New Products

EDITORS' INTRODUCTION

This month we review a new technology for printing temporary documents that can reduce paper usage and a basketball jersey that dynamically displays players' statistics. We also review a secondary display that provides access to personal content on a laptop without the user having to boot it up and a universal charger for mobile devices. Finally, we examine a handheld astronomy device that identifies celestial bodies, an ergonomic "keyboard" for individuals with hand and finger injuries, an electronic-book reader, and a computerized tool for making small lots of artisan wine. Please continue to send pointers to upcoming products with exciting possibilities, your feedback on existing products, and your personal experiences with them (your name will be included with your review). Email us at pvcproducts@computer.org.

—Eyal de Lara and Maria Ebling

Figure 1. The TeamAwear jersey displays real-time player statistics and time alerts.

WEARABLE DISPLAY OF ATHLETES' STATISTICS

TeamAwear is a basketball jersey that displays real-time information about its wearers' statistics—such as their fouls, points, and scores—and alerts players when the game is nearly over or when time is running out to shoot. Mitchell Page and Andrew Vande Moere at the Centre of Design Computing and Cognition of the University of Sydney developed the system, which consists of numerous colored electroluminescent panels. A small computer attached to the player's body controls the panels and communicates wirelessly with a server that tracks relevant game statistics. For example, panels on the jersey's side light up to show how many goals the wearer has scored, with each panel representing 10 goals (see figure 1).

Although the inventors developed the TeamAwear jersey originally for basketball, they claim that it could also work in other fast-paced sports in which player-specific data changes rapidly, such as soccer, volleyball, cricket, and baseball. It could also support emergency teams working in noisy environments where verbal communication is inefficient.