

# Needle and thread are senior's tools of choice

Hart develops her hereditary talent for sewing with the help of her grandmother

by Sierra Sullivan  
Reporter

With a needle and thread, some fabric and a bit of imagination, senior Emily Hart can create something from anything.

Hart creates her own clothes through her talent and hobby of sewing. Last year, Hart made her own prom dress, while this year, she helped create the costumes for the school play, "The Wizard of Oz." She finds most of her fabric by going from store to store collecting various materials. Hart creates her own Halloween costumes and dresses when she can. She knows exactly how much time and patience it takes to successfully create a masterpiece.

Hart learned how to sew at a young age. Her grandmother, Mrs. Nancy Stenger, was the one who started a family tradition.

"I think my grandma has definitely helped me a lot," Hart said. "She's taught me most of what I know and has helped me with different



**Mrs. Nancy Stenger,**  
Hart's grandmother

things along the way."

Stenger learned to sew from her mother, who learned from her mother, and so on. Stenger passed on the tradition to her daughters and also to her granddaughter, Emily.

"I'm very proud of what she's done so far," Stenger said. "I very much encourage her to keep that up."

Hart has always been interested in fashion and art. Eventually, her grandmother took notice of her love for fashion and began to teach her the first steps to creating her own clothes. After Hart learned the basics, she took off and began adding her own flare to the garments that she made. She enjoys taking a piece of fabric and blending that pattern in with her own fashion taste.

Hart started out making a formal gown as her first clothing project and has blossomed and grown from there. She still keeps her old clothing that she's made, so she can look back and marvel at how much she has improved.

"It's really cool to see how much I've learned since I started out," Hart said.

Hart has a passion for sewing that she intends to continue to work on for the rest of her life. Whether or not she will incorporate her talent into her career, Hart says that she will continue to design and create clothes no matter what field she's in.

Being interested in art itself, Hart is now leaning more towards becoming an art teacher. Whether she would be doing something with fashion or art, Hart would still enjoy what she is doing. Still, according to Hart, creating fashion will always find its way into her life.

Usually, school occupies most of her time,



Though senior Emily Hart sometimes asks her grandmother for tips on tough maneuvers, everything she sews has her own unique style. Photo by Jesse Roller.

therefore not allowing her to spend as much time sewing as she would like. Currently, Hart is not working on anything, but is almost sure that her next project would be for this year's prom dress. Hart has had people ask her to personally make them their wedding or prom dresses some day, but she has not made anything for anybody so far. There are also circumstances where her skill can come in handy. Hart used the prom dress that she made for the National American Miss Pageant and was a state finalist.

No matter what Hart is creating, she really enjoys the fact that sewing allows her to ex-

press her own individual style while showing the world a unique talent. Sewing is something she can always improve at and learn new ways of making things.

Hart is equipped with experience, patience, talent and passion, which are the keys to successfully fabricate clothing and continue to flourish in her hobby. Hart's friends have told her that she has a lot of patience, which helps her to become successful. According to Stenger and Hart's friends, Hart is very good at what she does. She can see Hart pursuing her talent for the rest of her life, no matter what occupation Hart will choose.