

THE WARRIOR

February 2009

Lane Technical Prep High School

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CSI students crack Lane murder case

By Weslyn Strawder &
Shanae Joseph

On Friday, Jan. 30, Sally Burton, an accountant of Murton's Print Shop, was found dead; murdered by a shot from a shotgun. The main suspect was her boyfriend, Eric Charles Babcock.

Working together, the students of Lane's Forensic Science and Law classes solved the homicide.

Fortunately, the crime never really happened; it was only a scenario written by Mrs. Sebestyen for Lane's fifth annual Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Day.

This was the first year students actually worked to solve a case.

"I wrote a scenario with three possible endings," said Sebestyen.

"Obviously I wanted one person to look guilty. I wanted to make the other two suspects look guilty as well."

The crime scene was arranged by Mrs. Anderson, Sebestyen, and police officers from the recruit training center. Props used at the scene included manikins, real blood, and shell casings from a shotgun. One of Lane's old shop rooms served as the setting, and worked well to make the crime scene seem like a reality.

The crime scene investigation lasted approximately four hours. While working on the case, all students involved had to follow a standard procedure.

The first task in the procedure was interviewing police officers, who were the first to arrive at the scene. Investigators asked them questions to configure their 'theory of the

case.' After interviewing the police officers, investigators then identified the crime. They identified and documented the points of entry and exit of the criminal.

Investigators took photographs of the scene from different angles, and then a crime scene technician completed a rough sketch of the scene to demonstrate the layout of the crime. The rough sketch also identified the exact position of the deceased victim and provided evidence for how the crime was committed.

Finally, investigators processed all evidence by placing it in evidence bags with appropriate initialing and documentation.

According to students involved in the CSI program, it was a fun experience.

"I got to meet people from all areas of crime scene investigation," said Terrance Washington, Div. 910.

"The most exciting thing was trying to link all the pieces," said Kierra Reese, Div. 915.

Aside from having fun and working on exciting cases, some students enrolled in the Law class to prepare themselves for a career in criminal justice.

"I want to major in criminal justice. I figured it would help me in the long run," said Chelsea Lemon, Div. 047.

Others took up Forensic Science to get a head start in the forensic field.

"I am going to Western Illinois to major in Forensic Chemistry," said Washington. "[Now] I am learning how to conduct a crime scene investigation, which I will be using



A student examines the crime scene.

in my future career."

Students interested in the field of forensics are offered advice from Anderson, teacher of Forensic Science at Lane.

"If you want to work on a crime scene, or in a crime lab, major in biology and chemistry," she said.

Students wanting to take advantage of Lane's Forensic Science elective must have a G.P.A. of 3.0 and at least a B in both biology

and chemistry. The class is open to juniors only. The program was initiated five years ago when former teachers at Lane, Mrs. Lewis and Ms. Wayne, came up with the idea of CSI.

Lane is currently the only high school in Chicago offering the CSI program. However, Morgan Park and Driscoll Catholic High Schools plan on developing a similar course within their own schools soon.

Korean foreign exchange students visit Lane

By Grace McQueeney
& David Pohlal

Sixteen-year-old exchange students from the South Korean city of Pusan arrived in Chicago on Jan. 5 to learn about its culture, language, and people. They spent a lot of time at Lane, observing classes such as Ceramics, Jazz Band, Physics, Orchestra, and Choir.

These students have been taking English for over 10 years, although sometimes struggle when they must speak it all the time.

"We went to a restaurant when we first arrived here," said Jiwon Hong. "The waitress asked us if we wanted 'soup or salad,' and we thought she said 'super-

salad'! We were so confused!"

"My favorite fast food restaurant in Chicago is Wendy's," said Danny Lee. "We do not have too much fast food in Pusan."

The food is only one of many differences the students faced in Chicago. Their school schedules also changed significantly.

A South Korean school day starts at 6 AM and ends at 11 PM. Most students dorm at school, even at the age of 16.

Students said they do not have as much freedom to choose what classes to take in Korea as students in the U.S. do.

"Every grade has set classes that you are required to take," said Shilla Lee.

"The government pays for our lunches," said S. Lee. "I am not used to paying for it myself!"

Shilla said she likes Lane because of its size, and the freedom it

allows to its students. Her school in Korea has only 160 students per grade.

The Korean students also noted many differences between the city of Chicago and Pusan.

"Chicago is much cleaner than Pusan," said Soojin Lee. "It is also a lot colder."

"In Chicago there are many tall buildings," said Danny. "In Pusan, everything feels more crowded and there are many more people in the streets."

"American people seem so relaxed," said Danny. "In South Korea, everyone always seems to be in a big hurry."

"Chicago is so much more diverse than Pusan," said Jiwon.

"Pretty much everyone you see in Pusan is pure blood Korean," said Danny.

The exchange students seemed very excited to come to the United

States again. Many of them had visited places on the West Coast, such as San Francisco and Oregon, but none claimed to have visited Chicago.

"When I came to Chicago, all I had heard of were the Chicago Bulls," said Shilla.

Shilla said her visit to Chicago coincided with the week of her school's winter break, a time traditionally used by students in Pusan studying and preparing for the next semester. While in Chicago Shilla said she has not studied nearly as much as she should have, but instead has gone sightseeing and spent her time learning about new cultures.

"I feel that sometimes doing things like [this exchange program] can help you learn things you would not learn from studying out of books," she said.

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2008-2009



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THE WARRIOR

New changes to be made at Lane

ADA requires school to be more accessible to handicapped students, starting with ramps and new doors.

By Ricardo Guzman,
Paulina Yousif, &
Caitlyn Kolakowski

Lane will be undergoing renovations that will include new entrances to the library, auditorium, and Memorial Garden starting March 1 and costing around \$4.1 million. Also in the plans are converting an old shop room on the first floor, Rm. 135, into a College and Career Center for students.

The new renovations are intended to bring Lane up to code on The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA calls for school systems to make accommodations and modifications to address the needs of students with disabilities, including removing architectural or communication barriers. The improvements will make Lane more accessible to handicapped

students.

"The Warrior Office (below Stairwell Z on the first floor) will be turned into a ramp leading into the Memorial Garden and it will be accessible to wheelchairs," said Mr. DeRoss. Lane's Building Manager. "Doors D, J, and M are going to have new ramps. The auditorium will have a wheelchair lift that can move one wheelchair at a time to different levels of the auditorium."

Some renovations are not going start until the summertime due to safety-related issues.

"The head engineer said it is unsafe to start certain projects during school," said DeRoss. "There will be heavy equipment and people running around, including workers, making the hallways dangerous."

One other major renovation that will take place in the summer is to some of the boys' and girls'

bathrooms.

"There are going to be plumbing stacks going up the girls' and boys' bathroom from the first floor to the fourth. The problem with doing this during school is it will cut off all the bathrooms," said DeRoss.

DeRoss will be losing his own office in the renovations as it will be turned into an extra private boys' and girls' bathroom for disabled students.

The pool will have a new ramp as well for people who have trouble getting in and out of it.

The College and Career Center will help students prepare for their career choices and give out information on different colleges.

"Students will be able to do mock interviews to prepare for college," said DeRoss.

The library entrance will be renovated into a direct entrance with double doors. The librarians

have been waiting for four years for the new entrance.

"If you didn't know it was a library entrance you would think it was a bathroom entrance," said librarian Ms. Kane. "In 1972 or '74 it was a direct entrance, but when everyone came back after summer break there was a new entrance; the one there is now. No one knows why. The wall wasn't part of the original building. It's a mystery."

Additional renovations include the boys' and girls' locker rooms, where between 100 to 200 new locker doors will be installed that are convenient for wheelchair-bound students. The gym balcony will be made wheelchair accessible as well.

The renovations are scheduled to be finished within a year, but there are no guarantees all the work will be completed within that timeframe.

Late starts throw off students' daily routines

By Alejandra Jimenez

As Carolina DeSouza, Div. 154, wakes up to turn off her alarm clock, she sees the time. Thinking she will be late, she quickly gets up and rushes around getting ready when she suddenly remembers that it is a late start day. She goes back to bed for a quick snooze.

DeSouza is just one of many students who are trying to adjust to the schedule of the new late start days that began this year.

Lane has decided to have school start at 8:50 a.m. once a month on Tuesdays. The reason for this is that it is easier for the teachers to have meetings, since not all the teachers are available during the same periods.

Although teachers are able to meet at the same time, some teachers do not think the late start schedule is a good idea.

"I think it would be better to have meetings in the afternoon, rather than the morning," said Ms. Joseph, Physics teacher.

Dr. LoBosco thinks the late start days are beneficial to the teachers and says they will continue through next year.

"Teachers need time to collaborate with each other about things like the curriculum," said LoBosco.

Although the school day starts later, students still have problems getting to school on time.

"It's kind of hard, since certain buses leave at certain times," said Ivonne Amaya, Div. 253.

There has also been confusion about the bell schedule since they are not printed in the student planners.

"I think [late start days] are pretty cool for the most part," said John Collins, Div. 928, "but the times need to be consistent."

"[It is confusing] only during lunch because I don't know when to be in the building," said Carlo Zamora, Div. 168.

Assistant principal, Dr. Dignam, says that next year the late start schedule will be printed on the back of the school planner and school will start at 9:00 a.m., so there will be no confusion as to when the day starts.

"If we can improve, we will," said Dignam.

With school starting later, students have more time to sleep, do homework, hang out with friends, or anything else they like.

It is also helpful to students who live far away and take a longer time to get to school.

"I am able to go to sleep for one more hour," said Salvadore Barrios, Div. 154. "Since I live in the Southside it takes me longer to get to school, so it's cool when we have late

starts."

For the most part, many students enjoy being able to sleep later, but some see it as a nuisance.

"I have to wake up at weird irregular times, find out how long it's going to take for me to get to school during morning rush hour, and I either get there before the bell rings or an hour early," said Randy Santiago, Div. 038.

Students find that they have more energy during class with the extra sleep they get from not having to get up early. This affects how they behave during school.

"I'm always super awake during every class, and that never

happens," said Samantha Michaels, Div. 042.

Cutting the day shorter also cuts into class time. Teachers must reschedule their lessons so that they fit into the shorter time. To some students, having shorter class periods is a good thing, but to others it seems pointless.

"Sometimes nothing is really accomplished during the day," said Jane Remigio, Div. 022. "The teachers just hurry up lesson plans or push them to the side and we get some more homework than usual."

"It just takes some time to get used to," said Lauren Vidal, Div. 022.



CTA rate hike affecting students and parents alike

By Jessica Figueroa

Gas and food prices are going up, thousands of people are losing their homes and jobs, and to top it all off, bus fares are being raised, again.

Effective Jan. 1, all CTA bus fares were raised \$0.25 (15%). The two-day and five-day visitor passes were eliminated from the market, as was the Chicago Card bonus, (10% bonus or \$1 extra for every \$10 you put in.)

Most teenagers, like the vast majority at Lane, are not directly affected since they have a reduced fare permit, and prices for these were not raised. However, many of the parents of Lane students are feeling the effect and are none too happy with the CTA.

CTA is the nation's second largest public transportation system, and acknowledges that the new rate hikes, though not popular among Chicagoans, are necessary.

"My focus for the coming year continues to be making the CTA customer experience the best that it can possibly be, and we have concrete plans in place to make

sure that happens," said Chicago Transit Authority President Ron Hubbard. "This is no easy task in a year where the capital resources needed to manage our aging infrastructure continue to decline."

"I hate the bus! I want a car," said Justynka Iwona, who takes the bus almost daily except for the few days when she gets a ride from a friend.

However others seem to appreciate the fact that it's there to count on.

"CTA gets it done. People complain too much," said Jose Cuevas, Div. 052, who just got a car this year and now drives to school.

"The bus drivers can be crazy! Either that or they drive way too slow!" said Pamela Sobolewski, Div. 051, daily CTA bus rider.

But it has to be hard keeping everyone happy when approximately 1.8 million rides are provided by CTA on an average weekday. (Info as of Nov, 2008.)

"In today's economic climate, government agencies, private businesses and individual households are facing budget challenges and CTA is no exception; nevertheless, the Board takes very seriously the public comments it



Despite CTA fares being raised, many people still take the bus.

receives and this year customers were very concerned about potential fare increases," said Chicago Transit Board Chairman Carole Brown.

"After careful consideration of all the factors that go into putting together the budget, the Board has amended the President's recommendation to provide some relief

to our customers. Instead of raising pass fares by 20 percent, the budget passed by the board will only raise them by about 15 percent."

And even though the increase did not affect the price of the student bus permit, students still have to pay full fare on weekends when student bus permits do not work

and it seems to be a hassle to have to get 25 extra cents.

"Instead of worrying about \$2.00, it's that plus a quarter," said Iwona.

"It doesn't directly affect me, but it does my parents, because they're providing me with the money, it's out of their pocket," said Iwona.

When it comes to parking meters, dollar is new quarter

By Tony Zhou

With the start of the new year, most Chicago meter rates will quadruple from a quarter an hour to \$1 an hour.

The Chicago City Council approved Mayor Daley's plan to lease all Chicago meters to private firm Chicago Parking Meter LLC for 75 years in a return for a one-time payment of \$1.15 billion.

The deal includes more pay-and-display boxes and pay-by-phone options, which eliminates the old individual cash meters.

Rates of all Chicago meters will increase. The most expensive meters, which are found in the Loop, will increase from \$3.00 to \$3.50 an hour this year, and up to \$6.50 by 2013.

From now on, parking meters must be fed 24/7, including holidays and Sundays.

How does this affect Lane?

Since many students drive cars, they may expect to run into some trouble and difficulties.

Money seems to be the common factor amongst some Lane students.

"I will have to save and carry

around more loose change, and that's not fun," said Raymond Vergara, Div. 906. "People want more money, and we shouldn't have to suffer."

"That's a lot of money to spend," said Michael Covington, Div. 925.

"I disagree with this [plan]. Already gas prices are getting higher, so paying more just to park the car is ridiculous," said Raymond Mallari, Div. 932.

"I wouldn't want to park in areas with a meter because I'm going to have it parked there for a long time, and then that means paying more," said Zahidul Haque, Div. 923.

With the new plan, students expect to change some habits.

"I might be inclined to bus more, but I understand [because of what's happening] with the economy and all," said Mallari.

"Taking the bus would be cheaper then, because if you pay a dollar an hour no matter where you park, that's [going to cost] too much," said Wioletta Kochan, Div. 916.

"It's a shame that meters are going to be [paid] 24/7 because I hang out at night and I would park after 9 all the time," said Mallari.

"I don't agree with this new plan because they are just trying to squeeze the money out of us," said Haque.

Other problems will arise due to this new plan.

"It's going to affect driving because people won't want to pay, so they'll drive less or park on side streets. And where there are no meters, people that live there will get mad that they don't have parking for themselves," said Kochan.

Some claim the change of price in parking meters will not affect them.

"I work at the Water Tower, and I always park my car at the Northwestern garage parking lot," said Ralph DeLeon, Div. 928.

"My parents bought parking there that we pay for monthly because my mom likes to shop downtown all the time, [so] I got downtown covered," said DeLeon.

"Increasing the rates of parking meters will force more people to take public transportation. With our economy like this, it would be best so people don't have to pay as much for meters," said Jory Novicki, Div. 932.

Although the change on park-

ing meters has been made, it has taken longer than expected to be finalized.

The new parking meter policy is a result of Daley's plans to boost the city budget during the next few years. City aldermen held a meeting to discuss Daley's plan before approving it by a vote of 40-5.

According to a Chicago Tribune article published December 4, 2008, Ald. Robert Fioretti (2nd) said the lease will help the city during a time of tough budget.

"I think it is a good ordinance that is going to help us in the next five years, when we are going to have a most difficult time. It is going to lessen the blow and be good for our people and good for the City of Chicago," said Fioretti to his colleagues.

Ald. Richard Mell (33rd) who also supports the deal said it is "a once-in-a-lifetime shot to grab this pool of money."

Ald. Brendan Reilly (42nd) said higher meter rates are good for the environment and for transit because they will encourage more people to take the CTA rather than driving.

Ald. Thomas Tunney (44th) is a

restaurant owner, and said meters are good for business.

"I truly believe the city is under-metered. Meters are for economic activity. They are to promote small business," said Tunney.

The aldermen opposing the deal offered their thoughts.

Ocasio (26th) said the increase in parking meter rates will have an impact on working people.

"I'm sorry, but there are too many people in our city living paycheck to paycheck," said Ocasio.

Spokesperson Peter Scales of the Chicago Department of Budget & Management said that with 36,000 plus meters in the system, it would take some time to adjust all of them.

It is expected it will be around late March or even April before all the meters are changed. Workers will start changing parking meters downtown, and move outwards into the neighborhoods.

"The ordinance said the new rates were effective January 1, 2009, but the city cannot enforce the new rates without new signage," said Scales.

This gives enough time for drivers to start packing their quarters in preparation.

BeBoBa's closing leaves students thirsty

Financial problems finally catch up with local bubble tea establishment.

By Anna Treesara

Whether it was the Almond Avocado Coconut, the Raspberry Mango Passion fruit, or the popular White Chocolate Mocha, many Lane students never got tired of bubble tea drinks from BeBoBa.

Bubble tea is a frozen flavored drink that traditionally comes with tapioca pearls, which are black ball-shaped gummies. However, BeBoBa offered green apple jellies and lychee jellies in addition to tapioca pearls.

Due to financial problems, BeBoBa had to close down by Jan. 10. When students heard that it was closing down, many were devastated.

