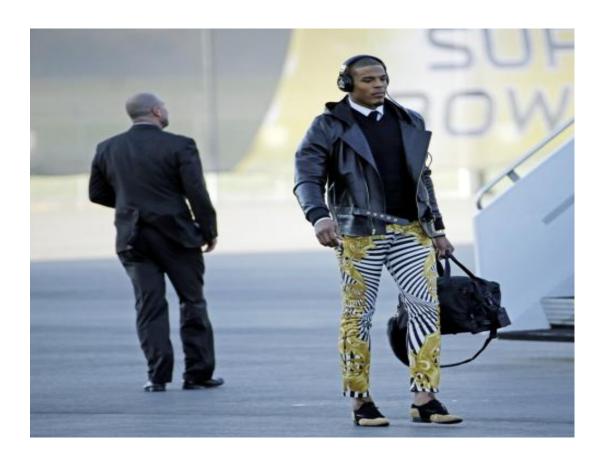
Cam Newton heads to Super Bowl 50 in \$849 zebra-striped Versace pants

This quarterback walks on the wild side.

Carolina Panthers QB Cam Newton traveled to Super Bowl 50 in San Francisco wearing fierce \$849 zebra-striped Versace jeans.

The MVP frontrunner donned the fitted, stretchy animal print pants overlaid with a contrasting gold pattern on Sunday, and paired them with a sleek pair of suede black loafers sporting gold heels and toes — worn without socks, of course — and a leather jacket.

MYERS: NEWTON, MANNING HIGHLIGHT SUPER BOWL WEEK







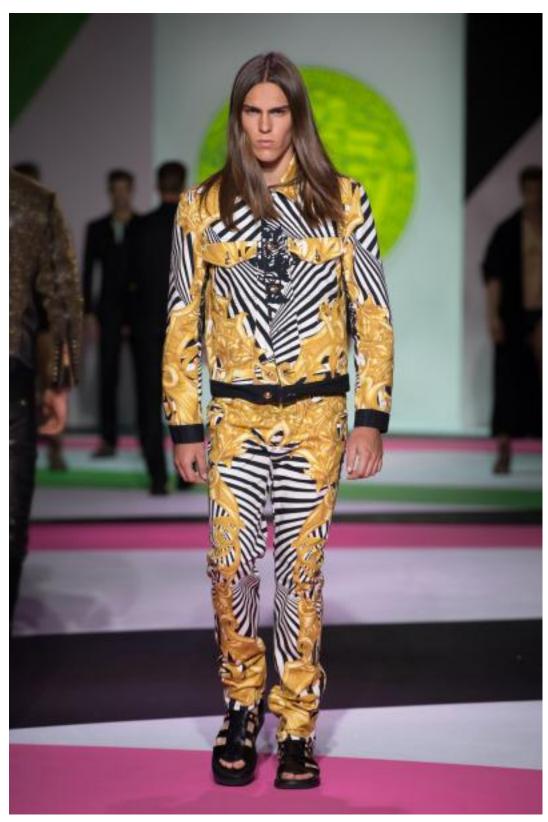
LYST.COM

Cam Newton was spotted in Versace Barocco Zebra Print jeans overlaid with gold.

He topped his statement ensemble with a pair of headphones emblazoned with a gold "SB50" on the side.

NEWTON DIDN'T INTEND FOR COMMENTS TO BECOME 'RACE THING'

"Versace is known for scandaous clothing that creates headlines," says celebrity stylist Phillip Bloch, who recalls Jennifer Lopez's plunging green Versace dress at the 2000 Grammys.



COURTESY VERSACE

The Yellow Barocco Zebra Print Jeans were from Versace's Spring/Summer 2014 collection.

Bloch, who is also the creative director for NFL women's apparel, gives Newton credit for taking risks off the field.

"It takes a brazen, bold man to carry off those bad pants," Bloch adds.
"You have to be that big, and that bad, to wear those bad pants."

The Yellow Barocco Zebra Print Jeans were from Versace's Spring/Summer 2014 collection, and are already sold out online. But a similar pair of Barocco Accent Print Jeans that are mostly black, without the zebra stripe, or similar styles are available on Versace's site for \$1,545, or in the Fifth Avenue and Soho Versace stores. Newton's pants were on fire on social media.

"#CamNewton those pants were the best thing ever! Don't let them tell you otherwise! Winners take risks both on and off the field! #Panthers," wrote Amanda Lynea Friends on Twitter.

"This morning I turned on the news and saw Cam Newton's butt in those Versace zebra print pants," tweeted comedian Meghan O'Keefe.

NEWTON CAN JOIN EXCLUSIVE CLUB IF HE WINS MVP, SUPER BOWL

"This dude Cam Newton has the most confidence in the world right now. Look at those pants," posted Twitter user David Wood.

But some stylists say Newton fumbled by trying too hard.

THE TOP 10 SUPER BOWL ADS OF ALL TIME



ROBERT LAHSER/AP

Cam Newton sports zebra-stripe Versace pants en route to Super Bowl 50.

"It's flashy, and it shows he thinks a lot about fashion and style - but he doesn't have any," says celebrity stylist Robert Verdi.

"Wearing those jeans does not make you a fashion plate," he adds. "It makes you someone with a lot of money who doesn't know what to buy."

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Bloch agrees.

"When my 80-year-old aunt wore them back in Boca, I thought they were lovely," he cracks.

"These are a Hail Mary pass for attention. They're garish, but they work, because they are separating him from the pack. Cam Newton and his pants are now all anyone is talking about."

The foxy football player has had a field day with making fashion statements.

He made headlines last month when he sported \$2,000 Christian Louboutin loafers (sans socks) that were studded with gold spikes for a press conference.



GRANT HALVERSON

And Newton has famously worn \$200 fur tails designed by the Exclusive Game store in Atlanta clipped to his belt at press conferences. Some reports estimate he's paid more than \$12,000 on the posh pelts, and other athletes like Carl Crawford and Wallace Gilberry have hopped on the tail trend.

He'll wear his regulation Panthers uniform this Sunday, however, to face off against the Denver Broncos at Super Bowl 50.