



April 3, 2010

## Business briefs

### Business plan field narrows

Eight semifinalists have been selected in the 2010 Rochester Regional Business Plan Contest and will compete for \$50,000 in cash and prizes. The contest is designed for early-stage entrepreneurial companies. This year's semifinalists, chosen from 25 applicants, are: **Exiscan LLC, Floodwatch LLC, InfoPreserve LLC, Omniar Inc., QMB Biosystems, Tenrehte Technologies, TopDown Images LLC and Wi3 Inc.**

Each company will present a full business plan to a review panel, which will reduce the field to five finalists. Then the finalists will present before a panel of judges on April 30 and winners will be announced the same day.

The contest is a joint effort of **High Tech Rochester, Digital Rochester, Greater Rochester Enterprise**, the University of Rochester's **Simon School of Business, Rochester Institute of Technology** and the **Nazareth College School of Management**.

To register for the April 30 awards luncheon, go to High Tech Rochester's Web site at [www.htr.org](http://www.htr.org).

### Job information session at RIT

**Rochester Institute of Technology** will host an informational session on Tuesday, April 13, for people who have been laid off.

The event, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the university's Bausch + Lomb Center, will feature information about in-demand jobs, work skills, course work and tuition assistance. The event is free.

For more information or to register, go to [www.rit.edu/dislocated](http://www.rit.edu/dislocated) or call (585) 475-2229.

### Gasoline stable as oil soars

Although oil prices have risen to an 18-month high, gasoline prices have remained fairly stable in the Rochester area — albeit at a much higher level than a year ago.

Crude oil has gone up 23 percent since early February as the industrial sector leads a gradual economic recovery. Retail gas prices have stalled near \$3 a gallon for regular but are expected to top that mark this spring or summer.

Prices for mid-grade and premium gas already are well above \$3, averaging \$3.15 in Rochester for mid-grade and \$3.21 for premium.

— *Staff reports*

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