Selected Coverage May 2008

**National**

*Wall Street Journal* (May 30)

**Internet Gives M.B.A. Schools Global Reach**

Most of the MBA Networking members are from North America, but the site is attracting attention in Europe and Asia. Recently, **Hans Tan**, a 25-year-old Filipino who is studying at the **University of Rochester's Simon Business School**, in Rochester, New York, fielded a question on the site from a woman in Switzerland who wanted an insider's take on the quality of professors at the school. Mr. Tan, who previously was a marketing manager in Manila for a mobile-phone business, discovered the MBA Networking site after a friend on Facebook joined it. In checking it out, he saw questions he felt he could answer and began posting responses. He since has become one of the site's mentors. Mr. Tan fields about eight questions a week from the site. “It’s nice to be able to help people out. I wish I had something like this when I was researching business schools.”

*Democrat and Chronicle* (May 20)

**University of Rochester names Edmund Hajim board chairman**

The **University of Rochester** has named a new board chairman and four new trustees. **Edmund “Ed” Hajim** has been elected chairman of the **UR** board of trustees, and New York City lawyer **Elizabeth Moore**, software company founder **Elena Prokupets**, Constellation Brands Chairman **Richard Sands** and real estate executive **Thomas Wilmot Sr.**, were named trustees on May 16. Hajim succeeds **G. Robert Witmer Jr.**, chairman of the board since 2003.

*Newsday* (May 5)

**Rochester's Sorrentino a class act**

**Jessica Sorrentino**, a graduate of Mepham High School and senior at the **University of Rochester**, has excelled in softball, the classroom and life. She is the consummate student-athlete. Following a sweep of Union College on Saturday, Rochester earned its second straight Liberty League softball title. The Yellowjackets ended the regular season on a 16-game winning streak and tied their single season victory record with 28 wins and 10 losses.

*City Newspaper* (May 27)

**Technology: Exchanging barrels for beams**

With the price of oil projected to possibly reach $150 a barrel by the end of the summer, the need for new sources of energy is becoming more urgent by the day. What if a gallon of water could be converted into the energy equivalent of 300 gallons of gasoline? Researchers at the **UR's Laboratory for Laser Energetics** are exploring that possibility. Though there is no commercial use today, the **UR's** work with two of the world’s most powerful lasers could one day turn our energy problems into a revolutionary boon.
Rochester Business Journal (May 15)
Academy honors Seligman with Award of Merit
University of Rochester president Joel Seligman has been named one of five recipients of the Award of Merit of the Rochester Academy of Medicine. Seligman also has been named the first honorary member in the Academy’s 108-year history. Academy of Medicine executive director Hechmat Tabechian M.D. said the organization's bylaws always have allowed the election of honorary members, but the honor was being bestowed this year for the first time. (Editor's note: The Merit Awards are given each year to three to five individuals “in recognition of outstanding service to the medical profession or to the community.” The other four recipients of the Merit Award for 2008 are: Dr. Richard E. Fullerton; Dr. Webster H. Pilcher; and Dr. Ronald Rabinowitz, all of the University of Rochester; and Dr. Hobart A. Lerner of Rochester. In addition, the University of Rochester’s Dr. Arthur J. Moss received the Academy's Albert David Kaiser Medal.)

Wall Street Journal (May 5)
Medical Specialties Hit By a Growing Pay Gap - Shortages Develop In Endocrinology, Pediatric Fields
When Dr. Larry Frohman joined the faculty of UMDNJ’s New Jersey Medical School in 1985, neuro-ophthalmology was still a popular field, and had broken important ground in the connection between the eye and the nervous system. Advanced brain scans hadn’t been around long, and neuro-ophthalmologists were coveted for their ability to diagnose otherwise mysterious disorders like multiple sclerosis. “Neuro-ophthalmologists were like Wii games; every [teaching hospital] had to have one,” says Steven Feldon, neuro-ophthalmologist and director of the University of Rochester Eye Institute in New York.

