

## Selected Coverage February 2007

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### Print and Web

Los Angeles Times  
CBS News  
USA Today  
Chronicle of Higher Education  
Seattle Post-Intelligencer  
Washington Post  
Wall Street Journal  
New York Times  
New Scientist  
U.S. News & World Report  
MSNBC  
Investor's Business Daily  
Newsday  
NPR  
Elmira Star-Gazette  
Exduco.net (Italy)  
CNN-IBN (India)  
New York Sun  
Binghamton Press and  
Sun-Bulletin  
News-Medical.net (Australia)  
CNN  
Reno Gazette-Journal  
Cincinnati Enquirer  
Wave magazine  
St. Louis Business Journal  
Monsters and Critics.com (UK)  
The Spokesman-Review  
Capital News 9, Albany  
Nanowerk Spotlight  
Frederick News-Post  
Yourhub.com, Colorado  
Technology News Daily  
Laboratory Talk.com (UK)

### Local

Democrat and Chronicle  
13WHAM-TV (ABC)

### Highlights

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#### About Research and Faculty

##### *New York Times, Science Times* (February 20)

##### **It Can't be Too Thin**

Synthetic membranes designed to separate proteins and other molecules have an inherent problem. While their pores may be of the proper diameter, on the order of 10 nanometers, or 10 billionths of a meter, the membranes are too thick—perhaps a thousand times as thick as the molecules they are meant to filter. ... Now **Christopher C. Striemer** and colleagues at the **University of Rochester** report success in fabricating an extremely thin membrane. They say it may prove useful in identifying or separating proteins or other molecules based on size or charge.

##### *New Scientist* (February 10)

##### **Slowed-down Light Stores Data for Longer**

**John Howell** and his team at the **University of Rochester** in New York have shown how delayed light can reliably transmit information. They encoded images digitally in pulses of light and passed the pulses through a hot vapour, which slowed the pulses to a tenth of their original speed. Then they used an array of micro-mirrors to reconstruct the images when the light emerged after delays of up to 10 nanoseconds.

##### *Forbes* (February 7)

##### **High-Action Video Games Improve Vision**

Playing high-action video games for about an hour a day can help improve vision, according to a **University of Rochester** study in the journal *Psychological Science*. "Action video game play changes the way our brains process visual information," said **Daphne Bavelier, professor of brain and cognitive sciences**. "After just 30 hours, players showed a substantial increase in the spatial resolution of their vision, meaning they could see figures like those on an eye chart more clearly. ..."

#### About Students

##### *Wall Street Journal* (February 13)

##### **Career Journal: M.B.A. Programs Take Fast Track**

Jiye Shi, a scientist for Belgian biopharmaceutical company UCB Group, travels regularly to Europe on business and didn't think he could fit an executive M.B.A. program into his schedule. But he recently discovered a revamped program at the **University of Rochester's Simon Graduate School of Business** that should suit the pace of his life. Dr. Shi will miss work less often because he will attend classes on alternating Fridays and Saturdays instead of every Friday.

## **National Coverage**

### **About the University**

*Elmira Star-Gazette* (February 14)

#### **Questions, Answers with Gov. Spitzer**

Gov. Eliot Spitzer said . . . : “I’ve spoken at great length about working with our universities to ensure that they grow. They are now the largest employers, especially in the Rochester region. It is surprising to us that the **University of Rochester** employs more than Kodak. But that is a reality and we have to make sure they are attracting the faculty, the students, the research grants and also learning to spin intellectual property into jobs that will be homegrown and will stay local. (Also reported by *Journal News New York*.)

*Exduco.net, Italy* (February 12)

#### **Simon School Rises Among World’s Top Business Schools**

**The Simon Graduate School of Business at the University of Rochester** is ranked 38th, up from 40th in 2006, among the world’s top 100 business schools in an annual survey by the *Financial Times* of London. Simon tied for 22nd among United States business schools.

