



SPORTS • Blackhawk battle sends Baldwin-Woodville softball to state/1B
YOUR REGION • Brad Pfaff makes congressional campaign tour stop in EC/3A

New UW president wants to continue tuition freeze

MADISON (AP) — The University of Wisconsin System's new president said Thursday that he wants to continue a freeze on tuition for in-state graduates through at least the next academic year.

Jay Rothman took over as president on Wednesday and held a short question-and-answer session with reporters Thursday. He said system officials plan to present their 2022-23 budget to regents next week and that the spending plan will include the freeze.

Tuition for in-state undergraduates has remained flat for the last nine years. Republican legislators imposed the freeze in the 2013-15 state budget. University officials complained about the freeze routinely for years, saying it hurt their revenue and the state wasn't providing enough aid to offset the losses.

Republican lawmakers voted last year to lift the freeze but regents chose to keep it in place for the 2021-22 academic year.

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MONDAY CFPD buy new hybrid vehicles

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NORTHWOODS SPIRITS, COMING IN JUNE



Angels ready to fly



Staff photo by Dan Reiland

The F/A-18 Super Hornet Blue Angels Jet Team practiced on Thursday for the upcoming Chippewa Valley Airshow this weekend.

Weekend's air show will attract thousands to local airport

BY ANDREW DOWD LEADER-TELEGRAM STAFF

EAU CLAIRE — Jets streaking across Eau Claire's sky heralded the arrival of this weekend's air show, which will attract a crowd nearly equal to the entire city's population to the local airport.

Advance ticket sales and experience organizing prior air shows is leading Tim Molepske, CEO of the Chippewa Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America, to anticipate attendance of 60,000 people over the two-day event.

"People are ready to be outside and enjoy a good family event," he said.

The Chippewa Valley Air Show will take place Saturday and Sunday at Chippewa Valley Regional Airport, 3800 Starr Ave.

Premium ticket options for Saturday sold out in advance, Molepske said on Thursday, but there were still presidents club and reserved seating available for Sunday's show, as well as general admission tickets good for either day.

The star attraction of the air show — the U.S. Navy Blue Angels — arrived on Tuesday and Wednesday. They did practice flights on Thursday and will continue today to get comfortable in Eau Claire's airspace for this weekend's shows.



Molepske

If You Go

- What: Chippewa Valley Air Show.
• When: Gates open, 8:30 a.m., air show, noon-4:15 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.
• Where: Chippewa Valley Regional Airport, 3800 Starr Ave.
• Cost: General admission is \$35 for adults, \$15 ages 6 to 16; 5 and under, free. On-site parking is \$10.
• Tickets/info: chippewavalleyairshow.com.

Gates open at 8:30 a.m. each day of the air show, giving attendees time to peruse numerous static displays and stake out their seats before the air show begins.

Restored World War II era planes, a Huey helicopter from the Vietnam War, a CMV-22B Osprey, a KC-125 Stratotanker refueling jet, a few exotic cars and a hangar showcasing the skills of U.S. Air Force maintenance workers will all be on

display. There will also be exhibitor booths, a kids zone area, a scouts display and numerous concessions vendors.

"It's a wide range of things for families to do," Molepske said. Starting at noon each day will be the air show, which has a variety of different acts scheduled on the air and the tarmac.

The aerial acts include skydivers, acrobatic flying and warplanes from different eras zooming overhead.

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SAWDUST STORIES

Struggling students hold the answer



Two years into the pandemic, I know one thing for sure: my students are not all right. They have made this clear to me in various ways — via email, after-class chats, and even the occasional public outburst. Their compounding anxieties crept into their essays, class discussions and blog posts. Some days, no words were needed to relay the depths of their despair; their weariness was telegraphed by slumped shoulders, heavy sighs and posture that more closely resembled puddles. My one-on-one conferences further personalized their struggles. The students were facing far more than the pandemic-induced ennui felt by so many of us; their problems were uniquely theirs. Who are we to ask them to "consider their futures" in such an uncertain time?

I wanted to help — needed to help — but I didn't know how. And so, I turned to the experts.

Entering my rhetoric and composition classroom one day, I assigned them their task.

"Look, I know we're all having a hard time here," I said. "And I'd

like to make our class more manageable. So I'm going to leave the room, and when I come back in five minutes, I want you to tell me what changes you've made to the course schedule. You can cut readings, change due dates — pretty much whatever will help you succeed. Any questions?"

Yes, they said. Was I for real? I nodded. Bravely.

Retreating to the hallway, I was suddenly reminded of a host of literary allusions, all of which might've spared me my current predicament — Pandora's Box, the Faustian bargain, the naïve idealism of Don Quixote. Though perhaps the most relevant allusion came courtesy of Frankenstein: What kind of monster was I creating here?

Worst case, I figured the students would push all assignments to the last minute. Then, having bought themselves more time, they would engage in the all-too-familiar strategy of procrastinating, followed by pulling all-nighters leading up to the deadline.

But such an outcome seemed worth the risk given the best-case scenario, in which the students helped me differentiate between those assignments most critical to their futures, and those we might let go.

SEE HOLLARS PAGE 6A

B.J. Hollars

B.J. Hollars is the author of several books, most recently "Go West Young Man: A Father and Son Rediscover America on the Oregon Trail" and the editor of "Hope Is The Thing: Wisconsinites on Perseverance in a Pandemic." He is a professor, arts advocate, husband, father, son and dog walker. Follow him on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook @bjhollars.

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