

MEDICAL CENTER

Berk Is Back

GOAL KEEPER: “I am a goal-oriented person,” says Bradford Berk ’81M (MD/PhD) of his recovery from a spinal cord injury and of his return as CEO of the Medical Center. “There are huge opportunities for us as an academic institution and as a health care organization” (Story, page 6).



UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

Berk Returns to Lead Medical Center

“We can really do something unique, and I am very excited about that,” says Bradford Berk ’81M (MD/PhD) as he maps out new goals for himself and for the Medical Center.

By Michael Wentzel

He doesn't say he beat the odds. He says he met a goal.

Either way, Bradford Berk '81M (MD/PhD) returned March 1 from a serious injury—a cervical fracture and severe spinal cord injury—to assume full-time responsibilities as CEO of the Medical Center and the University's senior vice president for health science.

“This is like climbing Mt. Everest. It is reaching a goal,” Berk says. “I am a goal-oriented person. I set goals. When you achieve your goals, it is exhilarating. Coming back and seeing the people in the Medical Center has given me so much energy. We have much to work on and there are huge opportunities for us as an academic institution and a health care organization.”

Berk has set new goals: to move ahead with Medical Center projects, to implement changes at the Medical Center based on what he has learned as a patient, and to work as hard as possible in rehabilitation so he can make maximum gains physically.

“The accident is a terrible thing but it opened up my eyes to a lot of other areas where we can really do something unique and I am very excited about that,” he says. “Part of what drove me to come back was the opportunity to take advantage of my personal experiences as a patient. I want to take the positives that I saw as a patient and make them happen routinely at the Medical Center, and I want to make sure the negatives don't happen.”

President Joel Seligman announced Berk's return during a January ceremony in Flaum Atrium at the Medical Center in front of an overflow audience that welcomed Berk with several standing ovations.

“Brad is one of the most determined, most talented, most focused individuals I've ever met,” Seligman said during the event. “We've all been the beneficiaries of his remarkable vision for the Medical Center, and we know that with his leadership and that of the Medical Center's leadership team, we are poised for even greater progress in the future.”



As Berk returned to his position, Mark Taubman, who served as the Medical Center's acting CEO, became the 10th dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry.

“We have a new dean, which is great. We're recruiting several new chairs. I am looking forward to the change in the Medical Center's senior leadership,” Berk says. “We have exciting plans for our Eastman Institute for Oral Health and our School of Nursing. Our goal is to integrate those schools successfully into our strategic plan.”

▲ **COMPONENTS OF CARE:** Berk says his experience has convinced him that Medical Center caregivers should emphasize four key components in their work: quality, safety, care, and courage.

Berk also returned to what he calls “a very difficult budget situation.”

“The recession has left the economy in a shambles and it will take a while to grow the economy,” he says. “Upstate New York and much of the country has more people who are unemployed and more uninsured individuals. California is the only state whose government is in worse shape fiscally than New York's. It is a very challenging environment.”

The key question for Berk: How does the Medical Center move forward when dollars are tight?

“We've trimmed expenses. We've improved our operation. We're stronger and more competitive. We've found new approaches to projects. The Clinical and

Translational Science Building is rising before our eyes. We are going ahead with our expansion of clinical beds. We will move forward," he says.

Berk, an accomplished cyclist, was injured May 30, 2009, during a ride in the hills near his house on Canandaigua Lake in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York. A car forced him to swing wide and leave the paved road. When he got off the road, a tire blew out and he went over the handlebars of his bicycle. He heard the crack of his neck and he felt his body go numb.

"Knowing what I had done, at that moment I told myself, if I got through this and afterwards if I did not need a ventilator but I was able to move in a wheelchair on my own, that would be okay," he says.

Berk underwent surgery to stabilize his neck at the Medical Center. He spent 20 days on a ventilator, and a total of 101 days at the Kessler Institute in New Jersey, which specializes in spinal cord injuries.

