

away vibe was complete. People have responded.

In the first months of business, Beth Ditto of The Gossip donated quite a few pieces from her famously fabulous wardrobe. More recently, Leslie Hall of Leslie and the Ly's shopped the sale and was so impressed that she agreed to make plus-size gold stretch pants (based on her song "Gold Pants Lullaby," naturally) for the boutique.

However, it's the everyday customers who really get it.

"I can always tell a Fat Fancy first-timer—they can't contain themselves!" Smith says.

Maribona nods. "They glow, they tear up a little bit. Fat Fancy is for the people who've felt

MAKEUP BY KRISTIN GOODMAN, HAIR BY ALLISON MAY



Carlee Smith (left) and Annie Maribona have acquired donated clothes from famous fat girl Beth Ditto of The Gossip.

shut out in the malls, in the boutiques, by fashion in general."

Smith says: "We've all been these customers. The only difference now is that we're in the basement bitching about not liking acid wash." ☐

FAT FANCY presents its next sale, featuring summer women's and men's plus-size styles (with general prices ranging from \$5 to \$15) Aug. 30 and 31 at 834 N.E. Emerson St. It plans to use the profit from sales and fund-raisers to open a permanent retail location within a year. For more information visit www.myspace.com/fatfancy.

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writing for several publications. He can be reached at brettglass@gmail.com.



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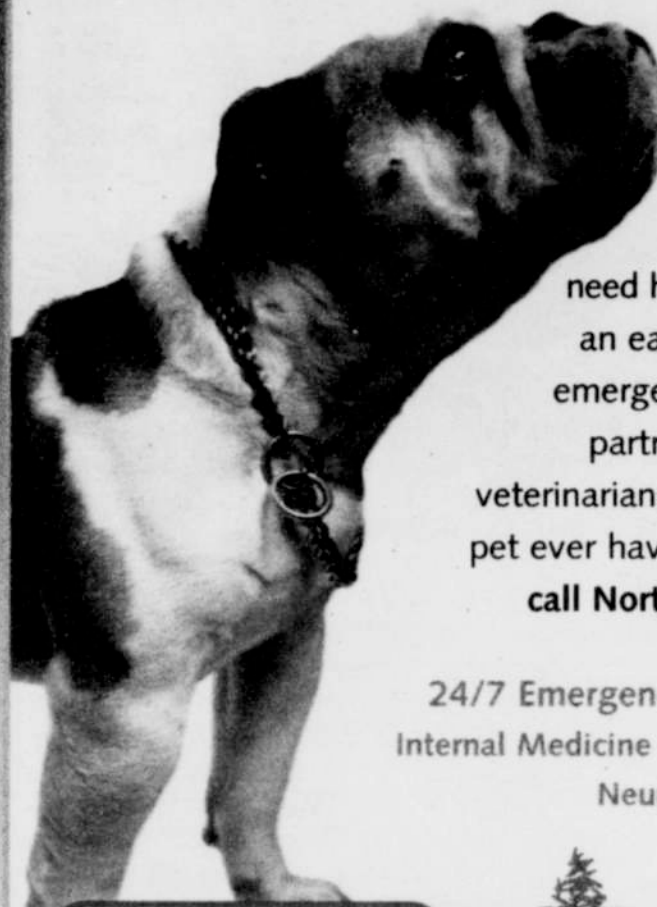
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