Selected Coverage March 2009

National

**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle** (March 20)
*UR, Xerox focus on keeping people working (editorial)*

*University of Rochester* President Joel Seligman, a legal scholar who understands the economic tides better than most, was right last week when he said, in announcing the university’s cost-cutting measures, that unemployment is the central pain that must be avoided, or at least alleviated.

**Forbes** (March 10)

**Parkinson’s Treatment Drugs Even Out Over Long Term**

“Clinicians and patients often struggle with what is the right initial approach to treating Parkinson’s disease. This study tells us that, over the long haul, patients on the different drugs end up at roughly the same place in terms of their level of disability and quality of life,” lead author Dr. Kevin Biglan, a neurologist at the University of Rochester Medical Center in New York, said in a school news release. (Also Reported in: U.S. News and World Report, ABC News, Business Week, Yahoo!, CNBC)

**WXXI** (March 12)

**1370 Connection: John Kovach, Eastman School of Music**

Eastman School of Music faculty member John Kovach, program host on sister station WRUR-FM and author of “What’s That Sound,” takes us inside the history of rock.

**UPI** (March 16)

**Nanowires may help make better fuel cells**

*University of Rochester* researchers say their new nanowires should provide significant increases in both the longevity and efficiency of fuel cells, which have until now been used largely for such exotic purposes as powering spacecraft. (Also Reported in: Electronic Engineering Times Asia, TCE Today, Engineer Online, Webindia123)

**8WROC-TV** (March 20)

**Match Day at U of R**

Eighty-nine medical students at the *University of Rochester* got a sneak peek into their futures Thursday. It was Match Day for the soon-to-be graduates. Students pick their top three choices of where they want to intern. The results were revealed just before noon.

**USA Today** (March 19)

**Private colleges still have questions about new GI Bill**

Colleges and universities nationwide are preparing to roll out their welcome mats for veterans who will be eligible for the new Post-9/11 GI Bill. It goes into effect Aug. 1. “We said, ‘One way or another we will do this,’” says Jon Burdick, dean of admissions and financial aid at the *University of Rochester*, where 11 veterans (out of 4,400 students) are currently enrolled.
**WXXI (March 19)**
**University of Rochester Raises Tuition, Board**
Undergraduate students at the **University of Rochester** will see their tuition bills go up by four percent in the fall — and the cost of room-and-board will rise by three-point-six percent.

**Fox News (March 14)**
**Pollution or Stress? Traffic Triples Risk of Heart Attack, Study Says**
They are working with **University of Rochester** researchers to determine exactly what it is about traffic that raises heart attack risk. (Also Reported in: *Medical News Today, News-Medical.Net, Huliq.com, Science Daily*)

**New York Times (March 3)**
**Rewards for students under a microscope**
One of the first such studies was published in 1971 by **Edward L. Deci**, a psychologist at the **University of Rochester**, who reported that once the incentives stopped coming, students showed less interest in the task at hand than those who received no reward. (Also Reported in: *Christian Science Monitor*)

**Wall Street Journal (March 5)**
**No Barricades Here in Rochester**
At the **University of Rochester** recently, a student group reserved space for an event, held a peaceful demonstration, issued a list of demands, and left without incident when the building closed for the night. The university listened to their demands, but did not agree to any of them. Bari Weiss, in de gustibus ("On the Barricades — and Loving It," Feb. 27), inflated this event into “occupied buildings” and a capitulation to student demands, without calling anyone at the university to check the facts. A letter to the editor (March 3) then decried a “riot” that never occurred.

**InsideHigherEd (March 6)**
**On Israel, shifted ground**
The Palestinian cause has also risen to the top of many student groups’ agendas. Students for a Democratic Society at the **University of Rochester** recently demanded that the institution divest from companies that "profit from war"; provide “necessary academic aid” and organize a day of fund-raising for Gaza; and set up scholarships for Palestinian students. (University officials declined on the scholarships and direct aid, but promised to provide the group the same fund-raising advice it would any registered student organization and forward the divestment request to the Board of Trustees’ investment committee. That’s standard protocol for such requests.)

**Newsweek (March 18)**
**AP Interview: Leader of suicide ring defends work**
“You want to be sure before anyone is going to do anything like this that they’re getting the best possible end-of-life care,” said **Dr. Timothy Quill**, a professor of medicine at the **University of Rochester** and a supporter of Oregon and Washington laws that allow doctors to help terminally ill people end their lives. (Also Reported in: *ABC News, USA Today, Boston Herald, Chicago Tribune, New York Times, Newsday, Washington Post, San Francisco Chronicle, Houston Chronicle, Seattle Times, DC Examiner, American Medical News, Toronto Star*)

**Newsday (March 22)**
**AIG and the roots of greed and anger**
**Richard M. Ryan**, professor of psychology, psychiatry and education at the **University of Rochester** and editor of the journal *Motivation and Emotion*, writes a guest essay on the controversy over the millions in bonuses paid to AIG managers and how it “reflects a culture of greed.”

