

# Commuter spring fashion supplement

## Choose own style is summer fashion trend

By Patricia Fax  
Of The Commuter Staff

Last year's oversize, boxy silhouette gives way to this season's sleek, sexy, body-hugging styles as designers and consumers alike revel in the fashion industry's perennial spring/summer light-heartedness.

"In the summer you can do more fun things, partly because of the weather," says OSU Apparel, Interiors and Merchandising assistant professor Nancy Bryant. "I think when the weather has been bad through the winter months, we want something fun for spring and summer. It helps boost our spirits a bit."

Designers approach their spring collections differently from winter's "investment clothing," and fashion mavens can therefore usually buy more for their fashion dollar.

"Clothes are often less expensive because of the fabrics, the fibers that are used," Bryant explains. "A little cotton denim mini-skirt isn't going to cost as much as a suit skirt in wool gabardine."

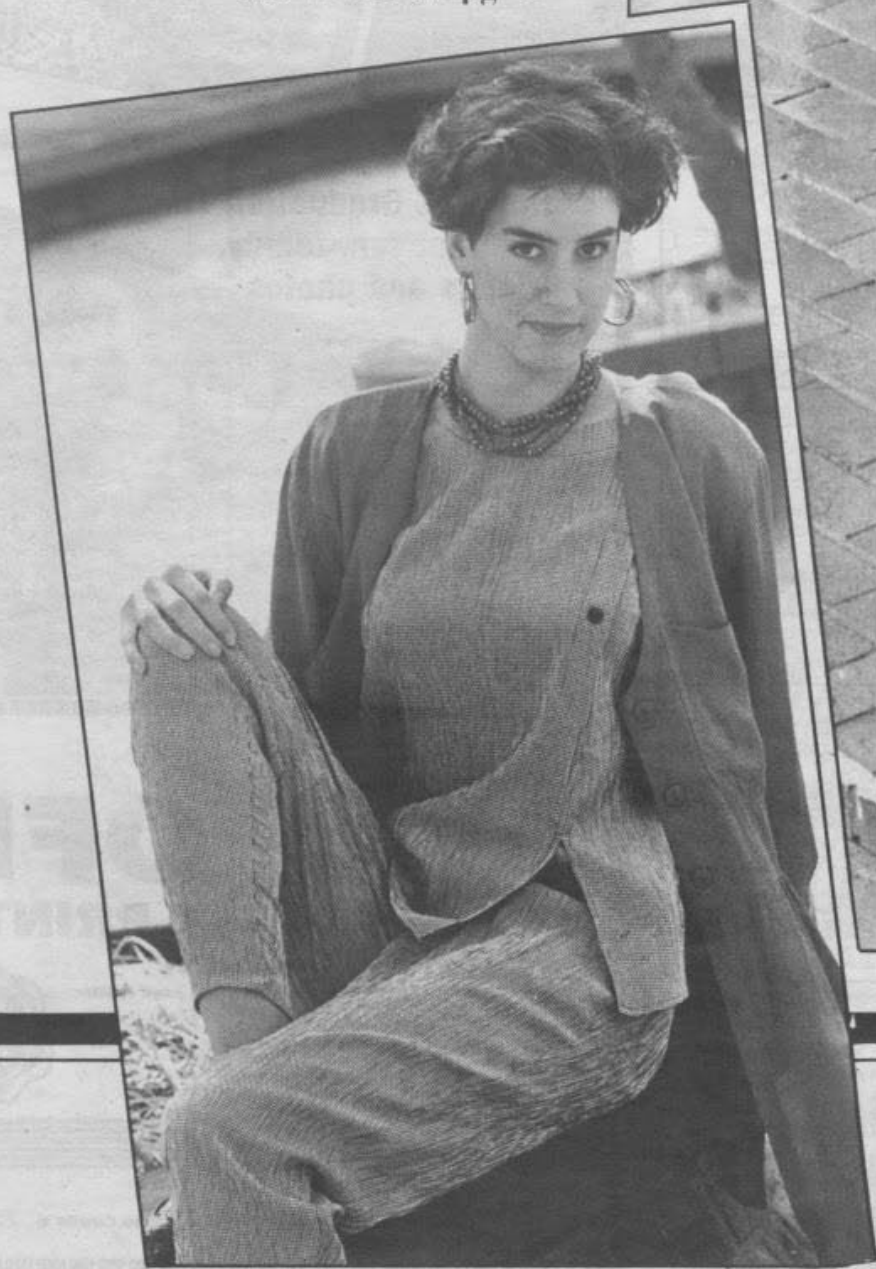
While summer typically produces body-baring casual fashions, this year's sportswear reflects the influence of activewear's stretch fabrics and skin-tight styles. As the fitness craze gains momentum and health clubs become the new fashion-forward forums, the line between performance and casual weekend wear increasingly blurs.

