

## SPORTS

Scott Ostler learns chain gang's take on the Super Bowl



## DATEBOOK



'Miss Austen Regrets' — a novel biography on PBS

## HOME



A Silicon Valley CEO finds his pad needs a new design

★★★★★

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# San Francisco Chronicle

**FORMIDABLE SUITOR:** Microsoft's surprise bid raises stakes for pioneering but troubled firm

## YAHOO'S CHOICE: JOIN OR FIGHT?

By Verne Kopytoff  
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

Yahoo Inc.'s leadership is facing the biggest decision in the company's history after a \$44.6 billion takeover bid by Microsoft Corp. on Friday intended

### CLOSER LOOK AT THE DEAL Why does Microsoft want Yahoo?

The proposed acquisition of Yahoo would give Microsoft a bigger share of the online search and advertising markets, although Google would remain dominant in both areas overall.

Annual advertising revenue  
In billions of dollars

Google	\$16.4
Yahoo	\$6.09

**WEB WAR:** Merger would set up battle with Google for ad dollars

By Ryan Kim and Ellen Lee  
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITERS





# AROUND THE HOUSE

By Susan Forno



JAMES CHEN / Janus et Cie

## [ WINTER MARKET REPORT ]

### Showcasing 8 floors of top designs

**W**hen the San Francisco Design Center lures all of those designers for Winter Market, the showrooms bring out their big guns. New lines and collections covered the floors — four of them in the Galleria and four more in the Showplace. Here's just a sample, and there's some overflow waiting in the wings.

**1.** First, a stop at Hinc (Galleria 315) for some shades, and we're not talking natural fibers for the windows. This pair from some midcentury storefront would fit only the largest head, like one of those ballplayers on steroids — and they could probably afford them (list: \$1,750).

Next, a quick nap at Kneeder Fauchere (Galleria 170) in a spectacular new bed (not shown) from Gregorius/Pineo. George Massar designed the slate gray, oak Monterey collection, including the Hampton Bed, on inspiration from a rush-cushioned antique chair. The bed's high back seems especially suited to today's deep mattresses. (Kneeder prices for design trade only.)

**2.** Back outside — no sunglasses needed at the rainy Winter Market — and down the block to 111 Rhode Island St., and a new carpet showroom in a 4,000-square-foot warehouse once used for building aircraft. It's actually two showrooms in one, with Tai Ping Carpets wrapping its airy Matthew Baird Design interior around a workshop-like studio for another of its brands, Edward Fields Carpet Makers. New to the Tai Ping inventory: the Palladian Villas collection, inspired by Italian Renaissance villas. And at Edward Fields, carpets flow from a watercolor by one of the firm's artists.

**3.** Back over to the Showplace building, Janus et Cie (at 195), purveyor of fine contemporary indoor and outdoor furniture, shows off its brand-spanking-new Details collection. These are bowls, trays, vases, ceramic apples and marble accent pieces — all handmade, many from things that would have been cast away or unused, said Marketing Director Wendy Rhiger. Materials include sea shells, eggshells and beautifully crafted ebony from Mozambique. Prices on Details start at \$30 and end at \$4,143, and it is one showroom that does business with the public.

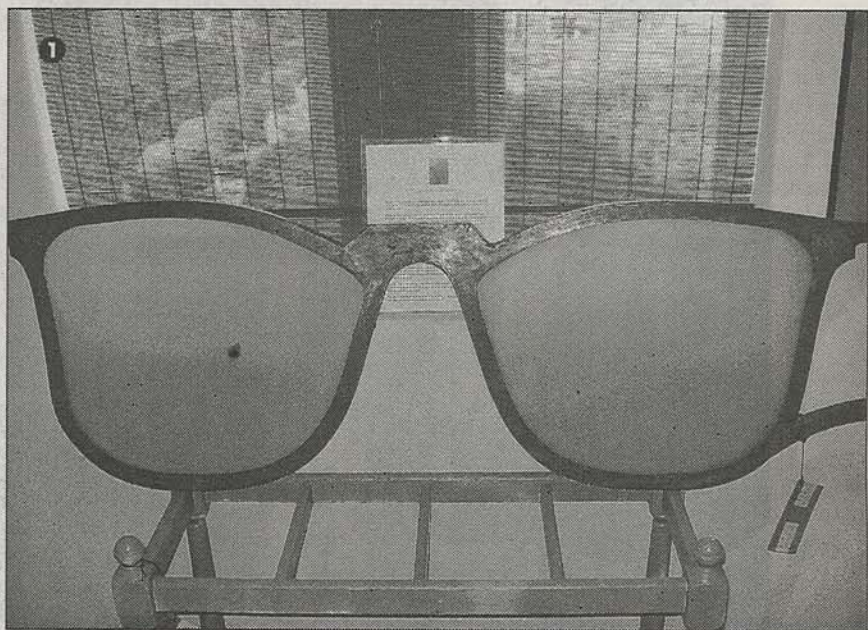
**4.** Taking up most of the second floor, the De Sousa Hughes showroom (220) showed off great new chairs by Ted Boerner, the king of comfort, and also the line we preview here with the 48-inch-long Max bench, in oak with stainless steel stretcher, from Madeline Stuart (\$5,815 as shown, trade only). Handmade in Los Angeles, the new pieces include a dining table with metal inlay, the Pierre.

**5.** Now to the third floor, where the Beckmann MooreYaki Studio (331) always makes for a lively destination, especially now that the tirelessly self-promoting Gioi Tran and his design partner, Vernon Applegate, have launched Applegate Tran Furniture. The line is handcrafted in Vietnam, where Tran has roots and says he someday hopes to retire, and all of the case goods are available in custom dimensions and a broad choice of woods, paints and colors. Here, the Simone side table has a Coronado leather top, curved rail and tapered legs — and a list price of \$4,309. There's also a desk that goes with it.

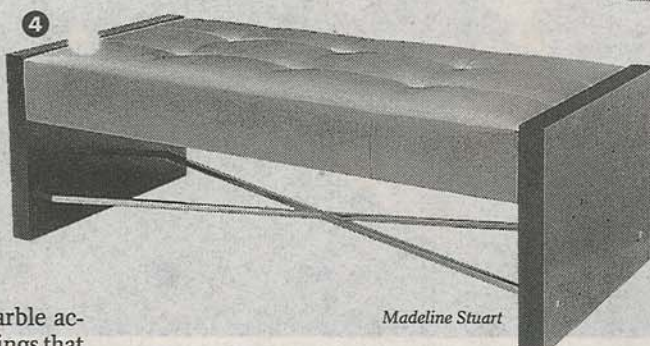
**6.** Of course, by now it's getting dark at the Design Center, but there are plenty of options in lighting. A favorite new lamp shown at Baker (Showplace 410) evokes the modernist Noguchi touch; it has an ivory silk shade and stands on a base of five slender brass rods, perfectly balanced. List price for the Crux table lamp: \$1,372.

### How to see the latest in furnishings

The Design Center's Showplace and Galleria buildings on Henry Adams Street are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, but it's difficult to buy anything without a designer. The center's Design Studio Program does offer free tours, which can be scheduled through [www.sfdesigncenter.com](http://www.sfdesigncenter.com) (at least two weeks' notice recommended), and the designers in the program may offer buying services for consumers who want to make a purchase but don't need to hire decorating assistance.



Hinc



Madeline Stuart



Baker



JEREMY HARRIS



Applegate Tran

Home&Garden

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