

Halloween Traditions:

Customs Become Costumes

By: SONYA MAULDIN

Halloween is a day for witches, ghosts, goblins, and kids playing "trick or treat." But all these traditions didn't just happen. They started many years ago.

Known as a hallowed or holy evening, Halloween takes place on the eve of All Saint's Day, November 1. It was thought to be the day when ghosts and goblins came out to cause harm to people.

People also believed that cats were sacred. They thought cats had once been humans who had been changed as a punishment for an evil deed. These beliefs are the origin of the ideas of the

witches and black cats associated with Halloween.

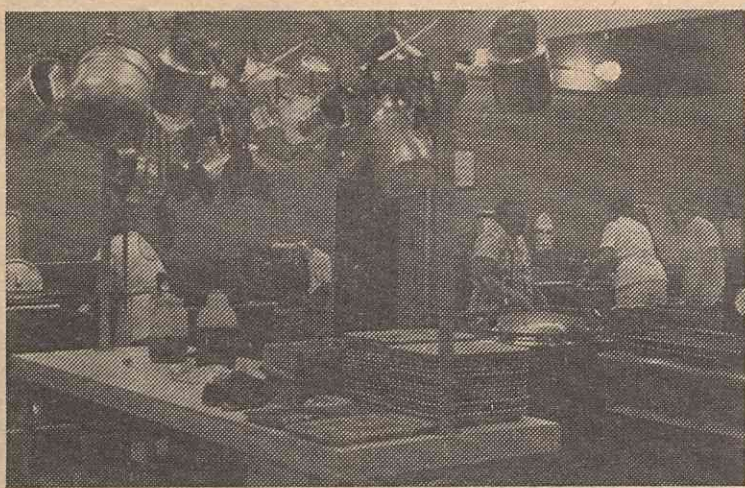
The Jack-O-Lantern comes from the Irish. A man named Jack was unable to enter heaven because of miserliness and couldn't enter hell because of a practical joke he had played on the devil. He, therefore, had to walk the earth with his lantern until judgement day.

Today children dress in costumes and "trick or treat" the neighbors. This was not always the case. In the 19th century the belief was that "little people" or "fairies" played pranks on Halloween. This led boys to carry

out practical jokes which were not always harmless. In the later years communities formed parades, "trick or treating", and other Halloween activities to stop the practical jokes.

An autumn festival held by the Druids, an order of priests, was an occasion of feasting and harvesting. This is where the custom of using leaves, corn-stalks, and pumpkins as decorations originated.

Now each year on October 31st as Halloween is celebrated remember how it all began and maybe it will take on a new meaning.



The lunchroom workers are busy preparing meals for the students.

Chow Down At ASHS

By: JAN HILL

Each day the lunchroom workers are preparing well balanced meals for approximately 330 students. Where does the food come from? Who works in the cafeteria? Who plans our menu?

Nannie Sinclair is the cafeteria manager. Other lunchroom workers are Shirley Talbert, Hermina Ford, Vernie Tucker, Ann Shankle, Lila Stallings, and Ethel Little. Each one has her own duties which she works very hard to accomplish, including baking homemade rolls and desserts, making salads and taking up lunch money. Their duties also include keeping the lunchrooms and kitchen clean.

The school lunch menu is planned each month by Mrs. Pickler. After she decides on the menu, Nannie Sinclair estimates the poundage of food needed. This enables her to know how much of a certain product to order. Next Mrs. Pickler makes an order of groceries which are sent to different companies. Food is received from the following: Aberdeen Packing Company, Goodnight, Biggers Brothers, Lance, Long Meadow, (Borden), and often other places.

A great deal of hard work is demanded of the cafeteria workers. They spent much time planning menus and trying to

make many students happy. It is very disappointing to them when they hear students complain as they file through the lunchline.

In the cafeteria a student may choose for himself the meal he prefers. Usually a selection of two or more class A lunches is offered. The cooks want to offer a choice of meals so they can please most of the students. Providing a variety of food and still having something which appeals to everybody is a hard task. The cafeteria ladies, however, try to do this. Preparing for hundreds of students is not easy, so take that into consideration and be happy with your meal.

Hollow Spirit Speaks

By DEBBIE FARLOW

Zelda, the resident ghost reporter from the hereafter, expects that the spooks will have a fruitful Halloween this season. When asked why, she replied that, "A new sport, called 'parking' is drawing the teens to an isolated spot called Booger Hollow, making the ghosts happy to finally have someone to scare." She thinks it's unfair to just spring all these terrible creatures on the kids without warning. She has graciously

'Hand Me The Comics, Will Ya?'

