Today's News - Wednesday, June 11, 2008

-- Farrelly minces no words re: new planning legislation: a "wolf in sheep's clothing approach," so where's the outcry?
-- Trump remains bullish (and bullying?) re: his £1 billion plans for Scottish dunes (despite what his own experts advise - oops - he didn't read their reports - he doesn't do details).
-- A pretty beach meets housing bust and broken promises in NYC's Far Rockaway.
-- An Illinois town not "totally swallowed up by sprawl" is advised to "stay quaint."
-- An eyeful of plan that would save Rudolph's Riverview High School (but may be too late).
-- Architects and engineers gather forces to battle NYC's effort to downgrade the qualification requirements for buildings commissioner.
-- FIU students' imaginations run wild in reimagining Miami's seaport and Havana's famous waterfront.
-- "Energy Tower": the newest eco-skyscraper - in Dubai (where else?).
-- Fuksas wins big in Shenzhen (not without some controversy).
-- OMA does mixed-use in Rotterdam.
-- Chipperfield tapped for Royal Academy project in Piccadilly.
-- One of the best takes on Eliasson's plans for NYC waterfalls (with lots of pix - they're "wonderfull").
-- Rawsthorn on what makes good design: even if gorgeous, how good is it if it makes us feel guilty?
-- Hawthorne offers a humorous take on "buildering."

It's D-day for democracy, developers and design... this warty new law was ramrodded through the lower house in the wee hours of Wednesday. And the clamour? The outcry? It's meant to stop third party anti-development challenges... in setting up a whole new quasi-legal system of its own it'll probably, says Mant, just further complicate the time-wasting legal bird's nest that is NSW planning. By Elizabeth Farrelly - Sydney Morning Herald

The world's greatest golf course: take it or leave it, bullish Trump tells public inquiry: Fears £1bn project will destroy protected dunes. Beach full of dead birds and disgusting, says tycoon... was forced to admit he had read none of the expert environment reports at the heart of the inquiry.- Guardian (UK)

In Far Rockaway, Pretty Beach Meets Housing Bust: A physical redevelopment that's full of promise in some areas – and broken promises in others.- City Limits (NYC)

Architect says Lake Zurich needs to stay quaint: "The village did a great job of not getting totally swallowed up by sprawl"... needs to create more public spaces in downtown and a pedestrian-friendly environment... -- Torti Gallas & Partners- Daily Herald (Chicago)

Scheme which could save Rudolph's Rivenview High School from demolition revealed: Fears are growing that the board will not accept the plans... -- Diana Lewis; RMJM Hillier [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Amid Boom, a Battle Over Buildings Chief's Qualifications: Architects and engineers are fighting Mayor Bloomberg's effort to downgrade the qualification requirements for the city's buildings commissioner.- New York Times

Dissension at Art Center College of Design: Some students and alumni want money to go toward education and scholarships, not new buildings... petitioning its trustees to suspend plans for a $50-million building by Frank Gehry... Koshalek wants to expand the school's facility, visibility and wealth.- Los Angeles Times

Florida International University reimagines Miami's port, Havana's seawall: FIU students let their creativity run wild imagining dazzling reconstruction of Miami's seaport and Havana's famous waterfront, El Malecón [images]- Miami Herald

Burj Al-Taqa: self-sufficient skyscraper design... eco-skyscraper... combines traditional building ventilation techniques with the ability to generate 100% of its energy needs using wind and solar power. And the likely location for the "Energy Tower" - you guessed it - Dubai. -- Gerber Architekten [images]- Gizmag (Australia)

Fuksas Wins Shenzhen Airport Competition: ...first portion to be done by 2015, and the last by 2035, the 4.3 million square-foot (400,000 square-meter) terminal will handle 40 million passengers a year... the competition was officiated by multiple juries, which created a problem when they disagreed on the winner. [slide show]- Architectural Record

OMA to build mixed-use scheme around Rotterdam bank building -- Floris Alkemade/Office for Metropolitan Architecture [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Royal Academy selects architect: ... has appointed David Chipperfield Architects to look at the future of its 6 Burlington Gardens building, the former Museum of Mankind which sits behind the academy's Piccadilly home. By Edwin Heathcote- Financial Times (UK)

The Falls Guy: Olafur Eliasson has seduced Mike Bloomberg with a spectacle to rival The Gates... In a way, The New York City Waterfalls will serve as advertisements for the
city itself. "waterfalls are just wonderful and it is as simple as that." [images]- New York
Magazine

2007 revenues of Architectural Record's Top 150 Firms grew 25 percent. What a ride
it's been...Growth in revenue gained overseas pushed up overall revenues...- Architectural Record

What is good design? What's the point of designing something gorgeous and useful if
it makes us feel guilty, because we know that it's ethically or environmentally
irresponsible? By Alice Rawsthorn [slide show]- International Herald Tribune

Stunt climbers use buildings for their own causes: Architecture worldwide becomes
subject to 'buildering.' Renzo Piano, who designed the New York Times tower...made a
point of keeping the building transparent at ground level. He may have succeeded too
well. By Christopher Hawthorne- Los Angeles Times

Words That Build: Playing with the Flow of Communication - Tip #3: Use language that
playfully enhances the flow of design intentions between you and your client. By Norman
Weinstein- ArchNewsNow

-- Tabanlioglu Architects: Dogan Medya Center, Ankara, Turkey
-- Installation: Greg Lynn/FORM: Blobwall Pavilion, SCI-Arc Gallery, Los Angeles

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