

CONSOLING THE GREATS

PLAYSTATION MUBI

Blockes beware: your monopoly over the PlayStation unit is at risk. While in the past your girlfriend may have looked at you pretending to be Cristiano Ronaldo in *FIFA World Cup 2010* with barely disguised contempt, the console's forthcoming movie-download service will have her demanding a share of the console to view romantic comedies and the 11th instalment of *Sex and the City*—the one set in a nursing home. PlayStation's MUBI service will offer pay-per-view packages, with a smattering of free flicks to tempt you. It is due out in spring, so get your gaming time in now. **Priced according to package.** www.au.playstation.com/mubi



SKATE OF THE ART

RAZOR SOLE SKATE

Here at *Alpha*, we're always looking for fun new ways to risk a broken ankle. The Razor Sole Skate looks to fit the casualty-ward bill. It is only a few centimetres long, so it can fit in your backpack—or briefcase if you don't mind being seen riding a skateboard home in your suit. Steer using a pivoting front wheel and brake simply by stepping—or falling—off. **\$100** www.soleskate.com



PADDED PAD

LAVISH IPAD CASE

Apple isn't the only one making cash from its new iPad and smaller iPhone. Pretty much as soon as the new toys hit the marketplace, peripherals are there on the shelf next to them. One standout is the Lavish iPad case from Melbourne company Cygnett. The Apple device is marketing itself as a replacement for books, so you may as well look like you're carrying one to ease you through the transition. **\$70** www.cygnett.com



BASS BUDDY

iPAL

Get something in Ferrari red without having to rob a bank. The iPal, from high-end audio company Tivoli, has used three of the Italian motoring company's paint schemes to tart up its new range of personal speakers. Also equipped with an in-built radio, the iPal plugs into your iPod or digital music player to produce a surprisingly clear and powerful sound. The battery lasts about 16 hours. **\$399** tivoliaudio.com.au/iPAL.html



BEST BALANCE

SONY NEX CAMERA

"Bridge" cameras, which give more control than a basic point-and-shoot, but are less unwieldy than a digital single-lens reflex snapper, have been threatening to be the next big thing for a couple of years. Sony's NEX range of cameras give you a choice of lenses, the ability to take multiple exposures that are merged in camera for panoramic scenes and shoot high-definition video. They are slightly too bulky to throw in your pocket to record a boozey night out, but are still a lot easier to lug about than a big DSLR. **From \$849** www.sony.com.au



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KOGAN LCD TV

Tight-arses can get high-definition, too. Australian-owned company Kogan has released a new 81cm LCD TV with a Blu-ray disc player installed for just over \$600. The screen is Samsung, so it performs a lot better than you'd expect from the price tag. The unit also has a high-definition tuner and a USB port for playing dodgy clips you've downloaded from the net. The company requires buyers to purchase straight from its site—no checking out the product on the showroom floor first. **\$679** www.kogan.com.au

