

FISHING FOR FROCKS



Photos by Catharine Kendall Emerald
Linda and Mike Earls search for the perfect Halloween costume, always the hardest part of the holiday. Parties To Go has masks and racks of clothing for adults and children.

Goodwill and St. Vincent dePaul are always good places to find a decent Halloween costume. Here are a few more spots that can help out with dress-up time.

The UO Dance Dept. is having a costume sale Oct. 29 and 30 in the Gerlinger Annex from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Costumes from previous productions are available.

The Antrican, 304 E. 13th, has an assortment of eclectic vintage clothing.

The Costume Connection is a rental shop in Springfield, located at 329 Main St. Costumes can be specially made to fit.

Parties To Go is at 1022 Green Acres Road.

Scream in the Dark gets light revamping

■ Scream in the Dark touts new and improved frights at annual Halloween event

By Laura Chamberlain
for the Emerald

Scream in the Dark, the haunted house at the Lane County Fairgrounds, has been giving Eugene residents goose bumps for 27 years. This year, after extensive improvements, participants can expect to find the spooky site bigger, better and scarier than ever.

The event is organized by the 20-30 Club, a group that emphasizes community service, according to club member and Scream in the Dark co-chairman Chris Butler. Volunteer actors from local schools dress up as the scary characters.

"[The group's] purpose is to benefit the children of our community and to improve young adults, making them better people to build a stronger community," he said.

Over the past year, the club has focused on improving and renovating the haunted house, according to project chairwoman Andrea Smith.

"We have revamped the wall structure, added new rooms and replaced some of the old themes," she said. Smith said the club has updated the haunted house to include more recent pop culture images, such as a "Blair Witch Project" room.

"We decided that the project had been around for 26 years and we wanted to keep it fresh," project co-chairman Tracy Olsen said. "[One] of the other improvements is that we have made Scream in the Dark wheelchair-accessible. We wanted to make sure that everyone would have full access to this event."

The 20-30 Club also will include community service in its Halloween-oriented festivities. For the last 10 years the club has run Coats for Kids, a project that helps provide coats to needy children. The group is incorporating Coats for Kids into the Scream in the Dark project due to a large number of requests for coats this year. Participants who donate coats will receive \$1 off admission at the door.

"We thought it would be a great way to generate more coats and for people to get a buck off their admission," Olsen said.

Scream in the Dark, Smith said, is a fun way to enjoy the Halloween holiday and give back to the community as well.

"It's a great project and the fact that it benefits the community makes it even better," she said.

Scream in the Dark, set up in the fairground's Expo Building, is open for scares Oct. 28, 29 and 30 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Admission is \$5 at the door and \$4 with a Computer Store coupon, a Bi Mart membership card or a donated coat.



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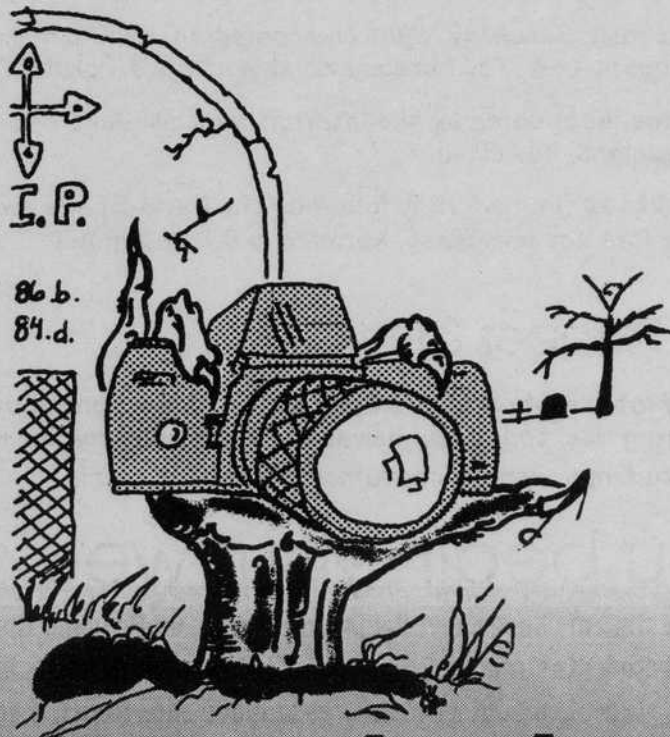
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