

Sweater dressing takes fall lead

By MARY CONNELLY

The sweaters which unraveled into fashion news last year are back this fall on the heels of the energy crisis.

The sexes are running neck to neck when it comes to sweater and knit dressing.

Shawl collared sweaters sashed with tie belts elix wrap around male and female torsos in neutral shades of beige, brown, rust, grey and navy.

Pierre Cardin's fall collection for men moves out of traditional color baths a bit with offerings of peach, pale pink and heather blue.

FOR WOMEN, choices vary from sweater dresses for daytime and evening to knitted separates.

In the Crissa collection shown at Javobson's in Birmingham last week, waist-length vests topped collared blouses; patch-pocketed thigh-length sweaters topped the vests and the sweater ensembles topped full-cut skirts flared at knee-skimming hemlines.

Tweeds and patterned knits are favorites in sweaters. Scarves, big for any look, are being added to bulky-yarned sweater jackets.

Both Cardin and Egon von Furstenberg sweater dress men in Art-Deco influenced motifs.

More than a classic cardigan, sweaters for men can be defined in terms of blazers, smoking jackets, sets or tweedy jackets.

SOME take a man from a leisure afternoon to an evening of home entertaining by replacing sport shirt with silk dress shirt and bow tie.

Back-exposing evening necklines have appeared in knits for women. Knitted ruffles ring the shoulder and back of a red knit evening design in the Crissa collection.

Silver and gold metallic threads shine through knitted yarns again this season but the night time shimmerers are more subtle than those of last season.



Egon von Furstenberg trims Art-Deco print with shawl collar and sash



Pierre Cardin's cardigan interpretation and European-influenced sweater set



Ruffles provide focus for simplicity of Crissa's evening knit (Photographed by Art Emanuel)



Crissa collection tops hemline-flared skirt with knit ensemble (photographed by Art Emanuel)

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