

Knits: the feminine way to dress

One of fall's strongest fashion statements concerns knitwear and its entry as a soft, pliable and finally, fitable fabric on the fashion scene.

Too, knits are possibly the most feminine way to dress.

"It's not that knits are entirely new," said Francesca, one half of the Jay and Francesca design team for Damon Knits said. "Knits are the most comfortable way of dressing" and women are finally finding that out.

Among the leaders in the knitwear industry, the design team recently showed its line at Hudson's Oakland Mall, with a collection that included an interchange of colors and styles.

"We have made a collection complete from morning to evening," said Francesca. "We have dinner-

and cocktail dresses, and everything is lightweight."

She said the philosophy behind their line is to make knits a standard mode of dress rather than a closet extra.

"I THINK we have made the most strides in knitwear by doing a separate collection," said Jay and Francesca's design team for Damon Knits said. "Knits are the most comfortable way of dressing" and women are finally finding that out.

While working on knits is limiting in some aspects, Francesca said. "It is actually a great advantage. We are not stuck with rigidities and we can give the right softness."

Added Jay. "We are not doing double knits or polyesters."

An added plus of knits goes to

the customer. "If a woman gains a few pounds," said Francesca, "the garment still fits."

As a design team, Jay and Francesca have worked together for several years. The end result is indeed a combined effort, each designer adding details, new silhouettes or yarns.

"We work very well together," said Jay. "And we are getting better with every collection. We are doing our own thing and I feel we have a signature now that is our own."

He added that both designers are in contact with their customer and, therefore, know who she is and what she wants. According to him, she is an active woman, on-the-go and she wants to be chic without fussing.

FOR THAT WOMAN the team this year has created designs around three basic colors of light teal blue, soft rose pink and a muted sea-foam green. The colors show up as plaids, stripes or solids, matching against or with each other and always combining for an extremely soft look.

A plaid skirt of blue, green and

brown is minus bulk but knitted with a ribbed waist band and dirndl treatment. It matches with any number of sweaters and tops, from simple, striped designs to full sleeves, and tunic-like tops.

Dresses are very lightweight, sometimes simple pull overs, other times with petite button fronts. One comes in a permanent pleat knit, ending below the knee in a lettuce edge, long sleeved and very feminine. According to Francesca, the dress can go anywhere.

By evening the team turns to black and white, dressing up standard styles with lace inserts, trim or special stitch detailing.

The entire collection, whether it be skirt, dress or coat, is soft, lucid, and chic combining fall's best colors into feminine designs.



Parliamentary law institute Sept. 12

Club officers who are a little shaky on their knowledge of parliamentary law, may attend an institute on the subject Friday, Sept. 12, in the Ramada Inn, Telegraph and Twelve Mile, Southfield.

The institute, sponsored by the Michigan State Association of Parliamentarians who will hold their eighth annual convention the following day, will begin at 2 p.m.

A skit spoofing parliamentary procedures will be presented by the Kentwood Women's Club to get the institute started.

Following the skit, there will be two hours of instruction on "How to Use Banking Motions to Conduct Business." The instructor will be Mrs. Tom Buckley, first vice-president of the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP) and a resident of Independence, Mo.

Red Cross seeking volunteers

Sept. 21-27 has been set aside as Red Cross Volunteer Recruitment Week. The theme of the campaign this year is "Join Us... Wear the Red Badge of Courage."

Men and women throughout Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties will be encouraged to dedicate their time and skills to serving their community through Red Cross.

As volunteers, individuals assist registered nurses in the blood center and on mobile units. Transportation service volunteers deliver blood to hospitals, provide transportation service for Red Cross programs, and transport out-patients to doctor's appointments, hospitals, clinics, nutrition sites, etc.

In hospitals, volunteers provide patients with the extra care hospital personnel are sometimes too busy to give. At the Armed Forces Entrance and Examining Station (AFEES) volunteers provide induction with encouragement and inform them how Red Cross can help them and their families while they are away from home.

Other volunteer programs include school health, disaster services, nursing, first aid and water safety.

For the first time men and women will be recruited to serve in the new Red Cross program—adult foster care services. Through this program, Red Cross will begin working with owners of adult foster care facilities in helping residents improve skills in physical hygiene and self-grooming.

Red Cross is continually concerned with reaching out to help the community through special projects or established programs. However,

Mrs. Buckley also will be speaker for the 6 p.m. banquet. Her topic will be "Enlarge the Place of Your Tent."

The Kenwood club first presented its skit for last spring's Program Planning Institute, for which Mrs. Nathaniel Banks, a Kenwood member, was program chairman.

Mrs. Banks also is recording secretary of the State Association of Parliamentarians and vice-president of the Detroit unit. She is assisting Mrs. Cheryl Kell, president of the Detroit NAP unit, in making arrangements for the convention.

Mrs. John Schramek of Kalamazoo, state president, will preside over convention business sessions beginning at 9:30 a.m. Sept. 13.

Speakers will include Mrs. John Griffin of Detroit discussing "The Measure of a Parliamentarian" and Mrs. J.H. Wright of Milwaukee talking about "Ritual."

Mrs. William Hermann, 9888 Tecumseh, Redford Township, is accepting reservations for the Leadership Institute.

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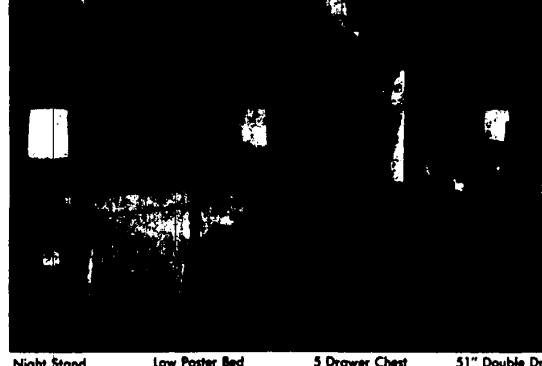
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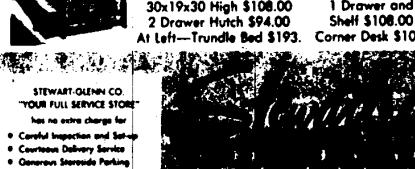
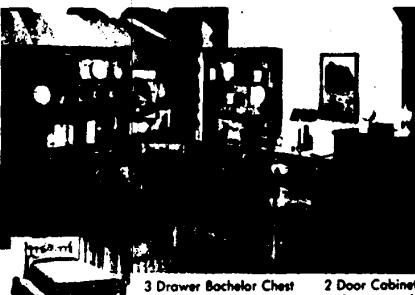
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