

LIFESTYLE

THEN & NOW

Halloween celebrations focus more on fun than fear, page 4B.

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Tuesday

20 BAD HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

1. A clump of sod
2. A news anchor
3. Scar tissue
4. The letter "O"
5. A CD
6. A tank of propane gas
7. The opposite sex
8. Any costume that might lead to poor voice impressions
9. A car
10. Charles Manson
11. A diabetic
12. A 56k modem
13. A telemarketer
14. A dartboard
15. A peeping Tom
16. Tom Green
17. Don Zimmer
18. Mario dressed as a hamburger
19. The guy too busy talking on his cell phone to take care of the task at hand
20. Paris Hilton

SOURCE: WWW.PROGRESSIVEBOINK.COM



Modeling Halloween costumes, from left, are interior design sophomore Kristin Rhein, zoology senior Jessica Ihrke (behind), international relations senior Ethan Guy and interior design senior Brooke Arciniega.

PHOTOS BY GEORGIA RHODES/THE STATE NEWS

MASKED AT MIDNIGHT

By Mike Blasky and Pat Evans
THE STATE NEWS

As the ghouls and goblins come out of the woodwork Friday, most everyone will be locking to dress up and make their way to parties.

Whether you're going to be a sexy nurse, vampire or something entirely new, Halloween can be as original and inexpensive as you make it.

Cliché? No way

The sexy nurse. The naughty schoolgirl. The cheerleader. Sound familiar?

At any given Halloween college party, you'll likely find multiple versions of the aforementioned costumes, as well as dozens of other walking clichés that say one thing: I couldn't think of something better.

Dressing up doesn't mean everyone has to look the same, said interior design senior Megan Fasel, who's planning a costume party Thurs-

day for members of the School of Planning, Design & Construction at Dublin Square Irish Pub, 327 Abbot Road.

"Last year, I know a (costume) winner came as the Energizer Bunny, and they had the whole drum that they actually wore, and you could put candy in the drum," Fasel said. "But dressing kind of trashy? It's expected somehow, and it's kind of fun to do it once a year."

Interior design senior Brooke Arciniega said originality is tough for college students. Budget and time can be issues, but the key is to spice up your theme, she said.

"For a vampire costume, let's say, I feel I would just, obviously, do certain things you have to do, like vampire teeth," Arciniega said. "To make it your own, I'd make sure I found certain articles of clothing that are really different and unique, then the way I would wear my makeup and hair."

See MASKED on page 4B



International relations senior Ethan Guy made the symbol that once represented the musician Prince out of cardboard as part of his halloween costume.

"Add different things to go the extra mile and make it scarier or more creative — not the generic Halloween costume in a plastic bag."

Brooke Arciniega, interior design senior

PARTIES

Costume can change wearer's mentality

By Stephanie Goldberg
THE STATE NEWS

Halloween is the perfect time to try something new, whether it be a piece of candy, a crazy outfit, or, in some cases, a personality.

"I feel more confident in any dress-up situation, even on a regular going-out night, not just on Halloween," said Erin Cooney, an interior design junior. "When you have something out of the norm for you, it's easier to be more forward."

Although Cooney said she plans on emulating Marilyn Monroe's look come Oct. 31, she doesn't plan on emulating Monroe's personality. Still, she said dressing up can yield more self-confidence and sometimes can lower inhibitions.

People use costumes to communicate private aspects of the self, according to a University of Kentucky study. The findings also indicated that females dress to emulate sexual fantasies and childhood memories more so than men. The study surveyed 100 individuals who dress in costume.

Callie Frey, an art history senior and Cooney's roommate, said she agrees that Halloween and themed parties in general have a different set of rules than a typical night out.

"When you think of a themed party, it's always a little more exciting getting ready and everything," she said. "It's more fun."

Frey said she has some friends who act differently in costume and others who

don't seem to be affected by the change in appearance.

One unavoidable aspect of Halloween, according to "Mean Girls" and many MSU students, is the "slut factor."

"I've seen it happen here," Jon Gougeon said. "I mean, plenty of girls use (Halloween) as an excuse to dress slutty for a night."

Gougeon, a telecommunication, information studies and media junior, said he feels and acts the same on Halloween as he does every other day, but it's obvious that a number of students act differently when they're in costume.

"If it's not really your personality to dress like that all the time, you might be acting differently too."

Chris Walsh, a history

junior, said he personally witnessed his friends' behavior change last Halloween when they dressed up as Playboy bunnies and other seemingly provocative characters.

"It depends on the person," he said. "Some people probably use (Halloween) as a chance to be someone who you're not really all the time."

Despite students' shift in behavior when dressed in costume, MSU police Sgt. Florene McGlothian-Taylor said the number of disturbances does not increase during Halloween weekend.

"In terms of hearing about more disturbances or anything like that, I can't recall," McGlothian-Taylor said.

While students have noticed females taking on differ-

ent personas when dressed in skimpy Minnie Mouse and Little Bo Peep costumes, the idea that similar behavioral changes apply to males as well is not widely discussed.

"(Guys) dress up in the spirit of Halloween, not for personal reasons," said Amethyst Coleman, a biomechanical engineering junior. "Guys (dress up) for the fun of dressing up rather than trying to get attention."

Coleman said she always sees girls hopping around Halloween parties in Playboy bunny outfits sporting more than just ears and a tail.

"They have these big attitudes and they act more excited about themselves and usually act more flirtatious, too," she said. "On Halloween you're supposed to be scary, not slutty."