"I have encountered so many wonderful caregivers," he says. "If something felt really good, I would tell them that I really appreciated their taking extra time. That

interaction, that communication, really makes job satisfaction much better for the caregiver. We need to change our dynamic and make sure that there is time for the interaction to occur. I hope we can find ways to legitimize this as part of the way we operate."

When he returned to Rochester from New Jersey in September, Berk began working on Medical Center projects but devoted his afternoons to rehabilitation therapy.


While he continues to use a motorized wheelchair, Berk has made remarkable progress. He can stand, do squats, and walk with assistance. He can feed himself. He can brush his teeth. His left arm has recovered more strength and flexibility than the right. As of this winter, he couldn't transfer from his chair to a bed, but he expected to be able to do that when he builds up strength in both arms.

Only minimal sensation has returned. His right side has much more sensation than his left, but he describes the sensation as "patchy and not normal." By touch alone, he can't tell the difference between fabrics—between a terrycloth towel and

smooth cotton pants. His stamina has returned, and he keeps a very busy schedule.

"There's a lot of progress, but it's always too slow," Berk says. "As long you continue to progress, you have to keep pushing ahead. I am counting on continuing to progress."

Berk wants to apply his personal experiences as a patient to improve clinical care at the Medical Center through "quality, safety, care, and courage."

"It is a great opportunity to make this an even better place for patients and providers," Berk says. "That's a key message: I'm not just doing this for patients but also for providers—not just for those who have direct contact with patients but for everyone who works here. Everyone who works here is part of a health care organization and they are here in part because they want to do good for people. So we should be able to improve job satisfaction across the whole institution. That's the caring part. It's as much about caring for each other as it is about caring for our patients." 

Michael Wentzel is the editor of Rochester Medicine.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY

Mark Taubman Becomes Dean

The former chair of the Department of Medicine who served as acting CEO of the Medical Center for nine months is the new dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Mark Taubman, who came to the Medical Center as chief of the cardiology unit in 2003, is the school's 10th dean. Effective March 1, the appointment follows this winter's announcement that Bradford Berk '81M (MD/PhD) is returning as CEO of the Medical Center after suffering a serious spinal cord injury last spring.

"Mark is the best possible choice for dean," Berk said of Taubman's appointment. "He is a physician-scientist who is active in the laboratory yet possesses a broad institutional view. As an active cardiologist, he also understands the challenges of practicing medicine."

As chief of cardiology, Taubman was the guiding force behind the expansion of cardiac patient care services, faculty recruitment, strengthening treatments for those with heart arrhythmias and heart failure, adding new preventive cardiology programs, such as the women's heart program, and forging strong regional services. Taubman



DEAN: A noted cardiologist and medical education leader, Taubman is the 10th dean of the medical school.

also served as director of the Aab Cardiovascular Research Institute, which he helped Berk to found.

Taubman became chair of the Department of Medicine and the Charles E. Dewey Professor of Medicine in May 2007. As chair, he directed the Medical Center's largest single department, overseeing a \$150 million budget and more than 1,000 faculty

and staff in 10 units devoted to patient care, research, and education. He named division chiefs, including general medicine, cardiology, hematology-oncology, endocrinology, and infectious disease.

In 2006, Taubman was named editor-in-chief of *Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology*, one of five international medical journals published by the American Heart Association, and the leading journal in the field of vascular biology.

A graduate of New York University's medical school, he interned at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital before completing his residency and cardiology fellowship training at the Brigham & Women's Hospital. Taubman has held academic appointments at Harvard Medical School, Children's Hospital Boston, and Mt. Sinai School of Medicine. Prior to being recruited to Rochester, he was director of cardiovascular research at Mt. Sinai.

Elizabeth McAnarney, the chair emerita of pediatrics, served as interim dean since June, when former dean David Guzick became senior vice president for health affairs at the University of Florida and president of the University of Florida health system.

