



**Figure 17-3.** Terminal devices: (1) Supersport; (2) bicycle TD; (3) guitar pick holder; (4) golf TD.

ered. Although myoelectric technology has refined the appearance and some of the function of prosthetic elbows and hands, the body-powered prosthesis remains the more common choice.<sup>9</sup> Externally powered prostheses are heavier, tend to respond more slowly, are more fragile, and have greater sensitivity to moisture and temperature extremes. The cosmetic glove can be easily stained, punctured, or torn. A high percentage of users who wear externally powered prostheses are children who are likely to subject the prosthesis to many potentially damaging activities. Many users of body-powered prostheses state they can move both the elbow and hand quickly, a factor often important in recreational pursuits. These prostheses are substantially less expensive, increasing the likelihood that an active user could own two prostheses, namely a cosmetically pleasing functional prosthesis for day-to-day use and a rugged one for recreation.

The terminal device (TD) is the part of the prosthesis that substitutes for the anatomic hand. Many TDs are manufactured. When combined with a rapid disconnect wrist unit, the TD can be easily removed, so that the client can replace one TD with another. Someone with

a myoelectric prosthesis can interchange the hand with the more durable, clamp-like device called a greifer. Recreational prostheses almost always incorporate a rapid disconnect wrist. By placing a rubber washer or O-ring on the threaded screw at the base of the TD, the user has better control over incremental rotation of the hand.<sup>10</sup> Specific TDs have been developed for archery, baseball, basketball, bicycling, canoeing, fishing, football, golf, gymnastics, hockey, musical instruments, photography, pool, snow skiing, swimming, weight lifting, and windsurfing (Figure 17-3).

As is the case with those who have lower-limb amputation, people with upper-limb amputation who may prefer not to wear a prosthesis when participating in some activities should wear a limb protector.

## LOW STRESS ACTIVITIES

### Showering

Slippery surfaces, such as wet tile, require a cautious approach from those who have lower-limb amputation. Balancing on one leg while showering increases the risk