



The Good, The Bad & The Ugly of Summer Fashion

Dishing out the criticism on summer's styles.

By Vanessa Salvia

Since Mother Nature teased us with a few weeks of nice weather in early spring, folks seem reluctant to pack away their sunny-day clothes and dress in rain gear. Walking through campus, you can see young women shivering in the rain, their arms wrapped in death grips around their waists, desperately failing to conserve body heat while their hair wilts and their makeup washes away in the spring torrents.

These young ladies can't admit to themselves that it's not yet summer, so they parade around shivering in lacy minis, tiny tees and sequined flip-flops. Gone are winter's trendy sheepskin-lined boots they proudly wore with their minis two months ago. Those pink and fluffy footwarmers have been carelessly discarded under the bed like last night's condom, used then forgotten.

These fashion-conscious ladies are revealing their finest assets now, with barely a whisper of sun in the air. So how will they top this

performance when nice weather begins again in earnest? Simple: the boob curtain. You all know what I mean. It's that small flap of cloth tied around the neck and twice in the back like an apron worn much too high. To my horror, what started out as a hand-made hippie accoutrement has become widespread fashion.

Traditionally, it's made from patchwork cloth, like a square of Grandma's quilt with shoelaces tied to it. One piece is invariably corduroy, despite the fact that it's made to be worn when it's 90 degrees outside. Another piece is inevitably floral. Pieced together with a strip of worn out denim, it reveals the bare back, tricking the observer into thinking the wearer is dolled up in a skimpy bathing suit. But from the front, it's suddenly Miss Modesty.

And for guys out girl-watching, hoping to get a glimpse of the goods when a stiff wind blows, forget it. Those back ties keep the boob curtain firmly in place. The worst part is, you can't wear a bra with the boob curtain. So not

only do you have a horridly ugly piece of folk art tied to someone's front with all the panache of a hospital gown, you also get saggy-boob syndrome.

What could be worse than the boob curtain? The pinch and pucker. That's the lovely effect of fat girls wearing too-tight low-rider jeans with the flab fluttering in the wind. Why does anyone think this is acceptable? I have thumbed through fashion mags, ladies, and nowhere does it mention the pinch and pucker as the new style. Wearing low-riders is kind of like wearing blue eye shadow. If you have to ask yourself for even one nanosecond whether or not you can pull off the coked-up '70s roller derby queen look, don't do it.

Low-riders, when they fit well, can be flattering, but they don't need to go any lower. Since we're on the subject of shrinking, miniskirts are perennially popular. Today's minis are fashioned of versatile cut-off denim or flirty, twirly layers of light cloth. They are as short as they need to be. This summer's hot new trend is keeping your asscrack and pubes covered. Try it!

Whatever you do, do not combine the pinch and pucker with a thong. Yes, companies are making thongs with attached fake flowers on top, rhinestones or embroidery so pretty you want to show it off. But that's because corporations are in league with the devil, and if you follow their lead you'll be a sinner too. If someone you love tells you that they like wearing thongs because they are "comfortable," they have been completely taken over by Satan and must be exorcised.

Working our way down the body, we come to the feet. Jelly sandals. Unbelievably, they're back. Some people still have their jellies from when jellies were first popular, and those people are sick. Very sick.



Jellies are not shoes, they are actually a Taliban-devised plot designed to weaken our society from within. Wearing jellies means you support terrorism.

Jellies are not shoes, they are actually a Taliban-devised plot designed to weaken our society from within. Wearing jellies means you support terrorism.

Do not wear jellies with socks. EVER! Do not wear sandals with socks. EVER! I know lots of hippies think socks-with-sandals is part of the uniform for living in Eugene, and they display this atrocious style even in the soggy winter months. But really, the gene that causes socks-with-sandals syndrome has been shown to cause future offspring to vote Republican. Wearing socks with sandals now ensures that your great-grandchildren will vote for one of Jenna Bush's hellspawn. Trust me, I'm a scientist. It's too great of a risk.

What, you ask, is acceptable for you to wear this summer? It's all about bright colors and shiny, strappy sandals. Beading is a popular trim for shirts, skirts and shoes, along with metallic accessories. Punch up a simple solid-color cotton sundress with big, chunky wooden necklaces and bracelets. Unexpected texture and color are hot, along with big, structured handbags and gauzy fabrics.

The safari jacket in unusual colors like baby blue or spring green paired with slim-fitting jeans and jeweled ballet slipper shoes will get you through any summer day or evening. Floaty, feminine tops will be paired with classic-lined pants and skirts for a sexy look that still works at the office.

Every accessory is getting bigger and chunkier, including shoes. Thankfully, gone is the pointy-toed witch look of last year. Be playful, be bold, wear fake eyelashes. Today's fashion themes are a dream come true for people into the retro-vibe, from '60s bohemian hippie-inspired dresses and peasant blouses to '80s bold graphics like polka dots and stripes. Wear anything from any decade. Just no jellies!

THE BEANERY

JOIN US MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY SALE

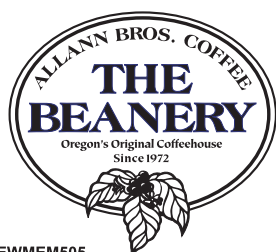
25 TO 50% OFF

SELECTED RETAIL ITEMS

FRIDAY . SATURDAY . SUNDAY . MONDAY

MAY 27TH, 28TH, 29TH & 30TH

EUGENE: 2465 HILYARD ST. - 152 WEST 5TH ST.



**50¢ OFF
ANY COFFEE
SPECIALTY DRINK**

Excludes Bottled Drinks - One Drink Per Customer.
Not valid with any other offer. - Expires 6.30.05

Cafe Caramel • Butter Pecan • White Chocolate Raspberry

Green Apple Sorbet • Lemoncillo • Pistachio



**ENJOY
THE
SWEETS
OF
SUMMER**
Gelato &
Coconut Bliss™



Banana Malt • Creame de Menthe • Mango Sorbet

755 Monroe St. • 683-5676 • www.sweetlifedesserts.com
Hours: Sun - Wed till 10:00pm • Thur - Sat till 11:00pm