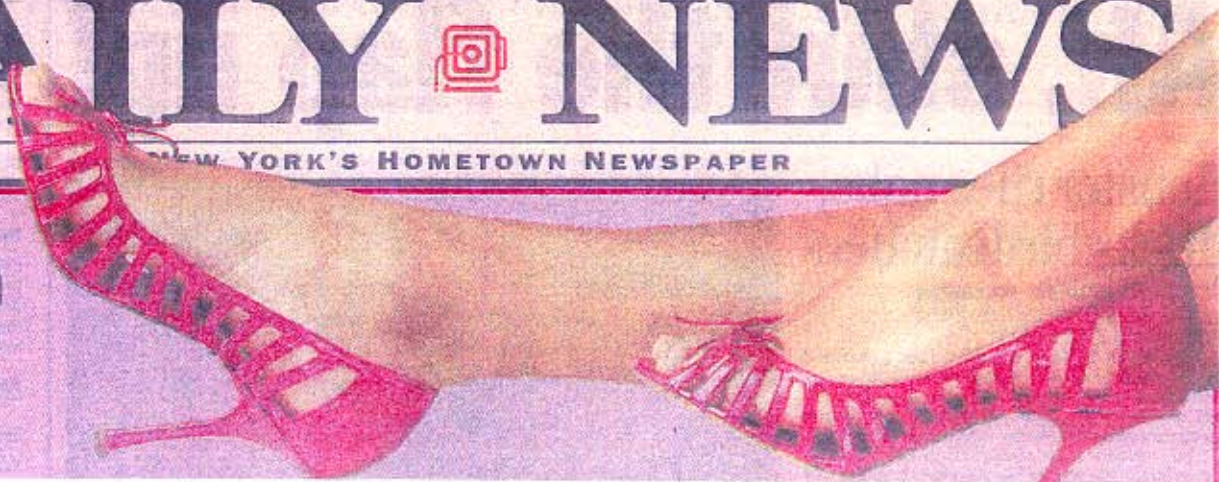


# DAILY NEWS

50¢

NEW YORK'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

## Shoe Week!



## Shoe's gotta have it

How New York's most fashionable females stay well-heeled

**W**hat's the window into a woman's soul? Her shoe closet. It's where she stows her strappy sandals, displays her prized pumps and chucks her punky Converse. It's also a most sacred spot. That's why we were thrilled to get entrée to three of the most stylish shoe collections in New York City.



### CLOSET CASE: MEGHAN CLEARY

Meghan Cleary falls so hard for shoes, it can be sick. Really.

"I'm pretty much throwing up over these," says Cleary, pointing lustfully at \$575 lizard Alexandra Neel sandals in a catalogue. "I want them badly."

If Cleary's collection is any indication, she gets what she wants when it comes to footwear.

It's displayed on an 8-foot stepladder whose rungs are home to vintage and new pumps, sandals, stilettos and slides by Sigerson Morrison, Ashley Dearborn, Miu Miu, Christian Louboutin, Dries Van Noten and more. (A \$900 pair of Jimmy Choo holds a spot of honor in her bedroom.)

The ladder is visible from the living room of her Village flat — by design. "Shoes are so beautiful and so much a part of my life, I decided to display them," says the 33-year-old from Michigan, who's scheming about how to improve on the idea and brand it.

Then again, you'd expect that from a marketing whiz turned author who writes about shoes at missmeghan.com and in the book "The Perfect Fit: What Your Shoes Say About You," in stores now.

Cleary's passion for shoes grew in Catholic school. "We wore uniforms," she says, "and my shoes were the only way to be an individual."

Today, she still does her own thing when it comes to shoes, like shiny red kitten-heeled slingbacks. "I didn't wear them for the longest time," says Cleary. "I used them as a centerpiece on my table."

"Shoes can change a woman's mood," she says. "They change the way you walk. They're your connection to the ground."

J.D.