On the Gulf Coast, in a "fraught and sinister situation" of massive evictions "now blunders...the Congress of New Urbanism" (who ever said criticism was dead?). — A roundup of post-Katrina proposals including "a gaggle of congressional Republicans". — Perhaps there are lessons to be learned from the Smart Growth Achievement Award winners. — Perhaps hope for the future with ULI Student Urban Design Competition. — New Urbanist planning, like TOD's, a hit in Chicago suburb. — St. Petersburg, Russia, has its own urban design woes. — Is Vancouver too late with its moratorium on downtown residential development? — Groundbreaking on Chicago's Block 37 (finally). — Big plans to revitalize a Florida town's "slum" neighborhood. — UK's rural historic buildings are rotting — except those coveted and converted by developers (twee = "excessively or affectedly quaint, sentimental or mawkish"). — Is it time for a comeback of the "exuberant rationalism and global planning" of Marxist architect Enno Goldfinger or industrial designer Joe Colombo? — Business Week serves up an ode to Johnson's Urban Glass House. — A "maze-like showpiece" is the center of a center-less campus. — Toronto's best building in a long time "should be the first stop for visiting design stars." — Great design is worth the cost. — McDonough named Esquire's "Big Thinker of the Year." — Belle makes homeland proud: not the "modern stereotype of the thrusting, hi-tech, polo-necked architect" (how refreshing!). — The architect with 'light touch': Cardiff-born John Belle does not conform to the modern stereotype of the thrusting, hi-tech, polo-necked architect — Beyer Blinder Belle. — By Mike Davis — The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

Storm Riders: A roundup of green plans and brown bills proposed post-Katrina: 17 proposals — both pro- and anti-environment — that flooded in soon after Katrina and Rita, and predictions for their success. — USGBC; Global Green USA; U.S. EPA; Healthy Building Network; Habitat for Humanity; Congress for the New Urbanism; etc. — Grist Magazine

EPA 2005 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement Winners — U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

4th ULI Gerald D. Hines Student Urban Design Competition: application deadline: December 9 — Urban Land Institute (ULI)

Adding Commercial Pizzaz to a Chicago Suburb: (Evanston) a hotbed of New Urbanist planning ideas, most notably transit-oriented developments, or T.O.D.'s, including $190 million Sherman Plaza — Daniel P. Coffey & Associates — New York Times

Opinion: Cracking the Environmental Code: Poor quality designs don't arise because investors are too penny-pinching. Clients insist on their own, unprofessional, architectural flights of fancy. Architects selected on their abilities to get their designs approved, not on the basis of their talent. — St. Petersburg Times (Russia)

Vancouver: A downtown with no offices? The fear that residential is taking over the downtown is serious enough that the City of Vancouver has placed a moratorium on residential development in the office core. But some industry experts say it's already too late — Globe and Mail (Canada)

Massive Loop Development New Home For CBS 2: Block 37 is going to be a hub of activity and bolster the revival in the Loop. — Gensler; Perkins + Will; Rockwell Group; James Carpenter (images) — CBS2 (Chicago)

Oakland Park (Florida) revival plan nears approval; ($92 million) Face-lift ideas include condos, townhouses...in an area that in 2002 was identified as having slum conditions. — Carter Burgess; EDSA; 1st Planning Group — South Florida Sun-Sentinel

Rural historic buildings face ruin or twee renovations: Developers threaten to 'suburbanise countryside.' — Guardian (UK)

Dr. Evil's Lair Evolves: Ian Fleming took the name of his most villainous character from a Marxist architect, Enno Goldfinger...Faced with chaotic, asymmetrical horrors...exuberant rationalism and global planning of a Goldfinger or a Joe Colombo is the very least of our problems. In fact, it might even be a solution. [images, links] — Wired

History Lives in Glass Houses: Legendary architect Philip Johnson's final project, the residential Urban Glass House in New York, is destined to be a historical landmark. — Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie Architects; Selldorf Architects; SLCE Architects [images] — Business Week

Center of attention on a centerless campus: Weilersey's maze-like showpiece (Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center) reflects the college's diversity of students and landscape. By Robert Campbell — Michael Van Valkenburgh; Mack Scogin Merrill Elam Architects — Boston Globe

Building with good genes: It's good to be reminded, in this age of celebrity architects, that the best aren't always the most famous. Terrence Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research...so good...should be the first stop for visiting design stars. By Christopher Hume — architectsAlliance; Behnisch; Behnisch & Partner — Toronto Star

Editorial: Great design raises bar, worth the cost: It's a toss-up which is more breathtaking - Daniel Libeskind's design for Covington's new 22-story luxury condo tower (The Ascent at Roebling's Bridge) or the challenge it lays down for future high-visibility projects in our community. [images] — Cincinnati Enquirer

William McDonough Cited by Esquire as "Big Thinker of the Year - Designer of the Better World. — Business Wire

The architect with 'light touch': Cardiff-born John Belle does not conform to the modern stereotype of the thrusting, hi-tech, polo-necked architect — Beyer Blinder Belle — BBC

Herzog & de Meuron: de Young Museum, San Francisco

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