

# Simpson ensembles sell fast for Halloween

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Trick or treat? A blood-spattered football jersey, a plastic toy knife and a rubbery O. J. Simpson mask are scaring up business for Halloween retailers.

"We're almost sold out of the original shipment," said Victor Pahl at the Ragztop-Vintage store in Fullerton, where the whole ensemble costs \$50.

The store has already sold about 20 masks and has received as many as a dozen calls a day from people wanting to dress up as Simpson or his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson.

A blonde wig and some imagination made up a Nicole B. Simpson costume, at least for one customer, Pahl said. The woman put a wig together with a dress from the store's vintage clothing collection.

"There is a tragedy to this," Pahl conceded, adding that the costumes were tongue-in-cheek.

"Maybe you've got to laugh at tragedy," he said.

He said the media frenzy surrounding the Simpson trial has made the question of tastefulness moot.

Other Southern California costume shops are also capitalizing on the slayings, selling accessories, including Afro wigs and black-and-white prison shirts with No. 32 written on them, the same number Simpson wore on his football jersey.

"We satisfy the public's demand, that's all," said employee Morgan Paris at Gilbert of Hollywood Costumes. "They had Jim and Tammy Bakker (costumes) a few years ago. ... The more macabre the sense of humor for Halloween, the more popular."

The O. J. costume at Gilbert of Hollywood costumes rents for \$75 to \$100.

Some costume shop owners, however, said they wouldn't sell Simpson costumes no matter how big the demand.

Simpson is charged with murder in the June 12 deaths of Ms. Simpson, 35, and her friend Ronald Goldman, 25, who were slashed in front of her Brentwood condominium. He has pleaded innocent to the slayings.

"I don't think anybody else should capitalize on his hardship, whether he's guilty or innocent," said Candy Krueger, manager of Would You Believe costume shop in South Pasadena. "It was a tragedy; his wife was murdered ... It's unconscionable to make a profit off a man's suffering."

## Stick



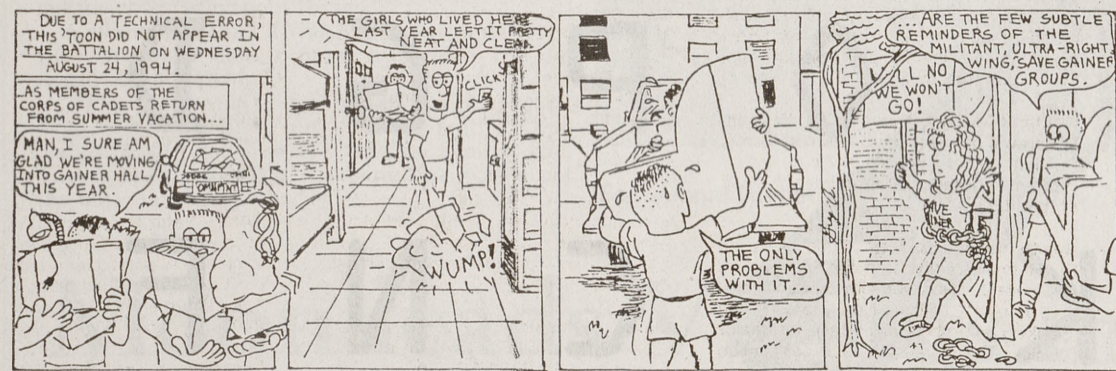
By Alvaro

## THE INKWELL



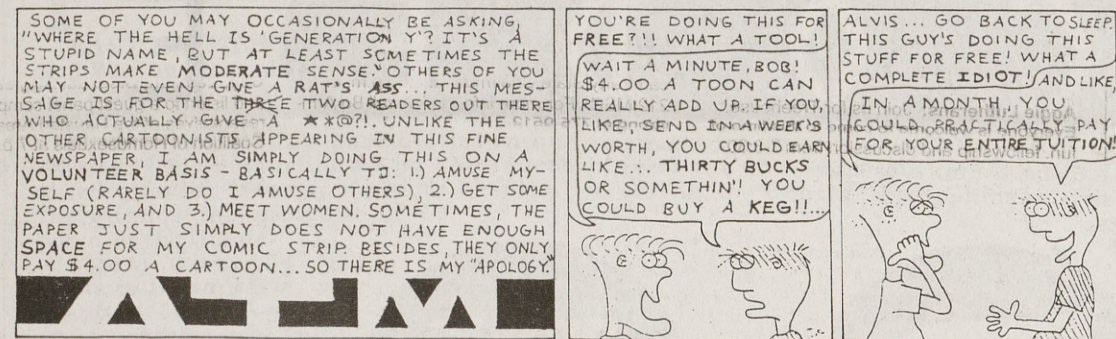
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## Generation Y



## WEATHER

**Today**  
Sunny and pleasant. High near 77. North wind near 5-10 m.p.h.

**Tonight**  
Clear and cool. Low near 50. Light north winds.

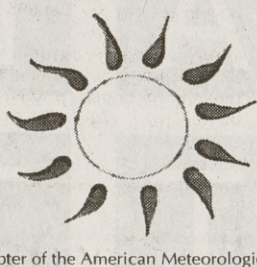


**Wednesday**  
Continued sunny. High near 81. Winds generally north at 5-8 m.p.h.

**Wednesday Night**  
Mostly clear, Low near 52.



**Thursday**  
Mostly sunny and warm. High near 84.



Source - A&M Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

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