

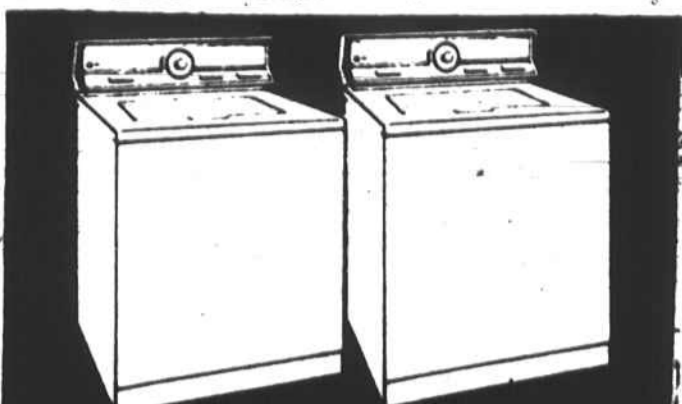
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Phyllis Faye, Mrs. Sturgess and Brenda Simmons gives a little help to Ricky Clowney in sewing class at Gwen's Fashion Center.

Sewing is for Men Too

Women are forcing men to do a lot of things nowadays that perhaps they would not

have considered doing years ago. Men have taken to the kitchens to do the cooking and cleaning. Some men however are preparing themselves for the changing times ahead.

Rickey Clowney is doing just that. He is preparing for a time when he may have to don his own socks or replace a button or even make his future wife a dress or a pair of slacks. "There is a definite advantage in knowing how to sew," the 20-year-old bachelor said recently. "I'm tall and have a small waistline which means I have problems sometimes finding clothes to fit right."

Clowney is learning how to sew at Gwen's Fashion Center, a sewing shop run by Mrs. Gwendolyn Sturgess. She opened recently in response to the needs of so many people who have been hard hit by the economy and must find ways of saving money.

"Clothing is so high now," Mrs. Sturgess said in a recent interview. "A person can learn how to make dresses, pant suits, coats and the like by simply taking the time to learn."

Mrs. Sturgess has been sewing for more than 35 years and offers courses for beginners through the making of one's own patterns.

"In the beginners class," she said, "you learn the fundamentals of sewing. You learn how to make basic stitches, tops, skirts and the basic dress." In the Intermediate class you get into a little more sophisticated sewing. That's where you learn how to make jackets and pant suits and the like. In pattern drafting you actually design your own patterns.

It's all very simple, Mrs. Sturgess says. "All you have to do is spend a little time each week in my class and very soon you'll be making things you never dreamed you could make." Her shop is located 1542 E. 24th Street and her telephone number is 924-9510.

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