"It was a lot of people's 'go-to' spot after school or during lunch," said Gilany Rodriguez, Div. 173, creator of Facebook group titled SAVE BEBOBA. Its closing left a lot of people wondering, 'Where are we going to go now?' But considering today's economy, and how badly they were struggling to stay open, [the owners of BeBoBa] had to do what they had to do."

The Facebook group, SAVE BEBOBA, was created in an attempt to keep BeBoBa in business.

"The original plan was to raise money to keep BeBoBa," said Rodriguez. "Then, it turned into helping Rebecca with her business debt. We did so by promoting people to buy out all the supplies so that they had enough to at least pay their employees that month."

Even though BeBoBa is now closed, some students believe they could have saved it.

"By the amount of people that went there the last week it was open, I thought it could have been saved," said Alexis Boin, Div. 906. "It was packed when I

went there and I waited almost an hour just to get my drink."

Rebecca Brady, one of the owners, was hesitant to close BeBoBa down, but about a week into Lane's winter break, she realized it was the right thing to do.

"I really didn't want it to end and would have liked to believe that the students could have saved

BeBoBa," said Brady. "With my lack of presence at the shop and the economic downturn, I knew in my heart that it was time for me to move on."

BeBoBa was established in July of 2004, but did not open their doors until Sep. 2004.

The name BeBoBa can be broken down to "be" and "boba." Boba is another term for tapioca. Thus, BeBoBa means "one with the boba."

However, according to Brady, it has an entirely different meaning.

"My son, Dominic, calls his woobees (blankets) Bee. Bo is short for his bobo (pacifier) and Ba was short for Baba which was my nickname for him as a baby," said Brady.

Brady went into business with her cousin, Christine Zimmerman.

"I tried bubble tea for the first time way out in the suburbs and loved it," said Zimmerman. "I told Rebecca about it and we went driving around just to get some more! When we realized there weren't many places on the north side that had it, we brainstormed and BeBoBa was born."

Though Brady's and Zimmerman's love for bubble tea was enormous and inspirational, Brady admitted BeBoBa wasn't easy to start up.

"After an attempt to get a loan from Lasalle bank, who promptly

turned us down as they had never heard of bubble tea, we went to National City," said Brady. "A very nice branch manager there had actually had a bubble tea in Ohio once. He had enough faith in us and the product to approve a very small loan for us to pursue our dream."

Even after they were able to pursue their dream, Brady and Zimmerman were

still struggling.

"The first year was really difficult as we had no idea what the heck we were doing," said Brady. We just knew that we wanted to bring something different and cool to the community. With no money for advertising, we almost had to close by that Dec. The only thing we did was stand in Lane's park-

ing lot during quickstart and pass out BeBoBa pencils [that students could use to] get a dollar off bubble teas. Not a lot of students were brave enough to come in right away as the weather was still nice enough for them to hang outside. It wasn't until after the holiday break, did students start coming in."

Regardless of the rough start, BeBoBa slowly gained its popularity.

"I first went to BeBoBa in the summer before freshman year. I fell in love with the atmosphere [there]. It's a very relaxed place. I was really drawn to it," said Rodriguez.

"It looked just so cool with the crazy paint all over the walls and it was so personable because you sat right at the counter where they made the drinks," said MaryCate Banaszkiwicz, Div. 920.

"My first experience at BeBoBa was the first week of freshman year," said Sarah Whitehouse, Div. 917. "After that I was hooked. I've pretty much gone in everyday, if not twice for the past three and a half years."

Students were not only awed by BeBoBa's atmosphere, but by the workers' kindness towards customers as well.

"Rebecca and Christine were amazing to everyone," said Banaszkiwicz. "They would listen to problems, cheer someone up, or just make you laugh."

"Jason [a BeBoBa worker] was always a really happy guy and kept everyone in a good mood," said Rodriguez. "We always had great conversations about art. Matt [another BeBoBa worker] was a lot quieter than Jason, but he was a great person to get advice from."

"Rebecca always knew what to say and had the best advice ever," said Stephanie Mora, Div. 921. "I think that is what I am going to miss the most, not being able to stop by after school just so that I could go talk to her."

"Becca was like a mom/sister/best friend to me," said Whitehouse. "She loved listening to people's stories, worries, or anything they wanted to talk about. She was obviously interested in running a business and making it successful, but she wanted more than just money. She wanted the experience and friendships as well. On Friday, Jan. 9, lots of Lane graduates came back to say goodbye to her. If that doesn't tell you what kind of person she is, I don't know what will."

There were, however, some stu-



BeBoBa's line extended all the way outside its door on Thursday, Jan. 8.

dents who weren't as connected to BeBoBa.

"I never quite liked BeBoBa," said Nicholas Nguyen, Div. 053. I wanted to [because I saw how] most kids loved it. However, I remember my first experience at BeBoBa my freshman year. The drinks took forever to come out because of the giant crowd. [Though] the workers were quite friendly, the actual drink itself was not appetizing. Over the years, I've given it a few more tries to try to learn their bubble tea. Sadly, I was never able to. It was overpriced powder with corn syrup, ice, and water blended up."

Though Brady believes that BeBoBa's closing was unfortunate, she still continues to look on the bright side.

"Hands down, I will miss my students and customers, more than ever running the business," said Brady. "I have given my students five years and I loved every minute of it. I will treasure them always, and while I know this is the end, my students and I will always be connected, even in the future to come. So really, I haven't lost anyone, I have gained eternal friendships."

Brady has already made some occupational plans since BeBoBa's closing.

"I am a certified phlebotomist and plan to pursue the medical field in a couple of years," she said. "I say that, but who really knows. Maybe one day I will open up another small shop. All I do know is that for now, I feel the need to focus on my children/family."

Though there have been some offers, what will take place of BeBoBa is still unknown. Many of the offers wanted to sell coffee. One particular offer wanted to keep it a bubble tea place. Unfortunately, finances would have remained a significant problem.

Rebecca wishes to thank all her students, friends, and family for supporting her.

"Without any of you, I certainly wouldn't have been able to keep BeBoBa up and running for so long. I will miss all of you immensely and know that I will treasure these past five school years in my heart forever. I would also like you to know that I will always be interested in what's going on in your lives and where life may take you. So please keep in touch with me. My email address is mrsbrady@sbcglobal.net. I have also set up a BeBoBa Alum Facebook group. I may be old, but I keep up with the times."

New barber shop by Lane says “We Got You Faded”

By Alejandra Jimenez
& Maria Murczek

Hairstyles can change as often as fashion seasons. If a person is in need of a new look, don't worry, 'We Got You Faded'.

A brand new barbershop has opened across from Lane on Western Ave. It has gone largely unnoticed by most students so far.

"I actually didn't know about it," said Jasmine Hernandez, Div. 250.

"I walked by it on my way to Big Boys one day," said Michal Tutka, Div. 024. "I've never been inside."

"Since we have only been open for four weeks a lot of people don't know we exist yet," said Manuel Aponte, owner of the shop.

For the time being, the barbershop specializes in men's styles only.

"We specialize in fades, graphics, linings, braids," said Aponte. "Right now, the only service we have for women is if they want to get their hair braided. We are in the process of hiring a stylist."

The prices at We've Got You Faded differ

between age groups and styles.

"For kids we usually charge from \$8 to \$9 for a full haircut. For teenagers and up, \$13 to \$15 for a normal haircut."

Aponte is aware of places that offer haircuts for \$5, and has a valid reason for why he charges more.

"We pride ourselves in making sure that every aspect of your haircut is clean and tight, instead of us getting you here, giving me five dollars, and kicking you out," said Aponte, "we give every client our personal attention."

If students still do not feel like the prices are affordable, Aponte is offering a discount to Lane students. Students who show their IDs on weekdays are eligible for half off the original price. However, Aponte said he does not condone cutting class for a haircut. It is not guaranteed that a haircut can be finished within a lunch period.

Students may wonder why a barbershop, instead of another fast food service, would open by Lane. Aponte said the location was chosen with students in mind.

"We are close to Lane students, DeVry students, and Gordon Tech," he said.

Many students have only seen the window display of the barbershop. The inside is filled with modern furniture, several barber chairs, about seven flat screen TVs, and urban music.

"We are urban-orientated, but with more of a clean look," said Aponte. "It's really spacious so that nobody feels cramped up."

With this being his first personally-owned barbershop, Aponte put in a lot of hard work to get it running. It took two months for him to remodel because he did not hire anyone to help.

"It took a lot of back and forth to Home Depot and a lot of trial and error," said Aponte. "We didn't know how to hook up electricity. We probably went to Home Depot five times a day."

The finished product has proved appealing to many customers so far.

"After two months, we've been getting good reviews. I guess it was worth it," said Aponte.

"I've peeked inside a couple of times, just out of curiosity, and it seems pretty nice," said Juan Montoya, Div. 911. "Everything's well placed and all their equipment is pretty

much still out-of-the-box brand-spankin'-new."

Aponte has been cutting hair for the past seven to eight years. He found his reason for becoming a professional barber because of his mother.

"It was more of my mom being not financially stable and not being able to afford to get all four of her children haircuts. I didn't wanna go to school with a big ol' afro everyday," said Aponte. "I started cutting my hair, my brothers' hair. Little by little I learned how to fade, and then pretty soon I was cutting everybody on the block."

Although some students may think that the name of the barbershop is wordplay on 'fade', there is another explanation behind it.

"It comes from a slang terminology that we have. 'We got you faded' comes from another way of saying we'll take care of you," said Aponte. "Like if you need something, 'I got you faded'. And since there's more than one barber, we can't name this 'I got you faded'. So, 'We Got You Faded'."

Postcard sized ads for the shop started circulating around the school last week.

Ignite sparks a fire in the video gaming world

By Francessa Sanchez

Ignite, located on the intersection of Belmont, Western, and Clybourn, just south of Lane, is a place where videogamers can sit back, relax, and shoot some zombies.

"Typically on weekends since I live really close to Lane, I just call up a few buddies and we come over Ignite to play Left 4 Dead. The best thing about this game is that it shows the teamwork between your friends," said Anthony Fernandez, Div. 928.

Left 4 Dead, a new-release zombie survivor multiplayer/Co-Op videogame, is one of the many popular games available at Ignite. Other games include Rock Band (2), Red Alert (3), Call of Duty, and many more.

"We get almost every popular game that comes out [the day they're available for purchase]. We have a forum online where you can request games we don't have. If enough people vote for that game, we'll get it," said Michael Cooper, one of the staff at Ignite.

With one large computer room and video console room, Ignite is a place where people of all ages can go to check their email, burn a CD, or even fax and print a document. Videogamers are able to come and play their favorite games.

But in order to play games, or even use the computers, a membership is required. It's free to become a member, but there has to be some quantity of time on the account. It's \$10 for three hours, \$19 for six hours, and \$27 for nine hours. Larger time packages are available for purchase. Walk-ins are \$4 an hour.

"If you bring a friend in and they [become a new member], the person who brought him in will get two free hours [on their account]," said Cooper.

Every log in session, the amount of time spent playing games or just using the computers is deducted

from the time that was recently added to the account. After logging out, any unused time stays on the account until the next time the account is in use. After about three to six months, any time left on an (unused) account expires.

Ignite was established about six years ago, and seems to have gone largely unnoticed until now.

"We haven't really been too mainstream until recently. We don't advertise at all; it's usually just by word of mouth," said Cooper.

"We [my friends and I] were introduced to it our freshman year. Some friends just told us about it," said Ricardo Vicencio, Div. 183.

Flavius [Maximus] and his two brothers, Sam and Roofus [Maximus], are the founders of Ignite.

"When Flavius and his brothers were younger, they really wanted to have a place where you can relax and game. Their father helped them [start Ignite] out with some other investors. All the software actually comes from loans taken out, and some other help," said Cooper.

"Ignite is a cool place to hang around, and a nice environment. It's easy to relax here, and they have some great games," said Kevin McKinney, Div. 928.

"I like Ignite because the staff is amazing. If you go there [continuously], you get to know them, and they get to know you. It's where I go when I don't want to go home or worry about school. The games are fun, because friends can play together in teams or have fun facing each other," said Stephanie Arriaga, Div. 902.

Ignite allows computer gamers to connect with other (PC) gamers around the world: enabling them to form teams with other live players to either play against the CPU, (Computer Processing Unit, that contains AI, artificial intelligence,) or to face other live teams.

"There's a lot of competition here," said Ryan Susa, Div. 182.



Two videogamers game out to Gears of War 2 at Ignite.

"The people that play get loud. Once in a while you'll hear someone scream, 'SMOKER! SMOKER! COME TO THE SAFE SHELTER!' [when they're playing Left 4 Dead]," said Bethany Fischer, Div. 167.

"[When] we get into the games, [we] start screaming, [too]," said Vicencio.

Ignite also gives people the chance to have social gatherings for special occasions.

"My friend came [to Ignite] for a birthday party. We came here with some cake and we just had a big gathering and played games, and just chilled out. We even asked them for the utensils and cups," said Susa.

Besides coming to Ignite for social gatherings, students from Lane usually come in on an everyday basis to sit in the lounge and enjoy some snacks and drinks from the small concession stand near the restrooms.

"I come here almost three times a week after school, or even every

day. It's kind of expected that [my friends and I] just come here, and there's usually five or more of us," said Nolan Manansala, Div. 923.

"Most of us don't have classes together, so we just usually come to Ignite to hang out and talk about our day at school. On Fridays, we'll usually just come and play video games," said Vicencio.

"The school rush after three is pretty big. About 50 percent of the people here are from Lane. The computers are like 90 percent filled, and mostly the same people come in every day," said Cooper.

Ignite stays open late for committed gamers, but every once in a while devotes an entire night to them.

"We have occasional events where we do all-nighters, where people stay and play games for 10 hours straight. We used to do it every month, but now we do it every once in a while. If you're under 18, you can't do it

unless you have parental consent. Other than that, we really do not have any other age restrictions," said Cooper.

But don't abuse the open arms Ignite extends. If someone causes trouble, it's one warning, and they are gone.

"Surprisingly, we don't have bad things happen that often. Occasionally we'll get someone that tags on a door, or some kind of stupid graffiti [or behavior]. The amount of people we kick out is minimal. Nothing too serious," said Cooper.

Ignite seems to be thriving despite its low profile, possibly just because of its name.

"Our name, Ignite, it just sounds cool. We wanted something that could catch people's attentions. It was originally just Ignite, then we added 'Network.' We wanted [people] to [be intrigued by the name] and want to see what the place was all about," said Sam.

Balloons crowd hallways

By Caitlyn Kolakowski

Everyday it's someone's birthday at Lane. And it is very common to see the lucky birthday girls (and even boys) carrying bouquets of brightly colored balloons that have been delivered to them by doting friends. It's become something of a tradition.

"People sometimes look forward to receiving balloons on their birthday," said Fariha Wajid, Div. 025.

"Balloons symbolize your special day. They are a sign of my friends' love," said Connie Lathan, Div. 044.

Balloons are not only for girls.

"I'm the only guy who has received balloons on his birthday for the past three years," said Abraham Mendoza, Div. 920. "I'd like to think I was breaking gender barriers."

However, some claim that balloons are too expensive to give as a gift, while others think they are a convenient gift that doesn't require much thought.

"If I forget something for my friend's birthday, [balloons are] something I can get fast in the morning," said Evelyn Brito, Div. 041.

Not everyone, however, feels the celebratory spirit when they see a gaggle of balloons come bobbing down the hallway.

"People with balloons don't care where their balloons are going and they hit you with them," said Ingrid Hagen-Richardson, Div. 042.

"When you do have balloons you get too much attention. People I don't know will come up to me and say 'Happy Birthday!'"

"Balloons are a hassle, especially when I'm 5'3" and balloons are right in my face making walking difficult," said Zabin Patel, Div. 053. "Too much love on your birthday is annoying."

"If it's someone's birthday, buy them something useful like a gift and flowers," said Patel, "I understand people want to feel special and loved on their birthdays, but balloons are meant for parties not hallways."

Balloons aren't always a treat for those receiving them either.

"I asked my friends for balloons freshman year and I got way more than I could handle," said Liz Hock, Div. 037. "I was borderline embarrassed because I couldn't get through doors or anything."

"I remember getting several balloons on my birthday, including one that played a song, and the security guards yelled at me whenever they heard it," said Wajid.

Others say that giving and receiving balloons can lead to problems among friends.

"Sometimes birthday balloons can

make one feel self-conscious since it becomes a competition among individuals," said Rabia Ali, Div. 052. "It might create misunderstandings amongst some as well."

Unattended balloons can also be a fun target for pranksters.

"If you leave [balloons] in your locker they get popped by other people," said Kellie Newcomer, Div. 042.

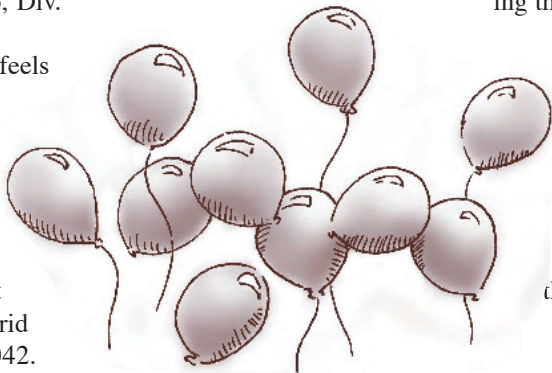
"My balloon was in my locker sticking out. Someone came and cut the string and the balloon floated up to the ceiling so I couldn't get it," said Hagen-Richardson.

Those who hold onto their balloons all day can find they have more than a handful.

"My friends and I were on our way to McDonalds. I was happy and was skipping with my balloons when I tripped in the mud and my balloons across the lawn," said Brito. "They were weighted so they didn't fly away into the sky. So I went to get them and I slid down a hill. Finally, a guy got my balloons and brought them to me. I felt like I was about to cry."

