

REMEMBER TO VOTE NEXT TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

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MENTALLY-ILL MAN WREAKS HAVOC

Roachdale resident runs amok in south end on Monday

By Michael Johnson
Free Press Editor

*First reported at
www.bloomfieldfreepress.com
on Monday, Oct. 30*

BLOOMFIELD - A Roachdale, Ind., man ditched his car at the South Plaza shopping center, then caused damage and had police looking for him throughout town Monday morning, Oct. 30.

Franklin L. Haas, 46, of Roachdale, Ind., left his Ford Mustang locked with the keys still inside across a number of parking spaces in front of Ace Hardware and apparently went on his way - carrying a briefcase and a five-gallon bucket.

According to Chief Deputy Bloomfield Marshal Bob Richardson, Haas allegedly climbed up on the clock tower at the plaza and broke out the lights. He then damaged a bench at Ace Hardware and tied an advertising sign to its doors.

The man then - after throwing a number of food items out of his car - went through-

out the south end smashing pumpkins, jumping on vehicles and wreaking havoc.

Richardson said Haas also allegedly stole a lighter from and threatened an employee of the Picnic Basket.

He was finally rounded up in the 400 block of West Main Street - where he had apparently run to after being spotted in front of the Bloomfield fire station just minutes earlier.

When he was arrested, he was very combative toward officers and threatened them, as well as shouting profanities at passersby. Once in the Greene County Jail, the man had to be physically restrained because of his mental state and combativeness.

Officers also found marijuana in the man's car - and on the ground outside the driver's side door.

Early Monday afternoon - after Haas' combative behavior failed to improve - he

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Staff photo by M. Johnson

Bloomfield police officers Jordan Hasler and Bob Richardson escort Franklin L. Haas to a waiting squad car after arresting him in the 400 block of West Main Street Monday at around 7:45 a.m. Upon his arrest, Haas became very combative and verbally abusive toward officers and had to be restrained while at the jail.

MAN

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was transported to the psychiatric ward at Bloomington Hospital for an emergency committal.

Once at Bloomington Hospital, it was reported that he again had to be restrained to keep from injuring himself or staff members.

He reportedly was also talking to a person named Ned who does not exist while being arrested and while in custody of police and health officials.

The bucket he was carrying contained a broken pumpkin and a complete racing suit.

A number of criminal charges are pending against the man, according to Chief Deputy Bloomfield Marshal Bob Richardson.