

# The Almagest

a publication of LSU Shreveport



Will Caddo Parish put sleepwear in public to rest?

—Pg. 3

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“WITH THE NEW DAY COMES NEW STRENGTH AND NEW THOUGHTS.” - Eleanor Roosevelt

## Bookstore Offers More With Buybacks

Rebecca Ranklev  
STAFF WRITER

The LSU Shreveport Bookstore is now providing students the opportunity to sell their textbooks back to the bookstore throughout the semester in the new daily buyback program.

Daily buyback programs are standard in most college campuses across the United States. During daily buyback, students are offered the wholesale value for their textbooks, rather than the retail value offered at the regular end of the semester buyback.

David Dinkins, associate director of LSUS bookstore, said generally the end of the semester buybacks will pay more for student's books.

“When students come in to sell a book for the daily buyback, we scan the book and the computer tells us how much we pay,” Dinkins said. “Literally, you are selling to a third party through the bookstore.”

MBS is the wholesaler the bookstore currently uses. Generally, the wholesaler researches the demand across the country and prices accordingly.

The program was added due to a marketplace demand by students, according to Dinkins.

“We had a lot of students come in and ask if they could sell their books back and we hate to have to tell them to hold on to them or send them to another bookstore in town that does the daily buybacks,” he said. “Basically, we wanted to offer an additional service to students.”

The bookstore is working to ensure students are aware of the

See BOOKS, pg. 3



Photo by Ta Neisha Primus

LSUS Interim Chancellor Dr. Paul Sisson addressed LSUS faculty, staff and representatives of the SGA on Oct. 31 to discuss the pros and cons of the “ONE LSU” plan. The Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges recommends the plan.

## Faculty Considers “ONE LSU”

Ta Neisha Primus  
STAFF WRITER

A forum of faculty, staff and representatives of the Student Government Association met Oct. 31 to discuss the pros and cons of the proposed “ONE LSU” restructuring plan. The recommendations were made by the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB) to turn the LSU flagship school into a flagship system was voted on by the LSU Board of Supervisors on Nov. 2.

Interim Chancellor Paul Sisson asked

faculty and staff for a straw vote regarding the plan to gauge where they stood on it.

Faculty Senate President Mary Jarzabek believes there is a good chance the plan will be implemented but she still has some concerns.

“I happen to agree with the question of, what’s the rush? If it is going to be beneficial for everyone, why rush?” she said. “And why weren’t we, as faculty and administrators, more openly engaged in the process of developing this plan?”

Like Jarzabek, other faculty and administrators expressed concern when the LSU Board of Supervisors decided to vote on the

plan just one week after it was proposed.

Sisson said athletic teams would remain the same, but the school colors may change, the BPC and LSUS combined programs would remain the same and LSU Health Science Center would fall under the ONE LSU plan.

There were also questions raised about salaries, resources, the fair allocation of all funds, tuition and degree programs. Talk of the previous LA Tech merger resurfaced.

“I have seen the benefits of the ONE LSU plan and if it does what they say it’s going to do then it is good,” said SGA Vice Presi-

See PLAN, pg. 3

## LSUS Hosts National Debate Tournament



Photo by Paureeka Lloyd

Miles Bone, Tia Brown and Deon Cummings from William Carey University, Hattiesburg, MS came to LSUS to participate in the debate tournament.

Paureeka Lloyd  
STAFF WRITER

LSU Shreveport hosted a debate tournament Nov. 2-4, and several universities from around the country were in attendance.

Debating is a formal intellectual contest and there are endless ways it can be played. Each side uses evidence to promote their viewpoint and to rebut the flawed evidence given by the other side. Debaters have to persuade the judges that they have won.

Debate is not for everyone, but is can be a rewarding experience for students during their college career.

“My father did it, so I tried it and liked it,” said novice debater Elestertee Broom-

field III, criminal justice, freshman.

Debate requires time and commitment from students.

The topics at the debate varied from current events to philosophical ideas.

“There is a lot of research that gives you a broad grasp of things,” said Kathleen Rylan, Biology, senior.

Debating gives students an opportunity to build self-confidence, apply critical thinking skills, and improve public speaking skills. Debating allows student’s to “think outside the box.”

“There are a variety of events, and you grow from the abundance of different things.” Broomfield said.

Many students’ from LSUS’ debate

See DEBATE, pg. 3

inside

Editorial - Experience Shreveport .....page 2  
Caddo Parish Seeks Pajama Ban .....page 3

Tales of the Taken .....page 3  
Ghosts, Goblins, and Ghouls.....page 4



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# You're Invited to Experience Shreveport



**Jenna Glorioso**

From the Editor's Desk

Too often I hear the same refrains of Shreveport-haters. You hear them too. "There's nothing to do." "There's nowhere to go." And I for one am tired of it.

