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Just the facts
Wednesday, July 13, 1994
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
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Lourdine Osborne
editor

Susan Comstock
ad manager

Hoopeston girls win fair queen, 2nd runner up

Hoopeston girls fared well in the Miss Vermilion County Fair contest in Danville Monday night.

Emily Jahn, 18, was crowned Miss Vermilion County Fair Shannon Cornelius, 17, was selected second runner up.

Jahn was also selected best interview winner, while Cornelius was chosen best in swimsuit.

Jahn was at the fair yesterday and could not be reached for comment, but her mother, Gloria, said Jahn and Cornelius decided to enter the pageant "for experience and fun. They didn't intend to

win. We're still in shock."

Jahn graduated from Hoopeston Area High School this year and will attend Eastern Illinois University this fall, studying speech communication.

Jahn will represent Vermilion County at the Illinois State Fair Queen pageant in Springfield next January.

First runner up in the county competition was Penny Beddow, 20, of Catlin. Michelle Mowery, 19, of Danville, was named Miss Congeniality and best evening gown.

It's a dog's life for member of Vermilion County police

It's been said that dog is man's best friend. In the case of Scott Wright of Hoopeston, that's true.

Wright's best friend is Cochise, a full-blooded German shepherd who also serves as partner to Wright, a Vermilion County Sheriff's deputy.

Cochise is Wright's constant companion, not only when Wright is on duty as a member of the county's K-9 squad, but always. He goes where Wright goes, sleeps where he sleeps. "It's for bonding," Wright said. "He works out of trust and caring."

The dog is certified to sniff out cocaine, marijuana and heroin. He is also certified in article searches and recovery of evidence.

Wright got Cochise, now 11½ months old, when he was 5½ months old and began working with him almost immediately. "He thrives on training," Wright said. "He loves to train."

Wright has no hesitancy in displaying

Cochise's skills. On a recent visit to the Hoopeston police department, Wright put Cochise through his paces, hiding drug-filled bags in the police station.

A command of "Check, find" tells Cochise to find the drugs.

Cochise allows no obstacles to get in his way. During the demonstration, he opened doors and drawers and moved objects blocking his path to the narcotics. When Wright stored the drugs on top of a large metal cabinet, Cochise still tried to get them for his master.

In fact, Cochise was reluctant to release the drugs. "He figures it's his if he had to work to find it," Wright said.

Wright also demonstrated Cochise's protection training. Told to watch Hoopeston auxiliary officer Gene Thompson, the dog did just that, barking whenever Thompson approached Wright. A


See DOG on other side

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Dog continued from other side

quick "be nice." and Cochise allowed Thompson to approach.

There are advantages to having a dog as a police partner, Wright said. "He's a lot more intimidating than two cops coming to the door," Wright said.

Also, Cochise's drug-finding training makes him "as good as a search warrant." Narcotics Cochise finds will stand up in trials. "A dog has no reason to lie," he said.

The dog must still be trained in building searches, off-leash searches and tracking, but Wright said Cochise will continue to be trained "as long as he's on the road. I'm hoping to have him on the road maybe 10 years."

While a well-trained dog, Cochise does exhibit some human characteristics. On most of Wright's calls as a deputy, Cochise remains in the car, something he doesn't like. "He gets agitated and irritable at me at times," Wright said. "He'll ignore me in the car."

Cochise is a one-man dog, listening only to Wright. "He won't even listen to my wife," he said.


Cochise's not a run-of-the-mill house dog. "You can't treat him like a regular house dog because he's been trained to protect himself and me," Wright said.

This is Wright's second canine partner. The first, Sheba, was "more playful. If she wanted to work, she was terrific, but if she wanted to play with the officers, she wouldn't do her job," Wright said. "I need a dog I can count on to be ready to go everytime I need him."

In Cochise, Wright believes he has found what he is looking for. "You've got to be 100 percent dedicated to get a good canine because if you don't, you might as well hang it up."

Wright said he enjoys working the K-9 unit. "In the long run, it's something that will benefit the community, and it's something I've always wanted to do," he said.

Court Dispositions




Marcia Gossett. Hoopeston nuisance weeds. nolle pros.

Michael Anderson. Hoopeston. junk car. nolle pros.

David Lackey, Hoopeston. junk car. \$75.

Terry Swanson. Hoopeston. junk cars. summons to be issued.

Police News



Candy Burton, 330 E. McNeil, reported Monday that the front license plate was missing from her vehicle. The plate number is NXG288.


Bruce A. Inman, 32, of 618 S. Third St., was arrested Monday on charges of home invasion, stalking and violation of order of protection.

Carla S. Rutledge, #30, Parkview Court, allegedly told police Inman forced his way into her residence, then fled when another person came to the door.

Inman was arrested at 7:15 p.m. at 630 E. McNeil. He was taken to the Public Safety Building to await arraignment.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 2:15 p.m. Tuesday. Cars driven by James M. McCormick, Ambia, Ind., and Estelle L. Goodrum, Hoopeston, were in the IGA parking lot when McCormick backed up, striking Goodrum.

In the Hospital




Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
June 11, 1994

Admitted: Thelma McCray, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Candy Burton, Hoopeston.

Weather



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