

by Kristen Richards



## Sydney wins Shanghai job

Jeff Sydney, previously a partner of the firm John Burgee with Philip Johnson, recently launched his own firm, Sydney Architects, in New York City. The new firm has won an international competition to design a headquarters building in Shanghai for Itochu, a multinational company, and the Lujiazui Development Company. The 25-story, 500,000-square-foot tower will be located in the heart of the Lujiazui Finance and Trade Zone in the city's Pudong area. The building comprises two semi-circles with an undulating curtain wall of flamed and polished granite, accented by granite vertical ribs rising to a stepped roofline. Construction will begin later this year, and occupancy is expected in 1999.

## The desert blooms with books

Dallas-based Hidell Associates Architects, along with Tempe-based Hofmann-Dietz Architects, Michaels Associates Design Consultants, an interior design firm in Scottsdale, and 3M Library Systems, is designing the Gilbert Regional Library in Gilbert, Arizona. A joint effort by the city and Maricopa County, the \$8.2 million, 66,500-square-foot project will rise on a 160-acre site just southeast of Tempe. The one-story building, an interpretation of regional desert architecture, will be stocked with more than 200,000 volumes. It is expected to open to the public in the fall of 1999. The remainder of the site will be transformed into a combination water reclamation project, wildlife refuge, and public park.

