## The Scratchin' post

## FBLA helps elementary students paint pumpkins

## By Caleb Schentzel

Northwestern's Future had to grab the elemenBusiness Leaders of tary children more paint America chapter helped the elementary students paint pumpkins on Oct. 26.

The Northwestern students involved with the chapter went down to the elementary and led the kindergartners, the first-graders and the sec-ond-graders to the cafeteria.
The three grades split into three tables and each student had been able to paint their own pumpkin.
During this creative activity, the high schoolers went around the tables assisting the younger students with their pumpkins in order to prevent any accidental messes.
Assigned different tasks, the older students
tary children more paint brushes as well as different colored paints. After the children were satisfied with their pumpkin, the high school students helped the young students clean up.
"I really had fun painting the pumpkin I got. I painted a scary face that had green hair, blue ears and pink eyes. When I got home, I put my pumpkin on the front door step and let everyone see it on Halloween night," second-grader Ty Boekelheide said.
Each of the FBLA members helping the younger children enjoyed the experience as well.
"I really had fun, and I enjoyed talking and getting to know all the younger kids," senior Andrew Lefforge said.


Junior Tyler Braun, middle, helps the elementary students reach for paint and paint brushes The senior class had also helped the preschool paint their own pumpkins as well.
The Northwestern Future Business Leaders of America chapter paints pumpkins every year with the younger classes, and they will be continuing to do the fun activity for years to come.
 Senior Austen Wiman Senior Austen Wiman
helps a preschooler
 Sophomore Moira Duncan talks with the children

## Northwestern Snow Queen contestants crowned

## By Caitlyn Fischbach

The junior and senior snow queen held Nov. 12 featured six candidates. The junior snow queen contestants consisted of Hailey Boekelheide, Tomlyn Toy, Christine Stoltenberg and Tya Weideman. Boekelheide received runner-up and Weideman was crowned Junior Northwestern Snow Queen. The junior talent act of the night was Hailie Stuck performing an oral interpretive piece. "It was a lot of fun, and I had a great time," Weideman said.
Senior snow queen contestants were Alexandra Johnson and Fernanda Orsi. At the end of the night, Orsi was crowned Senior Northwestern Snow Queen. Darby Duncan sang a vocal solo for the senior talent. Weideman and Orsi will be participating in the state snow queen competition. Duncan and Stuck


Photo by Caitlyn Fischbach Students advancing to state snow queen from the left: senior Darby Duncan, senior Ali Johnson, senior Fernanda Orsi, freshman Tya Weideman, freshman Hailey Boekelheide and eighth-grader Hailie Stuck will be going to represent rience, and I am glad in front of everyone, but and candidates was realent divisions at state.
"It was a great expe-

Northwestern in the tal- I took part in it. I was all went well I guess. ly fun. It is definitely a really nervous about the Spending the day with story I will tell everyone interview and speaking the other snow queens back home," Orsi said.


## Students sing in All-State Chorus

By Riley Grandpre
Senior Darby Duncan, All-Orchestra played its freshman Zeke Duncan, songs. Northwestern did freshman Madalyn Groft not have anyone particiand junior Peyton Groft pate in the band portion performed in the All- of this event.
State Choir Oct. 29 in This year's director was Sioux Falls.
D. Duncan has the most experience, concluding with a total of three years of participating in this activity. The other three singers participated in this event for the first time this year.
They sang a total of nine songs. After the choir finished their songs, the


Photo by Mrs. Nora Groft
Senior Darby Duncan, freshman Madalyn Groft, freshman Zeke Duncan and junior Peyton Groft smile before their All-State performance


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## NW students reach academic achievement

By Caleb Schentzel

Northwestern students in the middle schoo and high school receive the honor of academic achievemnt on the first quarter honor roll.

