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(54) **DEVICE FOR PROTECTING PANTS AND OTHER GARMENTS FROM EXPOSURE TO RAIN AND OTHER CONDENSATION**

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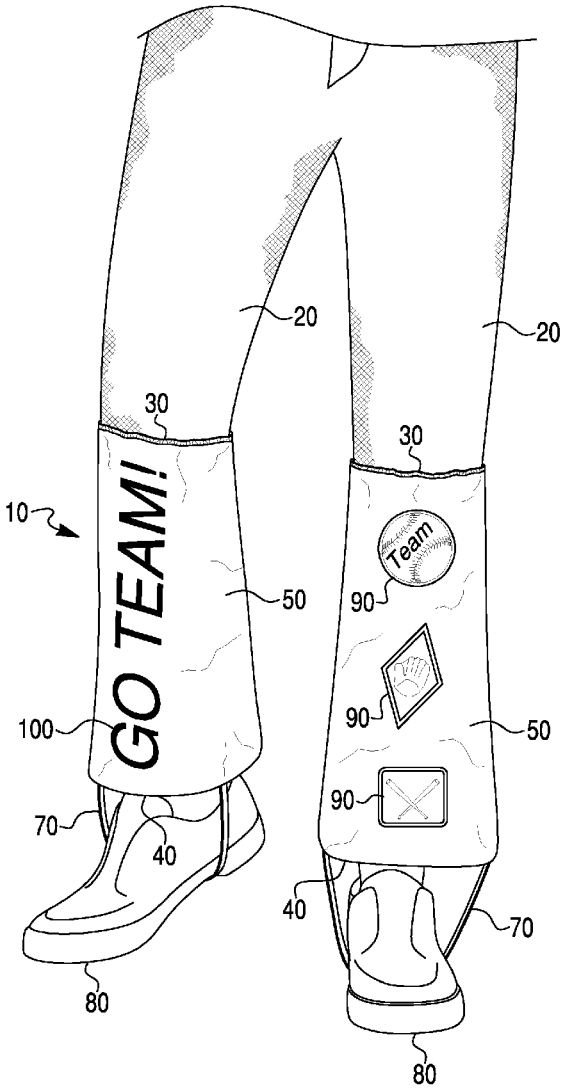
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A device for protecting a portion of a person's pant leg and shoe from exposure to rain is disclosed. The device includes a water-proof sheath for encasing a portion of the pant leg, the water-proof sheath having an upper edge opposite a lower edge, and a front panel opposite a back panel, or alternatively of unibody construction encasing the entire leg. The upper edge of the sheath includes a lip for compressing against the pant leg. A stirrup attached to the lower edge of the sheath is included, the stirrup passing underneath a person's shoe or foot to secure the lower edge of the sheath to a lower portion of the pant leg. In a rainy environment, the device covers a person's lower pant leg to prevent the pant leg and/or the person's shoe from exposure to rain and other condensation.



