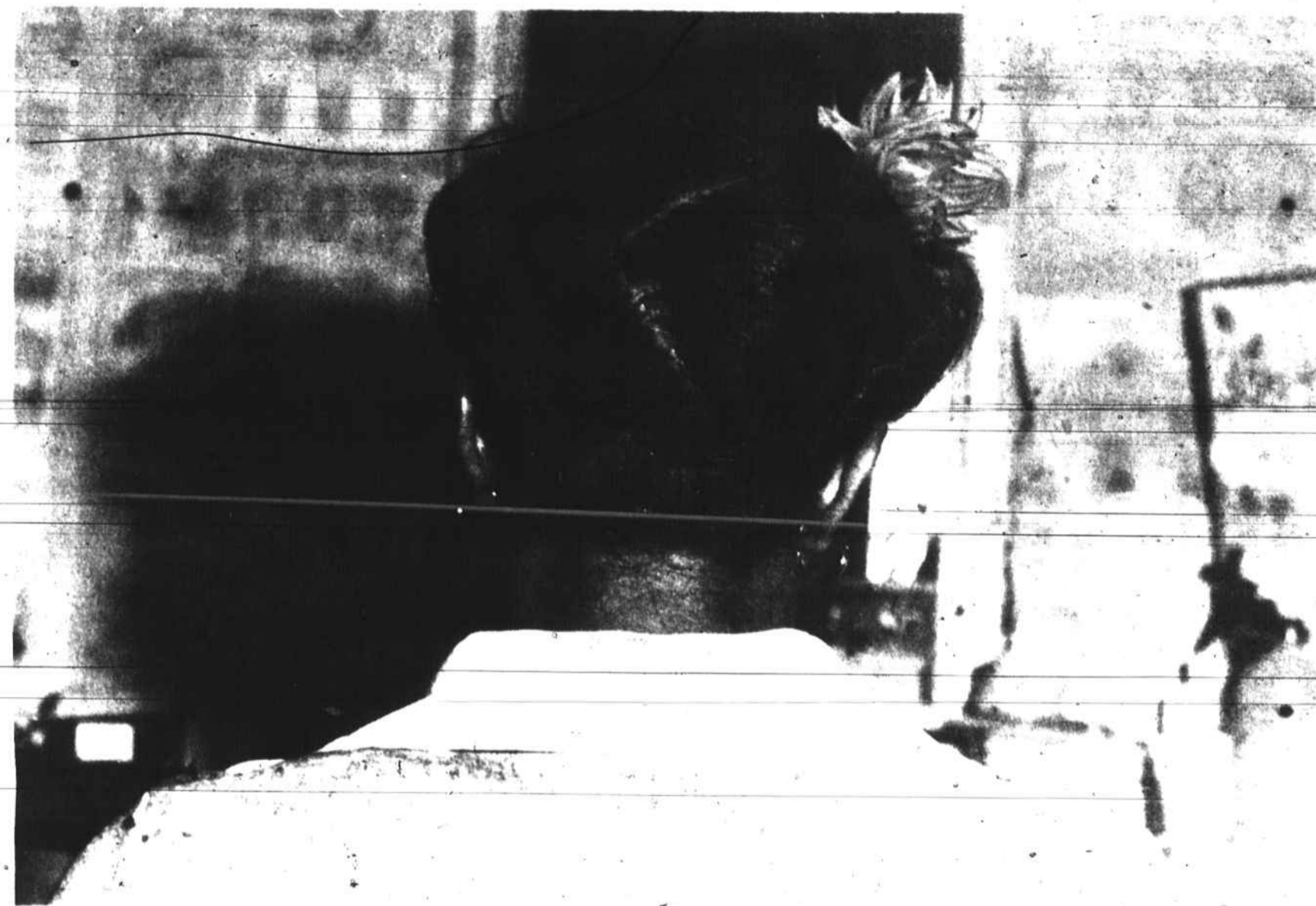




Sheryl James (above) models a 'Special Attitude'

Below, Vester Porter's 'Retro' look from the rear



## Tailors Showcase Collection

By Yvette McCullough  
Staff Writer

Two budding young tailors have put together their designs and will showcase their collection in a fashion show which will be held on April 14 in the Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium.

Elmira Vance and Arthur Phinx are the organizers and designers of the "Spring Affair" fashion show. The show, which will begin at 8 p.m., will feature men's women's fashions, bathing suits and lingerie.

In addition to designing and making most of the clothes to be worn in the show, Vance and Phinx have organized a group of 16 people to be the models.

Phinx is a graduate of R.J. Reynolds High School and is presently a sophomore at Winston-Salem State University, majoring in early childhood education.

