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80 Pine Street >>

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Durst, Zuckerman and Ross
Vie for Stake in 1 World Trade >>



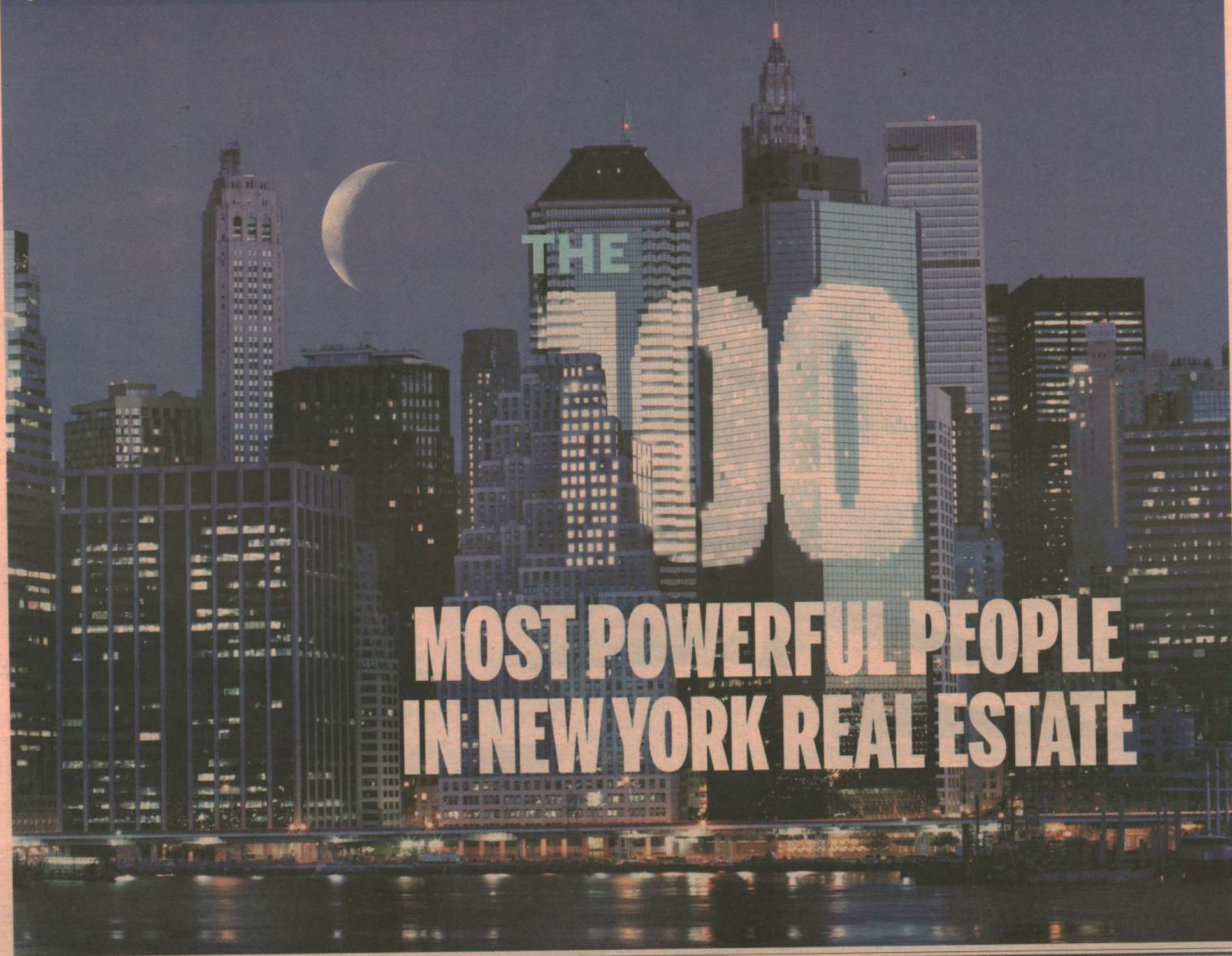
THE LEAD INDICATOR
Sam Chandan Parses
Mayor's New Budget