For example, a person wearing Lycra spandex tights can go from being fashionable on the street to the gym or hop on a bike. Stretch fabrics such as Lycra offer the comfort

See trend on pg. 4



Photography by David Grubbs



Peggy Donovan of Corvallis models a Rialto rayon mini hound's tooth checked pants suit with loosely fit jacket from The Attitude. Peggy is a professional model and a graduate of Academy One in Portland.



# LINGERIE: Silky incentive?

By Marco Coleman  
Of The Commuter Staff

Sometimes I think about sex. I am doing it right now as a mater of fact. I am thinking specifically about lingerie.

I could have never invented lingerie. As I see it, lingerie makes a sexually attractive woman more desirable. I guess it adds more incentive or something.

Anyway, I don't need it. All I need to know is, is she there? Is she breathing? And, is she interested in me?

I am glad, however, that somebody more aesthetically inclined than myself took the time to invent those slinky little silken lovelies. I especially want to shake the hand of the person responsible for those fish net stocking things with the seam that goes up the back. All my friends agree that they are definately "instant woody" material.

There is no male fashion equivalent to lingerie. All we get to wear is bikini briefs. In addition to making us look a little too cute, they can also be a little painful if worn for long intervals of time. Some carry suggestive sayings on the crotch that are best left to the imagination.

Sexy feminine clothing is beautiful and sexy masculine clothing is ridiculous, at least to a male point of view. I'll wear anything, though, if a girl says it's sexy. I mean, if a girl named Monique in a white satin teddy wants to know how I look in red leather skivies and a studded doggie collar around my neck then I think I could compromise my sense of fashion dignity.

I guess I should feel guilty about all these chauvenistic thoughts of gorgeous women adorned in heavenly silky attire. After all, we are supposed to love them for their minds right?

Still, I recall some of the pictures we were shown of cerebrums in elementary school and I don't think that they'd do a hot-pink French evening gown justice. Monique would.



Lanna Smith models a black and white Choon leopard print jacket-dress from The Broadway. Smith models for Fair Lady and Gents Productions, Albany.



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# Glasses play key role in smarter, exec look

By J.M. Rubin  
Of The College Press Service

The latest fashion on campus is wearing nonprescription glasses, students and retailers say.

The fake glasses, they add, seem to be most popular for affecting a conservative image and even fooling students into believing they're smarter than they are.

"It began on both coasts with business women about 5 years ago," said Mavis Clark of the National Association of College Stores, an Ohio-based group that represents campus bookstores around the country.

"They felt the glasses gave a more serious mien to their appearance, and students have jumped on the bandwagon."

At Eye Care Vision Center just off the University of Texas-Austin campus, store manager Kathy Richardson said students come in saying, "I'm going for the studious look."

Students at Pierce College in California seem to favor sunglasses with a "doctor or lawyer look," reported Bob Greenbaum, manager of Ace High Sales in Chatsworth.

"I'm not the greatest test-taker in the world," Indiana University junior Leslie Thopson told the Daily Student, the campus paper, "so I bought (nonprescription glasses) to try and psych myself up so I could see myself as smarter, and do better on my tests."

At the University of Southern California, too, students like the "lawyer look" and "Ralph Lauren eyewear, a round tortoiseshell frame," added an office assistant—who asked not to be named—to eye doctor A.D. Kravitz.

