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Final challengers for Hoopeston Area school board profiled

Editor's note: This is the third part in a series on the eight candidates running in the Nov. 7 election for Hoopeston Area school board.

The last two challengers for seats on the Hoopeston Area school board want to help keep the district running as well as it currently does.

Steve Unger, 45, a lifelong Hoopeston area resident, and Roger Bundy, 39, a 14-year resident, each praised the district's financial soundness.

"We have a very strong financial base at this point," Unger said. "I think it's going to be a challenge to maintain it, especially if caps come in." Unger emphasized the board's need to be "continually vigilant about what you're spending." Another strong point, Unger said, is the general state of the district. "It's one of the best school districts as far as administration and faculty," he said. "I think we've got good community support and high-caliber board members."

A challenge for Hoopeston Area is that "it appears the educators are having to spend more and more time trying to be parents," Unger said. "There's a frustration level among educators because they feel they really don't have the tools to be parents and educators. I don't know what the answer is for us, but it's a challenge we need to be aware of."

A main goal of the district should be turning out young adults who are "employable or prepared for college and who are good citizens," Unger said.

Unger is a farmer and substitute rural mail carrier. He has two children, ages 16 and 15, in Hoopeston Area schools.

He is treasurer of the Illinois Soybean Association and chairman of the group's communications committee. He is also director for the American Soybean Association and is a member of its Research, Industrial and Consumer Information committee.

Locally, he is lay leader at the Hoopeston United Methodist Church and local lay speaker. He is also on the Grant Township zoning board of appeals and is a member of the Hoopeston Rotary, Illinois Corn Growers Association and Farm Bureau.

Unger is running "partially because of the encouragement of friends of our church family. It would be good to be a part of making policy for the schools."

Bundy said he became interested in education through courses he has taken and also because his wife is a special education teacher at Maple Grade School.

Bundy said his strongest asset is that he can bring a new perspective to the board "in the aspect that I didn't grow up in this community."

Coming from Columbus, Ind., Bundy has seen schools consolidate and believes that may be necessary here someday. "It's a sensitive issue," he said.

Consolidation, he said, would provide "more money in the pool" for special programs, which would be a benefit. On the down side, a larger district would mean less one-on-one contact with students, he said.

While the district is on sound financial footing, Bundy said decreasing enrollment will mean less state aid. "You're going to need a board that's going to stay right on top of your financial situation," he said. "The school system is going to have to stay focused on those concerns."

One weakness Bundy sees is the amount of selling done by students. "I'm not picking on anyone in particular, just the amount of it," he said.

See BOARD on other side



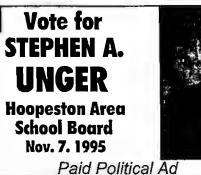
Friday, Nov. 3 ~ 10 a.m.8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4 ~ 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 5 ~ 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Door prizes, refreshments 126 E. Jones, Milford (815) 889-5202 Tracy Herron, designer Jeanne Stebbins, business manager

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Board continued from other side

Overall, Bundy said Hoopeston Area is "a good little school system for its size."

Bundy has two children, ages nine and 12, in the system.

He is plant manager at Hoopeston Foods, Inc., and worked at Pillsbury for the past 10 years. He is a member of the Lions Club, Illini Bass Club

Obituaries

PARKER - Paul "Pete" Parker, 87, of Hoopeston, died at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 2, 1995 at Hoopeston Nursing Home. Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. Sunday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home, Service time is pending.

Lunch menus

Hoopeston Area Grade Schools

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Nov. 6: Hamburger/bun, french fries, cheese, pickles, slaw, fruit cocktail.

Nov. 7: Chicken nuggets, salad, corn, bread, butter, peaches.

Nov. 8: Beef & noodles, potatoes, green beans, roll, orange.

Nov. 9: Sausage pizza, salad, applesauce, milk.

Nov. 10: Corn dog, tator tots, cheese, fruit cocktail, cookie.

.Hoopeston Area Middle/High School Nov. 6: Hamburger/bun or turkey/bun, french fries, cheese, pickles, slaw, fruit cocktail.

Nov. 7: Chicken nuggets or Z rib/bun, salad, corn, bread, butter, peaches.

Nov. 8: Beef & noodles or corn dog, potatoes, green beans, roll, orange,

Nov. 9: Sausage pizza or chicken patty/bun, salad, applesauce, milk.

Nov. 10: Corn dog or BBQ/bun, tator tots, baked beans, cheese, fruit cocktail, cookie.

Rossville-Alvin Schools

Nov. 6: Breakfast - choice of cereal, toast/butter/ jelly, grape juice; lunch - chicken nuggets, corn on the cob, applesauce, bread, butter.

Nov. 7: Breakfast - egg/English muffin, peaches;

and E&I Investment Club.

Police News

A 15-year-old boy was arrested at 1:10 p.m. Wednesday on a warrant. He was released on \$2,000 recognizance bond.

Donald Irvin, 306 E. Main, reported Thursday that someone took an undisclosed amount of cash and cigarettes from his address.

John Norton, 103 S. Bank, reported Thursday that someone broke five windows at that address.

Beverly J. Holland, 705 E. Lincoln, reported Thursday that someone removed the rear sticker from her license plate.



lunch - salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, blueberry crisp, bread, butter.

Nov. 8: Breakfast - sausage patty/biscuit, pineapple; lunch - BBO/bun, *sausage biscuit, mixed veggies, dieced pears.

Nov. 9: Breakfast - sausage gravey/biscuit, banana; lunch - hot dog/bun *burrito, french fries, pineapple.

Nov. 10: Breakfast - breakfast sausage pizza, applesauce; lunch - beef taco salad, orange, jello, crackers.

*jr./sr. high only

All menus include milk.

In the Hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital Nov. 1, 1995

Admitted: Raymond Sinclair, Hoopeston; James Lavden, Alvin,

Discharged: none.

Weather

Mostly sunny, windy, cold today. High in the low 40s. Tonight, clear, cold. Low in the low 20s. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High near 43, low near 22. Sunday, showers. High near 46, low near 27.



Routes 1 & 9, Hoopeston