

InvestmentNews™

May 26-30, 2008

crain \$2.00 / \$53 Year

The Leading News Source for Financial Advisers

InvestmentNews.com

Russia tempts advisers with equity choices

ETFs are latest way to access hot market

By Jeff Benjamin

Russia's eight-plus-year economic expansion has spread into parts of the country's consumer and retail sectors, presenting a potentially new angle for participation among financial advisers and their clients.

For some advisers, the lure of Russia's stock market performance still represents the double-edged sword of a recent stretch of big gains pitted against the dark uncertainty of a fledgling democracy.

Even though "we're a little afraid of Russia, I think it's the place you want to be investing in," said Theodore Feight, owner of Creative Financial Design in Lansing, Mich. He is a veteran adviser who generally charges clients retainer and per-project fees. "I think Russia is still like the wild, wild West, where what hap-

Continued on Page 6