to its growth. The wife of Michigan Tech President Emeritus Curt Tompkins, she was previously development director for the medical school at West Virginia University. Two of the Tompkins' children are musicians: One son is a percussionist in New York, and a daughter is a trained flutist.

The day after "Don Pasquale" in Calumet, Tompkins drove 125 miles south to Iron Mountain for a concert by the Bergonzi String Quartet. The group, based at the University of Miami (Florida), celebrates its 10th anniversary as the festival's resident quartet this summer; the players also are the principal strings in the festival symphony.

As the car motored past spectacular Lake Superior vistas, rugged forests and fields of wildflowers, Tompkins recounted the festival's history.

Laura Jean Deming, a cellist in the Lyric Opera of Chicago orchestra, founded the festival in 1991 in Iron Mountain. She had arrived in the UP a few years before with her husband, a Methodist minister assigned to a local congregation. The first festival, which took its name from a town landmark, lasted a week.

In 1992, the festival produced its first opera, "Gianni Schicchi," and began to expand into nearby communities, with the center of gravity eventually shifting north to Houghton. In 1995, Tompkins came aboard and the Bergonzi Quartet began its popular tenure. The festival began receiving state arts dollars, and as the budget rose, so did ambition, professionalism and production values.

One landmark was a world premiere commission by composer Paul Seitz, a longtime friend of the festival whose 2001 "The Children of the Keweenaw" was based on events surrounding a tragic fire that killed 74 people at a Christmas party for striking mine workers and their families in Calumet in 1913. Another innovation was the Honors Orchestra Program for gifted high school students, who sit side-by-side with the professionals in the symphony.

Deming retired as artistic director in 2001 and was succeeded by Christopher Mattaliano, a stage director with ties to Juilliard. Mattaliano's industry contacts led to higher quality singers, conductors and stagecraft, though he left in two years to become general director of the Portland Opera.

Joshua Major, head of the University of Michigan's opera workshop program, took the artistic reins last fall. Next season, he's planning to introduce thematic programming -- a fairy tale motif or a gypsy metaphor, for example -- to create continuity among the opera, symphony and chamber concerts.

Paying for all of this is a challenge, especially in the UP, where corporate mergers have taken a brutal toll. Tompkins says that in the late '90s, the festival was receiving $100,000 from 10 companies that included several banks, a
communications company and contractors. Today, with home offices now outside the UP, those same corporations give $7,000.

"If we were in metro Detroit, we'd get that money back because our case is so good," says Tompkins. "But it's very difficult here because there's not another company down the street."

Attendance is strong, about 7,000 annually. But because income levels in the UP are depressed, the festival keeps its top ticket prices low – only $42 for opera. As a result, ticket income makes up less than 25 percent of the festival's budget. Cuts in state aid have hurt, too. The festival received $15,000 from the arts council this year, down from $21,600 in 2003.

There is wealth in the UP, but Tompkins says that identifying it can be tricky because UP residents of means don't typically flaunt their money through designer clothes, jewelry, cars – social pretensions that determine status in tony communities.

On the plus side, the festival recently received a $300,000 matching grant from the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation of Midland. A leftover deficit from 2001 has been whittled to $13,000.

Eventually, Tompkins wants to add a third opera to the Pine Mountain season and perform operas in repertory so the festival can sell a weekend package to tourists with two operas and a symphony or chamber concert. She sees the potential for the Pine Mountain festival to do for the UP what the Stratford Festival did for a rural small town in Ontario.

"That's the classic example of how a community can thrive based on developing the performing arts," she says. "We have to replace businesses with something, and we have to have something for the hunters and fishermen to do at night." It's a very unusual place'

The Bergonzi Quartet's concert is at the Immaculate Conception Church, yet another 100-year old structure built by Italian immigrants out of UP sandstone and fashioned with a bell tower that recalls Renaissance parishes in the old country.

For its anniversary, the quartet put together a program of hits based on an audience survey – Dvorak's "American Quartet"; a jury-rigged work of various movements by Beethoven, Tchaikovsky and Ravel; and the group's own nutty arrangement of Saint-Saens' "Carnival of the Animals," which finds members growling like lions and imitating an elephant with a kazoo and a cuckoo with a recorder. The audience of about 200 roars its approval.

Later, first violinist Glenn Basham, who played in the DSO briefly in the 1980s, explains that the group adores the festival for its unique mix of the UP, committed audiences and variety of work, from chamber music to symphony, opera and teaching. The players bring spouses and kids along, too.

"It's a very unusual place," he says. "Sometimes we feel like we don't want to tell other musicians about it. It's like a secret fishing hole. You don't go babbling about it."

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FOUR MORE STORM PLAYERS HEADING TO AMERICAN COLLEGES

HERALD-TRIBUNE STAFF

Four more Grande Prairie Storm players, three of whom were eligible to return to junior hockey this fall, have received scholarships to play U.S. college hockey next season.

