

HIGH-FLYING STYLE

Seven trendsetters whose
ways of dressing—and
of living—really take
off from the rest

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Victor Gelb has taken his unusual wardrobe preferences and developed them into one of the most distinctive styles in Northern Ohio. The Cleveland native is known for his colorful ties and pocket scarves—but he's won even more fame for his unique capes, which he wears on all occasions—from board meetings of the business ventures he's involved with to activities of the nonprofit institutions he leads as a volunteer. A case in point is this navy wool wrap. Gelb bought his first cape years ago at Harrod's in London; it was, naturally enough, a Sherlock Holmes Inverness style. The East Sider was so taken with the garment's comfort and pizzazz that he's never since worn a coat. Today, when he travels with his wife, Joan, or on business—as chairman of Victor Gelb, Inc., which purveys industrial fibers—he shops the world for wardrobe additions. And he has tailors in Hong Kong working on capes in different styles and colors for his private label.