Student Composition

CONCERT ORDER: How do you get to the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts? For Eastman students (this page, left to right) pianist Zhang Zuo '10E, saxophonist and graduate student Doug O'Connor, percussionist Tomasz Arnold '13E, and (opposite page) soprano and graduate student Rebecca Farley (seated), and her accompanists Markiyam Melnychenko (violin) and Lyndon Meyer (piano), the answer comes with one of the nation's select honors for music students. Zuo, O'Connor, Arnold, and Farley were among a handful of talented artists chosen to give individual performances during this spring's Conservatory Project, a semiannual showcase of the nation's top music schools. How do you get a photo of six busy music students during recital week? In this case, the answer is to take more than one photo and merge them into a composite image that seems to show the students all together in Eastman's Ranlet Lounge.





STUDENT ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Giving Shelter

CANVAS KING: Brian MacMillin '10 cuts a section of canvas in Douglass Dining Center as part of his small sporting goods business that specializes in tarps and other camping shelters. MacMillin, a senior from Campbell Hall, N.Y., started the business after learning that many outdoor enthusiasts were unhappy with commercially available options. Because he needs a large indoor space to work, he spreads his materials out in Douglass during off hours.





Big Dipper's Binary Star Has Surprises

There's more to the Big Dipper than meets the eye.

In ancient times, people with exceptional vision discovered that one of the brightest stars in the Big Dipper was, in fact, two stars so close together that most people cannot distinguish them. The two stars, Alcor and Mizar, were the first binary stars—a pair of stars that orbit each other—ever known.

Now Rochester astronomer Eric Mamajek has discovered that Alcor, one of the most studied stars in the sky, is actually two

stars. Mamajek, an assistant professor of physics and astronomy, led a team that made the discovery using computer algorithms to remove as much glare as possible from the image of a star in the hopes of spotting a planet near the star.

"Finding that Alcor had a stellar companion was a bit of serendipity," says Mamajek. "We were trying a new method of planet hunting and instead of finding a planet orbiting Alcor, we found a star."

Modern telescopes have found that Mizar is itself a pair of binaries, revealing what

was once thought of as a single star to be four stars orbiting each other. Alcor and its newly identified companion, Alcor B, are apparently gravitationally bound to the Mizar system, making the whole group a sextuplet.

Mamajek is continuing his efforts to find planets around nearby stars, but his attention is not completely off Alcor and Mizar.

"Some of us have a feeling that Alcor might actually have another surprise in store for us," he says.

—Jonathan Sherwood '04 (MA), '09S (MBA)

BIG DIPPER

For millennia, stargazers have recognized that what seemed to be the brightest star in the Big Dipper was made up of more than one star.

Alkaid

Mizar and Alcor

Alioth

Megrez

Phecda

Merak

Dubhe



MIZAR AND ALCOR

As astronomers were able to look more closely at the binary stars known as Mizar and Alcor, they discovered an even larger set of stars, including two sets of binaries orbiting each other to make up Mizar.

CITATIONS

Research Roundup

NEWLY SEQUENCED WASP GENOME MAY HAVE MANY USES

Scientists led by John Werren, a professor of biology, and Stephen Richards of the Genome Sequencing Center at the Baylor College of Medicine have sequenced the genomes of three parasitoid wasp species, a project that could be useful for pest control and medicine. Because parasitoid wasps seek out and kill specific kinds of insects, understanding their genetics and evolution could help in the development of alternatives to chemical pesticides. The study was published in *Science*.

STUDY LOOKS AT PLACEBO EFFECT AS PART OF TREATMENT

Medical Center researchers used the placebo effect to treat psoriasis patients successfully with one quarter to one half of their usual dose of a widely used steroid medication. According to an early study published online in the journal *Psychosomatic Medicine* and led by Robert Ader, the George L. Engel Professor of Psychosocial Medicine, the Rochester team hope to explore whether treatment regimens can be designed that mix active drugs and placebos to maximize drug benefits, reduce side effects, and extend the use of drugs otherwise limited by addiction risk or toxicity.

