

## Latex and Tri-Delts and Butt-head, oh my!

**T**his year, you may be pounding the pavement — again.

No, not job searching, not apartment hunting — just looking for a Halloween costume.

If you've ever muttered the words "trick or treat" while trying to pass yourself off as, say, one of those Tri-Delts from the *Saturday Night Live* skits, you know the public scorn associated with a lame costume.

So even if your "like-oh-my-god" shriek is perfected, it's still a good idea to do some strategic planning before October 31 so you can avoid the terror associated with last-minute costume design.

For example, at Drexel U. in Philadelphia, Halloween costume plans are well under way in the graphic design department. The student artists put together an annual event known as the mask media — an art show that exhibits their work — that visitors attend in costume.

Senior graphic design student Kristy Floyd thinks a retro motif will be on this year's agenda. Floyd's planning an '80s Halloween party and she's hoping everyone will dig out their yucky neons and boogie to the likes of Duran Duran and Madonna.

There's an idea. Be Madonna! All you need is a pair of fishnet stockings, a dog collar, cone boobs and a date who looks like Dave Letterman.

While we're talking dates, you've gotta know that there are men crazy enough to use the costume thing as an aphrodisiac.

"As an undergrad, I wanted beer as a Halloween treat. Now I want the tricks, too," says Villanova U. grad student Jeff Murray.

And how exactly is this stud muffin planning to fulfill his quest for "tricks"?

"I'm dressing as Beavis or Butt-head, and I'm studying a book of pick-up lines," Murray explains a bit too eagerly. "Should I call you for breakfast, or should I just nudge you?"

While guys like Murray are trying to get women with their costumes, others are sporting the girlie attire themselves.

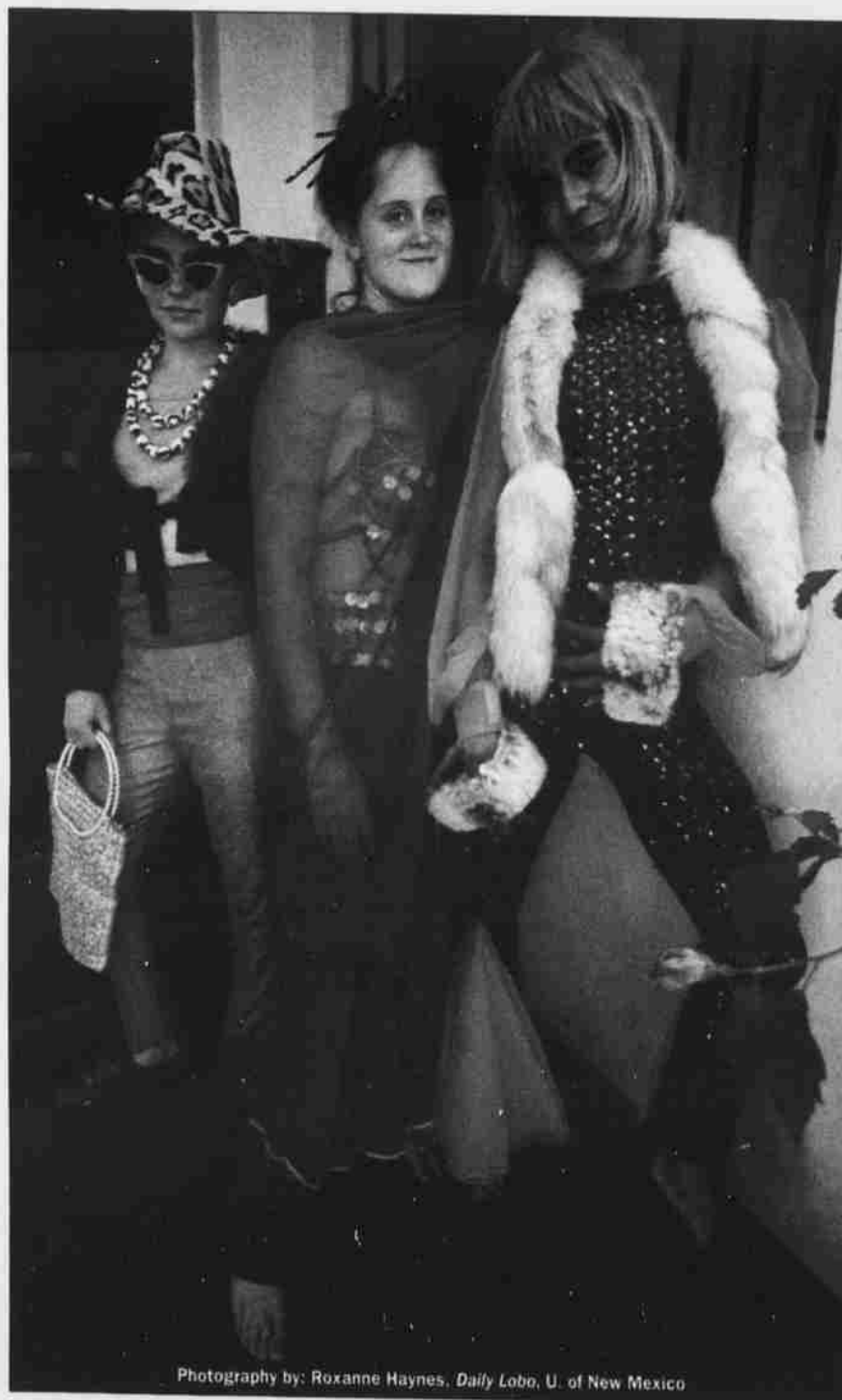
"A lot of guys dress as women on Halloween," says Boise State U. junior Patrick Acosta. "It's an opportunity to be someone you're not." Hey, Acosta, is there something we should know?

