

# Adult toys come in all shapes, sizes and price tags

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use the money from the armor to redecorate the house."

MOVING FROM the Middle Ages

back to the electronic age, Esoteric Audio in Farmington Hills offers a variety of gifts for audiophiles.

"We cater to young professionals and long-term music lovers who want

the very best," said owner Tony Kazmierczak.

It is not unusual, he said, for someone to spend \$1,200 for a tonearm and \$475 for a cartridge. The average young professional leaves the store with a stereo system costing between \$3,000 and \$6,000.

Another electronic gadget, the computer, is a hot item this year, said Jim Ruzi, manager of the Computer Connection in Farmington Hills.

"A lot of people say they are buying

the computer for their kids but try and tell me they are not going to use it," he said.

The majority of consumers in his store are buying the Apple IIe computer at a price of \$1,400. That price includes a monitor and disc drive.

Those willing to take a larger bite out of their holiday money can buy the new Apple Ix computer. The \$3,500 machine is designed for business use. Its screen displays a video version of a desk with a calculator or notepad waiting to be used. Meas up the desk, and a computer "aid" can be summoned to

put everything back in place.

CONVENTIONAL GIFTS for adults still include the popular video cassette recorders and large screen television sets, said Mart O'Malley, a salesman at World Wide TV & Appliance in Farmington Hills.

"Young couples, especially, are into portable video units so they can photograph their kids," O'Malley said. "And

a number of people are putting their television sets, home computers, video games and VCRs into a media room."

However, one adult gift is almost impossible to find in area stores.

"Everyone in the whole city is out of Trivial Pursuit," said a sales clerk at Hudson's at Twelve Oaks. "We can't even take any more orders for them because we are not sure if we are going to get anymore in."

## Be careful with lights when decorating house

With the holidays now in full swing, more persons are thinking about decorating the outside of their homes with lights to provide a more festive appearance.

But some precautions should be taken to avoid accidents. Following are some hints provided by the Cooperative Extension Service of Oakland County.

• Check all cords, plugs, sockets for breaks, cracks or signs of wear — particularly where wires enter sockets. If you have any doubt about the condition of any electrical item, don't use it.

• Purchase and use only equipment listed by Underwriters Laboratories and bearing the UL label.

• Use only cords, lights and other equipment that have been designed for outdoor use. The package label should tell you whether the items were designed for this purpose.

• Run cords above the ground, if possible. Damage is more likely to occur when cords are strung along the ground. If you must lay them on the ground, drape cords over wooden stakes high enough to keep them out of the outdoor lights without overloading any one circuit.

placed where people are unlikely to step on or trip over them.

• Never string electrical cords under a door or in other places where they are likely to be pinched or worn.

• Never use nails to fasten cords to buildings. Staples designed to securely fasten cords without piercing the insulation are available at hardware and electrical supply stores.

• Tape all plug connections with plastic electrical tape, making them as watertight as possible.

• Unplug the system before you do any work on it, even if only replacing burned-out bulbs.

• Don't overload your home wiring. If other lights blink or fade when you turn on your outdoor lights, turn off the other lights and appliances on the circuit when the outdoor lights are on. If you blow a fuse, don't substitute a higher-rated fuse. It may be necessary to use several circuits to obtain power for stakes high enough to keep them out of the outdoor lights without overloading any one circuit.

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