Area costume, thrift stores gear up for Halloween shoppers

Costumes for the year's scariest holiday range from as little as \$1 up to \$52.

> BY BRADLEY HOWARD STAFF WRITER

As Halloween creeps closer to Franklin Street, local shops are cashing in on students' demands for holiday cos-

"We're always prepared for cos-tumes," said Steven Schrenzel, a part-

owner of Time After Time Vintage Thrift Shop. "Obviously for us it's our best week of the year." Schrenzel said the shop is prepared

for Halloween because it provides costumes on a daily basis for playhouses as far away as Wilmington.

"We try to restock everyday," he said.
"So if you don't find it one day, try again the next."

the next.'

Schrenzel said the shop sells its merchandise as cheaply as possible, and he said that many people spend less than \$15. However, the shop does not have Caroline Thaxton, a worker at Surplus Sid, which has more than 2,000 mes for sale, said the shop appreci-

"It's a lot quieter the rest of the year," Thaxton said. "We have a whole rack in the back of rented costumes, but we still have a billion costumes (available for

"Business has picked up insanely (beginning this month)," Thaxton said. Purchasing costumes at Surplus Sid ranges from \$10 to \$80, Thaxton said. Rentals range from \$12 to \$52 per night with a credit card deposit about twice

the rental cost.

Because of the increased business, some merchants suggested student their costumes well before Oct. 31.

"If (students) want a costume, they need to come and get one now," said Chris Mervin, director of operations at Party City in New Hope Commons shopping center. "It's our busiest time of the year. We have a lot of adult costumes in steel." in stock.'

The "Scream" costume has already sold out, but there are a few "M&M costumes left, Mervin said.

He said the price for a costume ranges

outfit. Mervin said the average price is

The Parent Teachers Association Thrift Shop in Chapel Hill has been restocking costumes weekly and does not plan to run out of them until next Tuesday or Wednesday, said Frances Harris, head clerk.

Harris said the biggest time of the year for the shop is the Christmas season, but business does increase near

Students can get a costume for less than \$5, she said

At the Carrboro PTA Thrift Shop, the

"(October) is one of our biggest onths," said Valecia Harris, manager.

"It's bigger than Christmas."
The Carrboro PTA Thrift Shop will have an outdoor sale Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to noon. All items on the tables will

On regular days, she said a complete utfit costs less than \$10, and accessories can be purchased for \$25 and up

We hope to sell out," she said, "But you can always find something to use for

Realism of 'Skylight' gives poignant portrayal of love

Relationships spawned out of infi-delity are doomed to abrupt and bad endings. Or are they? Such is the story of "Skylight," a poignant yet intimate play by David Hare.

The 1997 multiple Tony-nominated play is being staged by PlayMakers Repertory Company at the Paul Green Theatre until Nov. 9. It is directed by guest director John Rando, who last year directed the brilliant "Three Tall

Women" for PlayMakers. "Skylight" its best, strikingly human

JIM MARTIN **Theater Review** "Skylight" PlayMakers Repertory Company and involved

with societal problems. An elaborate stage complete with working stove, portable heater and sink create the apartment of Kyra Hollis, a young school teacher who has ended a lengthy affair with a wealthy restaurant chain owner, Tom Sergeant.

It has been three years since Tom's wife Alice found out that Kyra, who'd been living in their house and helping with Tom's growing business, was sleeping with her husband. On that day, Kyra packed her bags and abruptly left the posh lifestyle, leaving Tom to explain

the affair to Alice.
So Edward, Tom's 18-year old son, stops by Kyra's first-floor flat in Northwest London. Though he tells Kyra he is just passing by after shopping at a local music store, he actually visits Kyra to talk about Tom, who has been acting "very peculiar" since Alice's death to cancer a year ago. Edward and Alice reminisce about the days when they acted like a "family" and even about her affair with Edward's dad. But, she offers no promises to meet Tom

Soon after Edward leaves, Tom enters Kyra's life again. Though the chemistry built on a relationship of six years of intimacy still remains between them, they are separated by their guilt over their affair and a combination of socioeconomic matters.

Tom is a wealthy, set-in-his-ways restaurateur with influence and any mber of contacts. Kyra lives in a lessthan-desirable section of town and is an ambition-driven teacher of students from tough backgrounds.

Hare's story is one of clashing social backgrounds and two persons' com-pletely different goals in life. Hare's real-ism can be seen in the tumultuous relationships of three people trying to get on with their lives, and coping with problems in distinct ways.

Frank Converse as Tom and Kate Forbes as Kyra controlled the stage with masterful acting. When they raged and when they were calm and intimate, the two became the couple. The chemistry the two actors exuded was unique and added to the troubled relationship their

characters were supposed to be in.

