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USA Today (October 16)
Updated marshmallow test offers insight on kids delayed gratification

“Astounding” is the word that Richard Aslin, the William R. Kenan professor of brain and cognitive sciences at UR, uses to describe the results of the robust study that demonstrates that the ability to delay gratification is influenced as much by the environment as by innate ability. If the marshmallow task sounds familiar, it’s because it is not a new concept. But the work of Aslin, lead author Celeste Kidd and co-author Holly Palmeri has entirely new implications. 


New York Times (October 14)
Cracking the Quantum Safe
By Adam Frank

This summer, physicists celebrated a triumph that many consider fundamental to our understanding of the physical world: the discovery, after a multibillion-dollar effort, of the Higgs boson. A professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Rochester and the author of “About Time: Cosmology and Culture at the Twilight of the Big Bang.”

Huffington Post (October 5)
Exposure To Kids Raises Risk Of Cold Symptoms Among Lung Disease Patients: Study

“We all know that children are efficient germ-spreading vectors,” study researcher Dr. Ann Falsey, M.D., a professor of medicine at the University of Rochester, said in a statement. “And we know that young children oftentimes don’t have ideal hygiene habits. It’s not unusual for them to accidentally sneeze in your face, for instance. If you have a grandchild who is sick, it may simply be smart to plan a visit for another day. It may be that your chance of developing cold symptoms is related to the amount of virus you’re exposed to, and if you’re around small children, you’re exposed to more virus. The idea makes sense, but it’s speculation at this point.”

(Also Reported in: Newsday, iVillage, HealthDay)
Washington Post (October 19)
The looming shortfall in public pension costs
By Robert Novy-Marx and Josh Rauh
Robert Novy-Marx is an assistant professor of finance at the University of Rochester’s Simon Graduate School of Business. Joshua Rauh is a professor of finance at the Stanford Graduate School of Business and a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution.
How much will the underfunded pension benefits of government employees cost taxpayers? The answer is usually given in trillions of dollars, and the implications of such figures are difficult for most people to comprehend. These calculations also generally reflect only legacy liabilities – what would be owed if pensions were frozen today. Yet with each passing day, the problem grows as states fail to set aside sufficient funds to cover the benefits public employees are earning.

Washington Post (October 9)
Moodiness? Hot flashes? Sleep problems? It may be peri-menopause.
The rise and fall of these hormones can cause other delightful symptoms, such as hot flashes, night sweats, sleep disturbances, mood changes and vaginal dryness. Although it’s not strictly related to hormonal changes, many women gain weight in the years leading up to menopause, particularly around their midsection. New research also backs up my mom’s favorite peri-menopausal grumble: forgetfulness. “The data suggests that there may be some very mild problems in verbal memory and processing speed in later stages of [peri-menopause]. So the great number of women who report [them] should know there really is something to their complaints, and they are not alone or going crazy,” says clinical neuropsychiatrist Miriam Weber, an assistant professor at the University of Rochester, who has studied this issue. “The good news is that it looks like [they] are a temporary hit and that things rebound at some point in the first year following the final menstrual period.”

U.S. News & World Report (October 12)
5 Tips for Students Applying to College Alone
For prospective college students, going through the admissions process without a parent or guardian can be intimidating. Students who have to juggle college applications and financial aid materials may feel alone, but this doesn’t have to be the case, says Jonathan Burdick, dean of admission and financial aid at the University of Rochester. “Studies show that about half of the students heading to college don’t have as much parent help as they want,” Burdick says. “Colleges are good at discerning when an applicant is self-managing, and they appreciate it. Your best possible strategy is to let the people at colleges know you’re on your own. … You’ll get far more support from them than you can imagine.”

Huffington Post (October 22)
Laurence Vittes: Eastman Scores With Comic Books, Martyrdom and Claude Achille Debussy
The Eastman School of Music did Claude Debussy and Rochester, New York proud this past weekend with an array of cultural presentations culminating in a multi-media recreation of the life, times and musical excitement that changed the course of classical music history. It was part of Eastman’s celebration of Debussy’s 150th anniversary called The Prismatic Debussy, comprising three weekends of performances and a month-long exhibition of manuscripts at the school’s Sibley Music Library, the largest academic music library in North America.

