

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

UVM HOMEPAGE

Teaching Growth



Senior student teacher Justin Wright is learning the high school educator's trade (and losing his illusions) by actually doing it. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

If ever a question begged statistical analysis, it would be determining the percentage of male secondary education majors who grow their first beards during student teaching. Justin Wright, a UVM senior from St. Albans, stubbled-up for three weeks until he decided that the effect was more "scrappy" than scholarly.

[FULL STORY ►](#)

PREVIOUS ISSUE

[Movement and Music from China](#)

[Latin Day 2003 is April 11](#)

[Student Careers Culminate in One Act](#)

[Web Center for Vermont Housing Data Debuts](#)

[Folk Singer's Concert Features Holocaust Songs](#)

[Fogel Outlines Strategic Budget Numbers](#)

[Into the Woods](#)

[Dwelling in Possibility](#)

[Optimal Advice](#)

[Stanford Professor Gives Ecological Economics](#)

A Spring Thing

In addition to the 70-degree weather, signs of the arrival of spring were literally sprawled all over campus on April 15.

100 Memories

Gaynell Bessie Ladd is described in the 1924 edition of *The Ariel* as the "chatty young lady from Craftsbury... where ... the children never grow up." Now an active centenarian, some would say UVM's oldest alum still doesn't act her age.

THE WEEK IN VIEW

April 17 12 p.m.
Lecture: Bisexual identity, with Robin Ochs of Tufts University. With discussion. John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill. 656-0699

April 17 8 p.m.
Performance: "Beat the Heat," a musical play about climate change. UVM Recital Hall, Redstone Campus. 865-7375

April 21 3:30 p.m.
Lecture: "Slavery in Colonial Connecticut: Puritanism, Gender and Economics," with Kari Winter, English. 656-4282

April 21 5:30 p.m.
Lecture: "You Can't Be a Lesbian — You're Jewish!", with Leslea Newman, author and UVM alumnae. Memorial Lounge, Waterman. 656-1153

April 22 12 p.m.
Panel: Wind energy, with Ginny Lyons, Matthew Rubin and others. 105 Aiken. 656-3269

April 23 7:30 p.m.
Performance: "Songs for a Suffering World," poetry and jazz with David Budbill, William Parker and Hamid Drake. UVM Recital Hall, Redstone Campus. 656-0878

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

UVM HOMEPAGE

NEWS BRIEFS



Environmental iconoclast Richard Myers will argue about the pressing need to pay attention to mass extinction during his appearance in the President's Distinguished Lecture Series.

Extinction Expert to Give Next Distinguished Lecture

Environmental scientist Norman Myers says he thinks sideways.

In the 1970s, after tracking reasons that the cheetah was an endangered species in Kenya, he began to ask top wildlife scientists at what rate species were becoming extinct. One species per year was the official view of the World Wildlife Fund. He wondered if that included insects. It didn't. He wondered whether it included species not yet discovered. It didn't. Myers was among the first scientists to think about established environmental issues in a new way. And ever since, he's been turning conventional thinking every-which-way.

This independent scientist and fellow at Oxford University, who has advised the White House, the U.S. Departments of State and Defense, NASA, the World Bank, seven United Nations agencies and six prime ministers/presidents, will bring his ideas on extinction to the University of Vermont at 5 p.m., April 16 in Carpenter Auditorium, Given Medical Building. A reception will follow in the atrium.

His public lecture, "Mass Extinction of Species: Why We Should Care, and What We Can Do About It," is part of the UVM President's Distinguished Lecture Series.

Myers has said that while all the other environmental problems can be fixed, "the length of time it will take evolution to come up with replacement species to match what we have

New Hire Hopes to Strengthen Athletic Marketing and Merchandising

Chris McCabe, it's safe to say, is the only administrator at the University of Vermont who can casually drop a sentence like this into conversation: "Listen to your audience, that's the key thing I learned from Vince McMahon."

McMahon, of course, is the impresario who founded the World Wrestling Federation. McCabe, a 1991 UVM graduate and Hall of Fame lacrosse player, returned to his alma mater in February as assistant vice president for athletic marketing and business development after stints as an executive with the WWF and Rupert Murdoch's NewsCorp.