Names appear alphabetically:
6th Grade:
Straight A: Ethan Boekelheide, Tanner Ewalt, Fatafehi Faonelua, Ella Haven;
A: Quintin Fischbach, Olivia Heidenreich, Brooke Heim, Emmylea Robeson;
B: Trey Bourelle, Rian Gehring, Brooklinn Halvorson, Maren Hansen, Della Hartman, Preston Martin, Jayden Mielke, Chase Neiber, Jude Ortmeier.
7th Grade:
Straight A: Jessica Boekelheide, Samuel Groft, Megan Nash, Sawyer Styles;
A: Justin Haven, Landen Melius, Logan Rausch, Teryn Sparling, Nicholas Troske
B: Morgan Gehring,

Emma Grandpre, Haiden Grandpre, Mackenzie Stoltenberg, Maddie Williams. 8th Grade:
Straight A: Hayden Bohl, Bailey Heim, Mitchell Vander Wal; A: Joclyn Haven, Jackson Mielke, Alexis Rahm, Sydney Schell, Hannah Schentzel, Ethan Walter;
B: Jackson Christ, Jace Haven, Seth Heidenreich, Teagan Jost, Kyle Peterson, Cody Rausch, Samantha Rush, Hunter Schipke, Hailie Stuck, Kiarra Stuck.
9th Grade:
Straight A: Hailey Boekelheide, Cassidy Frericks, Madalyn Groft, Christine Stoltenberg, Miranda Thorson, Tya Weideman;
B: Zechariah Clemens, Ezekiel Duncan, Kaitlyn Lefforge, Dalton Peterson, Talley Sparling, Eleanor Tonga, Danielle Watson.

10th Grade:
Straight A: Moira Duncan, Jarret Haven, Caleb Schentzel;
A: Caitlyn Fischbach, Zachary Toennies;
B: Gavin Bohl, Riley Grandpre, Daniel Orr Seth Wood.
11th Grade:
Straight A: Peyton Groft, Megan Heidenreich, Jaidyn Kramp, Evy Peterson, Addison Sparling, Sadie Vander Wal;
A: Darien Watson;
B: Isaac Bauer, Tucker Bohl, Tyler Braun, Mackenzie Engles, Jedd Groft, Austin Peterson, Dawson Smith, Taniela Tonga.
12th Grade:
Straight A: Derek Boekelheide, Josie Clemens;
A: Darby Duncan, Aubury Orr, Fernanda Orsi;
B: Alexandria Johnson, Kyler Johnson, Andrew Lefforge, Klaryssa Schnoor.

## Oral Interp excels at competition

By Fernanda Orsi
The Northwestern School's oral interpretation team went to Districts on Nov. 2 in Aberdeen at the Dakota Event Center.
The students who competed included eighth-grader Jackson Weideman in storytelling, seventh-grader Jessica Boekelheide in oratory, eighth-grader Hailie Stuck in serious, eighth-grader Bailey Heim in humorous, juniors Megan Heidenreich and Sadie Vander Wal as a duet and eighth-graders Alexis Rahm, Hannah Schentzel, Sydney Schell, Kiarra Stuck and Hayden Bohl in reader's theatre.
H. Stuck, Vander Wal and Heidenreich, and the reader's theater are advancing to the region contest in Webster on


Courtesy Photo
Top: Bailey Heim, Alexis Rahm, Sadie Vander Wal, Megan Heidenreich, Sydney Schell, Hannah Schentzel. Bottom row: Kiarra Stuck, Hailie Stuck, Jessica Boekelheide, Hayden Bohl and Jackson Weideman

Nov. 15.
"We had 37 sign up and 28 pieces and this year we had participants from seventh to twelfth grade and that's a new set up. They were all exceptional and did a really great job. Nine students went
to regions, only 2 are high schoolers, which is impressive. It was exciting because they did a great job but it was also tiring because there were a lot of people," team instructor Mrs. Jolinda Finley said.

## Elementary November Students of the Month: <br> By Josie Clemens



The elementary teaching staff voted on nominations for grades K-2 and 3-5 for the awards.

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Math Counts begins competitions

By Caitlyn Fischbach
The math counts pro- competitions, and will gram has started up continue using their for the year. The mid- math skills for the rest of dle school teams have the year by competing already participated in in more competitions.

## Elementary attends assembly

By Riley Grandpre
The elementary elementary learned received a treat Oct. many interesting things 27. A group called Songs and Tales came to Northwestern. They ent instruments and sang and told stories other traditional items of the pioneer life. The such as puppets.
Middle school visits colleges
By Caleb Schentzel
The eighth-graders leges on Oct. 24. They went to Mitchell, S.D., visited Dakota Weslyan with Mr. Anthony University and Mitchell Redman to visit col- Tech.