Huffington Post (October 8)
It’s Not a Debate, It’s a Choice (blog)
Stephanie Li
Author, Associate Professor of English
Everyone agrees: Obama lost the debate. While Romney was aggressive and organized, Obama was languid and halting. Romney outlined decisive five point plans; Obama stumbled over his own record and the economic catastrophe he inherited. This is the easy, obvious narrative, but its polarized conclusion obscures the primary objective of each candidate in the debate.
Stephanie Li is an associate professor of English at the University of Rochester and the author of Signifying Without Specifying: Racial Discourse in the Age of Obama (2012, Rutgers), Something Akin to Freedom, which won the First Book Prize in African American Studies (2010, SUNY Press), and a short biography of Toni Morrison.
**U.S. Department of State (October 4)**

Global collaboration leads to treatments for rare diseases

University of Rochester Medical Center

neurologists who played a role in the investigation suggested that the findings are good news for the millions of people who suffer from very rare diseases. Dr. Jeffrey Statland, first author of the paper and senior instructor in neurology, said: “This study shows that by bringing together experts and patients around the world and building a common infrastructure, we can tackle rare conditions that have eluded rigorous clinical study up to now.” (Also Reported in: News-Medical.Net)

**Huffington Post (October 2)**

Vitamin D No Help For Colds, Study Suggests

The new findings add to a growing body of literature exploring the effects of vitamin D on different aspects of health, said Dr. Alexandra Yamshchikov, an assistant professor of medicine at the Infectious Diseases Unit at the University of Rochester Medical Center who was not involved in the study. “There’s clear benefits to vitamin D supplements for bone health, and for that reason vitamin D status should be maximized for patients who are deficient or insufficient,” Yamshchikov, who has previously studied vitamin D’s role in tuberculosis recovery, told HuffPost. “But for these other nontraditional effects of vitamin D, the jury is still out.” (Also Reported in: WebMD)

**Mother Nature Network (October 5)**

New DNA test catches genetic disorders in newborns quickly

While the new technology gives physicians another diagnostic tool, current newborn screening tests reveal most of the cases in which children would benefit from early treatment, said Dr. Jennifer Kwon, an associate professor of neurology and pediatrics at the University of Rochester Medical Center. “I don’t know that we’re going to find as many cases where the rapid diagnoses lead to changes in management and treatment as the authors suggest,” Kwon said. (Also Reported in: Yahoo! News, NBCNews.com)

**New York Times (October 19)**

Me Translate Funny One Day

Might some funny bits actually get funnier in translation? In the title story of George Saunders’s “Pastoralia,” a character is paid to impersonate a cave man at a theme park, his employers providing a freshly-killed goat to roast daily, until one morning he goes to the usual spot and finds it “goatless.” Among the many possible renderings of this made-up word, Saunders’s German translator chose ziegenleer, a lofty-sounding melding of “goat” and “void” with no exact equivalent in English. “The German translation is accurate, but the word combination tickles some kind of orthographical, sound-receptive funny bone,” explained the Latvian translator Kaija Straumanis, the editorial director for Open Letter Books, the University of Rochester’s literature in translation press and one of the conference organizers. “The more high-minded you make it sound in your head, the funnier it gets, implying a rusted-out box into which this man is staring and seeing a severe and disconcerting lack of goat.”

**Bloomberg News (October 1)**

Primo Predicts Nothing New From Presidential Debate

David Primo, a political science professor at the University of Rochester in New York, says the presidential debates will not reveal much that is new. Primo talks with Bloomberg’s Ken Prewitt and Tom Keene on Bloomberg Radio’s “Bloomberg Surveillance.”

**Bloomberg News (October 16)**

Obama Under Pressure as Debate Comes Amid Early Balloting

“With early voting you get to decide what day Election Day is,” said David Primo, a political science professor at the University of Rochester in New York. “What Obama doesn’t want to do is perform poorly again tomorrow so that voters who are undecided, decide they’ve heard enough and cast a ballot against him in an early voting state.”

(Also Reported in: San Francisco Chronicle)
Neurology Today (October 4)
Old Drug, New Treatment for Apathy in Alzheimer’s Disease
Dr. Porsteinsson, director of the AD-CARE program at the University of Rochester Medical Center, commented on new data presented here at the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference (AAIC) reporting success in treating apathy with methylphenidate (Ritalin), a drug commonly used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). “What excites me about this study is that apathy is an overlooked behavior,” said Dr. Porsteinsson. “This is one of the most common behavioral disruptions in dementia but has received limited attention.”

Rochester Business Journal (October 12)
Bursting the Academic Bubble
Joel Seligman leads a top research university, one that plays an outsized role in bringing research dollars to the Rochester region. But he sees his responsibilities as extending well beyond the University of Rochester’s campus and medical center. “ Universities are always works in progress,” Seligman said. “I’ve been fortunate to work with a leadership department and a board that’s just as hungry today as in 2005 when I first started out. Now we’re feeling some pride in what we’ve started, whether it’s the capital campaign or improved diversity or improved student metrics, and our challenge now is to build on that momentum.”

