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closed-end funds

Al Gore versus  
John Malone

September 9, 1996

# Forbes

\$4.00 (Canada \$4.50)

# PIRACY!



Can you stop  
it in the  
digital age?







COMMUTERS RUSHING to catch the 6:28 out of Greenwich, Lake Forest, Tiburon or Grosse Pointe would envy Charles Pratt, John D. Rockefeller's partner in the old Standard Oil Trust. Legend holds that every morning, around the turn of the century, Pratt would board a 55-foot motor launch with a crew of five and set out for Wall Street from the family's palatial compound in Glen Cove, on New York's Long Island.

The commuting spirit of Charles Pratt still lives. A handful of well-heeled business people combine fat pocketbooks, modern transportation and imagination to free themselves from the physical and emotional insult of rush-hour commuting.

### A swim in the lake before dinner

ROBERT RATLIFF is the head of public relations for the McCaw telecommunications dynasty. At 7 every morning Ratliff jumps into a 26-foot, 1969 Lyman Lapstrake

the time of driving across the bridge, and it's a heck of a lot more fun."

### Avoiding the traffic

RICHARD JAYCOBS, chief of business development at Computer Trading Corp., a \$160 million hedge fund, prefers Nantucket. Almost every day between April and October he flies his single-engine Mooney airplane either to New Jersey's Teterboro airport or back to the fashionable island off the Massachusetts coast. One big problem in the North Atlantic: fog. Some days it's so



thick, says Jayco, that he can barely see the airport runway. But it's worth it. Of the hour-and-a-half aerial commute, he says: "It's often faster flying from Nantucket than driving in from my house in Englewood, N.J. There's less traffic in the sky."

### Running to work

THE HELL with planes, boats, cars and trains. At 4 each morning Robert Willens climbs out of bed, slips into his running gear and sets out for work on foot. Not down the block, mind you, but 8 miles away from his 73rd Street apartment on Manhattan's East Side to Wall Street. Elapsed time: 70 minutes. Willens showers in the gym at Lehman Brothers, where he's a senior tax partner, and is at his desk by 6 a.m.

runabout and buzzes 20 minutes across Lake Washington from Seattle to his office in Kirkland, Wash. Eleven hours later he stops on his way home to have a drink and a dip in the lake. Says Ratliff: "It's half



ILLUSTRATIONS BY LAURA CORNELL

### The easy way

TED TURNER doesn't have to worry about aircraft, boats or even strained knees. Ted and his wife, Jane Fonda, live in the penthouse apartment of one of the Turner towers in Atlanta. His commute: 12 floors down the elevator to the atrium, across an indoor walkway, and then up another 12 floors in the other Turner tower.

### Beating the traffic

"Flying is my hobby, not golf. I could never hit the ball," quipped August Busch III, chairman and chief executive of Anheuser-Busch. Every morning at 6 Busch strolls out to a helipad at his farm in rural Missouri and choppers his own Bell 206 the 50 miles to the company's headquarters in St. Louis. He lands on the roof, one flight above his top-floor office. This way, Informer is told, his top executives have an added incentive to get to work early: If they see the chopper parked on the roof, they know they're late.