In spite of the hassles balloons may sometimes cause, they continue to float around Lane on a daily basis as students insist on celebrating their friends' birthdays.

"Although the balloons might bother some people in the hallway. The balloons at least brighten up the person's day and make them feel cared for," said Hinasahar Muneeruddin, Div. 027. "And that is all that matters."



Students get creative at passing time in class

By Karen Baena

In boring classes, where 46 minutes is an eternity, students sit uncomfortably in their seats, constantly looking up at the clock.

Some common time killers are doodling, daydreaming, or sleeping. Other students waste their time doing something more creative.

"After lunch I'm pretty tired and it's hard to focus," said Nathan Alvarado, Div. 035. "So from the gum wrapper you can scratch off the back [the colorful foil] and it happens to be sticky, and quite fun to play with, and you can attach it to anything because it's sticky. I usually put it on the back of my ID, so I pretty much do that to stay awake. I also draw on every free space around my notes, anything that comes to my mind, persons or even words. Multi-tasking is my skill."

Decorating the back of IDs with gum wrappers is only one of the habits students have developed in order to distract themselves from watching the clock too much.

"I used to shave the sides of pencils with scissors, and then color them to make them my

own," said Joshua Gonzalez, Div. 049.

Students have different reasons for losing their concentration in class, but always find a way to make the time fly faster.

"I like to give teachers attitude, like when they don't let me go to the washroom," said Sylvana Perez, Div. 266. "It kills time."

"I use to bring in magnets and just play with them through the period," said Christopher Weiss, Div. 022.

"I stare at the hot boy," said Vanessa Pena, Div. 267. "I usually pick one in every boring class."

"I just practice my signature on my planner a lot," said Rumana Nazeer, Div. 159.

Students at Lane have once again proven to be creative and intelligent, at times even using the sources that the school provides. "In French class, I white out all the text bubbles, [the book contains a small story for each section in comic book format] then replace the text with my own words," said an anonymous student.

Some, however, stick to the basics.

"I just talk to people, and sometime I text," said Tyler Routhier, Div. 173.

Wing Stop opens restaurant in Lane neighborhood

Students say prices are a little high, but food and atmosphere are both good.

By Weslyn Strawder

On Dec. 17, 2008, Wingstop opened its newest restaurant. Conveniently located in the Roscoe Village shopping center, the restaurant provides a new lunch selection for students and faculty of Lane.

"Wingstop is a place where you can relax, meet with your friends and enjoy quality food. Our restaurant has an inviting atmosphere," said Marilyn Cano, manager and Director of Operations for Wingstop.

The new restaurant is one of several in the Chicago land area.

"We have been really welcomed

in the area," said Cano. "The kids are very respectful. I am greatly impressed by the kids."

Students speak highly of Wingstop as well.

"There food is good. I mean I love it all," said Jena Thomas, Div. 901.

"I rally like their fries," said Ashley Caceres, Div. 906.

Students agree Wingstop provides delicious food. However, they also agree prices are somewhat high.

"Their food is good, but it's expensive," said Alan Salazar, Div. 905. "It is good though."

The cheapest item on the menu is a three piece meal for \$5.99. The combo includes three chicken

strips, a regular side order of fries, a dip, and a drink. Wingstop offers a deal for a party of two. The "Two can dine" deal offers customers 15 wings, one regular side order of fries, and two drinks all for \$12.99.

Cano acknowledges the establishment's reputation for moderately high pricing.

"Our food is good, but we are not a dollar menu," said Cano. "We provide a good environment, excellent food, and value."

The secret behind Wingstop's signature wings and fries are revealed by Cano.

"Everything is built from scratch here," said Cano. "None of our food is ever frozen. As far as our

fries, we have a specialty seasoning, and it has seven seasonings within it. [The fries] are cut every morning. Everything here is fresh."

Cano believes fresh food is key to Wingstop's success.

Wingstop opened its first restaurant 10 years ago in Houston, Texas. It was not until five years ago that Wingstop began to expand nationally.

"Chicago land has been one of the most successful areas of development," said Cano.

The new location was selected because it is centered in an urban area. Traffic counts are high, and a lot of business comes from neighboring schools and other busi-

nesses.

Business for Wingstop has been good so far, even with the current economy. Cano said 25 percent of customers are students, another 25 percent are people who live in the neighborhood, and the remaining 50 percent comes from employees of local businesses.

The busiest hours at Wingstop are evenings and weekends, followed by noon during the week when students and workers from nearby businesses come during their lunch breaks.

"The top store in the food chain is in the Chicago land area," said Cano. "We plan on beating them sales wise."



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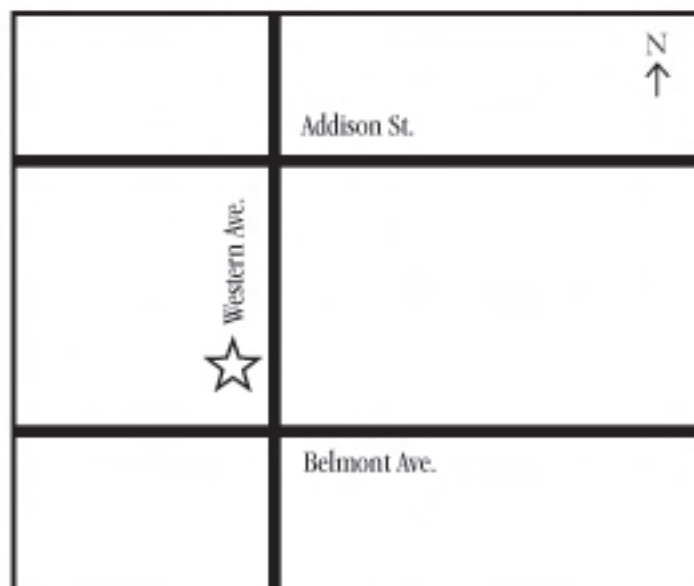
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Popular electives have students lining up

By Safiya Merchant
& Ashley Grant

While almost all Lane classes boast some sort of fan base among the student body, some classes are undoubtedly more popular and fill up immediately at Lane's annual electives fair.

Many classes known as "blow-offs" tend to get the most attention because of the easy workload they require. Others are popular because they don't call for the usual classroom setting and activities.

"Horticulture [is a favorite]. All you do is go to the greenhouse and you're never in a classroom," said Ashley Wagner, Div. 026.

"[Another class that is in demand] is sociology. I know a lot of people who take sociology and say it's really easy," said Gloria Alvarez, Div. 183.

"AP Psychology and Drama [are very popular]. A lot of people said they're fun blow-offs. I think they're both a lot of work and aren't as simple as people say," said Allison Pincsak, Div. 174.

Mr. Meyers, a counselor, is well up to date on the popular classes and says Lane's course requirements can play a part in students' courses.



Teachers signs up eager students for classes at the electives fair.

"Film studies, Anatomy, and any of the science electives are some of the most popular classes. They always fill up first. Film because everyone likes watching movies. The science classes [are in high demand] because Lane requires either four years of science or math and students tend to gravitate towards science," said Meyers.

A rumor from a friend or two can easily determine any student's choices for electives.

"[AP Psychology is well liked because] you are not allowed to take it till junior year. Every senior and junior you know [usually]

says it [AP Psychology] is amazing but they never tell you why. You then have a curiosity about it," said Wagner.

"I heard Zoology, Astronomy, and AP Psychology are pretty popular because they're fun and interesting," said Kiara Colon, Div. 156.

"Psychology and sociology are popular. For psychology, the rumors say it's a lot of work but fun. Sociology is the backup [if you cannot get into Psychology]," said Priscilla Soriano, Div. 175.

While some focus on signing up for easy classes, others go for more challenging

courses.

"Everyone runs [during electives fair] for AP Psychology. It attracts a lot of people because it covers a lot of different fields, such as thought processing. Most of the science classes like AP Biology, AP Chemistry, and AP Physics are [in demand] because [by taking the class], you can get them out of the way for college," said Jaasiel Texcahua, Div. 914.

"I go for classes that will benefit me in the future and help me in my future career. I do consider what will boost my GPA," said Melissa Zacarias, Div. 041.

"I want to take AP classes like AP Psychology and AP English because I want a fun class that's also challenging. I pick what's going to make colleges go 'Oooh, that's interesting.' [I pick classes that] stick out, are not the same-old, same-old, and show I like to challenge myself," said Mary Maloney, Div. 153.

Several students choose classes that appeal to their interests and even sign them out of classes once in a while.

"Guitar [is popular] because Mr. Sweet's the man and you get to go to the House of Blues," said Trevor Ben, Div. 051.

Despite the favoritism among a few classes, most classes appeal to enough students to fill up their seats.

The birth of an elective conceived through effort

The process of proposing a new class forces teachers through many steps.

By Sahar Shafqat

Lane offers a variety of courses, many of which are electives, but few know about the process behind closed doors that get the electives to the students.

First, a teacher must write up a proposal for a class, clearly stating a course outline which includes a week to week breakdown of what will taught in the class, the books that will be required, the grade level (Honor or Regular), and how the curriculum meets up with State requirements. Teachers also fill out a lot of paperwork and for many the work is worth it, if the elective is approved.

The proposals are reviewed and analyzed by the curriculum committee and they make the recommendations on what should be added or deleted. The committee consists of all the department chairs. The final decisions on the new elective classes are made by Principal Lobosco and the vice principals.

Mr. Roger Bader, science teacher and science department chair, believes that Lane is one of the few schools who has such unique op-

portunities to have challenging classes in the form of electives.

"We have 3,000 kids taking science classes, many of which are electives and AP level courses," said Bader. "The sciences offer a lot of variety and the life of elective classes is based on the students."

He also added that Lane offers some classes that other schools do not and has a lot of science teachers that make it possible.

Some of the new electives accepted this year include Microbiology, Genetics, and Evolutionary Biology. There is also African American Literature and Industrial Design.

Honors microbiology is going to taught by Mr. Jason Lanfair, currently the AP Biology teacher.

"The whole focus of the class is to take a closer look at biology, to teach the bacteria viral concept and take it to a new level and use it," said Lanfair. "It will be experiment based and includes learning history, writing, and doing labs."

Regular and honors genetics is going to be taught by Ms. Brooke Gaynor who is also an AP Biology teacher. The prerequisites of the class include biology and chem-



Ms. Gholston, teacher of the newly-approved elective, African-American Literature, talks to students in class.

istry.

"This class will be very lab based and as hands-on as possible," said Gaynor. "The topics will include cancer genes, traits, DNA/RNA, and how evolution works through genes."

Regular level evolutionary biology will be taught by Ms. Alison Krakowski. The class will offer students a different perspective on evolution though time and the transition of life.

"Some students have misconceptions about evolution and this class will involve learning about new discoveries that are made everyday," said Krakowski. "We will look at different theories of evolution and explore the topics in-depth."

A drafting elective has also been added titled Industrial Design. Mr. Ernest Davis will be teaching the class. The prerequisite for the class is Drafting I, which is usually is

taken freshmen year.

"All products related to life in general can all fall under the umbrella of industrial design," said Davis. "Everything from appliances to furniture to games and toys has to be designed and this class focuses on the details of creating these items."

The only new elective proposed and accepted this year from the English department is regulars African American Literature which will be taught by Ms. Edwina Gholston. Ms. Coleman-Parker, an English teacher, helped Gholston in the process of getting the elective. Gholston said the class will focus on history as well as contemporary influences.

"The class won't be just sitting and reading novels and magazines but very much hand-on and students will do community service as it pertains to African Americans," said Gholston.

Other electives that were approved this year include, Team Track and Team Swimming, Web Design, AP German, and Writing Workshop Etymology, which will allow students to learn about the history and development of words.

Fondness for language classes not so foreign

By Maria Murczek

Oui, the benefits of studying foreign languages are excellent. Even though Lane requires at least two years of language, students make the best of it and often take a legitimate interest in these classes.

Besides the requirement, students take the classes for other reasons. For instance, they look forward to traveling without a language barrier.

"I would like to one day travel to Paris, especially to visit my French pen pal who I've been in contact with for three years now," said Karen Rondero, Div. 040.

"[I want to] definitely travel Italy again," said Emily Iacullo, Div. 930.

"I wanted to have something in common with my cousins in Mexico. I didn't want to feel left out whenever I went to Mexico," said Jacqueline Margarito, Div. 926.

Some students simply like their language classes because they're fun.

"I enjoy my French class a lot. I always look forward to coming to class because the class environment is fun," said Jamie Tee, Div. 054. "We always have fun learning new concepts."

"The class...makes me laugh," said Iacullo. "We laugh over stuff said in Italian that either we understand or that we don't and we try to understand and it's completely different."

Students report that language classes are interesting because of the personalities of the teachers.

"[Mrs. Perez] was one of the

reasons why I signed up for [the class]. I think if she didn't teach the class, I most likely wouldn't take it," said Brenda Gamboa, Div. 934. "She makes it fun in a way that she is very excited about teaching the lesson and she also makes being nerdy, cool."

"I enjoy the class because Mr. Polley is funny," said Melaney Mitchell, Div. 929. "I learn better when I have fun in the class. You never know what Mr. Polley is going to say next. It keeps you on your toes."

"Having had Madame Warner for French for the past two years, I can say that I love her class," said Tee. "Sure, we learn using the standard way of learning new concepts - learn it, write it, speak it, test it. But I think the difference is that my teacher is so passionate about her subject. You can really tell she wants us to succeed in this language."

"[Mrs. Paganelli] is cool. She lived in Italy, so she knows what she's talking about," said Iacullo.

Some students are more critical of their foreign language class because of the attention paid to little details, like grammar.

"I didn't enjoy [French] because I felt as if the teacher didn't spend the right amount of time on actual speaking," said Lucas Epiney, Div. 034. "In real life experiences with the language, we're not going to need to know how to spell every word. We're gonna need to know how to hold an actual conversation."

"It's just another grade to me," said Jetzi Calvin, Div. 037. "[I'm

taking Italian] because I have to. It's hard to remember it all when a test comes around."

"It takes me a while to absorb all the information," said an anonymous junior. "I had to take a language and took French because my friends would help me."

"The student may not like reading and writing," said Mr. Ricks, a Spanish teacher. "Also, the concept of a language is not difficult, but it is time consuming to memorize vocabulary."

"How we communicate as a people requires that we agree on a list of rules so that we can understand each other," said Mr. Polley, French teacher. "This is grammar. Many do not like it."

"I think students would avoid taking a language class if they weren't interested in the subject in general, didn't like the teacher or the teaching style, or earned a poor grade in prior language classes," said Ms. Tracy, a German and Spanish teacher. "Sometimes timid students are turned off by the idea of a class in which they have to speak in front of others. It can be scary for them, and they are often afraid of making mistakes in front of their peers."

Spanish speakers take Spanish very often, but not only because they already know the language. Fluent students usually take their native language to improve their grammar skills.

"As any Spanish speaker, I have trouble with accent marks and parts of speech. I know enough to read

and write, but it's another thing to actually understand it," said Paola Lopez, Div. 021. "I actually care about that class."

"I am a Spanish speaker, but throughout the years I have felt that my Spanish has been fading," said Gamboa. "I started forgetting words that I didn't use daily, and Spanish is very important to me. I am taking the class to make my heritage language stronger."

Teachers try their best to make language classes as interesting as possible, whether through lectures, class activities, or projects.

"I try to choose activities that I find interesting. Then, I hope my enthusiasm transfers to the students," said Ricks.

"I try to keep students interested by varying classroom activities. Most classes include anywhere between three and five different activities," said Tracy.

"I enjoy [Latin] because of the interesting talks and connections we make to our language," said Jeremy Stevenson, Div. 030.

"We learn about the [Spanish] culture like Day of the Dead and watch videos," said Catherine Lis, Div. 265.

"My class is supposed to be writing a children's story in French as one of our projects. We also have to film a fifteen minute film in French," said Tee. "I'm looking forward to both projects."

Teachers also try to get their students to use the language outside of school.

"I try to encourage students to use the language outside of class. However, German is not very

readily spoken in Chicago," said Ms. Tracy. "Each semester, I provide opportunities for students to go on a 'cultural field trip' on their own time."

"I encourage [the students] to go to various French festivals, activities, and restaurants," said Mr. Polley. "I also encourage them to listen to French music and to watch French film."

"We had an extra credit project, where we had to visit Hispanic restaurants and critique the atmosphere and food," said Fariha Wajid, Div. 025. "I actually used some of the Spanish I learned at school. I thought that was a great way to apply the subject outside of school."

"Last year in French II my class got to go on a field trip to have a picnic with French foods and play traditional French games with another school's class," said Rondero. "That was a pretty cool experience considering the fact that I've never tried any French food until then, except for French fries."

Whether students enjoy learning languages or not, there are advantages to studying the subject. Getting credit for these classes can improve employment potential, college acceptance, and studying-abroad options.

"I want to have credits for college. It looks better on applications, and it can help you get jobs," said Jacqueline Maldonado, Div. 048.

Even students who only took language classes because they are required can eventually end up liking the course.

Advertising for electives a creative task for teachers

By Karen Baena
& Nistha Tamrakar

Every year at the end of first semester the process of programming begins. For teachers this means having to come up with various methods of advertising in order to make students aware of the electives they offer.

During programming Lane's hallways are filled with posters aimed at grabbing the students' attention.

"Everyone hands out white fliers," said Mr. Hayden, Machine Shop teacher. "You have to be unique. I played with colors; my fliers are green and red. That's the whole point of advertising. I also make sure to include that students can get 12 college credits if they complete the program."

"I used comic books on my fliers to attract students," said Mr. Maslanka, Philosophy teacher.