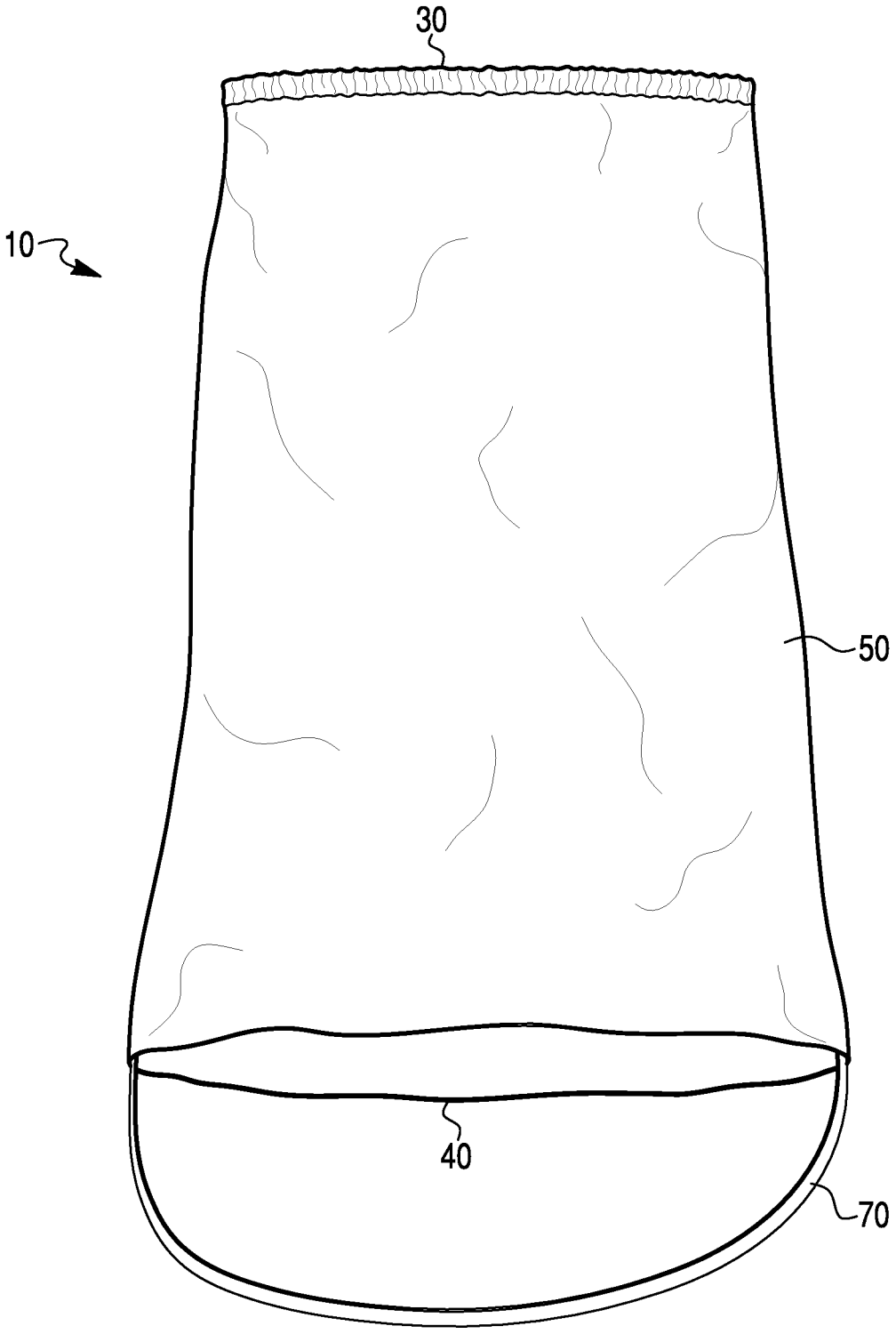


FIG. 1

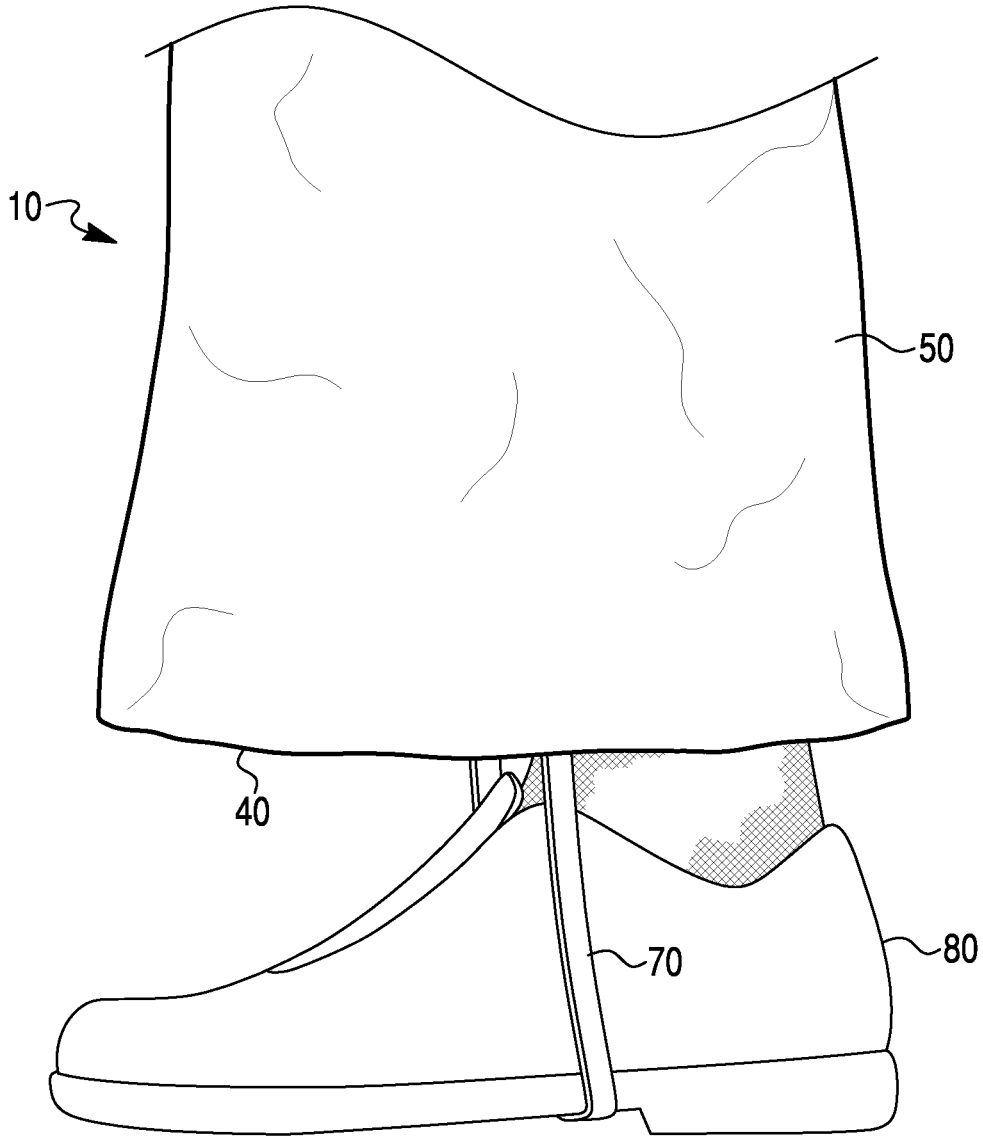


FIG. 2

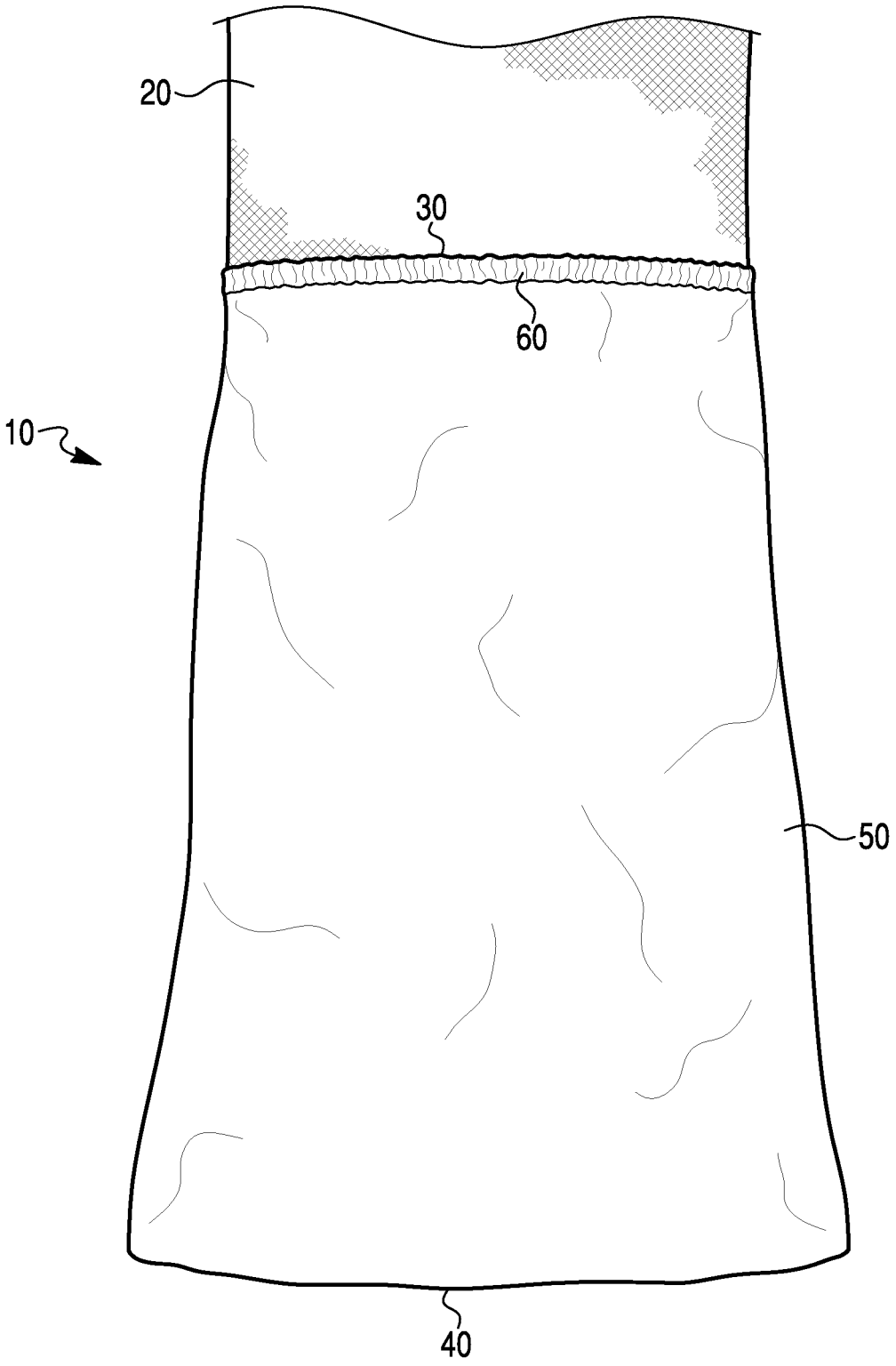


FIG. 3

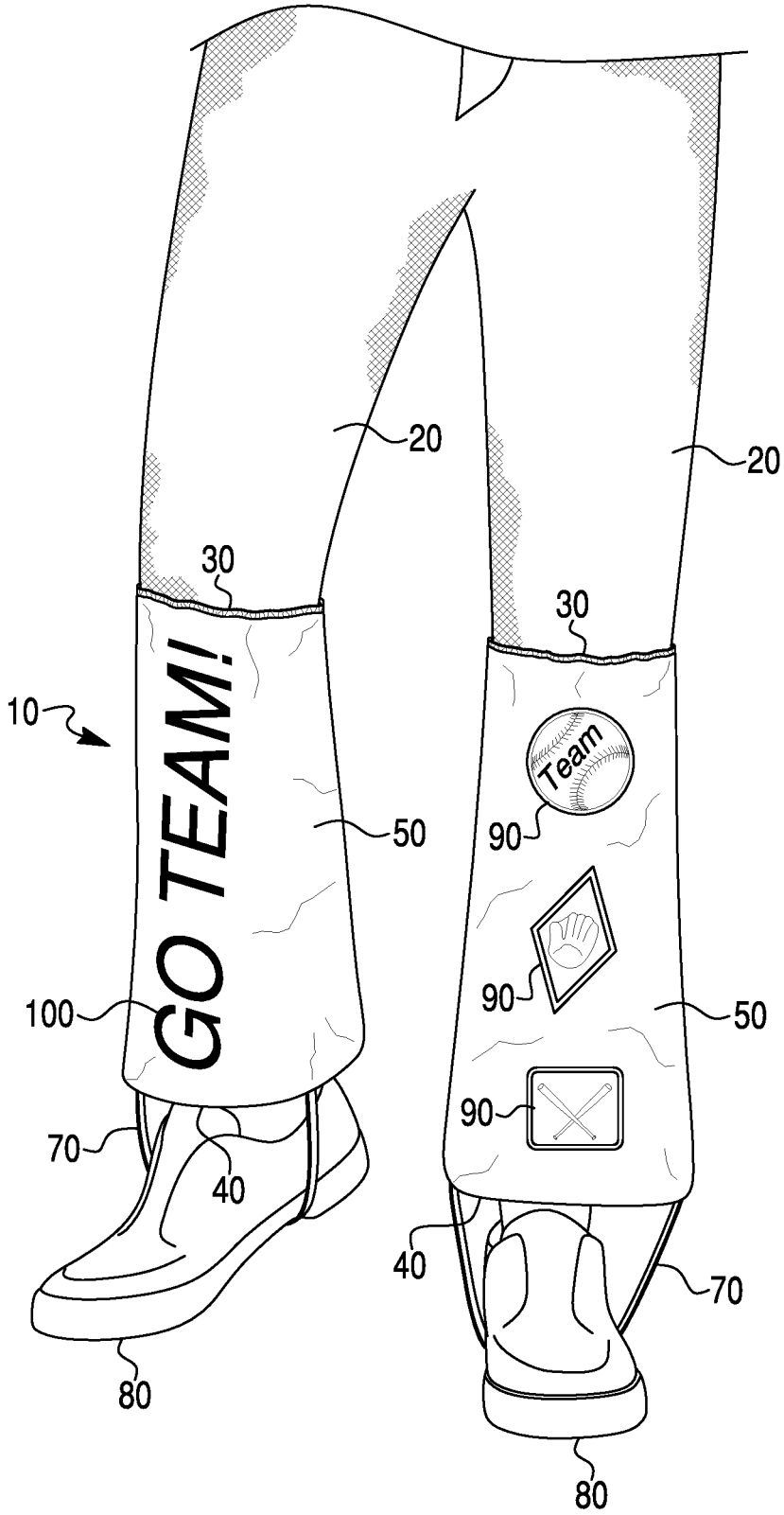


FIG. 4

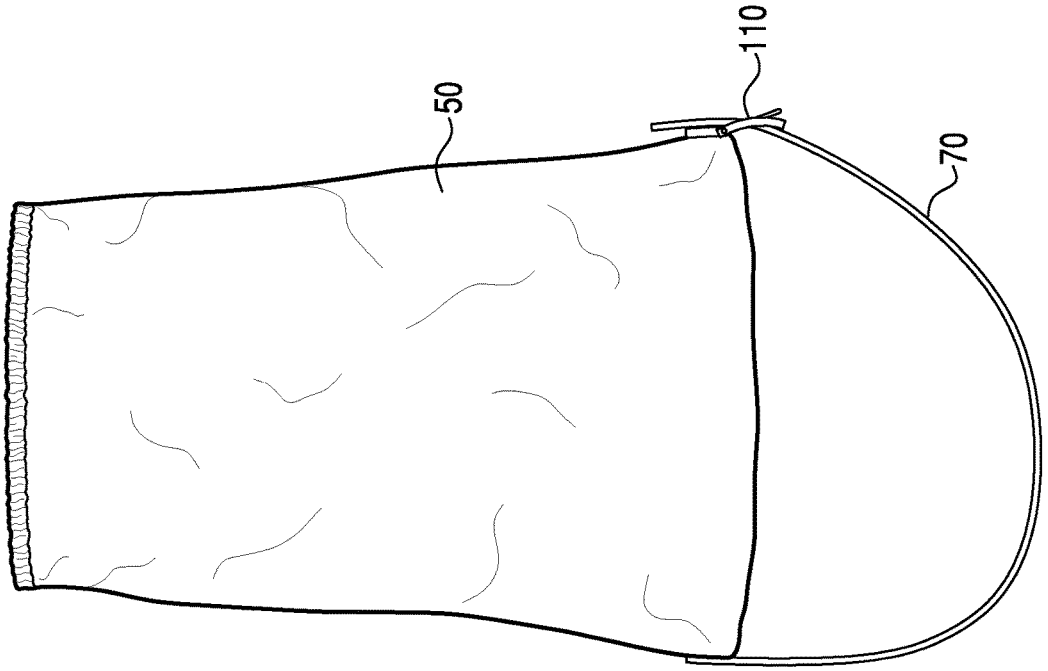


FIG. 5B

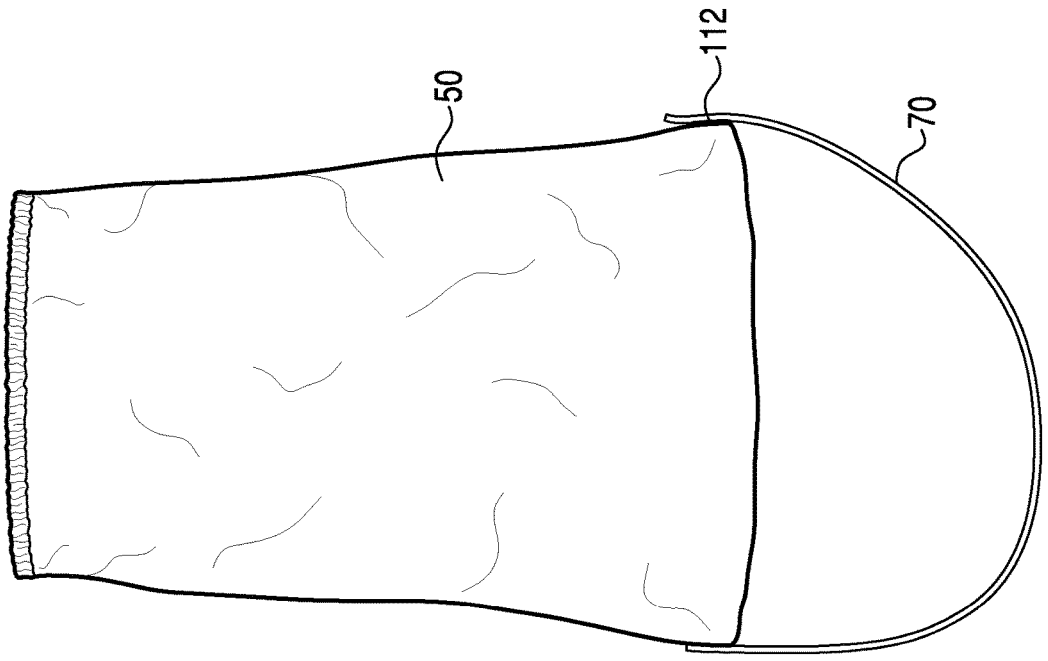


FIG. 5A

DEVICE FOR PROTECTING PANTS AND OTHER GARMENTS FROM EXPOSURE TO RAIN AND OTHER CONDENSATION

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/503,808 for a "Device for Protecting Pants and other Garments from Exposure to Rain and other Condensation" to Randall Ramsey, filed Jul. 5, 2019, which claims the benefit of priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/841,276, filed on May 1, 2019, both of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entireties.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] The present invention relates to a protective gear or an outer garment. More specific, the present invention relates to a novel protective gear for wearing over a person's pants to protect against rain and other condensation.