*Los Angeles Times* (February 12)

#### **Business Schools Warming to Environmental Concerns**

Many universities are teaching the importance of climate change in regards to industry and corporate responsibility. **Mark Zupan**, dean of the **William E. Simon Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Rochester**, agrees. He says that climate change has become increasingly important for students. Not only do students care about the environment, but they seem to understand that climate change is a critical issue for industry. The more they know about it, the better placed they will be in the job market.

### **About Research and Faculty**

*USA Today* (February 28)

#### **Bird Flu Vaccine Gets FDA Approval**

In reaction to the approval of a vaccine for avian flu, **University of Rochester researcher John Treanor** said, “This significantly enhances our ability to respond rapidly to an emerging pandemic.”

If approved, he said, it would mean “there is now a licensed vaccine in the freezer ready to be used at a moment’s notice.” (Also reported by *CBC News [Canada]*, *Democrat and Chronicle*.)

*CNN-IBN, India* (February 26)

#### **Common Cold May Cause Pneumonia**

E. Kathryn Miller and colleagues at Vanderbilt University, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the **University of Rochester** studied children under the age of five years admitted with fever and respiratory symptoms in Davidson County, Tenn., and Monroe County, New York, over a one-year period. (Also reported by *International News Network Pakistan*, *PhysOrg.com*, *Infection Control Today Arizona*, *Innovations Report [Germany]*, and others.)

*Chronicle of Higher Education* (February 23)

#### **The New Library Professional (essay by Stanley Wilder, associate dean of the River Campus Libraries at the University of Rochester)**

“If you work in an academic library and are under 35, you probably don’t have a lot in common with your older counterparts. You are far more likely to work in areas beyond the confines of traditional librarianship, often in information technology. You are less likely to hold a degree in library science.”

*Forbes* (February 21)

#### **Many Stroke Patients Affected by Hospital Errors**

Researchers analyzed data on 1,440 stroke patients admitted to **Strong Memorial Hospital at the University of Rochester Medical Center** between July 2001 and December 2004. Of those 1,440 patients, 173 (12 percent) suffered a total of 183 adverse events, defined as an injury to a patient during medical management. Adverse events are not necessarily the result of a medical error, which are incorrect actions or plans that may harm a patient. (Also reported by *Washington Post*, *HealthCentral.com Virginia*, and *WFIE News Indiana*.)

*New York Sun* (February 21)

#### **Curb Your Anti-Semitism**

A new book, *Shylock Is Shakespeare*, by **Kenneth Gross, English professor at the University of Rochester**, aims to redeem Shylock as a charismatic character, on the grounds that he speaks with the voice of Shakespeare himself. Mr. Gross is attempt-

ing more than a restating of what the critic William Hazlitt wrote in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, that Shylock is “another instance of Shakespeare’s powers of identifying himself with the thoughts of men.”

***New York Times, Science Times* (February 20)  
It Can’t be Too Thin**

Synthetic membranes designed to separate proteins and other molecules have an inherent problem. While their pores may be of the proper diameter, on the order of 10 nanometers, or 10 billionths of a meter, the membranes are too thick—perhaps a thousand times as thick as the molecules they are meant to filter. . . . Now **Christopher C. Striemer** and colleagues at the **University of Rochester** report success in fabricating an extremely thin membrane. They say it may prove useful in identifying or separating proteins or other molecules based on size or charge. (Also reported by *Exduco.net Italy, Ars Technica, Physorg.com, Photonics, Scientific American, MIT Technology Review, R News, Democrat and Chronicle*, and other outlets.)

***Press and Sun-Bulletin, Binghamton* (February 19)  
Less N.Y. Face Time Likely for Clinton**

Story on the varying reactions to Sen. Hillary Clinton’s run for the Democratic presidential primary. Clinton also faces Senate colleagues—including members of her own party—who are seeking the presidential nomination and may try to block her legislation to keep her from getting credit, said **Gerald Gamm, a political scientist at the University of Rochester**. “That could hamper her ability to get things done,” Gamm said. (Also reported by *Democrat and Chronicle*.)

