

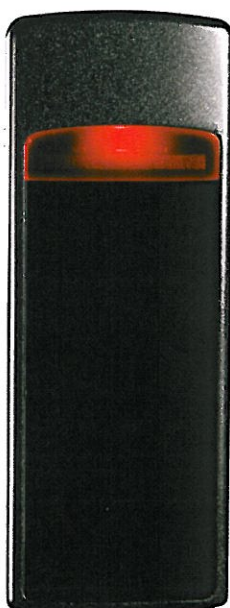
Lighten Up!

Lasers and Lenses That Work Wonders

words by Jeremiah Shaw

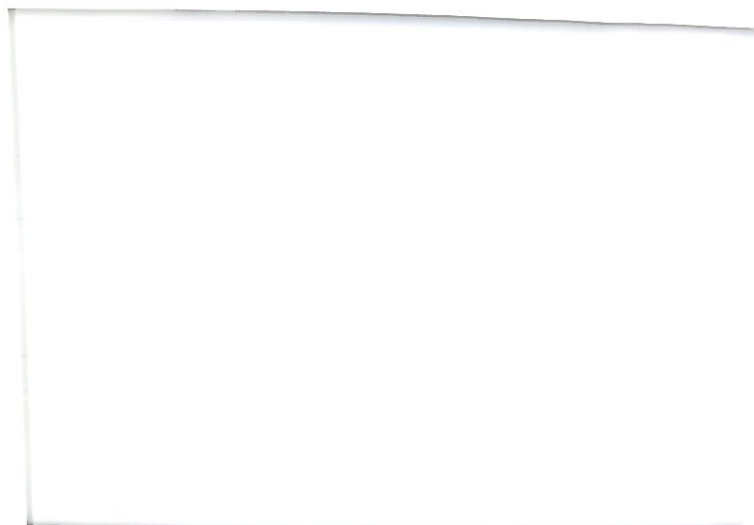
HP Photosmart 927 (\$399.99)

LCD viewfinder, digital zoom lens, red-eye reduction flash—all child's play. The new HP Photosmart 927 does what, until now, other cameras only dreamed of. It'll make the people you shoot look 10 pounds thinner. Utilizing years of research and development to create "fun house mirror" technology, this little Richard Simmons of the photo world actually tapers the center of digital photos and extends the top and bottom corners outward, giving the effect of "slimming" the subjects contained within. It'll pay for itself after the first year of your cancelled gym membership. Available online at HP.com.



Virtual Laser Keyboard (\$199.99)

Okay text-a-holics—glance up from furiously mashing those keys on your cell phone for a moment and pay attention. The Virtual Laser Keyboard plugs into your cell phone or PDA. It instantly beams a red "QWERTY" style keyboard onto any flat surface upon which you can type just as you would with a normal keyboard. That's right—no more thumb blisters from tapping out diatribes that take longer to write than if you'd sent them in Morse code. No more endlessly cycling through punctuation to find the comma key. And perhaps most important, no more mutilation of the English language by substituting numbers and acronyms for words. Check it 4 yourself @ www.virtual-laser-keyboard.com. Plzkhx.



ROBOTIC BARS - NOT YOUR AVERAGE BENDER

Lazy Drinker Electronic Bartender (\$750)

A robotic bartender—it's the finest in binary boozing technology. Simply load the cooler with 16 bottles of sauce, connect it to your laptop and voilà... Bill Gates tends bar at your MySpace mixer this year. The software comes with over 5,000 different automated drink recipes, all of which are mixed with just a click of your mouse so there's no longer a need for passé recipe books or proprietary alcoholic beverage licensing (Note to the wonderful folk at TABC: we're just kidding!) Available online at lazydrinker.com.



Winepod (\$1999)

No, it isn't a 2-foot-high cauldron. It isn't modern art. It's the Winepod—or Personal Winemaking Portal—from Provina Technologies, and it's the easiest way yet to create your very own vintage at home. Simply load it with grapes, boot up your computer, type in what kind of vino you'd like it to whip up, and the Winepod handles the requisite crushing and pressing as well as all the fermenting and aging. Sound hard to believe? So is the \$1999 price tag. Available online at mywinepod.com.

