

Fashions with a future and appreciation for the past . . . Sheridan College students wear some of the latest styles from Boutique Marie Claire, Square One, against a background of old carriages, courtesy Carling O'Keefe Breweries, JoiSann Low, left, and Karen Joyal,

both in Sheridan's modelling course, take a ride to a Christmas party in a landau dating back to 1895. JoiSann is wearing a-short black dress with a neat white collar, 100 per cent antron, hand washable. The dress is designed halter-style with a V-neckline and tied under

the midriff. Karen is wearing a burgundy polyester pant suit, wide palazzo pants and a long top with puff sleeves and a peplum over the waist. (Times photos by Ron Pozzer.)

BY SHERI CRAIG

I resolve, you say, to improve myself ... to lose some weight, get a new hair style, become more fashion conscious.

The annual resolution you say that every year. Why not, this time, do something

Care about yourself. Choose a good hairdresser, watch those calories and learn some rules of the fashion game.

Fashion conscious. Don't buy that stylish black evening skirt, so practical

everything always goes with black, and then select a frilly white blouse for what you think is the perfect ensemble until you arrive at the cocktail party to find half the

women there thought so too. Team your skirt with a gold or silver metallic

sweater and tie the outfit together with a shiny string of big black beads. Or if you prefer your white shirt, top it with a black metallic vest and wrap a silver belt around your waist.

Black is back. Black is big from daytime through to datetime wear. But when you're wearing black to a party, add some colour red satin rose, dangling gold chains, a silver sweater.

Let your skin show, if the

suits you. A bare shoulder here, if your arms aren't too heavy; a plunging neckline there, if your neck-bones don't protrude. A glimpse of midriff can be enticing if that midriff isn't bulging over your waist.

Fashion conscious. Know ourself, Your thighs are flabby or your knees are boney or your bottom hangs. Then don't wear short skirts.

Take advantage of the fact that this is the age of all skirt lengths. Examine yourself unsympathetically in front of a mirror and decide, maybe, that your minis won't be missed. Knee-lengths and those even longer can hide a

multitude of sins. But there is a time and place for everything and shopping at the supermarket is not really suitable for hostess skirts. Still on the subject when you're wearing knee-

length skirts, try darker stockings colour-teamed to your shoes. Or wear long

Fashion conscious. Sweaters have never been more in style. Keep warm this winter with a selection. long or short, patterned or plain; single or in sets. Gatsby sweaters, long and

lean, make news again. Many have vertical ribbing to accent their length. They touch the hip bone or the centre of the thigh, relax without buttons or wrap. around.

The traditional turtleneck

is always available as well as jewel-neckline pullovers, perfect to show off an attractive silk scarf. There are cuddly, cable-knit cardigans, some with tunnel waists and shawl collars and miniature cable-stitched sweaters; ribbed cardigans without buttons; new-look crewnecks with lowered necklines to display shirt collars.

The layered look is still important with skimming vest and tank top sweaters to be worn over shirts or turtleneck tops Their patterns are what gives them style, primitive prints, Navajo designs. argyles, chevron stripes and Donegal tweeds.

Nostalgia makes news. Remember sweater sets.

They're back again with long-sleeved cardigans over short-sleeved pullovers complement the softer look of this winter's slightlyflared skirts and wide-legged

pants. Earth tones give sweater sets a today look. Camel leads, closely followed by forest green, brown and russet. Pale colours vanilla, toffee, carmel, beige, oyster and smokey grey are perfect to match

with most pants, skirts, or skirts. Fashion conscious Review your jewellery wardrobe. Accessories are important to complement most outfits.

Big beads are big with price tags to match. Have you ever thought of restringing some of your old costume jewellery: Redo your three-string chokers into medium-length chains. Most dressmaker supply stores carry thread for necklaces.

