Tuesday  March 31, 2009

A New Day for GM

GM's new CEO Fritz Henderson announces a payment protection program that is similar to Ford's. But what else will GM need to do to stay afloat and become competitive again?

Green Monster?

Could genetically modified foods actually be good for the environment? Some organic and sustainable food lovers are coming around to this idea, including our guest, James E. McWilliams, who took up the argument in a recent essay on Slate.com. McWilliams is associate professor of history at Texas State University. He writes widely on the history and ethics of food, and his upcoming book is titled "Just Food."

April Fools' Computer Worm

Computer specialists around the world are crossing their fingers that a malicious computer worm that has been quietly infecting millions of computers will not disrupt the Internet on April 1st. Jose Nazario, Manager of Security Research at Arbor Networks, is our guest.

See whether your computer is infected by the Conficker worm

Can Robots Help Autistic Children?

Professor Nilanjan Sarkar of Vanderbilt University thinks emotion-sensing robots can help autistic children with their social skills. We also speak to Tonya Mirtes — her 16 year-old son, Daniel, took part in Prof. Sarkar's research. Mirtes is also a representative at the Autism Society of Middle Tenessee in Nashville.

Read explanation of how the robot works

Balkan Rocker and Remembering Maurice Jarre

Goran Bregovic is one of the biggest names in Balkan music, but his appeal stretches well beyond the region. His everything-but-the-kitchen-sink style is perhaps best represented when he leads his 40 strong ensemble known as the "Wedding and Funeral Band." In this BBC segment, he talks about his family's influence on the music on his new CD, "Alkohol." We also take a moment to remember Oscar-winning composer Maurice Jarre.
Music from the show

- Ashley MacIssac, “Sleepy Maggie”
- Calexico, “Crumble”
- Charles Mingus, “Pedal Point Blues”
- The Wee Trio, “Flint”
- Ken Vandermark, “Knock Yourself Out”
- Tito Puente, “Royal T”
- Wedding and Funeral Band, “Tango”
- Wedding and Funeral Band, “Ederledzei”
- Wedding and Funeral Band, “Yeremia”
- Wedding and Funeral Band, “Stop”
- Wedding and Funeral Band, “Kalasnjikov”
- Maurice Jarre, “Lara’s Theme from Dr. Zhivago”
- Maurice Jarre, the music from Lawrence of Arabia

Do Meal Kits Provide Great Taste Along With Convenience?

Resident chef Kathy Gunst tested a multitude of meal kits, and gives co-host Jeremy Hobson the inside scoop.