Democrat and Chronicle (May 3)
Eastman professor Beck retires after 50 years
“T never knew where beating a drum would take me,” says percussionist John Beck one afternoon in his studio at the Eastman School of Music. “But really, it’s done OK.” Indeed it has. Beck is retiring this spring after nearly 50 years as a professor at Eastman. Through the years as a student and professor in the institution, he has taught at major conducting and percussion clinics around the world, was the president of the Percussive Arts Society and was inducted into its hall of fame in 1999. His legacy, however, will be that his students have dominated the professional percussion world for the last half-century.

Washington Post (May 5)
Breast-Feeding May Boost IQ
One expert thinks it’s the nutrients in mothers’ milk -- which aren't found in other foods -- that are essential for brain development and increased IQ. “I’m not surprised because many studies have had similar results,” said Dr. Ruth Lawrence, a professor of pediatrics at the University of Rochester School of Medicine, and a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics executive committee section on breastfeeding. “It’s wonderful to have this very large study to confirm what we’ve known or thought for a long time.” (Also reported by U.S. News & World Report, Forbes, BusinessWeek, Atlanta Journal Constitution and others)

Democrat and Chronicle (May 1)
Whiz kids score big for UR at tourney
It may not be the Final Four or Frozen Four, but the University of Rochester’s victory in College Bowl national championship was just as dramatic. Instead of sure-fire jumpshots or supreme puck control, the College Bowl rewards teams with wide-ranging knowledge and quick recall. UR’s victory at the tournament in St. Paul, Minn., last weekend is a notable achievement.

R News (May 16)
Omega Laser Gets a Powerful Boost
Green energy sources are the rage these days, but clean energy may be our ultimate goal, which is the kind obtained from something like fusion. Laser engineers at the University of Rochester are a step closer to the ultimate source of clean energy, which is sustainable fusion. “The laser lab has changed the face of science in many areas in man’s quest to unlock the secrets of the universe,” said Dr. Joel Seligman, university president. The U of R’s laboratory for laser energetics has become the premier user facility for high-energy-density physics. (Also reported by Rochester Business Journal, Democrat and Chronicle, Slashdot, PhysOrg.com, Photonics.com Massachusetts)

Boston Globe (May 27)
Where have all the doctors gone? (opinion essay)
I've done some checking on doctors' career plans based on their residency match. They show some distinct trends. At both Harvard and the University of Rochester medical schools, for example, 16-27 percent of the graduates chose internal medicine, 10-15 percent pediatrics, 4-11 percent obstetrics and
gyneceology and 7-11 percent general surgery. Sadly, at the low end of the spectrum, less than 5 percent went into primary care and family medicine.

*R News (May 18)*

**UR Celebrates 158th Commencement**

It was a big day for students at the University of Rochester. Seventeen-hundred graduate and undergraduate students were given their diplomas. The students who marched in their caps and gowns heard some inspiring words from Xerox CEO Anne Mulcahy. She received an honorary doctor of law degree and gave the commencement address. While delivering the U of R commencement, Mulcahy announced that Xerox is making a hefty gift to the school. The company is giving $1 million to the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center. Xerox is pledging the funds as part of the center’s $42.5 million campaign. (Also reported by WXXI, WHEC TV 10, WROC TV 8) (Related articles in D&C Democrat and Chronicle, Democrat and Chronicle)

*New York Times (May 13)*

**Applying a Balm to the Years**

Stress might also make you more susceptible to ultraviolet light. One study found that when mice were exposed to it, those who were stressed (by the smell of a predator) developed tumors at week 8, compared with week 21 in unstressed mice. “Can’t say the same for humans,” said Dr. Francisco Tausk, a professor of dermatology and psychiatry at the University of Rochester School of Medicine. Still, he said, “it’s quite suggestive. If you have chronic stress, and you’re exposed to a carcinogen such as ultraviolet light, you are more susceptible” to cancer.