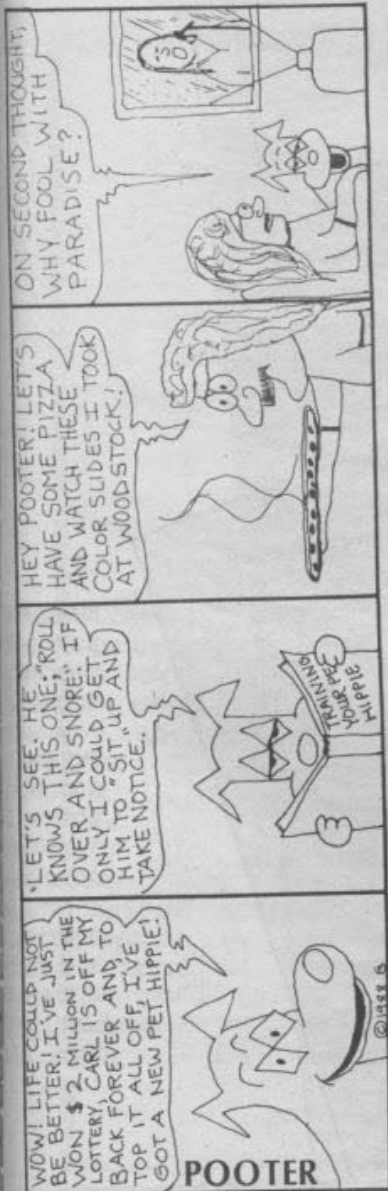
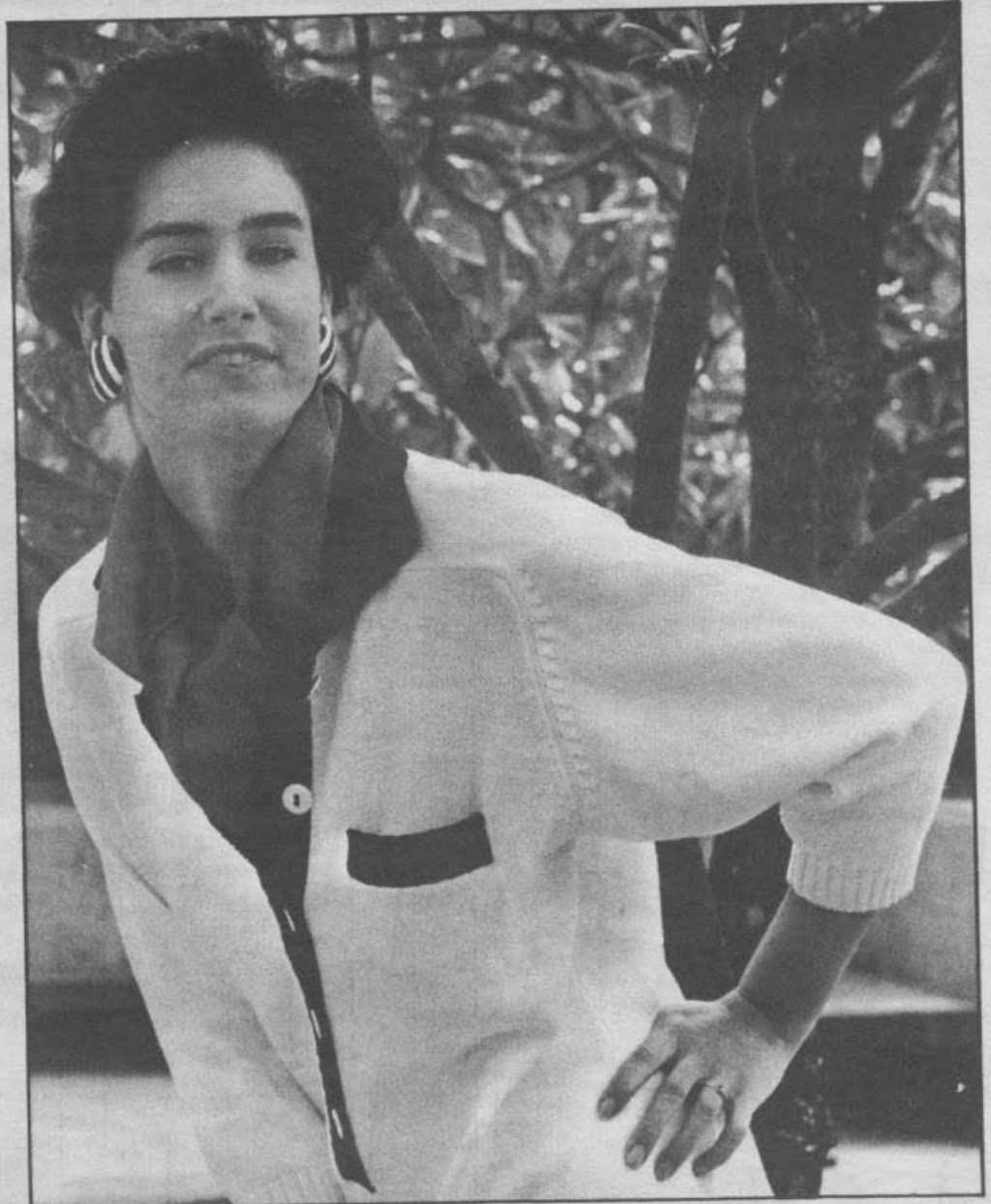
Wire-rim "John Lennon glasses" are popular at Indiana, Bloomington merchants say.

