

## FASHION

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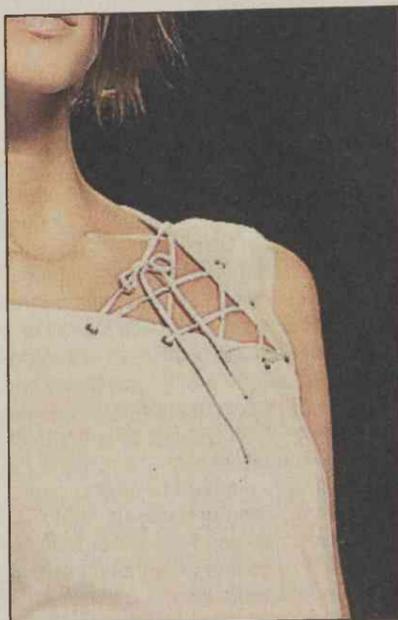
### Trend, Colors, and Patterns for Spring 2002 Season

Most designers for spring 2002 are sticking to two types of styles: eclectic and romantic. Designers are still referring to the hippy years of the 60s and 70s. Designers have mostly stuck with clothes to gently graze the body instead of "choking" it. They are going for the airy and comfortable look, but at the same time sexy and feminine at all times.

Colors for spring range from neutral, white, natural, and earthy to bright, vibrant, and bold to all shades of pastels. Denim will still be a big thing to have this season, but they are introducing more styles- tie-dyed, frayed, and even striped denim. But the dominant color that we

will see is different shades of white.

Now, designers are introducing many types of patterns this season. Many patterns are inspired from Africans, Mexicans, and also from Native Americans (basically a lot of ethnic patterns). There will also be animal, abstract, and [70's inspired] patchwork patterns. Also we will see a lot of stripes and ruffles this season. For the edgy look, designers have incorporated grommets, rings, snaps, and studs to every piece of clothing. Since February is here and many stores are already preparing for the spring season, let's get started on doing our thing for the spring!



### Beauty and Hair Tips For the Spring

Spring is emphasizing on a fuss free makeup. They suggest exquisite and seductive eyes. Anything from the smoky-eye trend to colors of beige, gold, copper, and chocolate (neutral). Our lips are central to our appeal. How you choose to show off your luscious lips is a personal preference, but just *don't forget the gloss*. Any color goes from muted, pale colors to bright and vivacious reds.

The biggest hair influence in hair beauty is **-BRAIDS**. Not just average braids or Pippi Longstocking but ethnic inspired braids. Cornrows, plaits, pony-tails, etc. from Africans, Native Americans, and Mexican women. For the

glamorous and runway model look, braids are still hot but in a totally different way. They are called, face-framing plaits.

If you are not into braids, cool. I have some more tips for you. Fashion and Beauty designers recommend loose curly hair, thick bangs, slicked back hair with straight parts (no more zigzags, please). Whatever hairstyle you desire or rock, always remember your gold hoops. You just can't go wrong!



### Men's Fashion-Spring 2002

For all my brothers who thought I was sleeping on them in most of the issues, I didn't forget about you'll this season. This spring, ya'll are encourage to do your thing, too. The trend rarely changes for men, but I have a couple of fashion ideas to heighten you spring wardrobe. Color is anything goes as long as it isn't just black. A dominant color that was made for women goes for men also-white. Pastel colors are big for men, too (fashion offers ya'll many versions of pastels). Prints and patterns are big item for men with a hence of bright colors and crazy patterns. All fashion designers have agreed that if you wear denim, there are a few types that should be introduced to your collection. They include dark, faded, distressed and whiskered denim (the faded marks that are near the crotch, Guirbab and Guess have a nice collection). Leather is a must-have item for men. The motorcycle aesthetics jackets are hot. If you choose to wear leather, go for an antique, vintage look. For my professional brothers, fashion designers offer you, the modern black suit, a plain black suit with modern standpoints and a slim silhouette.

Sneaker for men are the same as they were in the fall season. Vintage style Adidas, old-school Asics, and any retro style Nikes. Top brand-name designers have collaborated with various sneaker companies and are now offering the public vintage-style sneakers, too.