BACKGROUND

[0003] Umbrellas are well known for protecting a person who must go outside in a rainy environment from becoming soaked by the rain. Umbrellas cast a wide shield over the person's head such that rain does not strike the person's head and portions of the person's upper body.

[0004] It is well known that umbrellas offer little protection against the rain as to the person's pants, particularly the lower portion of the pant leg covering a person's shins. This is particularly noticeable in heavy downpours or when rain is accompanied by wind such that the rain strikes a person at an angle. In such a downpour, the rain almost certain penetrates and soaks the lower pant legs of a person, and potentially the socks and upper portions of a person's shoes.

[0005] None of the conventional rain gear prevents excessive exposure to rain against a person's lower pant legs and/or shoes.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0006] According to one non-limiting aspect of the present disclosure, an example embodiment of a protective gear is disclosed for protecting a portion of a person's pant leg and shoe from exposure to rain is disclosed. The device includes a water-proof sheath for encasing a portion of the pant leg, the water-proof sheath having an upper edge opposite a lower edge, and a front panel opposite a back panel. The upper edge of the sheath includes a lip for compressing against the pant leg. A stirrup attached to the lower edge of the sheath is included, the stirrup passing underneath a person's shoe or foot to secure the lower edge of the sheath to a lower portion of the pant leg. In a rainy environment, the device covers a person's lower pant leg to prevent the pant leg and/or the person's shoe from exposure to rain and other condensation.

