



Selected Coverage February 2008

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MSNBC (February 1)

Scientists alter the colors of many metals

Scientists in Rochester, N.Y., have found a way to turn several metals into an array of colors with the use of a laser. In Friday's Applied Physics Letters, **University of Rochester** researcher **Chunlei Guo** cited his latest study, which uses laser light to change the properties of virtually any metal to allow them to become a different color. (Also reported by *UPI*, *Science Magazine*, *Photonics.com*, *The Money Times India*, *CCN Magazine California*, *Nanowerk LLC Hawaii*, *Innovations Report Germany*, *Thaindian.com*, *Thailand*, *Zee News India*, *Science Centric Bulgaria* and other publications)

International Herald Tribune, France (February 15)

New York university to share its Abraham Lincoln letters online

Barely a year into the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln suggested buying slaves for \$400 apiece under a "gradual emancipation" plan that would bring peace at less cost than several months of hostilities. The proposal was outlined in one of 72 letters penned by Lincoln that ended up in the **University of Rochester's** archives. The correspondence will be digitally scanned and posted online Monday — the Presidents Day holiday — along with easier-to-read transcriptions. (Also reported throughout February and into March by *Independent Online*, *The Times of India*, *Albany Times Union*, *Democrat and Chronicle*, *WCAX-TV Vermont*, *WHAM TV 13*, *WHEC TV 10*, *WROC TV 8*, *R News*, *MSNBC*, *Chicago Sun Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Washington Times*, *Denver Post*, *Brisbane Times Australia*, *Sydney Morning Herald Australia*, *The Age Australia*, *The Hindu India*, *Los Angeles Daily News*, *Galesburg.com Illinois*, *Kentucky.com*, *Auburn Citizen New York*)

CBS News (February 11)

Living to 100 not so hard: researchers

Surprising new research suggests that even people who develop heart disease or diabetes late in life have a decent shot at reaching the century mark. "It has been generally assumed that living to 100 years of age was limited to those who had not developed chronic illness," said **Dr. William Hall** of the **University of Rochester**. (Also reported by *Time*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Denver Post*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Times of India*, *China Post*, *Buffalo News*, *ABC News*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *MSNBC*, *CNN*, *NPR*, *Chicago Sun-Times*, *USA Today*, *LA Times*, *Washington Post*, *Forbes*, *Boston Globe*, *Associated Press*, *Newsday*, *Miami Herald*, *Seattle Times*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Fox News*, *NPR* and many other publications/broadcast)

New York Times (February 19)

Midlife Suicide Rises, Puzzling Researchers

“There’s a social-bias issue here,” said **Dr. Eric C. Caine**, co-director at the Center for the Study of Prevention of Suicide at the **University of Rochester Medical Center**, explaining why suicide in the middle years of life had not been extensively studied before.

There is a “national support system for those under 19, and those 65 and older,” Dr. Caine added, but not for people in between, even though “the bulk of the burden from suicide is in the middle years of life.” (Also reported by *Today Show*, *International Herald Tribune France*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, *Sarasota Herald Tribune Florida*, *Tuscaloosa News Alabama*, *Providence Journal Rhode Island*)

CBS News (February 1)

Scientists Study How HIV Hides in Body

Researchers have long struggled unsuccessfully to attack what they call reservoirs of dormant HIV, and the new work is in very early stages. But **University of Rochester** scientist **Dr. Baek Kim** says it may be fairly straightforward to attack one of these reservoirs, blood cells called macrophages that HIV hijacks and turns into viral hideaways. (Also reported by *LA Times*, *Forbes*, *USA Today*, *MSNBC*, *Newsweek*, *Washington Post*, *NPR*, *Houston Chronicle*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Miami Herald*, *Associated Press*, *Denver Post*, *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, *Newsday*, *WHEC TV10* and many others)

Democrat and Chronicle (February 2)

Rocky unveiled as UR mascot

“Rocky” is the new name of the **University of Rochester’s** mascot, a more pugnacious wasp. **University President Joel Seligman** introduced Rocky to a crowd of more than 1,000 Friday night between the women’s and men’s basketball games at the Alexander Palestra. Seligman retired the pudgy, sweet URBee after 24 years with an honorary title of mascot emeritus. The name Rocky came in first after 1,966 votes were cast online.

Washington Examiner (February 11)

College-age voters turn out in record numbers

In 2004, 88% of students who talked regularly talked politics voted, according to research by political scientist **Richard Neimi** at the **University of Rochester**. “There’s been a lot of action by student organizations,” Neimi said. Those groups, he suggests, get students talking about politics.