***News-Medical.net, Australia* (February 18)  
New Targets in Cancer Mutation Puzzle**

“We have very little understanding of how Ras and p53 or any other potent gene mutations cooperate to cause malignant tumors,” said **Hartmut Land, who is professor and chair of the Department of Biomedical Genetics and scientific director of the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center at the University of Rochester Medical Center**. “But we have suspected for a long time that the way to develop rational searches for new drug targets is to first understand how these oncogenes cooperate. And in this study, we’ve shown for the first time that this idea might work.” (Also reported by *Nature.com, Innovations Report [Germany]*, and other outlets.)

***CNN: In The Money* (February 18)  
Appearance Can Affect Salary**

On a program about diversity in the workplace . . . **Steven Landsburg of the University of Rochester** said: “Height is worth about \$1,000 a year per inch. If you’re one inch taller than your colleague who has the same qualification, education experience that you do, then you probably earn about \$1,000 a year more. If you’re 6 inches taller, you probably earn about \$6,000 a year more.”

***USA Today* (February 18)  
Psychology Erases the Idea of Children as ‘Blank Slates’**

“In the early 1960s, mainstream ophthalmology textbooks claimed that newborns were blind, audiology textbooks claimed that newborns were deaf, and researchers who relied on more sophisticated motor responses like reaching claimed that cognitive (thought) abilities were extremely rudimentary until the end of the first postnatal year,” writes the **University of Rochester’s Richard Aslin** in an essay in the online journal, *Developmental Science*.

***Washington Post* (February 15)  
When Pregnant Mom Eats Fish, Kids Do Better**  
In a commentary in the *Lancet*, **Dr. Gary Myers and Philip Davidson of the University of Rochester Medical Center** in New York wrote, “These results highlight the importance of including fish in the maternal diet during pregnancy and lend support to the popular opinion that fish is brain food.” (Also reported by *Forbes, CBS News, New Scientist, CBC News [Canada], Scotsman [UK], New Zealand Herald, Seattle Times, Denver Post, Reuters, The Ledger [Florida]*, and other news outlets.)

***Reno Gazette-Journal* (February 13)  
Women Seek Out Remedies for Cooling Down Hot Flashes**

. . . Others try alternative supplements. “It’s not unreasonable to try some of these ‘natural’ methods before proceeding (to prescription medications),” says **Dr. Sireesha Reddy, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Rochester Medical Center**.

*New Scientist* (February 10)

**Slowed-down Light Stores Data for Longer**

**John Howell** and his team at the **University of Rochester** in New York have shown how delayed light can reliably transmit information. They encoded images digitally in pulses of light and passed the pulses through a hot vapour, which slowed the pulses to a tenth of their original speed. Then they used an array of micro-mirrors to reconstruct the images when the light emerged after delays of up to 10 nanoseconds—an eternity in imaging terms. (Also reported by *UPI*, *Earthtimes.org*, *HULIQ*, *PhysOrg.com*, *Photonics.com* [Massachusetts], and many others.)

*U.S. News & World Report* (February 11)

**A Shareholder Option: Sell**

Investigations into backdated stock options have rocked more than 100 companies in the past two years. Over 60 top execs have been fired. Still, many analysts insist the scandal won't have any lasting effect on stock prices. They are wrong, say researchers from the University of Miami School of Business, the **University of Rochester's Simon Graduate School of Business**, and Forensic Economics.

*Investor's Business Daily* (February 9)

**Honey, I Shrank The Lab Instruments**

Several universities are evaluating the Nano eNabler, including the **University of Rochester**, Harvard University, Stanford University, Cornell University, and Georgia Tech. The \$150,000 device . . . is a molecular printer that instead of squirting dots of ink onto paper lets biotech researchers arrange extremely tiny droplets of chemicals and fluids in precise patterns . . . The **University of Rochester** is seeing whether the eNabler will be useful for a new kind of bandage that would use tiny sensors to monitor wounds.

*MSNBC* (February 9)

**Get a Mental Health Boost from Video Games**

Researchers at the **University of Rochester** recently reported finding that children and adults play video games because they fulfill basic psychological needs such as opportunities for achievement, freedom and a sense of connection to others.