*R News (May 22)*

**Eastman Receives $2.5 Million**

Another financial boost for the renovation and expansion of the Eastman Theatre. The Davenport-Hatch Foundation is giving $2.5 million for the project. The money goes to build the 230-seat recital hall that will now be known as the Hatch Recital Hall. The foundation’s chair says the Hatch family has long had a relationship with the University of Rochester and the RPO. (Also reported by WXXI, Democrat and Chronicle)

*UPI (May 19)*

**Alzheimer’s vaccine effective in mice**

University of Rochester Medical Center scientists say their vaccine prevents the development of Alzheimer’s disease-like pathology in mice. The researchers say the vaccinated mice generated an immune response to the protein known as amyloid-beta peptide, which accumulates in what are called “amyloid plaques” in brains of people with Alzheimer’s. (Also reported by Democrat and Chronicle, News-Medical.net Australia, SeniorJournal.com Texas, PhysOrg.com)

*MSNBC (May 4)*

**1 in 3 parents lacks knowledge about babies**

Nearly a third of U.S. parents know surprisingly little about typical infant development, and this lack of understanding can rob their babies of much-needed mental stimulation, researchers said on Sunday. “There are numerous parenting books telling people what to expect when they’re pregnant,” said Dr. Heather Paradis of the University of Rochester Medical Center in New York. (Also reported by
## Democrat and Chronicle (May 6)

**Yo-Yo Ma wows RPO crowd**

More than 3,000 people scrambled to their seats in the Eastman Theatre, settling only momentarily before a pre-concert announcement that Yo-Yo Ma had been inducted into the Classical Music Hall of Fame. “You know, you are putting on the pressure,” he joked to the audience after the announcement by Douglas Lowery, dean of the University of Rochester’s Eastman School of Music. “We all suffer from nerves.”

## Chronicle of Higher Education (May 25)

**Juniata Alumnus Left the College Everything, Even the Cat**

Juniata College has received its largest bequest ever—worth some $6.5-million—and it came with a cat named Princess. Dr. Larry Johnson, who attended Juniata on a scholarship, stipulated in his will that the college use $1.5-million to create a scholarship for a student from his high school, in Somerset, Pa., as well as another $1.5-million for a scholarship that will let a Juniata graduate attend medical school at the University of Rochester, as he did. (Also reported by USA Today, Philadelphia Inquirer, International Herald Tribune France, China Post Taiwan and others)

## CBS News (May 21)

**VA Names Experts To Study Suicides**

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced today that the agency is bringing together fourteen experts to analyze veteran suicides. This comes after much criticism that the VA has not been forthcoming about the true risk of suicide among veterans. Appointees to the expert panel include: Dr. Eric D. Caine, chair of the department of psychiatry at the University of Rochester. (Also reported by SunHerald.com Mississippi)

## Democrat and Chronicle (May 27)

**City turns focus to commercial boost for Mt. Hope Ave.**

One of the biggest players is the University of Rochester, which plans to redevelop the Town House and the adjacent former Wegmans Food Markets site near Mt. Hope and Elmwood avenues. UR is working on a master plan for the adjoining 600-acre campus.

“Right now, we’re at the concept stage,” said Ronald J. Paprocki, UR’s chief financial officer. “We’re striving for mixed use: retail, office and perhaps housing as well. That would depend on a number of things.”

## Science Magazine (May 30)

**Particle Physics: Does Fermilab Have a Future?**

Such efforts cannot sustain the lab at its present size. What’s more, if Fermilab has no operating accelerator to anchor it, these other activities could be moved to other institutions, researchers worry. “The worst [possible outcome] is that we get shut down,” says Fermilab physicist Stephen Pordes, “and the question is, do we get shut down quickly or slowly.”

Still, there are rays of hope for the lab, and Florencia Canelli is one of them. One of Fermilab’s best and brightest, the 35-year-old Argentinean holds a Wilson Fellowship—the equivalent of a tenure-track professorship at a university—and has been working at the lab since 1997, when she was a grad student at the University of Rochester, New York.

