Today's News - March 21, 2005

A seriously good news/bad news day: ArcSpace brings us Meier's Burda Museum and Calatrava sketches. -- Pritzker Prize taken by Mayne (we selected just a sampling of reports - there are sure to be more in coming days). -- Universities are the new urban planners. -- And they may be the only ones if Bush budget goes through. -- A global corruption in construction reports "a world built on bribes." -- Grand plans for L.A.'s Grand Avenue, or will it end as "as another architecture and design obituary?" -- Kansas City stadium dream team heading for a legal nightmare? -- Pelli to crystallize Wilmington, DE, skyline. -- Royal Shakespeare Company picks architect to transform its Art Deco home. -- Workers work better in spaces they design themselves.

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-- Richard Meier & Partners: Burda Collection Museum, Baden-Baden, Germany
-- The Architect's Studio: Santiago Calatrava Sketches

Thom Mayne Named 2005 Laureate of the Pritzker Architecture Prize [images] - The Hyatt Foundation

Architect of Unyielding Designs Takes Top Prize: Thom Mayne, known for tough, unorthodox designs as well as verbal fracases, was as shocked as anyone at winning his field's top prize. By Christopher Hawthorne [images] - Los Angeles Times

Architect behind new S.F. federal tower to take home his profession's top prize; federal complex shows the hard-edged drama for which Mayne's firm Morphosis is known -- not always favorably -- and the way that his craft continues to evolve. By John King - San Francisco Chronicle

First and Mayne: An American Takes Architecture's Pritzker Prize: "I can't help but view it as a vindication of what I've tried to do," said Thom Mayne, the first American to win the award in 14 years. By Benjamin Forgey - Washington Post

For first time in 14 years, Pritzker goes to Yank, who grew up in Gary [Indiana]: Thom Mayne...scaled the heights of his profession by boldly challenging architectural norms... By Blair Kamin - Chicago Tribune

Universities are the new city planners: Today, universities find that if they want to build at all, they must build entire neighborhoods...that provide jobs, housing, services, and entertainment for residents who may have no academic connections. By Robert Campbell - Boston Globe

Bush to Cities: Drop Dead: If proposed cuts to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development go through, it could be 1975 all over again. What is housing and urban development if not architecture, design, and planning? By Karrie Jacobs - Metropolis Magazine

A world 'built on bribes'? Corruption in construction bankrupts countries and costs lives, says Transparency International's Global Corruption Report 2005 [English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Chinese, Arabic] - Transparency International

Moment of Truth for Grand Avenue: Upcoming Talks Will Make or Break the Billion Dollar Project; But is it buildable? ...or is this just going to be another grandiose endeavor that ends as another architecture and design obituary? By Sam Hall Kaplan - Skidmore Owings & Merrill [images] - LA Downtown News

Discord roils architectural 'dream team': architectural firms that have teamed up to design the downtown Kansas City arena — may be breaking up. Ellerbe Becket accused...HOK of stealing away its five principal architects. - Kansas City Star

Crystal tower to rise in Wilmington: Pelli has been hired to design an office tower for Christina Gateway. - Cesar Pelli & Associates/Moeckel Carbonell Associates [images] - Delaware News Journal

Royal Shakespeare Company appoints architects...to the £100m transformation of the art deco theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon. - Bennetts Associates - Guardian (UK)

Design it yourself: Pleasing offices laid out by the workers who use them can be a big advantage when companies compete for talent - Behnisch, Behnisch & Partner, Elkus/Manfredi Architects; Add Inc. - Boston Globe


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