

A special thank-you

EACH SEASON, when we discuss the trends, colors, ideas and messages that will be telling us how to invest our fashion dollars wisely, a large part of the conversation centers on how we will showcase the clothes that will be selected to illustrate our choices of what's best in store for the coming season.

This year, we had the good fortune to meet developer David Johnson of Victor International, a talented man whose far-seeing corporation is dedicated to preserving what is best about the properties entrusted to their care for development.

Some fashion publications travel great distances to locate the proper backdrops for their models and photography. Thanks to David Johnson and Victor International, the Eccentric was right at home within minutes of downtown Birmingham, which is, after all, where a local newspaper ought to be.

environments against which to shoot our pictures. The first, Heron Bay, which is featured in the cover photograph is Victor International's newest project, a virgin stand of land now undergoing development. It will offer residents vistas over Upper Long Lake and a wetlands preserve that has no superior for natural beauty. We did see several varieties of herons and cute little fox or two while we toured Heron Bay.

For interior shots, we chose another Victor International project, Echo Park, Bloomfield Hills. Once the site of an elegant estate and later a school, it is now an exclusive residential community where, again, Victor International has demonstrated its dedication to the preservation of the outstanding natural landscape.

At Echo Park, we met a talented builder, Art Leo, who opened the 7,500-square-foot manor home that he and partner, Tom Martin of Woodbridge Homes of Farmington Hills, are offering for sale.

The beauty of the unfurnished interior of this \$850,000 house offered the perfect backdrop for this year's outstanding fashions, which are seen throughout the special section.

WE WOULD also like to thank the numerous workmen, who paused in the midst of their work to assist models and photographers and offer us the use of their equipment and buildings.

We would also like to acknowledge the assistance of talented artists and hairdressers Mario Bionetti and Max Rieger of MarioMax and Vianis Karamalis, whose wizardry have frequently been seen in the fashion pages of The Eccentric. Also, the work of makeup artists Patty Yagobian for Rica Donna and Samia for Hanan is appreciated.

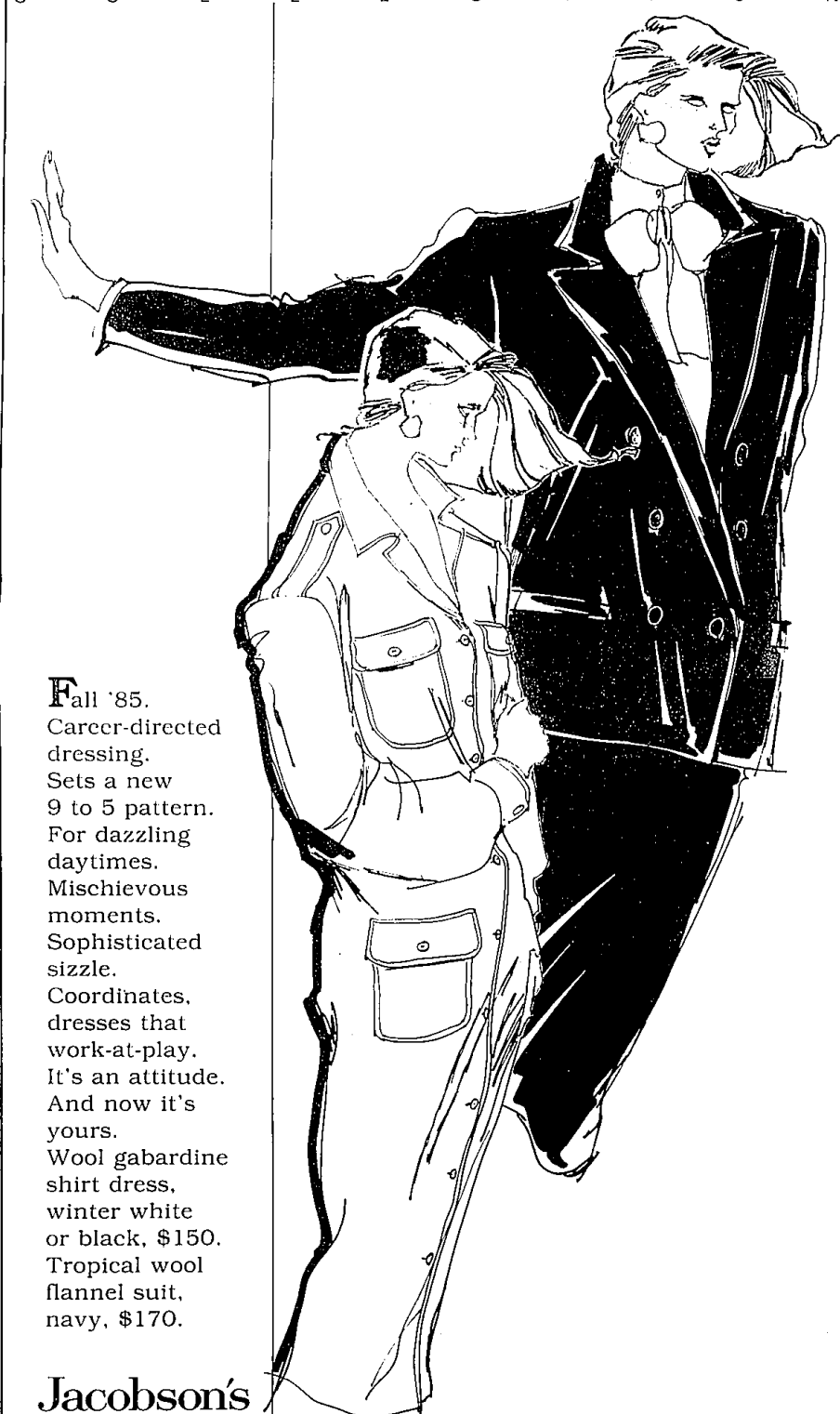
The Eccentric hopes that you will enjoy the contents of the fall fashion supplement.

—Jeanne Whittaker
editor

JOHNSON PROVIDED us with two handsome

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On the cover

The *SHAPE* of things in store for fall '85 is the longer, leaner and narrower silhouette, perfectly showcased against the rugged beauty of Heron Bay, a Victor International development located on the shores of Upper Long Lake, Bloomfield Hills. For a trek into the natural wetlands preserve that is just one of many attractions on this beautiful piece of virgin land, nothing could be more suitable than Calvin Klein's grey wool flannel suit, cut with broad shoulders, cropped jacket that is shaped into the

waist, \$310, and double pleated and narrowed cuffed pant, \$210, under-secured by an asymmetrical front cream silk blouse, \$170. Picking up the lush coloring of fall is Anne Klein's tapestry woven grey wool flannel jacket with shawl collar, \$475, chalk stripe, slim short skirt, \$170, and gold silk blouse, \$300. Saks Fifth Avenue, Somerset Mall, Fairlane Town Center.

Photograph by Gary Caskey, staff photographer.

Credits

Editorial writer
Rustle Shand

Photographers
Stephen Cantrell
Gary Caskey
Randy Borst

Editorial coordinator
Jeanne Whittaker

Advertising coordinator
Monica Decola

mistral



The Beat goes on!

...an all-new, sporty, sophisticated, bright and cheerfully colored collection of suits, pants, shirts, hand-knit sweaters, and funabout warm-ups.

In fact, functional fun is what Mistral sportswear for fall '85 is all about!

**Don Thomas
Sporthaus**

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