Nationwide, Clark said member stores report students favor frames that are "the bigger the better, or the little ones at the end of your nose."

Fake glasses, moreover, are not cheap.

At Kravitz's Los Angeles office, the anonymous office assistant says, "This is not average eyewear the students are buying. It's conservative, traditional. It costs about \$70 for the frames alone, another \$20 for the lenses."

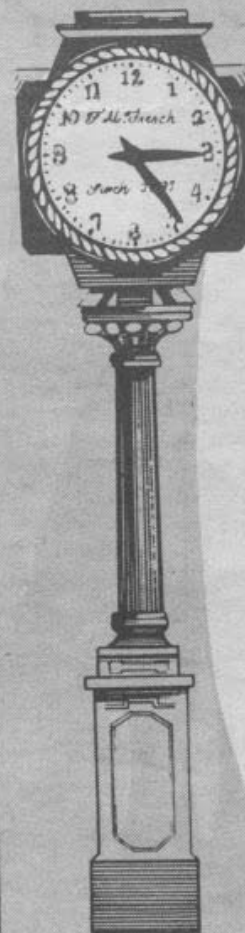
Peggy Donovan sports a two-piece Marisa Christina cotton knit black bordered top with cropped pants from The Attitude.



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# Trend:

Continued from pg. 1

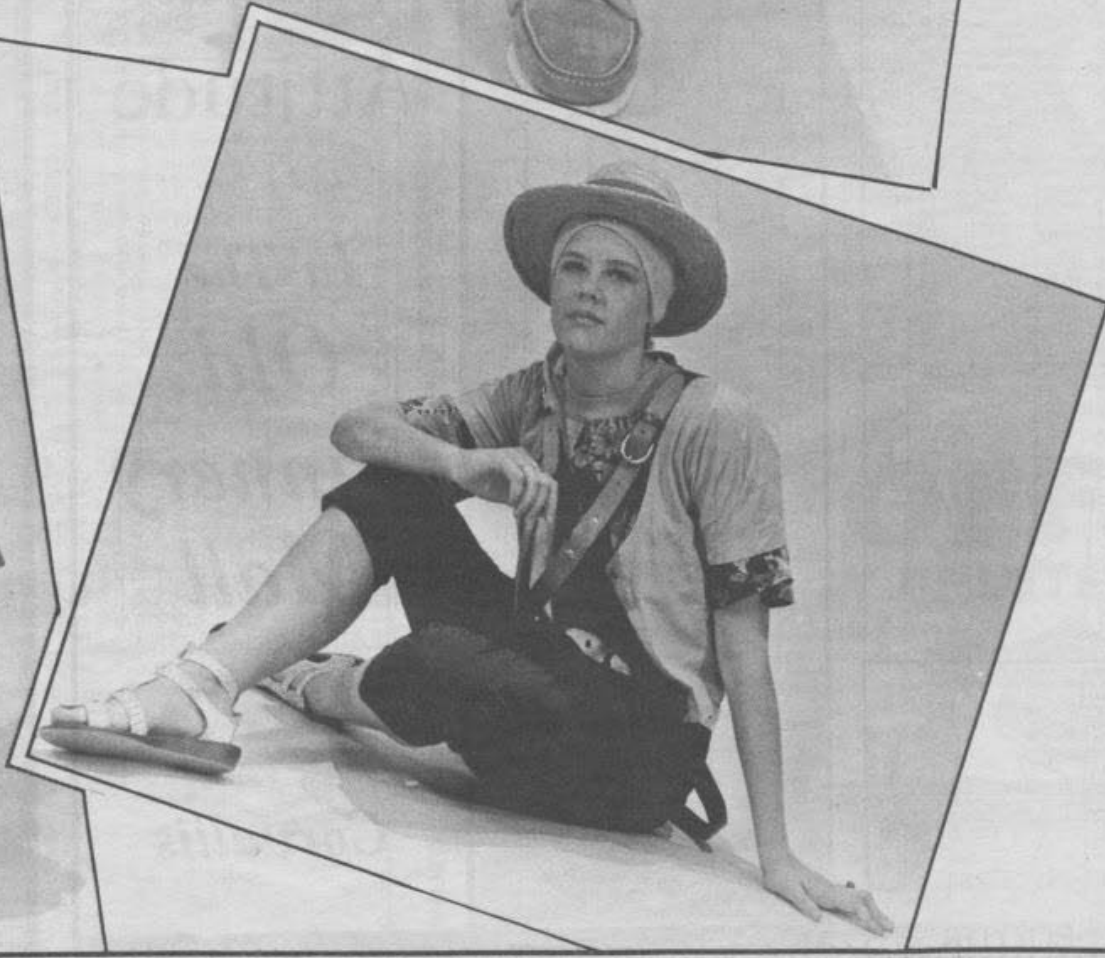
and freedom of oversize clothes along with the silhouette-revealing characteristics of tight fitting garments. Appealing leisure wear requires these advantages as well.

