

STIM

THE SUNDAY TIMES
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LOSING KAITLIN

A MOTHER'S FIGHT
FOR JUSTICE

FREO RULES

THE MAYOR DOING IT HIS WAY

RAGS AND RICHARD

THE FASHION STAR WHO
WON'T CALL PERTH HOME

Fitter,

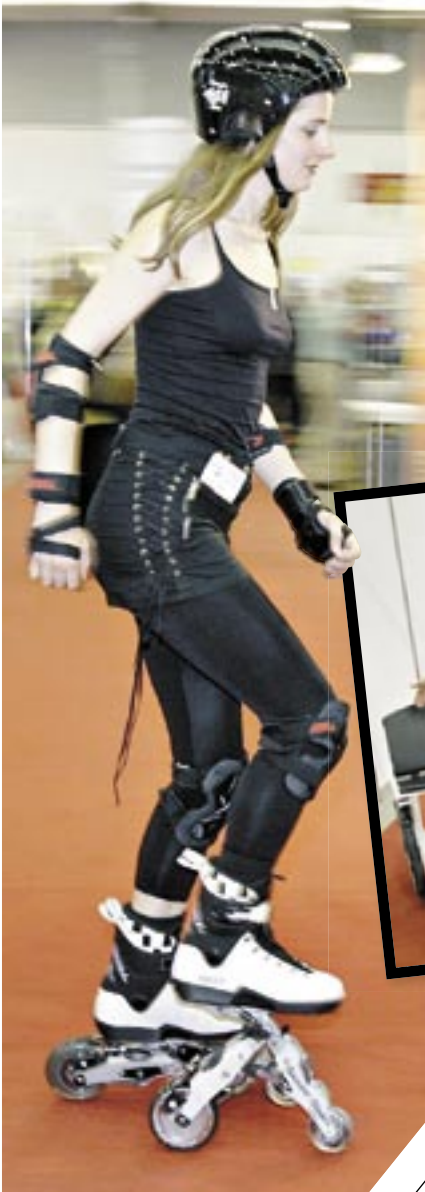
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HOW TO LOOK GREAT IN THE PROCESS

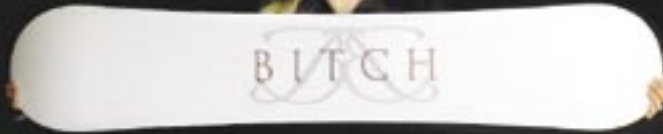
newtoys

The wheel deal

If you like a speed-demon exercise machine to get you places – but rollerblades are just too passe and bikes too big – then Booster Blades may be the gizmo worth seizing on in the future. Worn like skates, this ingenious mechanism allows the user to propel themselves forward. The Booster Blades were just one of 1000 gadgets, gizmos and fads-to-be on display this month in Geneva, Switzerland, at the Exhibition of Inventions, New Techniques and Products. Ranging from the bizarre to the sublime, new products included a six-player chess board, a pivoting cover for soft-drink cans and the GPSolat, a PDA with a GPS unit and Mecca compass, so Muslims always know which way to face during prayers, no matter where they are. Another favourite was the Smike – a detachable sidecar for a bicycle. No more balancing your mates on the handlebars...



coolhunting



When a girl wants to look her best on the slopes, who's she gonna call? Bitch Boards, of course. This San Diego snowboarding company is the brainchild of Alex Masterson who decided to get some serious fashion on the slopes for the ladies, as well as performance. The boards, made of carbon fibre, aspen wood core and rubber sidewalls, are shaped specifically for a woman's height, weight and lower center of gravity. "We design for women and only women," Alex says. "Using modern and abstract photography to enhance the flip slide of a snowboard makes any Bitch Board rider stand out from the rest on any slope. It also makes each Bitch Board a collector's item with some being purchased purely for its aesthetic value." For details, see www.bitchboards.com.

RETNA WOOLLER

Smallest wonder

Amateur digital SLR camera buffs could be hanging out for this little beauty – emphasis on little. Olympus has just revealed the world's smallest and lightest digital SLR camera, the E-410, in Seoul. The entry-level 10-megapixel camera weighs 375g (or the weight of a small dog in a teacup if the wacky publicity shots are anything to go by) and is 12.95cm in width by 9.1cm long. Given how much lenses and bags alone weigh, this lightweight option could be the difference in neck cricks at the end of a day's shooting. They're barely on the overseas market yet, but stay tuned. See www.olympus.com.au for the full specs.



LEFT: THE "SMIKE" DETACHABLE
 SIDECAR BIKE. BELOW: A PIVOTING
 COVER FOR SOFT-DRINK CANS.



GOING UP

Dog-friendly hotels: In keeping with the trend of travelling with pets, dog-friendly boutique hotels now have a five-star rating of their own. I'll woof to that!

Voo Dooo: Rocky road for grown-ups. Startle a dinner party host by BYO-ing the lemon meringue gourmet slab. Swoon.



Rose Byrne: The next Cate Blanchett waiting to happen. All she needs is the green cause, and she'll be there.

Zombie walks: People filled the streets in Brisbane to look like the undead all in the name of absolutely nothing. Those tropics get you in the end.

Manure-happy gardeners: Those pesky neighbours and their poop-laden gardens are sure to kill the last days of the barbie season. Don't bring the sauce.



Big Brother: Mutton dressed up as lamb is still mutton.

RETNA WOOLLER
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GOING DOWN

Listen outside the box

If you want the world's music at your fingertips, the Grundig Wi Fi Internet Radio is a stylish option. Hook it up to your home wireless network or router, then search 3000 of the world's internet radio stations by country or by genre. Or just tune into the local sounds. This is one cool chunk of gadget, with a price to match. It's \$399. See www.grundig.net.au.

