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Just the Facts

Monday, Jan. 3, 1994

Lourdine Osborne, Editor

Susan Comstock, Ad Manager

Briefly...

Former resident in critical condition

A 19-year-old former Hoopeston resident was in critical condition yesterday at an Indianapolis hospital following a hiking accident Dec. 30.

David Gonzalez was flown to Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis after he fell at Portland Arch in Indiana.

Gonzalez is the son of Marie Gonzalez of Hoopeston.

Hoopeston men face trial

Two Hoopeston men may be tried for burglarizing the Country Companies office in Hoopeston.

Daniel W. Bridgman, 27, of 311 E. Lincoln, and Ted E. Finnell, Jr., 6241/2 E. McCracken, may stand trial after Judge Rita Garman determined Thursday that enough evidence exists against the men.

Charges that the two burglarized Maple School were dropped. Both will appear in court Jan. 7.

Police News

No tickets or injuries were reported in a twovehicle accident at 4:20 p.m. Thursday. Vehicles driven by Greg A. Anvick, 707 E. Penn, and Dale O. Bailey, 890 E. Honeywell, collided in front of Anvick's house.

According to police reports, Anvick was backing up and did not see the Bailey vehicle.

No tickets or injuries were reported in a twovehicle accident at 11:45 a.m. Friday. Vehicles

Obituaries

SCHUMACHER, Ronald C., 56, of Hoopeston, died at 12:10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 1, 1994, at Iroquois Memorial Hospital in Watseka. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Tuesday at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour before services at the church. Memorials may be made to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Brown-Alkire Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

driven by Darrell R. Goble, 507 W. Orange, and David W. Borders, 403 W. Lincoln, collided at the intersection of routes 1 and 9.

According to police reports, both were stopped and started forward, but Borders stopped again to let another vehicle through when he was hit by Goble, who was at fault for following too closely.

Hoopeston police solved a hit and run accident at 3:30 a.m. Saturday. A car driven by William E. Drollinger, 502 W. Elm, hit a mailbox stand on the 300 block of West Orange, then left the scene.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today. Thirty percent chance of snow or flurries. Possible accumulation one to three inches. High in the mid 20s, low in the low 20s. Tomorrow, cloudy, High near 30, low around 16. Thirty day outlook: below normal temperatures, normal precipitation.

More Just the Facts on the other side

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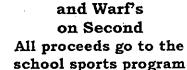


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No news would be better than some '93 news

By LOURDINE OSBORNE

The end of 1993 meant publications everywhere dusted off back issues and printed the top stories of the year.

With 1994 barely a few days old, I'd like to take a look back and list stories I hope

have had their 15 minutes of fame and will, like the old year, stay in the past.

Does the name Joey Buttafuco mean anything? With not one, not two, but three made-for-tv movies, countless interviews on tabloid television, not to mention the original news reports, Americans now know

more about Joey, Mary Jo, and Joey's "friend," Amy Fisher, the "Long Island Lolita."

We know Joey and Amy did "it" and are now doing time.

What we don't know is why television execs wasted our time with hours of this drivel.

Does anybody really care about The Donald? Donald Trump must be a Pisces. First, he's engaged to Marla Maples. Then he's not. Then he is. Not. Is. Not. Is. Then some manager is stealing Maple's shoes. Then The Marla is pregnant. Finally, after Maples gives birth to the couple's first child and inks a prenuptual agreement taller than their six-foot wedding cake, the couple ties the knot. Ain't love grand?

Anybody who loves kids can't be all bad, unless of course, that somebody is Michael Jackson. It's been a rough year for the pop star. He admits to Oprah and the nation that he has a skin condition that's turning him off-white, he faces allegations of child molestation (charges sister LaToya claims are true), he admits an addiction to pain killers (which, miraculously was cured at the Evelyn Woods Clinic For Stars With Problems Too Numerous To Mention) and he loses a multimillion dollar account as Pepsi's celebrity spokesman. It's not been a Thriller of a year for the star. But while misery loves company, I'd

rather not hear any more about this sordid mess until criminal charges are filed or the whole thing is found to be a pack of lies.

From the "Let's be thankful we don't have

royals" file, let's try to have a 1994 filled with minimal coverage of Britain's royal family. Does anybody care anymore if Chuck and Di get a divorce? Are Fergie's comings and goings still newsworthy?

In a word, no.

In an age when half of all married couples get divorced, the

royals are, well, average. Although the separations (and pending divorces) are a first for the royal family, many common families are finding themselves going through divorce for the first time, too. And it happens without ever once making the front page. Wish I could say the same for the Windsors. Royal watching is becoming a royal pain.

Finally, there was the story that made women feel vindicated and men sleep on their stomachs.

I'm referring to the story of Lorena and John Wayne Bobbitt.

I must admit that when this story broke, I was heartily disappointed that I was not writing a column because the incident lends itself to so many puns, most thoroughly tacky.

The incident could be called an unpleasant slice of life. It could be said Mrs. Bobbitt was jailed after her husband sang - soprano. Or the headline: Wife cuts to root of husband's alleged rape.

But then the story dragged on. He was found not guilty of marital rape. Her trial has yet to begin. They got divorced. Day after day, we got a fresh airing of the Bobbitts' dirty laundry.

During 1993, there was little difference between the evening news and a typical "Geraldo" show.

Let's hope that in 1994, the news will be newsworthy - that is, worthy of being called news.

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