Acosta also says he dressed as Pee-wee Herman one year. To this day, his nickname is Pee-wee. Lucky him.

Sue Dolhi, a transfer student at Biola U. in La Mirada, Calif., predicts media and political figures will make a splash this year. "Clinton costumes will be big, but I want to be a goldfish because I saw a really cool goldfish costume in a movie recently," says Dolhi.

Evidently the L.A. smog has been seeping into Dolhi's brain cells. And why

# HALLOWEIRD



Photography by: Roxanne Haynes, Daily Lobo, U. of New Mexico

would anyone want to be Hillary or Bill anyway? You might get stoned by some psycho mistaking you for President Hillary. Maybe a Socks the Cat get-up would be safer.

Speaking of cats, the Penn State U. Nittany Lions will be whooping it up in everything from Brady Bunch ensembles to Flintstones outfits, according to Arlene Tepic, owner of New To You, a costume and second-hand store in College Park, Pa.

Tepic helps assemble costumes like Disney characters, belly dancers and even giant condoms. "I look at the person to get an idea of their personality and then I figure out what they would look good in," she says. "Almost everyone in the young crowd can handle a freakish, monster-like outfit." (Hey, Arlene, not all college students are freaks — only the ones who request giant condom costumes.)

Penn State U. is in for quite a Halloween weekend. With the holiday

falling during homecoming and the home football game against Ohio State U., it's sure to be quite a spook-fest.

"There will be a double dose of freaks lining up to get into parties," predicts Penn State U. sophomore Dave Escala.

Freaks will be roaming around the U. of Vermont, too.

Freshman Kevin Keating plans to conjure spirits with his Ouija board and maybe

even drink the blood of small rodents. What will he wear? Black, of course.

"People's biggest fear is of being alone in the dark," Keating explains. "I want to become their fear."

Wonder how he'd feel if some of Drexel's retro-'80s neon-wearers showed up on his doorstep?

Susan Martin, a residence life staff member at the U. of Delaware, has watched her student staff come up with some pretty weird — er, unique — ensembles.

"One year, a member of my staff had a white outfit on, and she carried a water gun," Martin says. "She was cloudy with a chance of showers."

Ge, maybe you could just dress in yellow and orange and be a ray of sunshine!

Or if you really want to do the nature thing, you could follow the suggestion of Beaver College senior Andy Graham. Last year, with a masquerade ball less than 24 hours away, Graham and a buddy transformed themselves into Amazon headhunters. "We covered ourselves in body paints, used a cloth as a sarong and stuck plants in our straw hats," he says.

While Graham was exploring the wild, Loyola U. senior Rachel Poy was getting in touch with her spirituality. "I dressed as a biker nun, and I really fit in," she says. Poy, who thought *her* costume was strange, attended an AIDS charity ball where her holy Harley ensemble was considered tame.

Other Loyola students opted for the Waco, Texas, look in their burnt clothes. Pass the marshmallows.

Well, if none of these ideas light you on fire — not even the Waco thing — you'll just have to take an "F" in Halloween Costumes 101. On second thought, maybe Arlene has an extra giant condom for you.



This costume was weeks in the planning. By the way which is Beavis?

By Amy Angelilli, Delaware County Community College