THE COMMERCIAL OBSERVER

May 11, 2010

THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF NEW YORK'S COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

\$7.00



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**MOST POWERFUL PEOPLE
IN NEW YORK REAL ESTATE**

 **SL GREEN**

DANNY KIM

#70

Robert Knakal



precedented \$300 million over 15 years. Meanwhile, the group announced last week that it was setting its sights on Brooklyn's Fulton Mall, where they intend to convert a former department store into student housing for Long Island University.

68 Jonathan Mechanic and Stephen Lefkowitz (54)

Chairman of the Real Estate Department at Fried Frank; member of the Real Estate Department



If anyone buys or sells a building in New York, or signs a big lease in one, Messrs. Mechanic (pictured) and Lefkowitz are bound to have a

hand in the deal. They are two of the most successful—and discreet—real estate attorneys in the industry.

69 Joe Ficalora (40)

CEO-chairman of New York Community Bancorp



If you're seeking signs of a sagging economy, don't bother looking to Mr. Ficalora, whose bank raised more than \$1 billion in new capital

last year and rose to become the country's 22nd largest, asset-wise. Meanwhile, the Westbury-based bank has been aggressively expanding its reach (six new branches in Arizona in March, to give one example) and gobbling up failing regional banks in Phoenix, Cleveland and back home in New York State.

70 Robert Knakal and Paul Massey Jr. (75)

Chairman and CEO, respectively, of Massey Knakal



The founding partners of New York's busiest investment-sales firm do different things within it—Mr. Massey runs the

day-to-day operation, Mr. Knakal (pictured) remains an inveterate salesman—but they have both helped it enjoy a plush run through an investment desert. In January, *The Real Deal* pronounced Massey Knakal the top New York firm in number of sales from 2007 through the third quarter of 2009; and tied for fifth in sales volume over that span. Bring it.

71 Jeff Sutton (52)

Founder and president of Wharton Acquisitions Corp.

Mr. Sutton is a ball-busting real estate player of the old school, with a keen eye for acquisitions and retail and more than 100 properties to his name, including 717 and 609 Fifth Avenue. His tenant roster reads like a who's who of Big Retail: from American Eagle and Abercrombie and Fitch to Armani and Escada.

72 Robert Ivanhoe (47)

Chairman of the New York office of Greenberg Traurig



Calling Mr. Ivanhoe a real estate lawyer is like calling the pope a Catholic. Mr. Ivanhoe is arguably New

York's preeminent real estate lawyer, with a client list that's pretty much a shorter version of this one. Piloting deals from Tishman Speyer's acquisition of Stuy Town to El-Ad's purchase of the Plaza, his firm is involved in about one-third of the city's commercial deals.

73 Robert Lieber and Seth Pinsky (43)

Deputy mayor for economic development and president of the New York Economic Development Corp., respectively



Mr. Lieber (pictured) and Mr. Pinsky lead economic development policy for the Bloomberg administration, pouring money at big-ticket

projects like Coney Island and Willets Point, along with new waterfront parks. The two recently were mediators in a yearlong clash over financing towers at the World Trade Center, eventually brokering a plan to give rise to two new office towers.

74 Philip Green

Owner of Arcadia Group Ltd.



Sir Philip staged a British invasion of Soho with the opening last year of the Topshop flagship store at 480 Broadway. With a little

help from Kate Moss and in-store roller-skating parties, he has established the clothing retailer in the city, and is reportedly eyeing more local sites.

75 Arnold, Kenneth, Steven and Winston Fisher (pictured) (45)

Partners in Fisher Brothers



With their family business, which has "enjoyed nearly a century of uninterrupted growth" (according to their Web site),

the Brothers Grimm of hefty midtown real estate are staying the course with their sky-happy empire, which counts a bevy of buildings