Psych Central (October 18)
Language Mirrors Brain’s Desire for Clarity
For decades, linguists have debated the roots of language similarity. Are the recurrent structures artifacts of distant common origins, are they simply random accidents, or do they reflect fundamental aspects of human cognition? In a new study, researchers from the University of Rochester and Georgetown University believe the brain’s tendency toward efficient communication is an underlying reason that many human languages are comparable. (Also Reported in: Science Daily, e! Science News, Sify, PhysOrg.com)

Huffington Post (October 9)
New Model Predicts Women’s Odds Of Getting Pregnant
For example, women who are 25 and have been trying to get pregnant for three months have an 18 percent chance of getting pregnant in their next menstrual cycle. By contrast, women who are 40 and have been trying for three months have only a 7 percent chance. After one year of trying, 25-year-old women have a 10 percent chance of getting pregnant in their next cycle; 40-year-old women have a 3 percent shot. “I think that [the model] validated our current standard,” said Dr. Wendy Vitek, director of the fertility preservation program with the University of Rochester’s Strong Fertility Center, who did not work on the study. “Couples are generally advised to try and conceive for 12 cycles or one year before they go to a doctor. If you’re over 35, and you haven’t conceived in 6 cycles, then you should be evaluated.”

CNBC.com (October 19)
What Disruptors Need to Attract Capital
Even with a top flight management in place, some VC firms might feel hesitant if not adverse to risk with a disruptor venture, said Duncan Moore, vice provost of entrepreneurship at the University of Rochester. “There’s still a hangover of sorts from the tech bubble. Add that with the recession and slow economy and many VC firms don’t want to take as much risk even if they have the money,” Moore said. “I think there’s more funding going on for disruptors on the smaller angel investor scale and with local community funds.”

New York Times (October 11)
A Celestial Show From a Tiffany Window
Louis Comfort Tiffany encouraged his crafts people to specialize in catering to the grief-stricken. His factory, in Corona, Queens, offered stock and custom window designs for houses of worship, to be installed in memory of loved ones. Through Oct. 28, the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester is displaying seven stained-glass Tiffany angels in skinny arched frames, about eight feet tall. They came from a Swedenborgian church in Cincinnati that was razed in 1964, and they have been traveling to museums for the last few years.
Winnipeg Free Press (October 16)
New report questions science behind flu vaccine efficacy and use policy
“I don’t want to oversimplify this dilemma of what do you do now?” said Dr. John Treanor, an expert in flu vaccines and chief of the infectious diseases division at the University of Rochester (N.Y.) Medical Center. “How do you at the one time promote the vaccine that you have and at the same time create space to make new vaccines? I think that’s a very difficult thing to do.” (Also Reported in: Montreal Gazette)

Rochester Business Journal (October 5)
UR ramps up focus on digital media studies
The University of Rochester is building a multimillion-dollar facility for its new interdisciplinary major in digital media studies, and this Meliora Weekend it will hold a symposium to look more deeply into its new area of study. “The Humanities, Artistic Expression and the Digital Age: Innovation and Opportunities,” will explore how the study of the humanities has become intertwined with and influenced by technology.

Rochester Business Journal (October 9)
UR, Lumetrics receive federal grants
The University of Rochester has been awarded nearly $1.9 million in federal grants to support the area’s advanced manufacturing activities in the areas of optics, photonics and imaging.

Rochester Business Journal (October 1)
David Klein to join University of Rochester for $1 annual salary
David Klein will be joining the University of Rochester, serving as special adviser to the senior vice president and CEO of the medical center, UR officials announced Monday. Klein, the retiring CEO of the Lifetime Healthcare Cos., the parent company of Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, also will be a faculty member in the department of public health services and the Simon Graduate School of Business, UR officials said. (Also Reported in: Rochester Democrat and Chronicle)

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (October 4)
Art Walk Extension opens Friday
The ruptured streets and dislocated sidewalks outside of the Memorial Art Gallery and Village Gate Square have largely been set in order. The 27-foot tall, stainless steel Needle/Spindle sculpture in the middle of Goodman Street, an evening cycle of color created by Los Angeles artist Cliff Garten, is in place. Calling the outdoor urban walk “a unique arts corridor,” Memorial Art Gallery Director Grant Holcomb pointed to a diverse trail of creativity that includes not only the gallery’s collection, but also music, the literary center of Writers & Books and science with the Rochester Museum & Science Center (where another new sculpture stands). Still to be completed, with no date set, is the MAG’s Centennial Sculpture Garden. (Also Reported in: YNN, 13WHAM-TV)

Rochester City Newspaper (October 3)
College Town kickoff
Demolition of three older office buildings on Mount Hope and Elmwood avenues will mark the beginning of the College Town project next month. The 16-acre mixed-used development targets the west side of Mount Hope between Elmwood Avenue and Crittenden Boulevard. The project was initiated by the University of Rochester to help integrate the institution and the neighborhood.