## FFA Leaders Shine

By Josie Clemens
Congratulations to the Sadie Vander Wal.

FFA members competing 1st Place at the Bowdle Leadership Broadcasting-Jarret Invitational on their out- Haven. standing performance.
1st Place Ag Sales TeamJarret Haven, Gavin Bohl, Mitchell Vander Wal, Alexis Rahm.
2nd Place Ag Sales Team- Seth Wood, Tyler Braun, Caleb Schentzel, Chrissy Stoltenberg.
3rd Place Individual Ag Salesman-Jarret Haven. 2nd Place Job Interview-

Congratulations to the Math Counts students on their results at the Roncalli contest.
Mitchell Vander Wal took fourth place andMitchell Vander Wal, Seth Heidenreich, Sam Groft, Megan Nash received second place in the eighth-grade division.

## Northwestern honors veterans

By Fernanda Orsi
Northwestern hosted the annual Veterans Day program in the Northwestern gym on Nov. 11. Student body president senior Josie Clemens welcomed the students and community members in attendance. The program started off with the Brentford Junior American Legion Auxiliary posting the colors led by Sadie Vander Wal. After the flags were in place, the Northwestern high school band played the national anthem.
Eighth-grader Bailey Heim read the poem "Soldier Boy" by Jack Lambson. Following her poetry reading, eighth-grader Jace Haven read "Veteran's Day" by Cheryl Dyson.
The middle school chorus followed the poetry reading with the song "Proud of our Veterans." Guest speaker Retired South Dakota National Guard Sergeant First Class Mike Wiley gave the speech for the program, which he stressed the importance of Veteran's Day and thanked all veterans and veteran's family for their


Photo by Addi Sparling m by Jack Lambson
service to this country. followed and the colors He also mentioned the were retired. Clemens firemen and police offi- closed with a thank cers and thanked them you the the commuand their families for nity to end the 2016 their service.
A moment of silence at Northwestern.


Photo by Addi Sparling
Middle school students directed under Mrs. Wendy Thorson sing "Proud of our Veterans"


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Courtesy Photo ion, placing in three different categories and advancing on to nationals in Fargo, N.D.


## NW robotics advances to nationals

By Caitlyn Fischbach

The robotics team recently participated in a competition at South Dakota State University. The team has been preparing a very long time for the competition
The theme for this competition had been "Bet the Farm," a familiar topic for our area.
Overall the team did an amazing job. They received fourth place overall as a team. The other categories that
placed were notebook robot and awards. The and robot. The team took first in the notebook and third for their robot.
"I thought it was fun. I got to meet a lot of new people like corn guy. It was very upbeat and fun," said freshman Talley Sparling.
The team will now be going to participate in nationals. The first day of competition will be marketing and exhibits, and
robot and awards. The
Northwestern robotics team will be competing on Dec. 2 and 3.
"It was a great learning experience and I really enjoyed seeing all the great exhibits! The people I met were very enthusiastic. I am very excited to see the different exhibits and robots at Nationals, and meet new people," freshman Hailey Boekelheide said.


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# New coaches drive team into season 

By Josie Clemens
The Northwestern boys' basketball program may have lost two experienced coaches from the previous season, but the two men filling their shoes bring excitement and a new perspective to the court.
"The coaches believe in us and see the team's potential. I think they will know how to use each of us individually and get the entire team involved. We will have a lot of fun this year," senior Andrew Lefforge said.
Head coach Mr. Anthony Redman and assistant coach Mr. Kellan Herman fill the two coaching positions for the Northwestern boys' basketball program.
Redman had been attending Northern State University, earning his master's degree before deciding to take the next step in his career, which included the coaching position and the school counselor.
"I heard of the great
program Northwestern has, and I wanted to be a part of that," Redman said.
As the head coach, Redman wants his players to understand that Northwestern boys' basketball has the capability of winning. The team will take every day as an opportunity to better themselves both mentally and physically.
Not only does Redman strive to build the abilities of each individual athlete, but he also focuses on the team as a whole. Making the team into a family would be an ideal achievement for him.
Assistant coach Herman shares the same goals as Redman.
"I'm excited to work with the team and help each player develop throughout the season," Herman said.
Herman started college in 2013 and played two full years of basketball at Presentation College in Aberdeen until he transferred to Northern State University. He currently


