Selected Coverage September 2010

**National**
ABC News
Animal Planet
Baltimore Sun
BBC News
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Boston Herald
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CBS News.com
Chicago Tribune
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Medical News Today
MSN
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News-medical.net
New York Post
New York Times
NPR
Reuters
Slashdot
Time
Toronto Sun
UPI
USA Today
U.S. News & World Report
White Plains Journal

**CBSNews.com (September 13)**
Action Video Games Found to Sharpen Decision-Making
The investigation, which was carried out by a team from the University of Rochester, assembled a test group of video-gamers and measured their reaction skills against another group consisting of non-players. The participants in the test — including those who didn’t usually play action video games — were found to have improved inference skills after playing 50 hours, compared with a test group that didn’t play at all, according to the researchers.


**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (September 10)**
Research funds soar at the University of Rochester
Showing more than a $100 million increase over last year, the University of Rochester received a record $458 million in research funds for the fiscal year that ended in June. (Also Reported in: YNN)

**New York Times (September 20)**
Web Tool to Check Heart Risk Is Doubted
“Even if it’s just a 5 percent difference of undertreatment versus overtreatment — why use a less accurate method?” said Dr. Kevin Fiscella, a professor of family and preventive medicine at the University of Rochester. “Especially when it’s quite easy to use a more accurate method with electronic devices.”

**Daily News (September 8)**
Fall concerts lead up to opening of Eastman addition
This fall, a variety of concerts ranging from baroque to minimalism, from American jazz to world music, from soloists and chamber groups to full orchestras, will pack the Eastman School of Music calendar and usher in a celebration of “The New Eastman Evolution” in December. (Also Reported in: Rochester City Newspaper)

**Chicago Tribune (September 17)**
The ‘contagion’ of social networks
Valente is part of a new effort, led by Peter Wyman of the University of Rochester, to study how effectively key network members can implement a suicide prevention program called Sources of Strength.
**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (September 30)**

UR working to create energy from fusion

The Laboratory for Laser Energetics that [Robert McCrory] heads at the University of Rochester is helping the federal government in its research there. Officials hope the experiments will show that the use of laser beams to cause the fusion of isotopes of hydrogen atoms can provide a cost-effective and plentiful supply of energy.

**New York Times (September 5)**

Four Guys Named JACK

Things have been going well of late for the gifted and eager performers in JACK, who first played together as students at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester in 2003.

**WHAM AM 1180 (September 30)**

Renovations To Kodak Hall At Eastman Theatre Complete

Jamal Rossi is the Executive Associate Dean of the Eastman School and he says this new renovation also is a recruiting tool for prospective Eastman students.

(Also Reported in: 8WROC-TV, 10WHEC-TV, YNN)

**Reuters (September 10)**

Treatments for genital pain no better than placebo

Despite the lack of evidence for their use, tricyclic antidepressants and topical lidocaine have become widely used for vulvodynia based largely on doctors’ experience and the fact that the therapies are effective for other pain conditions, said Dr. David C. Foster, a professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Rochester in New York.

**New York Times (September 7)**

Do Daughters Cause Divorce?

Economists first analyzed the data that way in 2003, when Gordon Dahl at the University of Rochester and Enrico Moretti at U.C.L.A., identified that gap, and noted that it widened as you added boys or girls to a family.

**NPR (September 7)**

Don’t Tell the Kids: Educating For Which Future?

Randy Curren is a professor of philosophy at the University of Rochester. He has done a lot of work on the philosophy of education and what it tells us about our responsibilities in preparing the next generation for this new kind of future.

**Medical News Today (September 9)**

Molecular Gatekeeper of Arthritis Identified

“This finding is an encouraging step forward for researchers, clinicians and arthritis sufferers, many of whom fail available therapies,” said lead researcher Frances Lund, Ph.D., professor of Medicine in the Division of Allergy/Immunology and Rheumatology at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

“An added bonus is that this finding may help in the search for new treatments for other autoimmune disorders, such as lupus.” (Also Reported in: Science-Daily)

**8WROC-TV (September 9)**

Students Start Farm on U. of R. Campus

From planting to picking, Caitlin Smigelski and Annalise Kjolhede have put their heart and soul into their garden. The work began last year as part of a class project. “We were looking at ways for students to be able to make their lives more sustainable,” said Smigelski. Indeed, the two say this is about teaching students to grow food instead of buying it.

**YNN (September 3)**

Study Offers New Hope for Muscular Dystrophy Patients

“Some people would say it’s the worst disease of mankind; it’s certainly the most severe,” said Dr. Robert Griggs, University of Rochester Medical Center. …

Dr. Griggs said a new steroid called Deflazacort, currently being used in Europe, may [help patients] and his team recently received $11 million grant to prove it. Griggs will lead a five-year study that will compare three treatment regiments to determine which is best.

(Also Reported in: Medical News Today, Rochester Business Journal)

**Animal Planet (first aired in August 2010)**

Homegrown Enemies

An active, busy middle-aged woman experiences stomach cramps, explosive diarrhea, lightheadedness, and blurred vision from the Toxocara parasite, which she probably got from contaminated food. [The program goes on to name this patient's physician, Dr. William Bonnez, as well as the University of Rochester Medical Center, where she was treated.]
U.S. News & World Report (September 13)
FDA Panel to Mull Ban on Diet Drug Meridia
“Good old-fashioned diet and exercise is the only substantive sustained therapy that’s shown to be helpful,” said Dr. J. Chad Teeters, an assistant professor of clinical medicine, cardiology division at the University of Rochester Medical Center. “There’s no quick-fix pill.” (Also Reported in: CBS, Bloomberg BusinessWeek, MSN, Yahoo! News)

Toronto Sun (September 22)
All You Need is Love (and a study to tell you whether your love will last)
Researchers at the University of Rochester say they’ve devised a test that unlocks the secret to the mysterious question, should we stay together?