"A lot of women have been working hard on firming up, toning their bodies," reports Bryant. "It's only natural that at some point that showing-off aspect comes through. Ten years ago, I never would have thought we'd be wearing two-piece, bare midriff leotards, but it now makes sense."

Mirroring this, skirt lengths for spring are cool and short. Cindy Garriot, manager of Jean Machine in Corvallis, describes the range of skirt lengths supplied by that store's buyer as between just above the knee to mid-thigh. "Last year we had some mid-calf skirts," she remembers. "We don't have anything that long now."

However, Bryant maintains that classic styles and traditional cuts offer options to the more contemporary, body-conscious styles. "We're seeing less interest in dictating fashion and more interest in saying, 'Well, these are the hemline choices.'"

Carrie Shipp, Albany Emporium's fashion coordinator, sees her customers buying shorts rather than mini-skirts. Unlike last year's knee-length, baggy, elastic-waisted "jam"



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er's shape is a more customary, mid-thigh short, Shipp says.

Garriot, Emporium's Junior Sportswear manager, notes this season's novel and imaginative brighter, truer pastels with names like aqua, and periwinkle. Roepke's apparel features "soda pop" colors, whereas Garriot favors "citrus" hues.

and boxer shorts in "obnoxious, glaring prints" are the rage, applauds Roepke.

miniskirts, Garriot discerns a retro-60's look of the newer clothes. Both retailers stock distinctive print, the tie-dye. However, Garriot relegates it's appeal to "the kid who wasn't around when it came out the

bright stripes in varying widths appear in all sportswear. For softer looks, designers offer a lot of feminine, flowing fabrics in floral prints and French Impressionist watercolor paintings. A hiatus, stiffish and wrinkle-prone Indian cotton return to designers' fabric repertoires this breezy, cotton meshes—ideal for the upcoming moons—revolutionize traditional cool camp and walking shorts.

coordinates such as Esprit's Europrep and they create a flattering "pulled-together, total look" to Shipp. "This summer's is more prep-pine," agrees Roepke. "Last summer was

In addition to summer's annual pant options—beach pants, capris and clamdiggers—the boyfriend pant with it's cinched, belted, "paper-bag" waist provides an easy devil-may-care attitude.

Details on fitted bottoms and larger belts with the sleeker look explain Summer 1988's relatively simple crop tops, according to Garriot. "Last year there were a lot of scallops, scoops, and cut-out sections on tops. What we have in now is pretty plain." Summer sweaters also aren't as plentiful this season as last.

Prominent "Jody Watley" hoop earrings and other bold, geometric accessories balance the lower-body emphasis.

Dominated by the monokini, details also revive the usually-predictable swimwear department. Zippers, ruffles, bows and twists decorate one-piece maillots in an anything-goes palette of prints. Conspicuously absent, the barely-there string bikini loses out to loop-top bandeaux and tonga trunks. Steamlined, midriff-baring racer-backs match up waist-high bottoms with French-cut leg openings. Some longer, spaghetti-strapped tops offer underwires and boning for support and a flirty, Jayne Mansfield style.

Despite all the recent trends this spring and summer, the most powerful statement is a seasonless, unique one that embodies the personality and lifestyle of the wearer. "That's what's really nice about the open trend right now," comments Bryant. "You don't have to do what ever print or media is suggesting. We're in an era right now in our society in which each individual feels free to express themselves, whether its vocally or visually."