Head coach Redman works with sophomore Jarret Haven individually at the Northville Community Association
attends the university as a senior.
Redman had suggested the assistant coach position to Herman, who thought that the Northwestern boys' basketball program would be an excellent place to begin his coaching career.
Not everyone has the ability to coach and to do so successfully. In order to be successful, a coach must understand his role on the team and turn the potential of the athletes into valuable assets to the team's overall structure. Herman understands the components of coaching and plans to use them
as guidelines throughout the year.
"I think a good coach has good character, a positive attitude, and a good connection with the players. A good coach also knows how to develop players on and off the court," Herman said.
Strategically, the coaches plan to push the ball on offense and defensively place pressure on the other teams throughout the entire game.
Before the season starts, the boys on the team have been scheduling open gyms after school and having one-on-one workouts to improve


Assistant coach Kellan Herman
fundamental skills in preparation for the first day of practice.
"I see the players get better every day," Redman said.
Redman and Herman believe the players have the opportunity to make improvements and increase the strength of the Northwestern boys' basketball team.
The first regular season game takes place at Northwestern on Tuesday, Dec. 13 against Edmunds Central.

## Cross country season ends with success

By Caitlyn Fischbach

The girls' cross country team placed fifth at the State B Cross Country Meet held Saturday,


Courtesy Photo
The boys' and girls' cross country team both placed as a team at the state meet in Huron, S.D.

Boekelheide placed 25th in a time of 21:36, senior Josie Clemens placed 56 in a time of 23:09, freshman Madalyn Groft placed 90 in a time of 24:18 and eighth-grader Kiarra Stuck placed 96 in a time of 24:45.
The boys' cross country team placed sixth at the state meet. Senior Derek Boekelheide placed eighth in a time of 17:49, sophomore Jarret Haven placed 22nd in a time of 18:28, freshman Zech Clemens placed 68th in a time of 19:50, sev-enth-grader Justin Haven placed 104 in a time of 21:10 and eighth-grader Jace Haven placed 110 in a time of 21:46.


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## Volleyball team soars into state

The Northwestern led the team with 21 kills. Wildcats volleyball team "The feeling is unbeis on their way to Huron, lievable. The whole team S.D., for the State B volleyball tournament. The Wildcats took the conference, district and region titles as they headed to their last tournament of the season.
In districts, the Wildcats played the Langford Area Lions with an easy sweep. The following night proved more of a challenge as they faced their rivals, the Warner Monarchs. When all hope seemed lost after the Wildcats had dropped the first two sets, something clicked. Northwestern won the next three sets to win it all. Junior Evy Peterson


Courtesy Photo
Sophomore Riley Grandpre and Peterson set the blcok against Wilmot


Wildcats celebrate winning point against Warner in the district championship game


Courtesy Photo
Coach Nora Groft and the team celebrate a Wildcat point during the region match

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## NW cheer competes at state

By Riley Grandpre

The Northwestern cheerleading team performed at state Oct. 21 in Aberdeen. The team placed 11 at state out of 18 teams.
The cheer team performed in the small stunting and tumbling. Their scores had been 66.5, 68.5 and 66.5. Their total came to 200.5 , placing fourth in
the small " $A$ " group. Overall, the cheer team placed 11.
"Even though we were the smallest team performing at state, we definitely proved ourselves out on the mats. Our spirit, stunting, jumps, and tumbling have improved so much this year, and wit such a
young team, I am excited to see what next year will bring for us. Placing fourth in our division was an outcome we worked hard to achieve, and I could not be more proud of my teammates," junior said Sadie Vander Wal.
The cheer season has successfully come to an end.