According to top designers like Tommy Hilfiger, Marc Jacobs, Sean John, and Hedi Slimane, spring fashion for men will be fun, individualistic, fresh, and new "romantic" (I have no idea where he was going with that).

### Designer of The Month

This issue and as part of Black History Month we pay homage to Sean "Piddy/Puffy" Combs. At 22 years of age, Sean Combs started at an internship at Uptown Records. This proved to be the beginning of a successful movement for Combs. In 1993, Puffy signed an exclusive arrangement with Clive Davis of Arista/BMG Entertainment to distribute his newly formed company, Bad Boy Entertainment. Then in 1998, after rapid ascent in the history of the entertainment industry, he launched a clothing line, called Sean John.

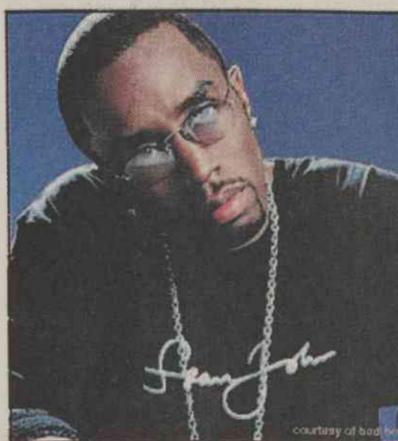
Sean John consist of 32 piece is clothing; shirts jeanswear, casual sportswear, outerwear and knitwear. Each look was designed to represent a cool, easy, and spirited take on sportswear. Sean John's urban clothing line is geared primarily to the audience of men ages 12 to 40.

The Sean John made its debut in Spring of 1999, in some of the nation's finest department stores and specialty stores. In 1999, Sean John projected sales were well over \$32 million. In a news conference, Combs stated "Understand that we are not in the clothing business for a quick hit, but we are truly committed to the expansion and growth of the men's marketplace and will use all of our resources to ensure that quality in both designs and production of Sean John always exceeds your expectations." He closed the conference with this statement, "We would ultimately like to have the Sean John line viewed as the Future if Fashion." Since that conference, Sean John has opened 25 more shops-in-shops and is forecasting a \$200 million profit within the next five years. We congratulate and honor one of the youngest, multi-talented entrepreneur of our times.

Individuality is going to be a strong factor in determining the right outfit for you, but the accessories are limited this Spring. We are going to see a lot of fringed bags, leather bags, decorative and detailed bags, platform shoes, flats and "Jesus" sandals. Along with bags and shoes come jewelry. There will be turquoises, beads, and embroidered jewelry. The trend is simple and I have what you need. I am going to tell you everything from shoes to purses to the type of jewelry you should be strutting around. Here is a list of what is going to set you right for the rest of the semester.

- 1) Retro platforms
- 2) Thick wooden heel shoes
- 3) Elegant sandals
- 4) Logo earrings and name plates and rings
- 5) Mirrored shades (HOT TO DEATH)
- 6) Thick, slim; cloth, leather, and beaded belts
- 7) Trench coat, military-inspired jacket, and bombers
- 8) Brooches (especially butterflies or flowers)

Purses get their own paragraph because the fashion game has switched



Designer of the Month- Sean Combs

### Hottest Accessories to Have this Spring

everything. This season we are going to see less conservative BLACK bags and more purses with color, designs and even different shapes. Designers are going with basically "visually stimulating" bags. The colors vary, but a lot of emphasize will be on camel and white. The designs are embroidery, patchwork, butterflies and florals. They've introduced an old bag into today's fashion trend-sloouch bags. They are the ones that we pull the stings to open and close them. Straw bags are still in as well as all types of denim purses. I believe in my heart that denim bags are going to synonymous to our everyday black leather purses.

There are a lot of changes that were made in the sneaker department, too. We are no longer going to see chunky or all soles sneakers. We are going to see form fitting and chic sneakers. It's all about a clean look, slim to fit and all feminine. Designers were leaning toward a flexible sneaker with a sporty edge, but with a cutesy look. So ladies, this season please stay with the trend of clean lines, sleek, and comfort when it comes to sneakers.

All Photos Courtesy of styles.com

