• ArcSpace revisits the University of Cincinnati Campus Recreation Center by Morphosis.
• Millard gets into Mayne's mind re: 41 Cooper Square and how he used a 500-year-old idea in understanding "the communicative value of a healthy mind game, an effect willfully, but not wantonly, alien to the ordinary.
• Wieder on Vancouver's architectural revival: "Making architecture is, at its core, a political action."
• "The Death of Sprawl": a new report "analyzes the high, true cost of urban and exurban sprawl...and proposes multiple appropriate responses."
• The case for changing minimum parking requirements in cities to make them "more nimble and efficient" and to eliminate what has become a "de facto subsidy in favor of driving."
• Grimshaw California "takes direct aim at today's development politics" (even without "teeth" it may make an impact).
• GBC Italia is the first EU organization to sign on for USGBC's LEED rating system.
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• de Portzamparc to bring two French kisses to Manhattan with two of the largest new developments in the city.
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The prince, the lord and the Chelsea stitch-up: The row over the Chelsea Barracks development scheme exposes the tawdry practices behind planning decisions. The prince and the lord... seem to be playing similar games, with the important difference that the lord has at least earned his influence with a lifetime of achievement in his field. Practised by either, it stinks. By Rowan Moore -- Rogers Stirk Harbour - Observer (UK)

Is Landscape Architecture Just "Parsley Around the Roast" of Architecture? The nation's designed landscape heritage is rich, varied and fascinating... for the "betterment of [the] human environment"... that very sentiment resulted in a legacy of architecture (and architects) that is embraced and valued, and a legacy of landscape architecture (and landscape architects) that deserves to be embraced and valued. By Charles A. Birnbaum -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF); Hideo Sasaki; Gary Hilderbrand; Grimshaw [images, links]- Huffington Post

Seriously Playful: MoMA/P.S. 1 Young Architects Program installation... Barry Bergdoll likened it to a playground - but then quickly qualified that assessment. "Turns out it's an extremely serious playground... about our contemporary condition and not just about fun." You could have fooled me. Pole Dance... is in fact quite a lot of fun. -- Solid Objectives – Idenburg Liu (SO-IL) [images, links]- Metropolis Magazine

A Dancing, Shifting Architecture Installation Opens in Queens: A profile of SO-IL, the lean, mean firm behind the P.S.1 courtyard installation "Pole Dance", this summer's hottest architecture project. "Getting new work is a bit like a tumbleweed. You're not exactly sure where you're going but you pick up things along the way." -- Solid Objectives Idenburg Liu [images] - Fast Company

Iraqi-British Architect Named UN Artist for Peace: Zaha Hadid has been named to the roster of artists who use their influence and prestige to promote the ideals of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). - Scoop (New Zealand)

The European Solar Decathlon Kicks Off: Seventeen teams from around the globe are battling it out in the center of Madrid to see who has the most efficient solar powered and eco-friendly house. [images] - Inhabitat

America Gets Earnest With Social Change Theme at Venice Architecture Biennale: A preview of some of the projects which will be featured... -- MOS; cityLAB; Archeworks; Walter Hood/Hood Design; John Portman & Associates; Guy Nordenson - Fast Company

2010 International Design Excellence Awards (2010 IDEA): The winners can help you ride the waves, grill a burger, catch varmints, and save the earth. 18 design luminaries serving as jurors... blazed through a pool of 1,900 entries from 28 countries, choosing 38 gold-medal winners. And now they are stuck, deadlocked over the final selection for Best in Show. [images, links] - Fast Company

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