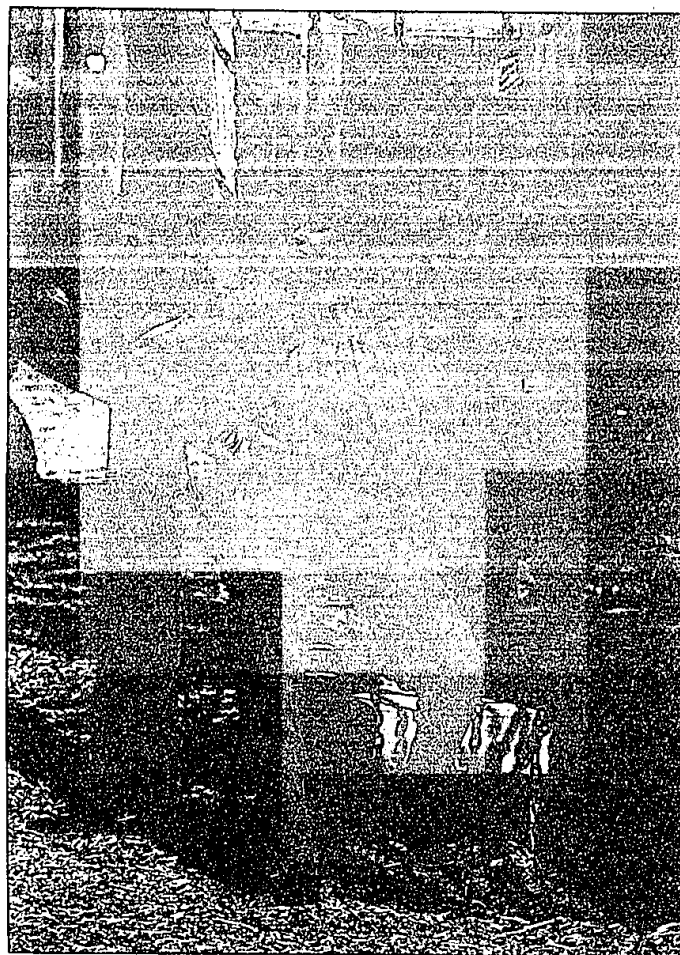


# Now's the time to get the message



Selly Garak's newest project is saving elm trees in Birmingham. She wears black leather pants by Margaret Godfrey for Bagatelle, black, taupe and cranberry tri-color wool jacket and cowl neck sweater by I.S. Diffusion, Sonni's felt taupe hat, and black leather, gold buckled belt from the Leather Shop. Clothes are from Alvin's Birmingham store.



Former Miss Michigan United Carlene Lindsay of Detroit is now a model and actress. She wears rust corduroy trousers, \$27, and check cardigan sweater vest, \$22.50, all from Winkelman's.



Cass Technical High School student Carol Glet of Detroit will warm up the gray days of winter this year wearing the 'Wacs' color-appliqued bright coat in blue and black, \$500, at Lord & Taylor.



Antonette Griffin is a dental student at Oakland Community College, who says she likes the fresh crisp appearance of this transitional cotton plaid dress: \$40, from Montgomery Ward.



Connie Kinaky of Bloomfield Hills (left) wears two-piece indigo doeskin suede daytime dressing, \$880, striped silk shell, \$95, Stephen Dwek necklace, \$750, bracelet, \$350, and ear bangles, \$153. Annette Stone of Birmingham wears slate doeskin suede blazer, \$400,

camel doeskin suede bateau top, \$305, slate doeskin suede trouser, \$340, Stephen Dwek emerald ear bangles, \$125, and a slate leather hat, \$45. All from Madeline's of Bloomfield Plaza.



Patty Letzer of Bloomfield Hills is a busy mother of seven daughters, whose passion is sports. She wears black cotton skirt, \$60, cotton shirt in blue, \$42, 3/4-length red coat and plaid cuff leggings, \$48. All from Leotards, Etc.



Marilyn Peller is marketing director at Lakeville Mall. She wears a bright blue swing coat with cascade collar, \$230, Thierry Mugler blouse, \$310, black wool pant by Andrew Fezza, \$250. All from Claire Pearens.

IF THIS season has a message to impart it has to be "Man, oh man!" Women will dress happily in beautifully tailored, fabulous fabric designs that until now have been strictly interpreted in menswear.

But, no more!

The incredible tweed jackets, satin fabrics as in smoking jackets, and wonderful knits as in sweaters that have been tempting, but forbidden, to women are now openly being copied, bringing with them a breezy, at ease elegance women have until now covered from a distance.

But make no mistake about it, the result of the menswear influence is anything but under. The looks are strictly feminine. Silhouettes may take their cue from menswear, but they are cut soft, clean and lean for women. Many designers are using color to draw the line between traditional menswear and the new feminization of the menswear look.

Look for coats that are big enough for two, and long, long, long. Complement oversize jackets with layered, body-hugging, long torso tops, frequently in cashmere, and pencil slim skirts or hip pleat-

ed and cuffed trousers. Watch for color, pink, purple and yellow, to add punch to these classic clothes.

As you can tell from merchandise now appearing in your favorite stores, the primary look is toward longer skirts, although there will be many options, with lengths descending from short short to ankle length for day and evening.

Among the fabulous silhouettes for fall '84:

- Long, straight and tubular as in a long column coat or a classic lean cardigan sweater and knit skirt.
- Long and clingy as in a sexy knit dress.
- Long and loose as in wearing an away-from-the-body jacket or coat. This is being touted as the most comfortable way to dress in years.
- Bony over lean and long as in dressing in toppers (coats and jackets) over slim skirts.

Looking at what's ahead for autumn's fresh, cool breezes we are already hearing, "Boy, oh boy!"

Photos by Gary Caskey, David Frank