Scared? Who, me?—Several hundred ghosts, goblins, and assorted other scary creatures, as well as some not-so-scary creatures, spent Halloween evening on the Birmingham-Southern campus during the annual Halloween on the Hilltop. The college’s Panhellenic Council sponsors the festival for the children of faculty and staff, as well as students from 10 nearby schools. In addition to fun and games on the residence hall quad, other events included a haunted house, trick or treating in a residence hall, a costume contest, and fingerprinting for children.

Turkeys for a cause—An annual Thanksgiving food drive at Birmingham-Southern has become a popular tradition for the college’s students. Now in its eighth year, the Interfraternity Council-sponsored program helps provide holiday dinners each November for hundreds of hungry and homeless Birmingham residents. Shown here are fraternity members loading some of the 45 turkeys—along with several boxes of canned foods—that were collected for Magic City Harvest, a local food distribution organization for the needy. The college’s fraternities purchased the turkeys, while the canned goods were obtained from donations other students made from money on their BSC meal cards.

Playground-building blitz—Students and advisors from Birmingham-Southern’s Service-Learning program assisted in building a playground in a single day at Birmingham’s Whatley K-8 School in September. The new playground features two play areas, equipment with multiple slides, and red, yellow, and blue colors. The design and color scheme were developed with input from the community’s children. Funding was provided by Home Depot and The Junior League of Birmingham, and the playground equipment was provided by KABOOM!, a charity that brings individuals, civic groups, businesses, and foundations together to build much-needed, safe playgrounds.

Growing basil to support education—Birmingham-Southern College and Woodlawn High School students gather after a dedication ceremony in November which recognized an environmental classroom and basil garden they worked together to create on the campus of the local high school. An Associated Colleges of the South program awarded Birmingham-Southern a $3,400 grant to fund the outdoor classroom and garden from a written proposal submitted by BSC sophomore Lisa Glenn (seated third from right), a psychology major from Murfreesboro, Tenn. The plan is to sell basil at the local farmer’s market and to restaurants and specialty grocery stores to raise funds for the high school’s junior ROTC program.