McCabe's history of developing innovative and profitable marketing, sponsorship and merchandising efforts in the corporate world makes him confident that he can build revenues and visibility in academia. His work will focus on athletics at first – exploring more comprehensive corporate sponsorship opportunities, revamping logo apparel and other merchandise, assisting feasibility studies for a potential arena, and improving the marketing of athletic events and the experience of the fans who attend them.

"It sounds like a strange comparison, but if you live in Nebraska, you love Nebraska football, whether you went to college there or not," he says. "On a smaller scale, we have that opportunity in Vermont. There's no close competition."

He and his colleagues plan to capitalize on successful teams to bring more students to hockey and basketball games and create more exciting atmosphere. "There's no question we need to look at how we produce and advertise those games," he says.

Apparel is another focus. McCabe is working with a local firm to tweak the design of the UVM Catamount (the most obvious change so far is sharper claws) and develop a proprietary line of more stylish and functional UVM clothes for sale in the campus bookstore and around the state by next fall. McCabe and his design partners are spending time on campus, looking at what students actually wear, so they can refine the fit, fabric and style of the new line. The goal? To entice "the kid in Brattleboro" to buy a Cats hat rather than a Duke hat.

McCabe's charge extends beyond sports: he aims for campus-wide resonance. As one example of that, he's also assisting in developing more sponsorships for the Aiken and Lane series.

today won't be a few centuries or thousands of years, it will be at least five million years. So what we do or don't do in the next few decades will have an impact on the planetary ecosystem, upon our earth, our world, for the next five million years. That is 20 times longer than humans have been a species themselves."

April 17 at 12:30 p.m. at the same location, Myers will speak on "Perverse Subsidies and Other Institutional Roadblocks on the Way to Sustainable Development," a presentation co-sponsored by the School of Natural Resources and the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics.

Myers has written that for every \$1 going into solar power or wind power, \$15 of government subsidy goes into fossil fuels. He suggests that because of all the problems they cause, we should be taxing them. Myers also targets subsidies in the auto industry, agriculture, fishing, logging and transportation.

"If you're interested in life on earth, and why things are not working, these lectures are important to attend," said Robert Costanza, director of the Gund Institute of Ecological Economics and host of the programs. Myers and Costanza co-authored "Economic Reasons for Conserving Wild Nature," published in *Science* last August.

"Myers is a pioneer in these two areas – identifying and tracking the loss of biodiversity areas and quantifying the real costs of government subsidies," Costanza says. Myers is also widely recognized for developing what he calls the biodiversity "hot spots" strategy. He calculated that at least one third of all species are confined to 25 regions on earth – just 1.4 percent of the earth's land surface. He proposed that if these "hot spots" were preserved, mass extinction could be greatly reduced. Conservation organizations have adopted this analysis and have raised more than \$650 million to protect these regions.

"A lot of my career has been, not so much supplying the right answers to established questions, but trying to raise the right questions," as Myers has aptly put it.

Myers was the first British scientist to receive the Volvo Environment Prize and the United Nations Sasakawa Environment Prize. He also was awarded a Pew Fellowship in Environment and the Blue Planet Prize. He has been visiting professor at Cape Town, Cornell, Harvard, Stanford, Yale and other universities. His work has been published widely in scholarly papers and popular articles. All together, his 17 books have sold more than a million copies.

The President's Distinguished Lecture Series, established last October, is intended to enhance the intellectual vitality of the university, showcase faculty, students and programs, and bring the campus community together regularly. Each visiting lecturer spends a full day speaking with students and faculty, presenting a public lecture understandable to a general audience and a smaller, more discipline-specific lecture.

"There are thousands of ideas that are potentially good," he says, after describing about 15 of them, ranging from a roving bagpiper to call students out of the halls for soccer games to getting the UVM Hall of Fame out of the basement. "I need to pick a few and execute them start to finish. I've chosen ideas that can snowball and touch areas around the university.

"I want to make an impact right now," he continues. "Vermont has given me *another* big opportunity with this job. I'm eager to make the most of it."

UVM Well Represented at Boston Marathon

Among the 143 Vermonters who qualified for the 107th running of the Boston Marathon on April 21 are a number of university faculty, staff, students and alumni.

Leading the pack in terms of qualifying time is UVM medical student Amy Chekos of Hinesburg, who will be running her 8th Boston Marathon and 19th marathon overall. The former all-conference runner from Wellesley College qualified in the 18-34 age group with a personal best of 3:00:36 at the Bay State Marathon in Lowell, Mass. in October of 2002.

