

Take a *Maximum Risk*

by Adria Kovaly
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It is another double-take of Jean-Claude Van Damme as he once again plays twins, this time in his latest movie, *Maximum Risk*.

The twins are Alain (Van Damme), a retired soldier, who grew up in the south of France, and Mikhail (Van Damme), raised on the streets of New York and a member of the Russian mafia. While trying to return home to his family, Mikhail is killed for inadvertently betraying the mafia.

Alain finds his brother as he is dying and works to unravel the puzzles in his life.

His search takes him to America where he meets up with Alex (Natasha Henstridge), Mikhail's girlfriend.

The two form a bond that strengthens the movie, particularly as the two of them face off against the trials that come with Alain's case of mistaken identity.

While the action scenes appear to be exciting and innovative, I cannot help but reminisce about *Double Impact*. The movie has win brothers, separated at birth, that grow up totally different. The one learns of the other and while attempting to find him, the mishap occurs that throws them together (although not exactly the case in *Risk*). There is even the girlfriend that associates with both brothers.

Another twist that may make it different is the fact that, although Mikhail is dead, there is still a connection between Alain and himself. They



supposedly react the same way to situations and have a sense for each other.

Maximum Risk will probably be a favorite with die-hard Van Damme fans, as well as those of us who like action

with a bit of mystery thrown in.

My advice would be to wait for a dreary weekend or a slow day after classes to catch this one. That way you will have something to liven up your day.

FASHION

with Eric R. Krouse

Denim Disasters

This article is written to better humanity, because I think the student body should be educated about a glaring problem with the way people wear clothes.

This problem arose in the late 80's with Levi's introduction of the denim shirt. What happened next was a major shot to the fashion world... the *Denim Disaster*.

A *Denim Disaster* is when someone wears a denim shirt and a pair of jeans that don't quite match.

At first, denim clothes worked well together because they were from the same company and the colors were generally the same.

But when companies like Arizona and Wrangler (let me just say, I could do a whole article on why Wranglers should be outlawed) put out their own denim shirts, then people were wearing Arizona shirts and Levi jeans, which lead to the *Denim Disaster*.

Now that everyone understands what a *Denim Disaster* is, I would recommend avoiding them.

Here's how:

1) Keep the denim shirt, but lose the jeans; try khakis. Khakis are great. They are very easy to coordinate with. To dress up, put on a nice coat. To dress down, try a rugby shirt and an off-white T-shirt.

2) If denim must be worn together, I recommend putting a sweater on over the shirt.

This is a great way to take care of outfits that are just a shade away; in addition, a large belt, spring jacket buttoned or zipped up an inch will work as well.

Or don't worry about it and buy a new top.

3) If all else fails, and the disaster cannot be avoided, buy the denim from the same company.

Fashion extra: Why I hate Wranglers!

Wranglers are of obviously less quality than other name brand jeans.

I tried on a pair once; it made me want to dip some snuff, put on a "Travis Tritt" T-shirt, jump in a pick-up truck, and go tip a cow.

(Yes, that was me stereotyping... deal with it.)

Seriously, the people at Wrangler seem to be laboring under the falsehood that everyone's leg is perfectly tapered to the ankle.

Here we go, I work for "Limited INC" so I have to plug "Structure" jeans - they actually are very nice. They seem to be able to make them feel worn, without actually wearing them down.

Basically, it's comfortable without giving up quality.

Then we have the classics - Levi's. All the expensive designer jeans like "Tommy" jeans and "Calvin Klein" jeans are just overpriced Levis with neat little tags on them.

Although, Brooke Shields seems to like her Calvins, maybe if she wore them on her sitcom it won't get cancelled (there is no salvation for that show.)

This week I decided to finish you with the history of jeans.

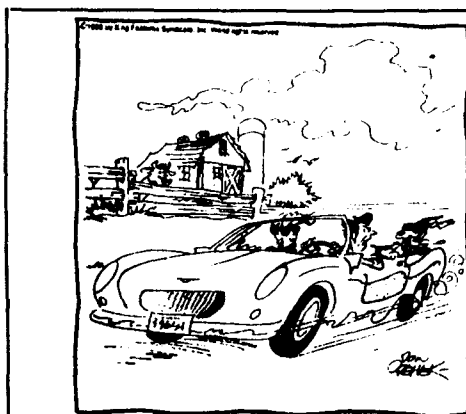
It all started during the California Gold Rush.

A man named Levi Strauss decided to go into the tent-making business and bought enough canvas to make 500 tents. It's easy to guess that tent makers were very common in the West, so his business failed. What was Levi to do?

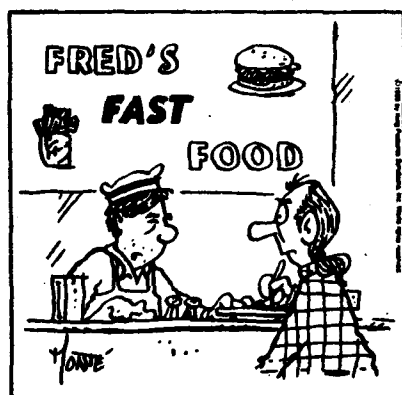
Of course, the obvious thing to do with canvas is to make pants with rivets. Great, now we have canvas pants held together with metal.

Now, lets jump ahead a couple of years. We are now in Nimes, France, and some guy, who is really bored, decides to wash and treat these canvas pants.

The result? A fabric called "Cloth de Nimes" (Cloth of Nimes). "De Nimes", denim, can we make a connection?



"Do you mind giving back my sunglasses!"



"Time's up."

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