This city may not be as big as those out on the coasts but it is still a thriving community ripe with opportunities for our students and community members to take advantage of.

Sci-Port: Louisiana's Official Science Center used to be a playground to those of us lucky enough to have grown-up within driving distance.

“

This city may not be as big as those out on the coasts but it is still a thriving community ripe with opportunities for our students and community members to take advantage of.

”

What many adults have yet to see is that Sci-Port has grown right along with us.

It brings in shows like the current Titanic Exhibit that can captivate a child's curiosity but has higher-level information for the adult who still sees the importance of learning. They also

have begun to host events not just for "children-at-heart" but for adults only like their mixers that combine the fun of a Sci-Port visit with the ambiance, food and drink of a cocktail hour.

There are other places too, things that we view as for children only and it's just not so. The city has an abundance of parks and areas that are adult friendly: fishing off the bayou at Bickham Dixon, playing Frisbee golf off Clyde Fant Parkway or finding a moment of serenity in the heart of downtown Shreveport at the Asian Gardens.

Or go all out and run through the sprinklers downtown, even watching them at night with the lights shining off the Red River can be a truly romantic moment.

So in short— stop hating your home. Shreveport is what you make it. Appreciate what others have built for you. Make the growth you want to see happen. People have more than gotten started in this city. Enjoy your home. Make it more.

## NEWS

### Caddo Parish Seeks to Put Public Sleepwear to Rest

**Erika Merritt**  
STAFF WRITER

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The Caddo Parish Commission voted to encourage businesses to implement a dress code prohibiting residents from wearing pajamas.

The resolution was approved with a vote of 8 to 3.

Commission member Michael Williams introduced a ban on pajamas in public earlier this year, but the ban did not advance.

Williams has been pushing this resolution and fears what pajamas in public may lead to for future generations.

"This is an issue that should not be decided by government," said Tiffany Copeland, biology, sophomore. "Our right to dress as lazily as we want is part of our freedom of expression."

This is an issue that should not be decided by government. Our right to dress as lazily as we want is part of our freedom of expression.

- Tiffany Copeland

”

agreed that pajamas in public is not that big of a

problem and would be difficult to enforce.

The remainder of student's responses said a person's choice of clothing could be offensive if inappropriate body parts are on display, but it is not limited to pajamas.

"The last thing I want to look at in line at any business is someone bending over and exposing their body parts to every poor soul behind them," said Kali Brown, education, junior.

A similar sagging pants ordinance has been in effect in Shreveport since 2007. Those caught with pants sagging below their waist so low as to show skin or undergarments can be cited and summoned to appear in court.

If convicted, you can expect a fine and required to perform community service.

The pajama ban is a resolution, not a law. It will be up to businesses to implement the dress code through their own policies.



The new Caddo Parish pajama resolution encourages businesses to implement dress codes that would prevent customers from wearing sleepwear while shopping.

Photo by Erika Merritt

GOT SOMETHING THE STUDENT BODY NEEDS TO HEAR ABOUT? GET YOUR MESSAGE OUT BY EMAILING US AT [ALMAGEST@LSUS.EDU](mailto:ALMAGEST@LSUS.EDU)

# Tales of the Taken: A LSU Shreveport Odyssey



**Morgan Marshall**  
STAFF WRITER

From *E.T.: The Extra Terrestrial* to *Alien* to creepy stories whispered around campfires, the out-of-this-world has long been a fascinating subject. Tales of abductions by aliens, aliens helping to build ancience civilizations, and secret government cover-ups remain sources of speculation, wonder, and controversy.

Last week, Dr. Thomas Dubose, an associate professor of the English department, tackled this subject.

"When I was about ten, I stumbled across books on these sorts of subjects and was instantly hooked," DuBose said. "I chose this topic because I thought both students and faculty would find the notion of ET lore acting like fairy lore interesting and appealing. 'ET' offers a perfect example, as it is a film that practically everyone has seen."

DuBose's lecture was a part of a weekly series of lectures by the Arts and Science faculty members, under the organization of Dr. Lynn Walford, professor, fine arts/foreign languages/humanities department.

"We hold these lecture series" every Friday during common hour," Walford said. "As of right now, we only have about two lectures left in the semester."

DuBose's lecture drew quite a crowd on Nov. 2, with a

turnout of about 50 students and faculty members.