*Cincinnati Enquirer* (February 9)

**Cold Remedies—Do They Work?**

The verdict is still out on other products because they lack well-designed studies of thousands of people, says **Dr. Diego Cahn-Hidalgo**, also an internist and clinical assistant professor of medicine at **University of Rochester (N.Y.) Medical Center**. (Also reported in *Daily Record.com* [New Jersey] and *Sauk Valley Newspapers* [Illinois].)

*Wave Magazine* (February 8)

**Rocking Out**

Rocking chairs are especially popular with pregnant and nursing women, but their health benefits are universal. A two-year study by the **University of Rochester School of Nursing** found that patients who spent at least 70 minutes a day rocking had less anxiety and depression.

*Forbes* (February 7)

**High-Action Video Games Improve Vision**

Playing high-action video games for about an hour a day can help improve vision, according to a **University of Rochester** study in the journal *Psychological Science*. "Action video game play changes the way our brains process visual information," said **Daphne Bavelier, professor of brain and cognitive sciences**. "After just 30 hours, players showed a substantial increase in the spatial resolution of their vision, meaning they could see figures like those on an eye chart more clearly, even when the other symbols crowded in."

(Also reported by *Boston Globe*, *Washington Post*, *Reuters*, *CBS News*, *BCS News UK*, *CBC News Canada*, *CCN Magazine California*, *Hindustan India*, *Monsters and Critics.com UK*, *Chicago Daily Herald*, *Computerworld New Zealand*, *CNN: Anderson Cooper*, *Washington Post*, *Scientific American*, *PC World Magazine Australia*, *Boombtown Denmark*, *Kansas City Star*, *MTV News*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *WebMD.com*, *Newindpress India*, *HawaiiChannel.com*, *BostonChannel.com*, *DenverChannel.com*, *Fox Reno*, *Scientific American*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Learning Business Finland*, *News.com Australia*, *Democrat and Chronicle*, and many others.)

***NPR Talk of the Nation* (February 7)  
Should the HPV Vaccine Be Required?**

Lawmakers begin a debate on whether a vaccine against HPV should be added to the must-have list of immunizations. Guests on the program talk about the vaccine, how it works, and whether the vaccine should be mandatory, including **Robert Rose, associate professor of medicine, and of microbiology and immunology, University of Rochester Medical Center** who helped to develop the HPV vaccine.

***CBS News* (February 7)  
Clomiphene Best for PCOS Infertility  
David S. Guzick, MD, PhD, of the University of Rochester School of Medicine,** tells WebMD that

many infertility specialists who have abandoned clomiphene in recent years will be surprised by the new findings. “Clomiphene has been viewed by many as passC) for the treatment of PCOS-related infertility, while metformin has increasingly been seen as the drug of choice,” he says. “But this study shows that the tried and true treatment works better.” (Also reported by *Forbes* and *Washington Post*.)

***St. Louis Business Journal* (February 7)  
McDonnell Foundation Makes \$10M in Science Grants**

The largest grants, and the only to total more than \$1 million, were awarded to two universities in the Collaborative Award category of Bridging Brain, Mind and Behavior. Rutgers University in Newark, N.J., received a three-year grant for \$1,213,132, and the **University of Rochester** in Rochester, N.Y., received a three-year grant for \$2 million. (Also reported by *Rochester Business Journal*.)

***The Spokesman-Review, Washington* (February 6)  
Parkinson’s Cases Expected to Increase**

**Dr. E. Ray Dorsey** and his colleagues at the **University of Rochester** say the prevalence will grow as populations shift in age. In 2005, an estimated 4.1 million people worldwide had Parkinson’s disease. In 25 years, that number is predicted to climb to 8.7 million.

***Newsday* (February 5)  
Low-level Toxicants Can Harm Brain**  
“There is a huge problem in toxicology,” said **Mark Noble, a professor of biomedical genetics and neurobiology** at the **University of Rochester** and senior author of the study in the journal *PLoS Biology*. “There are 80,000 to 150,000 environmental toxicants about which we know nothing. Nobody knows how to screen for them or even where to start.” His study could be a major step in identifying methods of prevention and treatment. (Also reported by *Indianapolis Star*, *Playfuls.com Romania*, *Exduco Italy*, *Kentucky.com*, *PhysOrg.com*, *Innovations Reports, Germany*, *Monsters and Critics.com [United Kingdom]*, *South Asian Women’s Forum [India]*.)

