

Scottsburg man arrested after throwing and pointing rifle at girlfriend

Written by Marty Randall

Wednesday, 23 July 2014 00:00 -

An apparently intoxicated man not only threw a loaded rifle at his girlfriend on Thursday, July 17, but also reportedly pointed the weapon at her and himself.

Jonathan S. Stakelin, 29, Scottsburg, has entered a preliminary plea of not guilty in Scott Circuit Court to one count each of criminal confinement and criminal recklessness. Confinement is now classified as a Level 3 felony; criminal recklessness is a Level 6 felony.

Deputy Joe Guarneri with the Sheriff's Department was dispatched to a residence on Double or Nothing Road. There, he found a young woman who said her boyfriend, Stakelin, had tried to get her to shoot him and then had shot at her vehicle when she left the residence.

She recounted that the couple were visiting with their children at a relative's home when the pair began arguing. She said she decided to leave the youngsters with the relative and take Stakelin home because he had been drinking.

Stakelin kept turning off the car's ignition as she was driving, she reported. When they arrived at their home, she said Stakelin became paranoid and thought someone was after them. She said he got out a knife and "...walked her inside the residence and started to get the guns out, a shotgun and a rifle with a scope."

They argued again, the woman said, and Stakelin forced her into a bedroom. When she told Stakelin she was leaving, she said he threw her on the bed again.

She said he then picked up the rifle that she believed to be loaded and took off the safety mechanism. He threw the gun at her and told her to shoot him.

When she refused, she said he grabbed the shotgun and held it to her head, but the woman said that gun was unloaded.

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She related that she used the rifle to force Stakelin into a closet. She said she then grabbed her purse and ran out the back door.

As she got into her car, she said she saw Stakelin come out of the residence holding the rifle so that it was pointed at his head as if trying to shoot himself. She said she backed the car out and, as she was driving off, she said Stakelin shot at her car.

Stakelin was taken into custody at the residence and transported to the Scott County Security Center in Scottsburg.

During his initial hearing in court, Stakelin entered a preliminary plea of not guilty to the charges. Bail was fixed at \$50,000 corporate surety bond or \$10,000 cash. His jury trial was scheduled on November 18, and a public defender was appointed to the case.

A no contact order was entered for the protection of the woman and the couple's children.