

UND president's son writes for children

Book signing Saturday

Rick Kupchella, author and weekend anchor of KARE 11 in Minneapolis, will be reading his new book, "Tell Me What We Did Today" and signing copies in Barnes & Noble University Store from noon until 2 p.m. Saturday.



Kupchella

For a sneak peek of the book, visit www.tristanpublishing.com.

The store is located at 775 Hamline St. The book is \$15.95 and is published by Tristan, Golden Valley, Minn. For more information, call 777-2746.

For a sneak

Rick Kupchella, who will be reading and autographing his first book Saturday in Grand Forks, says he writes on adrenaline.

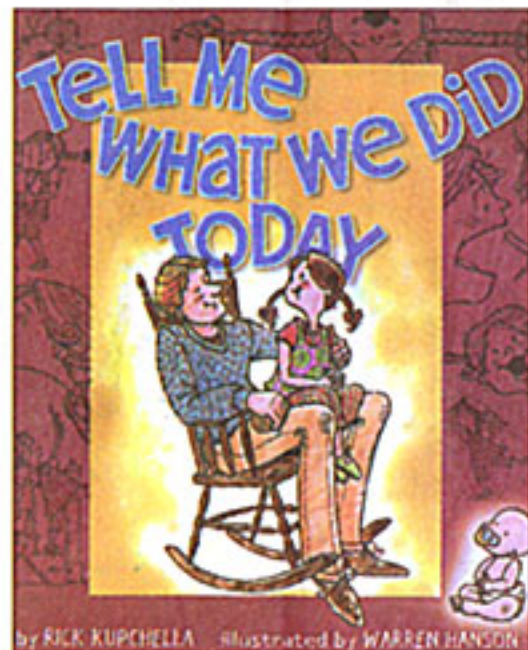
Kupchella is the son of UND President Charles and Adele Kupchella. And he is a weekend anchor and news man for KARE 11 TV in the Twin Cities.

In his day job, Kupchella sometimes starts with meetings at 7 a.m. By the end of the day, he often is dragging. But when the lights go on and it's time for him to anchor the 10 p.m. news, he says he comes alive.

"Zoom, you are on," he says. When he gets home, he's still hyped up. So he unwinds by going to his office at home and writing.

His first book, "Tell Me What We Did Today," grew out of his parenting style with his two daughters — Caroline, 6, and Elizabeth, 4. He has a way of teasing the girls and when he asks them about their day he makes up things that never could have happened. Then they tell him what they really did.

Kupchella says the book is 32 pages of whimsy. The book is beautifully illustrated by Warren Hansen. He earlier teamed up with Tom Hegg on "Cup of Christmas Tea," which sold more than 1.5 million copies. Reception of "Tell Me What We Did Today" has been unbelievable, Kupchella says.



In its first weeks, 6,000 books sold quickly. The book is published by Tristan Publishing, a new specialty book company based in Golden Valley, Minn. The company publishes books with a message that touch people's hearts and lives.

Kupchella currently is working on a second children's book with Tristan Publishing that focuses on empowering young girls. Having two daughters in-

spired him to find high profile women to participate in the book. To date, he has secured Sandra Day O'Connor, the first woman on the U.S. Supreme Court; Sally Ride, the first woman to be an astronaut; and Jackie Joyner Kersee, the Olympic athlete once dubbed the fastest woman in the world. Kupchella looks for release of the book a year from now.

Kupchella and his wife, Leslie, lead a busy, visible life in the Twin Cities. She is press secretary to Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty. Kupchella spends half of his time researching, writing and editing news stories and half of his time as an anchor. He has been recognized for excellence in broadcasting by New York International Film Festival, Chicago Regional Emmy Awards and the Gannett Corporation. He started in broadcasting as a sophomore in high school at Murray, Ky., doing volunteer work for public radio. He moved into reporting as an intern for NBC and earned degrees in political science and broadcasting from Murray State University. His work in the news business took him from the Voice of America Radio Network to the White House Press corps, AP Radio Network and CBS Evening News in New York.

Kupchella has been in the Twin Cities since 1969. The family lives in the suburb of Golden Valley. His family



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gets up to Grand Forks a couple of times a year to visit his parents. Their first visit came when his father was inaugurated as president of UND four years ago. At that time, there were so many family members that they used a bus to get them around the campus and the city to the various celebrations.

The next time Kupchella brought his family to Grand Forks, his daughter Caroline asked, "Will we be riding around in the bus again?"

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