

The '80s resurge, track suits, sneakers and all



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Leg warmers, shoulder pads and Members Only jackets are not apparel relegated to a bygone decade.

Fashion is cyclical. Even those items characterizing a past era in time come back around again.

In recent years, fashion shows indicate that the industry and the public are

nostalgic for all things '80s.

From shoulder pads at Martin Margiela to bright neon hues

at Versace, the runways of New York, London, Milan and Paris could clothe the cast of "Dallas."

This is especially ironic given that the economic climates of the two decades are completely disparate, and that today's messages of conservation and pragmatism do not jive well with the consumerism and indulgence of the popularized '80s lifestyle.

"The re-emergence of '80s fashion is symptomatic of a general feeling of hope and optimism juxtaposed against a time of uncertainty," said Julian Sudler, 20, a sophomore at UNC Asheville.

One of the most striking examples comes from urban streetwear. Hip-hop style, sneakers, Pro-Keds, tracksuits, bomber jackets and large eyeglasses have gained tremendous popularity among American youth.

Aesthetically, it is currently dorky-chic, and it deviates from the power dressing that is somewhat characteristic of the '80s. These fashions were gaudy, comfortable, functional and fun.



Kate Santos- Staff Photographer

Holly Freeman, 22, sports an '80s-inspired Nike track jacket and vintage Pacman T-shirt to channel fashion from the past today.

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It's also fun to channel the look, or tone it down, to make for a modern wardrobe with a bit of humor, wit, irony and irreverence.

Multimedia arts and sciences student Holly Freeman, pictured above, said subtlety is the way to go when sporting fashions from the past.

"The '80s fashion has improved vastly since the '80s," she said. "I was only a child of the '80s, but my fashion sense has been paying for it my whole life."

Urban '80s streetwear also saw a revival a decade later on the Paris run-

ways. In 1991, Karl Lagerfeld sent models down Chanel's runway wearing black dresses paired with large gold padlocked chains, proving that the look can be incorporated in even the most unlikely wardrobes.

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The decade of "Dynasty," Reagan and Madonna is one of the most fun in fashion's history. Enjoy its resurgence.

Folklore

and a stick ball master," Coyle said. "He was an official for stick ball and played stick ball going back into his youth."

The community traditions awards recognize the contributions of a group or organization that promotes the continuation and appreciation of N.C. folk life.

The Folk Heritage Committee received an award for their work at this

year's annual meeting. The Folk Heritage Committee, a subcommittee of the Asheville Chamber of Commerce, is the governing organization charged with the management of the Festival and of the Shindig on the Green.

The Mountain Dance and Folk Festival is the nation's oldest folk festival. It grew out of the Rhododendron Festival and by 1930 it was an independent festival according to UNCA's Special Col-

lections University Archive.

"We felt that we would be welcomed in Asheville, and that the people in Asheville would really appreciate having this meeting here. It turned out to be exactly that way," Coyle said. "Everybody was really impressed with the campus, the facilities here, and the students and the real connection that the campus seems to have with the folk heritage of this region."

Correction:

In the March 17 issue of The Blue Banner, the photo accompanying the weekly fashion column article, "Mobley's trendy wardrobe follows their musical style," was of the opening band.

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