Courtesy Photo
The cheer team at state consisted of juniors Darien Watson, Megan Heidenreich, and Sadie Vander Wal and Coach Alyssa Serfling. Bottom: Eighth-graders Hailie Stuck and Kiarra Stuck and seventh-graders Maddie Williams and Savannah Keifer

## FFAQ

By Fernanda Orsi


Photo by Fernanda Orsi
Senior Fernanda Orsi
It may seem surprising, but since Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays have started, I have been asked not once, but three times if I have Christmas in Brazil. And yes, Christmas does exist in Brazil. We might not have all the snow or repeating Christmas songs playing on the radio, but we still have Christmas. After all, it is a religious holiday.
We usually gather the whole family in one of my grandma's house on Dec. 24 and have our Christmas dinner, which consists of the turkey (of course!), smoked ham, cooked gilt (the animal), pasta and a lot of desserts. We usually pray and have our meals around midnight, and the celebration continues until the sunrise.
Christmas is by far my favorite holiday because it is when we get to gather all the family and eat a lot of really good food. I am glad I will get to experience a white Christmas this year just like I have seen in the movies since I was little.


Life is too precious to be taken for granted

Staff Editorial
Imagine this.
You have been the perfect image of a popular high school sophomore. You wear the right clothes, say the right things, have perfect grades, and best of all, date the most attractive person in school.
Everything is perfect.
Except your parents will not let you go to the senior party on Friday the party you have been dreaming of since middle school.
Your parents try to explain to you the dangers of alcohol and drunken driving which usually exist at this annual party. Because of your frustration, you do not listen to their warnings.
Instead, you tell them you plan on spending the night at a friend's house and sneak out to the party.
Your senior "friends" plan on drinking that night, making you their designated driver. However, as the night ticks by, someone offers you a
drink.
At first you refuse, but later agree because one sip would not hurt, would it?
This one sip leads to two sips, leads to one drink, leads to multiple drinks.
You have completely lost your sense of direction, but you do not want to disappoint your "friends" when they tell you they want to go home.
Disappointing them would lead to complete social destruction. Complete social destruction would ruin you.
You take out your keys and start the car.
You drive without control.
You swerve to the right of the road.
You swerve back onto the road, but you overcorrect your mistake.
A vehicle drives in the opposite direction in the other lane.

You hit the vehicle.
Your friends die. The people in the other vehi-
cle die.

You die.
Your importance of being "cool" has now taken the lives of your passengers and the innocent family in the other vehicle.
Life cannot be taken for granted.
Teenagers today continue to worry about irrelevant social statuses while risking their lives to obtain superiority over others.
Many accidents in South Dakota have caused teenagers to lose their lives since the beginning of this school year. Teenagers had been both the cause of the accident and the victim.
The death toll continues to rise, yet teenagers continue to waste their lives stressing over the small things.
A girl cries because she did not receive the highest grade in the class on the math test.
Rumors spread because a jealous boy cannot stand seeing his
girlfriend talk to other boys.
Everyone needs to stop and ask themselves one very important question: what is real loss?
Real loss exists when a very dear grandmother passes away from a heart attack. Real loss exists when a friend becomes a victim of a vehicle operated by a drunken driver.
A person cannot be concerned with trivial losses such as stepping in a mud puddle and ruining a pair of expensive shoes. People allow the irrelevant losses to control their lives.
The objects of teenage affection will hold no importance to them further in life, yet they still decide to base their youth decisions solely for the purpose of the disposable importance.
Adults also contribute to the unfortunate teenage expectations and social standards.
Parents need to understand that their child is
alive.
Do not take the child for granted. The pressure that parents apply provides additional stress to the teenage lives.
Pressuring teenagers to specific social standards sets levels of expectations that may be hard to reach.
The standards that parents set mold the teenagers into believing that those expectations remain the key to success. They will focus their attention into pleasing the parents instead of caring for their own goals and their own life.
Parents, hug your children. Children, listen to your parents.
Life remains too large to focus solely on the irrelevant losses of social status or a failed grade.
Looking at life as a privilege rather than an expectation underlies the beginning to understanding real loss. Understanding real loss will lead to a life worth living.

Calats Cgrtoon By Caleb Schentzel


# In the Hallway... 

## In the Elementary <br> What do you want for Christmas?


"Food because it is awesome," fourth-grader Payton Grandpre said.

"A real bow so I can practice archery," third-grader Brady Kiefer said.

"A dog because I want more dogs to play with," second-grader Chesnie Heim said.

"A bake set because I like to bake," third-grader Maddie Schnell said.

## In the Middle School What do you want for Christmas?


"An iPod because I do not have one yet," sixth-grader Brooke Heim said.

