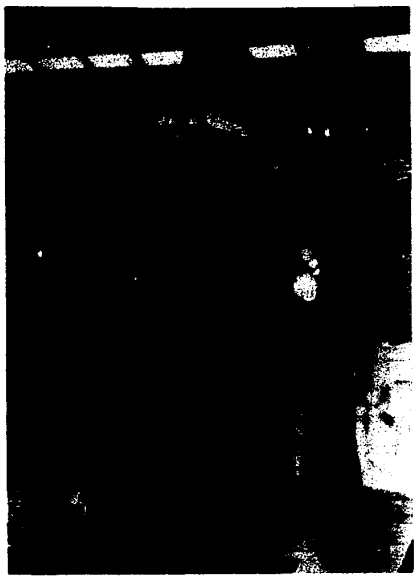

# Fashion shows turn to fantasy

By SHIRLEE IDEN

Stay low key and use the soft sell.

This seems to be the philosophy of Northland Center in Southfield recently. The center has begun a program of presenting four elaborate fashion extravaganzas each year for patrons.

"There is nothing like it outside of New York City," said Jane Farnero of Northland Center. "Our show has no commercials in it , doesn't mention the stores or even the center."

The center's "Spring is a Fantasy" show was recently shown on film to members of the Detroit Fashion Group at the Michigan Inn.

Linda Hack and Barbara McIntosh, the principals of Affiliated Models, Inc., produce the elaborate fashion presentations which they describe as "nearly akin to a musical comedy."

No commentator stand at the side to describe each outfit. The models dance in, stride in and move rapidly through intricate and carefully rehearsed routines. Music is a part of every show.

Fashions in the shows are put together from each of the stores in the center as an indication of what a shopper can put together herself if she is innovative and aware.

"Spring is a fantasty" featured super sleek clothes from sports wear to formal wear.

Summer's look of bare shoulders, covered heads and hide 'n peek sundresses rated high on fashion's list.

"The news is selection," Mrs. Hack said. "Optionsand alternatives are what's important."

A new alternative is the look of white anklets worn with a flower pinned on. Or a flower pinned on almost anywhere.

"Romantic Innocence," was another phrase used to describe what is trendy this summer of '77.

To lend to that innocence colors should be paler than pale or even pristine white.

Ms. Fornero said shoppers are delighted with the shows which mix music and entertainment into what in the past may have been mundane hard-selling fashion talk.

She said the next Northland Center fashion extravaganza is planned for Sunday, Aug. 14.

The Fashion Group is a professional organization of women who deal with the fashion industry in their work.

Fashion shows which entertain as well as sell are crowd pleasers and fashion boosters. Scenes from Spring is a Fantasy, shown at Northland Center, include (top left) a long black tiered skirt worn with dainty flowered top that bares the shoulders. A fashionable duo (above) prove spring also means romance, and (at right) a handkerchief print dress is topped with matching turban, all worn by a smiling model who bared her feet while covering her head.

## a la mode

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# Where It's At

By JUDY SOLOMON

### A star is born

You have to see it to believe it! It looks like a purse; it's only 5½ inches high and 10 inches across and it's bound to be the star of Meadowbrook and Pine Knob this summer. This PVC Pic-Nic-Pac for four persons actually contains 34 pieces, including dinner plates, salad bowls, side dishes, knives, forks, spoons, cups, a serving platter, two serving dishes, salt and pepper shakers plus a lid that becomes a candle holder. Available in canary yellow or sand beige, the Pic-Nic-Pac is priced at $16.95. A word to the wise: when you take it apart the first time, be sure to observe what fits where so you can put it back together again.
Mondello Interiors, 870 Bowers, Birmingham, 642-7157.

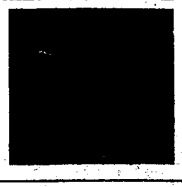
### Leather or not

Baggit in the Travelers Tower is a terrific store to know about. You'll find an enormous selection of ladies' handbags by such designers as Anne Klein, Morris Moskowitz, Bonnie Cashin, Susan Gail, Coach, Trotting and Varon. The shop also carries wallets, travel accessories, briefcases, luggage, adult games, canvas totes, club and tennis bags for both men and women. Best of all, any item in the store that is priced over $10 is discounted 20 per cent.
Baggit, Travelers Tower Bldg., 2655 Evergreen Road, Southfield, 356-1800.

### Sitting Pretty

Nowdays many powder rooms and master baths sport pretty wallpapers and curtains, fancy sinks, countertops and hardware. But everybody ignores the poor old toilet and it doesn't seem fair. Well, here's your chance to do something about it. The Linen Closet sells unique, customized toilet seats that feature a laminated insert made from an 18-inch square piece of your wallpaper or curtain fabric. The painted wood frame is available in your choice of 24 decorator colors. The price is $30 for a standard size seat, $34 for an elongated seat and the delivery time is four weeks.
Linen Closet, Bloomfield Plaza, 6622 Telegraph at Maple, Birmingham, 626-7760.

### For the birds



The Grainery has a complete line of feed and pet supplies for just about every kind of animal you can think of including seed, cedar bedding and white pine wood shavings for guinea pigs; whole corn, cracked corn and pellets for ducks; starter for baby turkeys, ducks and chicks; bird seed and feed; soybean meal, bulk molasses, bran mash, bales of hay and straw plus medicines for horses. The store also sells and delivers sand, play sand, gravel, limestone, decorative stones, top soil and 60-40 (for making concrete).The Grainery, 26325 Twelve Mile, Southfield, 355-5630.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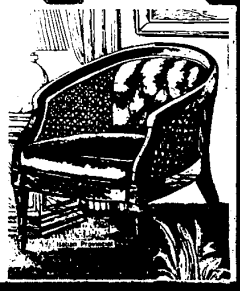

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