By: TIM DWIGHT

Quickly tying his shoe, a harried teen-ager rushes to the breakfast table, slides his brimming bowlful of 'Morning Scrunchies' aside, and deftly opens the rain-drenched newspaper. Squinting to read the black ink set against the background of soggy grey newsprint, he smiles. He chuckles. Soon he is howling with laughter. His sceptical younger sister looks at her brother with an expression of hollow despair. In a mournful voice nearly hoarse from screaming the words,

"HURRY UP, STUPID!", she sobs, "If I get one more tardy they'll expel me (hic)." But this jovial teen-ager shrugs his sister's cries off with a curt "Who Cares?" He is a fan of Funky Winkerbean, Ziggy, Peanuts, Herman, Wizard of Id, Hi and Lois, Tank McNamara, Beetle Bailey, and especially Doonesbury. The expelled sister of a comic fanatic cries.

If you asked this so-named comic fanatic what his favorite comic strip is, Doonesbury would undoubtedly become the main subject of conversation for the next few days. Called the most consistently funny cartoon published today, it has attracted a devoted legion of followers (sometimes referred to as "the readers") and an equally adamant group who write hate mail. One reason for this peculiar popularity is that its characters live in a more varied world than in other comic strips. For example, Peanuts' characters seem confined by their innate inability to age, Tank McNamara uses only jokes from the sports realm, and Funky Winkerbean, although much less stifled than the rest, revolves around high school. Possibly because Doonesbury characters live in a world uncannily similar to our own, character development has an intensity rarely found in comic strips.

Mike Doonesbury, B.D., Mark Slackmeyer, Zonker Harris, Joanie Caucus and the uncountable others make up a versatile community of individuals. Mike Doonesbury wants "a nice, good, wholesome, heterosexual relationship" but can never get a date. B.D., a consistently conservative quarterback who wears his helmet on and off the field, volunteered to fight in Vietnam so he could get out of writing a term paper. Mark Slackmeyer, a discouraged student radical who has continuing trouble with his middle-class parents, now bartends for class reunions, announces at football games, and interviews guests on his WBBY radio show. Zonker Harris, a hippie who plays football, bothers B.D. by disrupting the huddles with everything from marijuana

to Panamanian history lessons. Joanie Caucus, once just a runaway housewife on the road to Cleveland, finished law school and now works for the Ethics Committee searching out dishonest congressmen.

Anything can happen (and much does) in a Doonesbury cartoon. In Vietnam, B.D. gets lost and becomes captured by a Viet Cong terrorist named Phred who promptly gets them both lost again. Meanwhile, Mark and Mike motorcycle across the country searching for America (and looking for girls). While stopping at the Republican National Convention, they, to their surprise, find Zonker Harris there with his mother, the only delegate for McCloskey. Later in their trip, they meet Joanie Caucus, a rebelling housewife, and when they return home to Walden Commune she stays on. This is Doonesbury history.

Doonesbury has been around since 1968, when it started in the Yale Daily News as a college cartoon strip. Since syndication, frequent additional characters have contributed to its continuous growth and development. Garry Trudeau (the writer/artist) and his strip have gained much fame and critical acclaim, occasionally as cover stories for Rolling Stone magazine and frequently by having strips banned for things newspaper editors think are unacceptable.

To everyone except those editors, the fun of Doonesbury is in its satire. Its humor is extremely topical and to enjoy much of it a knowledge of current events is mandatory. Many of the cartoons play completely on contemporary headlines. Some of the recent ones have Zonker interrupting a football huddle to explain the history of the Panama Canal problem, Duane Delacourt working as Secretary of Symbolism in the Carter Administration, the Son of Arnold and Mary Leiberman threatening to kill if Jimmy Breslin will not talk to him, and Jackie Onassis' settlement lawyer guesting on WBBY's "Profiles on Parade."

Doonesbury effectively captures the mood of the part of the country that enjoys it. Because of

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Elevate Your Mind

By DONNA KIRK

"Get yourself together . . . Elevate your mind! Express yourself! Give it all you've got, hey! Give it all you've got." Most Senior High students are familiar with these popular football cheers, but how many realize that these words can apply to the future as well as to sports events.

A good place to "Get yourself together" is at College Day. This is an opportunity to talk to the representatives from several different colleges and get your name on their mailing lists, find out about the academic requirements (including grades and SAT scores), scholarships and financial aid for the schools you are interested in attending. Often brochures are available about each school, or there are post cards to mail in to order a college catalog. Get it together at College Day and prepare to "Elevate your mind!" in the future.

"Express yourself!" School life is only a small aspect of one's personality. By reading the daily newspaper, having hobbies, participating in sports and the arts, or traveling, a student can become a more 'well-rounded' individual. A knowledgeable person who expresses himself well can make a lasting impression on a college admissions interviewer or a future employer. Get practice in self expression by participating in class discussions, or take a course in building vocabulary or public speaking.

"Give it all you've got!" A person who puts forth a sincere effort earns the respect of everyone around him. When looking toward the future, whether college or career, keep in mind that determination and ambition are important success factors. Work at being the very best you can be and "Give it all the self expression you've got by elevating your mind!"

The Full Moon

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