

Fashion road trip

Packing is on the mind of students hitting the road to spring break locales

By Lauren Smith
THE BATTALION

Pulling an all-nighter, having an apartment of your own and one unforgettable spring break trip — all cornerstones of collegiate life. Although most of what goes on during spring break will be in spring break land, being remembered as “that guy” who wore Speedo on the beach is never good. This season’s spring break attire will leave you with money in the bank since many of the clothes are in such high fashion you may find they can be taken from the beach to the club.

Caroline Thompson, co-owner and buyer for Benjamin’s, a beach-themed clothing store in Corpus Christi, said some of the swimsuit tops this season have such dressy necklines that can be worn out nights.

“The triangle top is on the way out as the new tops are one shoulder, beaded or with a plunging neckline,” Thompson said. “Tops are trendier with a little more coverage, but more of a sense of style.”

The trend of dressing up daywear to give a spring breaker fashion credentials at the club is also true for the ski slopes as well. Leslie Kennedy, style editor for Rocky Mountain News, reports that it’s time to say goodbye to big, bulky jackets on the slopes.

“Soft shells, cool earth tones with splashes of orange, red and purple and fabrics that move moisture away from the body and dry quickly are all trends this year,” Kennedy said. “Heavyweights from Anna Sui to Helmut Lang to Michael Kors hit the mountains for fall with skinny ski pants topped with sporty sweaters or slinky evening gowns paired with cozy winter coats.”

Kennedy said many designers had ski-inspired clothes on the runways this season.

“There were parkas with fur trim at Ungaro and Ralph Lauren. Emilio Pucci matched wildly patterned ski boots to ski jackets and ponchos,” Kennedy said. “Fendi showed a space-age ski suit, while Zac Posen sent a leather version down his runway. Kors highlighted snugly cashmere long johns topped with fur vests, and big, furry mukluks were on the feet at Fendi.”

The new color and print trend that is consistent in everything this season from ski clothes to beach wear is not just for women. Men have discovered polka dots and hot pink as well.

Thompson said the most popular board short that Benjamin’s has sold this season has a white background with hot pink and black polka dots that men between the ages of 13 and 30 are trying out.

“Trendy men are trying pink, retro stripes and thicker polka dots,” Thompson said. “T-shirts from brands like Volcom and Quiksilver are in style in more solid colors. There are a lot of fashion statements to be made in caps, caps with character like a print.”

A recent article in New York Newsday titled “Think Pink, from now until spring,” reports that pink has been a hot color since September.

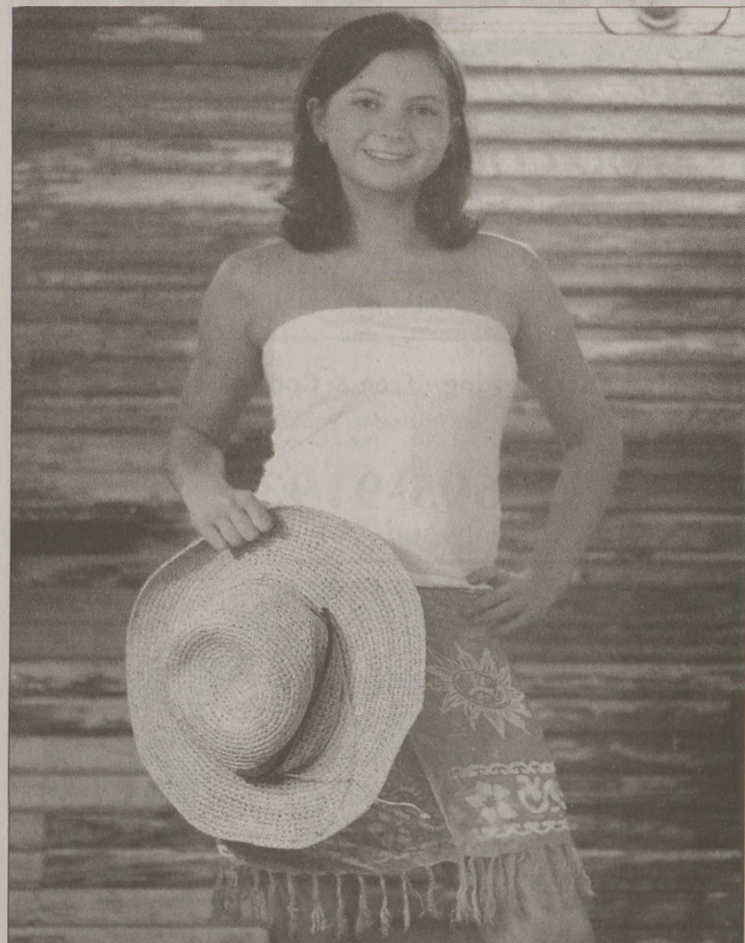
“For spring, there are pink dresses, shoes, skirts and tops. For now, pink accents are a good way to go, whether you choose a baby pink scarf or a bright pink jacket,” reported Sharon Bridbord of Newsday. “You can continue the theme with shades of pink eye shadow, as well as nail polish and lip glosses.”

Pink is all over the swimsuit market this season, and not only in solid pink. Many companies no longer sell two pieces as a set. J. Crew has an extensive swimsuit collection and has started letting customers create their own top-and-bottom combinations on its Web site.

Thompson said the trend continues this season with reversible print suits, with women buying unmatching separates.

“Body style of swimsuits have changed. Skimpy bottoms are still around, of course, but most bottoms provide more coverage,” Thompson said. “An up-and-coming trend you will see a lot of on the beach this season is longer board shorts for women or a short skirt as a cover up.”