DRUG SHOWS PROMISE FOR HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE

An early stage clinical trial indicates an experimental drug may improve cognition in people with Huntington's disease, according to a study led by Karl Kieburtz, a professor of neurology, and published in the *Archives of Neurology*. Mitochondria—the part of the cell that helps convert food to energy—are believed to play a role in the development of Huntington's. The experimental drug dimebon (latrepirdine) stabilizes and enhances mitochondrial function, a result that has been shown to improve behavioral, cognitive, and functional outcomes in Alzheimer's disease. Scientists speculate that it may have the same effect in patients with Huntington's.

SIMPLE SCREENING COULD BRING EARLY INTERVENTION FOR CHILDREN

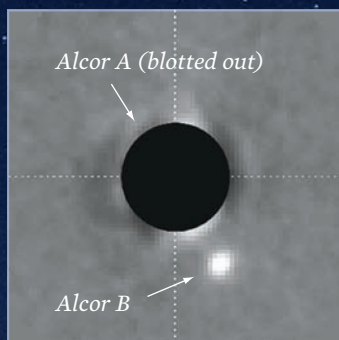
The addition of a simple and systematic screening among children in foster care doubled the detection rate of developmental disabilities in a population that is at high risk for developmental problems, according to a study published in *Pediatrics* by Sandra Jee, an assistant professor of pediatrics. A brief, nondiagnostic questionnaire sent to foster families a week before well-child visits took providers less than five minutes to score and review with families. The screening also revealed more delays in problem-solving, personal-social, and fine motor skills than had previously been detected.

TAG-TEAM APPROACH BREAKS GENE THERAPY SIZE BARRIER

Rochester neuroscientists have forged an unlikely molecular union as part of their fight against diseases of the brain and nervous system. The team has brought together the herpes virus and a molecule known as “sleeping beauty” to improve a treatment technology known as gene therapy, which aims to manipulate genes to correct for molecular flaws that cause disease. The work—led by William Bowers, an associate professor of neurology, and published online in *Gene Therapy*—has allowed Rochester scientists to reach a long-sought goal: shuttling into brain cells a relatively large gene that can remain active for an extended period of time. The breakthrough opens more diseases to possible treatment with gene therapy.

STUDY LINKS VITAMIN D, RACE, AND CARDIAC DEATHS

Vitamin D deficiency may contribute to a higher number of heart attacks and stroke-related deaths among black Americans compared to whites, according to a Rochester study led by Kevin Fiscella, an associate professor of family medicine and community and preventive medicine, and published in the journal *Annals of Family Medicine*. A complex host of genetic and lifestyle factors among blacks may explain why the population group has lower vitamin D levels over the course of their lifetimes compared to other races. The analysis suggests that vitamin D may be a modifiable, independent risk factor for heart disease.

**ALCOR AND COMPANION**

Using computer algorithms, Rochester astronomer Eric Mamajek and his team wondered if a planet could be orbiting Alcor. Instead they found that it had its own companion star, given the name Alcor B.



FINANCIAL AID

Thinking Outside the Boxing

A new scholarship recognizes the commitment of a boxing coach to his athletes and to his upstate community.

By Kathleen McGarvey

Growing up, Jonathan Vazquez '11 looked up to his cousin, two-time world champion welterweight fighter Miguel Cotto. "He was always an inspiration," says Vazquez.

Cotto's example led Vazquez to try his own hand at boxing—and the sport, in turn, has led him to Rochester.

Vazquez, a native of Newark, N.Y., is the first recipient of the Geneva Boxing Team Scholarship, a new scholarship that honors Tim Hill, the coach of a boxing team in the Finger Lakes town of Geneva.

Hill, a former professional boxer, and his family have devoted themselves to helping young people, especially those at risk.

"I've never met anybody as caring as he is about his community," Vazquez says of his coach. Hill's boxing career ended when he broke his back in a construction accident. He returned to college to earn a social work

degree, becoming a high school counselor and coach for the boxing team.

Last year, *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* featured the Hills on one of its episodes, building a small boxing gym behind their renovated house. Jon Burdick, the dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, suggested that the University could help, too, with the creation of the scholarship.