"I have my own students put up posters in places where they think it's good," said Ms. Simanis, Art teacher.

The fliers have different effects on students when it comes to learning about available electives.

"I'm always reading the fliers so I definitely notice them, but the ones that catch my eye are the ones that have either crazy colors, or weird questions that leave me wondering," said Ange Angarita Div. 036.

"I took some fliers down, because I don't have time to read them in the hallway," said Soleil Flores Div. 163.

"I just looked at the green sheet [course request card]," said Dennis McGinniss, Div. 170. "I notice the fliers but they weren't helpful. I don't read [them]."

Whether the students make use of fliers or not it is still a habit for teachers to use this method when advertising for their classes. However, some teachers try different methods.

"Students that are in my class promote the class. I have some of the students from the Honors class play their instruments in the hallway. That gets a lot of people curious about the class," said, Mr. Bobek, Orchestra teacher.

Mrs. M. Smith, who teaches Early World History, tells her students that she will hold them personally responsible if no other students sign up for her class.

"They come back the next day and say they pimped me out," said Smith.

"I went to other classes to talk about my elective," said Ms. V. House, teacher of the Non-western Literature elective.

"The demand for my class changed this year," said Ms. Anderson, Forensics teacher. "I changed the name of the class from Environmental Chemistry to Forensics. I think that's why more people signed up."

Yet it seems the majority of teachers like sticking to an even more basic method.

"[The P.E. Department] had a day where all the P.E classes came to the gym," said Mr. Carol, Gym teacher. "We had a teacher promote and highlight each class."

"My current students get cards describing the class. I ask them to pass it on. I think word of mouth is the best way to go," said Mrs. Hanson, Drama teacher.

"Students usually are the best promoters. They trust the opinions of each other," said Dr. Nishimura, the Head of Programming.

This seems to be true for many students and teachers.

"I found out about the electives mostly through people talking, and asking some teachers," said Jenna Wasserman Div.153.

"I heard about AP Psychology from juniors. They recommended it," said Flores.

"Seniors told me that Horticulture, Marine Biology, and Zoology are very interesting classes and that they fill up very fast," said Lolita Thomas, Div. 051.

"I talk to my students and ask them what they liked about the class. Then I ask them to recommend it to anyone they think will enjoy the class," said Simanis.

"I was at the AP fair and we told the Honors Chemistry classes to get the word out," said Ms. Abbas, AP Chemistry teacher.

Some teachers, however, did not have to try so hard to get students to sign up for their class.

"I don't really focus much on fliers. If the student is really interested in my class, they'll look for me," said Mr. Hilmar, Electronics teacher.

Others found that they will have to change their advertising techniques for the upcoming years.

"This year I didn't do a lot to advertise. I didn't realize how many students don't take a third year of language. Next year I'll start [advertising] earlier so more people sign up," said Mr. Chocola, Italian teacher. "I will also change the class a bit to make it more enjoyable."

Drama department on center stage for many students at Lane

By Amanda Ruiz

The drama program at Lane provides students who are interested in drama with various activities and exercises to help with improvisation and other skills required to act.

Mrs. Hanson, the drama instructor, helps by teaching the students how to improve their acting skills.

"Mrs. Hanson has always been a great help. She keeps a very relaxed atmosphere, which takes off some of the pressure when you have to perform a scene," said Luke Sword, Div. 936.

Also, Mr. M. Carrera and Mr. P. Carrera, from the Music Department at Lane, help the drama students who can also sing with their vocals.

"Mrs. Hanson has always been great, whether it was coaching us or helping us find scholarships. She has always been there and I also have the Carrera brothers to thank because they have helped by bringing my voice so far," said Sophie Burgos, Div. 919.

The students really enjoy all the activities the class has to offer, like mini plays, improvising exercises, warm-ups, and all the fun games.

"My favorite thing is that the class is always good for a laugh. Put a bunch of funny people in costumes with props and you're bound to have a good time," said Sword.

There are many students who take the class specifically because they hope to have acting

careers. Many other students sign up because of word of mouth, or just to help overcome fears.

"I signed up because I'm actually interested in pursuing acting as a career and this class has taught me many of the techniques and skills that I will need in order to do that," said Rachel Ehrenberg, Div. 030.

"I signed up because a lot of people recommended it and it has really helped me overcome my shyness, and I am definitely more outgoing towards strangers and in front of class," said Alyssa Pantoja, Div.047.

The drama program has also helped students decide on their paths after high school.

"I'm definitely planning on keeping up with drama in the future. I'm majoring in theatre and performing arts at Lawrence University starting in September, and I plan on getting my teaching degree so I can eventually teach theatre classes," said Natalie O' Sullivan, Div. 929.

The students who are very interested in drama can also try out for Lane's annual musical. The production last year was Bye Bye Birdie. This year it is The Wiz, and Mrs. Hanson is one of the teachers running the musical. The students work very hard and practices can last up to five hours after school. Because of this, some of the drama students get aggravated when they feel they are not doing their best.

"We practice a lot when it comes to the musical. Sometime we are there from three to seven [pm] just standing and memorizing our



Mrs. Hanson looks on as students in her sixth period Drama class do an improvisation.

lines. It's fun, but it's hard work," said Samantha Debondt, Div.020. "It can be frustrating too sometimes because there is always going to be someone better than you, but after a while you try and learn from those people."

"The tough part is getting everything ready and perfect for performance between mid December and February! It's a lot of tough, sometimes tedious, work. Once you're on stage, it's all worth it," said Burgos.

Although the students have to deal with the negatives, there are also many benefits to putting on a show.

"Everyone just has so much talent and personality, and when you put that to use you make a great show; and just getting to know people and singing is so much fun," said Debondt.

Gholston replaces Maslanka as coach; Debate rages on

By Nistha Tamrakar

After members of the debate team took the Chase Urban National Championship last year, the team is trying to grasp another title this year, under new coach Ms. Gholston.

This past year, Ms. Gholston, an English teacher at Lane, replaced previous debate coach, Mr. Maslanka. He created the team back in 1999 and stepped down after many years.

"It was tiring, I had been doing it for nine years, and I needed a break," said Maslanka.

Maslanka announced that the team needed a new coach and Gholston took an interest in it.

"I used to coach forensics at the university level, and I enjoyed the competition," said Gholston.

Forensics is the study of argumentation and formal debate. Her background in the field should help the team. Gholston admitted that she never debated in her high school years, which comes as a small disadvantage. However, she is an English teacher and her ideas in speech, comprehension, and teamwork are a great help in guiding the team.

"I'm a pretty strict person, but I try to encourage them as a team to guide them and make sensible decisions," said Gholston.

Team members accepted the change of a new coach and view Gholston as a very hardworking and encouraging leader.

"Ms. Gholston is always pushing us to do our best; she brings good vibes," said Nick Turner Div. 023.

"She is the glue to our team. She refers to us as a family, keeps us together and is very energetic," said Andrea Ayapan Div. 048.

"She's great. She understands where we are coming from," said Meilen Teklmichael Div.162.

Though Maslanka is not the coach of the debate team anymore, he has stayed involved, providing assistance whenever the team has needed it; such as in the recent debate tournament that Lane hosted on Jan. 9, where 11 different schools participated. Hosting a tournament is a lot of work and the whole

process took a lot of effort to assemble.

"This year Mr. Maslanka has helped organize dealing with registration," said Gholston. "It takes cooperation of administration, teachers, and students."

Every year a resolution [a proposed topic for debate] is announced that teams debate over at tournaments. This year's resolution is: "The United States federal government should substantially increase alternative energy incentives."

Arooba Chaudhry, Div. 052, when debating in the affirmative side is proposing that the alternative energy the United States should use is nuclear power.

Whichever side the teams take, negative or affirmative, they need to support their arguments with good reasons.

Teams are preparing for their tournaments with extensive research, reading, speech drills, and putting forth a lot of their time and effort.

"Speech drills help us get used to the speed and have stamina when we speak," said Keantre Malone, Div.021. "We do drills like reading passages backwards."

"It is a lot of commitment, a lot of weekends, and after school time," said Ayapan.

"It is impossible to be fully prepared, but you try to look at every aspect of what might possibly go down," said Josh Rivera, Div.179. "Just put yourself in a mental state that no matter what happens, you'll be able to say something."

"The more time you put into it, the better you get," said Chi-mene Okere, Div. 025. "It's not hard; it's just a lot of work."

This year, the varsity team won the Kelly High School tournament. The novices, which are the new debaters to the team, took the top two spots in the Morgan Park tournaments and placed fourth in the Glenbrook South scrimmage. Also, at the recent debate tournament that Lane hosted the teams went on to the breaking rounds. Teammates Carl Jiang, Div.038, and Turner advanced to the quarter-finals.

Jiang is a transfer student from Kelly High who joined Lane's debate team this year and already is one of Lane's top debaters.

"I have been debating for three years and won a city title my

freshmen year," said Jiang.

Many of Jiang's fellow debaters admire him for his commitment to debate.

"Carl is pretty smart and makes very good decisions," said Malone.

"He is crazy about debate; it's everything to him," said Anastasia Protopappas, Div. 045. "He deserves to be great."

Carl, along with the rest of the debaters, is confident that Lane has a shot at winning City, which is their main goal. All members are working hard to go as far as previous debaters, Nick Locke and Andrew Hobaugh, who won the Chase Urban Debate National Championship last year. Winning this title has motivated the team this year.

"Everyone has high expectations. All of the students have capability to go that far," said Gholston.

"There is a lot of pressure on us. We feel we have to win it again, and it raises the bar," said Turner.

Mariana Magala Div.922, who has been in the debate team since her sophomore year, knows about the competition.

"It gets more and more competitive every year," said Magala. "We've been nervous entering tournaments, but we have ended up beating top notch teams."

Seniors on the team are enjoying their last year on the team and are taking in as much as they can from their experiences.

"If the college that I am going to has debate, I would definitely consider it," said Magala.

Though it can be time consuming and stressful, being on the debate team has many benefits.

"Me doing debate... increases my critical thinking and reading skills," said Chaudhry.

"It teaches you more discipline, organizational skills, and how to prioritize," said Protopappas.

"It is a lot of work, but it's all worth it," said Teklmichael.

"Debate is a great activity. It is not just about competitions; it is about learning teamwork and being able to discuss issues on a higher level," said Gholston.

Chicago's artists connect with teens passionate about theater

By Grace McQueeny

Steppenwolf Theater's MaTEENée series has teenagers flocking to the theater to see a top-notch play. On selected dates, teenagers can come to Steppenwolf to see a play, chat with the actors, and enjoy lunch.

Steppenwolf Theater was established in 1974 and since then, it has produced seasons of hand-picked plays and has acquired hundreds of subscribers. The Steppenwolf ensemble features actors from TV shows such as CSI and Grey's Anatomy. Some ensemble members have also been in a number of films, such as John Malkovich, who starred in films such as *Adaptation* and *Being John Malkovich*, and founder Gary Sinise, who played Lieutenant Dan in *Forrest Gump*.

Walking into the Steppenwolf Theater on Saturday, January 24th, teenagers were greeted by a bustling crowd. They bought their tickets at the box office and mingled with members of the Young Adult Council (YAC). This council meets every Wednesday to plan the MaTEENée events, and learn about all the aspects of theater production.

"It was such an exciting atmosphere," said Rebecca Robinett, a senior at Loyola Academy.

Soon everyone filed into the theater and took their seats. The set was a large living room protruding from the wall, and the wall was painted to look like a deep blue sea. Conor McPherson's *The Sea-*



Teens and actors meet together after the show for a discussion.

farer started promptly at 3:00 PM.

"I really enjoyed *The Seafarer*," said Ben Palmer, Div. 283. "It had elements of both comedy and drama."

The Seafarer is set in Dublin, Ireland on Christmas Eve, and is about four men and their troubles with life, drinking, and romance. Later on in the play the devil enters into a human form, in order to gamble with the soul of the character Sharky (played by Francis Guinan).

"When the character Richard (played by John Mahoney) spit in his hand and then wiped it under the chair cushion, I couldn't believe it," said Robinett. "That character was full of surprises!"

The show ended and the whole room rose out of their seats for a standing ovation.

After the show, the teens headed

down to the Garage Theater just down the street to have lunch, relax, and chat with the actors and other teens. They also participate in a post-show discussion led by one of the members of the YAC.

"It's interesting to see a person in an informal discussion, after you just saw them as a totally different person on stage," said Palmer.

The discussion with the actors lasted about 15 minutes, and led into a game of choosing sides.

A statement was said, and if you agreed you went to one side, if you did not agree you went to the other side.

People's opinions then led into a discussion about the play itself.

"Because the discussions are teen led, it's always super informal and people simply jump in to share their thoughts about the play," said O'Donoghue. "And the food, its

always good! Sometimes pizza, sometimes paninis, sometimes pasta!"

The \$15 admission price includes everything—the play, the discussion, and the food.

"A MaTEENée event is definitely as cheap as, and usually more rewarding than going to the movies," said Whitney Dibo, the Steppenwolf for Young Adults Program Specialist.

"From the box office to leaving the Garage Theater," said Palmer, "the entire afternoon was well run."

"It was great for me to get out and enter the world of theater," said Robinett. "I've never entered a discussion like that one, I really enjoyed it!"

Steppenwolf's first MaTEENée event featured the play *Good Boys and True*. The result was very sat-

isfying for the YAC, and was a promising indicator of seasons to come.

"*Good Boys [and True]* really resonated with people who saw it, because it dealt with a pre-school sex scandal," said Danielle O'Donoghue, a member of the YAC, and a student at Lincoln Park High School. "The play itself, however, was about accepting who you are and being 'true'."

The Glass Menagerie, one of Steppenwolf's MaTEENées, had an immense turn out as well.

"Too many kids get bogged down in the drama of high school Theater, no pun intended," said Dibo. "They forget that there is a whole world of theater that is alive and well in the city of Chicago!"

Whitney and the YAC hope to bring more teenagers into Steppenwolf.

"We would really love to see more of Lane Tech represented at these shows," said O'Donoghue. "I know there are some theater lovers over there!"

The MaTEENée series at Steppenwolf encourages the teenage public to see, think, and speak. The upcoming plays the series will include *Art* on February 28th, *Of Mice and Men* on April 25th, and *The Tempest* on May 16th. Visit <http://www.steppenwolf.org/education/family.aspx> for more information on these events.

Students unleash imagination, fantasies written through fanfiction

By Safiya Merchant

While some fans only wish to continue or change their favorite books, television shows, or movies, others fulfill these fantasies through a medium commonly known as fanfiction.

According to www.time.com, fanfiction writers "create and post stories [onto the Internet] using existing fiction, television sitcoms, movies and their characters as the basis for their creations." Fanfiction writers cannot gain profit for their stories, and three sites that sponsor fanfiction are FanFiction.net, MediaMiner.org, and Fandomation.net. Some popular fanfiction subjects are the Twilight and Harry Potter series, and Japanese anime.

"I wrote about the Twilight series and [the movie] Underworld. I usually write about romance and vampires. I like how you can use another's story [in fanfiction] and expand on it as you would see it in your imagination," said Roxanne Vicedo, Div. 024.

One of the earliest fanfictions, *The Siege of Thebes*, was written in 1421 by John Lydgate and was a continuation of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. However, during the

1960s, the modern definition of fanfiction was popularized through Star Trek and science fiction fandom.

"I wrote Star Wars fanfiction because George Lucas is an idiot. It allowed me to express my imagination. I made up characters and put them in the Star Wars universe. [Fanfiction's] lame factor depends on how it's written. [For instance], clichés [in fanfiction] are evident of bad writing," said Dakota Couty, Div. 901.

Many advocates of fanfiction express its potential to foster one's creativity and improve one's writing skills.

"I write Inuyasha fanfiction. I like how it's a challenge to pick up where the original author left off. It's a great way to cultivate your writing skills because I started writing [fanfiction] when I was ten and I've had no problems in my English classes [since then]. What better way to read than to 'fan-read,' or to contribute your ideas to it," said Nathalie Henaine, Div. 914.

"It's [an] absolutely good idea [to write fanfiction] because it's good practice to write within certain limitations," said Mr. Maslanka, English teacher.

"It sometimes helps students look into

what creates conflict and character. It's a jumping-off point or scaffold, something to build upon. My students rewrite fairy tales and [fanfiction is] no different. It sometimes takes it into inappropriate directions, but any writing can do that," said Ms. Meacham, English teacher.

"I think fanfictions are a great way for the authors to express what they think the characters should continue on doing. To those who say they're lame, I'm guessing you haven't read any good ones," said Erick Madrigal, Div. 032.

"Fanfiction can help develop your writing skills. Saying 'a kid who writes fanfiction is obsessed' is ridiculous. Don't have kids diagnose other kids. Fanfiction is just fanfiction. As Freud said, 'sometimes a cigar is just a cigar,'" said Dr. R. Hinton, Lane's school psychologist.

On the other hand, some Lane students insist that fanfiction can be unhealthy.

"I think it's too obsessive. [Fanfiction writers] are like one of those people that wish Harry Potter and Twilight are real, and that's weird," said Gloria Kwon, Div. 179.

"I feel that those who write that are insecure and need to feel occupied and protect-

ed. They need to wake up and realize it's not real and can't put their hopes and dreams in it," said Abigail Mercado, Div. 030.

However, to some students, fanfiction can yield both positive and negative effects.

"My friend writes fanfiction. It's more of like 'what could have happened' in your own way. Some people go overboard and become obsessive, but if they don't go crazy, it's okay," said Veronica Jaramillo, Div. 283.

"[Writing fanfiction] shows that you're getting way too much into it, but [it also shows] something you care about. There's a pro and con to it," said Samra Anjum, Div. 165.

