

# Which fads did you embrace while growing up?

by [David Shields](#) on August 06, 2020.



There were no fads that I embraced during my childhood, as far as I can remember. However, during my youth I embraced three fads, two while I lived in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada and one after I moved to Provo, Utah in 1955.

The two fads in Canada were when I was 14 and 15 years old. I sometime wore pegger or drape casual dress pants, and I wore my hair in a ducktail or DA.

In Provo, when I was 15 and 16 years old, I wore casual dress clothes that included white belts and white shoes when I went to dances or on dates.

As for the pegger or drape pants, which apparently were more popular in Canada than they were in the USA, the upper part of each of the legs, instead of being smaller than the pant's waist, was the same as or greater than the circumference of the waist, down to the knee. From the knee down to the ankle cuff the circumference was decreased until the cuff circumference was just enough to let your foot pass through the cuff.

The largest circumference upper leg portions I ever saw a boy wear was 42 inches, even though his waist was less than 28 inches.

The largest circumference upper leg portion in any of my pants was the same as my waist, about 22 or 24 inches.

Some boys wore pegger pants all of the time, but I only wore them when going to a dance or a party. Pegger pants did not work as well when riding a bicycle or motorcycle as straight leg pants did. I could not find any pictures of pegger or drape pants from that era in Canada.

On the other hand, for a year or so, I wore my hair in the DA or ducktail hairstyle which required a considerable amount of a greasy, waxy, or water based substance called pomade to hold the hair in place. This was in the days before hair sprays.





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HAIR DRESSING POMADE

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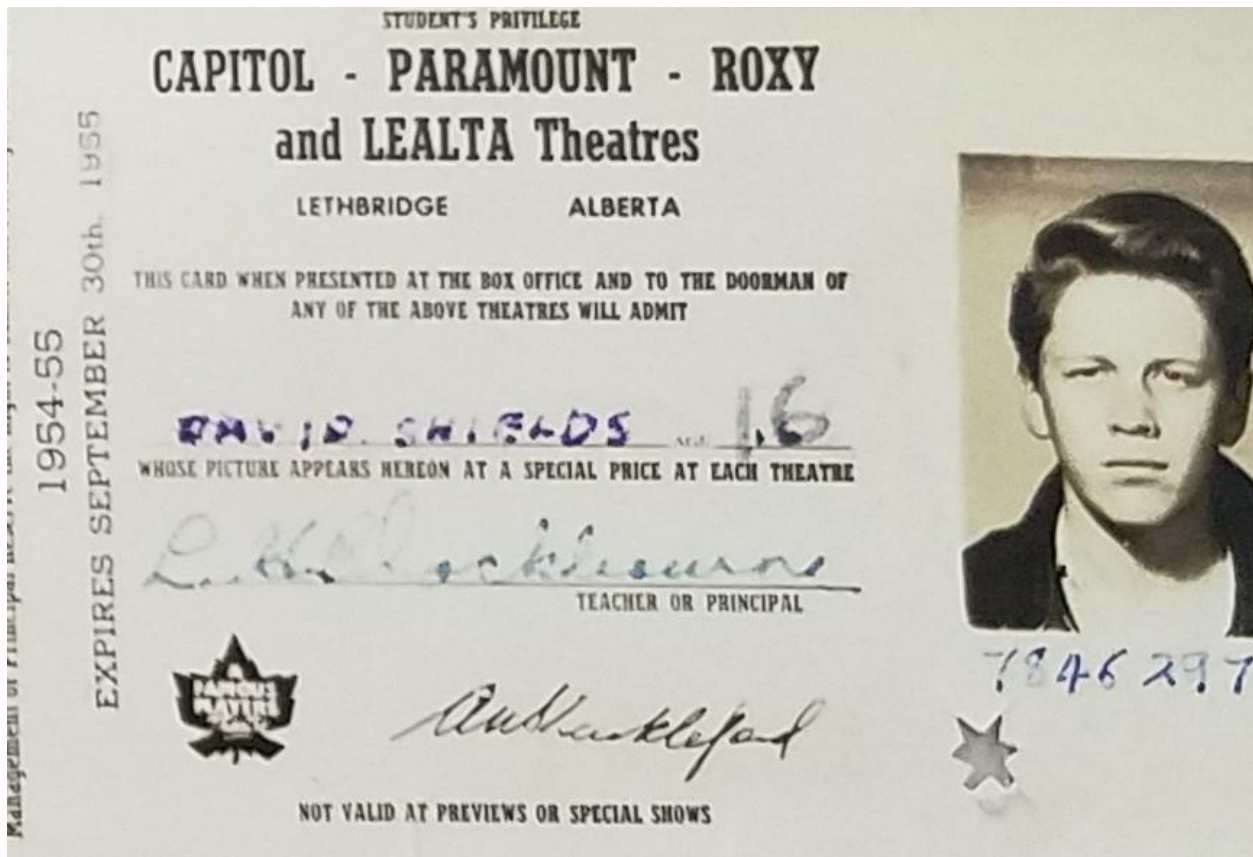
Directions: Rub MURRAY'S® pomade into hands to soften, rub thoroughly into hair, comb or brush into place. To obtain maximum benefit, dampen hair with warm towel and use a stocking cap to hold hair in place. To obtain maximum benefit, dampen hair with warm towel and use a stocking cap to hold hair in place. To obtain maximum benefit, dampen hair with warm towel and use a stocking cap to hold hair in place.