The team announced Thursday that 20-year-old twin brothers Danny and David Clements, 19-year-old forward Malcolm Gwilliam and Ryan Chrenek, 21, have all committed to National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) schools for the 2004-05 year.

The Clements twins, who are from Grande Prairie, have signed letters of intent with Augsburg College, a Division III school in Minneapolis, Minn.

Augsburg plays in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and had an 8-13-4 overall record last season and 5-8-3 mark in their conference.

Both players finished their third season with the Storm and were eligible to return for their final junior year in 2004-05.

Danny had six goals and 11 assists for 17 points and 107 minutes in penalties in 57 regular season games last season while David was 5-8-13 with 132 minutes in penalties last season.

Augsburg College already boasts one Clements in its alumni.

David and Danny's older brother, Corey, played with Augsburg after accepting a scholarship in 1995, when he completed his final year with the Grande Prairie Chiefs of the Rocky Mountain Junior Hockey League.

Chrenek, a defenceman also from the Swan City, has signed on with Division III Colby College in Waterville, Maine. Colby plays in the New England Small Colleges Athletic Conference.

Chrenek, who has also flipped between forward and defence in his junior career, had seven goals and 17 assists for 24 points with 40 minutes in penalties last season.

Gwilliam, a forward who played 17 games with the Storm after being acquired from the Canmore Eagles at AJHL trade deadline in January, has accepted a scholarship with the Division I Michigan Tech, joining Storm captain and Grande Prairie native Mark Malekoff, who was signed on by the team during last season.

Gwilliam finished the regular season as the Storm's second-leading scorer with 26 goals, 38 assists and 64 points in 57 games. He had three goals and six points in 17 games with the Storm in the regular season and had three goals and nine points in 13 playoff games. He was also eligible to return to the Storm next year.

In all, seven players from the 2003-04 AJHL champion Storm have received NCAA scholarships for next season.

Scott McCulloch, who will attend Colorado College after being drafted by the Chicago Blackhawks in the NHL draft last weekend, and Kyle Radke, who is headed for the University of North Dakota this fall, are the other Storm scholarship players for this season. Both are NCAA Division I schools.

GRAPHIC: photo; Storm forward David Clements and his twin brother Danny will be attending Augsburg College this fall on a hockey scholarship. It's the same school their older brother Corey attended in the mid-1990s.
Kohler graduates receive scholarships at ceremonies

Sheboygan Press staff

The following Kohler High School graduates were recently awarded scholarships. Students pictured are those who acquired $2,500 or more in scholarships.

Jon Apitz, American Legion Award-Bronze; Art Show Award-Honorable Mention; Elks Club Sports Award, $1,000; Honor Roll Award; Kohler Alumni Memorial Scholarship, $1,000; Michigan Technological University Athletic Grant Award, $24,000; Michigan Technological University Academic Excellence Award, $43,560.

Daniel Aronson, Honor Roll Award.

Joseph Balge, Art Show Award-Honorable Mention; Honor Roll Award; Kohler Foundation Incentive Scholarship, $5,000; Milwaukee School of Engineering Academic Scholarship, $36,000.

Elizabeth Barrie, Community Bank and Trust, $500; Honor Roll Award.

Andrew Bauer, American Legion Award-Silver.

Benjamin Buchanan, Excellence Award-Family and Consumer Education, $100.

Michael Burger, Milwaukee School of Engineering Academic Scholarship, $28,000; Arion Award-Band; Excellence Award-Technology Education, $100; Honor Roll Award.

Taylor Clark, American Legion Award-Bronze; Honor Roll Award; Kirkpatrick Scholarship, $650; Lucille Thomas Art Award, $25.

Elizabeth Cope, Honor Roll Award; Kirkpatrick Scholarship, $650; St. Luke United Methodist Church Scholarship, $500.

Kailyn Cripe, Art Show Award-Honorable Mention; Honor Roll Award; Walter and June Vollrath Scholarship, $5,000.

Jenna Dickert, Kohler Kiwanis Vocational/Technical School Scholarship, $500.

Whitney Endsley, WIAA Academic Excellence Nominee; American Legion Award-Gold; Elks Club Sports Award, $1,000; Honor Roll Award; Kohl Foundation Excellence Finalist; Kohler Foundation Four Year Leadership Scholarship, $24,000; Kohler Kiwanis Service Award; Kohler Police Athletic League, $1,000; Sheboygan Police Benevolent Association, $2,000; Student Council Award; University of Notre Dame Endowed Scholarship, $60,000; USMC Semper Fidelis Music Award; Village Players Scholarship; Wendy's H.S. Heisman Award; WIAA Scholar Athlete.

Danielle Hansmann, Gene Reilly "Good Guy" Award, $500.

James Kultgen, Excellence Award-Physical Education, $100.

James Kunst, Art Show Award-Honorable Mention.