"It can bring your writing down because you're taking the ideas from someone else, but it can also be a good way to develop your writing. If [a fanfiction] has a good plot line and is written in a professional way, I'll read it," said Cynthia Mathews, Div. 049.

Whether it is a product of obsession or a fulfilling, creative pastime for fans, fanfiction continues to be one of the many ways by which fans can express their deep attachment to their favorite books, television series, or movies.

“Mr. Sheldon told us that Dr. Lo-Bosco was going to come in and observe him. He said he specifically invited her to come to our class because ours was a little livelier than the others. He told us to remember to wear our IDs,” said Angelica Atian, Div. 940.

Israeli-Palestinian Conflict; 100 years and counting

By Anna Chlopecki

Hatred, religious differences, thirst for sovereignty, and fear regularly rush through the minds of Israelites and Palestinians. Stained by a history of differences, the two sides have been ignited by the recent violent events in the Gaza Strip inside Israel.

Gaza, is a narrow piece of land located in southwest Israel along the Mediterranean Sea. Though inside Israel's border, Gaza has been set aside for Palestinians as a place to live and govern themselves. Currently, close to 1.5 million Palestinians occupy the territory.

Hamas, an Islamic political organization run by Muslims fundamentalists, won political power in the region through elections in recent years. However, because Hamas refuses to recognize Israel as a sovereign nation and openly embraces the goal of wiping Israel from the map, the Israeli government considers Hamas a terrorist group.

Last month when missiles smuggled into Gaza were fired into Israeli territory, aggravation surged through the Israeli government and retaliation followed.

Israel's military, armed primarily with weapons supplied by the U.S. government, shelled Gaza with a barrage of missiles and sent soldiers into the area to take out those responsible. In the process, however, hundreds of civilians were killed and much of the area was obliterated. This has left Palestinians fuming.

The fighting between Israelis and Palestinians is nothing new.

"The main reason [for the fighting] is the bitterness between the people. They have bad blood that started after WWII when the UN relocated the Jews to Palestine," said Ariel Ghanayem, Div. 925.

The recent fighting in Gaza, however, is only one entry in a miserable history. Arguments trace back to before Israel was considered an independent state. In fact, the dispute can be traced back 100 years.

In 1909, the Zionist movement created an armed group, Hashomer, to protect their property in Palestine. The Zionists are people who want a Jewish state for Jews.

"Zionism is to blame for the Palestinian Israeli conflict, as Manifest Destiny is to blame for the conflict between Native Americans and colonialist of European decent," said Wali Shaheed, Div. 909.

Since then, wars between Israelis and their Muslim neighbors have

flared up in 1948, 1956, 1967, 1973, 1982, 2006, and now 2009. The time between wars have included ongoing instances of raids, bombings, and uprisings.

"Hitler started everything. He decided to commit a terrible genocide against Jews, and the entire world ignored it," said Ghanyam, a Palestinian. "They let millions of innocent Jews, gypsies, and handicapped get slaughtered."

In 1947, the U.N. approved the partition of British controlled Palestine into two states: one Jewish and one Arab. The Jewish leadership accepted the plan, but Palestinian Arab leaders rejected the plan, and a civil war broke out.

This eventually led to the Israeli government taking charge and seizing the land, including that of the Palestinians.

Rightful possession of the city of Jerusalem is a particularly bitter debate. Pre-1948, Jerusalem was the capital of Palestine. When Britain partitioned Palestine they gave the West Bank (which includes Jerusalem) and Gaza to the Palestinians. When Israel was established the capital was Tel Aviv. Then the Israelis' annexed East Jerusalem and made it the capital.

"Israel is the Jewish people's homeland. We have fought for hundreds of years for that land. We believe that it was given to us by God," said Jenna Wasserman, Div. 153.

This has caused the environment in the holy city to become anything but peaceful.

"It is hard to call a place with so much war in it, home," said Wasserman. "I want to feel safe every second I am there."

The recent outbursts are only making the hatred between the religious groups greater, and leaving little hope of a compromise or permanent solution. The fighting has brought contention to Chicago as well as people supporting each side have displayed angry signs and messages. One such sign twisted the Star of David into a Nazi symbol; while another bore a message blaming Hamas for the terrorist attacks of September 11.

"What I think is really bogus is what is happening here in Chicago as a reaction," said Danny Wasserman, Div. 932. "Facebook groups and online discussions are great, but explosions and violent graffiti at synagogues here aren't going to solve anything."

Lane is a neutral ground for many Jewish and Muslim students.

"What makes me happy is that at Lane Tech, or at least in my ex-

perience, I still feel comfortable around or with my pro-Palestine friends," said Danny.

Riham Ramadan, Div. 925, a Palestinian, has had her life directly affected by the long-time fighting.

"This whole conflict is the reason why my parents and I came to the United States," said Ramadan. "Because of it, it was difficult for my dad to find a job and support my mom and me."

Leaving their ancestral homeland because of their background was not the only issue.

"My dad got into some trouble that had to do with the conflict, so leaving was a safety issue as well," said Ramadan.

"I actually happen to know people over there, and people who have family over there," said Shaheed. "Over 1,200 dead in 20 days. You look at the news wondering, 'is that number my friend? Is that number someone's child, someone's father, someone's mother?'"

Students disagree on who is to blame for the current outbursts.

"In the end, neither the Israelis nor the Palestinians are to blame. America is in fact at fault," said Haseeb Mirza, Div. 936. "[The US] continues to give military aid to Israel in the millions."

Mustafa Hafeez, Div. 920, a Palestinian, agrees with Mirza, and believes that the U.S. should not be picking sides.

"I say if there is going to be a fight, make it a fair fight. The Palestinians can't even afford weapons for the most part," said Hafeez. "They have to resort to throwing rocks, while the Israelis are using White Phosphorus in their weapons."

White phosphorus is a substance that combusts and ignites when it comes into contact with oxygen, leaving anyone who is hit with it severely burned and injured.

Regardless of the tactics utilized, many students agree that both sides are to blame for the violence.

"There is not one group to blame. Both sides have their own faults and have a part in making this problem worse, but killing innocent people isn't going to solve any problems," said Fariha Wajid, Div. 025. "I'm not only saying this because they are Muslim or Palestinian, but because they are human. Killing people is not and should not be considered a resolution to any problem."

"Everyone knows the Palestinians are being oppressed and there is genocide in Gaza," said Hafeez,

"but we are blinded by religion and refuse to answer the call of human suffering."

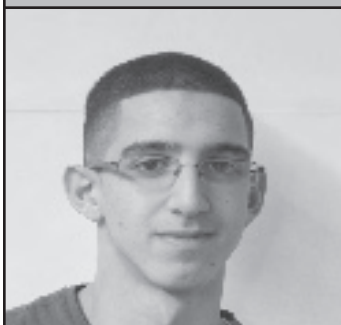
"I hope all Jews realize that what the Israeli government is doing is against the beautiful teachings of compassion, mercy, and integrity of Judaism," said Saifa Hussain, Div. 925.

"This attack wasn't aimed towards killing innocent civilians. It was meant to stop the attacks on Israeli citizens," said Wasserman.

"The media in America is pro-Palestine. Because of this the public doesn't know the real story. Yes, many innocent lives were lost, but it was not at all genocide," said Wasserman. "Truthfully, I think the whole situation is messed up. I don't think that this violence will solve anything other than draw negative attention."

Many people believe newly-elected U.S. President, Barack Obama, will not back Israel as strongly as many of his predecessors, and hope that he will perhaps be the one to finally broker a deal of lasting peace between the two sides. Obama has said this is one of the most important foreign issues for his administration to address, but has so far said little regarding what his specific plans are to help.

When will the madness stop?



By Nader Ihmoud

As I flip on the tube and watch Al Jazeera (an Arabic news channel), I cannot help but easily become teary eyed and angry.

Each day, as I see children and women being injured and killed and families being driven from their homes, I wonder why these acts of terrorism are being overlooked.

Gazans are being cramped into this tiny strip of land, and numbers of them do not receive food, building supplies, or any other aid due to the blockades enforced by Israel. When is the world going to realize the cruel treatment the Israelis are putting Palestinians through?

Palestinians live in constant fear. Not only is their land being occu-

pied, but Israeli soldiers occupy their homes as well. Periodically, the home dwellers are locked into the home alone with the soldier; occasionally, men are allowed to go to work and the children to attend school. Bob Simon of 60 Minutes discovered this in his recent trip to the West Bank for his piece on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The 60 Minutes camera crew caught a glimpse of armed Israeli soldiers in a house and the children were not allowed to enter their home.

Israel is in constant attack mode, and air strikes are very common. The death toll in Gaza may have killed many Hamas militants, but if the same amount of civilian Jews were killed, words like "terrorists" and "extremists" would be used to describe the Palestinians.

So who are the true terrorists by definition? The U.S. is funding Israel and never seriously questions their tactics. Does that make America an accomplice to terrorism? Or are they a puppet to Israel? There needs to be an end to this present day genocide of Palestinians. I am calling out to all those concerned with human-

ity: If this does not get your attention, what will?

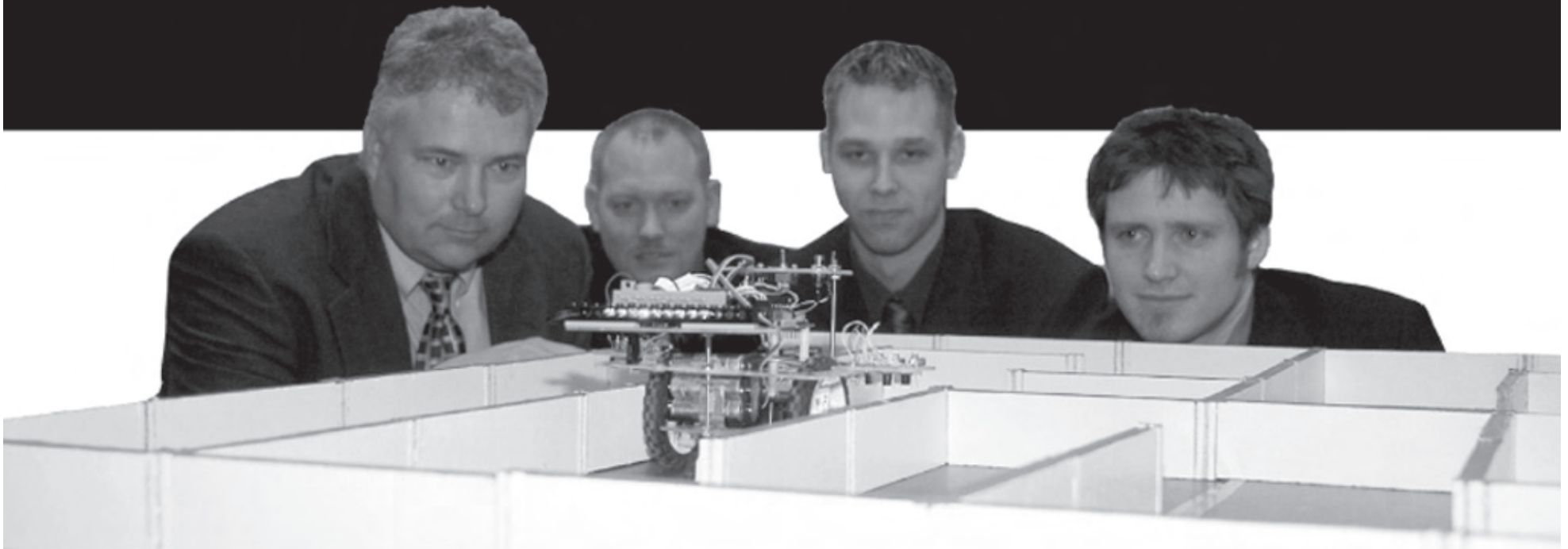
Israel does not seem concerned about being discrete in the war crimes they are committing. Al Jazeera reported that Israel has been using flame-generating chemical munitions in densely populated areas during its aerial, naval, and ground assault on the coastal strip. These horrific attacks have raised the death total in recent weeks, and Gaza medics have put the death toll in Gaza at 1,330 with at least 5,450 wounded. Sixty five percent of the dead were civilians, 400 children, and 100 women.

As I wait eagerly for the world to react and make a CHANGE, I do not expect one. America has been supporting Israel for so long, so why stop now? Since when does America back down from an old decision and admit they are wrong?

From what I've seen, it won't be any time soon, so I do what I can. I attend public protests as much as possible so I can inform the world on evil.

But please do not view me as someone with a heightened social conscience; I just have a heart.

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Lane staff compete to become the biggest loser

By Stephanie Pineda,
Nader Ihmoud & Erik Prado

Lane teachers and staff members looking to get fit found a new and interesting method for shedding those unwanted pounds: a weight loss competition.

"I personally was in a smaller weight loss competition," said Ms. Ojofeiti. "It makes us a happier, healthier group if we can all lose weight."

"It's not about the money," said a teacher in the competition who wished to remain anonymous. "It's about getting healthy."

"I joined as a motivation to help me get into better shape," said Mr. Minor, Math teacher. "I'm over weight but not terribly over weight, so there isn't too much motivation to lose weight."

"[I joined] to get healthy and lose weight," said Ms. Grubich from the Budget Office.

"I'm not in it for the money," said Ms. Onken, P.E. teacher. "I have enough money. [If I win], I'll donate it to a good charity."

Nonetheless, the prize money has proved a good incentive for some.

"[I joined for] the money," said Ms. Gesky, P.E. teacher. "And sometimes you need a little kick in the butt to stay motivated, and this is a great way to stay motivated."

The contestants are using many different methods to try to lose weight. These include exercising, decreasing calorie intake, dieting, eating Weight Watchers meals, and trash-talking.

"I sent an email congratulating everyone for taking a step toward personal health, and then I thanked them for donating their

money to me," said Gesky. "Ms. Hanly said she'd 'bring it.' [She's] given up already. She wants to donate the money early."

"She doesn't stand a chance," said Ojofeiti in response to Gesky's email. "May the better woman win."

"People think I'm joking when I say I'm in the competition," said Mr. Ara, Art Design teacher, who is already a very skinny person by most accounts. "But I'm doing this just to prove that old Apple

computers can still be used for something."

"I'm going to win," said Gesky. "It's not even fair. It's a 'give Ms. Gesky extra spending money' competition. Not even a competition."

Onken disagrees.

"I think Ms. Gesky's so full of hot air, I believe she's going to just float away," said Onken. "Me! Hello! I will win!"

"Even though I'm rooting for other people," said Ara, "I know I'm going to win this competition because my metabolism is faster than Usain Bolt in the 100-meter dash."

"The support of the Math Department contestants will prevail," said Ms. Oh, Math teacher.

Other contestants are moving more than just their mouths in an effort to win.

"[We are] walking the hallways

and ran out. I was so embarrassed because I knew I would see him in school on Monday."

Sometimes circumstances can be different and it may be easier to talk to a teacher.

Elizabeth Japczyk, Div 025, works at Lincoln Park zoo and ran into a teacher on her lunch break.

"I went up to him and said hi because he was a really nice, cool guy," said Japczyk. "It was nice because he seemed excited to see me, he said 'Liz! One of my best students' in front of his lady friend."

In some situations it may be as if the teacher tries to avoid the student.

"I was working one day at Jewel-Osco stocking some mayoniase and when I looked up I saw my Jr. year algebra II teacher, Mr. Rummelhoff. He barely acknowledged me," said Luis Negron, Div 921. "I felt a little rejected."

Most Lane students have a pretty good idea of teachers who work here, and seeing a familiar teacher can be common.

"I was at work and Mr. Choi walked up to me asking for the tablecloths," said Armin Coko, Div 904. "I knew he looked familiar but I couldn't quite pin my nose on it, so I just asked him if he worked at Lane and he said he did. The next day I shook his hand and he ended up being the assistant principal."

"I was at the Hip with my friend and I saw a security guard with what looked like his girlfriend," said Gaby Williams, Div 052. "It wasn't that awkward because we didn't say hi, I don't know him personally."

Some run-ins are funnier than others and others can be just plain awkward, but everyone has a memorable story of when they ran into a teacher outside of school.

"It's a 'give Ms. Gesky extra spending money' competition," said Gesky.



Mr. Ara lifts his computers as weights in an effort to drop some pounds.

to get exercise," said Grubich. "[Ms. Rzaadski, Ms. Ward, and I] try to get two miles in on our free periods."

"I have reduced [my] calorie intake and work out hard three days a week," said Ojofeiti. "I [also] monitor what I eat."

"I'm on the vegetable ice tea diet," said Ara. "I do a lot of push up and pull ups, and I use my two computers as my weights," he said, lifting his pair of defunct 1983 Mac computers that currently serve as his classroom's hall passes.

Not everyone, however, is in it to win it.

"I don't think I'll win the competition," said Minor. "I was kind of using it as an incentive to get in better health. I don't think I'll lose the eight percent."

Running into teachers outside of school makes students feel awkward

By Natalie Reyes

Students may sometimes take drastic measures just to avoid teachers outside of school because of the awkwardness.

"I was at a car wash one day and saw a substitute teacher," said Karolina Lekarczyk, Div 023. "I made a big circle so that he wouldn't see me."

Seeing a teacher outside of the school setting can sometimes be uncomfortable because students see teachers five out of seven days. Some see that as being more than enough and anywhere else just doesn't feel right.

"The sub makes me uncomfortable in school, so seeing him out of school wasn't any better," said Lekarczyk.

"I saw a teacher from a distance while I was shopping one day," said Roman Navarro, Div 906. "I didn't know

whether to go up to him and say hi or not, so I just walked away. It was just an awkward moment."