Will Blocker, a senior Spanish major and avid camper, said fash-



JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

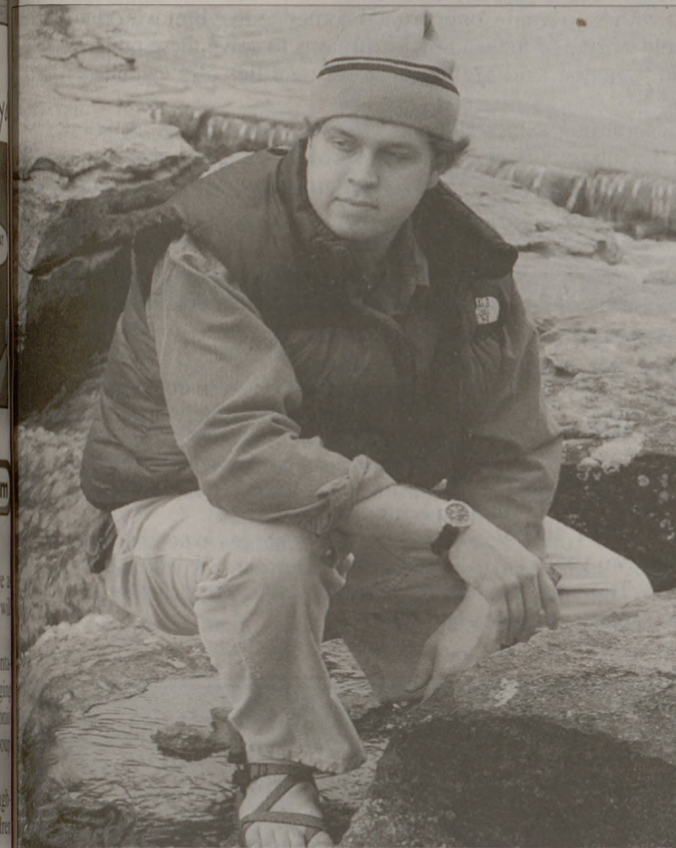
Kristin Haag, a senior finance major, pairs her Mexico pareo with a Gap tube top and a straw hat to keep the sun off her face while tanning on the beach.

ion becomes less important for him when he is in the woods.

“When I go camping, I just want to relax, so what I do wear is more out of necessity because of the weather,” Blocker said. “But, there are some consistent trends at most camp grounds, like Chaco sandals, North Face or Patagonia fleeces and beanies in the winter.”

Blocker said he buys camping gear from sierratradingpost.com and Whole Earth Provisions.

“Wherever you are over this spring break, expect to see a lot of plastic, translucent pieces, candy colored sparkle and an overall feeling of femininity,” Thompson said.



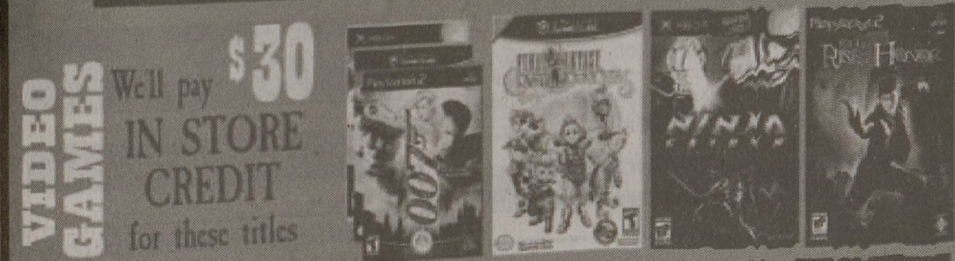
JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Senior Spanish major, Will Blocker’s North Face jacket provides just enough warmth for spring camping. His Chaco sandals are perfect for hiking.

hastings
Your Entertainment Superstore

MOST WANTED USED TITLES

We'll pay \$6 IN STORE CREDIT for these titles



Buyback prices available for a limited time. All future buyback prices on these titles will be dependent on market conditions. Availability varies by store. See store for details on buyback requirements.

THE PASSION



WHAT WAS THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST?

Why did he do it? Jesus, the Son of God. Why would he leave heaven to endure the torture, pain, humiliation of the cross?

Jesus said he came only to do the will of the Father. He came in the Father’s name, for the Father’s glory, doing all things by the Father, speaking only what the Father told him to speak. And that got him into trouble—with people.

His words and miracles greatly upset some people. So Jesus paid the price. He was sentenced to die by crucifixion. But ultimately it was not the Romans and Jews controlling Jesus’ death. They were not making the ultimate decisions. Jesus was never fully at their mercy.

This was Jesus, who healed the blind, even raised people back to life! One was his friend, Lazarus, who had been buried in a tomb for four days! Following that one, the authorities said, “If we let him go on like this,

the whole world will be following him.” Indeed.

Jesus voluntarily gave up his life.

Why?? For us. To step in and take our place. To pay the harsh punishment for our sins. Again, why? Because our sin was keeping us from him. He was willing to do this, to remove the barrier—to offer us forgiveness.

“God demonstrates his own love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us,” the Bible tells us.

What this means is that you can make a new beginning with God. He did this for you, but his forgiveness is not yours until a relationship with God himself belongs to you. And he is offering you that. Look at Jesus’ passion. Is there any question how much he wants you to know him?

If you have questions about how to begin a relationship with God, please see EveryStudent.com.

EveryStudent.com

Campus Crusade for Christ at Texas A&M

<http://cru.tamu.edu>

Photo: Philippe Anzele