Choices, Choices

Couples try to match wedding party attire

By Chad Lorenz

Senior Reporter

A couple planning a wedding usu-ally wants to tie everything together with a common thread. So they start with the threads worn by the bridesmaids and groomsmen in the wedding

party.
Teresa Furnas, owner of Trousseau Bridal and Formal, 3200 O St., said the styles or colors of the bridesmaid dresses typically match those of

the bride's gown, Furnas said.
"I guess you would take the most prominent feature and pass it down," Furnas said.

A bride wanting a Cinderella-style wedding, for example, would wear an elaborate bridal gown with a lot of lace and frill, Furnas said. The bridesmaid dresses would have similar detail to complement that look, she said.

Stephanie Burwell, a senior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said

even Mom along when deciding on

"When you come in with a crowd, it is hard for you to concentrate," she

said. "You may be reacting to each

person's reaction when they see you

in the dress. That can hurt the pro-

Shaw said the best advice she could offer brides-to-be would be to never give up hope for finding the perfect

"Look around to make sure you

have the budget for what you want," Shaw said. "It's OK to look at the

expensive dresses. Just keep looking. There are a lot of good discounts."

But, both said not to bring the whole

Dress

the gown.

wedding party.

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gundy, floor-length, sleeveless, crepe dresses with pointed, "sweetheart" necklines, she said.

She also had to consider which dress-style would most flatter all the different heights of her bridesmaids,

Furnas said couples order the wedding party attire based on what look they want instead of traditional eti-

quette.
"There is no wedding cookbook," she said. "People don't get married in April and say, 'Okay, it has to be a pastel wedding.' If they like burgundy and hunter green, that's how they're going to do it."

The trends in wedding party attire have shifted from pastels to jewel col-ors: teal, purple, fuchsia, burgundy and hunter green, she said.

The most popular style dress right every detail.

she wanted her July 6 wedding to have an "elegant evening" theme.

Her bridesmaids will wear bur
now has returned from the 1960's, she said. The "empire" waistline comes up to the bottom of the bustline and the rest of the dress flows down from

Brides looking for their attendants dresses usually have styles selected from a bridal magazine, so Furnas just

Choosing tuxedos is relatively simple, she said. Especially if they are ordered at the same place as the dresses because the colors will match per-

But not all tuxedos match the dresses' colors. Furnas said some couples like to use two colors and incorporate them into the color of the flowers too.

Overall, she said couples shouldn't worry too much about trying to coordinate everything in the wedding because people don't pay attention to

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day of the wedding."

"My job is fun," Alberts said. "The most fun is that it's a happy time for people, and I get to share in that."

Alberts suggests that brides begin speaking to consultants at least three to four months ahead of time. The busiest time of year for weddings is busiest time of year for weddings is during June, July and August, although business has begun to spread out through the fall, she said.

Joyce Jacobs from J'Maries Bridal Shop, also at 4848 Normal Blvd., is a bridal consultant. Her job differs from that of a wedding consultant because she mainly deals with bridal attire.

"We are trained to fit the bride and her attendants, and make sure that styles and colors all match," Jacobs said.

Right now is the busiest time of year for brides looking for gowns, Jacobs said. She suggests that brides begin looking for their dresses six months to one year ahead of time. It can take three to four months to alter and fit the gown at a busy store, Jacobs said. She suggests looking for attendants' gowns eight to 12 weeks ahead

"I also like to be here to tell the bride how early to start what, who pays for what and to answer other embarrassing questions for her," she Start the year off with a P



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