The scholarship provides up to \$400,000 in financial aid over a 10-year period to Geneva Boxing Team members who demonstrate a serious commitment to the pursuit of higher education at the University. Last year Vazquez earned his associate's degree at Finger Lakes Community College,

▲ **RING MAN:** Jonathan Vazquez '11 is the first recipient of a University scholarship that recognizes an upstate boxing coach, a commitment that was sparked in part by ABC-TV's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*.

and became a student at the University in the fall. Through the scholarship, he'll receive \$40,000 toward his college expenses each year.

"No one in my family has graduated with a bachelor's degree," says Vazquez. He's earning an undergraduate degree in economics and hopes later to pursue a graduate degree at the Simon School.

Vazquez has relished his transition to Rochester. "I love the atmosphere and the environment," he says.

And while he's busy with courses in areas such as economics and Chinese, he hasn't left boxing behind. He continues to practice occasionally with the Geneva team, and he's been coaching some University friends as well.

"I'm interested in starting a club," he says.

The lessons he learned in the boxing ring about achievement are also guiding him in his work as a student.

Possibilities open, he says, when you're "determined to do something. You can't accomplish goals if you don't believe you can." ®

Q&A

Tackling the Big Questions

Economist Steven Landsburg '74 (MA) uses concepts from mathematics and economics to explore some perennial philosophical questions in his new book.

Interview by Kathleen McGarvey

In *The Big Questions: Tackling the Problems of Philosophy with Ideas from Mathematics, Economics, and Physics* (Free Press, 2009), Steven Landsburg '74 (MA), a professor of economics at Rochester, takes an unconventional look at reality and unreality, knowledge and belief, and right and wrong. He discusses what it means to write about economics for a general audience and how other disciplines can help us think about philosophical questions.

What led you to write this book?

My whole life, I've been fascinated by the big questions in philosophy. I've periodically gone through stages of reading a lot of philosophy, and these are questions that have always been on my mind. I thought that I'd perhaps finally gotten to a point in life where I had something useful to say about them.

Are there philosophical questions mathematics, economics, and physics aren't well-suited for grappling with?

Possibly. The questions I've chosen to think about are ones where these things are very applicable. It seems to me that if you think about anything hard enough, you're going to find a way to apply the things you know to it.

What, if anything, for you best explains questions about the universe?

To me, the most plausible story—and I can't possibly prove this is right—is that everything emanates from mathematics. There's a fundamental sense in which mathematics is the fabric of the universe. It's what everything is built out of. I expect that sounds strange and wifty if you haven't read the book, but I hope that readers of the book will see that there's a plausible, non-wifty sense in which that might be true, and it's not at all inconsistent with the way mainstream physicists and mathematicians think about the world.

What do you think is key to making economics accessible to the general reader?

Constantly reminding oneself that the things that economists take for granted aren't always taken for granted by everybody else—and realizing that even when an idea is very interesting, people aren't going to read about it unless you find a way to make it fun. I take a lot of pride that my book *The Armchair Economist* (Free Press, 1993)—arguably the first of the pop economics books—is the book that economists give their mothers when they want them to understand what it is they do all day.

What are some things that economists take for granted that other people don't?

First of all, that it's very useful to think about extremely simple stories. When economists want to think about the implications of a free-trade pact, for example, they'll often start by telling you a story about two people living on an island and trading with three people living on some other island, and working through carefully what happens when you open up trade in a situation like that. Most people react badly to that. They think that you are stripping away all

of the important, real-world factors, whereas economists have learned—as I think all scientists have learned—that until you understand the simple stories, you're never going to understand the complicated ones.

What would you say is a misconception about the field of economics?

That it's all about money, or that it sets aside the actual desires of actual human beings, which is not just a misconception, it's the exact opposite of the truth. The purpose of economics is to determine how it's possible to fulfill the desires of actual human beings.

Is there something about the field that you wish could or would change?