[0007] Additional features and advantages are described herein, and will be apparent from the following Detailed Description and the figures.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0008] Features and advantages of the protective gear described herein may be better understood by reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

[0009] FIG. **1** depicts a front view of the protective gear described herein;

[0010] FIG. **2** depicts a side view of a lower portion of the protective gear described herein, wherein the protective gear affixes around a person's shoe;

[0011] FIG. **3** depicts a side view of an upper portion of the protective gear described herein, wherein the protective gear affixes to a person's pant or leg;

[0012] FIG. **4** depicts a front view of the protective gear when being worn on a person's legs, the protective gear demonstrating branding and/or sponsorships;

[0013] FIG. **5**A depicts one embodiment of a bottom attachment of the protective gear of the present invention; and

[0014] FIG. **5**B depicts another embodiment of a bottom attachment of the protective gear of the present invention.

[0015] A skilled artisan will appreciate the foregoing details, as well as others, upon considering the following Detailed Description of certain non-limiting embodiments of the protective gear according to the present disclosure. One of ordinary skill also may comprehend certain of such additional details upon using the protective gear described herein.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0016] The present disclosure, in part, is directed to a water-proof protective gear or an outer garment for covering a portion of a person's pant leg to protect a person's pant leg and shoe from exposure to rain and other condensation.

