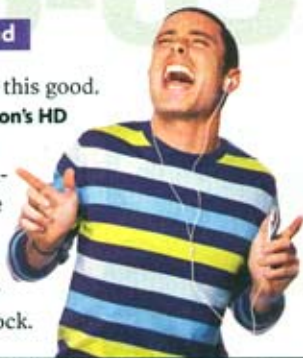


59 | best school tool

Applying to college is now a whole lot simpler and saner. **Naviance**, a Web-based planning system created by Stephen M. Smith and partners, lets students, parents and guidance counselors access admissions data and track a student's progress. Based in Washington, D.C., Naviance debuted in 2002. Some 1.4 million students have used the program.

60-61 | best sound on demand

Our tunes never sounded this good. **iBiquity Digital Corporation's HD Radio** offers super-clear sound on existing AM/FM channels (more than 700 stations are already digital). And on **Roku's SoundBridge Radio music system** (\$400), stream music from your PC or Mac—or try the alarm clock.



62 | best sock it to me



Three of a kind always trumps a pair, right? That's what San Francisco-based entrepreneur **Edwin Heaven** figured in 2003 after losing one too many socks to who-knows-where. He created Throx, the first company to sell three sox for the price of two (throx.com). How darned clever!

63-64 | best character analysis

For years **Pixar** and **DreamWorks** have been breathing new life into characters with their computer-generated animation. Pixar Animation Studios has made award-winning movies from *Toy Story* to *The Incredibles*; DreamWorks' *Shrek* won the first Best Animated Feature Film Oscar in 2001. This year's pixelated movies include *Over the Hedge* by DreamWorks and *Cars* from Pixar.



65 | best must-have gadgets

>> Your electrical outlet has two sockets, but they face the same way. What to do with clunky plugs that won't fit? Try 360 **ELECTRIC'S ROTATING 360-DEGREE OUTLET**. Named Best New Product 2005 at the National Hardware Show, the \$8 receptacle just turns. Why didn't we think of that?



>> Need to write and highlight?

One pen, the clever new **BIC DUO**, can do both.

Comes in blue and black ink, each with yellow highlighter (\$5).

>> Power out, and your cell phone needs a charge? **CHARGE 2 GO** uses juice from a simple AA battery. The

\$20 device, small enough for easy toting, comes with adapters that fit most telephones.