Match your outfits with angle bracelets Cho variety, wear three or four. Simple gold and silver bracelets always elegant. Pearls are appropriate as long as they are

Be ruthless about your

shoes. Those pointed toes and stiletto heels are out of style and not likely to return. Nothing dates an outfit more

plain?

than dismally out-of-date shoes

That doesn't mean that you must rush right out to buy the latest stacked heels and bottom heavy soles. Choose your shoes with taste, not according to trends, and they should last for several years. Still on shoes . . . you can

get by with basic black or brown to suit most outfits but for extra style, to dress up that plain dress, choose a colour with a matching purse.

Fashion conscious. The outer look is important but what's underneath counts too. Underwear is meant to be invisible. Don't wear your clothes so skin-tight that everything shows.

The bra-less look is fine for figures that bounce with moderation and don't sag. If that's not you and you need your bra, watch out for revealing necklines and telltale straps.

The natural look is still in

and that means full-length slips and wired corsets are definitely out under today's clinging fabrics. Go through your lingerie drawer to get rid of all those old uncomfortable garter belts and girdles. Hopefully you won't

have to wear them any more.

Fashion conscious. It's going to be a cold winter and you'll need a good coat. Sales

should start right after Christmas (some already underway) and clever shopping could give

you quite a selection.

Coats go to all lengths. They skim the knee, thigh and ankle. Waist-hugging bomber jackets are good with pants and skirts. Midjackets complement pants. Wrapped coats reach the knees or go over them to meet boots and ribbed stockings. Capes drape over skirts and palazzo pants for

evening wear. Bomber jackets often have open label collars to show off turtleneck sweaters. Some feature knitted collars and cuffs

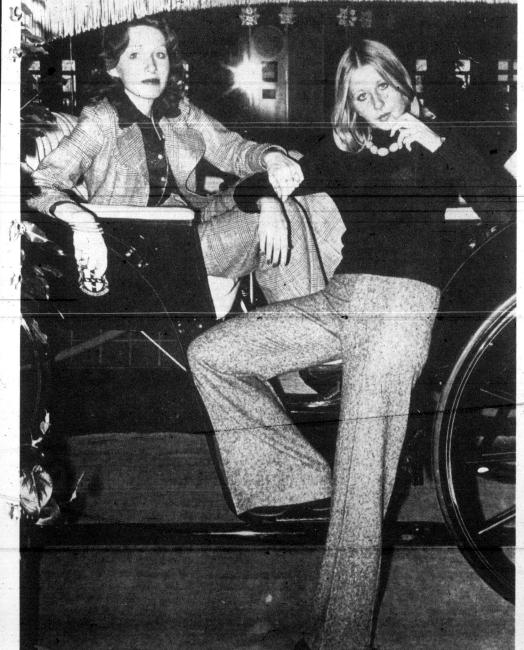
Try a dress-up bomber in fun fur over a long swirling skirt.

Most coats have a classic look. Waists are tied, sleeves are dolman or raglan to allow room for a suit underneath. Cuff details are important with some extra long cuffs; tapered at the wrist, to keep out chilly

Fashion conscious Know yourself. The best investment is a good fulllength mirror.

Styles come and go and not everything is suitable for you. Have fun with fashion. Enjoy what is trendy as long as you can fit it to your own taste.

Know yourself.



Karen and Shelley Beeton, left, are set for a casual country drive in a Vis a Vis, circa 1885. Karen wears a dark brown John Craig London knit sweater, all acrylic, with pants by Applesauce, 70 per cent wool and 30 per cent polyester, in a brown-beige tweed with specks of orange

and yellow. Her wooden beads come in brown or natural tones and sell for \$3.99. Shelley wears a black and white Glengarry check pant suit, 65 per cent polyester and 45 per cent wool, complimented by a wine-coloured knit



Ivy Anne Stull makes a decorative coachman for this old Berkeley English road coach. She wears a black pant suit that looks like satin but is 100 per cent polyester and washable. The pants are flaring, the jacket has a white collar and cuffs with white embroidered flowers on the pockets

and a belt at the waist. Shelley is in a white leisure pant suite, also washable, 100 per cent acetate, with a short halter top, decorated by a gold sequin flower, and modified palazzo pants. All fashions are from Paris or Montreal and featured at the Boutique Marie Claire stores.