Selected Coverage October 2008

**National**

*Newsday* (October 20)

**University of Rochester Receives $30 Million Gift From Hajim**


**BBC News** (October 28)

**Wearing red ‘boosts attraction’**

The *University of Rochester* study, published in a psychology journal, supports other evidence linking the colour to attractiveness. … Scientists are doing their best to unravel the mysteries of human attachment and have discovered that women wearing red appear more attractive to men. Men, however, are unaware that the color red turns them on. Researchers at the University of Rochester in New York conducted five psychological experiments to assess how color can affect how men view a woman’s attractiveness. (Also Reported in: Yahoo!, Los Angeles Times, Today Show, Washington Post, U.S. News & World Report, Fox News, Boston Herald, Houston Chronicle, Seattle Times, New York Daily News, ABC News, MSNBC, WHAM TV ABC 13 Rochester, WROC TV CBS 8 Rochester, WXXI PBS News, WHEC TV NBC 10 Rochester, CNN, CBS News, MSN, WebMD, Scientific American, Chicago Tribune, Washington Times, Huffington Post, Toronto Globe and Mail, and many others)

**Time** (October 21)

**Parents Press States for Autism Insurance Laws**

When it comes to older children, the research is sparse, said Tristram Smith of the *University of Rochester Medical Center* in New York, who co-authored the 2000 autism study. “You could make a decent case for the little kids up to 6 or 7 that (insurance mandates) would be appropriate,” Smith said. “I think it would be hard to make that case for older kids.” (Also Reported in: El Paso Times, Associated Press, Washington Post, Newsweek, MSNBC, KABC ABC 7 News Los Angeles, Lakeland Ledger, Enquirer Herald, USA Today, Newsday, ABC News)
Economist Joel Seligman called the current situation “the most consequential debate over financial regulation that we have experienced since the New Deal period” and said that “how well we develop the structure of financial regulation will help determine this nation’s financial stability for decades to come.”

(Also Reported in: Federal Times, Allentown Morning Call, Detroit News, Central Ohio Daily Reporter, Memphis Daily News)

Translation Is Foreign to U.S. Publishers
According to Chad W. Post, the director of Open Letter, a new press based at the University of Rochester that focuses exclusively on books in translation, 330 works of foreign literature – or a little more than 2 percent of the estimated total of 15,000 titles released – have been published in the United States so far this year.

University of Rochester science building celebrated
University of Rochester Medical Center is building a new home for the workers who try to turn scientific discoveries into drugs, medical devices and other treatments to improve patient health. (Also Reported in: WXXI PBS News, WROC TV CBS 8 Rochester, WROC TV CBS 8 Rochester, R News, Rochester Business Journal, WHAM AM 1180 Rochester, WHEC TV NBC 10 Rochester)

Science magazine names UR a top place to work
The Scientist magazine named University of Rochester one of the top places in the nation for scientists to work, officials announced Thursday. (Also Reported in: WROC TV CBS, WHAM TV ABC, WHAM AM 1180)

National Organization Ranks Highland “Exemplary”
Highland Hospital is one of 26 hospitals around the country to get an “Exemplary” rating in two or more key patient safety measures concerning surgical care.

InsideHigherEd (October 23)
The Economic Crisis II
Guest essayist: University of Rochester President Joel Seligman
Like other college presidents, I am deeply concerned about how the economic crisis will affect our students, our faculty members, and our staff and alumni. Having spent my academic life studying financial markets and financial regulation, I know that it is unrealistic to make promises about the national economy when so much is uncertain. But with some pundits predicting very difficult times for higher education, prompting fears from students, parents and those who work in higher education, some perspective is in order. There are both reasons to worry and reasons to be hopeful right now.

CNN’s Anderson Cooper finds hope amid suffering
Anderson Cooper told University of Rochester students Saturday not to worry if they don’t have their futures perfectly planned out. Neither did he when he graduated from college. (Also Reported in: WHEC TV NBC 10 Rochester, R News Cable Rochester)

Stephen Colbert at UR’s Meliora Weekend
Stephen Colbert just does not stop. He plays the roll of arrogant, selfish, pseudo-journalist with such flair and commitment that I sometimes wonder where his line between satire and actual belief system is drawn. Seeing his lecture Saturday at the University of Rochester for the college’s Meliora Weekend was like watching an hour and a half personalized “Colbert Report” – with digs on UR, Rochester’s weather, and at one point a comparison of John McCain to white hots that somehow seemed all too appropriate (though admittedly, the visuals on the jumbo screens helped).

Massive flu vaccine dose protects elderly better
Recent research has shown the standard flu vaccine does not reduce deaths noticeably among the elderly, who make up most of the 36,000 people a year in the United States who die of influenza each year. This is likely because their immune systems are not as active as those of younger people. Dr. Ann Falsey of the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and colleagues tried giving a much bigger dose of flu vaccine to see if that might help. (Also Reported in: Yaboo!, New York Post, ABC News, Times Colonist, WROC TV CBS 8
Kids’ Flu Shot Largely Ineffective Over Past Few Years

In the study, a team led by Dr. Peter G. Szilagyi, from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, N.Y., looked at 414 children aged five and younger in Rochester, New York. "The pasteur’s not gonna say, ‘Go down to Wachovia and get a loan,’ but I have heard, ‘Even if you have a poor credit rating, God can still bless you.’ If you put some faith out there [that is, make a big donation to the church], you’ll get that house or that car or that apartment.”

