



DAY OF THE DEAD



October 29, 1991

The Yellin' Rebel

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A tree would be an appropriate costume

by Tricia Ciaravino

Halloween officially started back in ancient Britain with the Druids, who worshipped trees, and with the Celts.

Also known as Samhain or All Hallows Eve, Halloween was Druid New Year. (The Druids believed Nov. 1, Summers End, began the new year.) The souls of the dead who had not lived good lives came back to earth and entered the bodies of animals.

Those who deserved it were given souls of humans. Druid priests performed heathen and cruel religious rites. The pagans wore elaborate masks to shield themselves from evil spirits. They also asked for offerings from neighbors to sacrifice to their gods. A trick was played on those who were reluctant.

After the Romans invaded Britain the Celtic custom was changed. The Roman festival Feralia, a religious day at the end of October spent honoring the dead, took the place of Samhain. Soon after, other countries adopted the spooky day and its traditions.

This year, pay homage to your pagan ancestors. Make like a tree and leave.

Halloween isn't just for American guys and ghouls

by Karen Splawn

Many countries, including Belgium, Lithuania and Mexico celebrate All Soul's Day (Nov. 1) in their own unusual fashion.

Americans may pull out all the stops when it comes to celebrating Oct. 31, but they're not the only ones who get creative during the three-day festival of Halloween, All Soul's Day and All Saint's Day.

In Mexico on Nov. 2, families visit gravesites of
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Who is Jack-O-Lantern and why do you carve his face in a pumpkin every year?



photo by Morgan Fisher

The practice of using pumpkins as lanterns dates back to 1673. According to the Irish, Mr. O-Lantern was too greedy to get into Heaven and tricked the devil too many times to get into Hell. He was condemned to roam the earth until Judgement Day.

The devil, who felt bad about kicking O-Lantern out, gave him a coal to light his way. Jack stuck it in a turnip and tradition began.

Today, many people carve ornate, sometimes wild, pumpkins in the shapes of celebrities, animals or other things.

Horror-for-rent

Halloween
Night of the Living Dead
Psycho
Prince of Darkness
The Exorcist
Texas Chainsaw Massacre
Nightmare on Elm Street (Part One)
Friday the 13th (Part One)
Phantasm
Pumpkin Head
Hellraiser

Spooky sounds to scare to

Bauhaus: Bela Lugosi's Dead
Black Sabbath: We Sold Our Souls for Rock n' Roll
Blue Oyster Cult: "Don't Fear the Reaper"
Helloween: "Halloween"
Alice Cooper: Welcome to My Nightmare
Walt Disney's haunted house effects album
Dream Syndicate: "Halloween"
Soundtrack from the Rocky Horror Picture Horror Show
Theme from The Exorcist