Discoaciones: Frote la pomada MURRAY'S® en las manos para ablandarla y aplíquela sobre el pelo húmedo. Para lograr el máximo beneficio, moje el cabello hasta obtener el estado deseado. Para suavizar el cabello, moje la pomada con una toalla caliente y recójala el cabello con un gorro. Para suavizar el cabello, moje la pomada con una toalla caliente y recójala el cabello con un gorro.

Mode d'emploi: Appliquez la pomade MURRAY'S® dans les paumes de la main et peignez ou brossez les cheveux. Pour obtenir le maximum de bénéfice, mouillez les cheveux avec une serviette chaude et utilisez un bonnet en tulle pour maintenir les cheveux en place.

Beachtungen: Nehmen Sie ein wenig MURRAY'S® Pomade in die Hände, um sie zu weichen und reiben Sie sie in das Haar ein. Um das Maximum an Nutzen zu erzielen, befeuchten Sie Ihr Haar mit einem warmen Handtuch und tragen Sie eine Strumpfhose, um das Haar in Position zu halten. Um das Maximum an Nutzen zu erzielen, befeuchten Sie Ihr Haar mit einem warmen Handtuch und tragen Sie eine Strumpfhose, um das Haar in Position zu halten.

My 1954-55 school ID card photo shows me in my DA haircut, wearing my black leather motorcycle coat. I was 15, not 16 as shown, but for some reason I thought 16 was a better number, so I changed it using a broad nib pen. I'm sure the theater managers were impressed, 😊 😊 😊.

