

Warm-up suits hot items

By Anne Carothers

Whether you are an active sportsman or just want to look like you are, warm-up suits, gym shorts and T-shirts are becoming the fashionable and comfortable thing to wear.

Their popularity has nearly doubled in the last year, said Gerry Rosenberger, manager of Gerry's Sports and Ski Shop, 1324 P St. Warm-up suits are attractive sportswear that are comfortable to wear around the home or even to the grocery store, Rosenberger said.

The acrylic or polyester suits have quickly replaced the standard sweat pants and sweat shirt. However, sweat suits are much cheaper; \$10 to \$12 as compared to the warm-up suits which generally range from \$19 to \$50 in most sports shops, Rosenberger said.

Gym shorts seem to be the biggest seller of all the sportswear, said Kep Harding, manager of Kep Harding's, 1332 P St. The shorts come in many colors and cost \$2.95 at Kep Harding's, he said.

The Hitchin Post and Wooden Nickel, 144 N. 14th St., carry the Addidas line of gym shorts and the Wooden Nickel carries a line of more stylized gym shorts that are slightly more expensive, said Wooden Nickel manager Doug Farrar.

Bill Bronson, manager of the Hitchin Post declined to comment on the Post's prices of sportswear.

Nebraska Bookstore, 1135 R St., carries T-shirts, gym shorts, striped athletic socks and warm-up jackets that can be bought plain or emblomed, said Jennifer Murphy, a store employee.

One of the more popular items is the warm-up jacket emblomed with the person's initials. University of Nebraska slogans and fraternity and sorority names are also popular, Murphy said.

The last accessory to the sports ensemble is tennis shoes. Most sports shop managers agree that Addidas, Converse and Puma shoes are the most popular. Addidas shoes run from \$14 to \$24 at the Wooden Nickel, Farrar said.

Gerry's Sport and Ski Shop has more than 6,000 pairs of tennis shoes that range in price from \$15.95 to \$50 depending on whether the shoe is made of canvas or leather, Rosenberger said.

Tom Gould, sporting goods manager of Lawlors downtown store, said Lawlors has shoes for tennis, track, basketball, softball and soccer. He added that Lawlors downtown store carries mostly men's sportswear while Lawlors at Rathbone Village carried their women's line.

Lawlors downtown store also carries men's coordinated tennis outfits in whites, colors and color trims. The outfits run from \$9 to \$12 with some more expensive items, Gould said.

Women's tennis outfits include tennis dresses, shorts, shirts, skirts, and sweaters which start at \$15, said Mary McGuire, sporting goods manager at Lawlors in Rathbone Village.

They also have hiking boots, socks, and pants along with equipped backpacks for hiking fans, McGuire said.

The Wooden Nickel also has hiking boots and shorts, Farrar said. The boots cost from \$50 to \$70.



Parviz Kamgar, buyer and manager of Jason's, 1346 P St., sports one of the many popular casual jackets he has chosen for men this spring.

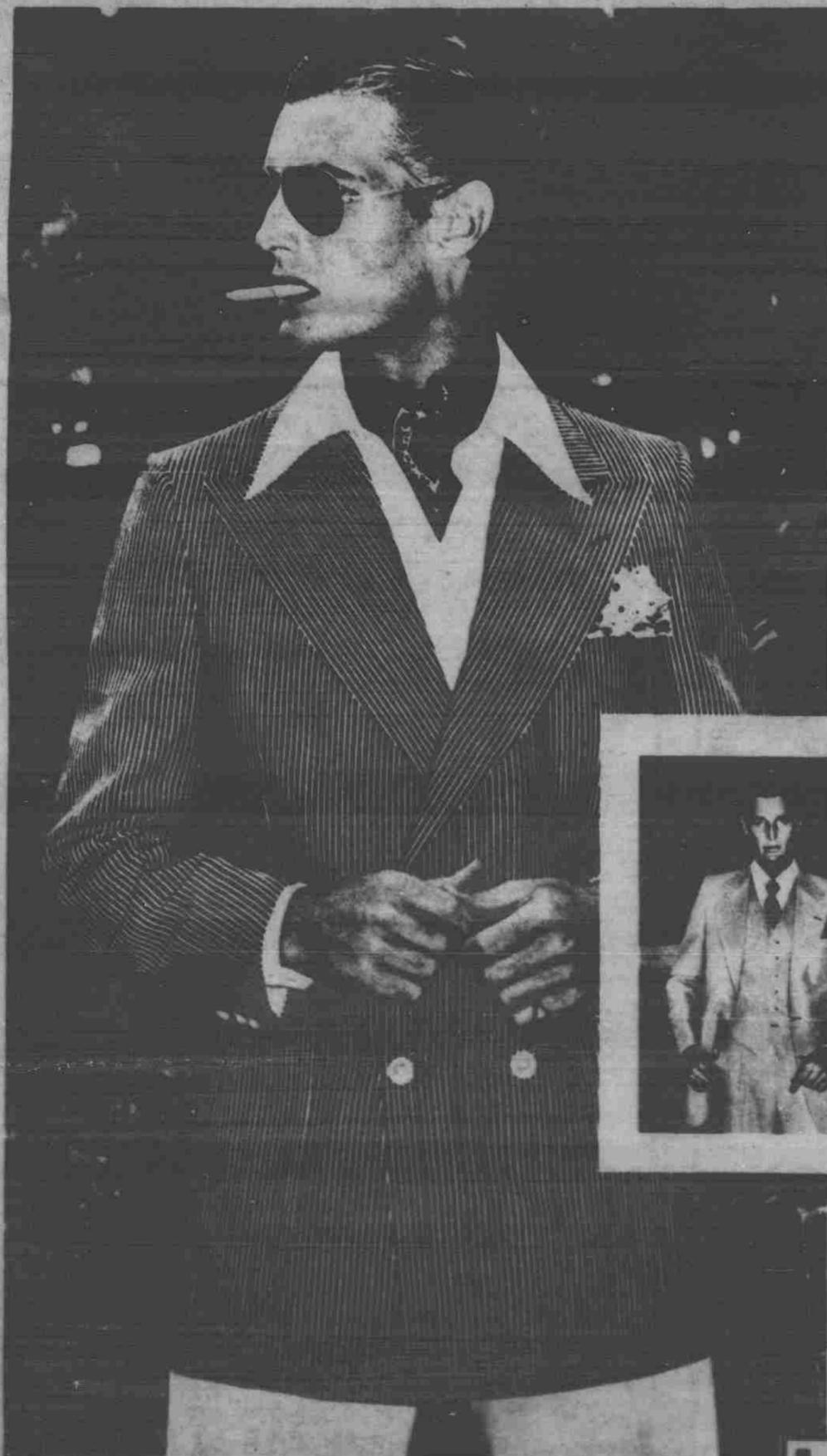
Bikers get marathon spring run

A "Bike Weekend" starting April 30 will honor pioneer Lincoln bike shop owner Billy Wolffe. The Lincoln Jaycees and area bike shops plan events for children, adult riders and racers.

Events will open Saturday, April 30, with a children's bike rodeo and safety check, said Ken Stevens of Mr. Bike, 1847 O St. The marathon ride, beginning at noon, is open to all wanting to ride a 10-mile course through town for up to 24 hours.

Anyone may enter the open-class race Sunday morning, and sanctioned riders will race in the afternoon, Stevens said. He said the race course might run through the UNL city campus.

"We've planned this for the weekend prior to Dead Week, so the students can participate," Stevens said.



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