

Ugly is the New Cute

Annie Cassutt's Ugly Christmas Sweaters

By Emma Kehrl

Who would've thought that ugly could be so fun?

Junior Annie Cassutt wears "ugly" Christmas sweaters daily throughout the holiday season. Most of the sweaters she wears are borrowed or gifts from her Grandma Wanda Sprout.

Not only does Cassutt share the love of her favorite holiday with her grandma, but she also shares the joy of wearing holiday sweaters.

"The sweaters really bring out the Christmas spirit inside me," Cassutt said.

Owning around 25 items of "wearable art," Sprout cherishes her festive sweaters. She has gotten rid of a few "truly ugly" sweaters, but overall she thinks

they are beautiful and adores showing off her large collection.

"When you've collected for thirty years, you get to accumulate a lot," Sprout said.

With such a large collection, Sprout has many favorites: her Christopher Radko designed red Nutcracker sweater, her pink one covered in Christmas trees, and her black one covered with green sequin trees.

One of Cassutt's favorites includes her blue sparkly sweater covered in multicolored stockings.

"I like it because it combines Christmas spirit with a bit of sass," Cassutt said.

Cassutt wears them at parties and on

certain school occasions.

"In the month of December, I just like to sprinkle them in with some of my outfits because they are fun and warm," Cassutt said.

Occasionally, Cassutt will loan out a few of her sweaters to close friends or family to wear at Christmas parties or for school dress-up days.

Sprout is excited when her grandchildren borrow her sweaters, knowing they will wear them with class. She knows that many people may think of them as ugly sweaters, but she is proud of them.

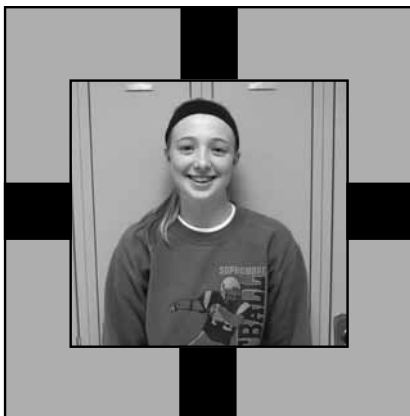
"If there's anyone who loves Christmas more than me, it's my grandma," Cassutt said.



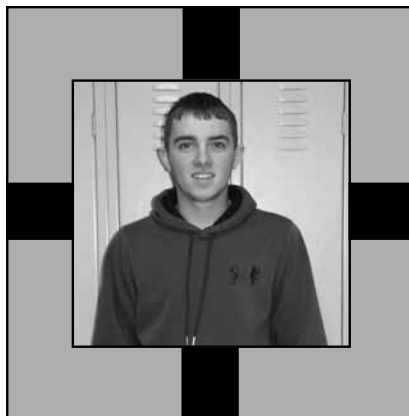
Crazy in Love with Christmas

Students Receive Interesting Gifts

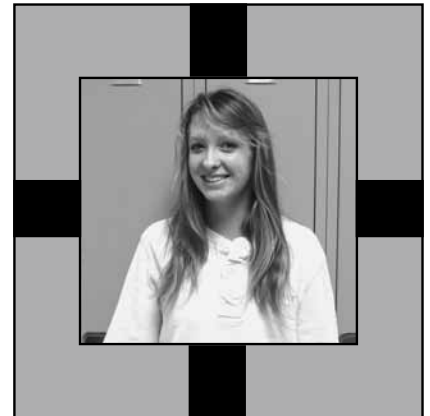
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"When I was 12, my aunt from South Dakota gave me (off-brand) Ugg boots that were six sizes too big," Bailey Beckman (10) said. "I was like, 'Are you kidding me?'"



"When I was 13, my grandma got me a pair of Batman gloves," Michael Gudenkauf (11) said. "I didn't like them, but I told her thank you. I only wore them twice."



"My family friend from Mexico gave me a beanie with his motorcycle gang name on it and also an edible shirt that was not very edible," Emily LaRosa (10) said. "I thought it was super cool."