

Signals in the Static: **Woody Allen** will film his new movie in Barcelona this summer. It will star **Javier Bardem**, **Penélope Cruz**, and **Scarlett Johanson**. Composer **Howard Shore**, **Placido Domingo** and director **David Cronenberg** will produce an opera based on the 1958 horror movie, *The Fly*. **Martin Scorsese** and **Mick Jagger** will produce *The Long Play*, a movie about the music business. Died: **Dr. Robert Adler**, 93, co-inventor of the wireless television remote control.

For the first time in its 70-year history, **Chicago's Wrigley Field** will sell advertisements on its ivy-framed green doors leading to the outfield. The **University of Illinois** retires its 81-year-old American Indian mascot after protests from Native Americans.

Hasbro's newest version of "The Game of Life" replaces paper money with a **Visa** "debit" card. **Cadbury Schweppes** is retrofitting snack and drink machines in Dallas, New York, and Chicago to take major credit and debit cards as well as cash. The **Geico Caveman** character becomes an ABC-TV sitcom pilot. **Disney** is launching a line of "Princess" wedding dresses (\$1,100-\$2,900). **Nike** introduces "Tailwind," a low-priced shoe brand aimed at non-athletic women. **Donald Trump** launches a line of branded office chairs. **Krispy Kreme** offers a new 100% whole wheat donut (180 calories). **Hooters** launches a new energy drink (\$1.99). At L.A.'s **uWinkBistro**, diners place orders on touch screens at their tables—food runners then deliver meals and beverages. These same touch screens offer games, table-to-table trivia tournaments, and Internet browsing.

The popular **Second Life** virtual gaming environment has suffered its first terrorist action, a "bombing" of an **American Apparel** outlet and a **Reebok**

store. The Dallas/Fort Worth airport sells electricity for charging laptops (\$2/use). The Louisa-Muscatine School District in Iowa uses **Apple iPods** for testing special-education students. **Portovert** is a new magazine for brides and grooms who are environmentally concerned.

When You Care Enough: **Hallmark** launches a new line of greeting cards, called "Journeys." The four categories of cards include "Give Hope"—for those awaiting medical test results or undergoing treatments or surgery; "Show Support"—for coming out of the closet, addressing addiction or quitting bad habits like smoking; "Help Cope"—for infertility, miscarriage or caring for an aging parent; and "Life Spirits"—for divorce, job loss, or depression.

News from Berkeley, Ca: The first U.S. eco-friendly dentist office, **Transcendentist**, opens here. It uses digital imaging instead of x-rays (less radiation and no need for chemicals), amalgam filters to prevent mercury from entering the environment, non-toxic paint on the walls, and serves organic chamomile tea to patients. The **Berkeley City Council** becomes the first U.S. government body to regulate businesses who make or use products involving nanotechnology.

Prisoner Field Labor: In a pilot program run by the **Colorado Corrections Department**, low-risk inmates will harvest sweet corn, peppers, and melons, replacing the migrant workers who have left Colorado because of immigration restrictions. The farmers will pay a fee to the state, and the inmates (who volunteer for the work) will be paid 60 cents a day. *NY Times*.

Comrade Greeter: Employees at the China headquarters of **Wal-Mart** have set up a Communist Party branch. -*Wall St. Journal, People's Daily Online*.