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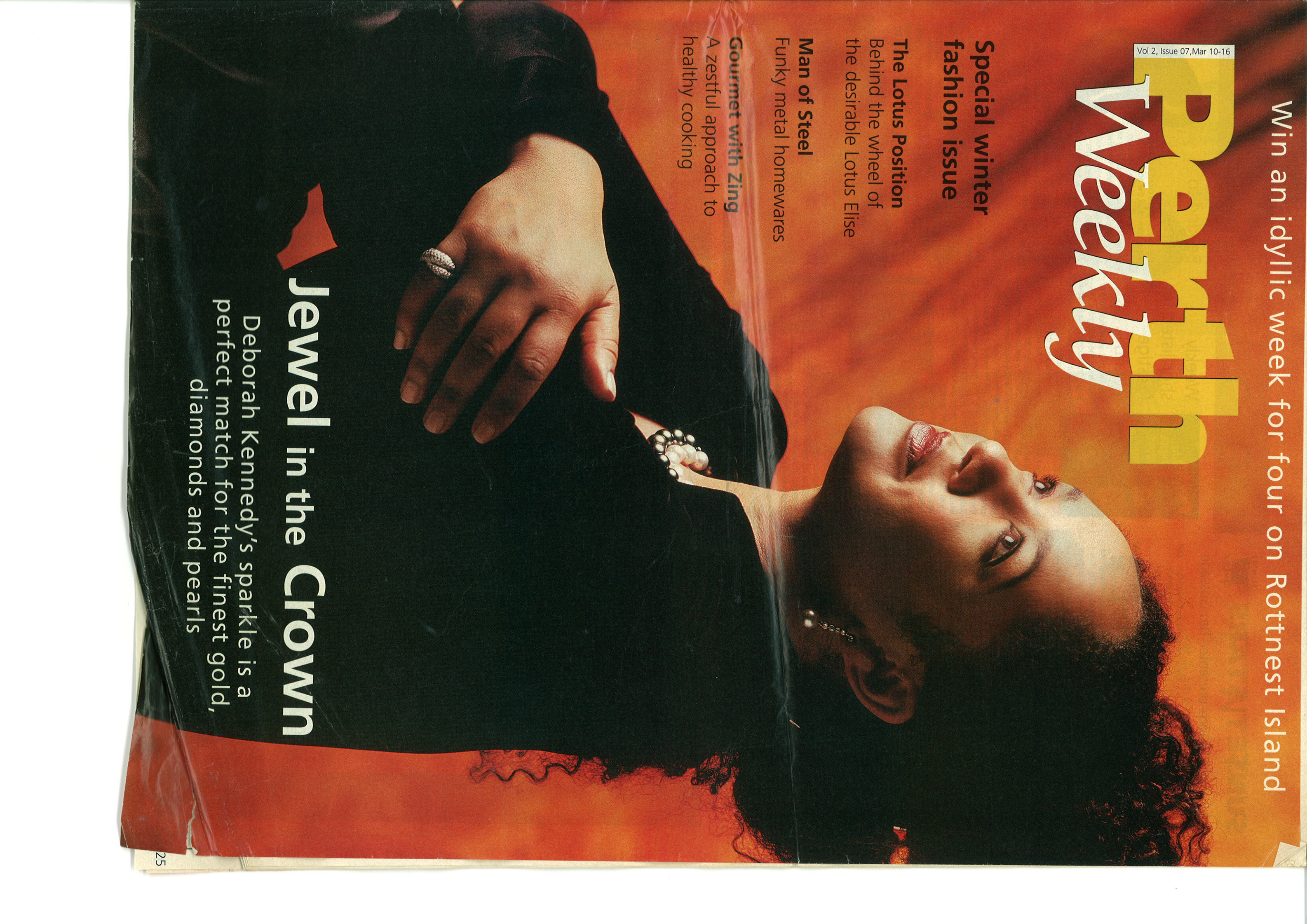
Perth Weekly

Special winter fashion issue

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Man of Steel
Funky metal homewares

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A zestful approach to healthy cooking



Jewel in the Crown
Deborah Kennedy's sparkle is a perfect match for the finest gold, diamonds and pearls

Man of steel

A Perth designer combines his knowledge of metallurgy with cutting-edge design.

JONATHON WORNER is the kind of designer design students must really dislike. He's never set foot inside a classroom to learn about design and yet, just 12 months into business, he has Perth's most stylish retail outlets eager to sign him on.

Having worked regularly in his father's Perth engineering firm, which fabricates metal components and precision-machined products for the mining and oil and gas industries, he has a keen interest in metals.

After three years in the finance industry in London he returned to Perth to find himself wondering why he was unable to find funky metal homewares here. "There weren't any cool products around," he says.

So he decided to make some of his own, starting with a stainless steel napkin ring.

His Alloy Homewares range now also includes tea lights, canisters, shot glasses, sushi plates, candlesticks, salt and pepper pinch dishes, and cufflinks.

His design ability apparently has come naturally.

He is especially pleased with his stainless steel mosaic tiles, which he says no one else in the world produces and which offer a sleek alternative to sheeted stainless steel for benches and walls.

"I have always liked stainless steel and titanium," he says.

"Stainless steel has become a big thing in kitchens, but I thought there should be another option for people who want to use it.

"The tiles look really smart because the steel has a grain in it which catches the light."

Jonathon says he has used the mosaic tiles — which come in sizes 20mm x 20mm, 100mm x 100mm and 41mm x 41mm — with an iridescent blue paint in his bathroom at home and the effect is stunning.