"Soccer stuff because I love soccer," sev-enth-grader Morgan Gehring said.

"A dirt bike because I want one," eighth-grader Jace Haven said.

"Candy because I like candy," seventh-grader Meadow Remily said.

By Riley Grandpre

"Money because I can get rich," sixth-grader Fehi Fa'onelua said.

## In the High School <br> What do you want for Christmas?


"Another Costco bear because my first one is lonely," freshman Hailey Boekelheide said.

"Dirt bike because it is something I can manage to get hurt on," sophomore Zach Toennis said.

"Socks and underwear. I am running low on sucks, and you can never have too many pairs of underwear," senior Andrew Lefforge said.

"Brand-new snowmobile because why not?" sophomore Gavin Bohl said.

By Josie Clemens

"I want a big hug from everyone and cheese and snow and a vacation and..." senior Fernanda Orsi said.

# Dodgeball Tournament <br> By Josie Clemens <br> Photos by Sadie Vander Wal 

During homecoming Darby Duncan, Kyler week, the student body Johnson and Andrew typically holds a dodge- Lefforge had been in ball tournament for the charge of running the high school and middle tournament in the last school students. Due to block class of the day. the lack of students avail- The high school team able to participate during champion consisted of the alloted time, the tour- team members seniors nament had been moved Derek Boekelheide, to a later date. Aubury Orr and Fernanda Orsi, juniors Groft and Evy Peterson and sophomore Jarret Haven.
The middle school team included eighth-graders Kiarra Stuck, Sydney Schell, Hannah Schentzel, Jace Haven, Mitchel Vander Wal and

## Hunter Shipke.

 missed.Seniors Josie Clemens,


The crowd anxiously awaits the beginning of the dodgeball games


The middle school had over 10 teams participate. The winning team included eighth-graders Jace Haven, Mitchell Vander Wal and Hunter Shipke. Bottom: Sydney Schell, Hannah Schentzel and Kiarra Stuck


The high school winning team consisted of senior Aubury Orr, senior Derek Boekelheide and sophomore Jarret Haven. Bottom: senior Fernanda Orsi, junior Evy Peterson and junior Peyton Groft


Seventh-grader Jessica Boekelheide grabs the ball from eighth-grader Seth Heidenreich


High school participants brawl for the dodgeballs in the beginning of one of the games while senior Andrew Lefforge watches

## IT'S A MATCH! <br> Can you match the volleyball player to the bruise?

Photos and story by Josie Clemens


## Netflix N' Chill

By Fernanda Orsi
Thanksgiving and Christmas are
around the corner. To get in the holiday
spirit, Netflix has a ton of great classics, so grab a glass of milk, bake some cookies and let the marathon begin! One classic that cannot be missing from your list is Christmas with the Kranks (2004), in the movie, the neighborhood's most festive family decides to skip Christmas and a mass chaos begins. It is a great comedy to watch with the family. Happy holidays!


## Caitbyn's Cuticlees

By Caitlyn Fischbach
Tools
7. Nail polish
2. Clear base coat

## Making a simple design

Start with a base coat of any color you choose, and then let your nails dry. Find a small and thin brush to use for making the lines on your nails. Using black nail polish make a small triangle at the bottom of your nail and fill it in. Next, do the same step making a larger triangle around the first small triangle, but do not fill it in. Lastly, following the outline of the triangle place dots along the edges. This design can be used on all nails or just a couple. For any other nails that you do not use the design for you can place a dot at the bottom of your nail, or you can leave it plain.

## Cookin' with Caleb

By Caleb Schentzel

## Christmas Coffee Cake

For Cake Mix:
1 box yellow
or white cake mix
1 box instant vanilla
pudding
3 eggs
1/2-2/3 cup vegetable oil
2/3 cup water
1 tsp vanilla extract

Bake for 20 minutes at 350 degrees then lower the temperature to 325 degrees and bake for another 35 minutes.

For Toppings:
3/4 cup brown sugar
1 tbsp ground cinnamon
1/4 stick melted butter (2 tbsp)
*Optionalchopped nuts an sells shoes. For a hair style you can do about anything you desire. As the weather outside becomes frightful, a cute beanie would go well along with a pair of matching gloves or mittens.