**The Chronicle of Higher Education (March 13)**
**Universities seek answers after huge sums vanish**
**Joel Seligman** is president of the **University of Rochester** and one of the nation’s top experts in securities law. He says colleges rely on investment consultants for tasks from serving as a “sounding board” to managing all facets of investment management.

**National Public Radio (March 9)**
**Golden Rule Develops Early But Doesn’t Come Easily**
A 2-year-old, it turns out, knows the difference between right and wrong. According to psychologist **Judi Smetana**, the sense of morality begins to develop early in humans. And by the time children are 3 to 4 years old, they recognize certain behaviors “such as hitting” as wrong, even when no one is watching, says the **University of Rochester** professor.
10WHEC-TV (March 13)
Local 20-year-old chosen for prestigious piano competition
An Eastman School of Music student is selected to take part in one of the most prestigious competitions in the world. She started playing the piano at the age of seven and four years later she won her first international piano competition. It’s the kind of competition that opens doors for young musicians like Zhang Zuo, also known as “ZZ”. She is from China and is a junior at the Eastman School of Music.
(Also Reported in: Rochester Democrat and Chronicle)

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (March 20)
The University of Rochester Medical Center puts expansion on hold
The University of Rochester Medical Center’s plans for a six-story hospital expansion that was expected to alleviate overcrowding in the area’s rooms has been put on hold indefinitely, and construction on a 150,000-square-foot research building will wait until state funding comes through.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (March 13)
UR women find leadership in six seniors
The six seniors on the University of Rochester women’s basketball team have built quite a resume in four stellar years.

Discover Magazine (March 19)
Coming of Age in Low Earth Orbit: From Exploration to Exploitation (blog)
We seem to be standing at a number of crossroads all at once. In writing these posts I am, obviously, interested in issues of science and religion, but that is part of a wider interest in science and human prospect (the title of a fine little text by R. Pine). It is the way which science changes our conceptions of ourselves that is so fascinating and so compelling.
Adam Frank is a professor of astrophysics at the University of Rochester who studies star formation and stellar death using supercomputers.

Marie Claire (March 11)
Fertility 101
Smoking is one of the worst things you can do if you’re trying to get pregnant, says Shanna Swan, director of the Center for Reproductive Epidemiology at the University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry.

New York Daily News (March 20)
Natasha Richardson’s death raises questions of when to worry about head injuries
“The brain is squishy, like JELL-O, but it doesn’t have that much space to move around in the skull,” says Dr. Jeffrey Bazarian, associate professor of emergency medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center. “And this is why people don’t feel bad right away after a brain injury. It can take … up to two or three hours before the effects are felt.”

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (March 20)
UR plans on ‘tightening belt’ with layoffs, spending cuts
The University of Rochester, the area’s largest employer and considered a bright spot in an otherwise gloomy local economy, has laid off 40 workers, left 93 positions vacant, frozen salaries, cut spending and put $435 million in capital projects on hold because of the deepening recession. (Also Reported in: USA Today, Newsday, Staten Island Advance, 13WHAM-TV, 10WHEC-TV, 8WROC-TV, R News, WXXI, Rochester Business Journal, and others)

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (March 7)
OSHA lowers fine for UR laser lapses that hurt worker
The University of Rochester took steps to reduce the number of safety citations levied by a federal agency after a worker was paralyzed while on one of the most powerful lasers in the world last year. An agreement with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration would drop the fine from $57,000 to $25,200 and dismiss two of the nine safety violations announced in January.

MSNBC (March 5)
Free antibiotics may have high cost later
“I was actually driving to work and saw this huge billboard that said, ‘Come to Wegmans for free antibiotics,’” said Ann Marie Pettis, director of prevention at the University of Rochester Medical Center in Rochester, NY. “Here we are all working so hard to control the use of antibiotics and then to see something that’s well-intentioned but obviously ill-advised was surprising,” she said.
*Miami Herald* (March 22)
To cut costs, tours campuses virtually
Stefania Ferro researched six different colleges — including two in New York — without ever leaving her home in Davie. Ferro, 18, used instant messaging to chat with a college counselor at the **University of Rochester**.

*UPI* (March 2)
Kid hypertension linked to poorer thinking
“These results were very surprising to me, despite similar findings in adults,” **Dr. Marc Lande**, a co-author from the **University of Rochester Medical Center** in New York, said in a statement. (Also Reported in: *MSNBC*)

*CNN* (March 2)
Doctors: No definitive answers on flu deaths among young
“There isn’t a good understanding of why that happens,” said **Dr. John Treanor**, professor of medicine and of microbiology and immunology at the **University of Rochester School of Medicine**. “There’s speculation that these children, for genetic reasons, had unusual immune response to the flu, resulting in deaths.”

