

SIGN OF THE TIMES

Growing metropolitan areas with diverse, stable economies – not the booming high-tech “new economies” of the 1990s – are the big winners in this year’s Milken Institute Best Performing Cities index. The index measures performance by a variety of criteria, including job and income growth, and the pace of business startups.

Unlike past years in which technology-oriented metros dominated the top of the ranking, this year’s leaders have all earned their high marks the old-fashioned way – with growth in traditional sectors like retailing, health care and defense.

- The top 10:
- Fayetteville, Ark.
- Las Vegas, Nev.
- Fort Myers, Fla.
- West Palm Beach, Fla.
- San Diego, Calif.
- San Luis Obispo, Calif.
- Laredo, Tex.
- Brownsville, Tex.
- McAllen, Tex.
- Monmouth, NJ

To view the study, the complete list of 200 metros, and a separate ranking of 96 smaller metros, visit our Web site at www.milkeninstitute.org.

HEALTH CARE AND A HEALTHY ECONOMY

Cities and regions with the greatest density of health care resources could be big economic winners in the decades ahead. According to

a new study from the Milken Institute, “America’s Health Care Economy,” cities at the top of this list are Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C.

Each of these metro areas has a major stake in health care, from hospitals to pharmaceuticals to biotechnology, which pumps hundreds of millions of dollars into its local economy and sustains tens of thousands of jobs.

“The health care sector provides a huge economic base for some of these regions, and it promises to be a major global economic force in the years ahead,” says Ross DeVol, the

Institute’s director of regional economics.

To view the study and the complete list of more than 300 U.S. metros, check out www.milkeninstitute.org.



TOP SPOT FOR FORMER GORE AIDE

The Milken Institute has named Gregory C. Simon as president of its latest initiative, the Center for Accelerating Medical Solutions (CAMS).

Established this spring with a board of directors comprised of Nobel laureates in economics and medicine as well as distinguished leaders of health care, business and journalism, CAMS is an independent, non-partisan organization that will examine the entire medical research process, looking for ways to accelerate scientific discovery and to

shorten the path from laboratory to clinic.

Simon joins CAMS after being principal at Infotech Strategies, a Washington, D.C. consulting firm with special expertise in health technology, biotech, education technology and communication technology. Prior to that, he was CEO of Simon Strategies/Mindbeam, a consulting firm focused on clients in biotechnology, health care and information technology. Simon was the chief domestic advisor to Vice President Al Gore from 1993 to 1997, with a focus on economic, science and technology policy.

CAMS will have its own offices in Washington, D.C. and operate independently, though under the auspices of the Milken Institute. For more information on CAMS, see www.fastercures.org.

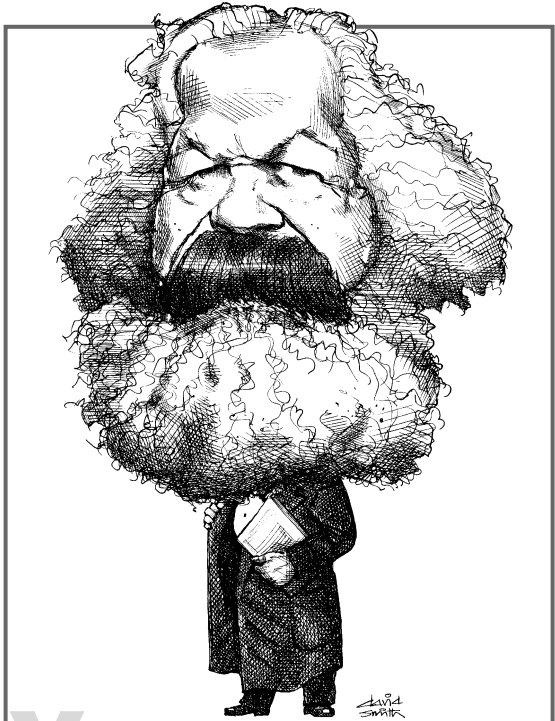
NEW STUDY HIGHLIGHTS NEBRASKA'S TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE POSITION

A new report uses the Milken Institute's Technology and Science Index to compare the State of Nebraska with its regional peers as well as with national leaders. The index uses 77 indicators in five categories to measure how well a state performs in today's knowledge-based economy. To view "Nebraska's Position in Technology and Science," visit www.milkeninstitute.org.

GLOBAL CONFERENCE SET FOR APRIL 26-28, 2004

The annual Milken Institute Global Conference, where the world's leading business, economic, government and academic talent comes together to assess where the world is headed, will take place April 26-28, 2004, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles. For information, call 310-570-4605.

DAVID SMITH



Yes, the guy on the magazine spine is Karl Heinrich Marx (1818-83). Wannabe philosophy professor, sometime journalist (for the *New York Daily Mail*) and full-time political refugee from Germany, Marx is, of course, best known for ideas used to rationalize the excesses of the organized crime syndicates run by Lenin, Stalin and Mao.

His three-volume treatise *Capital* is, shall we say, a tough read. Suffice it to say that he built a theory of political economy that was heavily influenced by the great classical economists, Adam Smith and David Ricardo, but bypassed by the less ambitious, better equipped theorists who collectively produced the neoclassical synthesis now taught in Econ 101.

The Communist bosses called him their own. But his enduring intellectual impact has arguably been in history and sociology, where his analysis of human dynamics in terms of social classes exerts influence to this day.