Chekos, who runs upward of 65 miles per week, said she's "shooting to break the three-hour mark" at Boston, and also plans to run the Vermont City Marathon on May 25 where she finished second among all females two years ago.

Jean Harvey-Berino, chair of the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, qualified in the 40-44 age group by completing the 2002 Las Vegas Marathon in a personal best time of 3:45:33. Harvey-Berino, who runs four miles three days a week and completes a longer run of up to 20 miles on the weekend, said she wants to "have fun and enjoy the crowd" at Boston, which will be her fourth marathon.

Dr. Frederick Rogers of Burlington, a professor of surgery, qualified in the 50-55 age group by running under 3 hours, 35 minutes. His departmental colleague, Dr. Steven Shackford, qualified but elected not to run the race.

Entrants in the Boston Marathon must have run a qualifying time between September 28, 2001 and February 2, 2003 at a certified marathon in order to participate in the 2003 race.

Student Employee Award Winners Named

About 2,200 students work on and off-campus, doing everything from making copies to tutoring their peers, and this is the week to honor them and their contributions. On April 18, winners of the student employee awards will have a luncheon with Lauck Parke, vice provost for undergraduate education.

Short profiles of those recognized for 2003 follow:

Youngblood Named Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs

Denise Youngblood, professor and chair of history, will become vice provost for faculty and academic affairs on July 1, 2003.

"I am very excited about Dr. Youngblood assuming this very important position in the Provost's Office specifically focusing on the faculty," said Provost John Bramley in announcing the appointment. "I look forward to working with her." Bramley also noted, "We were extremely fortunate to have an excellent pool of internal candidates to interview."

Youngblood will assist the provost in faculty and academic procedures that include the organization and preliminary review of promotion, tenure and sabbatical actions; faculty recruitment and academic unit staffing plans; administrative evaluation and training; coordination of campus planning and strategic budgeting procedures; and oversight of the on-line course catalog.

"The faculty is the backbone of this institution, and recruitment and retention of an excellent and diverse faculty are essential to UVM's future success," says Youngblood, who joined UVM in 1988 and teaches a wide variety of courses in Russian and European history. "I am excited by the challenges and responsibilities of this position and look forward to working with colleagues throughout the university community to realize opportunities for faculty development now before us."

David Guay, a sophomore, is the student employee of the year. He works as a staff assistant with the Learning Cooperative and a tutor-counselor in Upward Bound. In his desk work at the cooperative, supervisors say he is extremely helpful, sensitive and knowledgeable about the program's services. His nomination was forwarded to the Northeast Association of Employment Administrators, where he will compete with 13 other state winners.

Senior biology major **Meghan Brown** is a laboratory technician at the Vermont Cancer Center DNA Analysis Facility, where she has given the lab three years of reliable, high quality work. A supervisor says, "In a challenging and stressful environment Meghan has demonstrated outstanding skills and a delightful attitude. She is a rare find."

Senior **Miranda Star Lynch** works as a staff assistant in the English department. Her supervisor's nomination says, "Miranda's skill as a team member has increased the effectiveness of our ability to keep up with the demands of more than 50 faculty members. There is never any question about what her priorities are when she is at work."

Erin O'Leary, a senior studying marketing, works at the Flynn Center in a variety of capacities related to her academic work. Her supervisor praises about her attitude, ability to learn quickly, attention to detail and investment in the quality of her work. "

Erin Regan, a senior, was lauded for her advanced knowledge of German and her proficiency in database research. Wolfgang Mieder, chair of the Department of German and Russian, says, "How wonderful it is to have such a great student with linguistic and computer expertise to assist me with my numerous research projects. I hope to do a research project with her that we will publish together."

theview

University Communications
86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)

[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#)

[Print This Issue](#) | [Print Past Issues](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

UVM HOMEPAGE

EVENTS



Paquito D'Rivera, a titan of Cuban music, will perform at the Flynn with backing by UVM students on April 26.

UVM Jazz Group to Perform on Stage with Cuban Star

The Cuban jazz musician Paquito D'Rivera inspires, and deserves, the overused adjective "legendary." The Grammy-winning horn player, called a "gifted saxophonist and clarinetist" by the *New York Times*, is performing at the Flynn Center on April 26 – and he's being joined on stage by the UVM Jazz Ensemble.

