

BITES

Starbucks Coffee introduced new Espresso drinks to convenience stores in central Japan in October. // **Tim Hortons** will expand into 82 Tops supermarkets by the end of the month // Next spring, **Burger King** will open the first Whopper Bar concept at Universal CityWalk in Orlando, Florida. // **Krispy Kreme** will open about 35 locations in Shanghai, Beijing, and Tianjin, China, over the next five years. // In January **Coca-Cola** will begin distributing Monster Energy drinks in Canada and parts of Western Europe. // Despite the financial crisis, **McDonald's** reported an 11 percent increase in net income for its third quarter. // **Ripon Foods Inc.**, a subsidiary of Ralcorp Holdings Inc., will lay off 65 people this month. // **Saladworks** will end its year-long Signature Salads series at the end of the month. // For the next month, **Island Oasis** will feature a limited-time frozen-beverage blend called North Pole. // **Pizza Hut** debuts The Natural, which has a multigrain crust and all-natural toppings. // **FreshBerry Frozen Yogurt Café** opens its first South Carolina store. // Start-up fast-casual concept **Smashburger** plans to open as many as 45 new locations in 2009. // **T.G.I. Friday's** lowered the starting price of its Right Portion, Right Price menu to \$5.99 in October. // The first Middle Eastern location of **Sandella's Flatbread Café** will open in January in Dubai. // **Cold Stone Creamery** will announce the winner of its \$30,000 iMix America prize package next month.