Washington Post (February 22)

Earlier Colon Cancer Screens Urged for Smokers

Researchers at the **University of Rochester Medical Center** in New York analyzed the cases of 3,450 colon cancer patients and found that current smokers were diagnosed with the cancer an average of 6.8 years earlier than people who never smoked, while former smokers who’d quit less than five years before were diagnosed 4.3 years earlier than people who never smoked. People who’d quit more than five years before were the same as never-smokers. (Also reported by *Forbes*, *Austin American Statesman Texas*, *Atlanta Journal Constitution Georgia*, *WFIE-TV Indiana*)

Democrat and Chronicle (February 10)

Eastman grad wins Grammy

Maria Schneider, a graduate of the **University of Rochester’s Eastman School of Music**, won a Grammy today for best instrumental composition for her “Cerulean Skies.” Schneider lost in the category of best large jazz ensemble album to Terence Blanchard’s *A Tale of God’s Will (A Requiem for Katrina)*. The Maria Schneider Orchestra’s *Sky Blue*, which has been self-produced and promoted by Schneider, was nominated.

Christian Science Monitor (February 11)

Clinton-Obama: perils of a long Democratic battle

Right now, the traditional Democratic coalition is split exactly between them,” says **Gerald Gamm**, an associate professor of political science and history at the **University of Rochester** in New York. While that situation may be exciting for the media, it isn’t thrilling all party leaders. Some have said they’ll do all they can to head off the prospect of a brokered convention.

U.S. News & World Report (February 27)

CDC Urges Extending Flu Vaccine Coverage for Kids

According to one expert, even the best planning may not result in a perfect vaccine. “You have to make a decision about what will be in the vaccine in advance,” said **Dr. John Treanor**, a professor of medicine, microbiology and immunology at the **University of Rochester Medical Center** in Rochester, N.Y. “It takes six to eight months to make the vaccine after you’ve chosen the strains. “But the reality is that new strains emerge after that decision is made. So, you could be wrong,” Treanor said. (Also reported by *Washington Post*, *Forbes*, *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, *Austin American Statesman*, *LEX 18 Kentucky*, *WFIE-TV Indiana*)

CNN.com (February 22)

Retirement is great time to strike up the band

Joe Pedlosky, who plays with a local band, is one of many seniors picking up a musical instrument late in life. Many can thank New Horizons International Music Association, which sponsors senior bands and orchestras in the United States and Canada. The group was founded by **Roy Ernst**, professor emeritus at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, New York. When he formed the first senior-only band in 1991, it was a radical notion. “It was widely believed that the window of opportunity for learning music was childhood,” Ernst says. “If you didn’t learn then, you missed your chance.”

ABC News (February 19)

Dancing With the Deaf

Marlee Matlin -- the Oscar-winning actress who has also starred in television shows from “West Wing” to “The L Word” — will join the new season of “Dancing With the Stars,” set to premiere on March 17. “I love to watch the program even though I don’t have the volume on,” wrote **Lori DiWindt**, who is deaf and grew up with deaf parents. “It is inspiring to see different people compete given their backgrounds,” said DiWindt, who is a mental health therapist at the Deaf and Wellness Center at the **University of Rochester Medical Center**. “It’s nice to see that Marlee is up to the challenge.”

LA Times (February 4)

Study finds high levels of chemicals in infants using baby cosmetics

Manufacturers do not list phthalates as ingredients on labels, so it is unknown which products contain them. The researchers at the University of Washington and the **University of Rochester** stressed that the potential effects on babies were uncertain. But previous animal and human research suggests that early exposure to some phthalates could reduce testosterone and alter reproductive organs, particularly in males. (Also reported by *Seattle Times*, *ABC News*, *Detroit News*, *LA Times*, *Charleston Daily Mail West Virginia*, *WHEC TV 10*, *WHAM TV 13*)

New York Times (February 1)

Gearing Up for the Big Countdown

A definite contender for the title of Most Precocious Republican in New York City, **Marcus Cederqvist**, at 37 the baby-faced new executive director of the

Board of Elections, is gearing up for his debut as the city’s chief vote counter for Tuesday’s New York presidential primary. He got his start while a student at the **University of Rochester** by volunteering for Charles Millard’s 1991 campaign for the New York City Council.

