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Friday, May 29, 1998 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 www

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Don Dean resigns as Hoopeston Area school superintendent

After 35 years, Don Dean is getting out of school. Dean, who has served as teacher, coach, principal and finally, superintendent of the Hoopeston Area district for 27 years, has resigned, effective July 1.

The Hoopeston Area school board, at a special meeting Thursday night, was expected to accept Dean's resignation and begin the search for a new chief.

Dean cited a desire for a calmer lifestyle as the reason for his retirement. He will look for part time accounting or teaching work "just to have a more relaxed lifestyle" and travel in the summers with his wife, Rita.

The resignation came as something of a surprise to school board members. In January, Dean requested his three-year contract, normally extended annually, be left alone. "I knew I wouldn't be here more than two years," he said. During an executive session at the May 21 board meeting, Dean announced his intention to resign.

Dean began his educational career at East Lynn, transferring to Hoopeston two years before the district consolidated with Hoopeston. He was hired at Hoopeston as a math teacher and basketball coach. He was named high school principal for the 1977-78 school year, a position he held for 13 years, until being named superintendent eight years ago.

HOWELL'S FLOOR CARE Any three rooms Carpet Cleaning only \$69.90 Free estimates Steven Howell (217) 283-7429 While the decision has been made, Dean said he is sorry to go. "Somebody asked me if I was sure and I said no," he said. "I said 'if you're asking me if I'm going to go through with it – yes.'

"It's a good job, the best in the area," Dean said. "Maybe if I'd had a bad experience, it would be easier to leave but maybe it's better to leave when everything's in good shape."

Dean praised the board, teachers and staff for making his job easier, singling out his secretary, Betty Richards. "If there's a perfect secretary, Betty is perfect," he said. "I think the board, teachers and everybody would vouch for that."

As Dean praised district employees and officials, they, in turn, praised him. "He's been great to work with in every aspect," said board president Ed Layden Jr. "I've been very, very, very pleased with Don's performance."

Layden said Dean worked well with teachers and staff was has been instrumental in keeping the district financially sound. "He's good about looking for money in nooks and crannies," Layden said, attributing the dis-See DEAN on other side

Dean continued from other side





Jackie Lackie & Chris Gregory — June 6 Jennifer Clark & Jeremy Gaddis — June 13 Niki Wisdom & Chad Burke — June 20 Laura Burge & Roy Johnson — July 4 Samantha Burge & Stephen Bruens Jr. — Aug. 1 Monica Halley & William Bruens — Aug. 1 Sara Bond & Todd Anderson — Aug. 8 Rachel Adsit & Aaron Morgan — Sept. 19 *Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert* 702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days!

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 \star

Robbery suspect arrested here

A man wanted in connection with a strong arm robbery of a Taco Bell restaurant in Rantoul was arrested by Hoopeston police Thursday.

Lucas A. Hollen of Rantoul was arrested at 12:38 a.m. in the 900 block of West Main. He was turned over to Rantoul police.

In other police news:

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 2:45 p.m. Wednesday at North Seventh St. and East McCracken.

Police said Matthew S. Lacy, 709 W. Washington, in

trict's low tax rate to Dean's stewardship. "There are other school our size who are in far worse shape, so I'd say he played a big part in keeping us in good financial shape."

High school principal Mark Conolly called Dean's resignation "a great loss to the district and the community.

Conolly, who replaced Dean as high school principal, said Dean "provided insight and advice when needed but let us do our jobs. He's been a terrific leader for us." Although Dean hopes to be out by July 1, he will remain until Aug. 1 if necessary. The job has been posted

with placement offices and the regional office of education. he said.

The board will consider candidates both in the district and outside, Layden said.

And when the first day of school comes in August, Dean said he hopes to be "somewhere a long way away. I don't want to be anywhere near the school system on

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Police News

a 1983 Oldsmobile, yielded at the intersection, looked one way, then entered the intersection. He struck a 1991 Hyundai driven by Crystal L. Edwards, 816 E. Seminary.

Kevin R. Ziebart, 27, of 3061/2 Stewart, Rossville, turned himself in to police at 8:40 a.m. Thursday. Ziebart, wanted on a traffic warrant, was released on \$75 cash bond.

Catherine Olson, 711 S. First Ave., reported Thursday that someone cut a screen on her apartment.

A girl's Huffy bicycle was found Thursday afternoon in the area of 419 E. McCracken. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

Aug. 17."

In the Hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital May 27, 1998 Admitted: Nora Greene, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Nick Sloan, Emmett Bennett.

Weather

Partly sunny Friday through Sunday with a chance of showers each day. High today 90, low 63. High Saturday, Sunday, 84, lows 57.

For current weather conditions, call the Hoopeston Weather Line at (217) 283-6221.

Beanie Baby Official Club Members

If you joined here, you buy first! Saturday 10 a.m.-1 p.m. New arrivals – Seaweed, Squealer, Happy the Hippo, Peace, the tie-dyed bear Drawing for 36 Princess Bears at 2 p.m. Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert 702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days! Eleanor M. Mann, 410

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W. Elm, reported Thurs-

day that someone

scratched the passenger

side of her Mercury Sable

while the car was in the

IGA parking lot.



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HOOPESTON MIGRANT HEAD START is now accepting applications for the following positions: cook, cook assistant, bus driver, bus assistant. Send resume to P.O. Box 136, Wellington, IL 60973. Call (815) 984-3706 for more information. Deadline is May 29, 1998. EOE. 148-149

Substitute custodian needed at Hoopeston Public Library. Duties may include dusting, mopping, sweeping floors, removing trash. picking up trash around the property, cleaning bathrooms. sweeping outside steps, emptying book return. Call (217) 283-6711.

LOST & FOUND

Tent pole in ditch on bean plant road between Hoopeston and Rossville. If found, call (217) 339-2324 or (815) 984-5177

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