

## Something new on old wedding gift registry

By Jennifer Dorazio  
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Coming soon to a wedding registry near you: power tools, personal electronics, camping gear, even pet products.

This is the new face of the wedding registry — and you'd better get used to it. Today's couples might not want Wedgwood, but they sure could use a new mulch drum.

Purists may cringe at the downfall of Lenox, the collapse of candelabra. Great-Aunt Dottie may wonder where the silver chargers and gravy boats went. But experts as seasoned and respected as Peggy Post have declared hobby, home-improvement, or just out-of-the-ordinary wedding registries acceptable — even encouraged.

For some couples, the change in wants has come because they're getting married older, or married again, and have already accumulated enough traditional basics. They're now into home DIY projects, or their new dog. For others, it's just a heck of a lot more fun to ask for electronics or tools — especially for the guys, who have become equal partners in choosing the registry.

Collingswood couple Evan and Laura Roskos, who got married in May, did register for a mulch drum, on Amazon.com, where they picked out says Evan, 28. "We had a lot of the stuff you normally register for already. There's so much more you can register for — not just linens and towels."

So they went non-traditional: the Giam Spinning Composter (\$180), a push mower (\$130), an iPod audio system (\$170), and a dog bed (\$70, for their terrier mix Sable). Most of their wedding guests were friends their own age, who embraced online buying, Evan says. Even a handful of DVDs didn't cause much of a stir (*Harry Potter* and *Seinfeld* boxed sets, among others), and they liked the nearly limitless product choices.

Initially, the Roskos didn't even plan to do a store registry, until they got wind of grumbings from older guests who said "I want to see the things I'm buying." So they chose 10 items at Target, too.

"There are fewer [registry] taboos," says Antonia van der Meer, editor in chief of *Modern Bride*. For today's couples, "registries more represent who they are. It's good for things to get shaken up a little bit."

Don't be surprised, however, if some guests turn up their noses. "You're showing the lifestyle you enjoy," van der Meer says. "You have to register and walk away — knowing you'll be judged."

See **REGISTRY** on M6



Registry Wars:

### What's Hot, What's Not

92 percent of engaged couples register. On average, they register at three retailers. Average registry value: \$4,200.

#### Hot

##### On REI registries:

Camping gear (tents, sleeping pads, lightweight stoves)

Adventure travel items (luggage, duffel bags)



##### On Home Depot registries:

Power tools  
Flooring and lighting  
Grills



##### On registries in general:

Home furnishings  
Personal and home electronics  
Sports and outdoor items  
Crystal stemware  
Cookware and bakeware



#### Not

Department-store registries (down 14 percent)

Fine china (down 4 percent)

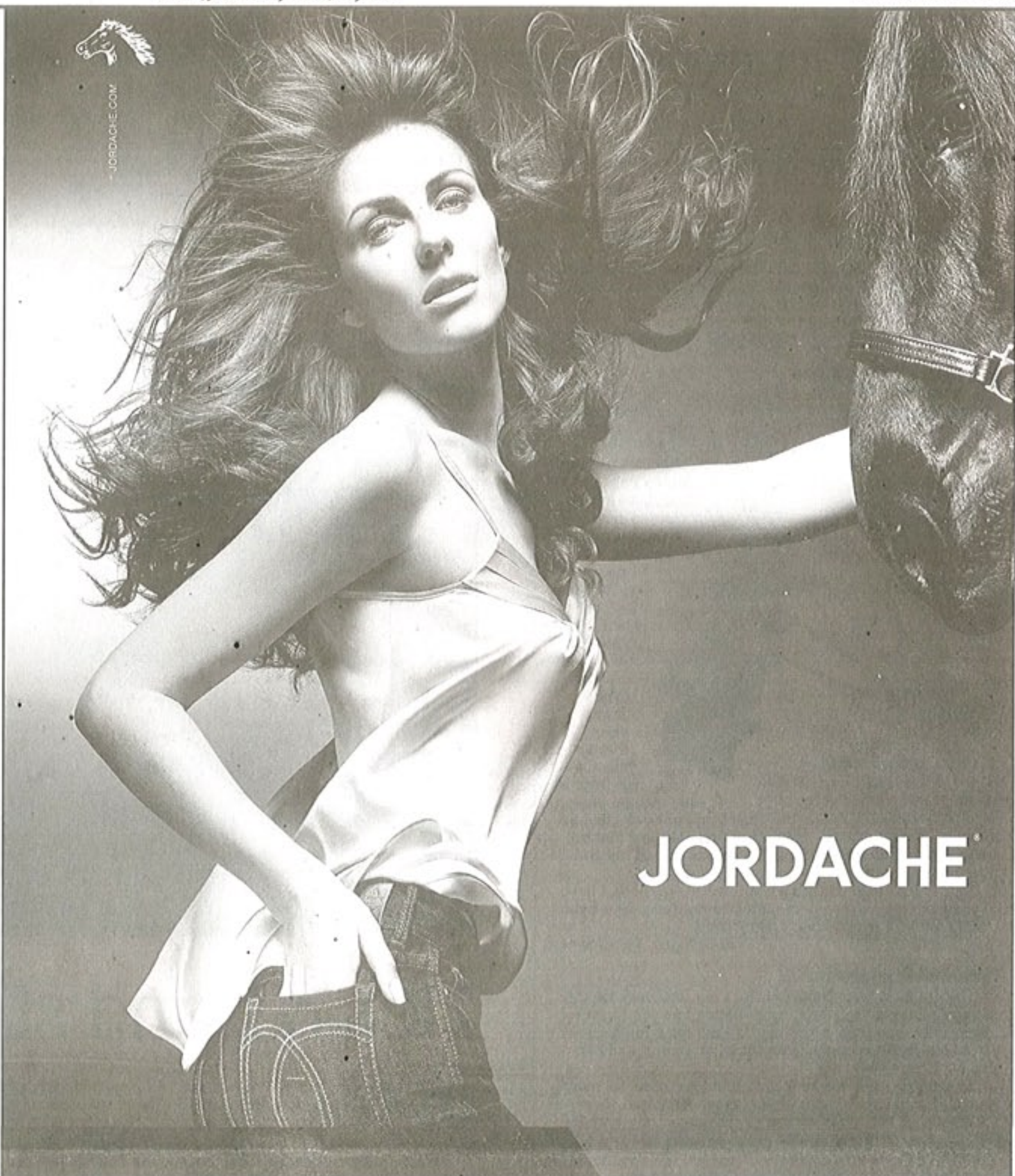
Small kitchen appliances, casual dinnerware, and flatware (all down 1 to 2 percent)