Matthew Greer as Edward was just as compelling. The actors had such power vision and Rando guided them wonderfully on the visually stimulating

stage.
"Skylight" is a masterpiece of realism complete with three-dimensional char-acters, a descriptive setting and a gripping story current enough for anyone to identify with.

LUNCH

with parents on important issues.

"I'm concerned about helping some of the people who don't have voices." Woods, who has been a classroom

volunteer for 10 years, said he also believed encouraging achievement among all groups was important, but his platform concentrated on other reforms, such as decreased class sizes.

"I think the studies are pretty clear that decreased class size, particularly at the elementary level, improves scores,"

Woods said he was also in favor of more efficient construction of schools, more teaching assistants in fourth and fifth grades and a comprehensive tutor-

ing program.
Didow, an associate professor at the

Kenan-Flagler School of Business and the only incumbent running for re-elec-tion to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education, said he was pleased over-all with the performance of the school

"I would characterize all seven members as people who are committed, concerned and work hard as the dickens,'

Upcoming issues facing the board include Internet access and open-lunch policies, Didow said.

Didow also encouraged voters' support of the bond referendum on Nov. 4, which would allocate \$47 million for

Didow said he was hopeful that the school board would continue to suc-

"You hope for each two steps forward you take, you take none back.

Dinner awards those most beneficial to disabled BY BARRETT BREWER

The theme of Thursday's annual Orange County Awareness Disability Council awards dinner, "Ability, a bridge to the future," focused on the abilities and efforts of those involved with con-tributing to the welfare and betterment of the disabled community

The awards dinner, held in honor of Natonal Disability Awarenes Month, recognized those persons or organiza-tions who have made a signifigant outreach to the disabled population and who met the criteria set by the President Bill Clinton's Committee on Disabilities. Timothy Miles, organizer of the event, said the dinner was important because it recognized those who helped to empower the disabled economically and in the business community.

"(The dinner) lets people learn about ersons with disabilities and to let them focus on people as people and their abilities," Miles said.

The dinner, held at the Omni Hotel. featured award presentations in five major areas of service: Citizen of the Year, Employer of the Year, Distinguished Service, Media (print and broadcasting) and the president's award.

The guest speakers for the dinner were Joel Harper, president of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce; N.C. Rep. Verla Insko (D-Orange); N. Margaret Saleeby, N.C. leading disabilities specialist; and Greg Fishel, senior meteorologist, WRAL-TV 5. Miles said the speakers at the dinner were those with political and influential prominence who had previously been involved with the disabled.

'So often, problems with disabilities revolve around business," Harper said of his involvement with the disabled.

"The importance is awareness, making everyone aware of the issue and its

ASK QUESTIONS AT

MEETINGS. BUT MAKE

Awards were presented to Jennifer Airrington for citizen of the year; Hill Country Woodworks for employer of the year; Chapel Hill News for print media; WCHL for broadcast media; Jackson Hewitt Tax Services for distinguished service; and Christine Shia of the Chapel Hill Herald for the president's award.

"Most people don't have personal friends who are handicapped," Insko said. "Most people are reluctant to get to know a handicapped person. Handicapped people are no different than we are

NEWMAN FROM PAGE 3

parts of the community, and they all come together to give me ideas and help out with programs," Newman said. Camille Graham, a sophome phys-

ical education major from Charleston S.C., became involved with the Swoosh Team after playing intramural basket-ball with Newman. She said she enjoys Swoosh Team activities because of the excitement they create among students

Graham said her favorite activity was P.L.A.Y. Day, a program designed to get young girls involved in athletics. One hundred Girl Scouts participated in the event, traveling from station to station to learn about such sports as volleyball karate, track and field and soccer.

"Kenya is a lot of fun to be around, Graham said. "She's very friendly and good at taking the initiative and makes Swoosh meetings const."

Swoosh meetings great."

David Peedin, a junior from Princeton and a Swoosh Team member, said he admired Newman's ability to re-invent old concepts. "I've found the team rewarding in

many capacities, such as encouraging people to exercise more and be more healthy," Peedin said. "The key is trying, and that's what Nike is all about. Nike recently became a popular campus issue following student protests of

its labor practices in response to the University's approval of a \$7.1 million athletic contract with the company.

Newman said the protests have very

little effect on her job, although she has Nike videos and information for anyone with questions about the company "I wouldn't be involved in Nike if I

thought they were really exploiting workers," Peedin said.

Newman said: "I'm just a miniscule PR specialist for Nike. I obviously have my allegiance with Nike, but I do my job for the love of sports."

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