Bernadette Langel, Excellence Award-Chorus, $100; Honor Roll Award; Mickey Brotz Memorial Scholarship, $1,500; St. Mary College Le Mans Award, $21,200.

Rados Lazarovic, School Board Recognition Award.

Rebecca Lindstrom, Excellence Award-Science, $100; Honor Roll Award; Kohler Foundation Four Year Merit Scholarship, $16,000; Marquette University Ignatius Academic Distinction Scholarship, $32,000; Marquette University Magis Enhancement, $4,000; Principal's Leadership Award; Student Council Award.

Nathan Litt, American Legion Award-Gold; Excellence Award-Foreign Language, $100; Honor Roll Award; Junior Achievement Nasgoytz Foundation Scholarship,
$2,500; Kohler Foundation Four Year Merit Scholarship, $16,000; Kohler Kiwanis Waldemar Capelle Memorial Scholarship, $750; Kohler Police Athletic League, $1,000; Lawrence University Trustee Scholarship, $40,000; Wendy's H.S. Heisman Award; WIAA Scholar Athlete; WPS Resources Foundation Scholarship, $500.

Elizabeth Mueller, Community Bank and Trust, $500; Honor Roll Award.

Peter Murdock, Excellence Award-Art, $100.

Amy Neumeyer, Excellence Award-Business Education, $100; Honor Roll Award.

Jessica Nolan, Honor Roll Award.

Ashley Poenitzsch, Honor Roll Award.

Christopher Post, Honor Roll Award; NROTC Scholarship, $150,000.

Kya Schnettler, American Legion Award-Silver; Honor Roll Award; Kirkpatrick Scholarship, $650.

Robert Schroeder, Honor Roll Award; Kohler Foundation Four Year Merit Scholarship, $16,000; Kohler Kiwanis Four Year College Scholarship, $750; USMC Scholastic Excellence Award; WI All-State Scholar.

Tanya Simon, Excellence Award-Band, $100; Honor Roll Award; John Phillip Sousa Band Award; Kohler Education Association, $500; Kohler Foundation Incentive Scholarship, $5,000; Kohler School Friends Scholarship, $500; St. Norbert College Presidential Scholarship, $26,000; St. Norbert College Music Scholarship, $3,600.

Emily Tauscheck, Honor Roll Award; Prescott Bayens American Legion Post 83, $1,500; St. Luke United Methodist Church Scholarship, $500; US Army Reserve Scholar/Athlete Award; Women's Sports Advocates of WI Award of Excellence.

Jonathan Tesmer, Jimmy Lohr Golf Scholarship, $500.

Laura Utschig, Bausch & Lomb Science Award; Excellence Award-Math, $100; Honor Roll Award; Kohler Foundation Four Year Merit Scholarship, $8,000; Sheboygan County Farm Bureau, $500; Society of Women Engineers.

Hannah-Mae Wick, Excellence Award-English, $100; Excellence Award-Social Studies, $100; Honor Roll Award; Karen Kauger Service Award; Kohler School Foundation Scholarship, $2,000; Lucille Thomas Art Award, $25; St. Norbert College John F. Kennedy Scholarship, $20,000; Village Players Scholarship; W.G. Wandrschneider Scholarship, $1,000.

Mark Zvitkovits, Honor Roll Award; National Mutual Benefit Branch 630 Scholarship, $250; USMC Distinguished Athlete Award.
College news

Spring graduates

LA CROSSE - Melissa Cairns, Julie Cannon and Amy Willfahrt, all of Marshfield, graduated May 8 from Viterbo University.

HANOVER, N.H. - Timothy Spellman, son of John and Jeanne Spellman of Marshfield, graduated June 13 from Dartmouth College.

APPLETON - Two 2000 graduates of Marshfield High School were awarded bachelor's degrees June 13 at Lawrence University. Nick Aschbrenner of Marshfield earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry and geology and Nancy Stueland of Hewitt earned a bachelor's degree in government.

GRANVILLE, Ohio - Matthew Tipping of Marshfield was named to the fall dean's list at Denison University. He graduated summa cum laude in May with a major in philosophy and a minor in studio arts. A 2000 graduate of Marshfield High School, he is the son of Stuart and Christine Tipping of Marshfield.

NORTHFIELD, Minn. - Joseph Blankush of Marshfield graduated magna cum laude on May 30 from St. Olaf College, earning a bachelor's degree in English.

ST. PAUL, Minn. - Erin Rupp graduated May 15 from Macalester College with a liberal arts degree in environmental studies. She is a graduate of Marshfield High School and the daughter of George and Donna Rupp of Marshfield.

FENNimore - Theodore Behnke of Loyal graduated May 15 from the agricultural power and equipment technician program at Southwest Wisconsin Technical College.

COLLEGE STATION, Texas - Kristine Koller received a bachelor's degree in management of information systems on May 15 from Texas A&M University. She has accepted a position with BMC Software Inc., Houston. She is a 2000 graduate of Marshfield High School and is the daughter of Ed Koller of Hewitt and Diane Schmitt of Marshfield.