10WHEC-TV (September 29)
Stomach bug vaccine study to begin at U of R
Researchers at the University of Rochester soon hope to have a vaccine for the stomach bug. (Also Reported in: WHAM AM 1180)

CNN (September 30)
A Conversation With Michael J. Fox
Dr. Bernard Ravina, Assoc. Chief of Neurology, University of Rochester: … There are multiple factors that may contribute to causing Parkinson’s disease, and certainly in people who have early onset or young onset Parkinson’s disease, it can be much more difficult to make a diagnosis because there are several other diseases that may be suspected or that you need to rule out first.

Bloomberg BusinessWeek (September 8)
Many HIV-Infected Kids Could Use Cheaper Treatment Safely
Dr. Geoffrey A. Weinberg, a pediatric infectious disease expert at Golisano Children’s Hospital at the University of Rochester Medical Center in New York, agreed that a nevirapine treatment option would be helpful. (Also Reported in: Yahoo!News, MSN, iVillage Health, Drugs.com)

ABC News (September 6)
Study Links Cholesterol and Nonstick Coating Chemical
The team said the findings suggest an association between the compounds and higher cholesterol, but it would take more studies to prove chemical exposure was the cause. Bernard Weiss of the University of Rochester in New York, an expert on toxins who was not involved in the research, said perfluoroalkyl acids are a known neurotoxin. (Also Reported in: Yahoo! News, MSNBC, MSN, Fox News, Khaleej Times, and others)

Boston Herald (September 21)
‘Part-time’ politicians pull 2nd paycheck
A study this year also found that the higher-paid the legislature, the more time spent on local, pork-barrel issues instead of statewide policies, according to Gerald Gamm, a political professor at University of Rochester.

Daily News (September 18)
International reading series lists fall programs
Open Letter Books, a press for translated literature based at the University of Rochester, opens its 2010-2011 Reading the World Conversation Series with a tribute to Swiss author Robert Walser.

Bloomberg BusinessWeek (September 10)
Everything Is Made by Foxconn in Future Evoked by Gou’s Empire
Eric Caine, chair of the department of psychiatry at the University of Rochester and an expert on suicide prevention, says the deaths at Foxconn exhibit the characteristics of a suicide cluster, the copycat phenomenon first observed during Europe’s industrialization a couple of centuries ago. (Also Reported in: MSNBC)

YNN (September 29)
Experts Say Rochester a ‘Safe Bet’ for Investors
Compounding that, says Mark Zupan, head of the University of Rochester’s Simon School of Business, is the seemingly age-old issue of taxes. “I think in terms of deterring individuals and businesses from staying here, it is a drag,” said Zupan. “Not just property tax rates, but state tax rates as well.”
**Bloomberg BusinessWeek (September 14)**
Expert Panel Links Popular Bone Drugs to Rare Fracture

J. Edward Puzas, senior associate dean for basic research and professor of orthopedics at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in New York, said that “the scientists and clinicians that made up the panel are some of the most knowledgeable and respected individuals in our field.” (Also Reported in: ABC)

**White Plains Journal (September 24)**
Candidates sure to find a poll they like among recent crop

David Primo, a political science professor at the University of Rochester, said voters’ opinion of the candidates probably lies somewhere in the middle of the various polls. (Also Reported in: Ithaca Journal)

**MSN (September 10)**
What Caused Michael Douglas’ Throat Cancer?

Having stage IV oropharyngeal cancer can mean different things, explained Matthew Miller, M.D., assistant professor of head and neck oncologic and microvascular surgery at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

**ABC News (September 14)**
Genes, Stress May Have Led to Omar Bin Laden’s Schizophrenia

“People tend to hear voices during the very heights of mania or the depths of depression,” said Dr. J. Steven Lamberti, professor of psychiatry at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

**News-medical.net (September 22)**
AstraZeneca joins Rochester initiative to further cardiac safety

“We believe AstraZeneca’s interest and involvement in our initiative is an important milestone. The support we have received from major pharmaceutical companies has grown over time and further validates our decision to develop a repository for scientific data for the development of novel technologies related to cardiac safety,” said Jean-Philippe Couderc, Ph.D., M.B.A., associate professor in the Division of Cardiology at the University of Rochester Medical Center and director of the Telemetric and Holter ECG Warehouse (THEW) project. (Also Reported in: PhysOrg, Forbes)

**MSN (September 28)**
Study Finds Home Dialysis as Good as Hemodialysis at Centers

Both forms of dialysis essentially act as replacement kidneys, filtering and cleaning the blood of toxins, explained Dr. Martin Zand, medical director of the kidney and pancreas transplant programs at the University of Rochester Medical Center in Rochester, N.Y. (Also Reported in: Bloomberg BusinessWeek)

**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (September 9)**
Area ranks high for colleges

The American Institute for Economic Research, established in 1933, is one of the oldest unaffiliated research organizations in the nation, specializing in research about business cycles and consumer finance, said Michael Rizzo, who previously worked at the institute and is now a lecturer in the economics department of the University of Rochester.

**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (September 27)**
University of Rochester’s Palladino wins Liberty League golf title

University of Rochester freshman Nicholas Palladino earned both player and rookie of the year honors at the Liberty League men’s golf championship at Ravenwood Sunday.