The use of titanium in the business is limited so far to cufflinks, but he plans more extensive applications of the light, strong alloy which can be wrought into various colours by changing the temperature to which it is heated.

Quick to qualify the notion that his success has come quickly, Jonathon says he has been lucky because the business infrastructure was

already in place when he began. "I had the advantage of having access to the factory and materials and I already had the know-how," he says. "Anyone can be a designer, but you have to be able to make it viable. If I had had to start from scratch it would have been impossible."



Jonathon Wornor

Fiona Adolph

Alloy Homewares
PO Box 11 Bayswater, WA, 6053;
phone 9279 8855, fax 9279 9929.

Retail outlets:

Empire Homewares, 121-135 Hay St, Subiaco; phone 9388 1318.

RG Madden, 53 Bay View Tce, Claremont; phone 9284 4141.

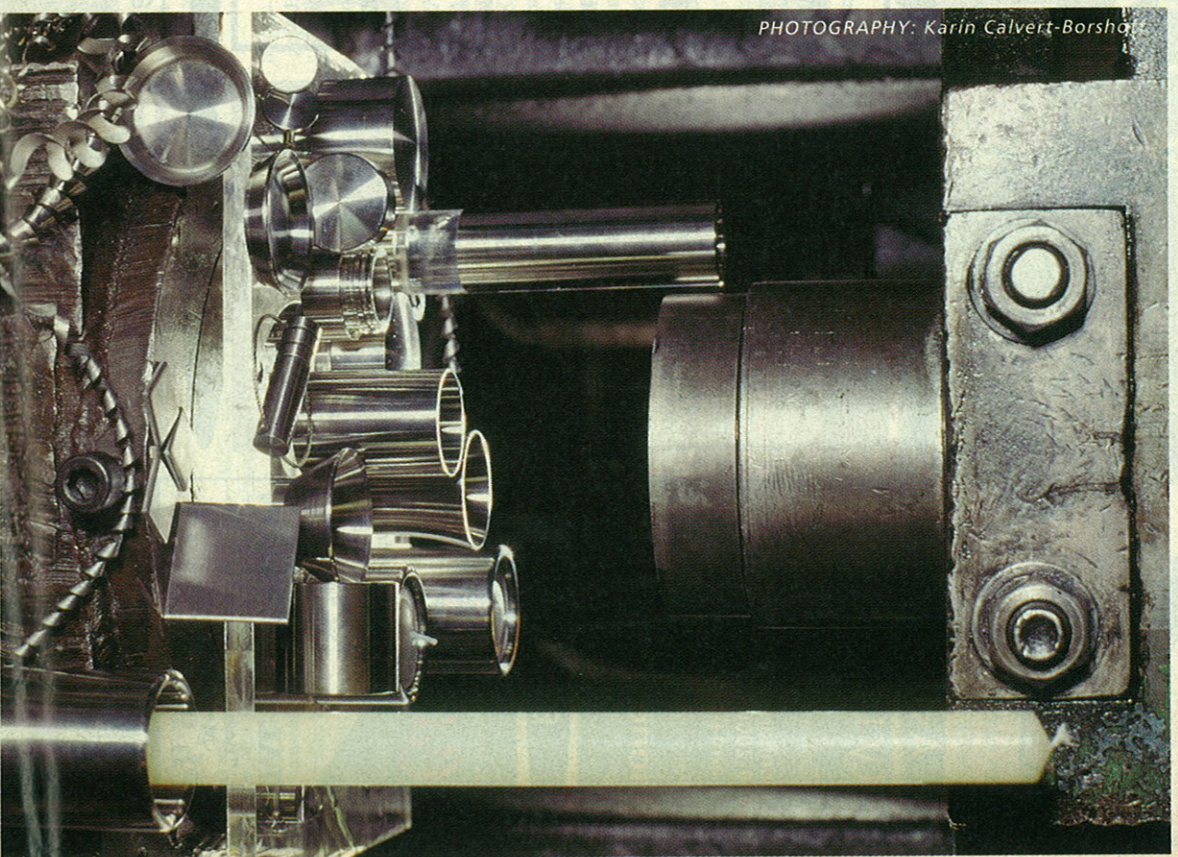
Mia Cucina, 133 Oxford St, Leederville; phone 9443 7233.

Craftwest Centre for Contemporary Art and Design, 357 Murray St, Perth; phone 9226 2799.

Inner Space, 31 King St, Perth; phone 9485 2588.

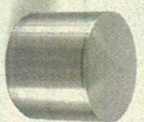
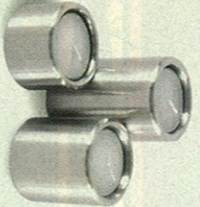
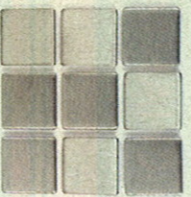
Atika Tiles, 371 Rokeby Rd, Subiaco; phone 9382 4666.

Chan's Gourmet Delicatessen and Cafe, cnr Bulwer and Lake streets, Northbridge; phone 9228 0866.



PHOTOGRAPHY: Karin Calvert-Borshoff

On the press: a selection of Jonathon's designs including shot-glasses, \$39; candlestick holders, \$79; and salt and pepper pinch bowls, \$25 each.



Top to bottom:
stainless steel canister, \$49; tea lights, \$39-59; key ring, \$80; and mosaic tiles, \$300sqm.

streets ahead in Claremont

education

swan valley

march 17

march 24

march 31



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Perth Weekly



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