

» FishAbility «

NEW GEAR

» Ninja Force «

With the braid battle raging on, **Daiwa** has just entered the ring with the stealth and might of a true warrior. We spooled up with their **Samurai Braid** (starting at \$25) and bombed lures past the breakers for snook. The line is noticeably softer and limper than other braids—two features Daiwa says reduce line noise on the retrieve and help it sink faster in heavy current. Constructed of eight woven strands, this line will give its competitors a serious run for strength, smoothness and castability. Samurai is available in 15- through 150-pound test. **Daiwa; (800) 736-4653; www.daiwa.com**



» Walk It Off

The first time we tried **Tattoo's Walking Stick** (\$14), we scored a New York Harbor grand slam—bluefish, striper, albie. Need we say more? Weighing just one ounce, this wooden walk-the-dog pencil-popper hybrid is through-wired and moves in a sharp zigzag pattern while spitting water and churning up a froth. Made to be cast on shorter rods, the design brings custom wood to light-tackle fanatics. **Tattoo's Tackle; (401) 683-9202; www.tattoostackle.com**



» Drop Shots

Ever drop your camera on deck in rolling seas or have it unexpectedly soaked? The **Stylus 790 SW** digital camera (\$300) from **Olympus** offers 7.1 megapixels in an offshore-proof package that features image stabilization, rapid autofocus and low-light settings. Submersible to ten feet, water is no enemy and underwater shots are a breeze. Shock-proof, the camera can withstand a five-foot fall. And with a large LCD viewing screen, you can keep an eye on the action instead of staring through a small viewfinder.

Olympus; (800) 622-6372; www.olympusamerica.com

» Waging War «

On a recent trip to Costa Rica, we spotted tarpon in some not-so-clear water with help from **Costa Del Mar's Man-O-War** shades (starting at \$130). With removable side shields, these glasses quickly adjusted to our needs based on light conditions. Rubber nose and temple pads provided comfort and didn't slip when we worked up a sweat. **Costa Del Mar; (386) 677-3700; www.costadelmar.com**



LURE: MANFRED KOH