

Directions

Short, sleek or bleached: Hairstyles show variety

By STEPHANIE CARTER

Goodbye, long, curly locks, kinky perms and bi-level cuts. The "now" look is short, sleek, and shiny. Everyone is hot on the "bob."

Jeanne Johnson, cosmetology instructor at the College of Hair Design, described the new hairstyles for women as extremely short. She said women's styles are beginning to resemble men's tapers, with short or shaved areas around the ears and neck.

Johnson said the bob, as a classic, has been around since the '50s, but variations are bringing it up to date.

Mary Kay Kinghorn, of Hair Express, 245 N. 13th, said the variation most college students like is the crescent—a blunt-line cut, flat on the crown, with full bangs. She said another variation is the inverted bob, which is shorter in back and angles toward the front like a half-moon.

Sharon Mork, area director of Stuart's in Sioux Falls, S.D., said national trends show bobs with different lengths anywhere in the hair. An example, she said, is the asymmetrical bob, with the side longer, and angled toward the face.

"The bob can be in the top, with the length at the bottom, or it can be longer on top and short at the bottom," she said. "Regardless of the style, people are going for the more styled or finished look."

Mork said round hair brushes, finger drying, gels, glazes and mousses are popular nationally.

The mousses, which come in several colors, add volume, she said.

Johnson said mousse is a hit especially with new wave hair styles.

"Mousse can make the spikiness in back, the long-bang waves, and it can put more body in the hair."

Mousse a new craze

Judy Essay, assistant manager of the Centrum Command Performance, said mousse is "the new craze."

"It's wild, and you can do a lot with it," she said. "You can stand it up, hold it longer, or just let it go." Mousses cost \$4.95 to \$7 at area salons.

Gels, which slick hair back, cost approximately \$6. The wet look, Kinghorn says, is not as popular as it has been.

Johnson said blacks have used the wet look for a long time, and it is still popular. She said the new style for black hair is a heavy wave rather than curls. "The 'fro is definitely out," she said.

Johnson said cuts no longer are blended.

Severe layers cause problems

Essay said the severe layering that was in style two years ago is causing problems for people who want bob cuts.

"Everyone wants the bob," she said. "But the layered cuts have been so severe, that people have to grow into a bob. And by the time they do that, the style will be something else."

The kinky, dried-naturally perm is out of style, Kinghorn said. Perms are important for hair management, she said.

She also said she wishes people would stop feathering their bangs.

"When they come in here and say 'I want my bangs feathered,' I feel like saying, 'Would you like chicken feathers, or what?'"

The European and New York trends, which usually reach Nebraska six

months after they reach the coast, are showing lightly waved and curled, shorter, more natural-looking hair.

Summer styles carefree

Summer styles will be easy to care for, and include those that are "all-around short, free, and easy," Kinghorn said.

Men's hairstyles are becoming more diversified, Kinghorn said. She said the look for men is short in back, and long on top. One popular style, she said, is the "extremely long bang with a wave in it—like John Cougar Melancamp."

Kinghorn said she thinks the reasons styles have changed for men is because the attitudes toward men have changed. She said men no longer have to look macho. The look now, she said, is individualized—the preppy, more professional or GQ.

"I think GQ has done a lot for the guys," she said. "I think the guys in Lincoln, Nebraska, have really got it together."

One of the more extreme cuts for women, which is "the thing on the East Coast," is the shaved head. Kinghorn, whose hair not only is shaved, but colored three dimensionally, said this style won't hit Lincoln for another six months.

Besides the different styles coming in, hair stylists are emphasizing color.

Bleached blondes are in

Marilyn Monroe-type, bleached blondes are really in, Johnson said.

"If you look in the magazines, you see a lot more blonds," she said. "We usually only get one person wanting bleaching in five months, but it has already picked up to two or three a month."

The bleaching process is a two-step process involving two chemicals. The first chemical strips the hair of all pigment, and the second adds the desired blond color.

There are several variations on blonds, Johnson said. One that is very popular is three dimensional, with the top being very blond, and the end being reddish-blond, she said.

Designers also are showing blond on the outer layers of the hairs, and dark undersides, she said.

Mork said there will be a high demand for weaving of colors. This involves adding or stripping every other section of the hair. She, too, said that blinding of any shade or dimension is a big hit.

Mork said highlighting the natural color of the hair is a popular way of adding soft colors.

"I expect color to really move," Kinghorn said. "People are looking for new and different things that are fun. Coloring is really a jazzy way to do that."

Area hairstylists urge people to consider their lifestyles before choosing a hair style.

Johnson said it is important for customers to tell their stylists what kind of lifestyle they lead, so the stylist can recommend a style that will be not only becoming and in style, but convenient.

She said people can get cuts that can look conventional at work, but less conventional for evening or casual wear.

Mork said the styles for men and women are more diversified regardless of age, sex or race. Just as with clothing, she said, almost anything is acceptable for hair styles.

"People are demanding to be treated as individuals," she said. "The styles now are fitting and complementing the current fashions. But above all, finishing is the statement of today."



Photos by Mark Davis
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UNL students display a variety of hair styles.