"The focus of my talk changed a little from its original premise," DuBose said. "However, the way the Kelly Goblins worked themselves into hit films like 'ET' and 'Close Encounters' does indicate very well, I think, how UFO operates today much as fairy faith did in past centuries. I hope the lecture helped people understand that folklore is not an ancient or medieval thing. It exists today just as it did in the past and informs even such things as hit films."

DuBose mentioned that he has talked to people over the years who claimed to have been "taken" and have shared their stories with him.

"I have never completely made up my mind on the issue [on UFOs]," DuBose said. "I try to keep an open mind without being credulous. However, I do believe the quotation of the folklorist I mentioned in the talk, William Ellis: 'Weird stuff happens!'"

On Nov. 9, the College of Arts and Sciences will present Dr. Linda Webster, communications department chair, giving a lecture on "Making Sense of Advising: A Roundtable Discussion with the Advising Committee." Dr. Leslie Fife, associate and chair of computer science, will end the series by giving a lecture on "Ada Lois Sipuel v. the University of Oklahoma: The Desegregation of Oklahoma Higher Education."

Photo by Morgan Marshall  
Dr. Thomas Dubose, associate professor, English department, presented "Tales of the Taken" as a part of the College of Arts and Sciences Lecture Series.

**DEBATE cont.**

team began their debating career in high school and were able to use the skills and knowledge they gained to further themselves in the collegiate level of debate.

"I debated in high school," said Rylan. "This was a different, interesting transition."

The tournament began Friday and lasted until Sunday. Students were required to be on campus early each morning and they did not leave until late in the evening.

"We have to be there for 7:30, and we don't usually leave until 10:30 or 11," said Rylan.

LSUS' debate team received several awards this tournament. Chelsea Anthony, psychology, senior won varsity, and Caleb Brown, education, senior won novice. Tim Sears from Sam Houston State University won Professional.

**PLAN cont.**

dent, Cody King, business, junior. "I like this plan better than the Tech merger because we get to keep our identity."

More questions raised by the faculty included how much control the university would have over finances; whether LSUS will have a strong voice in decision making; and whether there will be an outsourcing of administration and elimination of staff.

Sisson said the overall goal is to strengthen the system and that LSUS will not lose any of faculty and staff members.

"This is why we held this meeting, to come up with all the details and suggestions," Sisson said. "Because these are all things that aren't addressed in the report, yet they will have to be worked out."

**BOOKS cont.**

potential price difference between daily buybacks and end of semester buybacks.

"I'm letting students know that I may be able to give them twenty dollars today, but I may be able to give them fifty dollars during finals week," Dinkins said. "I'm trying to give them as much information as we have."

A common misconception students have is the business structure of the LSUS bookstore. The bookstore is owned and operated by the university, so any profit made goes back to the university and to students in the form of new programs.

"The bottom line is we try to do what's best for the students, because we're here for the students, we're not here to make a big profit for a shareholder," he said.

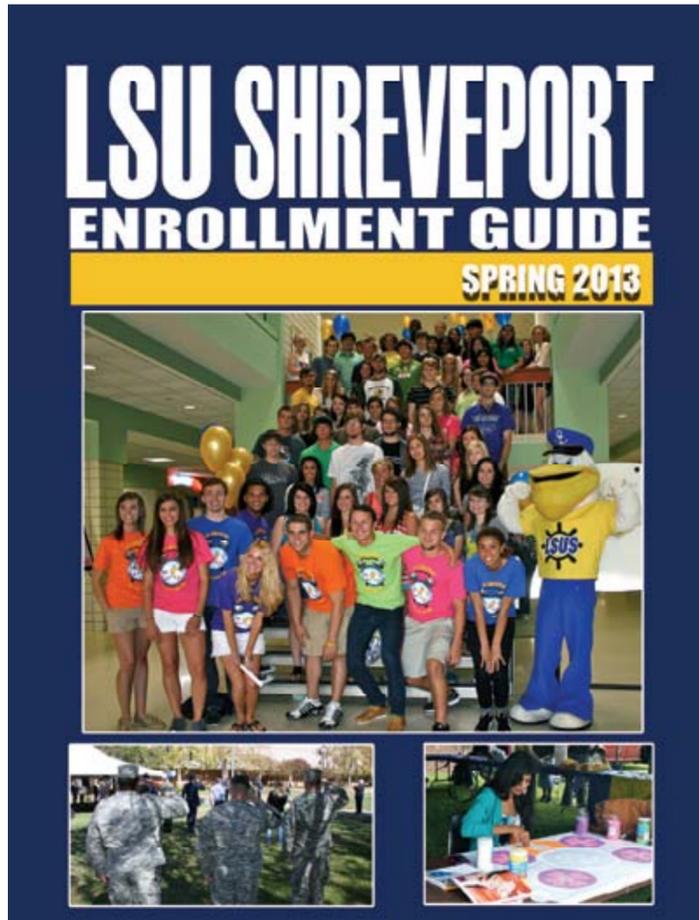
Dinkins does not expect the majority of students to use the new program.