Depending on the place the run-ins occur, it can just add on to the discomfort.

"I ran into my world studies teacher at H&M one time; he remembered me and said hi," said Laura Koziej, Div 930. "I couldn't be rude so I said hi in return, but I couldn't help myself from laughing because it looked like his mom was buying his clothes."

"I had cut school one day during my freshman year and later that night I went to the store," said an anonymous senior. "I saw my biology teacher and ran out as soon as I could."

"I was in the movies with my boyfriend flirting the entire time and at the end of the movie I looked back and my teacher was directly behind me," said Juanita Marquez, Div 921. "I grabbed my boyfriend's hand

and ran out. I was so embarrassed because I knew I would see him in school on Monday."

Sometimes circumstances can be different and it may be easier to talk to a teacher.

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STUDENTS MAKE THEIR MARK WITH TATTOOS

By Joanna Stepkow

In the past tattoos have been associated with negative things, like prison or belonging to a gang. As they have become much more commonly seen in mainstream society, however, many are regarding them as a right of passage.

Since the legal age to get a tattoo is 18, some Lane students get one to celebrate their step into adulthood.

"I got it on my birthday," said Maya Rodriguez, Div. 911. "I wanted to get it since I turned 18."

"I got it two weeks after I turned 18," said Jessica Herberg, Div. 913. "It was my whole turning 18 thing."

Even parents are becoming more accepting of tattoos.

"My mom and dad were for it, because they knew I thought about it for a long time," said Herberg. "They both have tattoos so it would have been a little hypocritical to say no."

"My dad has tattoos and my mom wants to get one, so they were very supportive," said Alex Enriquez, Div. 904.

Some parents showed have even paid for the process.

"It was a birthday present from my parents," said Jamie Southern, Div. 911. "My parents actually blindfolded me and took me to the tattoo parlor. It was a nice surprise."

"My whole family came," said Ramirez. "My parents, my brother, two sisters, and my sister's two kids all sat in that little tattoo parlor watching me get my tattoo. It was embarrassing."

Since a tattoo is forever, several students design their tattoos themselves to carry a personal meaning.

"I designed it myself,"

found on the internet and just fell in love with them," said Olivia Pantoja, Div. 935. "A lot of butterflies are ugly, but these were so cute!"

"I have a robot with flowers around it," said Rodriguez. "I saw it ten minutes before I left the tattoo parlor and fell in love with it."

The pain of getting a tattoo was severe for some.

"The one on my wrist hurt really, really bad," said Ramirez. "I wanted to stop but I already had two lines made so I had to finish."

"If I wanted to, I could've cried," said Budzuga.

For others the process was not as painful.

"You get used to the feeling after ten minutes," said Enriquez. "It is more annoying than painful. The last hour is when it really starts to hurt."

"I think plucking your eyebrows hurts more



Olivia Pantoja, Div. 935, shows off her butterflies on her lower abdomen.

the one on my wrist because whenever someone sees it they say, 'Oh, nobody's going to hire you,' said Ramirez. "Plus I always see it so I'm bored of it now."

However, removal is not a realistic option for many.

"I don't want to get it removed though, because I don't want to go through the pain," said Ramirez.

The expense and pain of removing tattoos is greater than the expense and pain of applying them.

Some pre-laser tattoo removal methods include dermabrasion, where the top layer of skin, the epidermis, is removed by sanding; salabrasion, where the skin is scrubbed with salt; cryosurgery, where tissue is destroyed by

applying extreme cold; and excision, or cutting it out, which is sometimes still used along with skin grafts for larger tattoos.

A new tattoo can be a great birthday present, a right of passage, or a cool way to express yourself. However, a tattoo is usually forever, so it should be well thought through.



From the top: Jessica Herberg, Div. 913, displays a cross on her upper back. Maya Rodriguez, Div. 911, shows off a robot on her left shoulder. Jamie Southern, Div. 911, features her tattoo on the back of her neck.



than a tattoo," said Rodriguez.

"It stung a little bit," said Herberg. "It is kind of an

said Enriquez. "There are a lot of symbols and a lot of it is personal."

"I designed it myself," said Southern. "The wings represent a guardian angel because when I was a little girl my grandpa always told me I'll always have an angel watching over me. The star is there because I am a star, and hot pink is my favorite color."

"It is a cross that I designed myself," said Herberg. "I am Christian so I know that I will never regret it."

"I have the Chicago skyline which represents who I am and where I come from," said Sonny Buzduga, Div. 922.

"I think a tattoo is a cool way to express myself," said Carolina Ortiz, Div. 904. "If I would get one it would definitely be very personal."

Other students choose their body art for simpler reasons.

"There was no deep meaning behind my tattoos," said Ramirez. "I just liked the designs."

"I have two butterflies which I

annoying feeling."

Some liked their first tattoos so much that they plan on more in the future.

"I want more tattoos; I love them," said Rodriguez. "They are so pretty!"

"I want to get another one in May," said Enriquez.

Sometimes friends get tattoos together to show their unity and friendship.

"I have a tattoo planned for my friends and me," said Rodriguez.

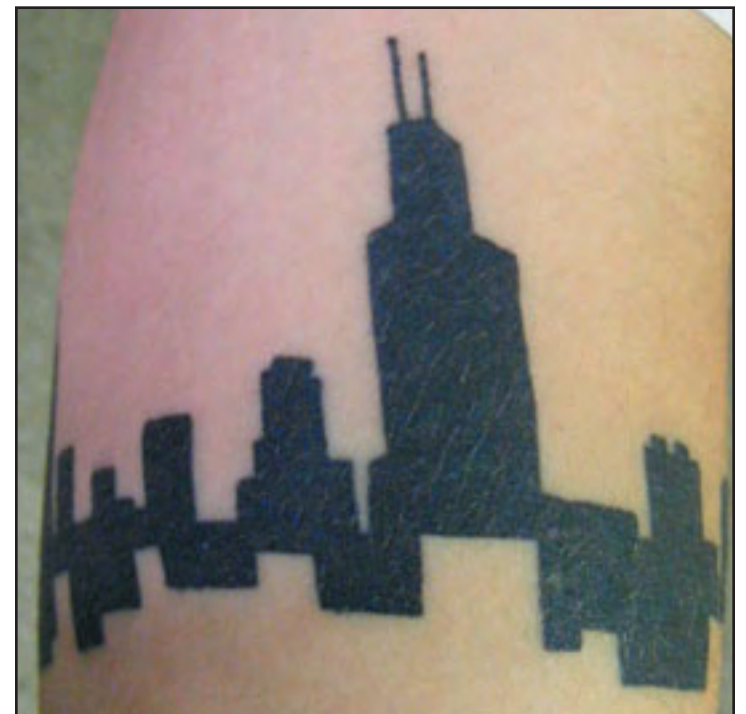
"My best friend and I have the same design, a cross, in the same place on our bodies, on the right shoulder," said Herberg.

Although most students are happy with their tattoos, some do have regrets.

"I regret having



Alex Enriquez, Div. 904, displays the tattoo on his right shoulder.



Sonny Buzduga, Div. 922, features his Chicago Skyline on his left arm.

Turnabout 2009: The Roarin' Twenties

And Best Dressed goes to...

By Samantha D'Anna

For a mere 15 clams students could take a trip back nearly ninety years to visit Lane's very own Tin Pan Alley. Imagine the roaring twenties in the twenty-first century. Anyone attended Lane's 2009 Turnabout Dance, saw exactly that.

From the pearls to the spats to the finger waves, Lane students transcended into yester year for a night. It was the bee's knees. The only thing missing was the Charleston. It was the bee's knees.

Overall Jan. 23 was a night to beat one's gums about.



Mia Spingola was the cat's meow, in her classic gray flapper mini dress. She sparkled with a strand of pearls, an oversized ring, and dangly faux diamond earrings.



Zach Garza looked like the big cheese, sporting a classic black tuxedo and bow tie. Garza definitely looked like one keen egg.



Dyon Bryant had her glad rags on and was one swanky tomato. Bryant modeled the finger wave styled hair, a pleated white and black dress and classic t-strap heels.



Accompanied by Bryant, Sean Ward was one nifty looking guy. Ward looked swell with his a long jacket, white gloves, and some spiffy shoes on his dogs.



Alexis Boin looked like a moll and fit right in with her hotstotsy attire. Boin showed off her gams in her shimmering gold and pink dress.



Luis Negron was a spiffy sheik in his three piece suit, classic fedora hat, and his hard-boiled attitude. He looked like quite the bimbo.

By Rachel Steibing

On January 23, students enjoyed a night of dancing at Turnabout. This was the first time in three years when the dance was labeled "a turnabout" (because girls are supposed to ask guys), instead of the traditional "Winter Ball."

"It is something different," said Abigail Gonsalves, Div. 935, Senior Class Chairperson, "and that is exactly what we were going for."

Senior Class is in charge of picking out the theme and colors, getting a DJ, decorating, and selling tickets.

This year the theme was "The Roaring Twenties."

"I came up with the theme after watching Greek last season," said Lily Lai, Div. 905, Senior Class Chairperson. "They had a Great Gatsby party and I thought it would be fun to have a 1920s theme."

The theme goes well with the idea of

Turnabout.

"Since we have been doing things pretty unique this year, why not change up Winter Ball too? Plus, in the 1920s, it was very traditional for a woman to ask a man out on a date, so it went perfectly," said Jesse Sandoval, Div. 910.

To some students, the theme was not something they thought too much about.

"The theme does not really matter to me because no one dresses for it anyway. You're there to enjoy yourself, have fun, and go wild!" said Cindy Villalobos, Div. 919.

The colors for this year were black, gold, and red.

"They were a compromise between Edie [Morris] and I. We had an argument about colors that remind us of the 1920s, so she has her red and black, and I have my gold and black," said Lai.

Aside from choosing colors, finding a DJ can be a hard task.

"Well, we did not want the same DJ

as Homecoming since everyone complained about it. Jesse was in charge of the DJ. He knows people so we went with whoever he got who would be best for the job," said Lai.

"I made it my personal mission to find a good DJ. It is our last year; we have to have the best," said Sandoval.

Students seemed to like the DJ.

"The DJ was a lot better than [the one at] Homecoming," said Edie Morris, Div. 923, Senior Class Chairperson.

Turnabout is not usually as popular of a dance as Homecoming.

"People think it is a couples dance," said Stephanie Mora, Div. 921, Senior Class Vice President. "If you do not have someone to ask then you do not really want to go. But it should not be that way."

If the dance would not have changed to Turnabout, more students might have been more likely to go.

"I would ask a guy," said Alexis Perez,

Div. 184, "but I have the fear of being rejected. I would be more likely to go if it was not Turnabout."

"Turnabout is okay. I would rather have it Winter Ball though. For Homecoming you can go without a date. This one you like have to have a date," said Jed Yabes, Div. 921.

Regardless, ticket sales did not drop.

"Ticket sales were the same as always," said Mrs. House, Student Activities Director.

The dance reportedly went over well.

"I really enjoyed it. I thought the professional pictures were really nice, and none of our decorations got torn down," said Morris.

"Everything went really well," said House. "It was wonderful. I would like to thank all the Senior Class Officers and Michael Burbano, Div. 045, who came here on their day off and decorated for over four hours."

Dictionary

Beat one's gums - idle chatter

Bee's Knees - An extraordinary person, thing, idea; the ultimate

Bimbo - a tough guy

Cat's Meow - Something splendid or stylish; similar to bee's knees. The best or greatest, wonderful.

Clam - a dollar

Dogs - feet

Egg - a person who lives the big life

Gams - A woman's legs

Glad rags - "going out on the town" clothes

Hard Boiled - a tough, strong guy

Hotsy - Totsy - Pleasing

Keen - Attractive or appealing

Moll - A gangster's girl

Ritz - Elegant (from the hotel)

Sheik - A man with sex appeal (from the Valentino movies)

Spiffy - An elegant appearance

Swanky - Ritz

Swell - Wonderful. Also: a rich man

Tin Pan Alley - the music industry in New York, located between 48th and 52nd street

Tomato - a female

Students discuss encounters with supernatural

By Vanessa Landa

"One night [while] I was sleeping I felt someone pulling my legs, and I couldn't move. I started praying, and then it went away," said Fredi Zuniga, Div. 172. Many Lane students report having had supernatural encounters. There are people out there that say these encounters are real, and are something beyond normal - the paranormal. Other people say that science has an explanation for all of the questionable things that occur. Whether these encounters are real or just the person's imagination, it's a highly debatable topic.

"I think the supernatural is all misunderstood natural events that currently have no explanation by science, so we as humans come up with reasons to make ourselves believe that we know what is happening," said Sergio Correa, Div. 927.

"Sometimes we see or hear things that we

can't explain. If there is a God, then [why wouldn't there be] the supernatural," said Emma Gonzalez, Div. 285.

One very common supernatural claim is ghost sightings.

"I'm convinced that I saw my grandpa's ghost on my rooftop in Mexico. Once I was up there, I felt someone grab my hand and I turned around and saw my grandpa's face and he said to me, 'I'm always here'," said Abby Mercado, Div. 030.

"My mom told me that once when she was little, she was with her dad and they went outside. Outside, they saw a woman dressed in white and she then disappeared," said Yomali Mendoza, Div. 165.

There are also other ways that people have come into contact with spirits.

"My cousin drew a Ouija board. He didn't know if it was going to work, but he tried it out. After asking a question he said it moved by itself and the paper started floating," said an anonymous senior, Div. 913.

"My brother and my friend, both are

involved with the supernatural side. They both can dreamscape, which is fighting demons through your dreams. When you wake up, you have minor wounds from the fights you had in your dreams. My brother illustrates the demons from his dreams. Recently, my friend told me that she woke up with a long scratch on her face," said Sheena Petrovic, Div. 170.

"My mom told me about her friend who was possessed by a demon: she killed a nurse looking after her, by stuffing her in a very tight space. Then a priest performed an exorcism and she got better," said Correa.

According to Psychics and Mediums Network, the supernatural compromise phenomena that cannot be perceived by natural or empirical senses. Understanding of these phenomena may be said to lie with religious, magical, or otherwise mysterious explanations that remain firmly outside the realm of science.

"I don't believe in the supernatural in regards to spells and curses and things like

that, because I feel that science can explain all of that," said Diana Guler, Div. 024.

While many claim to have an opinion on the subject, some Lane students are just curious or interested in the subject.

"You can't prove if the supernatural isn't real. Science can only prove so much," said Kevin Chan, Div. 157.

"I don't believe in the supernatural because it has not been proven that supernatural things exist. There have only been theories and photos, which can be edited and manipulated, but nothing concrete," said Brittany McNeal, Div. 928.

"I would hear interesting stories about the supernatural that make me want to look into it. Mostly just for entertainment," said Clay Frankel, Div. 270.

"It just seems unrealistic, and I haven't seen anything as supernatural in real life. On the other hand, it seems possible, and I am also scared of it," said Natalie Park, Div. 027.

Near death experiences change perspectives on life

By Julie Dimas

Amanda Foley, Div. 047, climbed up the high waterslide and jumped in. She let the icy water carry her body rapidly away. At the end of the slide she realized a frightening thing...she couldn't swim. She took a deep breath. As the water swallowed her body, she began to gasp for air, but she couldn't breathe. As she struggled she felt someone grab her and then she went unconscious.

Many students can relate to Foley's near death experience because drowning is a common way of almost dying. Both Brian Chansy, Div. 932, and Veronica Atariguana, Div. 034, have experienced drowning and agree that it was a frightening experience.

Chansy almost drowned in a pool when he attempted to swim in the deep end, while Atariguana was trying to swim in a lake when a big wave washed over her and trapped her body underwater. Both were saved by either a lifeguard or family member.

Nevertheless, they acknowledge the fact that their drowning experience has caused them to develop a fear of swimming in deep water.

A near death experience can occur at the most unexpected times.

"When I was little I was sitting on the steps at home outside and a stray bullet almost hit me," said Katherin Zuniga, Div. 048, "but my uncle pulled me out of the way just in time. It would've hit me in the head, but I got lucky."

Marina Diaz, Div. 172, explained how she and her family were driving back home from Nebraska, when suddenly they were caught in a Tornado storm in Iowa.

"It was the scariest thing for

someone from Chicago to see," she said. "You couldn't see the road whatsoever and my dad had to put the sun shade thing from the front of the car down because the lightening was so bright. [There were] like 20 bolts coming down at once and the radio would not stop playing stuff about what to do if someone got struck by lightning and if your car got hit. So my brother started crying and he ran to the back of the van with me and I held him...I couldn't cry because I was so numb."

Teachers have had their share of near-death experiences also.

A few years ago, while on a bicycle trip with friends in Europe, Mr. Bertenshaw stayed at a friendly stranger's house for the night in Slovakia. When he was sleeping he felt a gun pointed to his head and ended up having to fight a drunken stranger for his life.

"My experience has made me more alert, but it hasn't prevented me from trusting the kindness of other people," said Bertenshaw.

He had another near brush with death when he was ten. While riding on the expressway, he was struck in the jaw when a flying piece of metal flew through the car window. It left him unconscious for three days.

Bertenshaw says the experience changed the way he looks at life.

"I did notice a change after my [car] accident. I know it's kind of hard to recognize that when you're ten, but before the accident happened I was profoundly competitive. Then after the accident, I still wanted to win but I wasn't so demonstrative in my anger about [not] coming in first place. Whether that was the accident or whether I just grew up and mellowed over the following three or four years, it



Car crashes are one of many types of near-death experiences.

definitely was a shift."

Although some teachers, like Bertenshaw, have no problem talking about their near death experiences, others do.