Lance Wells models an outfit from Benetton's Downtown Collection that features a blue striped top, navy blue and cream cotton and nylon coat. Above, Caralee Hogatt wears a red and white Choon cotton blend ruffled dress from the Broadway in Albany. Models courtesy of Fair Lady and Gents Productions, Albany.

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# Underground fashions emphasize individual style

By Chuk Bacon  
Of The Commuter Staff

When it comes to first impressions, nothing tells more about a person than the clothes they choose to wear. Some people shop very carefully for just the right ensemble to create their own personal image, while others couldn't care less about impressing the hip group and simply dress for comfort.

If you've got the money and find yourself compelled to keep up with the latest fashion trend, there are countless designers who would be glad to create a look just for you. That would be nice, wouldn't it?

The sad fact is, most of us can't even buy clothes off the rack unless there's a sale, but one solution is to join the ranks of the underground fashion world.

Clothing designers, who are the decision makers in the fashion industry because they have the money for advertising, would have us believe that the look presented to us on television is the look to mimic if we want our appearances to fit in.

But fitting in with social circles who place individuality above merely looking good is inherently more difficult if one is to rely solely upon Madison Avenue for the framework of a proper dress code.

Instead of looking in magazines, one must look in the mirror to find a fashion that best suits the individual. Making a fashion statement is not enough. The statement should be about the person who is wearing the clothing, not a statement about the clothing itself or about society in general.

If I were to take you to a fictional gathering of individualists some of you would quite probably be shocked. We are greeted at the door by a young lady wearing a leather skirt, fishnet stockings, stormtrooper boots and a lacy cotton top.

This unusual combination of "toughness" and "tenderness" is an indication of the young lady's personality. Maybe she wants to be a tough customer at this party

but without being overly macho. A touch of lace can accent leather nicely and allow the wearer to communicate the sweetness beneath her tough outer shell.

Next we encounter a young man in a black trenchcoat who wears a fedora low over his eyes. His shoes are leather wing tips. His pants are dark brown and baggy. He wears gloves with the fingers trimmed to the first knuckle and a white ascot around his neck. The coat is not belted up but rather hangs at his side to reveal a light green shirt with no buttons.

This fellow looks like a one man mystery. He's got all the elements of a private detective or a mafia mastermind. The way the person dresses can say a lot about what they'd like to be or more likely, how they would like others to see them.

In any case this guy doesn't act dangerous or threaten anyone the entire night. It would seem that his choice of attire helps him to take on a role, to play a character that is perhaps stronger than the shy type beneath the dark appearance.

Refreshments are in the next room. As we pass the couch we notice a couple who are involved in the first round of a pillow fight. He has on a baseball cap and a Hawaiian shirt. His legs are covered in an unusual combination of grey sweats underneath ripped and faded blue jeans.

This casual layered look quite compliments his female counterpart who is beating him soundly with a heavy feather pillow. She wears a white pair of overalls, splattered with brightly colored paints over a purple blouse with yellow embroidery on certain seams. His feet are protected by ankle height "elf boots" over red and white striped socks.

These two seem to emanate an honest love of fun and complete disregard for fashion as a symbol of status, much like the cowboy we notice sitting in one of the bean bags. We'll call him Slim.

Slim is dressed pretty much like we'd expect, with the

shiny leather cowboy boots, blue jeans and T-shirt, complete with a wide brimmed cowboy hat. The fashion touch that links Slim with the rest of the underground fashioners is his use of colorful neckerchiefs tied around one of his legs.

Cowboys still call them bandanas. One of his buddies might choose to tie one around his hat or wear one as a tie, which is its intended use.

Some of our fictitious party goers sport their favorite rock band's concert T-shirt as their only clue to what kind of an individual they are and most of them borrow shirts from each other.

Creating a fashion that is all your own can be a fun and rewarding process. Shop at garage sales, visit the Goodwill, the Salvation Army, explore an old attic and when an item of clothing catches your eye, buy it. The next sale you go to, look for items that will go together with some of the other items you might already have.

You'll find that having something to wear depends a lot upon how well the items you collect can be mixed and matched.

Remember the clothes are a reflection of you. The best way to choose is to be honest with yourself and pick the items that catch your eye, not the items that you think others would approve of. Be yourself and dress like you.

Perhaps you'll look in the mirror one day and see yourself for the first time, wearing your own personal underground fashion.

Creating a wardrobe that says something about yourself is a soul searching process, but it does not have to be unorganized. What you wear should be determined by a gut reaction, a feeling that says, "This garment is me." Take a stand on your own personal tastes and go with the flow. It might take a few tries to get it right but after some trial and error you should recognize a pattern in the reasons why you choose or discard an item.