Kids’ Flu Shot Largely Ineffective Over Past Few Years

In the study, a team led by Dr. Peter G. Szilagyi, from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, N.Y., looked at 414 children aged five and younger who developed flu in the 2003-2004 or 2004-2005 flu seasons. (Also Reported in: Yahoo!, PhysOrg.com, News-Medical.net, WebMD, Time, US News, Medical News Today, Science Daily, Austin KXAN NBC 36, KLFY 10 Lafayette)

A Man of Many Talents, Eager to Use Them All

Early this summer Caleb Burhans cleared his performance calendar for the first time since 2001, when he graduated from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester and moved to New York City. He wasn’t taking a vacation, exactly. Lincoln Center and Alarm Will Sound, a new-music orchestra in which he plays violin, had commissioned him to write a work to be performed in March as part of the reopening festivities at Alice Tully Hall, and Mr. Burhans resolved to do nothing but compose.

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WXXI PBS News (October 15)
New Organ Unites 18th, 21st Centuries
David Higgs is chair of the Organ Department at the Eastman School of Music. Higgs and other Eastman professors say they make this organ unique to this country is its recreation of the sound that Johann Sebastian Bach and other Baroque composers would find completely familiar.
(Also Reported in: R News Cable Rochester)

Washington Post (October 21)
Blood Pressure Drug Before Surgery Raises Risks
But the study indicates that the guidelines “need to be revisited,” said Dr. Jeffrey H. Peters, chief of surgery at the University of Rochester, New York. “This paper adds to a growing body of evidence suggesting that the routine use of beta blockers to reduce cardiac morbidity in surgery needs to be reconsidered,” Peters said.
(Also Reported in: MedicineNet.com, Business Week, ABC News, National Post - Canada, Malaysia Star, National Women's Health Information Center)

CNN (October 22)
Study: U.S. suicides rising; risk high in middle age
Robert Bossarte, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of Rochester in New York, says that people have traditionally focused on suicide prevention in the very young and the old, but not necessarily the middle-aged. Historically, people over 65 have had the highest suicide rates, but this study suggests that trend is changing.
(Also Reported in: ZDNet, Health.com, Science News)

Rochester Business Journal (October 16)
Optical Society to honor 3 in Rochester
The Optical Society is honoring three Rochester-area scientists with awards at its Frontiers in Optics annual meeting to be held in Rochester next week. Those honored for their contributions to the field of optics include Michael Bechtold, co-founder and president of OptiPro Systems in Ontario, N.Y., Emil Wolf, Wilson professor of optical physics at the University of Rochester, and UR student Katie Hasman.

Rochester Democrat & Chronicle (October 15)
UR to honor jazz great Brubeck
The University of Rochester will award jazz legend Dave Brubeck an honorary doctor of music degree on Saturday, part of the Eastman Weekend festivities that run Thursday to Sunday.

NPR, Day to Day (October 15)
The Best Foreign Books You’ve Never Heard Of
Only about 3 percent of all books published in the United States are works that have been translated, lamented David Kipen, director of Literature and National Reading Initiatives at the National Endowment for the Arts. Kipen noted that he is a fan of Open Letter’s Web site, Three Percent (http://www.rochester.edu/College/translation/threepercent). When asked by the interviewer how we ought to get and find out about the best foreign books out there, Kipen highly recommended Open Letter, the University of Rochester’s new translation press, and their advocacy work on behalf of foreign-language translations.

MSN (October 15)
Too Much Sun, Too Few Antioxidants Spell Eye Trouble
“This is the first time they’ve looked at this in so many patients, but it makes sense from a physiological standpoint,” said Dr. David M. Kleinman, an assistant professor of ophthalmology at the University of Rochester Eye Institute.

Rochester Business Journal (October 20)
URMC Emergency Dept. gets new chair
The University of Rochester Medical Center has tapped the Mayo Medical School’s chairwoman of emergency medicine research to head the its department of emergency medicine. Latha Stead M.D. still is serving at the Mayo Medical School post in Rochester, Minn. She is slated to start at URMC Jan. 1.

CBS News (October 6)
Safe Blood Test for Down Syndrome
“This would be a big step forward. This is exciting stuff,” says J. Christopher Glantz, MD, MPH, director of the perinatal outreach program and professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Rochester Medical Center, N.Y.

Rochester Business Journal (October 23)
UR AIDS researcher secures $100k grant
A University of Rochester Medical Center researcher has received a Grand Challenges Explorations grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation – part of the first round in the foundation’s five-year, $100 million initiative, officials said Wednesday.
(Also Reported in: Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, Healthcare Association of New York State)