[0017] As shown in FIG. **1**, a water-proof protective gear **10** is disclosed for encasing a portion of a person's pant leg **20** (FIG. **3**). The protective gear **10** includes an upper edge **30** opposite a lower edge **40**. The protective gear includes a front panel **50** that stretches around the front of a person's leg and is joined to a back panel opposite the front to form a bell-shaped enclosure that circumnavigates a person's leg. Alternatively, the front panel **50** may wrap around the entire leg and join with itself as a one-piece or unibody construction with a single seam. The upper edge **30** has a lip **60** (FIG. **3**) for compressing against a person's pant leg. A stirrup **70** is attached to the lower edge **40** for securing the lower edge of the protective gear **10** to a person's foot or shoe **80**. The protective gear **10** typically is made from a lightweight plastic, vinyl, or polycarbonate, or other such water-proof material. For instance, the protective gear **10** may be made from material similar to a rain poncho or lightweight rain jacket. Alternatively, the protective gear **10** may be made from a rain-resistant fabric, such as materials typically used in lightweight rain jackets and/or wind breakers. Alternatively still, the protective gear **10** may be made from rubber, neoprene, leather, nylon, polyester, pongee and/or other water-proof materials.

[0018] As shown in FIG. **2**, a lower portion of the protective gear **10** is shown. The lower edge **40** has a stirrup **70** attached thereto, the stirrup **70** passing underneath a person's foot or shoe **80**. The stirrup **70** may be a singular piece, as shown, that loops from one side of the lower edge **40** to the other. Alternatively, the stirrup **70** may be comprised of two pieces, such as straps or ties, that come down and join

underneath a person's foot or shoe **80**, or on the side of the person's foot, shoe, or leg. For instance, stirrup **70** may be comprised of two straps that connect together with hooks and loops (e.g., VELCRO®), buttons, snaps, and the like. Alternatively, the stirrup **70** may be comprised of two ties that are joined together with a knot. Stirrups **70** may be made of any durable and resilient fabric or material. In one embodiment, the stirrups **70** are made of a resilient elastomer, such as rubber or neoprene, or an elastic stretch band, which stretches to accommodate any size foot.

[0019] As shown in FIG. **3**, the upper edge **30** of protective gear **10** includes a lip **60** that secures to a person's pant leg **20**. The lip **60** is elastomeric to accommodate any size leg, wide or small. The lip **60** may be an elastic band, similar to a waist band, or may be woven with elastic threads, similar to the upper portion of a sock. Alternatively, the lip **60** may be a separate component, such as a rubber band, that passes over the upper edge **30** of the protective gear **10** to hold it against the pant leg **20**.

[0020] As shown in FIG. **4**, the front panel **50** of the protective gear **10** may be decorated with the logos **90** of sponsors, or may include branding **100** of, for instance, an athletic team. The broad size of the front panel **50**, which may feature such sponsorship, makes the protective gear **10** beneficial for use at any outdoor event, including but not limited to sporting events, such as a baseball game, or musical concerts, where intermittent rain may be an issue.

[0021] As shown in FIG. **5**A, the stirrup **70** may attach to the protective gear **10** via a hook-and-loop connection **112**, or similar, such as with a VELCRO® fastener. This provides for an efficient fastening of the stirrup **70** after a person has pulled the protective gear **10** over the lower portion of the leg. A hook-and-loop connection **112** also provides for adjustment of the stirrup **70** to accommodate any size shoe or boot.

[0022] Alternatively, as shown in FIG. **5**B, the stirrup **70** may attached to the protective gear **10** via a buckle **110**, or similar fastener. This provides for an efficient fastening of the stirrup **70** after a person has pulled the protective gear **10** over the lower portion of the leg, and also provides for adjustment of the stirrup **70** to accommodate any size shoe or boot. Use of a buckle **110** also may provide for a more sophisticated look, which may be desirable depending on personal preferences. For instance, in this embodiment, the stirrup **70** may be made of a leather or leather-like material, for coupling with a brass or metallic buckle **110**, for a more upscale appearance.