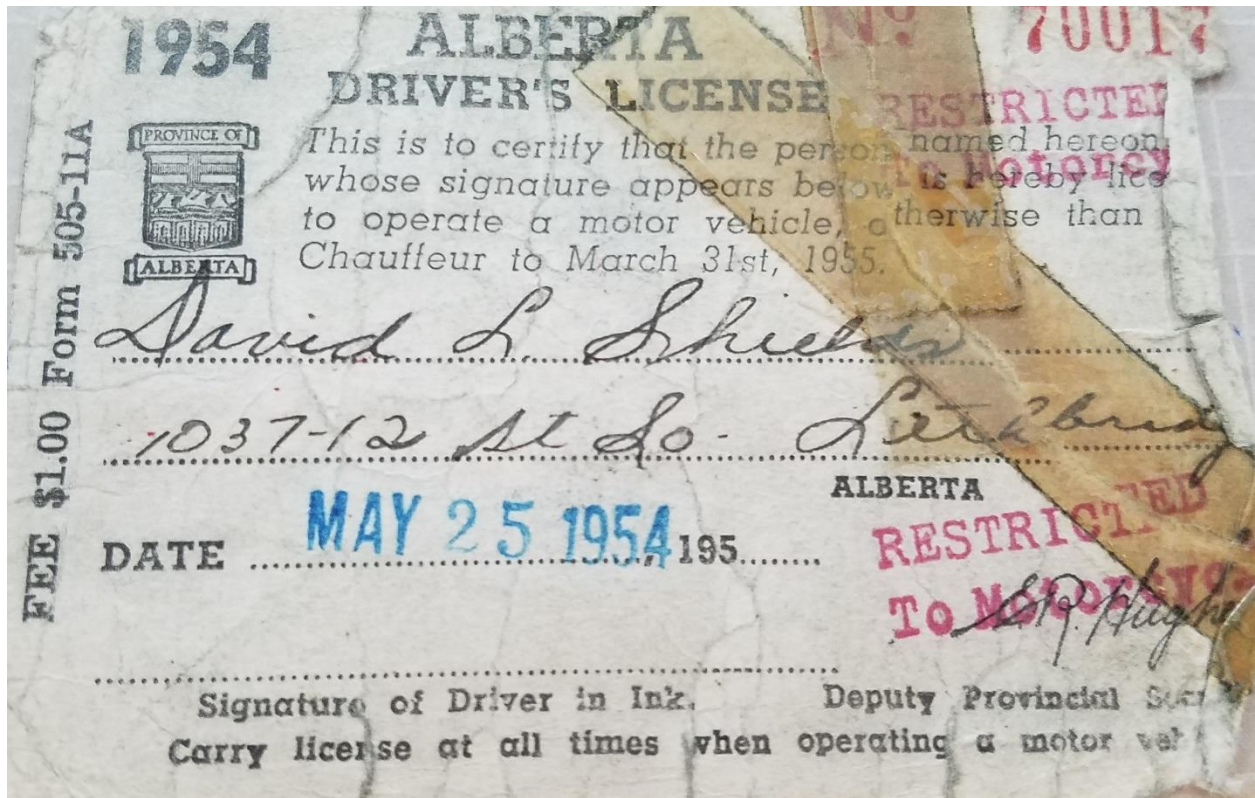


My driver's license for that year, which allowed me to operate a motor vehicle that was governed so that it could not go more than 20 mph was the second annual license that I had. I got my first license in May 1953 just after I turned 14 in April 1953.

During those two years I earned the money by working several jobs, bought, paid for, sold and traded for 9 different motorcycles. During the summer of 1956 I owned a Triumph 500 cc Tiger C on which my friend Barry Bright and I went 120 mph on a long straight section of highway west of Pincher Creek. We were descending east out of the Crowsnest pass with a 50 mph tailwind.

During those two years I got stopped by the RCMP only once and the officer did not say anything to me and the 5 others in the group of us that were on the highway going west towards Magrath, Alberta, except "slow down and stay

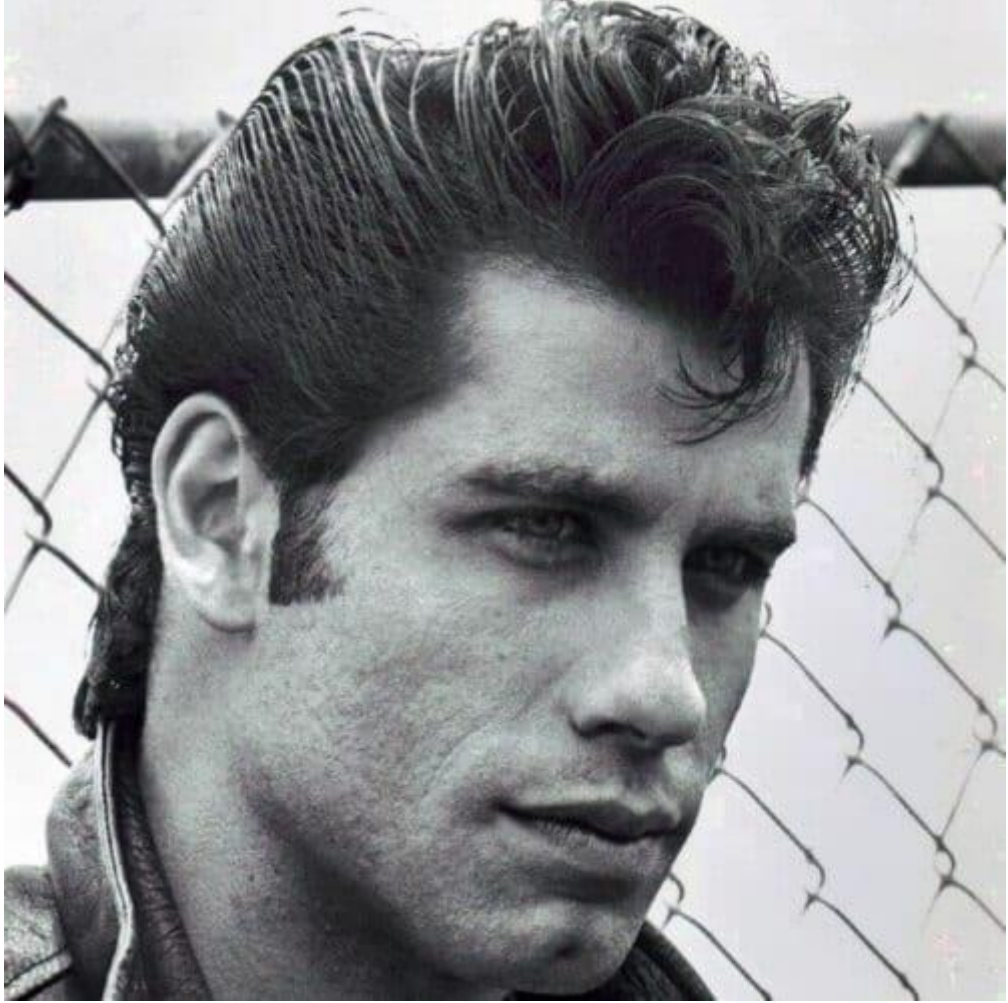
under the speed limit". The others were all 16 or over and were legal up to the posted speed limit, while I was supposed to be going no more than 20 mph.



