

Thursday, December 6, 1979

(P)E

What's better than perfect?

TV's Robbie Timmons focuses on glamour



Robbie began the day with predictable, off-the-rack separates that she described as "nice but boring."



Her first stop was with Hattie where the transformation began with a new look in clothing and the addition of fun, imaginative accessories.



Story: RUSTLE SHAND

Bless us, every one! How does one continue to look glamorous, rested, elegant and happy under the constant glare of back-to-back holiday happenings? That's the test of the annual ritual that attends holiday wardrobe planning.

But beware, the desire to be a glamour-girl for holiday happenings and actually pulling the whole thing off are two different things. To prove that it can be done, we asked reporter/anchorwoman Robbie Timmons to take part in a holiday-oriented makeover designed to turn believable, girl-next-door good looks into superstar glamour.

Although Ms. Timmons is in the spotlight every weekday evening on the Channel 2 news, like most business women, she has little time to devote to her personal care. Because her busy schedule keeps her up every night until 3 a.m., she said she favors basic suits and wash-and-wear hair styles. Then, she said, she dabs on a bit of makeup when she has time.

"I am bored with the clothes I have now," she said one morning last week when we met to discuss the project in Birmingham. She had started the day wearing a brown off-the-rack separates suit, a polyester print blouse and sensible brown walking shoes.

"I love to shop but I just don't have the time," she apologized. "I have a basic uniform that I wear each day that consists of a suit or jacket and skirt, and a multitude of blouses. For special-occasion dressing I have a basic black dress."

"Most people think my life is all glamour, but it's not," she continued. "To me, glamour is the movie star, Lana Turner type. People think we have staff makeup artists and hair stylists at our beck and call, but we don't. We do everything ourselves."

STEP ONE in her glamour-girl makeover took place at Hattie's Inc. in Birmingham's 555 Building. "You don't have far to go," said Hattie during the pleasant task of giving the television celebrity a festive holiday

look. Her reaction when asked to take part in the project was typical of those the pretty celebrity received all day long. "She's perfect the way she is," several said.

Indeed, we had to agree that the conservative business woman's casual, clean look was an attractive jumping off point for the project.

"She's wholesome and pure-looking, which is all a part of the pure, fresh look, the sweet look for spring," said Hattie.

However, the compliments weren't enough to deter Ms. Timmons' adventure in glamour dressing. "Everybody may like my style," she said, "but the same old practical approach gets very boring."

"Let's turn her into a femme fatale," said Hattie when she brought out an array of beautiful clothes for consideration. The two women quickly narrowed the selection to a \$750 black silk pleated, multiple-length hemmed dress by Basile, which she quickly topped with a \$950 sheer black jacket sparkling with blue, fuchsia, violet and black paillettes.

"The shoes, of course, must be Maud Frizon,"

said Hattie, holding up a pair of the designer's \$210 black suede sling pumps.

Black sheer stockings, blue enameled feather earrings and a bright blue feather for the hair completed the ensemble along with a butter-soft black suede evening shoulder bag.

Step two in the transformation took place at Yiannis, the Southfield-based "hairdresser to the stars." Just back from a week with his friend and client, Lana Turner, Yiannis Karamilis first decided Ms. Timmons needed golden highlights around her face. He also brushed and waved her hair back and away from her face to reveal a far more beautiful Robbie Timmons.

"I feel so pampered," she said as Yiannis began to work his magic on her hair. "She's a super-type star, in the category of Clark Gable and Elizabeth Taylor," she commented of Lana Turner while she relaxed under



Watching her on the newscast that night it was obvious that Robbie felt on top of the world. She called the day a "completely glamorous experience."

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During a visit with Yiannis Karamilis, Robbie learned about ways to highlight her hair. She also learned about superstars like Lana Turner, who asks Yiannis' advice on beauty.



Photos by Linda Solomon

Then it was Hanan's turn to show Robbie some tricks that will turn her girl-next-door good looks into superstar glamour. Later that day Robbie attracted an admiring audience of appreciative co-workers at Channel 2.