



Bill Blass (left) checks spring out in pink. Jacketed dress, \$2,400. Saks Fifth Avenue. Right, Don Kline's black and white cotton check bubble dress, \$275. Bonwit Teller. Somerset Mall. Troy. His wool and silk single-breasted suit is by Redaelli of Italy, \$700. The Broadway, Birmingham.



CAMILLE McCOY/staff photographer

# It's a spring younger than ever

By Rustie Shand  
special writer

**S**PRING IS one of the major rewards of living in Michigan. And it always happens suddenly.

The robins come. Then, almost overnight, we are blanketed and bowered in green. Daffodils and tulips push through sun-warmed soil. Pussywillows, forsythia, lilacs and the promise of apple blossoms greet our senses.

We can't stand our winter clothes for even one more day and the stores all know that. They tease us ever so brilliantly with colorful thoughts of what's ahead and the promise of a new lease on life. We can choose blooming prints, nautical-touched whites, crisp black and white sparkled with daffodil or red tulip or we can opt for soft, warm pastels.

We're more than ready to put the heavy wools away (in fact, we'd throw them away, if we weren't so practical) and once again we're faced with answering the eternal question. What's in fashion for spring? What should I buy — aside from a new pair of black patent leathers — that will make me look and feel absolutely wonderful?

**THE ANSWER, OF COURSE,** depends on life and work style. But one thing is for sure — you will want to approach your buying in a younger-

than-springtime mood. Short, leggy, shaped looks highlight the season for men and women as they await fair weather with relaxed aplomb.

Garden flower prints bloom on white backgrounds, classic shapes are newly nipped at the waist, rounded at the hips and narrowed at the knee. Puff skirts and strapless bodices beckon for evening while soft, narrowed silks love afternoon and dinner dates.

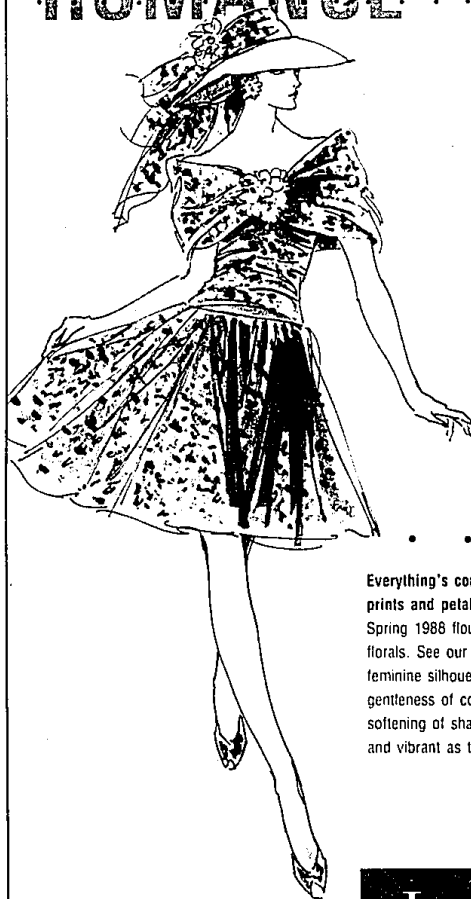
We predicted last fall that pants would return strongly for spring. Nothing terribly brilliant about that forecast. Pants surface whenever hemlines rise to mid-thigh. This season's pants offer many options — from skorts (full shorts that look like skirts), to pants that skim the knee (remember city shorts?), cover the knee, or drop to above the ankle and below. Many rise to new highs at the waist and end awash just above the ankle.

And, lest you look at all this frivolity and moan: "But there's nothing to WEAR," fashion continues to have its serious moments, producing wearable business clothes and new-on-the-scene-again coat dresses.

Our fashion crew spent three days within the tropical confines of the University of Michigan's Matthaei Botanical Gardens where the promise of spring was everywhere.

Now then stroll with us in a celebration of the Rights of Spring.

## ROMANCE *returns.*



Everything's coming up in flowery prints and petal-soft shapes. Spring 1988 flourishes with springlike florals. See our collection of feminine silhouettes designed with a gentleness of coloring, a softening of shape. As pretty and vibrant as the season.

Jacobson's

