MAKING ADVANCES

Technology companies don’t know the meaning of the word recession; where there’s a passion there’s progress.

Mix Digital Boombox
www.mixdigitalboombox.com, £99.99
After careful, purveyors of high quality speaker systems for the last 25 years, has combined vintage aesthetics with digital technology to create the MiniMix, a delightfully chunky speaker case perfectly designed for teenage parties on the beach, holding aloft outside a boat’s window and repeatedly absorbing to Eye of the Tyke while paddling in slow motion. Pumping out an epic sound from its specially engineered tweeters and woofer drivers, the MiMix delivers towering volume and perfect clarity from the heart of every party up to three different input devices can be connected, and switching between tracks, playlists and devices is easily achieved without leaving the dancefloor, thanks to a handy belt-clipped remote.

iPad Slingbags
www.ipad-slingbags.com, £19.99
Along with the iPad, right, an ever-increasing number of accessories have been announced, ranging from the ultra-stylish to the actually useful. Cocoon offers two new cases somewhere in the middle. The Grizzzly Sling Bag features a molded foam back and a rear zipper pocket that allows for use of an iPhone or iPod Touch while the phone is stored, as well as the necessary storage pockets to keep an iPad safe and secure. The lantern offers similar security in the form of a wireless body, and both bags come with Cocoon’s innovative Graphite organization system, allowing surface étaient with elastic strips, designed to create as many pockets in as many dimensions as needed.

Leica APO-Televid 65
www.leica-camera.com, £199.99
This top-class, compact spotting scope is just 30cm long and 2.6lbs - ideal for trekkers who want to keep the weight down. It’s a focused sight, built with the independent body and eyepiece filled with nitrogen and robust magnesium housing coated in full rubber protective armour. It’s waterproof to 5m, has water and dust resistant coating, and an optically neutral front lens protects the sensitive APO optic from harm - weather conditions. Fast and precise focusing is delivered using two Focus rings, and the wide-angle zoom system - available in a straight or angled fitting - is capable of magnifications between 26 and 80 times.

Yeti Roadie Cooler
www.yeti.com, £199.99
One of the most durable and rugged lunchboxes on the market, a Yeti Roadie will withstand pretty much anything that can be thrown at it, including bear attacks. The polyurethane body is constructed using single-piece rotational moulding - the same method used to make whitewater kayaks, and features unbreakable hinges and moulded padlock holes in the body and lid. Two inches of polyurethane foam and Freeze style walls provide superior insulation. The Roadie model goes up to 25 litres capacity and features a stainless steel handle that make it ideal to use as a sturdy picnic basket; the Tundra range, meanwhile, goes up to a whopping 240 litres for more serious sport anglers.