"For the students, it's a gig on an entirely different level," says Alex Stewart, assistant professor of music. "It's unbelievable for them."

D'Rivera is rehearsing with the UVM group in master-class format on April 25 and 26. Bolstered by that experience, the 20 students will join D'Rivera's group and Argentine trumpeter Diego Urcola on stage.

Observer tickets for the April 26 master class, which will be held at 2 p.m. at the Flynn Center, are available at the door for \$7. Tickets for the concert are also available, and start at \$19.

Information: flynncenter.org.

A Cultural Analysis of Genetic Analysis

Science historian Michael Fortun, an associate professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, will explore the late-1990s genomics boom in a talk scheduled for April 18 at 12:15 p.m. in 311 Lafayette.

Fortun will use his three visits to the controversial Icelandic firm deCODE genetics as a reference

The Environmental Program Celebrates 30 Years

The UVM Environmental Program, an upstart in 1972, is now a well-established program about to celebrate its 30th anniversary. The week of festivities begins on April 22, Earth Day.

More than 150 program alumni from the United States and Europe have registered to attend the celebration, but many events are free and open to the public. For registration, more information and a complete events listing, see <http://www.uvm.edu/~envprog/reunion/index.php>.

Some of the public programs include:

- **April 22:** Kick-off gathering focusing on Earth Charter, 4 p.m. at Billings North Lounge. Professor Emeritus Bill Eddy speaks on "putting Earth Day into perspective," 5 p.m. in Billings.
- **April 23:** Environmental film festival runs from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in 413 Waterman. Showing of vintage Bill Eddy enviro films begins at 7:30 p.m. in 427 Waterman.
- **April 24:** Ecological economics lecture by Jon Erickson, associate professor of natural resources, 5:30 p.m. in Carpenter Auditorium. Bill Eddy reading and discussion, 5:30 p.m. in the Grace Coolidge Room, Waterman Building.
- **April 25:** Former Governor Madeleine Kunin discusses Vermont environmental politics, 2:30 p.m. in Waterman's Grace Coolidge Room. Tom Hudspeth, associate professor of environmental studies, discusses sustainability, 3:30 p.m. in Allen House.
- **April 26:** Environmental tour of campus with UVM staffer Gioia Thompson, 10:30 a.m. start at Allen House.

Speaker Takes On Aging Stereotypes

Becca Levy, assistant professor of epidemiology and public health at Yale University School of Medicine, will discuss the "Cultural Constructions of Aging: The Influence of Age Stereotypes on Older Adults' Health," on April 24 at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Lounge.

Levy's studies focus on how psychological factors, particularly older individuals' perceptions of aging, affect cognition and health in old age. She has testified before the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging about issues of ageism and older adult health and is the recipient of the 2001 Springer Early Career Award in Research on Adult Development and Aging from the American Psychological Association.

point for a broader cultural analysis of the time. He argues that genomics demanded that participants "parlay a series of bets, speculations, wishes, hedges, material virtualities, and promises into another series of hoped-for, although perhaps repeatedly deferred, outcomes."

The professor is the author of the book *Muddling Through: Pursuing Science and Truths in the Twenty-First Century*.

Sponsored by the Forum on Aging, the Department of Integrated Professional Studies and the Center for the Study of Aging, the free public lecture honors the memory of the late Armin Grams, professor emeritus of human development.

For more information, call 656-3238 or go to [Forum on Aging](#).

Sugar-on-Snow Set to Flow

It was, all things considered, a tough season for maple sugaring – which makes 2003's first harvest all the more worth celebrating. The annual UVM Sugar-on-Snow party is April 23 from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Bailey/Howe Library portico.

Beyond the obvious icy refreshment, the event offers music by "Atlantic Crossing," as well as exhibits and a video on maple science and history.

The event has been a fixture at UVM since 1991. It is intended to highlight the importance of sugaring to Vermont's economy and way of life.

Information: 656-4389

theview

University Communications
86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#)

[Print This Issue](#) | [Print Past Issues](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

UVM HOMEPAGE

NOTABLES

*April 16 – April 23, 2003***Awards and Honors**

Matthew Wilson, an assistant research professor of business administration with a joint appointment at the Gund Institute of Ecological Economics, was awarded an "early career" faculty award by the Vermont EPSCoR program to support Ph.D. student Shuang Liu in her research.