SOURCES: REI, Home Depot, Conde Nast's American Wedding Study 2006.



### INSIDE

**Craig LaBan:** The house-churned ice creams are a highlight at the Water Works, but much else needs work. **M5.**



## BACK IN THE

# saddle

That '70s star Jordache, along with stalwarts like Levi's and Lee, is trying a comeback, looking for a chunk of the premium denim market.

**R**emember the Jordache Look? The straight-legged, dark denim jeans with the stitched horse logo is trying to make its way back to the top of fashion. In the classic pair, white stitching still snakes

up the trouser's inseam and trims the pocket before twisting into the designer brand's trademark curlicue.

But instead of glossy magazine ads featuring shirtless, feather-haired models, the current Jordache Look features a twice-as-thin-as-them Liz Hurley, looking very 2006 with a blowing mane and a satin camisole.

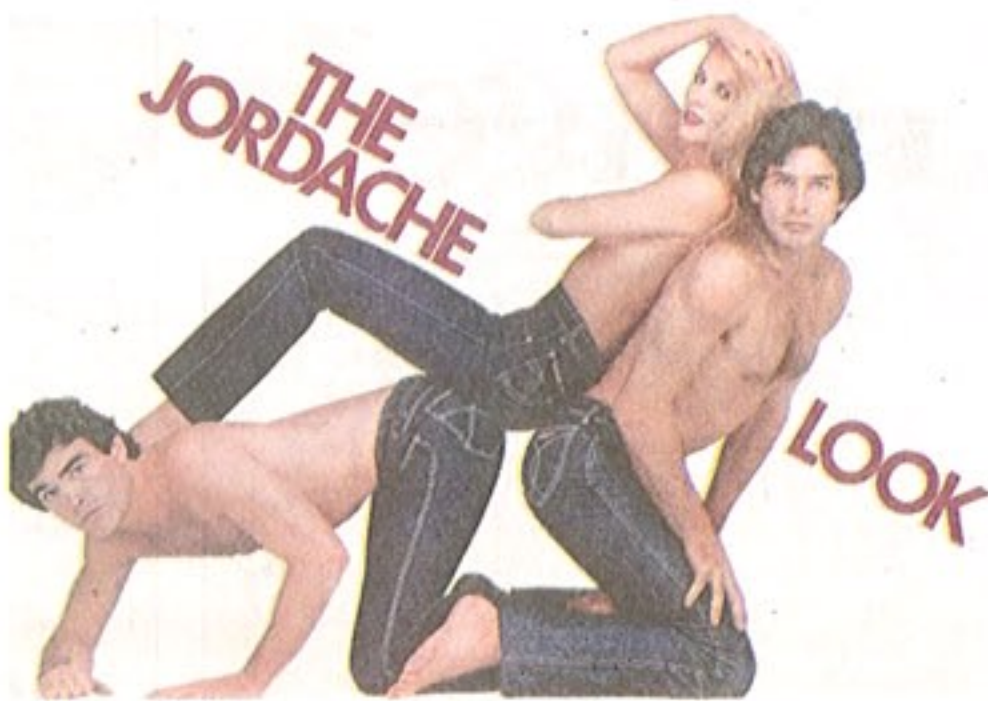
(No new "Jordache" song, though. Which is good, because I can't stop humming the original.)

"Basically, this is a modern take on the designer Jordache brand we launched through the '70s and '80s," said Lissa Cole, vice president of sales and divisions. See **REVIVAL** on M4



MIRROR, MIRROR

ELIZABETH WELLINGTON



Jordache print ads, past and present: Elizabeth Hurley, top, is the face of the denim brand's comeback campaign this fall. An ad from 1979 touted "the Jordache Look." The latest Jordache styles cost \$70 to \$100.

## Yes, curvy women, you can wear, and love, skinny jeans

By Elizabeth Wellington  
INQUIRER FASHION WRITER

**T**he outcry started last spring, when celebrities made it clear that the style gods have deemed skinny jeans the next must-have item.

I initiated some of the furor among my hippy coworkers. We shook our heads in disgust. "Uh-uh — no way!" we said, wag-

ging our in-between-manicures fingers. "Who can wear these skinny jeans? Nobody, and nobody should wear them."

Our rancor was rooted in fashion fear. If we convinced ourselves that skinny jeans were unacceptable, then we wouldn't have to try them. We'd be justified in our pronouncement that thin women, average- See **JEANS** on M4