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### HOOPESTON

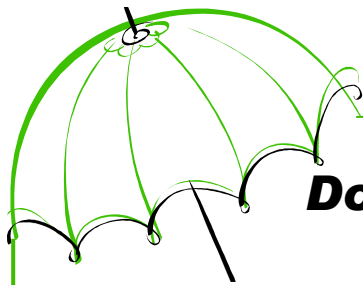
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### Hoopeston Area 'worst case scenario' budget not so bad

While still projecting a deficit, a tentative "worst case scenario" budget approved by the Hoopeston Area School Board on Thursday is not as bad as previous budgets.

The board approved the tentative budget with an estimated deficit of \$90,000 after projected revenues of \$9,670,000 and expenses of \$9,760,000.



### Turn that frown upside down

MaLeah Morlan, a new kindergarten student at Maple School, looks unhappy as she struggles with her backpack Friday before the first day of school.

Last year's budget had a projected deficit of \$538,000 but ended about \$100,000 in the red.

"Sometimes we get criticized for our "worst case scenario" budgets," said board president Steve Unger. "I've been on the board 10 years. Nine we've had pleasant surprises and one year not so pleasant but I'm glad we budgeted for it."

The budget is tentative because the district and Hoopeston Education Association are still negotiating the teacher contract. The approved budget includes an undisclosed salary hike but the final budget will depend on the accepted contract, said Superintendent Mark Conolly.

The decreased deficit is good news for the district, which got a shot in the arm from a 90 cent referendum for the education fund approved last November. The referendum was expected to generate \$600,000 but due to increases in property tax exemptions, will net about \$400,000, Conolly said.

Despite that loss, "in this budget, if we can duplicate what we did last year, we should end up in the black," he said.

In unrelated business, the board heard from high  
See HA on other side



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Cell (217) 497-1753

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## Police News



A **single key** with remote was found Thursday. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

A girl's 20-inch light blue Huffy Sea Star bicycle and a boy's 20-inch blue Huffy Rock It bike were found Thursday in the 800 block of North Market. The owners may identify and claim them at the police station.

**Crystal J. Sage**, 44, of 710 E. Wyman, was arrested after a traffic stop at 10:38 p.m. Thursday at Market and Seminary.

Sage was charged with driving while license suspended and possession of 2.5-10 grams of cannabis.

She was released on \$100 cash bond. The car was towed from the scene.

**Elijah L. Hunt**, 19, of 630 E. McNeil, was arrested after an incident at 12:17 a.m. Friday in the 600 block of McNeil.

Police said an abandoned 911 call was received and when the operator called the number back, a man said there was no problem. Officers, concerned about the

call, stopped at the house where a 31-year-old woman alleged Hunt grabbed the phone during an argument and eventually tore it from the wall.

Hunt was charged with domestic battery and interfering with the reporting of domestic battery and was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

**Taylor N. Butterworth**, 17, of Wellington, was ticketed for failing to wear a seatbelt after an accident at 2:54 p.m. Friday.

Police said Butterworth, in a 2001 Chevrolet, was behind a 2002 Oldsmobile driven by William W. Stark of Danville, at the railroad crossing on East Orange. When the gates went up, Butterworth moved before Stark, striking his vehicle.

A **53-year-old** man reported Friday that someone cracked the windshield of a 2002 truck parked in the 800 block of East Young.

### **HA** continued from other side

school principal Hank Hornbeck that 35 to 40 students will take vocational courses offered at the former Ross-ville-Alvin High School.

Voters approved deactivating the school; students were divided between Hoopeston Area and Bismarck-Henning. Both districts agreed to share vocational courses at Rossville.

HA students taking vocational courses represent about 75 percent of the total number taking the courses, which include welding, graphic design, criminal justice and fire safety, all offered at Rossville and CNA training in Hoopeston. All are dual enrollment classes, offering

**Linda L. Brown**, 42, of 175 N. St. Rt. 1, Wellington, was arrested after an altercation with a 61-year-old Hoopeston woman at 5:44 p.m. Friday in the 600 block of East Chestnut. She was charged with battery and released on a notice to appear.

**Lupe Sanchez Jr.**, 39, of 712 S. Sixth Ave., was arrested at 7:23 a.m. Saturday in the 700 block of South Sixth Ave.

He was charged with aggravated assault, disorderly conduct and interfering with the reporting of domestic violence on a complaint from a 47-year-old woman.

Sanchez was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

**Eduardo Cordova**, 28, of 319 N. Sixth Ave., turned himself in to police at 3:30 p.m. Saturday.

Cordova, wanted on a Vermilion County traffic

warrant for failure to appear, was released on \$73 cash bond.

**Beth A. Johnson**, 26, of 219 E. Penn, was arrested at 9:41 p.m. Saturday at East Main and Market.

Johnson, wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear, was taken to the Public Safety Building, Danville, in lieu of \$3,000 bond.

**Eric R. Bell**, 20, of 9598 N 900 W., Ambia, Ind., was arrested at 10:38 p.m. Saturday in the 200 block of East Main.

He was charged with theft over \$300 on a complaint from a 16-year-old Hoopeston girl who alleged Bell took 30 CDs from her vehicle.

Bell was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

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high school and community college credit. Two courses, ag and child care, are also offered at Rossville but only allow high school credit.

Hornbeck said he believes the reason more HA students are taking advantage of the offerings is because local students have gone to Rossville-Alvin for classes such as ag for many years.

### *Briefly*

#### **Multi Agency van schedule**

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency transportation project is: Monday, Hoopeston/Rossville shuttle; Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville. To arrange a ride, call 283-5544.

Community center activities include: Monday-Friday, cards, noon; Thursday, men's coffee 9 a.m.

### **Weather**



Mostly sunny today and tomorrow. High today 75, low 51. Tomorrow, high 78, low 53.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

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## Fall Items

## Arriving Daily

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### **Obituaries**

**DOBKINS**—Richard W. Dobkins, 80, of Bushnell, Fla., formerly of Hoopeston died Thursday, Aug. 18, 2005 in Cissna Park. Arrangements were incomplete at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home.

**POWLEY**—Patricia Jan Powley, 67, of North Fort Myers, Fla., formerly of Hoopeston, died Thursday, Aug. 18, 2005. Services were private. North Fort Myers Memorial Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Memorials are suggested to Hope Hospice, 9470 Health Park Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33908.

## **Classifieds**

### **APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

1 BR. \$375/mo., utilities included. No pets. Available. (217) 304-3477

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2 1-bdr. apts. Available Aug. 1; 2 1-bdr. apts. Available Sept. 1, starting at \$440/mo. Includes utilities. Cash deposit. (217) 497-9000

### **HELP WANTED**

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