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MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS NOVEMBER 2017

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



[Sloshing of Earth's core may spike major earthquakes](#)

Science

(Oct. 30, 2017) -- The world doesn't stop spinning, but it occasionally slows down. During the past 100 years, Earth's slowdowns have correlated with a global increase in magnitude-7 and larger earthquakes, according to [Roger Bilham](#), professor emeritus of geological sciences at CU Boulder. The spike adds two to five more quakes than a typical year, but not until well after the slow-downs begin.

"The Earth offers us a five-year heads up on future earthquakes, which is remarkable," Bilham said.



[Experts explain why Weinstein's alleged sexual harassment is not a partisan issue](#)

WJLA

(Oct. 9, 2017) -- Since 1990, Harvey Weinstein contributed roughly \$1.4 million to mostly left-leaning candidates and political parties, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. [Lorraine Bayard de Volo](#), chair of the gender studies program at CU Boulder, said this stature might have helped shield him from his accusers, who were already wary to come forward.

"Perhaps not by design, but by effect, it might have helped shelter him from some accusations because he posed himself as a feminist ally," she said.



[Experts say California's state capital could be next to be under water](#)

The Washington Post

(Oct. 29, 2017) – In a 2010 report called “Overview of the ARkStorm Scenario,” more than two dozen scientists concluded that two back-to-back storms of similar strength could slam into California and submerge 25 percent of the state underwater.

“This isn’t science fiction,” said one of the authors, [Keith Porter](#), a civil, environmental and architectural engineering research professor at CU Boulder. “It’s a very realistic scenario, and it could happen at any time.”



[Opinion: Wildfires at your doorstep](#)

The New York Times

(Oct. 26, 2017) – With seven times the number of homes burning in wildfires today compared with the 1970s, wildland firefighters with little more than the fire resistant clothes on their backs, the chain saws and axes in their hands and the fire shelters strapped to their waists increasingly are called up to somehow stand up to the flames, writes [Michael Kodas](#), associate director of the Center for Environmental Journalism at CU Boulder.

Also: [California blazes are part of a larger and hotter picture, researchers say](#), WBUR, Oct. 13, 2017



[Want to raise an empowered girl? Then let her be funny](#)

The Washington Post

(Oct. 17, 2017) – [Peter McGraw](#), director of the Humor Research Lab at CU Boulder, thinks that, empirically speaking, women are just as funny as men.

“When you actually measure a woman and a man’s ability to be funny in the laboratory, you create an even playing field — you remove the social pressures,” he says. “Women are just as good at this stuff as men are.”

Also: [CU Boulder professor probes funny bone’s DNA](#), Daily Camera, Oct. 21



[Friday the 13th + October = a rare, Halloween-adjacent date for fear, foreboding and fun](#)

The Denver Post

(Oct. 12, 2017) – Whether it conjures visions of the *Friday the 13th* movie franchise, historic connections to the Knights Templar or just plain superstition, the day offers a chance to suspend disbelief and approach life with a sense of foreboding, impending bad luck or perhaps even a magical aura of possibility, says [Stephen Graham Jones](#), creative writing professor at CU Boulder and author of horror novels.



[Drugs supercharged with quantum dots could reverse antibiotic resistance](#)

Newsweek

(Oct. 4, 2017) – Could adding one light-activated particle to antibiotics save someone infected with a drug-resistant bug from dying? Researchers at CU Boulder such as [Prashant Nagpal](#) think it might someday be possible. He and his team published the results of a series of experiments using quantum dots — tiny semiconductive particles — in *Science Advances*. The latest paper builds on previous work and demonstrates that quantum dots can be effective on their own against resistant bacteria.



[Indigenous knowledge helps untangle the mystery of Mesa Verde](#)

High Country News

(Oct. 2, 2017) – In many Pueblo cosmologies, the Pueblo people's true home was in the south, and they were always meant to end up there. But the evidence of social strife in the years leading up to the exodus is hard to ignore. That led [Scott Ortman](#), a CU Boulder archaeologist and researcher, to develop a theory based not only on the scarcity of resources, but on the social fabric that dictated how people shared them. He theorizes that as more families were forced to support themselves on marginal land, it created a system of haves and have-nots.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO COLORADO SPRINGS



[Mike Ditka's comments on anthem protests underscore larger, chilling effect](#)

Chicago Tribune

(Oct. 11, 2017) – [Jay Coakley](#), a professor of sociology at UCCS and author of *Sports in Society: Issues and Controversies*, said the prevailing attitude toward NFL anthem protesters goes beyond sports fans' irritation at having their sense of escapism interrupted.

