

Working

continued from page 6C

Singer advises that new job-seekers sit down and assess their skills, expectations and requirements regarding a future job. This will narrow down the options, she writes

Next, Singer maintains it's necessary to create a resume, even if this is the first working experience. Singer emphasizes that many first jobs are

arranged through networking, so make a list of contacts. A quick glance through the help-wanted section of any newspaper will show some of the companies that are actually hiring, but Singer points out that most jobs are not advertised.

"Get phone numbers and call for job possibilities," she writes. "Initiative is always appreciated."

Once the application is in, Singer advises a follow-up call if the manage-

ment doesn't respond within a week.

In "The Teenager's Guide to the Real World," Marshall Brain stresses the management side of the job hunt.

According to Brain, employers want motivated teens who are going to arrive to work on time, have a positive attitude, work hard, work well with others, show leadership qualities, work their full shift and do the best job they can.

Though working can buffer every-

day costs, having a part-time job is not for everyone. Working and attending school can be a negative combination, Professor Robert Hampel said.

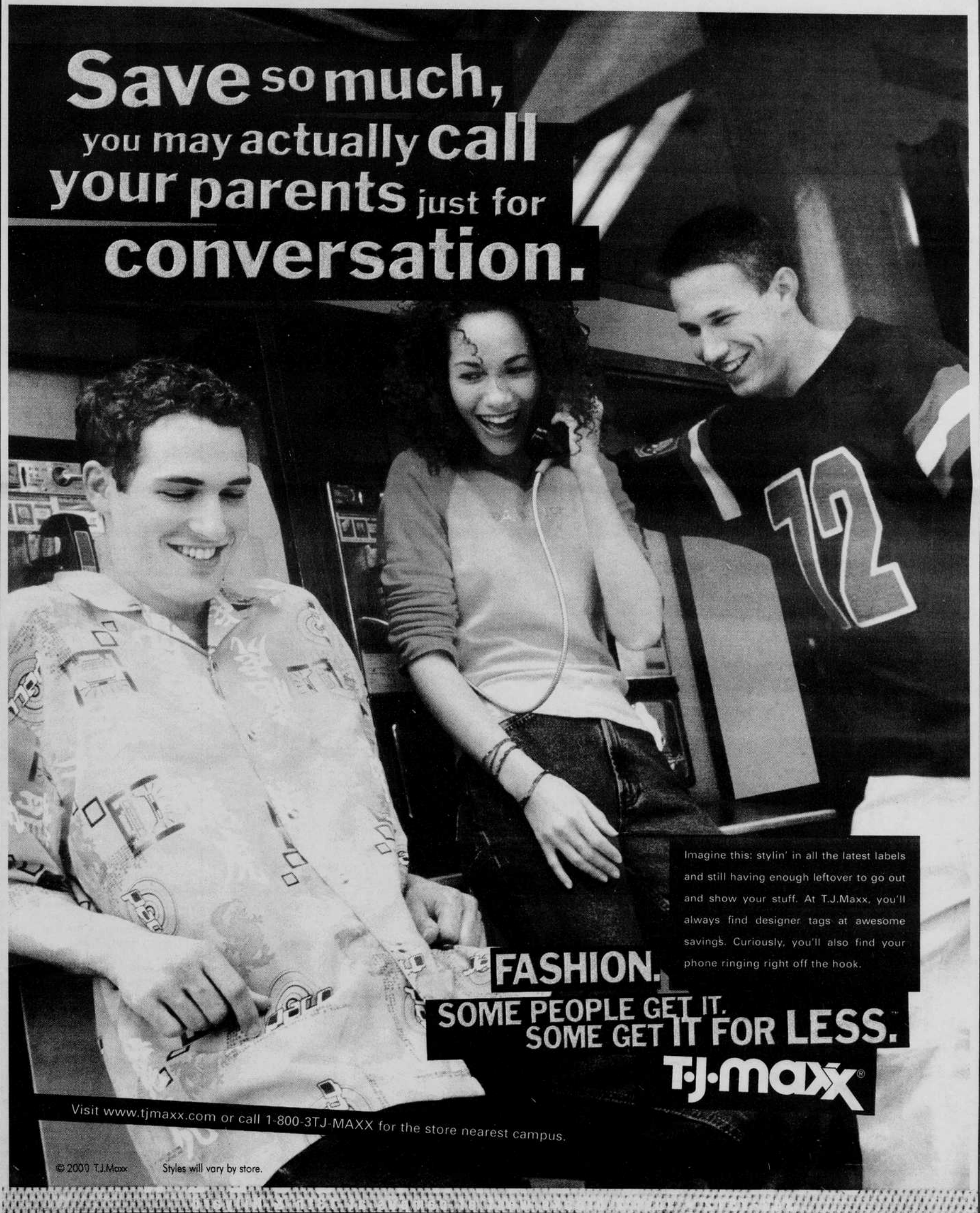
"Students who work more than 20 hours a week hurt their grade-point averages, regardless of what sort of student they were before they began working," he said. "Sixty percent of employed teens acknowledge that working interferes with course reading and writing. More than half say

that working makes it harder to stay alert in class."

Many students have to work, but a balance can be achieved.

"Jobs are jobs," Brain states. "You are going to have to work, no matter how 'cool' the job or company, so be prepared for some days to not be as great as others. The keys to remember are that you are earning money, you are gaining experience and you are making good contacts."

Save so much, you may actually call your parents just for conversation.



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