DENver, Colo. - Travis Teska graduated summa cum laude from Johnson and Wales University in Denver on May 23. He received an associate's degree in culinary arts and is a member of the Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity. He did his cooperative education at Canyon Ranch Health Spa in Lenox, Mass. He is the son of Susan Treml of Auburndale and the late Russell Teska.

Scholarship recipients

STEVENS POINT - Danielle Knutson of Marshfield, a student at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, has received a $600 St. Michael's Hospital Scholarship. A graduate student in speech and language pathology, Knutson previously was named the Outstanding Junior and Outstanding Senior in Communicative Disorders at UWSP. She has been involved with the Student Speech-Language and Hearing Association, Wisconsin Speech and Hearing Association and Special Olympics volunteering. She is the daughter of Michael and Annette Knutson of Marshfield.

STEVENS POINT - Andy Knecht of Spencer, a student at UW-Stevens Point, has received the $1,000 Sentry Insurance Computing Scholarship. The Sentry Scholarship is given annually to an outstanding student in computer information systems. He is the son of Robert and Leann Knecht of Spencer. A 2002 graduate of Spencer High School, he is an alumnus of Spencer's Future Farmers of America. A sophomore majoring in computer information systems with a minor in business, he maintains a 3.96 grade point average. He is a past recipient of the Melvin Laird Leadership Award, the Herb Kohl Fellowship and the Milton Reinheimer Scholarship.
MILWAUKEE - Five Medical College of Wisconsin students received $2,100 Mead Witter Scholarship awards for the 2003-04 academic year. They are: recent graduate Eric Aschenbrenner of Milladore, who will soon begin a physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at the Mayo Clinic; fourth-year student Laura Dauenhauer and third-year medical student, Travis Fisher, both of Wisconsin Rapids; third-year student Stephanie Maves and fourth-year student, Scott Schwantes, both of Marshfield.

The Mead Witter Foundation is a private philanthropic organization headquartered in Wisconsin Rapids.

Aschenbrenner received his bachelor’s degree in biology from St. Mary’s University of Minnesota, Winona, Minn., in 1999, and is a 1995 graduate of Auburndale High School. He plans to specialize in physical medicine and rehabilitation during his medical residency training.

Dauenhauer received her bachelor's degree, with a double major in zoology and biological aspects of conservation, from UW-Madison in 2001. She's interested in pursuing a combined residency in pediatrics/general psychiatry/child and adolescent psychiatry, following graduation in May 2005.

Fisher completed his undergraduate studies at UW-Madison. He plans to remain in Wisconsin and will do one of his clinical rotations in Wisconsin Rapids this year.

Maves received her bachelor's degree, with a double major in microbiology and biology and an emphasis on biomedical science, from UW-La Crosse. She's hopes to pursue a family practice residency.

Schwantes received his bachelor's degree, with majors in physics and astronomy and an applied emphasis in mathematics, from UW-Eau Claire, and is a 1991 graduate of Marshfield High School. He plans to specialize in pediatrics, with an emphasis on palliative care, neonatology or pediatric critical care.

MSTC graduates

WISCONSIN RAPIDS - The following area students received a two-year associate's degree or a one- or two-year technical diplom in May from Mid-State Technical College.

Associate degree, Wisconsin Rapids Campus

Accounting: Scott Doll, Chili; Sara Johnson, Greenwood; Jennifer Bennett, Loyal; Jeffrey Drescher and Jason Fait, Marshfield.

Administrative assistant: Angela Brock, Vesper.

Business administration: Kelly Woodford, Marshfield; Jerry Halbersma and Heidi Lee, Vesper.

Civil engineering technology - highway technician: Michael Klemme, Auburndale; Dustin Binder and Rhonda Schmitt, Marshfield; Steve Schwanebeck, Pittsville.

Computer electronics technician: Ben Schwanebeck, Pittsville.

Computer information systems - network specialist: Curt Immerfall and Robert VanDyke, Marshfield.

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Computer electronics technician: Ben Schwanebeck, Pittsville.

Computer information systems - network specialist: Curt Immerfall and Robert VanDyke, Marshfield.

Computer information systems - programmer/analyst: Sandra Ward, Arpin; Curt Immerfall, Marshfield; Mitch Jacobson, Pittsville.

Criminal justice - law enforcement: Christopher Berg, Hewitt; David Curtin and Steven Wojcik, Marshfield; David Bender and Ryan Bohman, Stratford.

Early childhood education: Samantha Follen and Andrea Tomlinson, Arpin; Amber Hemmer, Marshfield; Heather Darr, Pittsville.

Electronics technician: Adam Krasselt, Chili; Ronald Milanoski, Junction City; Jody Rueth, Loyal; Ben Schwanebeck, Pittsville.

Foodservice, lodging and tourism management: Chad Lobner, Arpin.