“Whiteness is associated with patriotism,” Coakley said. “Any dark skin of any kind is not, and, in fact, people are especially sensitive to behavioral displays of (minority) people to make sure they're on the same page as us whites.”



[What experts want parents to know about potential dangers of teen piercings and tattoos](#)

WKBW (CNN)

(Oct. 17, 2017) – From tattoo regret to tattoo desire, [Richard Dukes](#) focused much of his research on tattoos and piercings among youth during his career as a sociology professor. The professor emeritus at UCCS said a recent study that compiles current medical knowledge does not contradict any of his own research findings.

“Tattoo regret is fairly common because meanings, values and norms change, and tattoos do not,” Dukes said, adding that when someone gets a tattoo at an older age, the likelihood for regret is less.



[July 2016 hailstorm dents Colorado Springs sales tax revenue in September](#)

The Gazette

(Oct. 13, 2017) – Sales tax collections surged in September 2016 after residents bought replacement vehicles the previous month in the wake of the massive storm on July 28, 2016. This year, collections from auto dealers declined 37.3 percent.

“This isn't economic. All other local economic indicators remain strong,” said [Tatiana Bailey](#), director of the UCCS Economic Forum. “People are delaying purchasing cars, in part because vehicles are lasting longer but also because technology is changing so quickly with electric, hybrid and driverless vehicles.”



[Student artists beautify The Perk Downtown with new Colorado-themed mural](#)

Colorado Springs Independent

(Oct. 10, 2017) – Over the past few years, the Colorado Springs downtown corridor has seen some major artistic enhancements. The Art on the Streets initiative has set up sculptures and decorated traffic boxes, and Concrete Couch has contributed mosaic artwork with an eye on community-building. Now, another entity is working to make its mark on downtown: UCCS' Art and Art History Club. The club has set out to paint a new mural on the side of The Perk Downtown, a midtown coffee shop. The theme is "Colorado Beauty" and is meant to convey some iconic aspects of Colorado, such as Garden of the Gods and the Colorado flag, through an abstract style.



[Final flourishes put on Ent Center for the Arts at UCCS](#)

Colorado Springs Gazette

(Oct. 8, 2017) – On a recent tour of the soon-to-be-completed Ent Center for the Arts, it seemed as if the musicians, thespians, dancers, students and faculty might be at the ready, waiting in another wing. The \$70 million center will house the Department of Visual and Performing Arts at UCCS, five venues, an art gallery and more.

"A lot of the thought for all of these spaces was including students as part of the creative process," said [Daisy McGowan](#), director of the UCCS Galleries of Contemporary Art.



[UCCS police holding a focus group on perception of campus safety](#)

KKTV

(Oct. 5, 2017) –The UCCS Police will be conducting a focus group to address the question of creating a survey to assess students', staff and faculty's perceptions of safety on campus. The department wants to get a variety of individuals to help determine if there are different perceptions among people on campus.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER



[Denver sensory garden planted to help special needs kids](#)

9 News

(Oct. 15, 2017) – The idea for the came to the learning center in the summer of 2016 when an assistant professor and graduate student from CU Denver approached the College of Architecture and Planning.

“The goal is you help [these children] find these spaces and then they learn when they need to step back before they get too dysregulated,” said [Jody Beck](#), the assistant professor of landscape architecture who helped design the garden.



[The ‘fugly’ buildings in Denver](#)

5280

(October 2017) – The structures being erected aren’t necessarily ones that will go down in history.

“If we can read our culture in our buildings, what this says about us right now is pretty sad,” says [Christine Franck](#), director of the CU Denver Center for Advanced Research in Traditional Architecture. “Because it says the only thing that matters is money.”



[Making the counseling profession more diverse](#)

Counseling Today

(Oct. 25, 2017) – For many years, white men were presented as the face of the counseling profession and largely dictated its focus and direction.

“Diane Estrada and I were talking about the lack of ethnic diversity in our graduate student body. At the time, we were a faculty of eight, and four of us identified as people of color. Counselor education at CU Denver prides itself on our focus on issues of diversity and social justice,” said [Carlos Hipolito-Delgado](#), associate professor of counseling at CU Denver. “Despite all of this, less than 15 percent of our students identified with a community of color.”



[Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame announces its Class of 2018](#)

7 News

(Oct. 25, 2017) – The class includes [Dorothy Horrell](#), chancellor of CU Denver. As a community college president, leader of the state system of community colleges, foundation executive, chair of a higher

education governing board, and now university chancellor, Horrell has a proven record of transformative leadership.



[Colorado's growing pains: From roads to water, here are five key issues as the state's population swells](#)

The Denver Post

(Oct. 15, 2017) – “The Rocky Mountain West was not meant to be a highly populated area,” says [Tony Robinson](#), who chairs the political science department at the CU Denver. “There simply is not enough water in the West to sustain the kind of growth rates that are going on.” Conservation efforts are already underway, but many believe it’ll take more than simply using less. Technology will have to advance, as well, or Colorado may face some hard decisions about water rights.



[Ancient bristlecone pine forests are being overwhelmed by climate change](#)

Los Angeles Times

(Oct. 1, 2017) – [Diana Tomback](#), an ecologist at CU Denver, said that if current trends continue, the Clark’s Nutcracker bird species will play an increasingly important role for several species of trees responding to climate change at high elevations throughout the western United States.

“So the forests of the future will be different than those of today,” she said. “And the ecological shifts unfolding on ridgelines high in the White Mountains could be an example of the changes to come.”

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



[Newly approved shingles vaccine was developed at CU](#)

7 News

(Oct. 27, 2017) – A new vaccine that does a better job of preventing shingles was developed by researchers at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. The Food and Drug Administration approved Shingrix last month and the Centers for Disease Control’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommended it for patients 50 and older.

“We are proud that this breakthrough was initially discovered and developed at the University of Colorado,” said [Kimberly Muller](#), managing director of CU Innovations. “It is a powerful example of how

CU, CU Innovations and its partners translate cutting-edge research into products that significantly improve lives.”



[Heartburn symptoms tied to psychological factors in some patients](#)

Reuters

(Oct. 9, 2017) – Heartburn sufferers who don’t feel better with standard treatment, but who have no detectable reflux, tend to have greater distress and worse quality of life, according to a new study. In contrast, symptoms in patients with confirmed gastroesophageal reflux disease who didn’t respond to acid-suppressing drugs were associated with reflux severity, [Rena Yadlapati](#) of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus and her colleagues found.



[Colorado’s work on Down syndrome research heads to D.C.](#)

Colorado Politics

(Oct. 20, 2017) – A congressional committee was presented a project that highlights connections between Down syndrome and Alzheimer’s and other major diseases. Of a five-member panel of experts, three are from Colorado: Michelle Sie Whitten, founder, CEO and president of the Global Down Syndrome Foundation, and Frank Stephens, the Quincy Jones Advocate for the Denver-based foundation, and [Joaquin M. Espinosa](#), executive director of the Linda Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome at the CU School of Medicine.



[Some mothers may not seek early help for kids with developmental delays](#)

WHTC (Reuters Health)

(Oct. 16, 2017) – “In the United States, one in four children under the age of 5 years is at moderate to high risk of developmental delay, a situation in which children do not achieve motor, language, cognitive, social or adaptive skills when they should,” said lead study author [Dawn Magnusson](#), investigator at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus.

“Many mothers in our study experienced challenges accessing early intervention services due to logistical challenges or competing social and financial stressors that resulted in delayed or forgone care,” Magnusson said.



[Contaminated floodwaters following hurricanes can cause life-threatening skin infections](#)

AccuWeather

(Oct. 6, 2017) – “In these flood situations, there’s all that brackish water contaminated with sewage, human waste and animal filth and other things being a kind of culture broth for bacteria,” said [Whitney High](#), the director of dermatopathology at the CU School of Medicine.



[Law enforcement, gun shops often willing to store firearms during mental health crises](#)

7 News

(Sept. 29, 2017) – According to a recent survey from the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, you could take that firearm to a nearby law enforcement agency or gun store and they’d be willing to hold it temporarily. Epidemiology professor [Carol Runyan](#) and her colleagues at the Colorado School of Public Health contacted hundreds of law enforcement agencies and gun retailers throughout the west to gauge their willingness to store guns in a crisis situation.

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