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## Robin Bairstow: A queen who sells fashion

Robin Bairstow may be the only beauty queen who can't decide if winning was what she wanted. She had plans to go to school to learn fashion coordinating, merchandising and buying. But since the 19-year-old won the Miss Michigan World title for 1977-78, she has to delay her plans until next July.

"I was planning on going to Ray-Vogue School in Chicago. But I can't leave Michigan until the next queen is selected," Ms. Bairstow said.

So instead of furthering her education in school, the recent Groves High School graduate is going to get her own apartment and continue learning fashion by working as a saleswoman in the Young Circle department of Saks Fifth Avenue in Somerset Mall, Troy.

The West Bloomfield resident said she loves working with clothes. "It's fun putting blouses with different outfits. I especially love when someone makes a \$500 purchase and I run around coordinating all the outfits."

Although she often sells to people older than she, she is a candid saleswoman, telling them whether or not an outfit looks good.

"After all," she said, "that's what I'm here for."

Selecting clothes for customers has helped the long-haired brunette define her own fashion thoughts. A beauty who stands five feet, eight and a half inches tall, she likes very tailored styles.

"I look better in simple things," she said.

Robin Bairstow's play outfit has blue jeans under the leg-warmers and over the boots, as well as a cuddly parka and scarf. (Photos by Doug Bauman)

She takes care of herself by exercising every night. She said she doesn't have to watch her diet much because her favorite thing in the whole world is dancing—five hours of it at a time.

"That keeps me skinny," Ms. Bairstow added. She also water skis, snow skis and plays tennis.

A clothes-horse for as long as she remembers, she keeps up with fashion and with body and skin care by reading a variety of books and magazines including Woman's Wear Daily and Seventeen.

Becoming Miss Michigan World has added a new dimension to Ms. Bairstow's life. Not only is she having to postpone her formal education, she is going to have to support herself for the time.

"My parents, Paul and Dottie, are moving to Chicago. Since I can't leave Michigan, I'm going to have to find an apartment and buy my own clothes. Until now, my parents have paid for necessities such as underwear. But now I'll have to pay for everything."

She admits to being apprehensive about being on her own. She said she's going to have to learn to curb her buying habits.

"I used to buy whatever I liked. But now I'm trying to learn to buy pants to match a lot of sweaters. I'll be on a stricter budget. It's going to be hard to learn," she admitted.

Recently Ms. Bairstow had a chance to select a wardrobe for, hypothetically, a woman her age who would be going to school and working in the fall. The clothes were all chosen from Young Circle, which offers sophisticated-looking clothes in junior sizes.

She selected five outfits that emphasize the soft, sexy, layered look for 1978. First she chose three basic colors around which she built the wardrobe. These are burgundy, gray and beige. After selecting one skirt with the basic colors, she proceeded

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