*BBC News* (March 17)
A prince among thieves?
According to the Robin Hood project at the **University of Rochester**, it is in the early days of printing that he finally comes into his own as a literary figure. From the 1550s onwards — and particularly in the 19th Century — the legend of Robin Hood is given a fillip by poets and writers.

*Bloomberg News* (March 3)
Obama Says Now May Be Good Time to Invest in Stocks
“The president appears to be realizing that his persistently gloomy outlook on the economy may be spooking consumers and investors,” said **David Primo**, a political science professor at the **University of Rochester** in New York. “This may be a calculated attempt to balance earlier remarks.” (Also Reported in: *Arlington Heights Daily Herald*)

*R News* (March 11)
UR Ready for Leading Research Role
The **University of Rochester Medical Center**, where 10 researchers are slated to get $6.8 million in stem-cell research money, is one of the leading centers for stem-cell research in the United States. When President Obama lifted restrictions on human embryonic stem cell research, it opened the door for UR scientists to play a leading role in discovering cures for a number of neurological disorders and spinal cord injuries. (Also Reported in: *Rochester Business Journal, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*)

*Scientific American* (March 17)
Seeking Out the Sun’s Long-Lost Siblings
The European Space Agency’s 2011 Gaia mission, due to measure the position and motions of a billion stars in our part of the galaxy, should give the effort a boost. But **Eric Mamajek**, a **University of Rochester** astronomer who specializes in stellar dynamics, likens Portegies Zwart’s proposal to searching for members of his own 1993 high school class from a random sampling of Manhattan thirtysomethings.

*U.S. News and World Report* (March 9)
Bone Cement Eases Pain of Late-Stage Cancers
Injecting “bone cement” into lesions in patients whose cancer has spread to their bones can literally allow these individuals to rise from their deathbeds and live the remainder of their lives relatively pain-free. The procedure is more commonly used in the spine, said **Dr. Susan Bukata**, an orthopedic oncologist at the **University of Rochester Medical Center**. (Also Reported in: *Business Week, Forbes, Yahoo!, Waco Tribune-Herald*)

*Buffalo News* (March 24)
Local pianist Christopher Ziemba in national spotlight
Pianist **Christopher Ziemba** is just 22, but he has already achieved a jazz musician’s dream. Ziemba, who now attends the **Eastman School of Music**, is going to be featured Saturday on jazz pianist Marian McPartland’s radio show “Piano Jazz.”
 Reuters (March 4)
**Time to testify?**
With less than a week until the Dow-Rohm and Haas trial starts in Delaware, the companies have sent lists of witnesses to the court. So who’s on them? Dow CEO Andrew Liveris and Rohm and Haas CEO Raj Gupta, for starters. Rohm lists 10 potential witnesses including Gupta, COO Pierre Brondeau, Perella Weinberg partner Gary Barancik, and **Greg Jarrell**, a professor at the University of Rochester’s Simon School.

*Los Angeles Times* (March 14)
**Medical clinical research slows for lack of patients**
“It’s a major issue,” says Dr. E. Ray Dorsey, a neurologist at the University of Rochester Medical Center who has studied the issue. “Many trials are started and never finished because they can’t complete enrollment. A lot of money is wasted.”  
(Also Reported in: UPI, The London Day)

*Boston Globe* (March 10)
**Research links weather, headaches**
Previously, two small Canadian studies looking at weather and headaches had conflicting results. “Ours was one of the very first large-scale efforts to evaluate environmental triggers for headache, particularly for severe headaches,” Mukamal said. Basing the study on hospital diagnoses rather than on patients’ recall of a headache was a strength of the study, he said. But **Dr. Deborah Friedman**, a member of the American Academy of Neurology and a neurologist at the University of Rochester, disagreed, saying the diaries kept by headache sufferers would tell researchers when their symptoms began.

*Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* (March 16)
**Sibley library gets grant to digitize music scores**
Free, portable document format (PDF) copies are available for download on the University of Rochester’s Digital Repository, UR Research (http://urrresearch.rochester.edu), which is also indexed in major search engines.

*13WHAM-TV* (March 4)
**“The Curse of the Starving Class” at UR**
University of Rochester International Theatre director **Nigel Maister** and actors Mel Balzano and Andrew Polec talked about the play “The Curse of the Starving Class” by Sam Shepard, now running at the UR Todd Theatre on the River Campus March 4 through March 8 at 8 p.m.

*Rochester Business Journal* (March 20)
**UR to offer educational policy program**
The Warner School of Education at the University of Rochester is offering a new master of science degree in educational policy to prepare individuals for careers as policy analysts, educational researchers and policymakers.

*Forbes* (March 11)
**The World’s Billionaires**
#397 Robert Rich Jr.  
Education: Williams College, Bachelor of Arts/Science; University of Rochester, Master of Business Administration