Globe and Mail, Canada (February 1)

ABC series may perpetuate autism myths

But ABC refused to pull its debut of *Eli Stone* last night, and Aime Wolfe, an ABC spokeswoman, reiterated in an e-mail yesterday that the show is fictional and that “the characters, products, and events depicted in the episode are all fictional. The storyline plays on topical issues for dramatic effect, but its purpose is to entertain.” Ms. Wolfe said the network planned to show an “information card” at the end of the show that directs people to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website (cdc.gov). The AAP urged the precautionary removal of thimerosal from vaccines in the late 1990s. For the new paper, **University of Rochester** professor of microbiology and immunology **Michael Pichichero** studied infants in Buenos Aires, where vaccines still contain thimerosal, and found that babies expel thimerosal much faster than originally thought, leaving little chance for the build up of mercury. (Also reported by *WHAM TV13*)

Democrat and Chronicle (February 2)

UR states a new case for No. 1

News flash from the **University of Rochester**: The old No. 1 may be the new No. 1. UR held the top spot for more than a month in the D3hoops.com poll but slipped to No. 3 after losing at Emory last week. Friday night, the Yellowjackets staked their claim by toppling the nation’s current top-ranked team in a frantic, frenzied game at the packed UR Palestra. **Robert Dominiak** scored 21 points and **Uche Ndu-bizu** added 20 as the Yellowjackets outlasted Washington University of St. Louis 73-70 in overtime. **Jon Onyiriuka** added 13 points and 10 rebounds. (Also reported by *WHEC TV 10*, *Democrat and Chronicle*)

Inside Higher Education (February 19)

Open Minds, Open Books, Open Source

The increasing availability of open-source software has nudged some libraries to reconsider the role of their in-house technology gurus, and to wonder whether it would make more long-term financial sense to hire more developers than to continue pay-

ing for products over which they have limited control. “If we truly want to remain relevant, it’s what we have to do,” said **Susan Gibbons**, an associate dean in the **University of Rochester** library system.

LA Times (February 13)

More pain than gain in treating backache

Dr. Paul Rubery, a spine surgeon at the **University of Rochester Medical Center** in New York, said that higher drug spending and increased use of diagnostic tests such as MRI accounted for a lot of the increased costs. He said the study emphasized the need for treatments with proven benefits. (Also reported by *MSNBC*, *Scientific American*, *National Post Canada*)

Financial Week (February 18)

SEC drift said to prevent action on credit crunch

“Can the SEC avoid write-downs by banks? Of course not,” said **Joel Seligman**, president of the **University of Rochester** and a board member at the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. “But I’ve been hearing at [FINRA] board meetings that regulators said they knew this thing [the credit crisis] was coming six months ago but misgauged the impact.”

New York Times (February 5)

A Heartfelt Appeal for a Graceful Exit

Dr. Timothy E. Quill of the **University of Rochester School of Medicine** says he believes that there is an occasional need for an assisted death. As he wrote in May 2004 in *The New England Journal of Medicine*: “I recently helped my father to die. He was an engineer, independent, always on the go and in charge. He began to deteriorate rapidly from an ill-defined dementing illness, and his confusion and intermittent agitation did not respond to the standard treatments that were tried. He had made his wishes clear about avoiding any prolongation of his dying, but now he had lost the capacity to make decisions for himself.”

Dallas Morning News (February 5)

Bandages get smarter, more fashion-forward

Despite lots of new advances in the bandage field, there’s still more to come. Researchers at the **University of Rochester’s** Center for Future Health have been looking at “smart bandage” technology with built-in sensors to identify different kinds of bacteria. Each pad would change color for an instant read on whether the wound requires urgent attention with

specific antibiotics. (Also reported by *Press and Sun-Bulletin New York*, *Louisville Courier-Journal*, *Richmond Times Dispatch*)

Chicago Tribune (January 9)

Voters drawn by a host of hopes

Many voters didn’t make up their minds until the final days or hours of the race. **Rebekah Goldstein** of Goffstown grew up in an activist Democratic family; her mother toted her to rallies as an infant in 1988. Now 19, Goldstein carefully weighed her first presidential primary vote. She watched former North Carolina Sen. John Edwards speak at a rally and attended an Obama house party. Tuesday, she picked Edwards. “I know [Obama] is a very inspirational person,” she said, “but the principles Edwards has, his convictions, I really liked Edwards a lot more.” But the **University of Rochester** freshman added later, “All of my friends have gone for Obama.”

