

Halloween events around the world

United Press International
Jack Thum Thee Clown, suffering from terminal cancer, slipped into hobo rags and floppy hat for several hundred young trick-or-treaters attending the Halloween party at Chicago's Mount Sinai Hospital. He crossed the Atlantic in Britain, and warlocks generally ignored the annual ghoulish day.

and were seeking a second suspect, a 15-year-old boy. Both youths apparently "crashed" the party, police said.

A 4-year-old boy dressed in a Superman costume was kidnapped on the way to school in Philadelphia and held for \$75,000 ransom for several hours before police rescued him unharmed.

Police in Kansas City, Kan., said a man fired into a group of eight youths who were breaking windows on his house, killing a 17-year-old boy and injuring a 14-year-old boy.

There were a few reports of criminal pranks, and police nationwide warned parents to check their children's candy for possible tampering.

An 8-year-old Lakeview, N.Y., boy was given chocolate candy con-

taining straight pins when he went trick-or-treating, police reported. He was not harmed.

Jack Thum Thee Clown, a much-beloved Chicago celebrity for years, appeared for 20 minutes in clown makeup and costume to the delight of some 300 area school children and hospital patients. He was in a wheelchair; an intravenous bottle was attached to his arm, and a nurse stayed close by his side.

Thum, 54, and his wife, Shirley, appeared with a cast of youngsters "taken in" by his family through the years.

Thum's 15-year-old granddaughter, Jackie Thum Thee Clown, entertained the schoolchildren and hospital patients with magic acts and clown antics.

A representative of Mayor Jane M. Byrne presented Thum with a plaque proclaiming Halloween "Jack Thum Thee Clown Day" in Chicago.

In London, the high priest of a witches coven postponed the celebration of Halloween until Saturday for a general lack of interest. The holiday is not widely acknowledged in Britain.

"It's much more convenient," said High Priest David. "Most of our witches have ordinary jobs and their bosses wouldn't be very pleased if they turned up on Thursday morning exhausted because of our rituals."

Magicians gathered at New York's Cypress Hills Cemetery to pay tribute to Houdini, who died 53 Hallo-

weens ago, by breaking their wands over his grave.

The ceremony, said magician John Bohannon, signifies the end of Houdini's powers and was first used at the master magician's funeral. The American Society of Magicians now performs the ceremony at all funerals of magicians.

In Michigan, state Sen. Basil Brown used the occasion of Halloween to introduce a bill empowering the Public Service Commission to control oil and gas prices.

"Vampires are a dime a dozen on Halloween, but each day we are faced with vampires known as major oil refiners who prey ruthlessly on the average consumer in the true fashion of folklore vampires," Brown said.

Hunt on for imposter with poison

United Press International
TOKYO — Police have begun a door-to-door hunt for a man who posed as a government investigator and made off with enough sodium cyanide to kill 100 people.

The man, posing as an investigator for the Tokyo Metropolitan

government, called at Hiraga Metal Coating Co. and told its president, Yuichi Hiraga, to show him chemicals used at the factory, police said.

When Hiraga briefly left his office, the man walked away with five grams of sodium cyanide.

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Wyoming murder suspect guarded in hospital room

United Press International
CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Authorities, fearing for the man's life, are guarding the hospital room of a Sheridan man arrested for shooting three elk hunters to death at their campsite in the Big Horn Mountains.

Ronald Andrew Selig, 41, was charged Wednesday with three counts of first-degree murder in the Oct. 20 slayings of Joel Nicholas Ely, 32; his brother, Thomas Martin Ely, 26, both of Greybull, and Kenneth George Windjue, 33, of Manvel, N.D.

The warrant was served at Selig's room in Sheridan County Memorial Hospital where he is listed in serious condition from injuries received Saturday when his car plunged over a 1,500-foot cliff near Sheridan.

A search warrant also was executed at Selig's residence, said Anthony Malovich, chief special agent of the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation.

He declined to comment on the evidence that led to Selig's arrest, but said Selig had been hunt-

ing in the general area at the time of the shootings. Malovich said Selig was not linked to reports that the victims had made another hunting party shining spotlights on their camp.

"We had numerous reports of hunters harassing each other," he said. "At this point we're not concerned about that. We've discounted that as a motive for the killings. As far as the motive, I'd have to decline comment."

The victims' bodies were discovered Oct. 21 by the Ely's father and brother, who had been camping about a mile away.

Because of the remoteness of the campsite, investigators were ferried to the location by helicopter. After completing their analysis of the crime site, they began interviewing hunters who were in the area at the time of the deaths.

"This culminates an investigation involving many hours with no days off and came to a successful completion with the cooperation of Big Horn County Sheriff Jon Dahlberg and his staff and Sheridan County Sheriff Bill Johnson and his staff," Malovich said.

Moslem inmate to fight pork in diet

United Press International
NEW ORLEANS — A federal appeals court says a professed Moslem inmate at the Louisiana State Penitentiary has the legal right to contest a guard's order that he place a serving of pork on his dinner plate.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Wednesday reversed a lower court decision that threw out the civil rights suit filed by Christopher X. Kenner, the Moslem inmate, who claimed he was moving through the dinner line when he asked not to handle a dish of pork, which is not allowed in the Moslem diet. The suit says Lt. Foster Andrews ordered Kenner to place the pork on his plate anyway.

U.S. District Judge E. Gordon West dismissed the suit, claiming the prisoner failed to show that the lack of a special dietary menu resulted in malnutrition.

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Vote buying is denied

United Press International
LAKE CHARLES, La. — A former state representative is accused of paying \$5 each for 440 votes cast in the Nov. 7, 1978, election in which he defeated Republican Jimmy Wilson by 266 votes.

Leach told the predominantly blue-collar jury about his childhood in Leesville, the death of his mother at age 9, contracting polio in under-graduate school and taking over the family plumbing and appliance store business when his father died in 1963.

He contradicted testimony from the Justice Department's star witnesses who have testified he supplied nearly \$5,000 to finance an elaborate scheme to haul voters in the black section of Leesville to the polls and pay them \$5 each to vote for him and several other candidates.

Leach denied a meeting ever took place between him and former Leesville Mayor Ralph McRae Jr., during which McRae testified he received the first of several payments for the vote-buying scheme.

U.S. Attorney John Lydick grilled Leach extensively about his activities on election day 1978. Prosecution witnesses have testified Leach delivered money late in the afternoon — about 4 p.m. — on Nov. 7.

Defense witnesses however, said Leach left Leesville about 3 p.m. in order to make several campaign stops and drive the 2½-hour trip to Shreveport.

"Do you drive fast Mr. Leach?" Lydick asked.

"I try to drive very safely, but I have been known to exceed the speed limit," Leach answered.

we've scheduled the appointments a little longer so I can put on a magic show for each kid."

Levin first tried the Halloween idea last year, but he said some of his patients didn't believe him when he urged them to wear costumes. This year, it was apparently different.

"We were booked for this day a lot earlier than for any other day," Levin said. "I have a lot of children in my practice and I thought it would be a way to make it enjoyable to go to the dentist."

Tricks, treats drew delight at dental office

United Press International
PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Dentist Larry Levin's patients booked their appointments early for this year's Halloween.

For the occasion, Levin was decked out Wednesday in magician's top hat, black suit and clown makeup and his assistant, Linda Cullen, wore a Peter Pan outfit. Levin's patients were also invited to wear costumes.

Each child got a treat: sugarless gum, balloon animals and a Halloween toothbrush.

"We actually do work," Levin said. "It's not just a party. But

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