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**Tuesday, March 14, 1995**  
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!  
(217) 283-9348 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

## Council candidates give opinions on economy, crime

*Editor's note: The following is the first of a two-part series dealing with answers aldermanic hopefuls gave at Thursday's Candidates' Night, sponsored by Just the Facts. In part one, candidates respond to questions on the local economy and crime. Tomorrow, candidates answer questions on the local landfill expansion.*

Candidates in Hoopeston's April 4 aldermanic race have divided opinions on everything from what is economically best for Hoopeston to how to fight crime. In fact, about the only thing they agree on is that local police do a good job.

Eight of 12 candidates seeking aldermanic seats attended a Candidates' Night Thursday, sponsored by Just the Facts.

Incumbents Mark Drollinger, John Haughee, Susan Comstock and Lloyd Blackwell were joined by hopefuls Danny Justice, Dave Borders, Ron Justice and Tony Freeland at the event, which questioned candidates on their positions on the local economy, landfill expansion and crime.

Drollinger and Danny Justice are vying for a two-year term in Ward 1, while Borders, Ron Jus-

tice, Dave Barker and Odell Crabtree are running for Crabtree's four-year seat. In the second ward race, Freeland hopes to unseat Haughee for a four-year term, while in Ward 3, incumbent Comstock faces challenger Tom Garrison. In Ward 4, incumbent Blackwell and Harold Cox are running for Blackwell's four-year seat.

The biggest disparity in stances centered on questions regarding whether the city should offer incentives to businesses willing to locate in Hoopeston.

Drollinger, Freeland, Comstock and Blackwell said they favored incentives such as tax abatements, free land or breaks on city sewer and water fees for businesses locating in Hoopeston.

"I think abatements are necessary," Drollinger told approximately 30 people attending the event. "It's like baiting the hook. It's an all-out war (to get new business)."

Freeland agreed. "Everyone is opposed to incentives but everyone is coming around to the realization that that's what's going on," he said.

See CANDIDATES on other side

## Police investigate reports of tire slashings in Hoopeston

### Nine reports made of damage

Police are investigating nine cases of slashed tires reported over the weekend.

Two cases were reported from West Maple. The remaining cases came from the city's northeast side, on East Wyman, Honeywell, McCracken and North Seventh St.


Three reports came from residents of Wyman

Terrace and two reports came from Centennial Manor residents, according to reports.

Police have no suspects in the acts of vandalism but believe youngsters are responsible for the damage.

Officers suggest that residents park vehicles in garages, if possible. Also, residents are urged to report suspicious activity seen in their neighborhoods.

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## Candidates continued from other side

"You need to know what sort of buttons you need to push."

However, incentives are not favored by all candidates.

"I don't think we should give tax breaks to anybody," said Danny Justice.

Borders agreed with that sentiment. "I hate giveaways," he said. "A lot of towns almost break themselves with giveaways."

Those disfavoring incentives said Hoopeston's work force should be enough of a draw for companies to locate here. "All (potential employees) have been waiting for is the opportunity," said Ron Justice.

Haughee said well-paying jobs, quality jobs, would encourage local workers to give "a good, honest day's work for an honest day's pay."

All candidates agreed that city officials must work with other civic groups to attract businesses.

"We all need to work together," Borders said. "We need to get in the right spirit, the right mood. We're all kind of down right now because of Pillsbury."

Borders suggested visiting other counties which have successfully attracted businesses to learn what worked, an idea Freeland agreed with.

The Pillsbury closing, scheduled to close in July, will result in a loss of \$2 million to \$3 million in annual payroll, Freeland said. "In a sense, we're talking about surviving in a small community," he said. "It's very competitive."

Asked which is the biggest crime problem, candidates gave answers ranging from theft to vandalism to domestic violence.

Crabtree, Barker, Cox and Garrison did not attend the forum.

A 13th candidate, Dan Harper, withdrew from the race for family reasons.

## Obituaries

**CADE** - Jack L. Cade, 50, of Hoopeston, died Sunday morning, March 12, 1995, at the Hoopeston Community Memorial hospital emergency room. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Hoopeston United Methodist Church. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Tuesday in the church annex. Memorials may be made to the organization of

the donor's choice. Wolfe Funeral Home, 907 E. Main, Hoopeston, was in charge of arrangements.

**GOUDY** - Earl D. Goudy, 84, of Hoopeston, died at 3 a.m. Monday, March 13, 1995, at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 7-9 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to the First Christian Church in Hoopeston.

## Police News



**Robert Beaty**, 213 N. Third St., reported Sunday that someone threw a pop bottle at his 1993 Dodge Shadow, damaging the paint and spoiler.

**Aaron P. Leavell**, 30, 1012 Griggs, Danville, was arrested at 10:25 p.m. Sunday on a county traffic warrant. He was also charged with speeding and operating an uninsured vehicle. He was released on \$110 cash bond.

A boy's **Huffy** bicycle was found Monday at 423 N. Seventh St. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

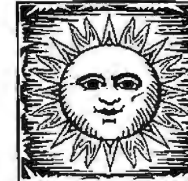
## Cheer card

Ina Williamson underwent knee surgery Monday. She would appreciate cards from friends. She is at U.S.M.C., Logan campus, Danville.

## Weather



Mostly cloudy today. High in the upper 60s. Tonight, cloudy. Low in the mid 40s. Tomorrow, chance of rain. High near 66, low near 47.



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