Instrumentation technology: Scott Dickrell, Milladore; Bradley Gritt, Vesper.

Marketing: Jodi Scheunemann, Vesper.

Nursing: Wendy Gumz, Abbottsford; Melissa Olstinski, Greenwood; Natalie Weber, Marshfield; Judy Crothers and Loriann Langreck, Neillsville; Maurisa Dillinger, Stratford.

Urban Forestry Technician: Steven Hollar, Milladore.

Technical Diploma, Wisconsin Rapids Campus

Advanced intensive care paramedic: Sarah Smith, Arpin; Jason Oldham, Greenwood; Marlon Marks, Junction City; Rodney Bauer, Erin Fischer and Amber Kline, Marshfield; Kevin Harris, Neillsville; Peter Fletty and
Jason Martens, Spencer; Joshua Finke, Stratford.

Automotive technician: Brent Forst, Hewitt; Justin Ploen, Marshfield.

Cosmetology and barbering: Melissa Jewett, Arpin; Kamie Hertel, Marshfield.

Diesel and heavy equipment technician: Jason Schill, Arpin; Craig Schmidt, Neillsville; Michael Derks, Spencer.

Financial services representative: Stephanie Mulderink, Dorchester.

Machine tool technician: Robert Miller, Loyal; Stephen Prust, Marshfield.

Office support specialist: Pamela Kemp, Nekoosa; Dawn Schmutzer, Wisconsin Rapids.

Associate Degree, Marshfield Campus

Accounting: Michelle Rashka, Arpin; Rhonda Foemmel, Chili; Brandi Roehl, Neillsville.

Administrative assistant: Kara Meinhardt, Greenwood; Tanya Esser, Kris Kiwak-Turner and Mary Warren, Marshfield.

Business administration: Susan Beil, Chili; Kelly Mancl and Marc Prepeluh, Hewitt; Tonya Franzwa, Lindy Hasenfang, Rebecca Jacoby, Christine Manthie, Laura Mews, Alícia Neve, Michael Oemig, Justin Polzin, Kristina Schar and Brian Schueller, Marshfield; Stacy Kelnhofer, Spencer.

Computer information systems - network specialist: Jeremy Lezotte and Carl Steevens, Marshfield.

Computer information systems - programmer/analyst: Steven Harteau, Kevin Herman and Chad Strasser, Marshfield; Francis Skrenes, Pittsville.

Respiratory care practitioner: Sara Sundermeyer, Abbotsford; Jennifer Olson, Greenwood; John Braem, Leisha Brandl, Scott Pankratz, Dawn Sullivan, Erin Vogel and Ty Weiland-Schuetz, Marshfield.

Supervisory management: Liza Horn, Marshfield; Mabel Berzins, Pittsville.

Technical Diploma, Marshfield Campus

Farm operations: Matt Heil, Edgar; Bryan Dahl and Jeffrey Osborn, Granton.

Health unit coordinator: Theresa Bauer, Auburndale; Emily Redmond, Jill Retzlaff and Margaret Sawicky, Marshfield; Terryle Shaner, Unity.

Medical assistant: Cindy Garz and Tina Meyer, Marshfield; Julie Schmidt and Michelle Ward, Neillsville; Lisa Blanchard, Pittsville; Barbara Allen, Spencer; Lori Alger, Thorp.

Medical transcription: Tabitha Brogan, Janice Delaluz, and Melissa Zelenyj, Marshfield; Carolyn Rechek, Milladore; Alene Jacobson and Ruth Kolar, Pittsville; Ruth Zwieg, Willard.

Office support specialist: Amy Marx and Patricia Pueschner, Marshfield.

Phlebotomy technician: Debra Ponschack and Joslyn Sundberg, Marshfield; Christine Paulson, Medford.

Surgical technologist: Michelle Dupee, Arpin; Jenny Laurin, Athens; Sara Flick, Colby; Lorri Klahn, Greenwood; Kristy Horn, Jessica Ringquist, and Joanne Weigel, Marshfield; Kathleen Arndt, Medford; Brandon Fox, Pittsville; Theresa Reich, Spencer; David Sicking, Stratford.

Award recipient

STEVENS POINT - Tami Bauer of Auburndale, a sophomore at UW-Stevens Point with majors in political science, public administration and policy analysis, has been awarded the $500 Richard Chrisofferson Award by the Political Science Department.

She maintains a 3.96 grade point average and is a past recipient of the Academy of Letters and Science Distinguished Achievement Award, AAL/Lutheran Brotherhood Scholarship and the Elk’s Youth Scholarship. She is a member of Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society.

The daughter of John and Wanda Bauer of Auburndale, she is a graduate of Auburndale High School.

Graduate sworn in

MADISON - Betsy Givhan was sworn in as a Wisconsin attorney on June 22 at the Wisconsin State Supreme Court in Madison and will be entering private practice in Janesville with Attorney John McWilliams. She graduated May 14 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Law.

