

Students brave hex

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — There's only one thing for students at Transylvania University to do when Halloween is near — sleep in the tomb of the teacher known for putting a hex on the school.

Four Transylvania students won the opportunity to spend a night in the tomb of Constantine Rafinesque, who taught biology at Transylvania from 1819 to 1826 before being fired.

"I can't believe we're sleep-

ing over dead men," freshman Shalie Miller of Muncie, Ind., said Friday night while sprawling on a concrete slab that seals Rafinesque's crypt in the school's administration building.

And so ended another Rafinesque Week, a time of ghoulish activities started around Halloween in the 1930s to celebrate the unusual botanist's life.

Rafinesque, who was born in 1783 in Constantinople, published taxonomic descriptions of 6,700 new plants. But

students know him better by his curse.

Legend says the university's then-President Horace Holley fired Rafinesque when he discovered the botanist had had an affair with his wife. Outraged, Rafinesque cursed Holley and the school and fled to Philadelphia.

Transylvania's administration building mysteriously burned down and Holley died soon after. In 1969, the administration building again caught fire, and every room was gutted except for the one

in which Rafinesque is entombed.

Monsters tie knot

CINCINNATI (AP) — The bride was dreadful, the groom gruesome, but love conquered all in a wedding that looked like something out of *Fright Night*.

Anthony Taylor and Debra Hutcherson, dressed as Frankenstein and the Bride of Frankenstein, culminated their six-year courtship Saturday in the back yard of their

home with a Halloween-style wedding.

"You always see pretty brides and pretty weddings," said Hutcherson, 32. "I just wanted my day to be different."

Different it was — even friends and relatives invited to witness the weird wedding decked out in frightening garb. Only the minister who performed the ceremony came in regular attire.

Hutcherson said she had to talk her beloved into the unusual wedding.

"I was kind of leery at first," said Taylor, 34. "But I'd rather be married to Debra in costume than not at all."

Another couple in Evansville, Ind., had the same idea Saturday.

Stephanie Plemmons, resplendent in her white dress, makeup and Frankenstein-head earrings, married Glen Hettenbach, attired in green makeup and with bolts attached to his neck.

Eerie music played as the ceremony started and thunder crashed when the couple kissed.

Good beats evil

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Police caught the devil and tossed him in the cooler.

An inebriated party-goer dressed like the devil was arrested while driving home from a Halloween celebration early Sunday.

Police Sgt. Mike Pattee said the man, whose name was withheld, had a blood-alcohol content of .15 percent, nearly twice the legal limit of .08 percent.

The man was among 246 people arrested for drunken driving during a weekend crackdown that ended early Sunday. About 65 Los Angeles Police Department and California Highway Patrol officers patrolled streets and freeways as a part of the operation.

"We're getting ready for the holiday season," Pattee said.

FLICKS

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Blatty, who wrote the original *Exorcist*. Georgetown police investigate a series of freaky murders. Murder victims include survivors from *The Exorcist*. Movie stars George C. Scott. Movies 12, 2850 Gateway St., Springfield, 741-1231.

Night of the Living Dead (R) — Color remake of the 1968 classic George A. Romero black and white horror film about seven people who barricade themselves inside a farmhouse while flesh-eating zombies with bad skin roam the countryside. Movies 12, 2850 Gateway St., Springfield, 741-1231. MovieLand, 808 Seneca St., 342-4142.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (R) — Classic spoof on horror films. A straight couple gets stranded in a strange house full of weird, freaky people. This film has had a strong cult following since it was released in 1975. Playing Halloween night at the Bijou Art Cinemas, 492 E. 13th Ave., 686-2458.

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