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Coal Valley native wins huge on 'Price Is Right'

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Raegan Hanne raked in so much on "The Price is Right" she forgot for a second how much she actually won.

Asked what she planned to do with some of her winnings, the Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville senior and Coal Valley native said, "I'll definitely go to California again, maybe buy a new car. Wait, I won a new car."

When she appeared on the game show in August while visiting her boyfriend in Los Angeles, Ms. Hanne, 22, won a 2009 Ford Fusion, a 16½-foot sailboat, a go-kart, a refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, living room set, carpeting, a stereo, computer and a grill.

The episode aired Monday.

"It was around \$50,000," in value she said in a phone interview Monday.

Ms. Hanne barely got on the show because she and her boyfriend, Moline native Erik Steffens, were two of the last allowed as reserves for the audience.

Ms. Hanne's name was called. After guessing the closest price of an outdoor grill, she went up to pick the three most expensive items in a set of three — a dinette set, a go-kart, a movie projector and his and her golf clubs. The projector was the least expensive out of the three.

After guessing right again, Ms. Hanne was moved to the side to fill out paperwork. Then, she was up at the big wheel. Her first, and only spin, was at 60 cents.

"It was a tough decision," she said, "but I stuck with it."

It landed her at the Showcase Showdown. Her opponent passed on the first showcase — the stove, dishwasher and other home items — and handed it to Ms. Hanne. She guessed \$17,800, which was only \$125 lower than the retail price.

That meant Ms. Hanne got everything -- both showcases -- including a big secret to hold onto for a few weeks.

"It was so hard to keep that a secret," she said. "I just wanted to tell everyone. That's what I'm doing today."



Photo:
Raegan Hanne, a Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville senior and Coal Valley native, appeared on The Price is Right. The show airs Monday, Oct. 13.

Already, she's opted to take a check instead of the sailboat and is contemplating selling the go-kart for practical reasons. When she gets a hold of Reynolds Ford in East Moline to get her new car, she might bid her 2003 Chevy Tracker goodbye.

Even before the show aired, some of the items were waiting for her parents after they visited Ms. Hanne this weekend in Edwardsville.

"There were three ginormous boxes waiting for them when they got back," she said. "My parents were surprised they were still there. Honest neighbors, I guess."