Democrat and Chronicle (February 4)

Kodak still a vital cog

The company’s changing role in the regional economy is more complex. While the **University of Rochester** and Wegmans Food Markets Inc. have overtaken Kodak as employers, the company and a number of local business experts argue that it remains a potent economic force. The **University of Rochester**, with 18,671 full-time equivalent workers in 2007 in its various divisions and affiliates, has a payroll of \$1.1 billion. “The case is pretty clear: UR is in fact the largest economic entity in the community,” Gardner said. “(But) Kodak still is a significant component of what goes on.”

WHEC TV 10 (February 26)

University of Rochester Medical Center milestone (video)

It’s a major milestone for the **U of R Medical Center**. The cardiac team has performed its 100th heart transplant. Claudett McAuley’s transplant is being celebrated with a lot of heart. The **U of R Medical Center’s** cardiac team came out to show their support for McAuley and for seven years of hard work, since the heart transplant program was first launched in February of 2001. The director of the program is **Dr. Leway Chen**. He says, “Our administration was huge to go through the growing pains and the expense of putting this together. You do it because you want to serve the region and the people.” (Also reported by *R News*, *WHAM TV13*, *Democrat and Chronicle*)

WHEC TV 10 (February 26)

University of Rochester expansion (video)

The **University of Rochester** is already the area's biggest employer, and now the **U of R** is about to embark on a major expansion of its medical center and River Campus. The **University of Rochester** is hemmed in somewhat by the River and Mt. Hope Cemetery, but there is land for expansion. There will be new clinical and research buildings at the medical center. **Ronald Paprocki**, the **U of R's** chief financial officer, said, "We're going to be consuming some parking lots, and that means that we'll be building some parking structures."

Democrat and Chronicle (January 22)

UR student wins prestigious Churchill award

Andrew Niles, a senior honors mathematics major at the **University of Rochester**, has been named a 2008 Churchill Scholar and will advance his studies at the University of Cambridge in England this fall. The prestigious scholarship is offered to 12 outstanding students nationally each year and enables them to pursue graduate work in engineering, mathematics, and the physical and natural sciences.

Nature (February 26)

Killer of male moths is identified

Getting rid of males also frees up food and other resources for females, which can help to boost reproductive numbers. "Males are a dead end for these endosymbionts," says **John Jaenike**, who studies male-killing bacteria in the fruitfly *Drosophila* at the **University of Rochester** in New York. "But I don't think the flies are very happy about it," he adds. "It's killing huge fractions of the population every generation."

WHAM TV 13 (February 15)

Local Reaction to NIU Tragedy

Joel Seligman, the president of the **University of Rochester**, said on Thursday the campus was also reviewing campus safety after last year's shooting at Virginia Tech. **UR** will launch their "improved" alert system in the near future, and they plan to increase security on and around campus. (Also reported by *WHEC TV 10*)

Rochester Business Journal (February 6)

UR license ultrasound technology to GE

A **University of Rochester** ultrasound image-sharpening technology has been licensed to General Electric Co. Terms of the deal were not disclosed. GE joins Royal Philips Electronics, Siemens AG, and others as a licensee of the technology developed at the Rochester Center for Biomedical Ultrasound at **UR**. Now, 80 percent of the US ultrasound manufacturing will use the RCBU innovation. (Also reported by *R News*)

Democrat and Chronicle (January 18)

VirtualScopics goes to Europe

VirtualScopics Inc. said it is forming a European sales office to be based in the United Kingdom. The company also is hiring a managing director to be in charge of its expansion on the continent. Spawned out of **University of Rochester** research, the Penfield-based company provides quantitative image analysis to pharmaceutical companies as they conduct drug trials.

Rochester Business Journal (February 26)

Eastman School wins Best of the Web

The **Eastman School of Music** won the gold award for best overall Web site Tuesday morning at the Rochester Business Journal's annual Best of the Web competition. The silver award for best overall Web site went to Strong Heart & Vascular Center at the **University of Rochester Medical Center**.

Democrat and Chronicle (January 8)

Republican official takes job as county spokesman

A former executive director of the Monroe County Republican Committee has taken over as county government's chief spokesman. **Noah Lebowitz**, 23, is now the communications director for the county and County Executive Maggie Brooks, replacing John Durso Jr. Lebowitz, who takes over immediately, is a May 2006 graduate of the **University of Rochester** and was a member of the school's Young Republicans Club. He graduated from Brighton High School and is a Monroe County native.