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Route 1, Hoopeston (217) 283-7729

Lourdine Florek
editor

just the facts

Susan Comstock
ad manager

Thursday, Sept. 21, 1995

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

Local students, teacher praise high-tech college classes

A new way of taking college courses is getting good reviews from students and teachers.

The distance learning program, which uses cameras and televisions to broadcast classes among six schools, is a time-saver, according to those involved in the class.

Larry Lobb, a retired Hoopeston Area High School teacher, is the instructor for a distance learning algebra class. "It's really exciting and seems it could turn into a 'wave of the future' type thing," he said. "I think this is going to work out to be just as effective (as traditional classes.)"

As the instructor, Lobb wears a microphone with an infrared sensor. A camera follows his movement around the Hoopeston Area classroom, broadcasting his lessons to his five students in Hoopeston, but also the five at Danville Area Community College, three at Georgetown-Ridge Farm and one at Jamaica.

The program also includes Westville, Danville High School and United Samaritans Medical Center.

Cameras in the classrooms show the classes at

large. When one student answers a question, the camera focuses on that student.

Lobb's classes can be recorded and played back if one site has a power outage. However, "if we have a power outage in Hoopeston, we just all go home," he said.

Tests have proven to be no problem. A courier service provides a 24-hour turnaround time and each site is equipped with a fax machine/copier, Lobb said.

Making the transition from being a "traditional, very traditional teacher - chalkboard mostly," has not been difficult for Lobb, but he admits it is different from a regular classroom. "As far as instruction is concerned, the only thing different is you have to focus your eyes on the camera," Lobb said. "I'm used to doing it in front of the kids. You have to pause and ask questions a lot. You have to bring each side into play."

Clothing can also be a problem. "You have to be careful what you wear," Lobb said, adding one person wore white and, in front of the white

See **CLASSES** on other side



Police News



Melvin Reed, 528 E. Young, reported Wednesday that someone took three yard statues from his collection of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 9:20 a.m. Wednesday at East Main and Seventh St.

Max Longfellow, 863 E. Young, in a 1984 Chevrolet, was eastbound on Main, and Floyd E. Evans, 826 E. Main, was westbound in a 1985

Buick. Longfellow made a left turn in front of Evans. Longfellow, who was at fault, told police he did not see Evans.

Three boys were issued notices to appear on criminal damage to property charges after they allegedly damaged a snow fence at the McFerren Park annex.

The boys allegedly used wood from the fence to set fire to the park's announcer's stand.



Fall Open House

•Introducing Marilyn Moore's "The Self-Published Cookbook" ~

author here to autograph!

•Homemade cookies & beverages
•Making door and wall swags and bows demonstrated

•Special sales of violets, \$1.50, hardy mums, \$2.75, ribbon and all Halloween, less 10%.

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Kennedy Jeanette
is here!

8 lbs., 1 oz., 21 inches

Congratulations,
Shahna, on your new
daughter



Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

2-bedroom at Honeywell Apartment Complex. Lease. No pets. Contact Robert Totheroh, manager, 221 S. Market, Hoopeston. (217) 283-5031 or (815) 984-4513. 241-tfn

Apartment for rent at Layden Manor. Second floor, deck. Quiet & spacious. Available Oct. 1. Inquiries, call (217) 283-6757. 269-272

CHILD CARE

Will do babysitting in my home, days only. Newborn-4 years old. Hot meals and snacks provided. Experienced. References available on request. Call anytime, (217) 283-7855. 255-268

GARAGE SALES

Huge sale - 10% off, mostly all new, some used, clothing, all season, all sizes. Men's, larger ladies, childrens sizes, also miscellaneous items. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sept. 21, 22, 23, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. everyday. 505 W. Park Ave., Watseka. (815) 432-3069.

Moving yard sale. Little bit of everything. 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23. 852 E. Elm, Hoopeston.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Small loader/backhoe with dozer blade, 8"X16" backhoe buckets. \$8,000 OBO. Call (217) 339-2453.

Weilder exercise bke with moveable handle bars, adjustable levers, Speed-O-Meter, \$60; Murphy cedar chest w/inside shelf, 44" long, 18" high, \$200; adult commode w/chrome legs, padded armrest, \$50. All in excellent condition. Phone (815) 432-3069.

PETS

FREE kittens. Call (217) 283-9287.

SERVICES

Happy Tails Dog Grooming by Jean. (217) 283-7426.

WANTED TO RENT

Two or three-bedroom home in Hoopeston. Need by Oct. 1. Call (815) 984-3402. 268-271

Rates:

\$2.50/15 words,

\$1 for each additional five words.

Call 217-283-9348 to place your ad.

Classes continued from other side

screen, looked like a head and hands with no body.

Lobb admitted he was "intimidated" by the system at first. During his 29 years of teaching, he saw the advent of calculators and computers in the classroom, and now cameras. "I never dreamed I'd see it, let alone be a part of it," he said.

Students also like the new system. "I think it's really neat," said Tina Andel, who attends Lobb's math class, as well as a distance learning psychology class. "You don't have to go very far to meet people you've never seen before, and you learn something."

Lobb said the cameras bother some students, including one at a remote site who dropped the class, but for Andel, they are not a problem. "It doesn't bother me," she said. "I don't find it hard

at all."

Andel, who works a full time job in Lafayette, Ind., likes that she does not have to drive to Danville.

There are drawbacks to the system, though, according to Andel and fellow student Jeremiah Eyrich.

"There are some little things they should've worked out before they started," Andel said. "Sometimes, it takes too long."

Time is one thing Eyrich doesn't like about the class, saying lessons move more slowly than regular classrooms. "It slows things down," he said.

Despite problems, teachers and students look forward to more distance learning classes.

Lobb said he and Dan Reed, Hoopeston's distance learning coordinator, discussed the possibility of someday offering classes from across the nation. "The idea, the thought of doing that, just boggles the mind," Lobb said.

Obituaries

RILEY - Morris M. "Vern" Riley, 72, of Hoopeston, died at 6:55 p.m. Monday in Hoopeston. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial, with military graveside rites, will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation was Wednesday night at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Thursday Trivia

Call 283-9348

between 8 and 8:30 a.m. to win!

Weekly winners will qualify
for a drawing for a FREE
dinner for two!

Today's question: Who will the Cornjerkers
face this Friday for Homecoming?

Last week's winner: No one

Last week's answer: Grant Township
United Way helps 20 agencies.

Court dispositions



Aug. 17: Donald Foley, Hoopeston, speeding, pleaded guilty, \$95, three months court supervision.

Gregori Hernandez, Texas, improper lane usage, \$95, three months court supervision.

In the hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

Sept. 19, 1995

Admitted: Harrell Morlan, Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

Weather



Chance of showers today with a high in the mid to upper 50s. Tonight, chance of rain. Low in the mid 40s. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High near 56, low near 44.

Fresh Flowers...

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