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Holte '08 studies at Oxford University

Summary: Study abroad allows Holte the opportunity to experience higher education in England and extensive travel.

(March 8, 2007)-Perhaps his mother, a world traveller, planted wanderlust in Brian Holte '08, Aitkin, with her stories. Perhaps it is innate, but once he made the decision to study abroad, he took full advantage. Before, during, and after his official academic program at Oxford University in England, he accumulated considerable travel miles and travel experience.

“Before Oxford, I spent three weeks in Norway visiting my father’s relatives and working on their rutabaga farm,” shares Holte. “In England, I visited Stonehenge, Stratford upon Avon, Bath, Porsmouth, and Warwick Castle. During the academic term, I visited Dublin, Ireland, and Edinburgh, Scotland, both of which are friendly cities. After Oxford, I skied and snowboarded in the French Alps near Grenoble, then I met a friend in Poland where we visited Auschwitz. To conclude my trip, I spent four days in Paris seeing the sights most people only see on TV and postcards like the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, and Notre Dame.”

Of course, the principal reason for his travel was also memorable. “Oxford is a beautiful city, full of history. The academic system at Oxford University is rigorous, especially the ‘tutorial’ system—an hour or two of one-on-one weekly instruction. The remainder of the week is spent preparing,” shares the mathematics and economics major.

“I am so glad I chose to make travel a priority in my education. I feel that I take a more worldwide perspective on global issues,” reflects Holte. “And traveling gave me the strong self confidence that I can go anywhere.”

Holte in Edinburgh, Scotland

Holte and relatives in Norway

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