

BACK TO SCHOOL

Teens customize their fashion scene



Rebecca Young, Gr. 10, Mark Cooper, Gr. 12 and Sally Wessler, Gr. 11 model clothes from Peaches 'n' Jeans. They attend West Hill High School, St. Roberts and Markham District High School respectively.
— Nancy Hoskins

By NANCY HOSKIN
Acid washed clothing is the number one teen fashion on back to school shopping lists this fall, with corduroy following behind. Jeans, both in black and blue, along with jackets, dresses, skirts and long coats are made from acid washed denim this season. As the material used in making the clothing is actually washed with a mild acid, it is advisable to wash the garment, on its own, before it is worn. This will prevent any reaction someone may have to the material contacting their skin.

According to Frank Briggs, owner of Peaches 'n' Jeans, in Markham, skirts are very popular this year with girls. Lengths vary, from the mini to the longer western prairie look. Bustier dresses, made of stretch denim, are selling like hot cakes this fall, and are worn for an evening out. This halter dress, similar to a corset with a skirt attached would more than likely be covered up with an overblouse or sweater if worn to school.

Corduroy pants are also a popular fashion statement today, for guys and gals, with skirts and jackets to match, for an entire outfit. Sweaters are back for the fall and winter, many styles with sparkle and shine for females. The popular look remains baggy, but according to Mr. Briggs, clothes are more tapered than last year.

Colors are bright and bold for teens, who continue to prefer a

more dramatic look, than the earth tones shown for adult fashions this fall. Reds, greens and blues are as popular as last year, with nautical tones also being stocked on clothing store shelves.

Labels continue to dominate the fashion scene, and dictate what people continue to purchase, though there are more choices than ever among teen manufacturers.

"Our biggest labels are Esprit, Edwin, Calvin Klein, Pashu,

Galaxy and Maxx," Mr. Briggs explained. "With so many labels to look at, customers are becoming more and more open to trying other things. When buying any type of outfit, it's the fit that should count."

Though clothes remain important with all age groups, Mr. Briggs suggested that there are at least six different ways to dress today, and that nearly every type of style is acceptable on the fashion scene.



BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIALS

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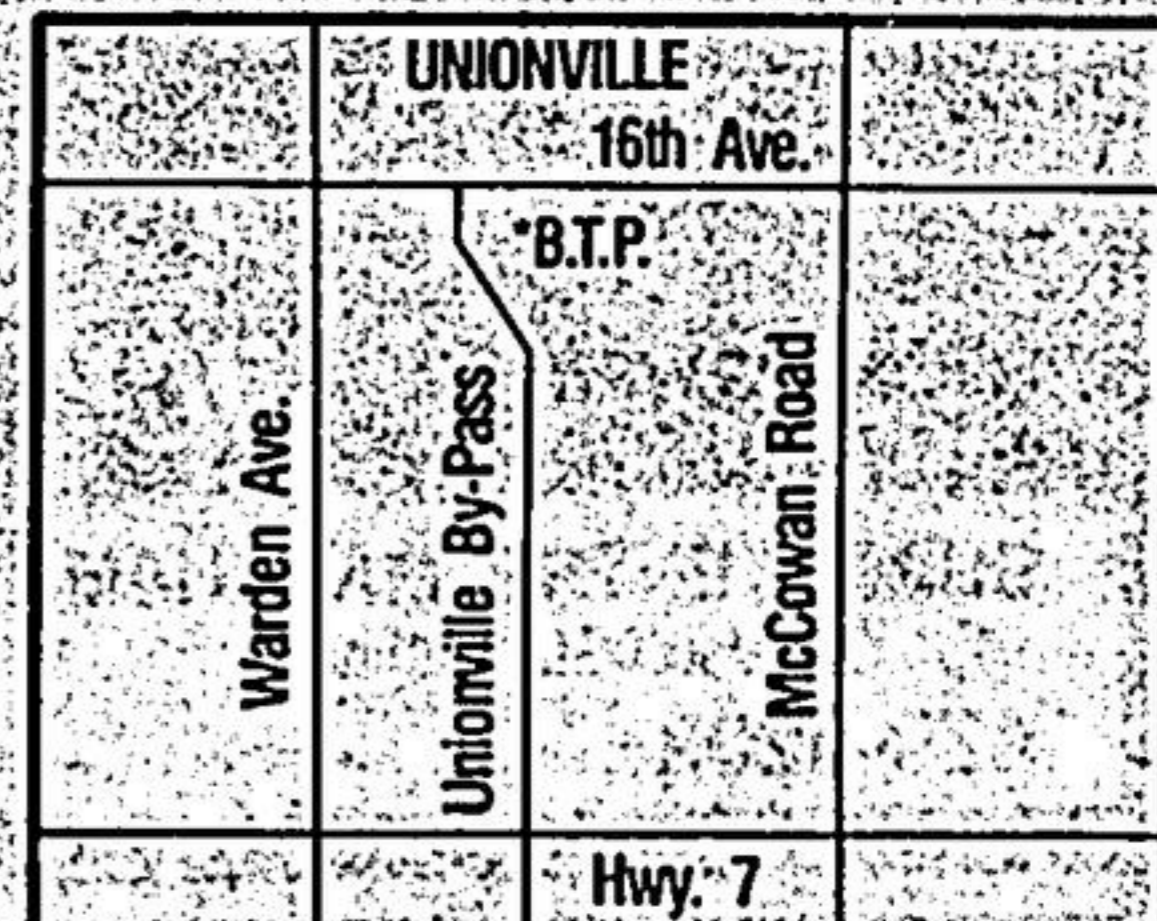
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