“Netflix’s low cost, subscription streaming service (with improving content) is our biggest worry and could become ‘good enough’ for consumers with moderate income and TV usage to use as a substitute for pay TV.”

Credit Suisse analyst
RIM introduces PlayBook -- the BlackBerry tablet

- 7-inch LCD, 1024 x 600, WSVGA, capacitive touch screen with full multi-touch and gesture support
- BlackBerry Tablet OS with support for symmetric multiprocessing
- 1 GHz dual-core processor
- 1 GB RAM
- Dual HD cameras (3 MP front facing, 5 MP rear facing), supports 1080p HD video recording
- Video playback: 1080p HD Video, H.264, MPEG, DivX, WMV
- Audio playback: MP3, AAC, WMA
- HDMI video output
- Wi-Fi - 802.11 a/b/g/n
- Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR
- Connectors: microHDMI, microUSB, charging contacts
- Open, flexible application platform with support for WebKit/HTML-5, Adobe Flash Player 10.1, Adobe Mobile AIR, Adobe Reader, POSIX, OpenGL, Java
- Ultra thin and portable:
  - Measures 5.1”x7.6”x0.4” (130mm x 193mm x 10mm)
  - Weighs less than a pound (approximately 0.9 lb or 400g)
- RIM intends to also offer 3G and 4G models in the future.

Early 2011
No Announced Price

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eAaez_4m9mQ
AT&T, Verizon, and T-Mobile make plans to replace credit cards with smartphones

Soon you’ll be able to make purchases in the U.S. by waving your smartphone, if AT&T, Verizon, and T-Mobile have their way. The carriers are partnering for a joint venture that will aim to displace credit and debit cards, sources familiar with the matter tell Bloomberg.

According to the sources, the carriers may work with Discover Financial Services and Barclays to develop a smartphone payment system in Atlanta and three other cities. They’ve also been seeking out a CEO to spearhead the venture.

The effort would compete directly with the likes of Visa and Mastercard, which together currently handle 82 percent ($2.45 trillion) of consumer spending on cards, according to the industry newsletter Nilson Report. The venture would be a boon to Discover’s payment network — which is currently ranked fourth in the U.S. Barclays would be the bank helping to manage the accounts.

While it would be something new in the U.S., similar phone-based purchasing systems already exist in Japan, the U.K., and Germany.
Facebook reaches 43.9% of all Internet users in the world, says comScore in a new report, but there are still a few countries where it's the second place social network.

ComScore measures Internet activity in 41 countries overall. In all but the eight countries, Facebook is the leader.
Sources indicate that George Lucas is set on rereleasings the "Star Wars" franchise in new 3D conversions beginning in 2012.

Although 3D versions have been rumored for some time, Lucas purportedly was waiting until there were enough screens available to make the release a sizable event.

Each conversion takes at least a year to complete, with Lucas overseeing the process to make sure each is as perfect as possible.

He has said that the "Avatar" experience convinced him that "Star Wars" is ready for the state-of-the-art 3D treatment.

Also pushing the timetable is a potential breakthrough in 3D TV technology.

With Samsung penetrating the market with 50,000-plus 3D-equipped sets and Sony recently sending its version to market, the home-viewing experience could be primed for 3D DVD versions of the films by the time the new 3D theatrical releases have run their course.

Lucas purportedly is lining up the theatrical rereleases as a lead-in to the ultimate home-viewing experience.
The problem with putting it all on the line...

is that it might not work out.

The problem with not putting it all on the line is that it will never (ever) change things for the better.

Not much of a choice, I think.

No risk, no art. No art, no reward.

Social network advertising is getting renewed attention in 2010. The US's gradual economic recovery, combined with marketers' incessant focus on reaching consumers in social media, has led companies to make big increases in social network ad spending in the first half of 2010.

eMarketer estimates US advertisers will spend $1.68 billion on social networking sites this year, a more than 20% increase over 2009. Spending will rise even further by 2011 to more than $2 billion.

Another important development in the social network space is the role of online social games and applications. Advertising is not a primary revenue stream for game companies such as Zynga or Playdom, but their large audiences are drawing the interest of marketers.

eMarketer expects such companies will attract $293 million in spending worldwide in 2011, up from $220 million in 2010.
Third of Young Netflix Users Cut Cable

An alarming survey by Credit Suisse should serve as a wake up call to the broadcast networks and cable companies that they need to take control of their revenue destiny right now, while they still have some negotiating power.

Analysts there found that 37 percent of Netflix subscribers aged 25 to 34 substitute Netflix for pay television. Almost 30 percent of users between 18 and 24 are using Netflix’s streaming service instead of cable or satellite. The Credit Suisse survey was of about 250 Netflix subscribers.

"Netflix’s low cost, subscription streaming service (with improving content) is our biggest worry and could become ‘good enough’ for consumers with moderate income and TV usage to use as a substitute for pay TV.”

Credit Suisse analyst
Google CEO Eric Schmidt said yesterday at the TechCrunch conference that he believes mobile search activity and revenue will eventually be bigger than desktop search. For Google to say that, it means mobile search is going to have to be huge.

The good news is that it looks like mobile search is going to be incremental to PC search, and not cannibalistic, according to new research from Citi analyst Mark Mahaney.
Preview: Screen Technology In 2014

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7_mOdi3O5E

The Future of Screen Technology
an open innovation concept video

Playfish is one of the world’s largest and fastest growing social games companies.

The company combines creativity, innovation and originality to create games for friends to play together over social platforms such as Facebook.

Playfish’s mission is to change the way people play games by providing more social and connected experiences.

Playfish’s EA Sports FIFA Superstars allows you to build your dream team by signing the world’s best football players to your club.

Furthermore, it allows you to upkeep your training and customize your formation to work your way to the top.

In terms of statistics, it’s a hugely popular game and currently has an increasing number of 4,800,000+ monthly active users!

“Netflix’s low cost, subscription streaming service (with improving content) is our biggest worry and could become ‘good enough’ for consumers with moderate income and TV usage to use as a substitute for pay TV.”

Credit Suisse analyst