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### **Edgewood College 'Tee Up for Nursing' to raise scholarship funds**

Madison- Despite significant job losses throughout nearly every industry in the U.S., the healthcare sector continues to grow. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, hospitals, long-term care facilities and other care settings added 27,000 new jobs in February 2009, a month when 681,000 jobs were eliminated nationally. RNs are becoming increasingly in demand as these positions grow.

In response to the nursing shortage that affects Wisconsin and the nation, Edgewood College started Tee Up for Nursing in 2004 to assist the 75 percent of nursing students who rely on financial assistance. Money raised from Tee Up for Nursing is donated to the scholarship fund and placed in an endowment, created exclusively to provide financial assistance for Edgewood College bachelor and master level nursing students. This year, the event's impact will be even greater thanks to an anonymous donor who has provided a \$100,000 matching scholarship fund for three programs at the college, including nursing.

Because of the scholarship fund and the generosity of the community, nursing has grown to be Edgewood College's largest undergraduate major with 90 applicants vying for 42 openings in the School of Nursing. The January 2009 nursing graduating class achieved a 100% pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) to earn a Registered Nurse status.

"The national average for this exam is 86 to 87 percent and we've ranged between 86 to 94 percent over the past 5 years," said Edgewood College School of Nursing Dean, Margaret C. Noreuil. "As you can imagine, it's very unusual for an entire graduating class to pass the exam on the first attempt."

This year, the event will be held Monday, July 13th at the Nakoma Golf Club in Madison. It is the college's largest fundraising event and a major contributor to the financing of nursing students' educations.

Kathy Whitworth, LPGA Tour Hall of Fame Member with 88 tour tournament titles – a record number of titles held by any male or female professional golfer in history – will serve as the 2008 Honorary Tournament Chair. This will be Whitworth's sixth appearance at Tee Up for Nursing, due to rave reviews from past participants. Also in the morning before the event, Whitworth will conduct an instructional golf clinic.

For more information about Tee Up for Nursing or to sign up for the event, please visit the Web site at [www.teeupfornursing.com](http://www.teeupfornursing.com).