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Tuesday, Jan. 5, 1999
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 **www.justthefacts.tm**

Snow days just aren't as much fun as they used to be

I would like to offer my sincere apology to the people of Hoopeston. In fact, I'd like to apologize to everyone in Illinois – no, the entire Midwest.

Our recent snowstorm, which dumped approximately 13 inches of snow on Hoopeston, is my fault.

I was going to blame Chuck Pajor for this. After all, in the past few months, every time anyone saw him, all he did was grouse about the lack of snow and his inability to snowmobile. Then it occurred to me that it wasn't Chuck's fault; it was mine.

Ever since Just the Facts started five years ago, I've prayed for a snow day – a day where I could curl up on the couch and watch the snow pile up or maybe make a snowman and a few snow angels in the yard, all the while not giving a thought to work. It had been a long time since I'd had a snow day.

I didn't give work any thought at all Saturday, and on Sunday I thought about it long enough to realize since I was stuck in my house, other people probably wouldn't be moving, either. No need to do a paper, thought I.

That decided, I settled in to enjoy my snow day when

The
 Second Cup
 by LOURDINE FLOREK

it hit me – I wasn't going to get out until the snow got moved. Oh, horror of horrors – I had to shovel!

Instead of spending my snow day curled up on the couch, I spent it like the rest of you – bundling up, shoveling a bit, watching the wind blow the snow back on my path, bundling up, shoveling

some more and realizing how out of shape I am.

In fact, if it weren't for a good Samaritan neighbor who made tracks through my snow with his truck, and Steve Mastin and his snow blower, I'd still be bundling up and shoveling. And complaining about it – loudly.

I finally realized that my mind played a trick on me. The last snow days I truly remember were from the 1967 blizzard in Chicago. After trudging home through the snow, my sisters and I had a few days off to sled, build snow forts and sip hot chocolate. I wasn't a homeowner then – I had not yet turned 10 – so snow days were exciting, fun-filled things to look forward to. My,

See SNOW on other side

Snow continued from other side

a.m., men's euchre, noon.

Meetings

The Hoopeston city council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the municipal building.

The Community Fund of Grant Township will meet at noon Wednesday at the Garden Family Restaurant.

Music Booster winners

Drawings for 1999 calendars will begin until the end of January or beginning of February.

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Police News



Juan J. Acosta, 17, of 822 S. Second Ave., was arrested at 11:06 p.m. Thursday, charged with DUI, illegal transportation of alcohol and illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor.

Police said Acosta was arrested after motorist complaints of a reckless driver in the downtown area.

He was taken to the Public Safety Building, Danville, in lieu of bond.

Richard L. Lawson, 45, of 320 W. Maple, was arrested at 2:56 a.m. Friday, charged with domestic battery

on a complaint from Tisha Lawson, 606 W. Elm.

Lawson was taken to the Public Safety Building, Danville.

Rolando D. Vasquez, 18, of Sycamore St., Ambia, Ind., was arrested at 12:32 a.m. Friday, charged with criminal damage to property, possession of drug paraphernalia and illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor.

Police said they were called by Joey Cannon to Baer's Motel, 801 S. Dixie Hwy., regarding windows being broken in a room at the motel.

Vasquez was released on \$100 cash bond.

Beau J. Edwards, 18, of 816 E. Seminary, was arrested at 3:12 a.m. Friday, charged with disorderly con-

duct.

~~I've learned my lesson though. I've got this last snow day firmly entrenched in my brain. It's not likely I'll forget it anytime soon.~~

And, just in case I forget, if you hear me wishing for a snow day, hit me with a snowball.

Obituaries

GIBSON – Lois Gibson, 85, of Milford, died at 6:45 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2, 1999 at Watseka Health Care Center, Watseka. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford. Visitation will be one hour before services Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Milford Church of the Nazarene.

HOSKINS – Henry E. "Bud" Hoskins, 63, of Hoopeston, died at 3:05 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 3, 1999 at home. A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Kennekuk Cove County Park.

JUDY – Deloris Ann "Dee" Judy, 53, of Claytonville, died at 6:05 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 1998 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at St. John's Lutheran Church, Ash Grove. Burial will be in Schwer Lutheran Cemetery. Visitation was 4-7 p.m. Monday at the Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

WEBER – Carl W. Weber, 89, of Hoopeston, died Wednesday, Dec. 30, 1998 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation was 4-7 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the First Presbyterian Church of Hoopeston or Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital.

In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
Dec. 30

Nothing to report.

De. 31

Admitted: Robert McIntyre, Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

Jan. 1

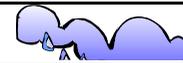
Admitted: Marilyn Davis, Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

Jan. 2-3

Nothing to report.

Weather



Cloudy today. High 20. Tonight, chance of snow. Low 20. Tomorrow, snow early. High 33, low 25.

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

duct. Police said Edwards was arrested at 901 E. McCracken after fleeing the scene of a disturbance.

He was released on a ntoice to appear.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 6 p.m. Friday at Penn and Market.

Police said Eric J. Layden, 910 W. Main, in a 1987 Toyota, and Darren M. Lucas, 5447 St. Rt. 9, Rankin, in a 1993 Chevrolet, were westbound on Penn. Lucas stopped but Layden was unable to because of road conditions.

Joe A. Watson, 801 S. Fifth St., reported Monday that someone took a cell phone from his 1989 Buick while it was parked at his home.

Court Dispositions



Dec. 17: Peter Kunce, Hoopeston, leash law, two counts dangerous animal, owner's duties; nolle pros.

Norma Montez, Hoopeston, disorderly conduct, pleaded guilty; \$75 and costs, 30 hours public service work.

Jesusa Salinas, Hoopeston, \$80 balance due, bond applied.

Roger Seay, Chicago, deceptive practice, \$355.20 restitution; failed to appear.

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