"I want to have something to fall back on, just in case I don't make it in tailoring," Phinx said.

He began tailoring in the 10th grade at Reynolds and now makes women's clothes on the side. After he graduates from WSSU, Phinx plans to attend the Fashion Institute in New York.

Vance is a 1977 graduate of Parkland High School and will be attending Kings College in Charlotte in July, to study retail merchandizing and buying.

She has a long history of tailoring in her family with both her grandfather and her mother being tailors.

"I've always been interested in sewing," Vance said. "With the way clothes prices are today, it is more economical to make your own clothes."

Vance and Phinx have been friends since they were in the sixth grade and found sewing to be a mutual attraction.

"We talked and found that we both liked tailoring so we got together and gave a benefit in November at a church," Vance said. "However the fashion show will really be our debut."

The tickets to the fashion show will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for students. They can be purchased from any of the V&P models or at the door. They can also be purchased from J Henry's.

Vance and Phinx said that anyone wishing to have a tailoring career should start early.

"A person interested in tailoring should at least start in high school," Vance said. "Then they should choose a school to develop their talent."

"You have got to start early because it takes a lot of years and a lot of time," Phinx said. "The field is wide open for blacks and the opportunities are great in the field of fashion."

A dance will also be held after the fashion show at La Terre XXI. Admission to the dance will be the ticket stub and \$2.

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## Hair Styles

# It's The Year of the 'Retro'

Mrs. Minnie Ervin could hardly contain herself when asked about the most popular hair styles for the spring and summer season.

She had just returned from beauticians trade shows in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., loaded with information about the trends for this year.

"I'd call the overall trend the 'retro,' carrying us back to the 1940s," said the proprietor of Ervin's Beauty Services on Patterson Avenue in an interview at her shop.

"The styles are smoother; they're exposing the ear; you have the rolls, the basket weave," she added.

"All the hair will be work as short hair, but you have to have longer hair to wear it," said the regional education director for the national beauticians association.

The most popular style, Mrs. Ervin feels, will be a creation called "That Special Feeling" -- a curly, full look brought about with a permanent and a product yet to be released.

"They're running tests on the product in some cities right now, and they'll be releasing it later this spring," said Mrs. Ervin.

Aiding the style's popularity will be its easy manageability, said the beautician. "It's very easy to care for. You can dampen the hair in the morning and the curl will come right back. You don't need rollers."

"It's good for the summer because it almost does it on its own," she added.

Mrs. Ervin also expects the "blow look," a carefree style named because it's partially created with a blower, to continue its past popularity.

Side rolls and center rolls, with ornaments such as feathers, and combs, will also be popular, she said.

She also predicts a shift from tight braiding to basket weaves, a larger braid with less strain on the hair. "Everybody couldn't wear the tight braids as Cicely Tyson did on the cover of Ebony, but everybody can wear the basket weave."

The dominant hair styles reflect the trends in clothes, said the beautician.

"Last year's style was the metro, dealing with the measures of the hair to go along with the layered look in clothes. As you added or dropped layers, you could change your hair to fit."

"This year, the style is the retro," she added.

"Everything's going back to the 1940s," said the proprietor of Ervin's Beauty Services on Patterson Avenue in an interview at her shop.

The disco trend is having an influence on hairstyles this year as in past years, she said. "The hairstyles and disco go hand in hand, because they look carefree when you're finished."

In order for the styles to look their best, proper hair care is a must, Mrs. Ervin emphasized.

"If a person has a head of hair that's not healthy looking, it changes that person's personality for the worse," she said.

The biggest problem is improper use of rollers. "The hair uses elasticity and becomes dry, brittle and falls out," because of bad rollers, she said.

"Sponge rollers should be taken off the market," said the beautician. "All they're doing is stretching their hair."

The sponge is soft and it gives," she added. "It's stretching the hair beyond its elastic ability. Firmer rollers let you know when to stop when you're rolling."

"Sponges also take the natural oil out of the hair," said Mrs. Ervin.

She did not specify a set

time for washing the hair, noting that would vary with individuals. "But you shouldn't go more than two weeks, because the hair is up there exposed to everything."

How can a person decide which style is best for her needs?

Ervin said the beautician will "look at the individual look at the clothes, look at the makeup" before suggesting a style.

One factor is the shape of the face. "The oval face is perfect. You can wear anything. For thin faces, you emphasize. For heavy faces, you minimize."

Many times customers bring in pictures of styles

they see in magazines or other publication, asking to have that style created on them.

"Sometimes, they can wear that style, but not exactly the way they see it. The beautician has to adjust it to their individual needs."

John Tompton

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