Designers unveil 'Year of The Suit'

The Reuter News Report

Suit" for Paris haute couture designers, almost all of whom feature easy-going tailored suits in their spring and summer collections.

Yves Saint-Laurent reiterated his highly successful semi-classic approach. showing both slim, knee-length skirts often buttoned in the back or simple mannish trousers with infinitely varied jackets.

Guy Laroche showed some beautifully tailored suits in classic navy bluewith-white, an approach shared by Saint-Laurent, who added a nautical

air with gold or silver metal buttons. The most applauded dresses were plain, black crepe de chine sheaths, some adorned with large rhinestone bottons, wide-cuff bracelets and chandelier earrings.

Other dresses played with soft drapery, side-wrapped surplice effects or deep cowled hoods falling into a flattering low neckline.

A clue to the theme of each collection is often found in the elaborate floral decorations prepared for the show and this year was no exception.

Towering paim trees dripping with tropical flowers underlined Saint-Laurent's South Sea Island look.

Mannequins with long hair flowing down their backs swayed down the

Fluorescent fad has bright future

By Julie Liska Staff Reporter

Picture it: A fluorescent pink sweatshirt with fluorescent yellow pants, fluorescent orange socks and - oh yes - a nice, bright pair of fluorescent pink and green earrings. Does this turn you on, or turn your stomach? If it turns you on, chances are you're caught up in the "fluorescent fad" that's invading the nation.

Although fluorescent items are selling best among the younger age groups, it is not limited to them. All age groups are going for the eyeshocking colors.

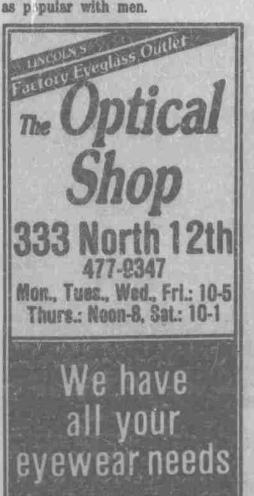
Part of the reason for the success of fluorescents garb is because it is so different. Melaule Koza of Brauns at the Centrum attributes the fad to punk

"A lot of the fads come from the rock and roll singers - not because they necessarily like them, but because they just like to be different," Kosa

"The fluorescents started with the Michael Jackson look, and slowly became more dressy. Fluorescent clothes have had good success because they're fun and different," said Pam Bornemeir, manager of Brauns at Gateway.

The fluorescent colors and styles of today are reminiscent of the past. Bornemeier said "mothers often come in the store and say 'Oh, I used to have something just like that. I wish I would have saved it.' But as for being exactly the same, there will always be different fabrications and colors."

According to Kiley Arneson, at the Brass Buckle, the shocking colors aren't



catwalk in sarong-draped silk prints wedding veil and wore in its place a PARIS - This is the "Year of the with sensuously plunging necklines.

Others wearing solid-toned draped jersey dresses stepped out with short boleros embroidered with exotic ferns and orchids. To complement this, they wore fresh flowers tucked in the hair at one side.

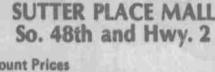
white organza, ignored the traditional

wreath of white orchids.

In Laroche's collection, the bride was a prototype of the "high-low" hemlines seen in much of his evening wear.

The gown was a short, knee-length sheath in white taffets with an enormous bow at the back. Its wide strea-The Saint-Laurent bride, in filmy mers flowed down to the floor to form a

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