

THE BILL SMILEY COLUMN

LONG HAIR OR SLACKS

LET THEM BE!

By Bill Smiley

During the fall, I wrote a column asking for readers' opinions on such world-shaking things as boys with long hair and girls wearing slacks to school. Correspondence on the subject is still trickling in.

The column was written just after the girls at our school had staged something of a coup d'etat. Slacks were forbidden. One day about 300 of them turned up in slacks. The principal, sensibly enough, met with a delegation of the girls, heard their cause, then asked the teaching staff for an opinion.

The staff numbers nearly eighty. Quite a few of them have teenage daughters. An overwhelming majority of staff voted for slacks, I among them.

Next morning, an announcement was made that girls would be allowed to wear slacks. A student made the announcement. And there was an audible gasp of pure incredulity when she added, "And also blue jeans."

Well, the world is still spinning on its axis. The sun still comes up every day. And it's no more distracting to walk down the hall behind a seventeen-year-old whose voluptuous bottom is revealing itself in tight blue jeans than it is to do the same thing behind a girl whose skirt is almost up to her navel.

Perhaps you'd be interested in some readers comments. This is from a lady in Georgetown, who points out that she is no teenager, but gets the pension.

"Dear Bill Smiley: What has long hair to do with what's under it? It is the teacher's duty to dig what is under it and teach them how to make best use of it. I'm all for the kids getting back to the fig leaf if they want to. I am also all for teachers cooperating with them in doing away with wars and poverty — both of which we should be ashamed of."

This is from a gentleman in Grand Valley, who is retired. "Now Sir, about girls' clothes. I personally like girls wearing a navy blue skirt, at

least to the knees, with a white blouse, and of course the hair neatly tied or pinned, or a net to keep it in place, so it won't fall into a bowl of soup. Now please tell me how these things called Slacks are comfortable, as the most of them I see are so tight right from the ankles up, so tight they cut right into the body. I feel if some of our nice-looking females could get a look at themselves from the rear, when they are walking down the street, they would make a few changes."

Sir, I agree with you. For the same reason I don't wear kilts. I'm bow-legged.

A lady from Park Hill. A long letter. These are excerpts. "So not all girls can afford a new midi wardrobe. Nor do too many want it. But why have slacks so tight that an onlooker often cannot help but wonder if with a bit more wiggle, all would blow?" Why, indeed?

About long hair on boys, the lady says: "If teachers of this day cannot tell their pupils with long hair and beards that the pictures that this world has of Jesus are greatly varied . . . then it is no wonder that the children are getting the run-around . . . If the generation of today were to be asked what is, and what is not, old-fashioned, I'm certain their answers would be as varied as their clothes."

From Acton. "Slacks for girls? Boys with long hair? I have three girls and it would save me a lot of money if they would be able to wear slacks to school. As for the boys wearing long hair, I say, beg, preach: let them be! What makes us want to tell youth what to wear, how to look? If a child or young adult does not know what is best for himself, we had better take a second or third look at ourselves."

That's just a sampling. There's a very sensitive letter from Willy Blok Hanson, who is an artist, but I can't find the darned thing. Oh, yes, here it is. Summarized. "If the long-hairs and beardies of today would follow Jesus also

in his actions, instead of only in his looks, they would be very acceptable indeed, today, tomorrow, the same as yesterday. Girls wearing slacks? Why not? Cold is cold, for boys as well as girls.

Whether they both should wear jeans to school, or slacks, depends on the quality of the subject matter".

Slacks for sexy novels. Skirts for math? I'm bewildered. But thanks for the letters.



Scrub detergent or pine cleaner into sneakers before tossing into the washing machine. They'll come sparkling clean.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1. Twine</p> <p>5. Kennedy and others</p> <p>9. Sandarac tree</p> <p>10. Milky stone</p> <p>11. Three pips</p> <p>12. Gave careful attention to</p> <p>14. Gardner</p> <p>15. Look over the joint</p> <p>16. Suffice</p> <p>17. Croix de guerre and others</p> <p>19. "Men Working." for one</p> <p>21. Boot-legger's patrons</p> <p>23. "Light-horse Harry"</p> <p>24. Sorrow</p> <p>27. Aplomb</p> <p>29. Baseball score</p> <p>30. Vacation project</p> <p>32. Inquires</p> <p>34. Makes suitable</p> <p>38. Exists</p> <p>39. Dick Deadeye and others</p> <p>41. Mining sample</p> <p>42. Slanders</p> <p>44. Eat sparingly</p> <p>45. Atmosphere</p> <p>46. Solitary</p> <p>47. American humorist and family</p>	<p>48. Sugar-loving insects</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1. Cut the roast</p> <p>2. Mountain nymph</p> <p>3. Bolger</p> <p>4. AMA member</p> <p>5. Ballerina supports</p> <p>6. Duelling weapons</p> <p>7. Famous bill-payer</p> <p>8. Heavy hammers</p> <p>11. Sandy's headgear</p> <p>12. Biblical verb</p> <p>13. Beneficiary</p>	<p>15. Kind of lip or palate</p> <p>18. Feeling at the Grand Canyon</p> <p>20. Asiatic river</p> <p>22. Zobo's vegetables</p> <p>24. Knights' quest</p> <p>25. Kind of dressing</p> <p>26. Printing requisite</p> <p>28. Danish money</p> <p>31. Sculling equipment</p> <p>33. Cubic meter</p>	<p>Today's Answer</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>I</td><td>N</td><td>V</td><td>A</td><td>N</td><td>E</td><td>S</td><td>A</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>N</td><td>O</td><td>L</td><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>A</td><td>L</td><td>O</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>L</td><td>I</td><td>B</td><td>E</td><td>L</td><td>S</td><td>D</td><td>I</td><td>E</td><td>T</td></tr> <tr><td>I</td><td>S</td><td>T</td><td>A</td><td>R</td><td>S</td><td>O</td><td>R</td><td>E</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>K</td><td>S</td><td>A</td><td>D</td><td>A</td><td>P</td><td>T</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>R</td><td>U</td><td>N</td><td>T</td><td>O</td><td>U</td><td>R</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>G</td><td>R</td><td>I</td><td>E</td><td>F</td><td>P</td><td>O</td><td>I</td><td>S</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>M</td><td>E</td><td>T</td><td>S</td><td>S</td><td>I</td><td>G</td><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>M</td><td>E</td><td>D</td><td>A</td><td>L</td><td>S</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>A</td><td>C</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>D</td><td>O</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>T</td><td>R</td><td>E</td><td>V</td><td>E</td><td>H</td><td>E</td><td>E</td><td>D</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>R</td><td>A</td><td>R</td><td>O</td><td>P</td><td>A</td><td>L</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>C</td><td>O</td><td>R</td><td>D</td><td>T</td><td>E</td><td>S</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>35. _____ of honor</p> <p>36. Kilmer poem</p> <p>37. Harden into shape</p> <p>40. Word of woe</p> <p>43. Word to a broker</p> <p>44. Oxford instructor</p> <p>46. Music note</p>	S	I	N	V	A	N	E	S	A	N	E	N	O	L	A	V	A	L	O	N	L	I	B	E	L	S	D	I	E	T	I	S	T	A	R	S	O	R	E		A	S	K	S	A	D	A	P	T	S	R	U	N	T	O	U	R				G	R	I	E	F	P	O	I	S	E	M	E	T	S	S	I	G	N			M	E	D	A	L	S					A	V	A	C	A	S	E	D	O		T	R	E	V	E	H	E	E	D	E	A	R	A	R	O	P	A	L			C	O	R	D	T	E	S			
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