"It's not something we expect students to heavily utilize, because frankly most of them will keep their books until the end of the semester," he said. "But, it's something we wanted to be available."

The new daily buybacks program has no effect on rentals or the bookstore's return policy.

Sarah Herbel, biology, junior, said she still plans on selling her books back at the end of the semester.

"It doesn't really change anything for me, but I can see how it would be very beneficial for other students," she said.



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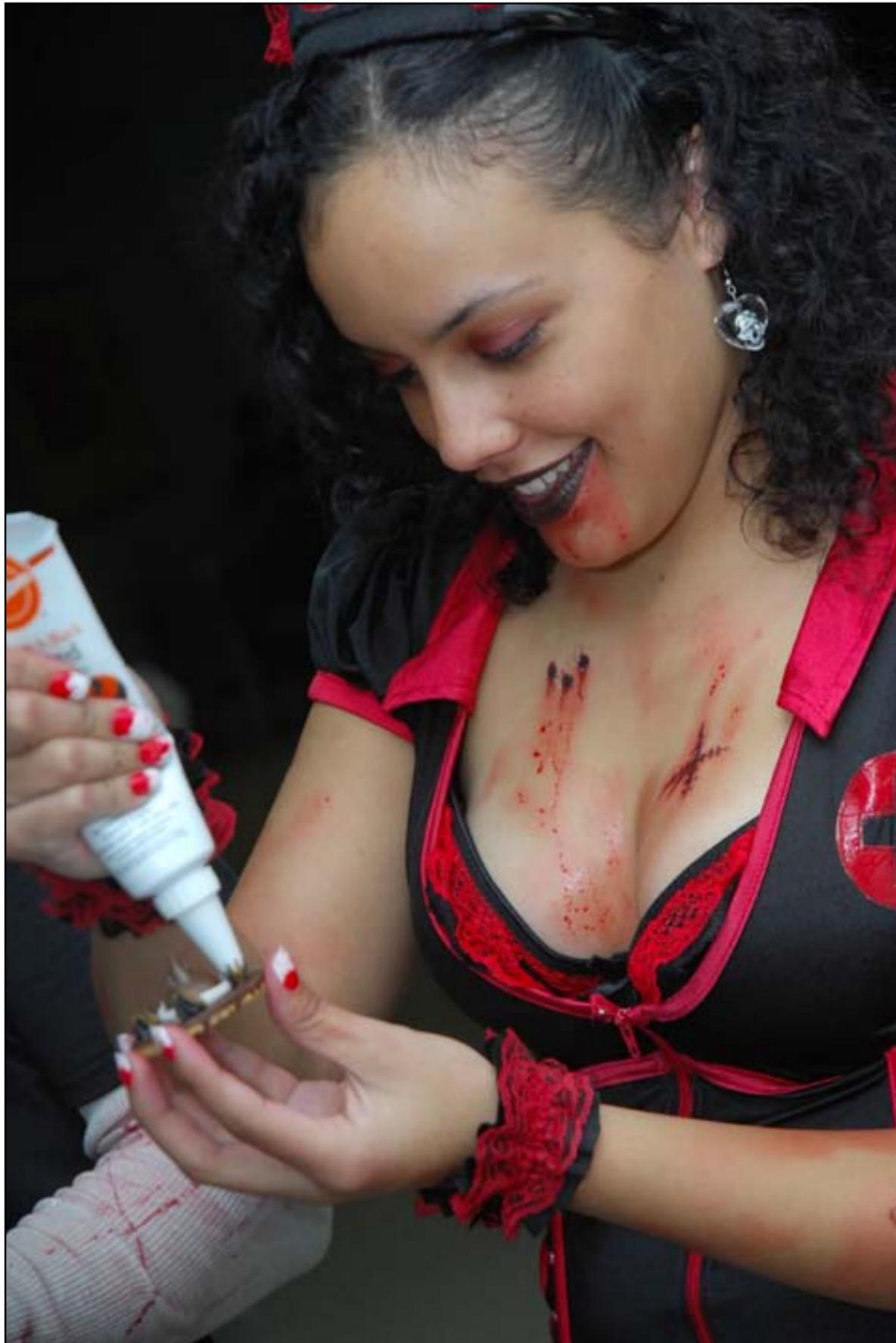
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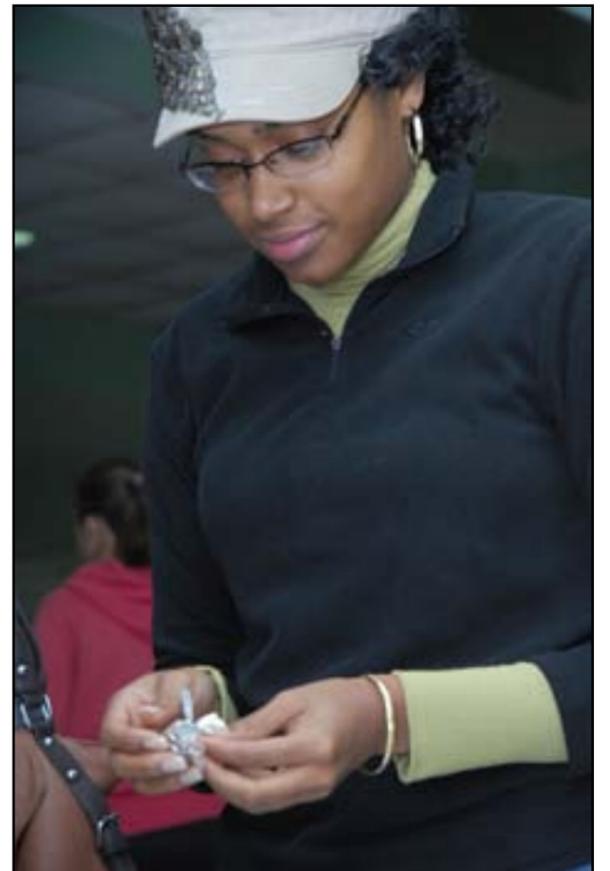
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# Ghosts, Goblins, and Ghouls, Oh My!

