Today's News - June 1, 2005

ArcSpace takes us to the Norwegian Coast-Cultural Center. -- Three must-reads for today: Sudjic deconstructs the Edifice Complex. -- Dunlop asks "the architectural question of the decade": are we turning cities into playgrounds for the rich? -- Rich calls Ground Zero "pure unadulterated farce." -- Big plans for Manhattan's East River (beach included). -- Toronto's modernist Regent Park South looks doomed. -- Meanwhile, Milwaukee gets "a refreshing touch of modernism." -- Stadiums are the new urban cathedrals (or museums or opera houses). -- Does Kansas City stadium resemble another that's making a big splash in the news these days? -- Charlotte races after NASCAR. -- Seattle's new air terminal "will send travelers' spirits soaring." -- New student housing in Ontario is green and sexy. -- Prefab is British Columbia's latest big export. -- Montana State University Native American Student Center designed by a Native American. -- ASLA awards abound. -- Canadian Centre for Architecture names an architect as director.

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Gudmundur Jonsson: Norveg Coast-Cultural Center, Rørvik, Norway

Towering egos: From Hitler's vision of a new Berlin to Tony Blair's Dome and Michael Eisner's EuroDisney, tyrants, kings and tycoons have erected grand monuments to their own vanity. Deyan Sudjic deconstructs the Edifice Complex -- Speer; Giesler; Gehry; Isozaki; Rossi; Arad; Dixon; Pawson- Guardian (UK)

Commentary: City in the Sky: Are we turning our cities into theme parks for the very rich? This might indeed be the architectural question of the decade for most of America's "hot" cities. -- By Beth Dunlop - Miami Herald

Op-Ed: Ground Zero Is So Over: Perhaps it was inevitable we'd end up at pure unadulterated farce. A 1,776-foot Freedom Tower with no tenants - and no prospect of tenants - has been abruptly sent back to the drawing board. -- By Frank Rich - New York Times

Bloomberg Unveils Plans For East River Waterfront Esplanade, Pavilions And New Open Space: with $150 million in post-9/11 funds. -- SHoP Architects; Richard Rogers Partnership; Ken Smith [link to images]- AllAmericanPatriots.com

Towers of Regent Park South should be saved: But it's very possible that none of the five modernist structures by Peter Dickinson [1958] will survive the planned redevelopment. - Globe and Mail (Canada)

A refreshing touch of modernism: ...buildings that "fit in" with the neighborhood context...can be the architectural equivalent of taxidermy...King Drive Commons complex...should help dispel lingering fears that modernism means overbearing and impersonal. -- By Whitney Gould -- Miller Architectural Group [images]- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Crowd pleasers: ...stadiums are becoming keynote urban buildings, as cathedrals were in the Middle Ages and opera houses more recently. -- Herzog + de Meuron; HOK; Archibald Leitch - Financial Times (UK)

Downtown arena looks familiar: It didn't take long for a couple of cosmopolitan readers to point out [Kansas City's Sprint Center] could have a doppelganger in Munich, Germany, if it winds up looking that way. -- Herzog + de Meuron; HOK Sport/360 Architecture/Ellerbe Becket [Downtown Arena Design Team]- Kansas City Star

Curve captures sport's drama: Pei Cobb Freed & Partners design, with signature 'wrapper,' is dynamic architecture...proposed NASCAR Hall of Fame...captures the essence of racing. -- Charlotte Observer

Collision of speed, spectacle: Boosters deliver bid; now they'll wait for NASCAR to choose [between Charlotte, Atlanta, Kansas City, Richmond, Va., and Daytona Beach, Fla.]. -- Pei Cobb Freed & Partners [link to images]- Charlotte Observer

Sea-Tac's elegant Central Terminal will send travelers' spirits soaring: No buildings today are more demoralizing, dehumanizing and disorienting than airport terminals...But it's interesting to see how far architecture can go to redeem them. -- Fentress Bradburn Architects; NBBJ [image]- Seattle Post-Intelligencer

Downtown sophistication up at York: York University's Pond Road Residence by architectsAlliance is Ontario's first 'green' student housing, but it also offers a dash of the city's sexy 'condo style'.-- Globe and Mail (Canada)

The Prefab Home Is Suddenly Fab: Many are made in British Columbia. Are they a real housing solution? Let's hope that the mod prefab architects think long and hard about whether it's possible to 'mass-customize' ethically and with as much environmental and social consciousness as possible. -- Rocío Romero; Michelle Kaufmann; Peter Johnson; Piercy Corner; Douglas Garofalo; Sandy Hirshen; Todd MacAllen/Stephanie Fosythe; Resolution 4 Architecture; Jennifer Siegal/Office of Mobile Design; Teddy Cruz - The Tyee (Vancouver)

College friendship is impetus to proposed Montana State University Native American Student Center -- Dennis Sun Rhodes/AmerINDIAN Architecture; Jim Dolan- Bozeman Daily Chronicle (Montana)
ASLA 2005 Medals and Firm Award Recipients Selected -- Jane Silverstein Ries, FASLA; Laurie D. Olin, FASLA; SWA Group; Robert S. “Doc” Reich, PhD, FASLA; Stephen D. Livingston, ASLA; The Regional Plan Association; etc. - American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Mirko Zardini appointed as new director of the Canadian Centre for Architecture: ...practicing architect, professor, architectural author and editor, Founder Phyllis Lambert continues as Chair of the Board - Canadian Architect

Sustainable Urbanism Tops the Agenda as World Environment Day Comes to the U.S. June 1-5 [Images] - ArchNewsNow

Build Business: Client Loyalty – What You Don’t Know Could Hurt You, By Stephanie Craft, CPSM

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