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free style how to score a new look for nothing (p.130)

all about barbecue!

Lip-smacking ribs, pork and brisket PLUS the best rubs, spices and sauces

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> TIMING IS EVERYTHING <

YUM

THE ALBUQUERQUE INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FIESTA (BALLOONFIESTA.COM). HOP A RIDE IN ONE OF THE 700 HOT AIR BALLOONS THAT HIT THE SKY, RAISE A GLASS OF FREE CHAMPAGNE TO COOL YOUR NERVES. OR ENJOY THE VIEW FROM GROUND WHILE SAMPLING HAND-ROLLED BREAKFAST BURRITOS. -AMANDA WAAS



Having slept on our share of organic bedding, we know most of it is a snooze to look at. PLOVER ORGANIC's pillows, sheets and quilts, on the other hand, are a dream come true. They're both styleand earth-conscious. Mix and match their playful patterns and rest easy over chemical-free cotton and low-impact dyes. We love these pretty pillowcases in new fall prints. (\$15 to \$24, ploverorganic.com)

THIS JUST IN

There's a new chocolate chip cookie in town—and this one's got a cool twist. NESTLÉ TOLL HOUSE LIMITED EDITION MINT SWIRLED CHOCOLATE CHIP READY-TO-BAKE COOKIES (\$3.50, in supermarkets) are topped with minty chocolate morsels that will hold you over until candy cane season rolls around.

USE IT IN: Mint Chocolate Chip Cookie Shake

Crumble freshly baked cookies into a chocolate milkshake before blending. Top with minty whipped cream (stir 1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract into 1 cup whipped cream) and chocolate chips.



feast for the eyes

Pairing red wine with red meat is a given. Pairing the right outfit with a meal—that's trickier. Help is on the way: Take these style cues from CLINTON KELLY, co-host of TLC's What Not to Wear, whose new book, Freakin' Fabulous, debuts this month (\$25, Simon Spotlight Entertainment). —COURTNEY BALESTIER



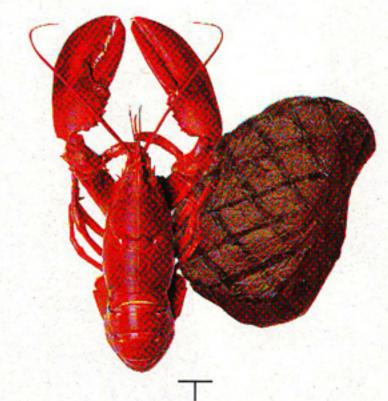
THE SCENE Football tailgate THE MEAL Buffalo wings

"Ditch the baggy sweatshirt and support your team without looking like a shapeless lump. Layer for warmth and wear team colors under a structured jacket. Cotton and corduroy are easy to wash, in case hot sauce lands on your lapel. Need more spirit? Buy a foam finger!"



THE SCENE Shopping lunch break **THE MEAL Pizza**

"A comfortable (but fabulous) shoe is essential for power-shopping. I recommend a heel: You'll be able to tell what the clothes you try on will actually look like. A cashmere sweater and knee-length skirt are easy to take on and off in the dressing room, but still look neat."



THE SCENE Date night THE MEAL Surf and turf

"That's easy: a pencil skirt and a ruffled blouse. It's down-to-earth (that covers the turf part) but still flirty and flowy (like the sea). And, by the way, no lobster is worth ruining your blouse: Ask the chef to shell it for you. You'll also spare your date from watching you dissect it."



THE SCENE Hosting a dinner party THE MEAL Penne alla vodka

"Wear a dress when hosting. It's one piece to throw on and it looks fancy. Go for something sleeveless to keep cool in the kitchen, and opt for a big cocktail ring instead of bangle bracelets—they'll make a distracting clanging noise while you're stirring the vodka sauce."

EVERY DAY WITH RACHAEL RAY

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