

Opinions concerning fashion vary, but . . .

Poll shows UNL students' shopping is frequently influenced by new trends

By Jane Hirt
Staff Reporter

Some people consider only fashion and trends when they shop. But to others, it's a deterrent. Of 40 University of Nebraska-Lincoln students polled in a Daily Nebraskan poll, 68 percent said they think that fashion is important and consider what is in style when they shop.

Diann Witt, a senior marketing major, said fashion is very important to her.

"It's extremely important for me to look my best at all times," she said, "so I always want to wear something that is in style."

Brad Brunz, a freshman pre-law major, said he also thinks it is important to consider what's in style while shopping.

"I feel it's important to try to keep up with the times," he said, "to look good, not look sloppy."

Of those polled, 27 percent said they don't consider fashion important. Five percent said they were undecided.

Mason Stauss, an undeclared freshman, said he looks more for comfort than fashion.

"I consider only what is comfortable and what is reasonably priced," he said.

Freshman Kathryn Witfoth said fashion doesn't influence her when she shops.

"If I like something, I like it," she said. "If I don't and everyone is wearing it, I like it even less."

Those who said fashion was important to them said they find out what's in style mainly through television, magazines, clothing stores and what everyone else is wearing.

But fashion isn't just what's in a store. It tells a lot about a person and how they wish to portray themselves to others. Of the students polled, all

said that, to some extent, they dress for themselves.

Kate McQuade, an undeclared freshman, said that although she considers fashion important, she dresses for herself.

"I believe I only have to please myself," she said. "If other people don't like how I dress, that's their problem."

Stacia Koch, a sophomore international affairs and pre-law major, said she dresses first for herself and then for others.

"Portraying a positive self-image helps you to not only feel better about yourself, but shows you care about how you look," she said.

Part of fashion is the many trends that appear and quickly disappear every season. Those polled said that some of their favorite new trends are miniskirts, crop tops, men's button-down collars and the return of leather.

Paula Thompson, a junior elementary education major, said she likes miniskirts because they are "attractive on most people."

"If it's worn right, it can look very classic," she said.

Monica Wells found an added plus to miniskirts.

"They look good, they're comfortable, and they leave something up to the imagination," said Wells, a senior pre-physical therapy major.

Some of the least favorite fashion trends of those polled included acid-washed clothes, bell-bottoms and ripped jeans with holes in the knees.

Tina Niemeyer, a sophomore finance major, said she considers bell-bottoms a "major fashion disaster." For this reason, she said, she doesn't like the new wide-cuffed pants.

"They look too much like bell-bottoms," she said. "I will never, ever wear them again in this lifetime."

John Martin, a freshman agronomy major, said his least favorite fashion trend is holes in jeans, because they can get "pretty obscene."

Terri Hughes, a sophomore marketing major, said she thinks fashion isn't just going with the trends and buying trendy clothes.

"It's buying clothes you look and feel good in," she said. "If you feel good in something, you'll look good, also."



Ward Williams/Daily Nebraskan

John Steffi, Jeff Bredensteiner and Destry Hood relax in casual campus wear.



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