My 1953-54 school ID card photo shows that I was quite different looking than I was the next year.

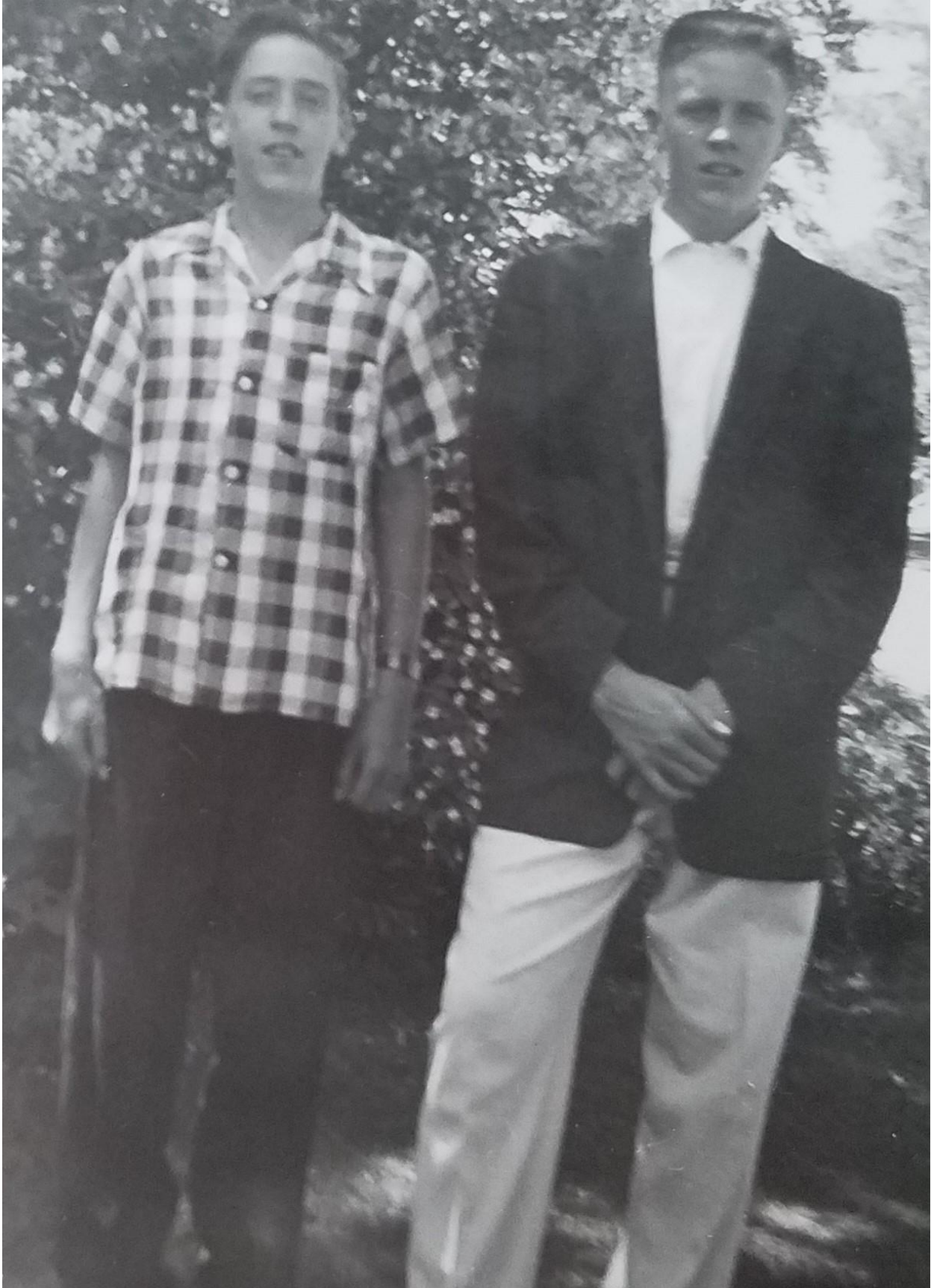


It was the 1950s and the greaser style image was the fad, as shown in the following picture, Cool then and quite hilarious to me now as I look back.



Then, when I moved to Provo, Utah and was no longer riding a motorcycle, I changed my image. I got my hair cut into a crew cut and I wore pretty much conventional clothing that those around me were wearing.







When going to dances, parties and on dates I wore a white belt and white shoes with the pants and shirts that I had. White belts and white bucks (shoes) were definitely a fad for men and boys in the mid 1950's