## Democrat and Chronicle (May 1)

**‘Open Letter’ to make foreign literature accessible**

There’s not a ticket to be had anywhere for tonight’s reading and discussion at the University of Rochester with internationally renown authors Salman Rushdie (The Satanic Verses) and Umberto Eco (The Name of the Rose). But the bigger story for Rochester may be the host of this PEN World Voices event — Open Letter, UR’s brand new press dedicated to publishing works of literature in translation. This fall, Open Letter will publish its first six titles, followed by six more in the spring. (Also reported by R News)

## Bloomberg.com (May 30)

**Clinton Will Have Abundant Future Options, All With Obstacles**

Hillary Clinton will emerge from the Democratic presidential nomination fight with no shortage of attractive career options. All have considerable obstacles. “She will pursue whichever course will help her achieve her ultimate goal: becoming president,” said David Primo, a political science professor at the University of Rochester in New York. “All of her roles from here on in, just like her job as senator, are steppingstones to the Democratic presidential nomination, whether in 2012 or 2016.”
**Washington Post** (May 15)
**Vitamin D may prevent prostate cancer**
Vitamin D not only can be used as a therapy for prostate cancer, it can prevent prostate cancer, a University of Rochester Medical Center suggests.
The study, published in the International Journal of Cancer, finds vitamin D links with the gene G6PD increases its activity and the production of the enzyme glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase. (Also reported by UPI, Forbes, Atlanta Journal Constitution, Austin American Statesmen, The Hindu, TamilStar.com Sri Lanka, and others)

**New York Times** (May 14)
**Senate Approves $350 Million in Projects Intended for Economic Development**
Five state university campuses received grants totaling $38 million from the Assembly, including money for the high-tech “incubator programs” and $7 million to build an “Equine Physiology and Rehabilitation Center” at the State University at Morrisville. The Assembly’s largest grant so far this year, $25 million, went to the University of Rochester to build a new center for clinical and translational sciences.

**Wall Street Journal** (May 6)
**Bush to Nominate Paredes to SEC**
The Bush administration is expected to nominate a law professor from Washington University in St. Louis to fill a Republican Commissioner slot at the Securities and Exchange Commission, people briefed on the matter say. The professor, Troy Paredes, is expected to fill the seat vacated by Paul Atkins, who announced Monday his intentions to leave the agency. The potential commissioner “is extraordinarily diligent in mastering not merely the legal complexities but the context of securities law,” observed Joel Seligman, University of Rochester president and a former dean of Washington University’s law school. “He is someone who will bring to the Securities and Exchange Commission energy and wisdom beyond his years.” (Also reported by CNNMoney.com, NASDAQ, St. Louis Dispatch, Financial Times United Kingdom)

**BroadwayWorld.com** (May 14)
**Charles Strouse Donates Papers to Library of Congress**
Celebrated American composer Charles Strouse will present his papers to the Library of Congress in a ceremony on May 14. Librarian of Congress James H. Billington will formally accept the gift on behalf of the Library and the American people and honor Strouse, perhaps best known for such musical-theater smashes as “Annie,” “Bye Bye Birdie,” “Applause” and “Golden Boy.” Born in New York City on June 7, 1928, Strouse is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y. where he studied under Aaron Copland, Nadia Boulanger and David Diamond, among others.

**USA Today** (May 22)
**Summer books preview: Readers can bond with 007 once again**
After the death of Bond’s creator, Ian Fleming, 44 years ago, a new novel featuring fiction’s most enduring secret agent hits bookstores next week. Over the past three years, Penguin has reissued paperbacks with new covers of Fleming’s 14 novels. Fleming once called them “trivial piffle.” But University of Rochester English professor George Grella says Fleming mastered “the mingling of the barely credible and the utterly incredible.”