[0023] In use, a person slips on the protective gear **10** over a lower portion of the pant leg **20**, generally over the shin area, affixing the upper edge **30** of the protective gear against the pant leg **20**, and pulling the stirrup **70** underneath the person's foot or shoe **80**. The protective gear **10** generally covers the lower portion of the person's pant leg **20** and potentially the shoe **80**, thereby protecting the pant leg and shoe from excessive exposure to rain or other condensation, such as standing water on the ground that may be kicked up on the lower pant leg **20** as the person walks. The protective gear **10** may be removed when the person is no longer in the rainy environment, and dried by setting the protective gear **10** on a flat surface or hanging the protective gear **10** on a clothesline or similar device or surface. Once dry, the protective gear **10** can be folded up for storage in a small pouch, purse, or coat pocket.

[0024] It should be understood that various changes and modifications to the presently preferred embodiments described herein will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Such changes and modifications can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the present subject matter and without diminishing its intended advantages. It is therefore intended that such changes and modifications be covered by the appended set of claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A device for protecting a portion of a person's pant leg and shoe from exposure to rain, the device comprising:
- a water-proof sheath for encasing at least a portion of the pant leg, the water-proof sheath having an upper edge opposite a lower edge;
- the upper edge having a lip for compressing against the pant leg; and
- a stirrup attached to the lower edge of the sheath, the stirrup passing underneath a person's shoe or foot to secure the lower edge of the sheath to a lower portion of the pant leg.

2. The device of claim **1** wherein the sheath is tubular and of unibody construction, having a single front panel to encase the person's leg.

3. The device of claim **1** wherein the sheath has a front panel opposite a back panel, the front and back panels joined to envelop the person's leg.

4. The device of claim **1** wherein the sheath further comprises a front panel having a flat surface configured for the display of printed indicia.

5. The device of claim **4** wherein the printed indicia comprises advertising.

6. The device of claim **1** wherein the lip at the upper edge is comprised of an elastomeric band, said band integrated within the upper edge of the sheath.

7. The device of claim **1** wherein the lip at the upper edge is comprised of an elastomeric band residing over the upper edge of the sheath.

8. The device of claim **1** further comprising a drawstring passing through the upper edge of the sheath, the drawstring configured to tighten the upper edge against the person's leg.

9. The device of claim **1** wherein the stirrup is of unibody construction and passes from one side of the sheath, under the person's shoe, and attaches to the opposite side of the sheath.

10. The device of claim **1** wherein the stirrup is comprised of two portions, each said portion attached to the sheath and joined together underneath the person's shoe.

11. The device of claim **10** wherein the stirrup portions are joined together by way of a hook-and-look fastener.

12. The device of claim **10** wherein the stirrup portions are joined together by being tied.

13. A device for protecting a portion of a person's pant leg and shoe from exposure to rain, the device comprising:
- a water-proof sheath for encasing at least a portion of the pant leg, the water-proof sheath having an upper edge opposite a lower edge;
- the upper edge having a lip for compressing against the pant leg;
- a stirrup attached to the lower edge of the sheath, the stirrup passing underneath a person's shoe or foot to secure the lower edge of the sheath to a lower portion of the pant leg; and

a buckle attaching the stirrup to the lower edge of the sheath, wherein the buckle is adjustable to shorten or lengthen the stirrup.

14. The device of claim **13** wherein the stirrup passes through and connects with the buckle in one of a plurality of positions, thereby changing the length of the stirrup to accommodate differing shoe sizes.

15. The device of claim **13** wherein the stirrup is attached to the sheath at both ends by way of a pair of buckles.

16. A device for protecting a portion of a person's pant leg and shoe from exposure to rain, the device comprising:

a water-proof sheath for encasing at least a portion of the pant leg, the water-proof sheath having an upper edge opposite a lower edge;

the upper edge having a lip for compressing against the pant leg;

a stirrup attached to the lower edge of the sheath, the stirrup passing underneath a person's shoe or foot to secure the lower edge of the sheath to a lower portion of the pant leg; and

a hook-and-loop fastener attaching the stirrup to the lower edge of the sheath, wherein the fastener is adjustable to shorten or lengthen the stirrup.

17. The device of claim **16** wherein the stirrup connects with sheath via the hook-and-loop fastener in one of a plurality of positions, thereby changing the length of the stirrup to accommodate differing shoe sizes.

18. The device of claim **16** wherein the stirrup is attached to the sheath at both ends by way of hook-and-loop fasteners.

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