While in law school she was a project assistant with the state for Legalized Institutional Per-
sons and worked with criminal and family programs. She also was an intern in the public defender's office in Rock County and worked on the Restorative Justice Project.

Givhan will continue her education, seeking a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. She recently received a scholarship from the Nursing Alumni Organization at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

She is a 1995 graduate of Columbus Catholic High School and a 1998 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is the daughter of Harlan and Catherine Schnabel of Granton.

Honor students

NEW LONDON, Conn. - Aighleann McKiernan of Marshfield, a graduating senior at Connecticut College, was named to the dean's list for the 2004 spring semester.

MILWAUKEE - Sarah Harter of Marshfield, Jason Irwin of Auburndale and Jason Weyer of Greenwood were named to the spring quarter dean's list at Milwaukee School of Engineering.

STEVENS POINT - Tyler Berg, Bryan Huebsch and Brad Zank, all of Edgar, were named to the UW-Stevens Point honor list for the 2003-04 spring semester.

STEVENS POINT - Daniel Boehm, Rebecca Dehnel, Amy Massop, Stephanie Rucinski, Beth Weiler, Scott Hein, Aaron Stencil, Denis Wei Jin Tan and Heather Weese were named to the UW-Stevens Point honor list for the 2003-04 spring semester.

LA CROSSE - The following area students were named to the spring dean's list at Viterbo University: Brenda Leick, Auburndale; Linda Hertel, Chili; Jean Faucher, Falynn Gonnering, Darlene McLellan, Amy Willfahrt and Sally Zillman, all of Marshfield; Jessica Thieme, Spence; and Lori Kieffer, Stratford.

LA CROSSE - The following area students attending UW-La Crosse were named to the dean's list for the second semester of the 2003-04 academic year:

Tana Calmes, Anne Melvin and Krista Melvin, all of Abbotsford; Kathryn Haupt, Jordan Marti and Patrick Tauscher, all of Auburndale; Ashley Mroczenski and Katie Haupt, both of Edgar; Steffanie Garbisch, Granton; Amy Budtke and Amber Rendmeister, both of Hewitt; Brianna Baars and Abby Hebert, both of Junction City; Adam Ably, Anne Beyerl, Matthias Biedewolf, Patrick Gall, Luann Luedtke, Rebecca Martell, Megan Meyer, Tamara Richardson, Sara Rasmussen, Scott Shaw, Ainsley Trudeau, Jennifer Weiler and Drew Young, all of Marshfield.

Dennis Flood, Sarah Hamman, Andrew Hoffman, Matthew Klinger, Jennifer Krug, Michelle Metz, Kevin Riggle, Roxanne Rindt, Benjamin Sackmann, Angela Tuma and Anne Zener, all of Medford; Kelly McConnell, Courtney Pziombke and Joel Sischo, all of Neillsville; Theodore Everson, Rib Lake; Alex Draeger, Claire Draeger, Lisa Frane and Lisa Jicinsky, all of Spencer; Kenneth Herfel, Stetsonville; Jordan Newmier, Stratford; Megan Stoinski, Thorp; Katie Haas, Unity; Christopher Hahn, Vesper; Charlene Herrick and Rodrigo Stockebrand, both of Willard.

GREEN BAY - Michael Tipping of Marshfield has achieved academic high honors for the spring 2004 semester at UW-Green Bay. He is the son of Stuart and Christine Tipping of Marshfield.

WISCONSIN RAPIDS - The following area students attending Mid-State Technical College earned outstanding grade point averages during the spring semester of the 2003-04 school year:

Distinction Honors, Marshfield Campus

Donald Porter, Arpin; Todd Dommer, Colby; Stephanie Mulderink, Dorchester; Susan Kann (4.0), Edgar; Kathryn Bucheger, Granton; Toni Bravener and Lorrie Klahn, Greenwood; Lynn Ogle, Loyal; Melissa Bargender (4.0), Edward Berry, Julie Cline (4.0), Tanya Esser, Regina Halbersma, Thomas Krasne, Jessica Lever, Amy Marx, Barbara Nikolai, Delano Roberts, Brian Schueller (4.0), Douglas Thompson, Kimberly Tuttle and Joanne Weigel, Marshfield; Julie Schmidt (4.0), Neillsville; Dean Lenz, Pittsville; Barbara Allen, Beth Pescinski, Trudy Schumacher and Angela Trachte, Spencer; Karen Pachniak, Stratford; Jessie Meyer, Unity.

Distinction Honors, Wisconsin Rapids Campus

Angela Schmidt, Abbottsford; Samantha Folken, Arpin; Mallory Zietlow, Edgar; David Curtin, Cheryl Draxler (4.0), Camie Hertel (4.0), Adam Passo, Paul Peterson, Stephen Prust, Trisha Ramlow (4.0), Robert Reed and Victo-
ria Rozar (4.0), Marshfield; Gina Becker and Heidi Magnuson, Neillsville; Heather Darr, Ruth Kolar, April Revels, Adam Schutz and Steve Schwanebeck; Pittsville; Daniel Dieringer, Spencer; David Bender, Stratford; Russell Behr, Bradley Gritt, Jerry Halbersma (4.0), and Heidi Lee, Vesper.

