

Digital Times is a "for eCommerce newsletter reporting on the development and/or availability of interactive products and services."
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Digitally Cool



VERTICAL MOUSE2



The BEST place to find the sleekest and most provocative new products is at the **International Exhibit** area at the International Consumer Electronics Show. These booths are always at the Hilton, adjacent the Las Vegas Convention Center and should NOT be missed. Here is one of my favorite finds this year, by Evoluent LLC. I wouldn't leave the show without it.

The Evoluent™ VerticalMouse™ 2 features a new shape that supports the hand in a relaxed handshake position. I found it to be the fastest scrolling and most *precise* mouse I've ever used. My hands are quite small and I was having a bit of difficulty trying to control it -- it might be perfect for you, though. I like using it when I can afford the time necessary to undo my mistakes. The 5 programmable buttons are a gadget lovers dream. The mouse's drivers are on the accompanying CD.

Where to Buy:
The Human Solution
Price: \$67.95

Blue Hen
Price: \$60.00

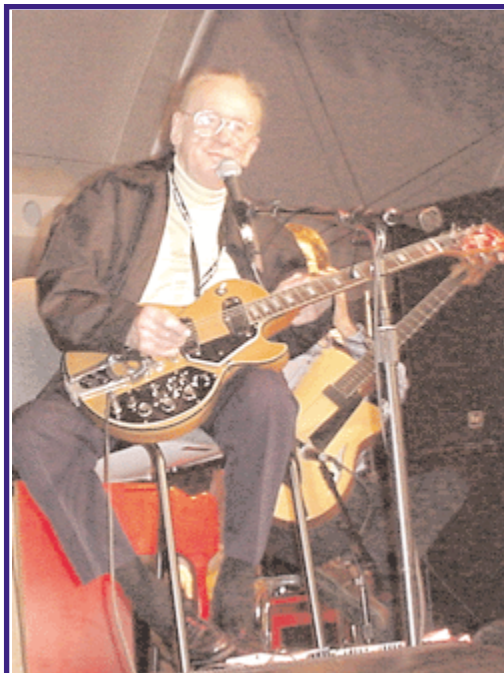
CES 2005 Review



Wow! This year's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas was a blast. I (we) spent a good deal of time in the Gibson tent. Not only was Les Paul's surprise 90th birthday party an entertainment treat, I scored a private interview beforehand and found out Gibson is coming out with a Les Paul digital guitar! Not only did I obtain a great interview, Les and I leaned into each other upon departing and I received a kiss on the lips from the legendary oh-so-charming musician!



-editor © Digital Times



A Guitar Is Like A Woman!

-Les Paul

...it must *make me feel good*. Also, it must feel and sound good.

Ques: How important are pickups?

Ans: Pickups don't contribute

much to the sound of the Gibson guitar.

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Bye Bye Sprint - 'Hello' VOIP [Voice Over Internet Protocol] service by Vonage

I don't know about you, but perhaps *my* most important New Year's Resolution for 2005 is to discontinue paying for services that can be replaced by better ones. Sprint is a case in point. I hung in with Sprint for 3 years, subscribing to phone service plus Earthlink for Internet access and DSL broadband. I recently obtained a much faster broadband service for less \$\$ through Cox Communications, my cable company. Why didn't I do it *sooner*?! Well, having to give up my phone number isn't easy. Keeping my 'old' number takes about 20 days to process and there is no guarantee, at that. Plus, I'm as resistant to change as the next person.

I bought a new cellphone and service from Verizon [more about my really cool LG videophone later] and for what we used to call 'landline' I've ordered Vonage Broadband Voice Over Internet Protocol for local and long distance service @ only \$24.99 a month. Fax capabilities are available for an additional \$9.99/mo. Vonage is sending me a cable broadband adapter that I connect to my phone. Will let you know how it all turns out in the next issue! -editor

A Guitar Is Like A Woman...

-Les Paul

Continued

The bar magnet is important; they are much better than 50 years ago and woods, workmanship and finishes are better today. The [old] magnet, when cold, goes into shock. Today, they can withstand a deep freeze...think of how *cold* they get in the cargo hold of an airplane.

Ques: How did you meet Mary Ford?

Ans: I met Mary through Gene Autrey. Jimmy Dean and Gene introduced me to Mary at CBS, a couple of doors down from NBC. She didn't believe it was me - I made a date with her and then forgot it! I was mowing the lawn at my place and she drove up asking where Les Paul was. I told her 'in the studio out back.' Some of the fellas were rehearsing and you had to go in through the window to get in there. They hoisted Mary through the window and when I came in she said, '**that's not Les Paul -- he's the gardener!**' When I picked up my guitar and played she said '**My God, it IS Les Paul.**'

Ques: What is your favorite guitar?

Ans: My best guitar is vintage 1965. The kid that thinks the old guitar is better than the new? Let *him* be the judge...

I was dear friends with Leo Fender, who wanted me to be a partner.

Ques: What makes a good guitar?

Ans: The three main things: **sustain, sound, beauty.**

Ques: Who are your three favorite rock guitarists?

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Ans: **Jimi Hendrix, Jeff Beck and Stevie Ray Vaughan.**

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March Issue:

- . More coverage on **2005 CES International.**
- . Feature, *Digitally Cool.*
- . EZReach Keyboard reviewed.
- . My experience with **Vonage Broadband's VOIP [Voice Over Internet Protocol] phone service.**
- . Review of Verizon's **LG VX7000** phone.