No, I think it's a pretty healthy field, actually. I think it's mostly on track, and people are thinking about the right questions, and they're thinking about them in the best ways that we can think about them. There are a lot of things that we need to think about better, and we haven't figured out how to. But I think people are doing a pretty good job of making progress. A lot of things are understood now that weren't 10 years ago—things like the extent to which monetary policy plays a role in business cycles and experimental data on what works in health and education policies, especially in poor countries. And a lot of things will be understood 10 years from now that aren't today. **R**



QUESTIONS: Long fascinated by the “big questions of philosophy,” economist Landsburg says he’s “finally gotten to a point in life where I had something useful to say about them.”

HAITI EARTHQUAKE

Rochester Reaches Out

The University community finds ways to assist victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

By Jennifer Roach

Safira Amazan '12 is making new plans for spring break and for her summer. The Haiti native is determined to return to her homeland "to help wherever I can."

Amazan, who was visiting relatives in Haiti just four days before the January earthquake devastated parts of the island nation, spent several frantic days this winter in long-distance communication to confirm the safety and welfare of family and friends. The experience, she says, has reaffirmed her dream of becoming a doctor and contributing to the future of the country.

"Haiti will always need an extra doctor, and it will be helpful and an honor for me if I can be a small part of the 'extra' or just one that can help make a difference in someone else's life," she says. "That is my hope."

Amazan, who grew up in Les Cayes, about 140 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince, is just one of many people at Rochester—students, faculty, and staff—who have personal connections to the Caribbean nation. In the days after the January 12 earthquake, they and other members of the University community responded by organizing and contributing to fundraisers, hosting special events, and by traveling to Haiti to assist in medical and relief operations.

In a statement to the University community, President Joel Seligman said, "Our hearts go out to those who are touched directly by this tragedy. . . . At times like this, we draw strength from expressing our concern for others and assisting them."

Haiti native Jean Joseph, an associate professor of urology, says many people approached him after the earthquake about helping in Haiti. Working with the nonprofit organization InterVol, Joseph and a 12-member team of doctors and nurses made the trip in February to help staff a 50-bed mobile hospital near Haiti's capital.

"When you look at the devastation online and in the media coverage, it's hard



to watch," Joseph says. "The question becomes 'what can I do to help?' We have the skills and we are able to help others. I'm glad I can help."

In another example, a team of Medical Center physicians spent a week in Haiti with volunteers from Cure International, a nonprofit organization that specializes in providing medical care in developing nations.


James Sanders, the chief of pediatric orthopaedics at the Medical Center, was a member of the team. "Haiti's been devastated," he told local reporters after returning to Rochester. "Lots of people with terrible injuries lost their families. It's a very sad state."

Jordan Hayes '08E and Emeric Viani '08E, who are both pursuing master's degrees in ethnomusicology at the Eastman

School, organized a benefit concert, "Harmony for Haiti," featuring ensembles from Eastman and the College.

The pair also connected with their former voice teacher, Haiti native Louima Lilite '08E (DMA), who performed at the benefit. Lilite, an assistant professor of music at Oklahoma Baptist University, was about four hours away from Port-au-Prince during the earthquake. He was in Limbe at the North Haiti Music Camp, where he serves as the coordinator, and, like Amazan, waited several anxious days before he learned of the safety of his sister and her family.

Hayes and Viani say the benefit was successful because the Eastman community is a close network of musicians who go out of their way to help one other.

"This concert is but a continuing example of the closeness of Eastman's community that extends beyond Gibbs Street and out into the world," Viani says. 

▲ MEDICAL ASSISTANCE: Haiti native Safira Amazan '12 says the earthquake has reinforced her plans to study medicine so that she can return to her homeland to help the country in the future.

Jennifer Roach is an associate editor for University Communications.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Recording Spotlights Douglass

Project drawn from Rochester's archives finds 'A Sky with More Stars' for Frederick Douglass.

By Kathleen McGarvey

There's an "inherent musicality" to the words of former slave, abolitionist, and longtime Rochester resident Frederick Douglass, says Jeffrey Tucker, director of the Frederick Douglass Institute and an associate professor of English.

