

The big picture *from page 2*

great outdoors. The season's fashion frontrunner puts an androgynous strain on women's wear.

With Ralph Lauren leading the way . . . trousers, coat dresses and pant suits are complete with cutted striped shirts or starched whites, silk ties, watch chains, suspenders and an exciting new focus on vests.

Classic men's haberdasheries reflect fabrics of flannel, gabar-

dine, herringbone, traditional tartans, sporty tweeds, houndstooth and glen plaid. Footwear also reflects the historical styling with leather Oxfords and loafers.

■ WILD WILD WESTERNS

From country roads to city streets, the urban cowgirl will be riding high in the saddle. Could it be the nation's discov-

ery of country music or the Southern influence of our presidential candidates?

For whatever reason, feisty fillies will be trotting through the fashion front, donning fringed suede, leather jodhpurs, Navaho prints, chambray shirts and everything denim. Genuine cowboy boots, belts and hats add to that rugged Western flair.

■ JUNGLE ADVENTURES

No recent sightings of the Michigan panther? Keep your eyes open: the two-legged variety will be spotted this autumn.

Animal attraction inspires leopard, zebra and tiger prints to run wild for fall. From collars and cuffs to shoes, belts and handbags, animal prints will be roaming and roaring across urban cities and towns.

■ LONG AND SHORT

With interest rates falling, so are skirt hemlines. The fashion "must have" this fall is the long-slim-fit skirt worn with blocky midheel (platform) shoes. But like in an election

■ An exciting season of elegant classics, sparked with touches of "drop dead" glamour . . . a season of lasting appeal.

Lord & Taylor

year, women have a right to vote on their favorite skirt length.

Another option when skirting the headline debate, pants hedge the issue in the form of trousers, British suitings, narrow cuffed pants, slim leggings and, yes, even wide leg varieties.

■ LEATHER ACTION

Leather . . . racy, daring and dangerous. Black leather becomes a wardrobe "must have" for fall. Long leather skirts and leather jeans were spotted prowling all the Paris catwalks.

For the cool season ahead, cover up with an easy three-quarter-length leather swing coat, a long leather or suede

maxi-coat or a short fitted motorcycle or bomber jacket. Leather fantasy includes leather chaps over jeans or leggings.

■ GLAMOUR AND ROMANCE

The sultry '30s allure of Marlene Dietrich and Carole Lombard glamorizes the virile menswear influence this fall.

Long jackets curved at the waist, Grace Kelly sweater sets, evening tuxedo dressing, classic French berets and '40s platform shoes accessorize the glamorous '30s mood.

For gala affairs, long column gowns and beaded dresses make dramatic entrances.

■ CLASSIC RED

Contrasting the neutral conservative menswear palette (taupe, beige, pewter, khaki, moire and black), add zest to your fall and winter wardrobe with bright, clear, radiant red.

Whether you opt to play the roll of a Wall Street executive or the sultry Marlene Dietrich, be sure to explore the adventure, glamour and drama awaiting you this season.



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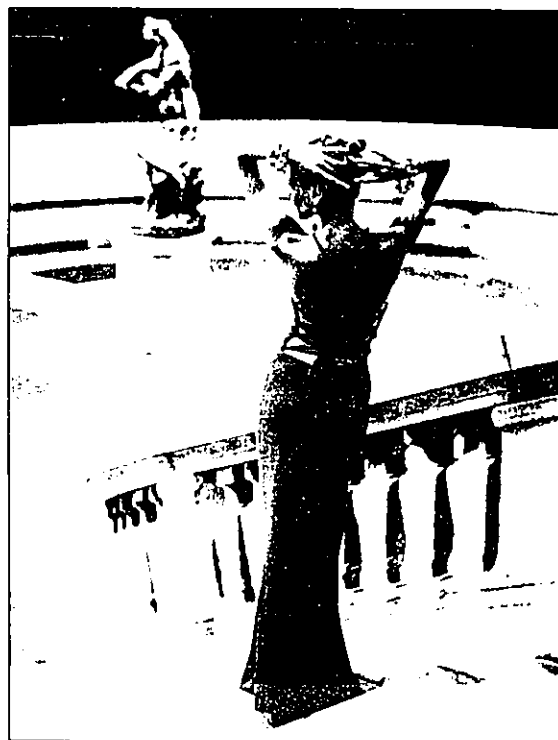
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Back to the Future: A fall silhouette . . . long and lean. Column of red wool crepe, designed by Louis Dell'Olio for Anne Klein, seductively laces up her back, making the exit as exciting as the entrance (\$965). In the Designer Collection at Saks Fifth Avenue, The Somerset Collection, Troy, and Fairlane Town Center, Dearborn.