## suburban life

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## Black tie

## When the pleasure of your company is requested

By Margery Stearns Kraysky special writer

### HE GRAND PRIX Dail is the first of June.

Last week was opera week at the Masonfor Temple. From nights and the weddings
It's lime to think about what to wear to all these
gala events, and I don't mean the ladies. For a man,
no other clothing is as steeped in ritualistic sense of
correctness and tradition as formal wear. Black is
the traditional color, but a trip to any tuxedo rentalfysales atore reveals that a "tux" can come in
many styles and colors.

Fred Bowman, area manager for Valente's,
states. There is more interest in black the dressingthe return of ings are more important, and there
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is the return of the debutante party. Right now is our busiest season, so we have to hire extra help, mostly college students who will work through August."

When asked what men are selecting, he said, "The two biggest colors are silver gray and black; and we're starting to get more requests for white dinner jackets as opposed to three years ago when everyone wanted pastels."

HOW DO MEN feel about being measured for a tured? Younger Fox, manager of President Nucedo in Birmingham, replied, "Most come in and time his signing to be awful and boring, At the first litting they are measured and when they come back to be filted the second time they really enjoy seeing the image change." Vince Provenzano, district manager, said, "President Reagan has turned the attention of the country to traditional black tie entertaining. The whole country has gone formal. More men know what they want and seem to have a good idea about what options are available, and young men are especially into it. I see a trend away from ruffle shirts and if someone wants color, they match the bow tie and cummerband to the color of the lady's dress." Jacobson's specializes in sales only. "Over the past 15 years, the tuxed or rental business has changed the formal image of the tuxed by litting that the start supervisor. Beth Frantz, asless promotion and advertising manager, added, "In Birmingham, tweedos are bought because of the active social life. We sell them as a service to the community."

ONE SALES promotion some rental firms use is

Black tie dressing began with the dinew lacks:

te, which made its debut in 1888, when a celebrate deady named Griswold Lorilland were one to the wind and the country as ready for a change from talls because Lorilland's invention was quickly accepted in even the sufficier.

Then, in the 1920a, the Prince of Windsor, ordered a new the "inxedo" as it was now called after it's place of of "inxedo" as it was now called after it's place of ording.

The prince said that the 'Sox and '60a, when called after it's place of the titredo was not to be Edwardian look!

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The Duke was also re
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to have young mea from a local high school wear a formal turedo to school to drum up business. In return, their prom turedo is free. That is no small compensation. Thereof rentals range in \$22\$ to \$35. Add to that an additional \$7\$ for store. In general, the price for buying your own turedo is \$145\$ for a polyester version and up to \$425\$ for a custom or designer version. All of the notable designers have entered the market, including Bill Biass, Oscar de la Renta, Yves St. Laurent, and Givenchy.

For many high school-age men, their first experience with formal dressing is the apring prom. Jeff Chajes, senior Student Council president and Barry Horovitz, both of Groves High School, are as involved in selecting their prom. decessing as they are, in graduation.

volved in selection in graduation.

"I don't like to mess around with unusual colors.

I'm going classic," said Chajes.

Herovitz got some input from the ladies. "My



Groves High School seniors Barry Horovitz (left) and Jeffrey Chajes have ideas about how they want to dress

for formal occasions, which means a return to the classics after years of fashion excesses.

Mother likes basic black with a lavender cummer-bund which goes with my date's dress, he ex-

plained.

TIM FARAII of Scaholm High School will wear a shell pink jacket and black pleated trousers. 'It sounds a little funny, but it looks great,' he said.

Rick Lange, co-owner of Gallery Birmingham, docan't follow the traditional lines when, as an art gallery owner, he attends many black it functions in New York and San Francisco.

'I nover wanted to look like the other guy. I wanted to look creative and not blend in with the woodwork.

wanted to look creative and not blend in with the woodwork."
Lancy's choice was a white Palm Beach double breasted suit Jacket purchased by a relative at little and the suit of the palment of the palme

and a beret, plus a spectacular array of navat decorations.

Robert Pangborn of West Bloomfield, percusionist for the Detroit Symphony, wears his tux when performing, which means he sometimes wears it several times a week.

"For me it's a uniform. Some men go to work in a business suit, i go formal."

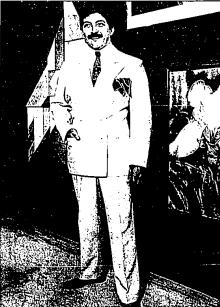
He has four tuxedo in his closet, said Pangborn. Two for winter, and wo for summer.



Robert Pangborn of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra calls the four sets of tuxedos he owns his uniforms. He frequently wears a tuxedo as often as four times a week.



Dr. and Mrs. Richard Galpin attend formal occasions, the doctor believes in paying to his Scottlah ancestry. With his formal jacket he wears a Robertson tartan kilt and by of naval decorations.



Gallery owner Rick Laney wants to look creative when he attends black its parties on both coasts. His favorits is a Palm Beach double breasted suit purchased by a relative in the '30s.

## BLACK TIE ACCESSORIES:

- The bow tie Usually black or midnight bine However, here is one area for creative expression Try marcon with a summer jacket, or polka do fonlards or preppy stripes. Just make sure the six is in correct proportion to the coller on the tuzzed Josh Logan (the producer) is noted for wearing oversized bow tites with everything, day or forms

- The shoes The most elegant forwest, meaning a loss of the most elegant forwest, meaning a loss of the most elegant forwest, meaning a loss of the first program bow, are the tradition. When all else falls, shoes can be recried.

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