Joanna Reuter, a graduate student of geology, recently was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship Award. The highly competitive award offers recognition and three years of support for advanced study to approximately 900 outstanding graduate students. Reuter's winning proposal concerned her environmental research tracking where and how sediment is generated on the earth's surface. Reuter works with **Paul Bierman**, professor of geology. His laboratory recently received a \$60,000 grant from the NSF to further pursue research on soil erosion in Namibia, an effort closely tied to Reuter's research.

Lynn Johnson, assistant professor in the professional physical education program, was named the 2002-2003 Outstanding College Educator in the field of physical education by the Vermont Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, at its recent spring conference at Middlebury College.

Publications and Presentations

David Neiweem, professor of music, was interviewed on Vermont Public Radio on April 3 in conjunction with a performance he conducted with the Burlington Choral Society in Burlington on April 5. In addition, both VPR and WCVT television played excerpts from Neiweem's work with the society in features about the concert.

Teaching Activities

Physics sophomores **Zuzana Srostlik** and **Stephen Redman** recently traveled to Puerto Rico's Arecibo Observatory, the site of the world's largest radio dish, with Professor **Joanna Rankin**. The group collected radio data on pulsars.

Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor of business administration, hosted a guest speaker for her marketing communications class on April 14. **Bill Carter**, president of Fuse Integrated Sports Marketing and a recognized authority in marketing action and adventure sports, spoke and answered questions.

*April 9 – April 15, 2003***Publications and Presentations**

Sally Huber, professor of pathology, and **Danielle Sartini**, a laboratory technician in the department, had an article, "Role of CD1d in Coxsackievirus B3-Induced Myocarditis," published in the March 15 edition of *The Journal of Immunology*. A photo taken by Huber was also chosen for use on the journal's cover.

Anne Moore, a graduate student of English, was among three students to earn top honors at the Women's Studies Symposium, held in Castleton on March 22. Moore was among 10 college students in Vermont who were chosen to present papers on the theme "Feminism for the Post-Viagra Age." Her paper was titled,

"It's in the Blood: Dark Doubles in Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

Awards and Honors

Senior **Stephanie Bennett** won a citizenship award on April 9 from the city of Burlington for her work in the community. The presentation was part of the "Neighborhood Night of Successes" event. Bennett has been chair of the Student Government Association's Committee on Legislative Action and as a steering committee member of the Ward 1 Neighborhood Planning Assembly. Of special note was the forum you spearheaded this past fall on quality-of-life issues in neighborhoods, which was attended by residents, landlords, city officials, city administrators, as well as UVM students, staff, faculty, and administrators.

Kathleen Liang, assistant professor of community development and applied economics, was selected as a member of the Lake Champlain Sea Grant Program Advisory Committee. The committee is a statewide external advisory body to the Sea Grant management team. The principal activities of the group are to provide input during annual program planning (the basis for the program's annual funding proposal) and to assist in the review and selection of research proposals for funding. The advisory committee will also play a central role in developing a five-year strategic plan.

April 2 – April 8, 2003

Awards and Honors

The **Vermont Child Health Improvement Program** in the department of pediatrics received a \$300,000, three-year grant from the March of Dimes. The program's proposal on improving prenatal risk assessment and quality of care was selected by the March of Dimes Vermont Chapter and submitted to the national organization along with 59 other applications from chapters across the country. The Vermont Chapter was one of only four chapters chosen to award its organization with a grant. UVM faculty involved include **Judith Shaw**, director of VCHIP and research assistant professor of pediatrics; **Dr. Eleanor Capeless**, professor of obstetrics and gynecology; **Dr. Peter Cherouny**, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology; and **Dr. Charles Mercier**, associate professor of pediatrics.

Mark Bouton, professor of psychology, has been elected President of the Eastern Psychological Association for 2004-05 and will serve as President-Elect in 2003-04. The EPA is one of the larger regional divisions of the American Psychological Association. Its former presidents include notable psychologists like B.F. Skinner and Florence Denmark.

Rocki-Lee DeWitt, dean of the business school, has been elected to a three-year term as a member of the Board of the Lake Champlain Region Chamber of Commerce. She was also appointed by Governor Douglas to serve as a member of PAGE, the Project to Advance Government Efficiency. She joins other government and business leaders to "initiate a review of how government can function better, utilize technological advances and improve our systems and processes."

