

Men's winter suits—three-piece on earth

By Carla Engstrom

The new trend in men's fashions this season is a return to the old trend of traditional three-piece suits. The current styles on both coasts are a nostalgic replicas of the '30s and '40s.

The fashion trends dictate a tailored European look, according to four Lincoln store managers and buyers.

The number one seller at Magee's is a three-piece corduroy suit priced from \$85 to \$100, according to buyer Bob Lewis.

"A lot of people buying have not been into suits and (corduroy suits) are not a full step into suits," Lewis said.

'Good strong sellers'

In the sweater department, Magee's has four "good strong sellers." The sweater shirt has a collar, it's light to middle weight with a rugby look and is priced from \$16 to \$11.

Ski sweaters are "very strong" sellers this season. They are a little bulkier with a crew neck. They come in prints, such as snowflakes or reindeer. Prices range from \$20 to \$30.

The cardigan coat sweater comes in lay-back collars, some belted, and some solid prints. Materials are fisherman knits or tweed, prices are \$30 to \$60.

The light-weight European sweater crew-necks are suitable for wearing sports shirts underneath and cost \$16 to \$22.

Corduroy jeans popular

The most popular pants outside of jeans (\$15 to \$25) are corduroy jeans (\$15 to \$22), Lewis said.

The down-filled nylon jackets (\$60 to \$80) and vests (\$30) are fashionable.

The styles of shirts selling are sweater shirts, western and flannel types, they range in price from \$13 to \$20.

Magee's buys its cloths from New York and California wholesalers, Lewis said.

Bivouac, 1235 Q St., clothing line is functional, casual type wear, said Rob Rickard, assistant manager.

A big seller is the cardigan, wrap around sweater and pull over, prices range from \$18 to \$40. They also carry Peter Storm oil sweaters, the material is actually oiled, priced \$36.

The styles in jeans are moderate flair cords, \$14 and straight leg Levis, jeans, \$12 and up.

Down coats popular

Down goose coats are "most popular" and priced from

\$50 on. They offer accessories such as down-hill ski hats starting at \$2.50 and ski gloves, starting at \$8.95.

Hiking boots are popular this season and start at \$45. Flannel shirts are "in" and priced from \$9.

G. Henry's, 126 N. 13th St., stocks clothes with "more of a business man's effect," according to manager Howard Shaw. They offer the "polo look," which is halfway between American and European styles. It's a trim body fit, square shoulders, three-piece suit. It's available in pin stripe, and prices range from \$135 to \$235.

The fashionable suit has traditional look, which comes in hair bone, tweeds and wools. The trend is going toward the English look, Shaw said.

Silk ties

Accessories such as ties \$8.50 to \$12.50 are available and come in combinations of polyester and silk or all silk styles.

A year-round light weight, waterproof trench coat with a zip-out lining is a good seller. The price is \$60.

At Backstage Ltd. Shoe Boutiques, 1201 Q St. and Gateway Shopping Center, all its shoes are imported from Europe or South America. The average price is about \$35 for men's shoes, according to owner and buyer Christopher McLean.

Comfortable shoes

"The emphasis is back to comfortable shoes," McLean said. The "Get There," with wave bottom soles, selling for \$36, are popular along with Clark Bull Hides, which are natural tan with crepe bottom and plain toe and sells for \$35.

From fashion view point, McLean said, "It's a low heeled tapered, light weight shoe." The styles are a comeback from the '30s and '40s.

The fashionable shoe is a European, wing-tipped shoe selling for \$34.

Men in Lincoln still are buying higher heels and the new trends are "actually slow selling." But acceptance should be good by next spring or autumn, McLean said.

Backstage tries to follow basic eastern trends that follow men's clothing fashions, according to McLean.

Jason's, 1346 P St., and at Gateway Shopping Center, sells more casual than dress styles, according to manager and buyer Praviz Kamgar. "Although fashion dictates a dressier look."

'Romantic, sensual' look

The new look is "romantic and sensual" types of suits,

Kamgar said. "But that doesn't coincide with the type of look students buy. They stick to shirts and jeans."

The new color in pants is black. They come in jeans and corduroy priced from \$13 to \$24. Dress pants are a polyester blend mixed with wool priced from \$17 to \$24.

Popular accessories are ties and matching handkerchiefs. The most popular is the collar bar that comes in gold for \$5 or sterling silver for \$10. Suspenders that are worn underneath suits are \$7 and cuff links cost \$5 or \$7.

The trends at the Hitchin' Post, 144 N. 14th St., are for wrap sweaters selling from \$20 to \$45 and hiking boots from \$50 to \$70, along with fry boots, \$56 and up, according to owner Gale Sup.

The store buys its merchandise in New York, but many items come through European importers.

Three-piece vested suits in corduroy and other materials are available for \$80 or more.

Necklaces, caps

Sterling silver necklaces with ivory for \$25 are popular. They also have suede and leather caps from \$12 and more.

Leather jackets start at \$85 and downfilled jackets and vests start at \$25.

Ben Simon's, 1215 O St., and at Gateway Shopping Center, are going back to selling the traditional type of three-piece suits, starting at \$85 and ties start at \$6.50, Bill Bures, assistant manager for the downtown store said.

Down-filled ski jackets starting at \$50 and vests starting at \$37.50 are popular.

Hooded lounge robes, \$50 and up, along with two-piece, draw-string wear are just right for seasonal entertaining.

"Wrap sweaters have died off a bit, but sweaters in general are better than the previous 12 years," Bures said. Average sweater prices start at \$27.50.

Hiking boots are popular this year. Prices start at \$60, but the store is selling fewer fry boots, which were the number one seller last year, Bures said.

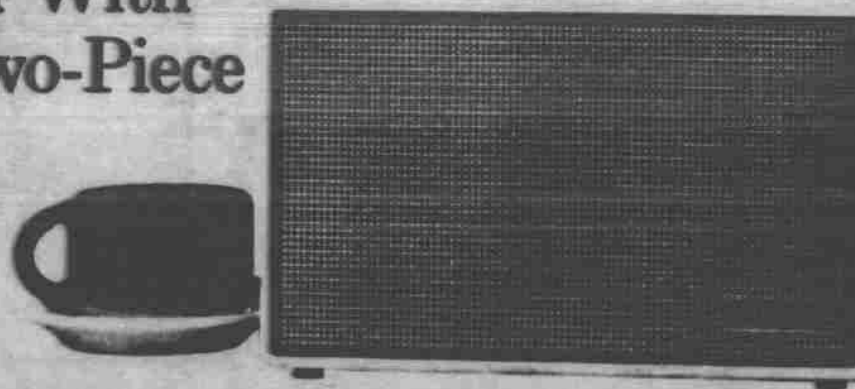
Practical, dressy trends

The shoe trends are more practical, more comfortable, but dressier looking, he said.

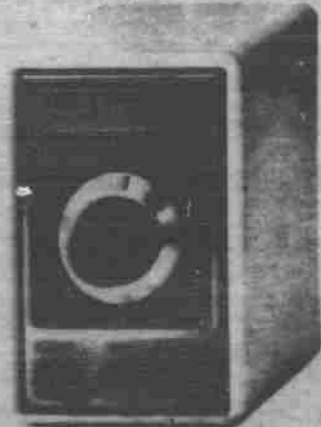
Jewelry accessories have gone down in sales since last year, but the collar holder costing \$4 is a big seller and a good stocking stuffer, Bures said.

The trend is to be more dressed up. Students usually buy whole outfits, because they were used to wearing jeans and have to start from the beginning, Bures said.

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