***Capital News 9, Albany* (February 5)  
Children and Asthma Study  
Dr. Peter Szilagyi** at the **University of Rochester Medical Center** did a study on the impact of health insurance on asthma care. He says the state children’s health insurance program does help. “They get better health care, they are less likely to have asthma attacks, their parents are happier with their health care, they are less likely to be admitted to the hospital so it’s probably cost savings for this population,” Dr. Szilagyi said. (Also reported by *News 10 Now Central NY*.)

***Washington Post* (February 5)  
New Pollution Effects Observed**  
Rats exposed to highway pollution for several hours in an experiment by **University of Rochester** researchers experienced a drop in heart rate and impairment of the nervous system. The rats, old and prone to high blood pressure, rode in a mobile laboratory for six hours on a New York interstate, inhaling vehicle emissions that motorists would be exposed to along the 320-mile route. “The fact that exposure to air pollution can change the heart rate, independent of other factors, is a cause for concern,” said **Alison Elder**, the lead researcher. (Also reported in *Innovations Report Germany* and *HULIQ North Carolina*.)

***MSNBC* (February 4)  
Lab Disaster May Lead to New Cancer Drug**  
Her carefully cultured cells were dead and **Katherine Schaefer** was annoyed, but just a few minutes later, the researcher realized she had stumbled onto a potential new cancer treatment. Schaefer and colleagues at the **University of Rochester Medical Center** in

New York believe they have discovered a new way to attack tumors that have learned how to evade existing drugs. (Also reported by *Reuters*, *Scientific America*, *UPI*, *Earthtimes.org*, *Independent Online South Africa*, *China Daily*, *Boston Herald*, and other publications.)

***Seattle Post-Intelligencer* (February 3)  
'Autistic Diet' Getting a Closer Look**

One study under way at the **University of Rochester Medical Center** in New York looks at the effects of the diet in autistic children between the ages of 2 1/2 and 4 1/2. Sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health, it began in 2004 and should be completed in 2008. (Also reported by *Winston-Salem Journal*.)

***Nanowerk Spotlight, Hawaii* (February 2)  
Toxicology—From Coal Mines to Nanotechnology**

Studies in traditional particle toxicology mostly deal with airborne particles and results indicate that inhaled ultrafine particles (<100 nm diameter) can be harmful. **Günter Oberdörster**, a leading toxicology researcher at the **University of Rochester**, says that “studies have shown that airborne ultrafine particles can contribute to adverse health effects in the respiratory tract as well as in extrapulmonary organs.”

## **About Alumni**

***USA Today* (February 28)**

**Catlin Has Made a Career Out of Busting Juicers**  
**Don Catlin** insists that his UCLA Olympic Analytical Lab, one of the world's best sports-drug testing laboratories, maintains a low profile. Catlin grew up in Connecticut rooting for Ted Williams and the Boston Red Sox, received his undergraduate degree from Yale in statistics and psychology and attended medical school at the **University of Rochester**, graduating in 1965. He entered the Army in 1968, at the height of the Vietnam War, and was stationed at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

***Wall Street Journal* (February 20)  
He's Honored W.H. Auden with a Lifetime of Devotion**

An aspiring poet himself, **Edward Mendelson** grew up in the Village, a block from Auden's St. Marks Place apartment. One of his teachers at the **University of Rochester** told Mr. Mendelson that Auden held infor-

mal “office hours” at home. So the “very nervous” and “deeply shy” student found the poet listed in the phone book and scheduled a visit. “I went over and had nothing to say,” Mr. Mendelson recalls. “But Auden was a very generous figure to shy visitors, and he just talked at me for about an hour and gave me a cup of coffee.”