Publications and Presentations

Marilyn Lucas, visiting assistant professor of business administration, presented a paper titled "On the Evaluation of a Small Donation-and-Sales Program", at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Northeast Decision Science Institute in late March. The paper was written in collaboration with C.F. Nicholson of Cornell University.

In Memorium

Brady Blackford Gilleland of Burlington, professor emeritus of classics, passed away on Feb. 15. A memorial service will be held Sunday, April 27 at 3 p.m. at the Unitarian Church in Burlington.

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

UVM HOMEPAGE

Teaching Growth

By Tom Weaver



Senior student teacher Justin Wright is learning the high school educator's trade (and losing his illusions) by actually doing it. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

If ever a question begged statistical analysis, it would be determining the percentage of male secondary education majors who grow their first beards during student teaching.

Justin Wright, a UVM senior from St. Albans, stubbled-up for three weeks until he decided that the effect was more "scrappy" than scholarly. Now he relies on a new tie and a crisp shirt to bolster the thin line of

age that separates him from the students at Burlington High School, kids who may look like contemporaries but are, in fact, "pupils" he is doing his best to teach algebra and geometry.

It's a short strange trip, this bridge between education and vocation called "student teaching." The need to make it clear that you're in charge – not always easy for a lone 21-year-old in front of a room full of 17-year-olds – is just the beginning of the challenge.

Wright is lively, funny and personable, the sort of kid who in high school was told often that he'd make a great high school teacher himself. It's no stretch to picture him in ten years as a beloved teacher/coach/student government advisor at some Vermont high school, but last Thursday morning Wright was looking no farther into the future than his noon geometry class.

"I'm going to get tested," he says. "Twenty-four kids, all freshmen, all energized. It's amazing how 18 little conversations can turn into this steady hum."

Wright says that before he stepped into the classroom, his biggest concern about student teaching was what he calls the "technical aspects" – writing lesson plans and tests, grading homework. His cooperating teachers at BHS have been a great help with this, but classroom management issues have proven to be the highest hurdle and one that he has to clear on his own.

"I'm developing a presence," Wright says. "I had a picture of how I'd be up there in front of a class." He smiles. "I imagined everything smooth all the time." He laughs. "You think you're going to be cool. It's a surprise."

Moral support

On Tuesday afternoons, Wright gets a little help from his friends, along with the comfort of being a student again, when he sits down in a Waterman Building classroom for Education 230, "Teaching for Results," a seminar for secondary education student teachers taught by Assistant Professor Rebecca Gajda and graduate student Fran Bisselle. Beyond exploring the technical issues that had Wright worried, the class is an opportunity to share experiences and insights.



PRINT | EMAIL THIS PAGE

A Spring Thing

In addition to the 70-degree weather, signs of the arrival of spring were literally sprawled all over campus on April 15.

100 Memories

Gaynell Bessie Ladd is described in the 1924 edition of *The Ariel* as the "chatty young lady from Craftsbury... where ... the children never grow up." Now an active centenarian, some would say UVM's oldest alum still doesn't act her age.

Bisselle passes around an article, next week's reading to open a recent class. It begins with the rather bummer sentence: "Beginning teachers experience more classroom problems than experienced teachers do and they experience them more profoundly."

Adding a little perspective and levity, Gajda edits in "more classroom problems and joys." It's not just Pollyanna pep talk from the sidelines; Gajda is a veteran of years in the public schools, often teaching the toughest students. Her point is that student teaching is a vivid experience in general, and keeping a focus on the positive is essential to weathering it and growing into an excellent teacher.

At 4:30 p.m., after full days in high schools or middle schools, the Education 230 students brim with stories of their last week in the classrooms. Tired and a little punchy, they let them flow. The tales out of class range from being confronted by a student's parent while you're in the middle of teaching a lesson to the awkwardness of seeing your students at Hannaford's while "ghettoed out" in the biggest of the big shorts.

Wright tells a long, funny story about playing in a local basketball tournament where he was paired up against a number of his students, including a very challenging young man who took the opportunity to trash talk him up and down the court. There's a little pain and a lot of humor in Wright's telling of the story, but he also finds opportunity in it, a foot in the door toward some common ground and a more positive relationship with a difficult student.

