

# Fashion designers remember gentler 1970s and '80s

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with 3/4-length sleeves and swinging silhouettes, stood out in luxe brocades or soft wools.

Patricia Field, the costume designer for "Sex and the City" and the upcoming movie "The Devil Wears Prada," said the season marked a return of real American looks.

"American style is simple, a little utilitarian, strong and outspoken without being too theatrical. We're the ones who wear jeans, T-shirts, trenchcoats and sneakers. It's not only a little casual but also clean and classic," Field said. "We're not from aristocrats, we're from the cowboys and settlers, and that shows in our style."

## ADHD medicines warning

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Concerned about the risk of sudden death or serious injury associated with Ritalin and other stimulants used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, a federal advisory panel says the drugs should carry the most serious type of warning label.

The proposed "black box" warning would inform doctors, patients and parents of the uncertainty regarding the risk the drugs may pose to the cardiovascular system. The warnings could be rescinded if future studies fail to definitively establish any risk, officials said.

The surprise recommendation has caught the Food and Drug Administration off guard. The regulatory agency isn't obliged to follow the advice of its outside panels of experts but it generally does.

Its first move probably will be to ask another of its advisory committees to study the issue further in March.

The FDA also may undertake short-term studies into the effect of the drugs on blood pressure, heart rate and the heart muscle itself, said Dr. Peter Gross, chairman of the FDA's Drug Safety and Risk Management advisory committee, which eventually did outline its thoughts on how to study the drugs.

First, however, the committee voted 8-7 to recommend requiring black box warnings on methylphenidates, which are sold as Ritalin, Concerta, Methylin and Metadate.

Ritalin is made by Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp.; Concerta by Johnson & Johnson; Methylin by Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals; and Metadate by UCB.

The labels for the stimulants Adderall and Adderall XR, both amphetamines made by Shire Pharmaceuticals, have included the warnings since 2004.

An earlier 15-0 vote was to recommend the drugs include a medication guide for patients and parents. There was one abstention on each of the late Thursday votes.

"The committee plainly wanted to tell us certain things ought to be in labeling in a more forceful way," Dr. Robert Temple, director of the FDA's Office of Medical Policy, told reporters after the votes.

Gross said most of his colleagues on the panel believe their role is to protect the public.

When asked why he and his fellow advisers approved, albeit narrowly, a recommendation they hadn't been asked to consider, Gross said: "No. 1, because of the seriousness of the side effects — the sudden deaths. No. 2, there is a sense maybe the diagnosis of ADHD is being applied where it shouldn't be applied."

Field said she particularly liked the unfussy beauty of Ralph Lauren's dark green collection of cashmere outfits, even the leggings, which were a popular look on other catwalks as well.

And why not, Field asked, defending the much-maligned tight pants.

"They're actually a classic. They're easy and functional. ... If you style them wrong, they look bad, but that's with everything," she said.

Michael Fink, senior fashion director at Saks Fifth Avenue, added that leggings can be worn with almost every outfit. On the runways, they were shown under power skirtsuits, with long sweaters and with tough leather jackets.

Menswear-inspired vests also made a comeback, part of the overall move toward embracing fine tailoring for women.

"I love the new feminine tai-

lored menswear—the new portrait-collared jackets mixed with a wide, wide pant," Fink said.

One look that might take some getting used to is hosiery with open-toe shoes. For years, women have been told it was a "don't." That rule is bending, according to Glamour executive fashion editor at large Suze Yalof Schwartz.

Opaque tights can create a funky, casual look, she said,

but sheer pantyhose still is a no-no.

"You shouldn't be able to see your toe polish," she advised, and it's not an appropriate look for formal occasions.

Michael Kors' collection of collegiate looks, which seemed rooted in the 1970 film "Love Story," topped Yalof Schwartz's list. She said the clothes were about "looking perfect from head to toe." Meanwhile, Glamour's edi-

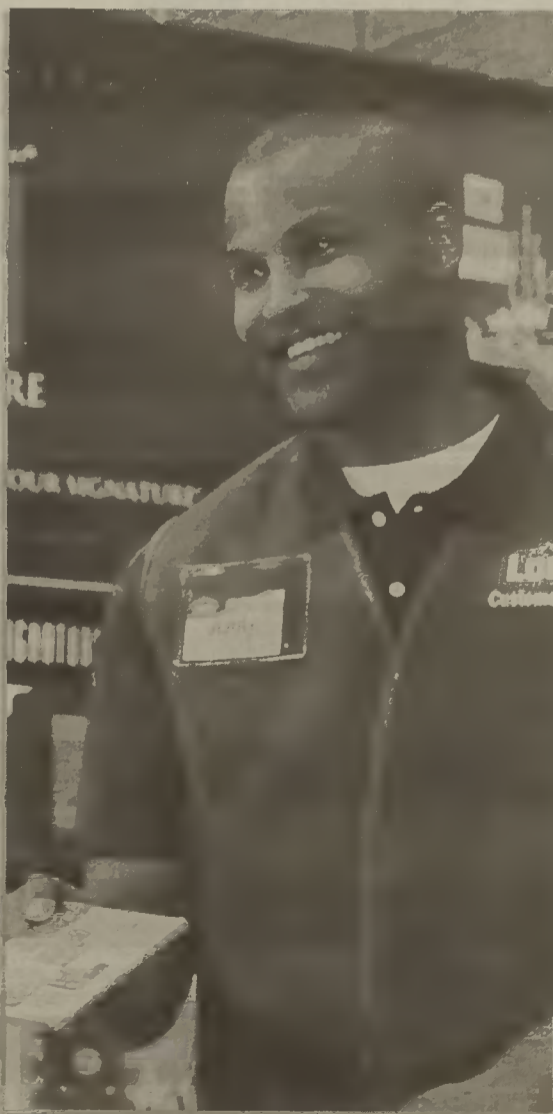
tor in chief Cindi Leive said many of the trends were extensions of things already doing well in stores. Those include flashes of metallic fabric, lace, skirts, adorned coats and neutral colors.

"These are things two or three years ago that would have been considered extreme," Leive said, "but women like wearing that metallic bag or shoe for day, and they've taken to the tulip skirt."

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