High Honors, Marshfield Campus

Michelle Dupee and Ashley Follen, Arpin; Wendy Halopka, Colby; Sara Johnson, Greenwood; Jennifer Bennett and Christine Kanable, Loyal; Sheena Adamski, Robin Garcia, Steven Harteau, Beckee Jacoby, Doug Mauritz, Laura Mews, Tina Meyer, Adam Pichler, Kerene Schiller, Becky Welch and Michelle Wolley, Marshfield; Brett Roehl, Neillsville; Curtis Stafford, Pittsville; Tracy Felix, Spencer; Kelly Rosenberger, David Sickinger and Naomi Spencer, Stratford; Annmarie Wojt, Thorp; Jennifer Walker, Unity.

High Honors, Wisconsin Rapids Campus

Sandra Ward, Arpin; Dustin Ashbeck, Auburndale; Adam Krasselt, Chili; Charles Ramberg, Granton; Kenneth Palmer, Junction City; Robert Miller, Loyal; Kallie Halverson, Nickolas Lien, Cari Ress and Steven Wojcik, Marshfield; Scott Dickrell, Milladore; James Turczyn, Neillsville; Jessica Rennhak and Jodi Scheunemann, Vesper.

Honors, Marshfield Campus

Sarah Jacob and Jenny Laurin, Athens; Perry Wolff, Edgar; Joshua Hanson and Mary Warren, Granton; Kelly Mancl and Marc Prepeluh, Hewitt; Peter Devries and Jody Rueth, Loyal; Carrie Becker, Sarah Belanger, Alison Berg, Christopher Binder, John Braem, Leisha Brandl, Crystal Buccaneer, Ashley Curtin, Janice Delaluz, Allistair Hill, Katrina Kroepflin, Holly Rice, Jessica Ringquist, Ryan Sernitzky, Ashley Swenson, Robert VanDyke and Erin Vogel, Marshfield; Shawna Lueth, Medford; Charles Mahoney and Carolyn Rechek, Milladore; Katie Marty, Neillsville; Brandon Fox, Pittsville; Rachael Mishler, Stratford.

Honors, Stevens Point Campus

Tina Liebe, Junction City.

Honors, Wisconsin Rapids Campus

Jason Schill, Arpin; Michael Verhulst, Loyal; Amber Hemmer, Curt Immerfall and Marcus Schiferl, Marshfield; Angela Weeks, Neillsville; Diane Mundt and Lisa Nikolai, Pittsville; Stacy Kelnhofer, Spencer.

ST. PETER, Minn. - Nicholas Schreiber of Marshfield was named to the spring semester dean’s list at Gustavus Adolphus College.

PELLA, Iowa - Steven Poole of Loyal was named to the Central College dean’s list during the spring semester.

DE PERE - The following area students have been named to the second semester dean’s list at St. Norbert College: Jill Schmidt, Colby; Lisa Aldrich, Martha Bryce, Kristin Kapfhamer and Laura Richard, all of Marshfield; Ashley Gardner, Owen; Lisa Shedivy, Pittsville; and Melissa Accola, Vesper.

RIVER FALLS - The following area students attending UW-River Falls were named to the dean’s list for the spring semester:

Adam Ward, Arpin; Dennis Bangart, Auburndale; Chrysta Lentz, Colby; Jennifer Mergen and Brian Tessmer, both of Dorchester; Jeremy Olson and Kristy Rondorf, both of Greenwood; Joe Behnke, Loyal; Jordan Donnerbauer, Megan Knobloch and Jessica Weis, all of Marshfield; Ann Deml, Medford; Jessica Hammond, Neillsville; Elizabeth Ablett, Spencer; and Stacy Karl, Stratford.

HOUGHTON, Mich. - More than 1,000 students were placed on the spring 2004 dean’s list at Michigan Technological University, earning grade point averages of 3.5 or higher. The following area students were honored: Daniel Adler and Philip Benes, both of Marshfield; William Kloth, Medford; and Travis Marti, Vesper.
Campus news

The following area students planning to attend the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse have been selected to receive scholarships. They include Alison Boyle, Weston, UW-L Faculty and Staff Scholarship, $1,500; Lisa Frane, Spencer, Ray George Scholarship; Lisa Jicinsky, Spencer, Carol Bassuener National Residence Hall Honorary Award Endowment Fund, D. Russell Wartinbee Scholarship, and Richard and Sally Koehler Fund; Marcus Lang, Marathon, Sheryl Schultz Memorial for Excellence in Accountancy; Nichol Hermel, Wausau, Robert and Judy Strzelczyk Scholarship in Physical Therapy; Elizabeth C. Klapperich, Wausau, La Crosse County Medical Alliance Scholarship; Benjamin Lodahl, Wausau, Larry Lebiecki Scholarship; and Zachary Preboski, Wausau, Cindi Stoller Polek Scholarships in Physical Therapy, 2004 tuition or not to exceed $6,125.