"What's the lesson in this, what's the moral of the story?" Gajda asks, then answers. "You never really leave your job as a teacher."

On the job training

Sitting in her Waterman office, Gajda reflects on the student-teaching challenge. "All along you're learning the science of teaching, then you are suddenly practicing the art," she says.

She notes that some of the classroom-management issues that fill the discussions that open her classes are inevitable for any teaching novice into the job for two weeks or two years. "They're not seasoned teachers, and when they get jobs out of college, they'll quite likely get the toughest classes."

Gajda laments this reality, describing the early years of most teachers' careers as working through a "survival" period when every lesson plan is a new lesson plan and every classroom challenge is a first. It's during those years that teachers either burn out and take another road professionally or begin to develop mastery of the art of teaching, the skill to have deep impact on students, schools, and communities.

In a perfect world, Gajda envisions student teaching taking place over a fifth year of undergraduate work, followed by a year-long residency. That's the ideal world, but the reality of UVM's student teaching experience is that it is more extensive than most, with junior-year observation experience bolstered by a full semester of senior year in the schools.

"Student teaching is vital to our students' development," Gajda says. "They're figuring out who they are in the world of work in a human profession. It is really a watershed moment. It makes them grow up immediately."

And maybe grow that beard, too.

theview

University Communications
86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

UVM HOMEPAGE

Baseball and Sunshine – It Must Be Spring

By Jon Reidel



Spring was everywhere during an April 15 home-opening double-header at Centennial Field. The 70-degree weather marked the first day of spring for many of the 200-plus fans in attendance. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

In addition to the 70-degree weather, signs of the arrival of spring were literally sprawled all over campus on April 15.

Sunbathers on the lawn at Redstone; basketball games on the outdoor courts next to Harris-Millis; runners and bikers; and gatherings on the lawns of fraternities and sororities were some of the more obvious indicators that Mother Nature may have finally relented.

But perhaps the truest indicator of the death of winter – at least for the day – were the sounds and smells emanating from Centennial Field.

For the 200-plus people in attendance at Vermont's home-opening double-header against Siena, the thwack of pitcher Jared Slater's fastballs meeting the glove of catcher Nick Roberts during his one-hit masterpiece and the crack of the bat coming from one of UVM's four home runs, mixed with the aroma of popcorn and hot dogs, were all they needed to know that spring had come to town.

"It's really nice out here," said UVM senior Vilasa Campbell, who came with fellow students Narayn Campbell and Sophie Toolanen to watch a friend from their Washington D.C.-area home town play in the game. "The sun is shining and people are having fun – that's what it's really all about when you come out to the ballpark."

Less than a week ago, with temperatures in the 30s, the chances of UVM playing at Centennial looked grim. Head groundskeeper Chris Baker said he and his crew shoveled the snow from behind home plate on Friday and were confident the weather would cooperate enough to host the opener.

"Two years ago we had snow out here right up until May," said Baker, who also works for the Vermont Expos. "This is the driest I've seen this field in eight years. The rain over the next few days will make everything greener."

Some fans were more focused on watching the Catamounts (15-4) sweep a doubleheader from Siena for their 10th-straight win than on enjoying the summer-like weather. The junior varsity baseball team from Colchester High came to watch Lakers alumni Justin Bissonnette and Jason Carey, who had three hits in the nightcap.

"I try to learn from watching them," said Colchester sophomore Ryan Brunell. "If I see them make a mistake, I try to make sure I don't make the same one. I'd like to play for UVM some day."

 [PRINT](#) | [EMAIL THIS PAGE](#)

Teaching Growth

If ever a question begged statistical analysis, it would be determining the percentage of male secondary education majors who grow their first beards during student teaching. Justin Wright, a UVM senior from St. Albans, stubbled-up for three weeks until he decided that the effect was more "scrappy" than scholarly.

100 Memories

Gaynell Bessie Ladd is described in the 1924 edition of *The Ariel* as the "chatty young lady from Craftsbury... where ... the children never grow up." Now an active centenarian, some would say UVM's oldest alum still doesn't act her age.

As for the players, who are off to one of the best starts since 1962, when UVM came within one game of making it to the College World Series, the warm weather and a couple of wins made opening day ideal.

