

25 February 2008

By: Vlad Constandes, SEO News Editor



Avatar Town and basketball version of my avatar

[Gorillas and Suitcases in Your Yahoo! Messenger](#)

Hairdos and sunglasses optional

Out of the many Yahoo! Messenger minor updates, if they can even be called that, the Avatar Town looked to be one of the coolest. You were given the option to go shopping for your favorite type of apparel and buy it for free. I couldn't have said that it is a giveaway because it is a store after all and not a Salvation Army mission. It managed to raise my interest and hold it for a short while, as I walked in every shop and browsed through their wares but, after choosing something, it was pretty dull. It's not like they had new collections signed by famous designers, suited for a sparkling avatar such as mine. If it ain't got the Armani logo, it's no good (joke). I took advantage of the Star Wars themed gear and kept Yoda as a sidekick while going for the Darth Vader costume and that was about all the interaction I had with the Town. The Messenger Blog now announces an update to the Avatar Mall, "Drop in on the "Pet Pals" store to find just the right animal to hang out with you. The gorilla and iguana are my favorites, but there are plenty of cats and dogs that need a companion too. Want to make sure you look your best out in this virtual world? Head over to the new Ocean Breeze Salon to find just the right hairstyle, bag and bling," Product Manager Sarah Bacon wrote. I guess I could swap Yoda for a gorilla version of myself but there's not much fun in doing that, I can't imagine fighting the rebel forces with an under evolved Chewie at my side. The update is nice and small, but many people often tell me that they wait for mouthing more from the legend that Yahoo! Messenger has grown to be.