Continued on pg. 7

## Congratulations

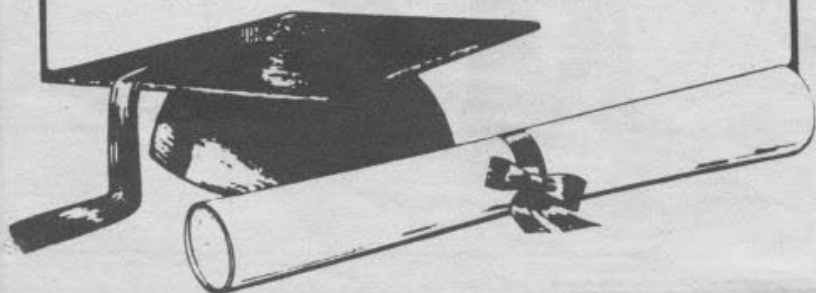
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# Underground fashions

Continued from pg. 6

and social climate are two factors that serve only to tailor your underground style to fit the situation. If it's cold, dress warm. If you're going to a party, dress differently than if you're going to the theater or a hockey game. The guidelines for the way you dress should remain the same in that at least one element of your individuality, a trademark so to speak, should be worn.

Here's a simple method. Start with underwear. After all, what goes closest to your birthday suit will set your mood until you go to sleep at the end of the day. Loose fitting undergarments will give you a different perspective on the day than perhaps a skin-tight brief would.

Try different kinds of pants. Maybe you look best to yourself in baggies or blue jeans, leather or spandex. Length is important when considering what type of footwear you'll want to wear.

What about boots as opposed to sneakers? Boots come in various heights and colors. If the boots are tall, you might want to tuck the pants into the top. If sneakers are more your speed, choose pants that reflect the same casual style unless you're feeling outrageous. If it's how you feel, go ahead and wear black slacks with hightops. The point is, don't be afraid to break the rules. That's how fashion is born.

Let's say you've got the right underwear, the perfect footwear and the pants (or skirt) that best suits your character. We all play roles in everyday situations, usually directed by somebody else's script-writer.

Wouldn't it be nice to have a director build a scene around you? "Don't change a thing!" the fictitious director spouts through a megaphone, "We can work with that! It's original!"

Once you search yourself and come to some kind of a conclusion about what makes you tick, the process of manifesting your character with clothing will be more academic than by numbers.

What really is your favorite color? Do you identify with a certain stereotype such as a hunter on safari, or Charlie Chaplin? Do you identify with Chinese culture, or are you a gunfighter at heart?

There are a lot of ideas to work with and there's nothing wrong with mixing styles. The main thing is to be as consistent with your words and actions as you are with your clothing. Zero in on who you are, what fuels your character, and let your clothing give hints about the person you are.

Top clothing might consist of a simple shirt or many layers. A shirt that expresses your favorite color, accented with cufflinks or a pocket watch might be enough. A long coat or a short jacket might set off the color of the shirt and add the finishing touch to the mood of your wardrobe.

Other things to think about include accessories. Sometimes just the right hat can make a world of difference in the final product. Again, try on several and see for yourself whether they compliment your style. Jewelry, such as rings, bracelets or necklaces can also be considered.

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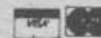
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# LBCC GRAPHICS

This is dedicated to 1988  
graduating students.  
Thanks, guys!, and good luck.

As for the design world,  
you've been given ....

