

Back to cool: Getting 'the look' on a budget

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Virgin white tennis shoes. Crisp blue jeans. Humbling images from the first day of school. Maybe this year though, you lacked such tools to make your way that first day. Maybe, starving college students that you are, the washed out Murphy's Pub T-shirt had to suffice. But there is another way.

Alternatives to pricey department store shopping exist right here in Las Vegas. They are deviants of the non-profit organization store, venues that became popular with the alternative kids in the '80s who called themselves thrifters. Clothing from four not-so-secret second-hand clothing stores are creeping into even the most conservative boys' and girls' closets, because the clothing is inexpensive, and well, newly fashionable.

Of these, **The Attic** is the longest surviving bastion of used fashion. About a block from the corner of Charleston Boulevard, and Main Street, the store is above a second-hand used furniture store (to furnish that apartment across the street from the university). Upstairs, wall-to-wall used

and vintage clothing shroud a small cafe. Bowling shirts and baby dolls looking 20-years-old or more are packed next to an extensive selection of jeans—cool, comfortable, but by no means crisp. Everyone hates new jeans anyway.

Savers, down the street from The Attic on Charleston Boulevard, is a better store for those more comfortable in Marshall's than on Melrose. Calling itself "The Thrift Department Store," Savers offers racks and racks of used clothing, as well as new items from department store returns, factory close-outs, or discontinued items. Look for shoes, too. There's white ones, but none too white.

Manager Ron Smith said the back-to-school months of August and September are busy, but their biggest month is October because of all the people coming in for Halloween costumes.

Further down Charleston Boulevard, up a flight of wooden stairs on the back corner of a purple building is **The Haight**. Apart from the usual in the small front room, an old Ford/Dole T-shirt hangs on a rack next to other T-shirts with more prints. In another room, classic striped cardigans line

up next to well-selected sport coats. The collection here is relatively small, but in this case small is better. Owner Julie Bertling has three rooms full of finds veteran thrifters pray for.

And of course, what would The Haight be without a few kaleidoscopic prints tucked away here and there? It kind of reminds you of a hazy San Francisco day, until you step back out into the heat.

Finally, the Saks Fifth Avenue of second hand, the **Buffalo Exchange**. Somewhat of a men's and women's Contempo of the '90s, this place has everything from the very used to the cutting edge of new. The Exchange is making big business out of thrifting. Anyone requiring labels can find them here, including those of Ann Taylor, Esprit, Girbaud, and Georges Marciano.

Take care, but buyer beware. The Buffalo Exchange is a chain with 15 stores in the West, and they are becoming experienced in tempting the buyer with expensive new clothes sharing racks with the old.

Buffalo Exchange differs from many used clothing stores by following thrift traditions. At the time of pur-



Stephanie Rushia models outfits found at The Haight, which range from casual daywear (\$1.25 for shorts, \$.75 for tee-shirt) to dressy out-on-the-town attire (\$11 for dress, \$8 for shoes).

chase, the company donates five cents to local charities for each bag of clothing customers don't want.

It's the second week of school. Forget stiff jeans and first day of school shoes. Use

mom's money wisely and you'll have money left over for Moose's.

NEXT WEEK: A look at places to dine that won't leave you scrambling for cash.

Edge

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partment ladder truck, but the Washington County Fair offering helicopter rides as one of its attractions was a stroke of luck.

With cameras in tow, Elizabeth Jindrich and I proceeded to go up, up and away over the site. I felt like a National Geographic photographer, leaning out of the helicopter, snapping away at our site.

One of our final learning experiences was how to do archaeological surveying—looking for possible sites. Billings and Wedding took three groups of students for two days each to an area near Colorado City, Arizona to search for evidence.

"One of the skills you need is how to recognize archaeological sites, not just artifacts," Buck said. "Archaeological sites are all a big mystery. When things are buried, you can't see them, so we look for signs, like rocks poking up through the surface of a soil in a pattern, that something might be there."

The first two groups found some flakes and a broken biface, which is a large spear point. The final group, which I was a part of, got lucky.

Happy to find a substantial

There are many terms associated with archaeology. Many used in the article are generic for easy identification. Below is a more technical explanation of some of the terms used.

Artifact: refers to any portable/non-portable object owing any attribution to people. It can be a location, tool, bead, lithic or pottery. (If, when removed, the object loses its context, it is referred to as a feature).

Ceramics: refers to any pottery found at a site.

Excavation: refers to the removal of dirt and debris to expose artifacts. Usually accomplished by digging with shovel, pick or trowel (flat, pointed hand-shovel used to scrape or dig).

Feature designation: When a wall, fire

ring or other non-movable artifact is found in a unit, it is given a number, which identifies it from that point on. The first feature found at a site would be one and so on.

Lithics: refers to any flakes or fragments removed from a shattered stone core.

Screening: refers to the process of separating dirt and rock from artifacts. 1/4" screens were used on this dig.

Site: refers to the area where excavation is done.

Smithsonian Number: number a site (or artifact) receives under the National Registry of Historic Places. Our number, 42Ws3015 tells us that in Utah (the 42 state), in Washington County (Ws) our site was the 3,015 one to be recorded.

Unit: refers to the 2 x 2 or 2 x 3 meter work area an archaeologist excavates in.

scatter of lithics and pottery, we were ready to leave. All of the sudden, we began finding large amounts of pottery and lithics on the surface of the road we were walking on.

On Wedding's advice, we followed several washes up a small hill. I stopped in my tracks. Clearly visible were the remains of three sides of a square structure. The fourth wall slab had collapsed inside the structure, but it was definitely something.

Looking further, we found four circular rooms. In a 2 x 2 meter sample area, Wedding estimated the lithic/ceramic

scatter to exceed 500 pieces. Although we probably will never know what comes of this, it is possible that it will be the site of a future field school.

We were in the last days of our excavation. Relief and melancholy filled the air as the final digging was done, the final summaries were written, the final tools put away.

The high point amidst the sadness was the discovery of a room with the vertical wall slabs still intact. Buck had hoped to find several rooms with slab-lined walls, but in all of the previous rooms that were excavated, the slabs were

either broken or pulverized, probably due to elements such as weather and the passage of time.

As I waved good-bye to the now-familiar site and the co-workers I had become fond of, I couldn't help but be grateful I got to participate in the experience.

As an archaeologist, what you know determines where you can go in the field. We retrieved and identified over 7,000 artifacts. We learned how to excavate, screen, fill out necessary forms, map, survey and identify artifacts, all skills a future employer will

require one to have.

I asked Buck to share his thoughts on the benefits of participating in a field school such as this one. He felt everyone should learn a little about the past, whether it was their own or someone else's.

"The idea is we are all a part of humanity—we've been around this planet four billion years, and it's good for ones perspective to learn a little bit about it.

"But if you want to become an anthropologist, especially an archaeologist, you have to do field work," Buck added. "An archaeologists can't sit in a library and read what other people have done a hundred years ago."

Buck also talked about the social aspects of the dig, the friends that are made in the process.

"Sure, there are people that you hate and people that you like," he admitted, "but I've made friends for life, even found a wife."

So when wondering how to give yourself an edge while you're still in college, just check out the bulletin boards, course catalogs and keep your ears open. Success is just an application away.

NEXT WEEK: A look at the approach another student took to ensure success after college.

Dr. Prof. SHMUCK



HEY! LET'S NOT ALSO FORGET I GOT A Ph.D!

by Chill



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