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# Trick-or-Treat

## OEO, Cromer's offer accessories for creative costume ideas

By GAILLEY COMMANDER  
Staff Writer

Halloween is here once again, and it's time to find some ghoulish garb.

Unfortunately, many of us have a difficult time assembling a creative costume that won't be seen over and over again throughout the night. Instead of racking your brain and ransacking your closet, take a shopping trip and find a new look that your closet can't produce.

You might discover a part of yourself you've been dying to experiment with. Let this person who's been secretly lurking inside come out and play Oct. 31.

OEO, a vintage clothing store located on Blossom Street in Five Points, offers an array of inexpensive clothing and accessories that will make your costume devilishly unique. You can explore OEO for that hit costume you can't find at K-Mart.

Owned by Leslie Minerd and Tersh Harley, OEO opened in December 1991. Halloween, a busy time for the store, gives the employees the perfect opportunity to help you create a look that's distinctly your own. Walk in and check out brightly colored platform shoes, funky wigs and hats you never thought you'd see outside of your grandmother's attic.

There are casual clothes such as bell-bottom jeans and prom dresses

that might scare your date away. The colors cover the whole spectrum, ranging from blinding brights to soothing neutrals. During Halloween, OEO offers items such as fake teeth, face paint and skull wands. The possibilities are endless. Not only are you finding a costume, you're experiencing an era of fashion that many of us only see in movies or picture albums.

Another store you can buy costumes from is Cromer's, located on Assembly Street. The aisles were crowded with excited children squealing at huge rubber rats and snakes. The smell of peanuts and popcorn surrounded me and made me think of the fair. There were endless shelves of Halloween paraphernalia such as face paint, glasses, wigs, colored hair spray and fishnet pantyhose.

In addition to the accessories, along the back wall were packaged costumes for adults and children. You can choose to be a witch, Dracula or even a modern character such as Jason or Barney. Actually, it might be wise to leave Barney for the younger crowd.

If you're planning to entertain on Halloween, you can find many decorations and party favors such as candy, streamers, paper plates and cups. One interesting item offered is a Halloween pinata.

OEO and Cromer's provide many costume possibilities. Howev-



Eric Glenn/The Gamecock

Economic freshman Ernesto Guzman tries on a Halloween costume at OEO Monday. The store is located in Five Points.

er, each store offers different styles. If you're the creative type and like to be original, I'd suggest trying OEO. If designing an original costume isn't on your agenda, make a quick trip to Cromer's, where cos-

tumes are packaged and waiting.

Don't wait too long to find your ghoulish garb. If you do, you might find yourself going as a Jason or Barney clone with no one to howl at but the moon.

## Five Points bars conjure up Halloween fun

By BRYAN MIMS  
Staff Writer

Most Five Points merchants agree that St. Patrick's Day is their most popular annual occasion, but Halloween has traditionally attracted swarms of USC students to Columbia's most celebrated intersection.

And with the Halloween weekend fast approaching, the bars and entertainment spots in Five Points have a few treats in the bag for their patrons.

At Goatfeathers on Devine Street, the popular pumpkin-carving contest returns Saturday after a three-year respite. "A lot of customers said, 'Why don't you bring back the pumpkin contest?'" said Astrid Cook, general manager of Goatfeathers. "So, we hope to have a good turnout."

If you're interested in entering the contest, Cook requests that you bring your pumpkins to Goatfeathers no later than 6 p.m. Saturday. At 11 p.m., judges will announce the four winners, and the first place winner secures a \$100 cash prize, Cook said.

Under the contest guidelines, any decoration that's not pumpkin material, notably paint, hats and gourds, will disqualify the pumpkin, Cook said. Only one pumpkin is allowed per person.

The Village Idiot, also on Devine Street, has a different Halloween celebration in mind, accord-

ing to manager Rick Hack. A truck festooned in Halloween decorations will remain in front of the bar throughout the weekend. The truck will be stocked with candy and beverages, Hack said.

Inside the bar, customers can participate in the Roulette Wheel contest. The rules of this contest are simple: If the number on the Roulette Wheel coincides with the number on your chair or barstool, you win a T-shirt, a hat, a free drink and movie passes to a Columbia theater. Also, the Jagerettes, a trio of ladies who represents Jagermeister vodka, will complement the Village Idiot's entertainment this weekend.

Bar-goers outfitted in Halloween garb will have no trouble finding costume contests in Five Points. The No Brainer, a year-old pub wedged between Saluda and Greene streets, will host a costume party at either 9 p.m. or 10 p.m. Saturday, owner Mark Waid said. The first place winner receives \$50.

Daniel Rickenmann, manager of Jungle Jim's on Harden Street, also has a costume contest in the making for this weekend, and it's expected to get underway at 10 p.m. Saturday. Rickenmann described the contest as "just plain 'ol, good 'ol fun," and he has agreed to pay a bar tab up to \$100 for the first-place winner.

At Nightworks on Harden Street, a costume contest begins at 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, owner David Wallace said. The first-place win-

ner receives free tickets to the play "Grease" and a dinner for two at Kyoto's, a Japanese restaurant in Columbia, Wallace said.

Coupled with the contests and prizes, most Five Points bars will offer lower-than-usual prices on their beverages during Halloween. Pug's, the Player's Club and Garrett's all have drink specials this weekend. Customers of Poor Richard's can purchase a 12-ounce can of Rolling Rock beer for \$0.93 and a 22-ounce bottle for \$1.93, manager Chris Caney said.

At Sharky's on Harden Street, manager Richard Dinovo will treat his customers to St. Pauli's Girl beer for \$1.25. "You can't get 'em any 'cheaper,'" he said. To help publicize the St. Pauli's Girl beer special, WNOK-FM will air a live remote from Sharky's Saturday night. Meanwhile, musician Dave Collins performs from 10 p.m. until 2 a.m.

"We're not gonna have a Halloween contest or anything," Dinovo said. "We're not going too overboard."

A few locales at Five Points won't get into all the Halloween hoopla this weekend. Margeret Nevill, owner of Group Therapy on Greene Street, said Halloween will be like any other night. But that shouldn't deter faithful customers, she said.

"The wildest customers always stop in at Group Therapy," she quipped.