A new CD, *A Sky with More Stars—Suite for Frederick Douglass*, proves his point, blending Douglass's stirring writings and speeches with interpretative jazz inspired by his work.


Composers Tyrone Brown and John Blake wrote the original music for the CD, which is performed by the Tyrone Brown Ensemble. Interspersed with the jazz are selections from Douglass's orations and

publications, read by University Vice President Paul Burgett '68E, '76E (PhD), who is also a scholar of African-American music and an adjunct professor of music.

"His themes are as relevant today as they were two centuries ago," says Burgett of Douglass.

Brown says music was an important form of entertainment for slaves. "They did not have modern instruments—at best, a violin," says Brown, who adds that Douglass played the violin, as did his wife and grandson, an

accomplished musician. In honor of that, the violin has a lead role on most tracks.

Part of a series featuring African Americans whose papers are preserved at the University, the recording includes liner notes by Tucker and graphic design work by Melissa Mead of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. Recorded by John Trueberger at the Eastman School's studios, the CD was produced and edited by Richard Peek, the director of Rare Books and Special Collections. 

QUOTES

Rochester in the News

"This tug of war will continue as long as we have fundamental disagreements in the country over the role of money in politics."

—**David Primo**, an associate professor of political science, in the *New York Times*, responding to this winter's Supreme Court ruling that the federal government may not ban political spending by corporations and unions in candidate elections.

USA TODAY

"Why weekends are better are the two factors of autonomy and relatedness. There's more connection with other people and more self-direction. Wherever you don't have autonomy or don't feel relatedness, your well-being will be lower."—**Richard Ryan**, a professor of clinical and social psychology, explaining his recent research on why people report greater happiness during weekends.

WALL STREET JOURNAL

"If we've learned anything, it's that we need much more effective communication of danger signals in advance."—**Joel Seligman**, University president and an expert on regulatory history, commenting on new rules intended to regulate Wall Street.

ABC NEWS

"The illusions that you see in three dimensions in the movies [are] not exactly calibrated the same way that your eyes and your brain are. If your eyes are a little off to begin with, then it's really throwing a whole degree of effort that your brain now needs to exert."

—**Deborah Friedman**, a professor of ophthalmology, explaining why some people get headaches watching three-dimensional movies or television.

NEW YORK TIMES

"What we are looking for is excellent work, from any language, eclectic modern fiction that is overlooked. Commerce does not enter the discussions; I wouldn't know a commercial book if I saw one."—**Joanna Scott**, the Roswell S. Burrows Professor of English, describing the editorial approach of Open Letter, the University's literary translation press, in selecting literature for publication.

MSNBC

"It's keeping the switch flipped and maintaining these new behaviors that becomes tricky."—**Edward Deci**, a professor of psychology and the Gowen Professor in the Social Sciences, remarking on the difficulties of maintaining resolution when making lifestyle changes.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"When we think about why we want to have a scientifically literate society, it's not to have kids succeed in school science. It's because we want them to be able to interact with their world."—**Joyce Duckles**, a doctoral candidate in human development at the Warner School, discussing research suggesting that children are capable of grasping science sooner than previously thought.

BASEBALL

Making a Pitch for a Title

Returning pitcher Steve Guzski '10 will help guide the Yellowjackets.

By Ryan Whirty

When Yellowjacket senior pitcher Steve Guzski '10 takes the mound this spring, he'll have his sights focused on a Liberty League title and a deep run in the NCAA regional tournament. Like all Rochester hurlers, Guzski would love to end his collegiate career with a bang.

But Guzski also is thinking further ahead. As Rochester's lone returning conference starter, he'll be charged with shepherding eight freshmen pitchers who are replacing a stellar graduating class. By teaching the youngsters the ropes, Guzski hopes to help set up the program for the future.

"I have only one year left," Guzski says, "but they have their whole careers. I want this season to be a great stepping stone for future success."

If last season is any indication, the 2010 campaign looks like a promising one. The Yellowjackets went 30-13 in 2009, setting a school record in wins, claiming the UAA championship, and finishing second in the Liberty League.

