Op-Ed: How Cities Compete In The Media Economy: American cities suffer from outdated infrastructure that inhibits the local economy and quality of life. Those cities that can evolve to meet the needs of the information age will be the ones to prosper immensely in the next 10-20 years. -- By Neil Takemoto and Mike Lydon

Building racial harmony...we should be building people-friendly neighbourhoods rather than glorious showcases to political egos. -- By Prof Dr M. Tajuddin M. Rasdi

A peevish tax on taste: A proposal to levy rates based on the aesthetic qualities of your home is dim and disturbing. -- By Jonathan Glancy

Starchitects Invited to New Orleans Waterfront: New Orleans Building Corporation announced five finalist teams...will select a winning team on November 29. -- Zaha Hadid/Trahan Architects; Reiser + Umemoto/Studio Matrix; Frank Gehry, FAIA; TEN Arquitectos/Eskew+Dumez+Ripple; Studio Daniel Libeskind/Mathes Brierre Architects- Architectural Record

Lord Foster, Others Propose Massive Plan to Supplant Garden: The architectural bake-off...signifies that the developers are moving forward even though the official status of both Moynihan Station...newer and Plan B are uncertain...is at once a dream for commuters, a nightmare for preservationists and the commission of a lifetime for the winning architect. -- Norman Foster; Cesar Pelli; Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates; David Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill- New York Observer

One bidder for Mayor's tower: Menino's dream for a tower is in the hands of one businessman -- Steven Belkin -- and world-renowned Italian architect Renzo Piano. "Today's proposal, a 1,000 foot tower...promises everything we asked for."- Boston Business Journal

Heroism goes underground: Its gleaming, slanted pinnacle juts over the trees...This bold glass-and-metal crown turns out to be the most memorable part of the National Museum of the Marine Corps...This bunker is more evidence of an alarming trend in the design of Washington cultural institutions: forcing the public underground. By Deborah K. Dietsch -- National Museum of the Marine Corps: Through the Architect's Eyes -- Curtis Worth Fentress/Fentress Bradburn [audio slide show]- Potomac News

Bay Area Teams on the Move? Deciding where 49ers are headed. Lure of the Burbs: Like families, franchises can't resist spreading out, starting over...Predictably, there's been anguish and outrage on both sides of the bay about the franchises' willingness to cut ties with the hometown. By John King

"Chandigarh embodies a rich heritage of modern urbanism": Speakers suggest setting up of Urban Arts Commission in the city...would be responsible for preserving the uniqueness of the city's architecture and help meet the changing requirements. -- Le Corbusier

Controversial 'Frank Lloyd Wright' Home Rises; Purists Protest- Bloomberg News

Stirring walls of the Seventy Degrees Hotel are about to come crashing in...hotel with a stunning view of Welsh coastline will be demolished to build plush new apartments...said by some to be a masterpiece of 20th-century architecture. -- Bill Davies/estewart Powell Bowen (1973)- icWales

Architecting the future: With new concepts like boutique hotels, ecotels and budget hotels, taking India by storm, architecture has assumed renewed significance. -- Dave Keller

Eight-Story Wonder: Gucci hits Ginza -- James Carpenter Design Associates; Bill Sofield- Japan Times

Civitas and Denver Botanic Gardens Team Up for Green Roof: With pro bono help...will install a 2,000-square-foot demonstration green roof suited to the Rocky Mountain climate.-- LAND Online (ASLA)

Light touch works wonders at Diva Lounge: Husband-and-wife team stresses illumination in inventive restaurant interior. By Robert Campbell -- Hansy Barraza/Anthony
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