Mrs. Palmares, Spanish teacher, does not like to talk to anyone about her near death experience because of the painful memories it brings back. She did say, however, that her experience has made her more thankful to be alive.

"I appreciate life more now and live and enjoy each day at a time because I always know that maybe there's not going to be a tomorrow," she said. "I try to take life one day at a time and smell the flowers. I try to look at the positive things of life and not the negative."

Noteworthy doctor, Raymond Moody, who coined the term "near death experience," (NDE) conducted intensive research describing the results of decades of inquiry

into the NDE phenomenon.

Moody interviewed 150 NDE patients, and observed that "those who had undergone NDE's became more altruistic, less artistic, and more loving."

He also found that only 21% of NDE patients denied having any after effects, while the other 79% reported significant, life-changing differences afterward.

"I think we see near death experiences as life changing events, like on television or the movies," said Bertenshaw. "But for me, I thought of it different like, 'Okay, I'm alive. That's good, I'll see you tomorrow' kind of thing."

Diaz explained how the tornado storm definitely changed her life.

"Honestly, it made me see things the way they are, and not to worry about what might happen next. I guess it made me appreciative of things, but it brought me closer to reality too. Like I didn't know

what it felt like to care for my brother that way or to see him cry," said Diaz. "He was so scared and it was kind of like my duty to protect him. The image of the lightning though was something I'll never forget."

Zuniga said that she believes her experience was definitely insightful.

"I think that [my NDE] has made me think about stuff. It's kind of a realization that things could be over anytime. Like you never know when your last moment can be and it also makes you appreciate the things you have now and the fact that you're here," said Zuniga. "I think that as a person [my experience] just made me realize that you should always tell people how you feel about them because you never know if that's the last time your going to see them."

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First kisses leaving lasting memories for young teens

By Lucia Ramirez

Her heart starts beating faster and faster. Her body temperature rises and her hands begin to sweat. She moisturizes her lips as she look directly into his eyes, because the first kiss has to be the most memorable one. This is the moment she's been waiting for.

A recent study on kissing, conducted by Susan M. Hughes of Albright College, studied why we do it, and how members of either gender react to it differently. She found that in general, women judge their partners as potential mates through their kiss. A factor in the kiss is the overall sensitivity of the lips and mouth. The lips are one of the most sensitive parts of the body, and the tongue receives and sends huge amounts of information to the brain.

According to an article published in the Washington Post, kissing has also been shown to lower cortisol (the stress hormone) in members of both genders. Some of their findings suggested that kissing might release oxytocin in males, a hormone which promotes bonding. So while many consider kissing to be no more than an amusing diversion, it turns out that, subconsciously, kissing means much more to people than what they think.

But who actually thinks about all these things when you've never even been kissed? The first kiss is not necessarily the best kiss to many teenagers, but it is one of the most memorable one.

To many teens, remembering their first kiss brings a smile to their face. However, experiences may vary from exciting kisses, to boring kisses teens barely remember.

Alexandra Cuevas, Div. 902, remembers her first kiss with a smile as she talks about the awkward moment she experienced after the kiss.

"It was at a hidden garden in a park where all the couples went to make-out," said Cuevas. "I remember standing in front of him. I saw it coming because we kept staring at each other's lips. We gave each other cheesy smiles and then BAM, it happened. After we kissed he cut flowers for me from the garden, but other than that it wasn't romantic. I didn't know how to kiss; our teeth bumped each other, we laughed, but it killed the moment."

Romantic locations like a garden or a fancy dinner are romantic places for a first kiss. For many teens, however, the experience is a little more casual, and can take place in school, a car, or a park.

"[My first kiss] was at school, by J in the third floor. It was with a girl I was falling for really fast," said Joel Nava, Div. 935. "I went up to her when she was with her friend. I kissed her and I dashed to my fifth period [class]. I left her in shock because I didn't say anything to her; three days later I asked her out. It was

perfect just the way it was: crazy, quick, and spontaneous. I enjoyed every part of it. It led to one of my most memorable moments in high school."

"It happened at school with a friend I really liked and had known since pre-school," said Silvia Hernandez, Div. 931. "I wasn't that nervous because I knew it would happen, but I remember the person, and the feelings; it made me mature."

"It was freshmen year and we were at the

park," said Shawn Ward, Div. 905. "She was sitting on the swing and I was pushing her. We were talking and laughing. Suddenly she stopped herself from swinging so I leaned in to ask what was wrong, and she gave me a peck. After that, we looked at each other in silence. She got up from the swing, and we actually kissed. I felt like the world stopped, and it was just us standing there. But it wasn't what I expected because I wanted fireworks!"

Jasmina Vulic, Div. 935, who had her first kiss when she was 17, did not have fireworks, or a movie-like background during her first kiss, but the beautiful meaning behind the kiss was greater than all other factors.

"We were saying bye to each other because we didn't know when would be the next time we saw each other. It wasn't romantic as in the scenery, or music playing in the background, but in my mind it was perfect because I always waited for someone I really liked," Vulic said. "The things you wait for the longest turn out to be the sweetest, so I wouldn't have imagined it with anyone else."

First kisses are memorable to most teens, but when it is first kiss for both people it becomes even more memorable, and may be easier because they do not have to worry about messing up.

"Mine was during sophomore year with my boyfriend," said Brittany Owen, Div. 923.

"We would take the bus together. So one day we were waiting for the bus to come and then he kissed me. It was cute because it was both of our first kiss. We didn't know what to do, but I wasn't afraid of screwing it up because neither of us had anything to compare it to. It was our best kiss up until that point."

"She was my girlfriend and it was both of our first kiss," said Angel Zhagui, Div. 912. "It was by some dark stair case in my house. We decided to kiss in a dark place because we were both shy. I didn't know what I was doing, so in the first try I bumped into her nose because I didn't tilt my head and I couldn't see her face because it was dark. We chuckled and then we tried it again."

Although first kisses are considered a special occurrence is a person's life, for some people the first kiss was no different than the kisses that were to follow.

"My first real kiss was freshman year and it happened with a girl I liked," said an anonymous senior, Div. 914. "I didn't really make a big deal out of it because I don't see it any differently than the next kisses I experienced. I would change the person it was with because I thought my first kiss was going to be with another girl, who wanted me to be her first kiss also. But it didn't work out because she lived far from me."

"It's more memorable for girls," said Feras Abbas, Div. 902. "It didn't matter to me because the first kiss isn't as memorable as the last."



Pick up lines a cheesy option for hopeless romantics

By Dulce Arroyo

"Dear Valentine, your legs must be tired because you have been running through my mind all night. Be mine!"

Maybe a cliché pickup line is not be the way to someone's heart, but there is no actual rule for how cheesy is too cheesy in the game of love. If the moment feels right, the use of a pickup line can actually come in handy.

"One time at the Red Line bus stop, I saw a really cute girl and said, 'Hey, are you okay?'," said a senior who wished to be known as Chiquito. "When she asked 'why?', I was like, 'Because you fell from heaven.' She said it was so tacky of me to use that line, but that I was cute, so we started talking; I ended up getting her number."

"I was at a friend's house last year, and this guy I just met pretended to look at my phone and said 'What's that?' and then put his arm around me," said Sharon Twohig, Div. 917. "I freaked out, but then I just laughed and went along with it."

And what starts out as flirtation can often lead to something more serious.

"Freshman year, this boy came up to me and said, 'Baby, you have the most beautiful eyes'," said Vanisha Washington, Div. 023. "The next day he came up to me again and said, 'I like how your phone case matches your clothes'. I was like 'Are you

serious?!'"

Still, Washington decided to give him a chance.

"We've been dating for three years now," she said. "He's my boo!"

Though pickup lines may not always be foolproof, others simply think of them as funny icebreakers.

"I've never used pickup lines on girls I don't know, but they're definitely a good conversation starter," said Esteban Abbey, Div. 917.

"I went up to a girl and asked her, 'How much does a polar weigh?,' said Alex Pirnuta, Div. 908. "She said she didn't know, so I said 'Enough to break the ice'."

Most students agree that it is ultimately up to a girl's idea of "funny" for a cheesy pickup line to be appreciated.

"If [the pickup line] is cute and different and you can tell it's his own and not from some website or from his perverted friends, I'd give the guy a chance," said Lisbeth Segura, Div. 921.

"It would work if a girl had a sense of humor and somewhat of a liking towards the guy," agreed Krzysztof Gorzelany, Div. 915.

But rejection just might sting less if a girl is able to laugh it off.

"I was talking to this guy and he was trying to ask me out, saying 'Go out with me, I'll take you to Narnia,'" said Jiayin

Zheng, Div. 931. "I said no, but it was still really funny and I was cracking up."

However, not everyone would agree that using pick-up lines are a positive method for getting dates.

"If a guy used one on me, I'd feel like he was just trying to get something insincerely," said Naomi Maldonado, Div. 044. "It's lame, and it shows he has nothing real to say."

"I don't use pickup lines on girls because I don't feel like they would acknowledge it," said Nick Quiles, Div. 914. "I just do it as a joke; if it doesn't work, people just laugh, which is what I aim for anyways."

In fact, pickup lines are sometimes viewed as nothing more than jokes.

"Guys don't use cliché lines unless they're playing around," said Priscilla Perez, Div. 929. "Usually they'll say something like 'What's up ma?' or 'Ey girl!,' but that's not a good way to approach [girls]."

According to Perez, guys too eager to get a girl's number are a turn-off.

"Guys have asked me for my number before they even ask for my name," said Perez. "If a guy can't approach me [the right way] then he isn't worth my time."

For some, the use of pickup lines is thought of as confidence at its silliest.

"I use pickup lines because I use my dorkiness to get women, and women love confidence," said Chiquito.

However, the definition of confidence

differs among students.

"It doesn't take courage for a guy to use pickup lines; it takes courage for a guy to go up and just say hi," said Carolina Ortiz, Div. 904. "I won't be bogus if a guy uses one on me, but if you really think a girl is cute, you should swallow your pride and talk to her in a classy way."

"If [my boyfriend] wanted my number, he should have just asked!," said Washington.

Thinking of using one as a joke on a potential Valentine?

Abbey offered a quick tip: texting 'PUL' to Cha-Cha (242242) sends users one pickup line per text. Standard rates apply depending on the user's phone company.

"Some of the pickup lines are profane, so I'll only use the ones I think are universally funny," said Abbey.

Users of cheesy pickup lines, beware. Persistent use on the same person may have the opposite effect.

"I was at a wrestling meet talking to this kid and he kept asking things like 'Did it hurt when you fell from heaven?'," said Dominique Amador, Div. 048. "It was cute at first, but after he used more lines it got pretty creepy."

Valentine's Day, however, can have its loopholes concerning affection. It may be the cliché holiday for heart-shaped candy boxes and red roses, but a wave of cheesy smiles in Lane's hallways may be enough to spread love for all.

What is the true meaning of love?

By Stephanie Lopez

People are like lost ships, looking for direction. Love is their guide, helping them find their way.

According to an article written by Skye Thomas on tomorrowsedge.net, "I love you" does not mean anything if there is no passion or fire when used.

"I haven't said it to any of my previous girlfriends," said Donathon, Div. 917. "I'm not a liar."

The worst case scenario would be someone saying I love you and not meaning it.

"There are many people who say it and don't mean it," said Baltazar Herrera, Div. 909. "Or there's people that say it with words but not with actions."

Herrera said that some people do things behind their girlfriends' and boyfriends' backs, things that if found out it would truly hurt them but yet they continue to do it.

"It's hard to tell if they mean it," said Herrera. "Some people are really good sweet talkers."

Apparently the only way of

knowing, varies. It depends on the people and the kind of relationship they are in and what they have shared.

Though everyone has a different idea of what true love is, some students would agree on the lovey-dovey emotions that are felt.

"Love is when you feel something you have never felt and you feel you can't live without the other person," said Raul Ortiz, Div. 916.

"Love is when you really like someone and you feel happy around them," said Donathon.

"It's passionate affection and you use it when you really care about someone," said Gustavo Guzman, Div. 933.

Fabiola Mosqueda, Div. 905, agrees with Guzman but said that another important characteristic is that it is not selfish.

"[Love] use to mean I want to be with you forever but now people just use it whenever," said Isaac Gardano, Div. 914.

They are magical words. So powerful they can bring a smile to your face and cause all these emotions inside of you. But is it

possible that the magic has worn off?

"Thru often usage [of the word love] the emotions accompanied by it are reduced," said Sergio Correa, Div. 927.

"[I love you has become] less meaningful," said Donathon.

people say it just to say it, you cannot just end a conversation by saying "okay bye" and you cannot say "i like you" because that just seems weird.

I love you, te amo, volim te, je t'aime. They all mean the same thing. Some students agree that

"You can say 'te amo' or 'te quiero' and it sounds so much better," said Guzman.

Correa disagrees.

"Its the same people saying 'I love you' only they say it in another language," said Correa.

"It really just depends on the relationship," said Gardano. "You can't generalize how people feel."

There are songs and movies that show us these happy endings and make some people think they are true.

"You'll be the prince and I'll be the princess, its a love story baby just say yes," reads Taylor Swift's song titled Love Story.

But it does not always end up in a fairy tale. And because this is true, so many broken hearts exist.

"I know people that have loved and were heart-broken," said Herrera. "After that they were afraid to have feelings for another girl."

Everyone has different interpretations of love. That does not mean that it does not exist. And it definitely does not mean that one is wrong and the other one is correct.



"People say it all the time [without truly meaning it.]"

"Love has changed," said Adrian Markowicz. "It changed to lust."

Isael Huipio, Div. 924, said that

saying "I love you" in another language is so much more meaningful.

"Spanish is sexy," said Donathon.

LOVE HAS TO DO WITH SO MUCH MORE THAN THE HEART

By Noemi Villanueva

The butterflies, stolen glances, and undeniable attraction: all are common symptoms of the first blush of love. Research proves this passion can last a lifetime.

Recent brain scan research was conducted at Stony Brook University in New York and proved that a small number of couples respond with as much passion after 20 years together as those who have just begun their romance.

Although research shows that long-term couples may not have the same anxiety and fixation of new love, they experience more attachment and easiness with their partner. Findings imply that this closeness is a result from couples' wants to stay connected and keep liveliness in their relationship.

Many would say that romantic love fades over time but some are confident that passion can outlast a short lived spark.

Mr. Fornal, a Math teacher, strongly believes in the importance of keeping a steady, loving relationship.

"I grew up with the feeling that whoever you marry, it's for life," said Fornal. "There's no reason to dissolve the relationship."

Fornal thinks that his marriage has gone well due to common interests and the time him and his wife make for each other. Their experiences together have made their love last.

"When two people meet, they're

physically attracted but that's only a surface type [of love]; [relationships last when] it's deeper than that," said Fornal.

Ms. Kane, a librarian at Lane, believes that love is a mystery because relationships are different for everyone.

"Sometimes you can meet opposite people who stay together for a long time and some very well suited people don't always stay together either," said Kane.

Don Guillen, Div. 914, says he loves his girlfriend of almost three years more than when they started dating. He believes time allows for a relationship to develop a closer bond.

"Just finding out who [my girlfriend] is throughout our relationship and spending time with her has made the love grow," he said.

Studies show that the lustful stages of a romance usually fade within 12 to 15 months.

Guillen believes those who cannot beat the 15 month heap cannot handle the changes that come with a relationship. He feels many failed relationships are due to people's lack of commitment to their partner.

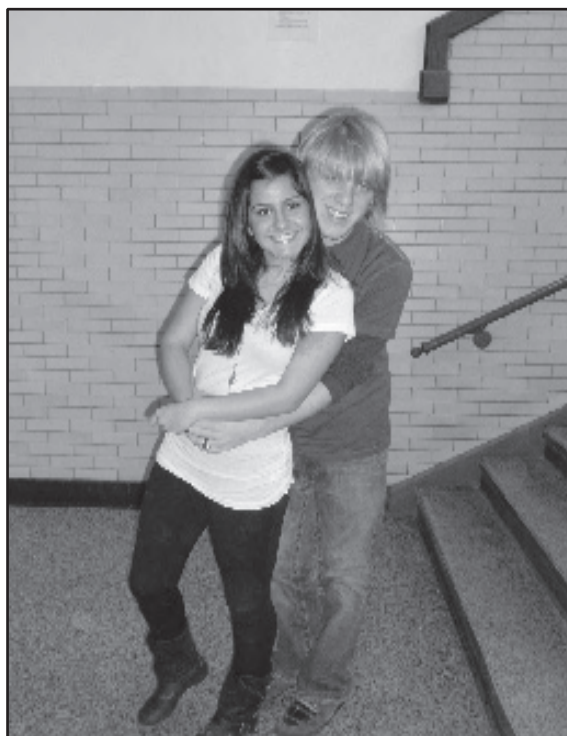
Max Dzis, Div. 933, thinks there are several variables and experiences a couple shares that a brain scan doesn't account for. He claims that many underestimate the time and effort a relationship

needs to last.

"[My girlfriend and I] meet each other halfway and look for each other's best interest," said Dzis. "Communication is the most important thing that makes our

another and nothing gets in our way of that," said Romero.

Even though the research may give some couples hope, Romero has little faith in the truth it reveals.



Enanna Sheena, Div. 925, and James Peculis, Div. 905, showing how much they love each other's hugs.

relationship work."

Like Dzis, Alexandra Romero, Div. 930, believes that being able to keep an open mind with her significant other has been the backbone of her relationship.

"We keep nothing from each other and the passion is there for the reason that we appreciate one

"You have to sacrifice a lot and adjust to the other person's needs; if you're not willing to do that, then you don't want to be in a serious relationship," said Gallardo.

Tamana Islam, Div. 934, think passion among couples may not last because many rush into relationships without being sure of their true feelings.