***Elmira Star-Gazette* (February 15)  
Corning Inc. Scientists Honored**

Two Corning Inc. scientists have been selected to receive Black Engineer of the Year awards by the Career Communications Group. The group, which includes editors of *U.S. Black Engineer & Information Technology* magazine, will honor **Mark Vaughn** and Richard Priestley during the annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference in Baltimore today through Saturday. Vaughn holds a bachelor's degree in physics from Alfred University, a master of science degree in optics from the **University of Rochester**, and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology.

***Frederick News-Post, Maryland* (February 13)  
Reunited after 50 years; Learning to Help and Love Each Other**

When **Bill and Joan Lee** met at the **University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music** 50 years ago, they wanted to marry each other. “My mother made us break up,” Joan said. “Thinking he wasn't good enough . . . or that I wouldn't finish school if we got married.” Now they help each other conquer illness.

## **About Students**

***Yourhub.com, Colorado* (February 13)  
Jefferson Symphony Announces Young Artist Winners**  
Third-place winner **Min Hwan Kim**, 19, a native of South Korea, studies piano with Natalya Antonova as a freshman at the **Eastman School of Music**. His numerous musical awards include: Finalist/Special Award, Wideman Piano Competition (2006); Finalist, Eastman Young Artists International Piano Competition (2006); First Prize, Edith Knox Performance Competition (Torrance, Calif., 2006); Semifinalist, Oberlin International Piano Competition (2005); and First Prize, Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition (New York City, 2005).

*Wall Street Journal* (February 13)

**Career Journal: M.B.A. Programs Take Fast Track**

Jiye Shi, a scientist for Belgian biopharmaceutical company UCB Group, travels regularly to Europe on business and didn't think he could fit an executive M.B.A. program into his schedule. But he recently discovered a revamped program at the **University of Rochester's Simon Graduate School of Business** that should suit the pace of his life. Dr. Shi will miss work less often because he will attend classes on alternating Fridays and Saturdays instead of every Friday. In addition, by taking some summer or evening classes, he can now complete the degree in 19 months instead of the usual 22 months.

*Technology News Daily, Arizona* (February 6)

**Campus Climate Challenge**

**University of Rochester** students are rising to the climate challenge during this national week national week of action to demand solutions that end our addiction to fossil fuels and work toward a clean energy future. The week of action, organized by the Campus Climate Challenge, includes more than 570 events covering 49 states and eight Canadian provinces.

*Newsday* (February 2)

**Mullers Driven to Support Daughter**

**Danielle Muller** has some devoted fans that would follow her anywhere, her parents. Bob and Carolyn Muller travel 374 miles from South Huntington to the **University of Rochester** to see her play basketball. "I guess we are all crazy," said Carolyn Muller of her and her husband's devotion to see all of Danielle's home games and as many away games as possible.

**About University-Related Businesses**

*Laboratory Talk.com, United Kingdom* (February 22)

**X-Ray streak Camera Delivers Highest Precision**

Sydor Instruments is the only commercial supplier of the Ross (Rochester Optical Streak System) technology, which has been developed under an exclusive license from the **University of Rochester, Laboratory for Laser Energetics**.

**LOCAL COVERAGE**

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**About the University**

*13WHAM-TV, ABC* (February 19)

**Early Daylight Savings Leap Not User-Friendly**

The tech service people at the **University of Rochester** have been working for six weeks adjusting computers and servers. The clocks are internally set to run on Daylight Saving Time prior to the upcoming change. Apparently, it affects everything from the time-keeping system, how payroll systems run and even applications that serve the medical center concerning the way organ donations are tracked at UR.

**About Research and Faculty**

*Democrat and Chronicle* (February 26)

**Breadth of Autism 'Spectrum' Poses Challenges for Teachers (essay by Susan Hetherington, assistant professor at the Warner School of Education and Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities)**

"Under the 2004 reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, all new teachers are required to have preparation in working with students with autism in their teacher education programs. The **University of Rochester's Warner School of Education** is committed to meeting the educational needs of all children, including those with ASD, by providing future teachers with autism information and instructional strategies and emphasizing the importance of partnering with parents. The school, in collaboration with the Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities of the **Goliso Children's Hospital at Strong**, offers a sequence of autism-related courses to teachers and other school personnel. ..."