**U.S. News & World Report** (May 3)
**Middle Class Uninsured Kids’ Health Risk Almost as High as Poor Children’s**
New research from the University of Rochester Medical Center said more than 40 percent of children in families earning between $38,000 and $77,000 annually who are uninsured for a year see no physicians and have no prescriptions during that time. “There’s an assumption that children in families with higher income levels don’t need insurance, that they are uninsured but are somehow still receiving health care anyway,” study author Laura Shone, an assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Rochester Medical Center, said in a prepared statement. (Also reported by Washington Post, Forbes, Atlanta Journal Constitution, Austin American Statesman and others)

**Rochester Business Journal** (May 20)
**Simon creates leadership center**
The Simon Graduate School of Business at the University of Rochester Tuesday announced it has established a Center for Leadership Development. The center is the first in the nation to include a required management communication course based on the theory that excellent communication skills are key to being a leader in business, the Simon School officials said. (Also reported by R News and Democrat and Chronicle)
New York Times (May 1)
A Classroom Path to Entrepreneurship
Marjorie Smelstor, the Kauffman Foundation's vice president for the Kauffman Campuses Initiative and Higher Education Program, agreed that small business can be taught. The Kauffman Foundation is spending $50 million to finance such programs at 19 universities, including Arizona State, Oberlin, the University of Wisconsin and the University of Rochester.

Time (May 29)
‘Star Trek’ Theme Composer Dies
Alexander “Sandy” Courage, an Emmy-winning and Academy Award-nominated arranger, orchestrator and composer who created the otherworldly theme for the classic Star Trek TV show, has died. He was 88. Courage was born Dec. 10, 1919, in Philadelphia and raised in New Jersey. After graduation from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., in 1941, Courage enlisted in the Army Air Corps. After the war, he became a composer for CBS radio shows and then became an orchestrator and arranger at MGM. (Also reported by CBS News, CNN, Fox News, LA Times, Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, Baltimore Sun, Houston Chronicle and many others)

Rochester Business Journal (May 15)
Financial Executives of the Year named
Four Rochester business leaders—chosen from a group of 16 finalists—were honored Thursday at the first Financial Executive of the Year Awards, presented at the Hyatt Regency Rochester. In the non-profit categories, Ronald Paprocki of the University of Rochester was honored in the large category, and Deborah Weymouth of Thompson Health in the small category. Paprocki is senior vice president and chief financial officer at UR. His initiatives include developing an administrative infrastructure that is efficient in supporting academic leaders who then can focus on the university’s missions of education, research and patient care, officials said.

Democrat and Chronicle (May 20)
University of Rochester Medical Center doctor garners grant
University of Rochester Medical Center cardiologists have received a four-year, $2.3 million federal grant to continue study of a rare cardiac condition called Long QT Syndrome. This heart rhythm dis-order can cause fast, chaotic heartbeats that lead to fainting or even sudden death — including in teenage athletes who seemed at peak health.

Democrat and Chronicle (May 22)
Churchville native Renee Fleming awarded Sweden’s Polar Music Prize
Acclaimed soprano Renee Fleming and Pink Floyd were named winners of the 2008 Polar Music Prize on Wednesday for their contributions to their musical genres. Fleming is a Churchville native and a graduate of the University of Rochester’s Eastman School of Music.

Washington Post (May 9)
Telemedicine a Cost-Effective Alternative to ER Visits
Telemedicine is a cost-effective way to replace more than a quarter of all visits to the pediatric emergency department, according to a community-wide study conducted in New York. Ailments, such as ear infections or sore throats that virtually always prove manageable by telemedicine made up almost 28 percent of all pediatric ER visits in Rochester, N.Y., during one year, according to investigators from the University of Rochester Medical Center. (Also reported by Forbes, Austin American Statesman, Atlanta Journal Constitution and others)

WHAM TV 13 (May 21)
A Chance to Caddie (video)
Mac O’Grady doesn’t have a personal caddie when he enters events on the Champions Tour. Instead he finds someone from the town he is playing in to carry his bag. O’Grady found Matt Cairo to help him out this week at Oak Hill. Cairo played on the University of Rochester golf team the past four year. He graduated last Sunday and had plans to volunteer around Oak Hill this week.