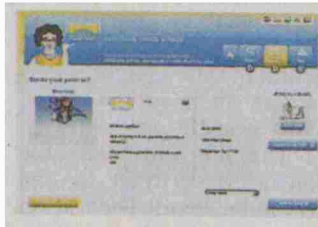


GADGETS

Personalize your postcards



Enjoy the view? With the help of a new online service called HazelMail, you can turn a picture of a favorite vacation scene into a personalized postcard that the service will print and mail to your friends. The process is easy. To create a postcard on www.hazemail.com, all you have to do is upload a digital image, add a message, enter the recipient's address, and pay \$1.50. The company will then print the postcard and mail it to your friend's address.

Info: www.hazemail.com

Toolkit for do-it-yourselfers



Need to tweak a tech device? With the right tools, you may be able to do it yourself. The NewerTech 11 Piece Portable Toolkit, for example, contains tools that can help you upgrade computers and also tinker with tech devices, such as Apple iPods. Inside its nylon case, you'll find an assortment of straight and Phillips screwdrivers, Torx drivers, a scissors clamp, tweezers and two nylon pry tools. The kit costs about \$18.

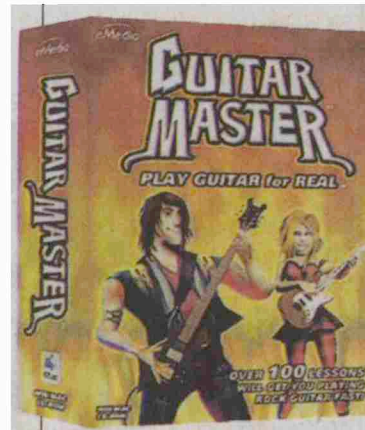
Info: www.newertech.com/products

Brag books enter digital age



The next time friends say they'd like to see your vacation photos, you'll be ready. Simply pull out Nextar's digital brag book. Enclosed in a black leather cover, the digital photo frame features a 3.5-inch LCD screen that can display an individual photo with a resolution of 320 by 240 pixels or display all the images in a slide show. The photo frame is compact enough to stash in a small bag for impromptu brag sessions. The N3-506 folio digital photo frame includes 256 megabytes of internal storage, a memory card slot, a rechargeable lithium-ion battery and an AC adapter. It will be available this fall for \$70.

Info: www.nextar.com



Learn guitar like a rock star

If you've mastered playing rock songs in the "Guitar Hero" and "Rock Band" video games, why not try playing the songs for real? EMedia Music's Guitar Master CD-ROM can help you do just that. The instructional CD contains step-by-step audio and video lessons that can teach you how to play tunes that are featured in the video games along with other popular rock tunes. Song titles include "Paranoid" by Black Sabbath and "You Really Got Me" by the Kinks. The software, which works with both Windows PCs and Macs, costs \$40.

Info: www.emediamusic.com

— Deborah Porterfield
Gannett News Service

Printing imperfections
present during scanning