*Democrat and Chronicle* (February 26)

**New Data Will Help UR Seek Key to Medical Mystery of Autism (essay by Patricia Rodier, professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Rochester Medical Center)**

"The **University of Rochester** is one of the five largest centers for autism research in the United States, and by far the largest center in New York. Research studies based in Rochester address a variety of important aspects of the disorder: the role of genes in early brain development, identification of environmental risk factors, basic differences in neurobiology such as eyeblink conditioning (which tells us about

how different brain pathways work) and chemosensory function (taste and smell abilities), and the effects and outcomes of different types of treatment that range from intense behavioral therapies to dietary interventions. ...”

### ***Democrat and Chronicle* (February 19)**

#### **Research at UR Boosts Urban Schools**

A scattering of schools and districts across the country have adopted First Things First, a package of school reforms developed more than 15 years ago at the **University of Rochester** in hopes of improving education. Now UR is heading up a \$6 million national research effort to look at why First Things First appears to be working. “They’ve had remarkable results in places like Kansas City, Kan., and Lee High School,” said **Edward Deci, UR psychology professor and Gowen Professor in the Social Sciences**. “We’re really interested in how it works, the conditions for it to work.”

### ***Democrat and Chronicle* (February 11)**

#### **African Americans, Especially Men, Still Hard Hit, Despite Medical Breakthroughs**

What is known, advocates say, is that national, state and local entities must put more focus and money into educational campaigns, much like what has happened with breast cancer and mammography awareness. “When it comes to these rates being too high, we have to teach prevention — and at the same time improve early detection and treatment to limit the death rates,” said **Dr. Jean Joseph, a urologist at the University of Rochester Medical Center** and one of the few African-American doctors who treat cancer in the Rochester area.

### ***Democrat and Chronicle* (February 8)**

#### **‘Science’ Notes UR Research**

**University of Rochester** research on evolution made the list of the journal *Science*’s top 10 breakthroughs for 2006. **Biology professor H. Allen Orr and graduate student J. P. Masley** were cited for their work on genetics and sterility in hybrids between certain species of fruit fly. **Assistant biology professor Daven Presgraves** was cited for his research on a gene that promotes speciation.

## **About Alumni**

### ***Democrat and Chronicle* (February 5)**

#### **Fearless Kronos Quartet Pays a Visit**

The other three guys in the Kronos Quartet perhaps didn’t need to work out this little piece of trivia. But, “We figured out the other week, I was probably born the week the quartet first started rehearsals,” says the quartet’s most-recent addition, cellist **Jeffrey Zeigler**. By the Zeigler calendar, that’s 33 years of turning string quartet music upside down. Kronos does it again Wednesday when Zeigler, an **Eastman School of Music** alum, returns to the Eastman Theatre.

## **About Students**

### ***Democrat and Chronicle* (February 20)**

#### **Simulations Test Medical, Nursing Students at UR**

Jane Doe, 58, was all set to head home after being hospitalized with a mild heart attack. Then she took a turn for the worse, a virtual medical condition brought on by a computer a few feet away. As the programmer sent the mannequin’s heart rate racing dangerously high, a **University of Rochester** medical student and a nurse practitioner student scurried to deal with it.

### ***Democrat and Chronicle* (February 13)**

#### **Spoiling Your Sweetie? Plan to Open That Wallet**

Tina Cannady Chapman and José DaCosta, who are engaged to be married this spring, celebrated several days early with an “escape weekend,” while **University of Rochester** students **Liz Natale and Nicole Cox** had to make alternative plans because they can’t be with their boyfriends.

## **About University-Related Businesses**

### ***Democrat and Chronicle* (February 5)**

#### **UR Spinoff’s Scanner Takes Clear Shot at Breast Cancer**

Among the many mysteries and challenges of health care, diagnosing breast cancer undoubtedly ranks near the top. Radiologists are frequently asked to spot tumors no larger than a centimeter that are obscured by dense, fibrous tissue and hard to highlight on an X-ray. It’s a little like “spotting a snowman in a snowstorm,” says **Dr. Avice O’Connell**, director of women’s imaging for the **University of Rochester Medical Center**.