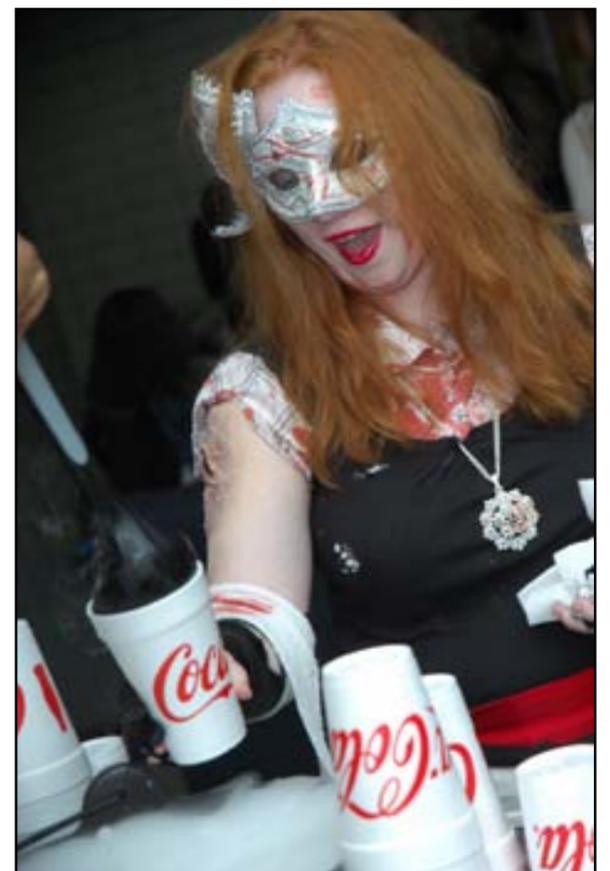


The Student Activities Board got into the spirit of Halloween by hosting a Halloween celebration during Common Hour Oct. 31. The event included treats and drinks for students, as well as a costume contest in the University Center.

Photos by Joanna Kresge



Tiffany Longstratt, senior, communications, above, unwraps a piece of candy in the University Center during the Student Activities Board Halloween celebration. Naisha Eisenmann, freshman, biology, left, makes a witch's hat cookie. Eisenmann was dressed as a sadistic nurse for the holiday.



Taylor Beck, junior, art, above, accepts a cup of "goblin juice" from a member of the student government in the University Center. Beck dressed as a character from the video game Bio-shock for the holiday festivities. Members of the student government, left, were in charge of distributing a special brew of "goblin juice" to students eager to get into the spirit of the holiday.