"Field-wise it was better than I expected," said sophomore second baseman Bobby Tewksbary of Hudson, N.H. after belting two doubles in the opener. "It's a true sign of spring when you see everyone out on campus and you hear music playing everywhere."

theview

University Communications
86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

UVM HOMEPAGE

A Hundred Memories

By Jon Reidel



President Daniel Mark Fogel stands with UVM's oldest graduate, 100-year-old Gaynell Ladd Regan, at a recent alumni event in Sarasota, Fla. (Photo: Courtesy of Development & Alumni Relations)

Gaynell Bessie Ladd is described in the 1924 edition of *The Ariel*, the UVM yearbook, as the "chatty young lady from Craftsbury... where we think the town must be the place of delights to all poets, for there the children never grow up."

Some would argue that Gaynell Ladd Regan, now an active 100-year-old resident of Bradenton, Fla. and the university's oldest living graduate, still doesn't act her age, based on her thrice-weekly aquatics classes,

45-minute walks and membership to four bridge clubs.

"I'm very fortunate to be enjoying life in Florida," she says. "The only complaint I have is that there's not another day in the week to get it all in."

With her 80th reunion less than year away, the honors student from Craftsbury Academy shows no signs of slowing down. Surrounded by friends and family amidst an active social life, Regan appears to still take stock in her senior class quote: "It is not good that man should be alone."

"She is who I would hope to be at any age," says Pat Brennan, who visited Regan recently as part of her duties as director of UVM's Green & Gold program. "She's very upbeat and has a real positive outlook on life, which is probably why she's lived this long. She's amazing."

The roaring 20s

Regan's memory of UVM in the years after World War I is more of a positive overall feeling than a series of vivid, detailed memories. She is proud of being on the honor roll all four years in "Literary Scientific" with a focus on Latin, French and English. "I stayed away from the sciences," says Regan, who was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority and who went on to teach in Johnson, Vt., for two years before marrying another educator.



"We had an annual ball in the gymnasium," Regan says. "We always dressed neatly back then. We looked much better than they do today – not as casual."

When Regan arrived at Angel Hall the fall of 1920, with her academic scholarship in hand, some 312 men and women had enrolled in the class of '24, including a fraternity boy with a wide grin and a thatch of dark red-hair named Dan Dyer, whom Regan went to high school with at Craftsbury Academy.



PRINT | EMAIL THIS PAGE

Teaching Growth

If ever a question begged statistical analysis, it would be determining the percentage of male secondary education majors who grow their first beards during student teaching. Justin Wright, a UVM senior from St. Albans, stubbled-up for three weeks until he decided that the effect was more "scrappy" than scholarly.

A Spring Thing

In addition to the 70-degree weather, signs of the arrival of spring were literally sprawled all over campus on April 15.

Dyer lived to be UVM's oldest alumnus until his death on June 15, 2001 at age 100. Dyer had spent 40 years as a teacher, principal, and superintendent at Vermont schools before retiring to St. Johnsbury, where lived with his wife until his death.

"I never dated him, but we were friends," Regan says of Dyer. "I was sorry to hear he passed away. I'm pretty sure I'm the only one left from that class."

Dyer, known as Red and Danny to his UVM buddies, described UVM in 1924 during a speech at his 50th reunion as a place where "girls played field hockey in their natty middy blouses and baggy bloomers ... where a college lad got excellent rooming accommodations for \$80 for the year... where college spirit ran high and attendance at games, smokers and rallies was a must."

Dr. Everett Holmes, a 1925 graduate of UVM's College of Medicine, took over the honor from Dyer for 39 days until his death on July 24, 2001, also at the age of 100. Holmes had spent more than 50 years as a doctor caring for people in Vermont's Black River Valley.

Regan has been carrying the longevity torch since Holmes's passing, and is showing no signs of giving it up anytime soon.

At a recent gathering of UVM alumnus at the Long Beach Key Country Club near Sarasota, Dyer was honored with other alumni for her support of the university. Her pride in Vermont sounded intact.

"They gave me a sofa pillow that read University of Vermont in gold letters," Regan says. "Someone from UVM gave me some syrup that was too dark. I told them they'd better take it back because I didn't want to be ashamed of Vermont. I got a letter from them telling me they'd send me some of this year's first run."

theview

University Communications
86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [Feedback](#)