

TECH KNOW

Better living through gadgets.

by Michael Allen

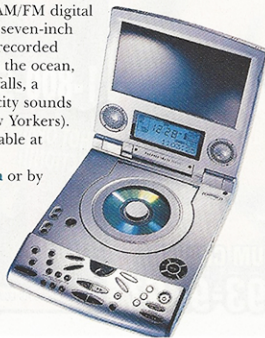
Futuristic Four-Eyes

The next time your wife complains that you spend too much time watching sports, agree with her, pop on a pair of Eyetop video sunglasses and secretly enjoy the ball game. With these high-tech shades, you can watch a video image on a 16-bit color LCD screen, which is embedded in the left or right temple of the glasses, depending on which of your eyes is dominant. The Eyetop attaches to a belt-worn control unit that can connect to a wireless TV tuner, portable DVD player, digital camera, camcorder, laptop computer or virtually any device with a video output. Eyetop is available at specialty electronics stores and www.Eyetop.net.



Entertainment Orgy

If you're ever stranded on a desert island like Tom Hanks in the film *Castaway* (or, God forbid, with Tom Hanks), Sharper Image's Personal Entertainment Center will allow you to fend off boredom without developing an intimate relationship with a volleyball. This portable marvel includes a DVD player, TV/cable tuner, CD/MP3 player, AM/FM digital tuner, an alarm clock, a seven-inch LCD screen and 20 prerecorded soothing sounds such as the ocean, rainfall, Yosemite waterfalls, a crackling fireplace and city sounds (great for homesick New Yorkers). This cool system is available at Sharper Image stores, www.SharperImage.com or by calling (800) 344-4444.



Downloading for Dummies

Folks who download music (legally of course, *cough, cough*) will love the latest MP3 player from Creative. The Nomad MuVo2 can hold up to 850 songs or 50 hours of music with its 1.5 GB hard drive. This mighty mite plugs directly into your PC's USB port; so all you have to do is drag and drop songs directly from your computer into the player. Once your "sharing" is complete, you can scroll through the Nomad's menu and pick the songs you want to play. Just don't tell those Nazis at the RIAA. You can find the Nomad MuVo2 at www.Creative.com.



The Ultimate Sidekick

When it comes to sidekicks, Batman has Robin, the Lone Ranger has Tonto and Michael Jackson has 12-year-olds. For the rest of us there's the T-Mobile Sidekick. With this handy little gadget, you can surf the Web, send and receive e-mail, play games, take and e-mail mobile snapshots, and chat with chicks using AOL's Instant Messenger. Say hello to your new little friend at any T-Mobile Store, www.T-Mobile.com or by calling (800) T-Mobile.



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