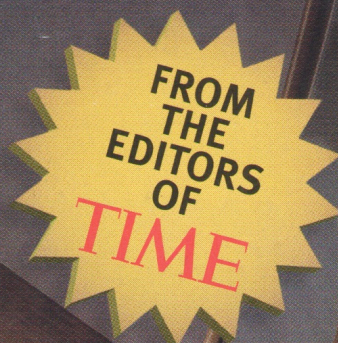


# TIME digital

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# WIRED HOMES

OUR EXCLUSIVE LOOK INSIDE



MARIO RUIZ FOR TIME DIGITAL



## FREEZE-FRAME FILMING IN 3-D

Imagine strolling through a crowded city street otherwise frozen in time. That's the special effect New York inventor Dayton Taylor, left, hopes to bring to the screen with his Timetrack virtual camera ([www.virtualcamera.com](http://www.virtualcamera.com)). The system strings together a computer-controlled set of 25 to 80 cameras that use one strip of film to snap a shot at the same exact moment from slightly different angles. The result, a hypnotizing, 3-D freeze-frame tracking shot, has already been used in Miller Genuine Draft, Charles Schwab and Samsung TV commercials, and has caught the attention of Steven Spielberg.

## PULSE RATE

### A HELPING HAND

Certain quadriplegics can regain limited use of their hands with the help of a surgically implanted electrical stimulator. NeuroControl's **freehand** device works by tiny electrodes attached to the muscles in the hand and arm and wired to a pacemaker-like stimulator in the chest. With a small sensor worn on their shoulder, patients use special movements to activate the system, which sends electrical signals that manipulate the hand for day-to-day tasks like eating, drinking, shaving, washing and even writing.

**BIRTH ON THE WEB** Infertile couples not comfortable joining their nervous peers in a clinic waiting room can now turn anonymously to the Web for help with **having a baby**. At sites such as [www.fertilityoptions.com](http://www.fertilityoptions.com) and [www.cryobank.com](http://www.cryobank.com), prospective parents can browse through profiles of potential sperm and egg donors or surrogates. Clients at Cryobank can even customize their choices to specific physical, ethnic and occupational characteristics.

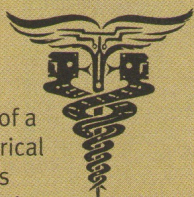


ILLUSTRATION FOR TIME DIGITAL BY CATHIE BLECK

## GOOD FOR THE SOLE

If your feet always ache by the end of the day, relief may soon be on the way. The "smart shoe" from BCAM International, a work in progress, can be programmed to inflate to add support or deflate to ease pressure, as needed or gradually during the day. The main mechanism (computer chip, sensors, microvalve and pump) is smaller than a TicTac box and can be hidden inside a shoe's heel or arch. A built-in air bladder surrounds the foot. BCAM developed a similar device for the 1998 Cadillac Seville STS; it adjusts the front seats according to a person's size and shape. As for the smart shoe, BCAM hopes it will not only quiet your barking dogs but also help prevent more serious problems for diabetics and arthritis sufferers.



ILLUSTRATION FOR TIME DIGITAL BY BILLY HARRIS

## Brut-Force Hype

When German *parfumerie* Mäurer & Wirtz unveiled its latest scent, Cybersp@ce, people must have been scratching their heads from Düsseldorf to Dresden. Does anyone really want to smell like a saucer-eyed surfer after a six-pack of Jolt Cola and some Ding Dongs? The popularity of technology, rather than glamour, is supposed to sell this unisex fragrance with a wired name. But don't expect Eau de Webmaster anytime soon.