Head coach Joe Reina notes that, on paper at least, 2009 was the Yellowjackets' best season ever, and he says this year's squad has the potential to be just as good. The key will be how quickly a young team loaded with potential but short on experience can acclimate itself to the college level.

That's where Guzski comes in. After going 3-3 with a 3.44 ERA and 28 strikeouts last season, the New Hartford, N.Y., native is poised for a breakout year, not only statistically but also as a leader. The pressure will be high, but Reina says Guzski thrives when the heat is on.

"Anytime you're a conference pitcher, there's pressure," Reina says. "But this year Steve also has to take on a leadership role. The young guys will be looking to him and how he reacts in pressure situations."

Guzski will be helped by new pitching coach Pete Dawes, a longtime assistant at Monroe Community College whom Reina has known since Reina's days as a player.



While Dawes hasn't seen Guzski in action until this spring, he can tell that Guzski has what it takes to shine on the mound and in the clubhouse.

"His strength is his maturity," Dawes says. "He's mature enough to handle whatever teams throw at him."

The Yellowjackets open the 2010 season in early March with a trip to Florida that

▲ **TEAM LEADER:** As the Yellowjackets' only returning conference starter, Guzski is expected to provide leadership on and off the pitching mound.

includes the UAA tournament. The Yellowjackets haven't made the NCAA tourney since 1999, and they hope that drought ends this year. But to make it happen, a lot of inexperienced players, with Guzski as their guide, will have to become good very fast.

"We have some guys who didn't get a lot of playing time last year," Reina says. "They need to step up and fill some big shoes, because the younger guys will get that opportunity." ®

Ryan Whirty writes about sports for Rochester Review.



BASKETBALL

Two 'Classic' Tourney Titles

Rochester women claim fifth straight local crown; men win 10th title.

By Ryan Whirty

The senior class of the 2008–09 Rochester women's basketball team won an unprecedented four straight JP Morgan Chase Tournaments, the showcase of the Rochester area's Division III hoops programs.

But that core of leadership graduated last spring, meaning this season's Yellowjacket women brought a relatively young squad into the tourney, now called the Wendy's College Classic. As a result, second-seeded Rochester wasn't the favorite going into the event.

But by the end of the January tournament, the Yellowjackets were once again on familiar ground as they dismissed Roberts

Wesleyan, 68–51, in the women's final to clinch a record fifth consecutive title.

"That group of seniors won it four times in a row, so that's a wonderful legacy for them," says Rochester women's coach Jim Scheible. "However, with what seems like a very new team this year, it was quite satisfying for (this year's squad) to earn the title."

The women were joined in the winner's circle at the Palestra by their male counterparts, who topped St. John Fisher, 60–41, in their title game to give the men a record 10 tourney crowns.

"I believed that we were one of a handful of teams capable of winning the tournament, but I wondered if we had the maturity and poise to pull it off," says men's coach Mike Neer.


The Yellowjacket men were paced by a pair of surprisingly mature freshmen: forward Milan Moncrief, who became the first freshman on the men's side to be named

tourney MVP by averaging 11 points and four rebounds; and guard John DiBartolomeo, whose effort in the semis—30 points, nine rebounds and five steals—vaulted his squad into the title game.

For the women, junior guard Melissa Alwardt picked up MVP honors for her tourney average of 13.7 points and 6.7 boards.

Alwardt says she and the rest of the Yellowjackets used some observers' lowered expectations of them as inspiration.

"People did not think we were the best team in the area this year, so everyone on the team was motivated to prove them wrong, and that gave us a little extra boost when playing," she says.

Adds senior guard Jessica Mastronardi, who tallied 12 points in the finals win over Roberts Wesleyan: "I think people in the area felt that most of our success graduated with [last year's seniors], but we had to prove we could still win." 

▲ **WENDY'S COLLEGE CLASSIC:** John DiBartolomeo '13 (left) was named to the men's all-tournament team and Melissa Alwardt '11 (right) was the women's MVP.