Calgary Herald (October 2)
As winter nears, push away the dread and celebrate what we’ve got
Richard Ryan, a professor of psychology, psychiatry and education at the University of Rochester in New York is one of many researchers to study how nature affects us. “What these scientific findings show is that to the extent that you pay attention to the living things that are around us, that really also connects you more closely with the human race,” he says.

YNN (October 21)
Golisano Children’s Hospital 25th Anniversary
The event was held at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. Almost 900 people showed their support, including doctors and their families. This year’s storybook-themed event looked back on the advancements of the Department of Pediatrics and the hospital. (Also Reported in: 8WROC-TV, 10WHEC-TV, 13WHAM-TV)
**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle** (October 18)
**UR student Brian Shin hopes to find fame abroad**
University of Rochester student Brian Shin will be traveling abroad this fall, but not for school credit. Shin will be visiting South Korea to compete in Kpop Star, a reality talent show in South Korea where contestants sing and dance in hopes of winning a record deal. “Honestly, it hasn’t sunken in yet,” he said.

**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle** (October 13)
**Barbara Walters the keynote speaker at UR’s Meliora weekend**
The keynote speaker at the University of Rochester’s annual Meliora Weekend, during an hour Saturday, Walters managed to be charming, funny, spiritual and, when discussing the gradual disappearance of serious news, insistently honest. Over the past five decades, she has been a fixture on America’s television screens, opening doors for many newswomen who followed her. (Also Reported in: 13WHAM-TV, YNN, 10WHEC-TV, Rochester City Newspaper)

**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle** (October 7)
**Tribute to honor late Eastman legend Rayburn Wright**
Something fearsome was lurking in the basement of the Eastman School of Music. But Rayburn Wright was not afraid of this strange new alien thing. “He took us down to the electronic music lab when the school first purchased it,” recalls Jeff Beal. “It was a synclavier. A $200,000 digital synthesizer workstation. State of the art.”

**MPNow.com** (October 10)
**Board reveals next step in superintendent search**
*By Jeanie Grimm*
On Oct. 4, the Board of Education appointed the Warner Center for Professional Development and Education Reform, an affiliate of the Warner School of Education of the University of Rochester, as the district’s search consultant for filling the position of Superintendent of Schools. We selected the Warner Center, after interviewing a number of candidates, because of its keen understanding of our district, a convincing track record of excellence and a demonstrated commitment to an inclusive process that involves stakeholders throughout our school and greater community. 
Jeanie Grimm is president of the Canandaigua City School District Board of Education.

**Optics & Photonics News** (October 8)
**Rochester: An Optics Legacy**
Rochester has a long history as a global center for imaging and optics research. Early companies such as Kodak and Bausch & Lomb, along with the University of Rochester and its Institute of Optics, have played an important role in stimulating the city’s economy. Rochester is also the birthplace of OSA, which was founded here in 1916 by a small group of local optical technicians. This video traces Rochester’s optics heritage over more than 100 years.

**Playbill Arts** (October 13)
**Eastman School of Music’s Marie Rolf Reflects on The Prismatic Debussy**
Several Debussy treasures are preserved in the Sibley Music Library, at the University of Rochester’s Eastman School of Music. The jewel in the crown is surely Debussy’s complete working draft of La mer, but the library also owns the manuscript of his transcription of a piano prelude, “Minstrels.” A clean presentation copy, it is wittily dedicated by Debussy “pour piano et Hartmann.” (Violinist Arthur Hartmann taught at Eastman from 1918, when the school was called the DKG Institute of Musical Art, to 1922, and he also played first violin in the Kilbourn Quartet, performing in George Eastman’s home on Sunday evenings. Hartmann’s correspondence with the Sibley Music Library will be on display; his letters to Debussy, edited by Samuel Hsu, Sidney Grolnic, and Mark Peters, have been published in Claude Debussy as I Knew Him, and available in paperback from the University of Rochester Press.) Two sets of Debussy’s corrected proofs for his Prélude à l’après-midi d’un faune, three autographed letters, and a dedicated score of his seminal opera Pelléas et Mélisande will be on exhibit as well. In addition, the research publications and CDs of a number of Eastman faculty that relate to Debussy and his music will be available for study and purchase.
Bloomberg Businessweek (October 2)
B-School Photo of the Week: Rochester
Rush Rhees Library at the University of Rochester is a few minutes’ walk from the Simon Graduate School of Business. The library houses more than 3 million items (some dating back to 1850), including collections that make up the Business and Government Information Library used by students in the Simon School, which offers full-time MBA, part-time MBA, executive MBA, and undergraduate business programs. Rush Rhees was dedicated in 1930 and named after the university president from 1900 to 1935. The tower is 186 feet high and houses the Hopeman Carillon, 50 bells weighing 6,668 pounds that were imported from Holland and collectively make up one of the largest musical instruments in the country.