fair warning



# For hair natural is in, bleached is out

By Matt Rasmussen  
Of The Commuter Staff

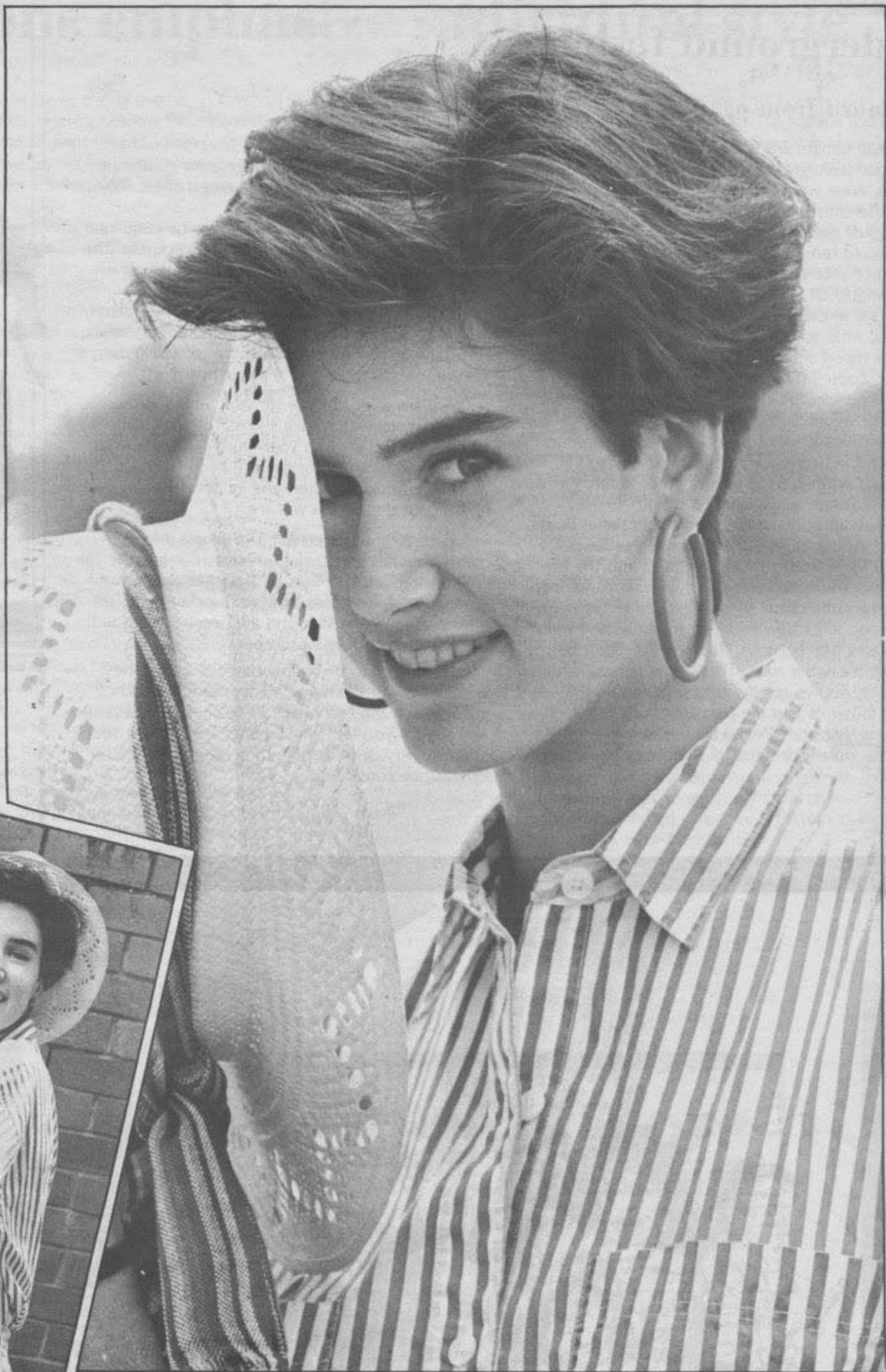
Nothing can put the finishing touch on your new summer wardrobe like the perfect hairstyle. Just as true, nothing can be as detrimental to fashion as the wrong hairstyle.

Natural seems to be the hair fashion word for the summer of 88. Natural blondes, earthy browns, russet reds and basic black, all with a hint of brown undertones.

Highlighting your natural color, or delicate frosting can add a new dimension to your hairstyle and indeed your fashion outlook. Conversely, too much highlight can set your hair at odds with your clothes. The platinum blonde and the blue/black of the daring daze, ney, the cultural shock days are out. Just like Madonna—doos and Jam shorts.

In line with this summer's active, yet simply comfortable clothing trends, hairstyles are going back to basics. Simply put, hair of the same color you were born with—if you can remember what color that was!

As for style, this summer prescribes no cut and dry lengths. Wear it the way it feels best on you. If you're active, perhaps shorter style body wave that will allow ease of movement, without tangles and hassles. Short that is, but not too short, along with the platinum and fiery red colors—out went the "scalped" look. For those who like their hair longer, flowers are in again. Just a simple bloom can add the perfect finishing touch.



Peggy Donovan shows off a John Henry cotton blue and white pull-on shorts and shirt from The Attitude.



The Commuter wishes to thank the advertisers for their cooperation and support of this fashion issue.