

# FEEDBACK

## Letter of the Month

As a longtime *Guitar Player* reader, I eagerly dove into the newly redesigned March '07 issue upon its arrival. I must say, I'm pleased and impressed with the fresh look and feel—particularly the “Supercharge Your Chops” cover story. But, man, what's with all this talk about technique? I feel as though you're trying to convince us that an outstanding guitar sound is the product of skill, practice, passion, and experience. You know, the old “tone comes from the fingers” thing. Damn. I've been operating under the delusion that all it takes to be a great lead player is a \$100 fuzzbox and nice hair. I have to get back to the drawing board fast!

**Jerry Kolosky**  
CHAPPAQUA, NY

Every month, *GP* Managing Editor Kevin Owens will pick the most interesting, inspiring, humorous, snotty, honest, and/or confounding piece of feedback, cheese it as “Letter of the Month,” and send the lucky winner a snazzy *GP* t-shirt. In addition, this month's winner will receive a Cowon iAudio MP3 player!



COWON MP3 PLAYER

### 40 YEARS OF MUSIC MOJO

Your March issue was fantastic. What a blast it was going over the tips from the last 40 years. But what really made my day was recognizing so many of the covers from back issues. I recall having seen nearly all of them. The well-rounded coverage by your writers over the years has helped open the eyes and ears of many players (including my own daughter's) to the endless musical possibilities of the guitar. I also wanted to thank you for *Guitar Player* TV. I've been at this game for 38 years with no formal training, and I had no real grasp of theory until I discovered *GP*. Now, thanks to GPTV, what's on the printed page gels in my head and hands even faster.

**Lynn Hopewell**  
JAMESTOWN, ND

As I read Darrin Fox's review of the Voodoo V-Plex in the March issue, I could not recall the last time I sweated through such concepts as “a hint of hair swirling around each note,” “a taut bottom end,” “milky sustain,” and my wife's favorite: “scintillating, harmonically opulent cleanish textures.” I whispered that last one in her ear the other night, and, after that, it was like I was “bathed in badass

British raunch with a biting three-dimensional response!” Anyhow, thanks for many, many years of education, entertainment, and for speaking the languages of words as well as you speak the languages of music.

**John Swank**  
MYRTLE BEACH, SC

### FIGHT CLUB

I normally don't feel compelled to wander all the way over from my nice, comfy guitar chair, where both myself and my guitar have permanently imprinted some portion of our forms. However, Matt Blackett's February “Fight Club” showcasing an Epiphone Les Paul vs. a Gibson Custom Shop Historic Les Paul prompted me to leave such security, and place myself in cyber-harm's

way. What the heck was the editorial staff thinking when they came up with this comparison? This is comparable to a showdown between Joe Blow and Clapton. Well, duh, of course Joe is gonna come up a wee bit short, and it's a no brainer that the Epi does, too. Why not put the Epi standard against the Gibson LP standard? At least those two instruments are in the same auditorium—albeit with a Rainbow Room size space between them.

**Kevin R.**  
VIA INTERNET

I would like to let you know that your new “Fight Club” feature is an outstanding addition to your magazine. The first installment affected me personally, in that I play an Epiphone Les Paul with BurstBuckers installed after my purchase. I have always felt like I had a lower grade instrument—even though I love my Epi—because it did not have “Gibson” on the headstock. However, after reading your comparison test—especially the part that the Epiphone could achieve 90 percent of the Gibson's tone with a pickup upgrade at roughly 15 percent of the cost—I am now proud to say I play an Epi Les Paul. And I'm somewhat relieved I never

spent the ridiculous amount of money it takes to own a high-end Gibson.

**Jeff Dale**  
VIA INTERNET

### TREY COOL

Thanks for the piece on Trey Alexander, the winner of *Guitar Player's* Guitar Hero 2006 competition. The article does a great job of profiling an amazingly talented individual. What's more, watching him on GPTV really makes his complete story come to life. As I read the article, I found myself thinking, “Wow, this guy is not only hugely talented, but he's a surprisingly nice and humble man.” That was brought home even further when I read the touching story of his father's last words to him. In a time when many of the world's most popular musicians are egomaniacal nitwits, it's refreshing to see a profile of a person who is not only amazingly talented, but genuine, and a terrific role model for a generation of kids who will follow in his footsteps.

**Jamie Turner**  
ATLANTA, GA

### OOPS!

In the March issue's Ten-Amp Extravaganza, we mistakenly referred to the Budda Collector's Edition Twinmaster as a 15-watt amp. It's actually an 18 watter. 🙄

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