The following area students at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay received their bachelor's degrees May 15: Ryan Fandrey, Hatley, accounting; Michael Cepress, Wausau, art, graduating cum laude; Angela Paul, Athens, graduating magna cum laude, and Ryan Fandrey, Hatley, both business administration; Anne Fait, Athens, graduating cum laude, and Casey Helke, Wausau, graduating cum laude, both elementary education; Angela Paul, Athens, graduating magna cum laude, German; Ellen Grod, Mosinee, interdisciplinary studies; Rebecca Marcell and Craig Martin, both of Schofield, both psychology; Bryan Kloos, Wausau, social work; and Daniel Van Dellen, Wausau, theater.

The following area students received University Leadership Awards in ceremonies May 14 at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay: Aimee Hein and Ellie Roets, Merrill; Brian Jicinsky, Spencer; Tou Ya Khang, Wausau; Krystle Lange, Abbotsford; Tim Schmidt, Rothschild; and Maigan Wipfli, Wisconsin Rapids.

The following area students at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay were awarded Chancellor's Leadership Medallions May 14 on the University campus: Nicholas Bandoch, Wausau; Angela Paul, Athens; and Amber Wiinamaki, Medford.

Allison Spaude, daughter of Paul and Karen Spaude, Wausau, was named to the dean's list for the second semester at Hope College, Holland, Mich.

Chad Augustine, Schofield, was named to the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management, Minneapolis, spring semester dean's list.

The Spring semester dean's list at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Paul, Minn., includes Katharine Bukowski, Schofield, and Sarah Johansen, Wausau.

Courtney Doucette, a senior at Lawrence University, Appleton, will embark on a 10-month study of Russian history at the European University in St. Petersburg, Russia, as a 2004-05 Fulbright Scholar. She was named a recipient of a $23,000 grant from the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board from among more than 5,000 applicants.

Beginning in August, Doucette will embark on a 10-month study of the impact the Soviet regime had on the content of Russian history books and the ways the current post-Soviet government has rewritten these texts. Doucette, daughter of Mark Doucette, Ringle, also will explore ways personal experiences and oral histories challenge the "officially sanctioned" interpretations of a country's past.

Emily Webb of Wausau has been named to the Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Ore., dean's list for the spring semester.

Mike Steele, Wausau, graduated cum laude from Michigan State University, East Lansing, and is enrolled in the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he plans to pursue a master's degree in political science.
gan Technological University-Houghton with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering. He will pursue a master's degree in engineering, focused on design and manufacturing. He is employed by Mulholland Positioning Systems Inc. while working toward his master's.

The following area students were named to the dean's list at Viterbo University in La Crosse:

Wausau - Pamela Burgess, Shayna Evans, Melissa Rogers and Gina Suchon; Birnamwood - Amanda Carlson; Schofield - Rebecca Goldbach; Rothschild - Kate Woznicki; Aniwa - Jessica Sickinger; Marathon - Kelly Schmidt-Weith; and Merrill - Kristy Wyland.

The following area students graduated from Viterbo University in La Crosse on May 8:

Schofield - Rebecca Goldbach; Mosinee - Andrea Schnae; and Wausau - Greg Ventzke.

Terri Yach, daughter of Sharon Yach and William Yach, both of Wausau, was named to the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management, Minneapolis, spring semester dean's list. Yach graduated in May with a double minor in human resources and Spanish.

Dayle VanderLeest, daughter of Mike and Sue VanderLeest, Wausau, graduated May 1 from Augsburg College, Minneapolis.

Kimberly Anne Davis, Wausau, was named to the dean's list at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas, for the spring semester.

Emily Burton, Rothschild, graduated magna cum laude this spring from Boston University with a Bachelor of Arts degree-independent concentration.

Eric Roubinek, a University of Wisconsin-Madison student from Irma, received the Mosse Prize from UW-Madison's history department. The Mosse Prize is intended for an undergraduate student who exhibits unusual creativity, passionate engagement and independent critical analysis in any area of historical studies. Roubinek received a cash award for his essay, "The Dual Histories of the KdF-Seebad Prora: Contemporary Problems in Preservation and Memory."

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire biology department held a spring reception to honor graduating seniors in biology and present numerous scholarships, biology research poster awards and other special awards.

Summer Drews, Rhinelander, received a pre-dentistry scholarships - the Jeffrey and Karen Jones Scholarship.

The following area students received Ecology Outstanding Poster Awards at Student Research Poster Day: Melissa Fraaza, Wittenberg (December graduate); and Kristin Stubbe, Mosinee (December graduate).