ollegiate fashions set stylish standards

How did a frivolity like fashion ever come to occupy a space of importance in The University — an institution of life's higher aspirations towards philosophy, art, literature, music and, yes, basketball?

The idea of college chic, then, is not a historical concept. Here are some some of the more current campus fashion indispensibles.

THE BLOUCHER MOCCASIN
(pronounced BLU—CHER)
These shoes can become your best friend. They are almost impossible to wear comfortably when they are brand-new, but if you leave them in your driveway for three months, in adverse weather conditions, and keep running over them with your car, they will be your softest slippers. Note: the truly authentic kind is made in Maine, by L.L. Bean. If you are from New England, or if you travel in stylish circles, then you will know that Blouchers should be worn without socks (even in the dead of winter), and the laces must be knotted, not tied in the conventional, nerdy way (see picture).

SWEATSHIRTS, from other colleges, of course.
Even though everyone on campus owns a Carolina sweatshirt, it's redundant to sit in the pit wearing the Blues. What fellow students really want to know is where else you applied, so they can snicker because you visited, bought a sweatshirt and were rejected. Almost half of our student body must have been rejected, oops . . . wait-listed, by Brown University.

PEARLS
This one is a biggie. Whether they come from Tiffany's or through mail order, pearls are omnipresent. Some girls even wear them to go jogging, on top of sweats. "I feel naked without them," says freshman Laura Ballance. Being at college is like living in a bubble. Don't expect your mom to understand.

RIPPED JEANS/ CUTOFF KHAKIS
Remember these? You worked on them for a year, to get them in just the right state of decay, and then, one sinister day, while you were at school, your mother threw them in the trash bin. Or perhaps you had a certain pair that was your favorite since eighth grade, but they were getting so perfectly ratty that your friends would cross to the other side of the street when they saw you coming. This spring, Marithe and Francois Girbaud, two Parisian clothing designers, famous for a line of top-selling jeans, are coming out with a new line of already-ripped jeans. The jeans, which will be priced from $70 to $100, are expected to clean out in the stores. Just imagine, for $100 you can have a pair of pants that will fall apart in a few months!

RAYBANS
Is any comment needed?

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It's quite a 'feet' keeping up with the latest in college fashion