"You lay out a bunch of standards and once someone meets those standards, you think you're in love," said Islam.

Some think that getting to know the other person well is a major part of being able to sustain the relationship in the long run.

James Peculis, Div. 905, says that he and his girlfriend were best friends before they dated and that friendship easily transitioned into a lasting relationship.

"The spark [I feel] is kind of that same spark I felt for her as a best friend," said Peculis. "Even though we have minor arguments, we both know it's worth it to get back to that good feeling we have around each other."

For some, keeping the romance alive is not always done through affection.

"I don't think people should expect to be 'lovey dovey' all the time; it's not about holding hands all the time or saying 'I love you' every time you say goodbye," said Peculis.

Many lovebirds think it is the little things that can keep a great connection and interest in the relationship.

"I always kiss my wife good morning and good night," said Fornal. "We try to go to shows, have dinner, shop for new furniture, or even do projects around the house together."

Whether it's going on a great date or even shopping for new furniture, anything can keep the spark going if a couple is willing.

Seniors

Janet, I love you so much! I would do anything in the world for you just to see you smile. Hugs and kisses from your special guy.

Juan Va AKA nino
I wish for us to be together forever...
Cessa.

If you were gas in the depths of my bowels, I would never flatulate for fear of losing you.

-Ashleyann xoxo

Much Love To 905, The Best Division in the World Ms Taitt

Kaboom.
Thanks for not poisoning the candycane. It was good and next time I might let you have some.

Love always,
Princess

P.S. I better eat something good.

Rachel Steibing,
Hope you have a great Valentines Day and Senior year.
XOXO- Gossip Girl of the SE News

Dear Gregory Gebien,
You are my favorite Goob. And I don't think you're weird like some people say. And I think its cute when you lick my chin. I like your face a lot and your tummy is always warm. And I'm sorry when I'm mean to you. Again, you are my favorite Goob.

-love Angie

Natalie Baby,
You're my PHENOMENAL girlfriend. You never fail to make me smile. You're the butter to my bread, you make me better. I love you baby.

-your valentine SamBam

Lizka i Marysia!!! Zycze wam zaje-fajnych Walentynek i mysle ze sie w tym roku zakochacie... WE MNIE!! =D I LOVE YOU!

- Sappcia

To the people who aren't embarrassed to walk with me in the halls even though I'm the weirdest, loudest, scariest senior in Lane Tech. I <3 you Jessica, Ivette, Edith, Carolina, Gladys, Mat, Juan & Veronica.

B.V.

Brittany McNeal! You are the LOVE of my life! Lets make noodles together, UDON! TOD is the father! Juan is the mother!

Love you boo,
DJ Kibbles

09' baby! Hope all the seniors have a happy v-day. Also, happy valentine's day to all the people on Stage Krew!
-Much Love, Harvey!

to the most beautiful and breath taking girl I know and ever will know, and who will always leave me at a loss of words... Cessa

Brigette + Luis
I am so excited that we are going to get married after graduation. Oh the fun we are going to have. I Love You guys with all my heart.

-Josh

I LOVE YOU GIAN. You are amazing. You too KirtKirt and Cessapher, you guys are the best friends ever.
KirtKat=BLPE

To Division 905
We are closer now to graduation than ever Before! Lets Finish Strong! Ms. Taitt We LOVE YOU!

from Div. 905

Hey Baby! let me get your number...
As a matter of fact let me get your myspace!

XoXo Michelle Figueroa

Para Leti, mi amor, mi vida, mi angel, mi todo. You have brought happiness to my life. You are everything that embodies perfection. All the shufft you do for me, make me realize how lucky I am. Te Amo - Robert

THESE GYS PUT THE SUNSHINE INTO MY POKKET: Jenny, David, George, Joaquin, Joel, Francisco, Crystal, Erin, Alex, Miriam, Sam, Fernando, Edder, Omar, Aurora, Benny, Sahar, Joey, Johnny, Juan, Christian, Bullet and a quarter.

Love Always, RubyRomona

Happy Valentines Day! Izamar, Natalie, Cindy,Jill,Samantha, and Tiffany. you guys are great! You guys can be my Valentine! LOL. I love you guys and I hope you get me chocolates! Oh yea, and Tiffany you're a wild child! LOL

Love, Martha!

Samantha, you are the greatest & you are the source of my joy. You are my muse, light & heart.

Love Anthony P.

I live for the nights I won't remember with the friends I'll never forget. I love "The family."

Thanks for making senior year amazing!

-Rachel

MANA MANA!

-The Shadow Priest

Happy Valentines Day to a very Special Girl who is Supercool, super cute and super AMAZING!
XOXO and lots of love

Sincerely,
Shawn

Shay D,

You complete me! I don't know what I would do without you! We are two peas in a pod! I love you!

-Ray S.

Breanna, happy valentines day you know I love you, you have been 1 of the closest friend I have had in Lane Tech and I hope it continues to be this way.

Love you Bre baby

To Josh,
G-Rod waz framed
Be my Valentines!
Love DAVID

PINK TEAM!

Dear David De Follick,
Babe you are one of the best things that has ever happened to me and I want everyone to know it. I love you so much and even though I'm not the biggest fan Valentien's Day, I know it will be amazing because I'm with you. Happy Valentines Day!

Love Always & Forever, Your Smurf,
Jessi <3 xoxo

Hey Rach! I want to challenge you to a bowling match because I know your hobby is bowling. And you're on the bowling team. Anyways, I won't forget to mention how great of a friend you are and how fun it is talking to you in class!

Bubbe,
I want you to know how happy I am with you and how I love spending time with you! Your the best, I miss and like you the most always <3

Love, Baby Cakes!

Leslie A. and Dyon B.

The three divisions musketeers, you girlies are the best! Thanks for being there for me guys through those hard times. The good times too at Chili's ha!

Love you, Stef Ceron

HAPPY VALENTINE'S
THANKS FOR THE RIDES TO SCHOOL
RACHEL STEIBING & BLEDSOE
Anonymous

Para Leti, part 2, yeah I decided to buy another one of those thingys. But I forgets what I awas going to say. I love you with all my heart and want to spend all of the rest of my life with you. Sos mi angel, mi mundo, me Carino, Te Amo!

-Robert

So high School is almost over
It's very Hard to believe
But I think you and Me were destined to be
Through the good times and the bad times
We always worked it out

Thankfully, there is no larking about
As we sit under this gray cloud of confusion
Me and you have stumbled into this illusion
The illusion is vanishing
& the sun has come out, so I scream and shout.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!!

Steph, Arely, Annetta, Jackie
Fun times this year! I'm glad I got the chance to meet each and everyone of you and that we got so close.

Happy V-day! I love you!

Happy Valentine's Day to Ukie Club; my division loves Angela, Rebecca,Laura and Isael; the love of my life, Inela(even though your road rage will probably kill us one day lol); my sweetheart Adisa; my bff Sahar; and all the Seniors! Lets make these last months count!

Love, Tesi

Dear Tory Souths,
So glad i met you.

Soulmate <3

love,

Ponleu Cookie Keo

My love guppy... You brighten my day seeing you everyday in 5th & 6th. I love you & your hot body. I can't wait till we're roomies next year! & Remember, when you cry, I cry a long with you.

Thuong <3 Anna

Lucia and Jasmina -
I <3 YOU BOTH
- Patrycja

MARINE SISTERS- Happy Vday girls! Have fun andbe good! Can't wait to come ack from our mini-vacations and hear how your nights went!
Love, Minka
P.S. Happy Vday Mrs. Kulick and baby! Jasmina, Selena, Jillian, Amanda

TO SUPERMAYNE,

You have given me so much happiness and I wanna thank you for that. It has only been a month and yet I love you already. I send this to my favorite person in this world. <3 Love, SUPAWOMAYNE

Samantha Baby,

Your the best most amazing girlfriend I've ever had. The spice to my life. The peanut to my butter. My partner in crime. *twiddles fingers* I love you!

Your Valentine, Natalie

To: My relationship counterpart,

Shawn Ward

You are completely amazing so much that i have to let it be known. You are that warm smile that brightens my day. You are that comforting hug that makes me feel safe. You are the empathetic ear that listens to me [nonsensical ramblings and randomness included] You are the person who can make me laugh no matter how hard I try not to. You are a person that I really, truly care about. But most importantly, you are appreciated babe.

Happy Valentines Day!

xox

Dyon

Dyon and Estefani.... My divison besties!
We have had the best times in division, I can't imagine it without you guys, I would be stuck with Anna. We need to go to chili's! Love you guys! three division muskateers

<3 Leslie

Dear Cessa: I love you so much. I decided to buy this spot from you for you. So, here goes: Love ya, Cessa!

The Dinosaur Friendship Club is too cool for school.

Dear Peter Giudizi,
I have loved you since the 1st time I layed eyes on you. I have been holding in these feelings for 3 years and think this is the best way to do it. I know you might ask Megan to prom, but if that doesn't work out... you might want to take me.

Love always + forever,
Spencer Sikora

Piya <3 Tina
Forever
I LOVE YOU!!

your the pea to my pod! the star to my burst, the hershey to my kiss, the baby to my girl, the fruit to my loom, the milky to my way, But mostly, YOU'RE THE BEST TO MY FRIEND!

"you'll be the prince and I'll be the princess:its a love story baby, just say yes"

Hey Joanne, I love you
01-21-04

Hey Jojo! You are such a wonderful friend. Thanks for being there for me when I needed someone to talk to about my day during class. You are such a cute pillsbury because poking you is always fun.

<3 JED

Baby being with you has brightened my life. Everytime we're together you make me feel like I'm in my own world where only you and I exist. What I love most is now you're MINE! =] To: Tesi From : Aldin

To Mary! Mary! & Ms. Larsen
When we gonna write our scissors.
<3 Paige
P.S. Me Love You Long

Debbie and Indira
Thank you for all the fun times in 6th. All the stories (Indira!/, jokes, laughs, advice, and "mad" times. I appreciate them! DL thanks 4 being here! Indira Salgado, kool last name! =D

-Daisy M.

Raquel and Cessa,
I LOVE YOU! 7th period wouldn't be the same if you both weren't in it. YOU BOTH COMPLETE ME!
Hehe;

Je t'aime mes amies,
Brooke

To: Leslie + Steph
My division U.N.!! I cannot imagine division without you two. Our chili's conversations and our locker talks. I love you two girlies. You guys have always been there for me and I'll always be there for you.
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!!

I love you Vicky

- Rod

To all of you, my friends,
thank you for being the family that I so desperately needed. May we never part, may we remain a family for years to come.

- Abe

Aurora,
Marry
Me?

Happy Valentine's Day to my other 2 peas from the pod - Leti-n-Tracy! Also, to the love of my life, Joe, I love you and always will! Let nobody tell you different!

Aldin,
Happy Valentine's Day baby! I am so glad we're together and I absolutely love how you always manage to make me smile. <3 Tesi
P.S. Stop being such a tease :)

DEVIN! HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!
I CAN NEVER BE DOWN WHEN DEVIN IS AROUND!!!
I LOVE YOU! LOVE, NICKI!

HANNAH! HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY! YOU ARE CRAZY AWESOME!
I LOVE YOU! LOVE NICKI!

Happy Valentine's Day to
all my loves! - Angela Z.

PIYA <3 DJ
HAPPY 3 YEARS & 2
MONTHS!!!

"Pop there goes my nose!"
"Where did it go?!?!" haha I love you Piya!<3

JAMIE PECULIS,

If you were the words on this page, you'd be that they call FINE PRINT! Your momma must've been a baker, because you've got a nice set of buns! Did the Sun just come u or did you just smile? What I'm TRYING to say is you're the smartest, funniest, wittiest, most unique, and INCREDIBLE boyfriend ever. Our love is like dividing by zero: it can't be defined! Thanks for the best 20 months, 3 weeks, & 3 days ever!

5.18.07- Enanna

To my T.V. moment, gummy worm, marshmellow coffee-flavored ice-cream with banana and caramel eating, friend. For my 3 hour car conversation, "solve this equation", "vampire wanna-be", Sunday night phone calls, dancing Queen, friend. To my Toys R' us quiz girl. To my other half girl. To my forever and a day girl. To my ride or die girl. To my best friend girl. From yo' girl.

Sundays in the afternoon... Tuesdays in teh morning... and all day on Thor's day. Odin's Loft- where you can experience your pillaging side in the heart of the American Midwest.

12.08.06

I love you Booboo

<3

Happy Valentines Day

To My Sister Ashley-Ann:
I Love you!

Anyone Interested in Taking the QUIZ! Text QUIZ to 773-450-6084
Sophomores thru seniors (Girls Only)

Happy Valentines Day to the Craziest group of people I know: Becca 2, Lisa, Monica, Luke, Vicky, and Diane. Enjoy the rest of the year and party hard- Becca 1

Go Class of 2009

Lets take a nap
=]

Eric! Happy Valentine's Day! Snorora would be proud! Love Nicki (My Tomach Hurts)

Pink Team!
Happy Valentines Day!! You guys deserve the best of the best because you are great people. You guys mean more to me than anything!! I can't even begin to count the number of times you guys have been there for me! Amy Lynn...we have been through the toughest of tough times and still pulled through. Dani... we came to our senses about grammar school fights and have become close friends. Ray Babe... you have been with me through everything! You know my deepest, darkest secrets. You keep me in line when I'm getting out of hand and love me for the person I truly am. We had the summer of our lives.. the summer that changed everything! and we wouldn't take anything back! I am gonna be the girl you knew over the summer!
Anyways, I love you guys and I am very grateful to have you as friends!

Love,

Shay Boo!!

Neepah Creepah,
you're ghetto fabulous! If we were to psychoanalyze you, we'd say you'd need to "screw in the lightbulb and pet the dog" *moves hands* Introducing Neepa. Dingy Dingy, Dingy Ding
Love always, Peanut jelly Butter and LOL

I LOVE CHAIR!

Happy Valentines Day Pink Team! love you!!

-Amy

And I could tell you his favorite color's green, he loves to argue, born on the 17th...

Dear Carrita Flie,
Ain't no mountain high enough, ain't no valley low enough, ain't no river wide enough to keep me from getting to you baby! I'm so very proud of you.
Happy Valentine's Day.

Love Always + Forever
Dear Carrita Flie,
It's Valentines Day and we just wanted to tell you, that you are a wonderful sister, we are very proud of you, and we hope you know how much you always mean to us. Happy Valentines Day.

Love Your Sisters

Lauren Ann Salas, Go to prom with me!

-David Ruge

Seniors

(Michelle Ruan:
I have never cared for someone so much before. My life
was like a sad puzzle with missing pieces. Now it is a
complete happy image because of you. I wish you happi-
ness and love on this special day. No matter where I am,
what happens the very thought of you makes me feel
happy and warm. Happy Valentines day.
Anonymous B.C.

Seniors

Alexis,
Happy Valentines day baby. I love you with all my heart and I'm never going to let you go. You're that one person in the world that is meant for me and I know that . You're the only person in the world that I can spend every living hour with of everyday and still miss you when we're separate for an hour. I don't know what we're going to do about college but I do know whatever we decide, nothing's going to change the way I feel about you.

Erik Bartell

Pedro, Abi, Dayanna & Mariela,
Happy Valentines Day you guys! Thank you for being awesome friends =] Pedro, you're the bestest div. buddy ever, besides Mariela. Mariela, I miss you so much! Good luck w/ everything, and I'll be visiting you soon. I haven't gone to Tropicana in the longest so one day me and Dayanna will take a 1/2 day to go say hi. Dayanna, I can't believe I even hang out w/ you, you're such a loser =] lol JK! You're a real cool, down to earth, sometimes way to lazy person. lol. Try harder, bronaca. Abi, wow I can't believe we're managed to still stay friends after so much time.

A special shoutout to
division 906.

Don't send ma rocket to the moon,
I am not the one I can't believe I spent \$6 on this message, I ain't cho gurlfriend! Ladies this valentine's day don't put all your eggs in one basket and fellas, put a ring on it!

Luv, Mrs. Bey

Hi mor =]
No mas te queria decir que te amo y que estoy demasiada feliz contigo. Ojala te guste lo que te mande <3

Love, your mor

Would you be my
Valentine Putang?
Chun Ruk Ter =]

Tati you are my world. I love you. Seeing you happy means the world to me. You're my Superwoman. It doesn't matter how bad my day can be going, when I see you everything just leaves my mind. I thank God everyday for you. I love the way you can say so much without saying a word, the way you always have perfect timing, everything about you. Anyway enough about me lol. Even though it's only been about two months, I feel like I have been with you forever and I hope to be with you forever more. I love you this much<-----

> LOL.
Love,
Supamayne

I'm pretty sure you know who this is. I just wanted to know how much I love you. You have no idea how much I love you, how much I want to be with you, how much I want to hold you in marms and feel the touch of your lips. I want to always be by your side and you by mine. I'm so grateful that I met you. I love you, cutie :)

Anna <3
Dave

Division 912 and
Division 925 are
both cool; Let it Be.

Dear Booger Face,

I would dive to the depths of the sea, I would climb to the top of Mt. Everest just to listen to your soothing voice. I would run through the Sahara desert, I would walk through the Artic just to catch a glimpse of your beautiful eyes. I would go to the ends of the earth just to feel your soft lips against mine. Steph, you complete my day and I would do anything to be with you. Love, DoDo Bird

Hi Babe, I just wanted to tell you that everything has been perfect lately and I don't want it to change. Love you Babe.

P.S. I have a surprise for you after your B-Day!

-Emilio

Together since September of 02

I promise that I would have never knew those young girls that I called my friends would be my sisters to the very end
Happy Valentines Day to my girls
~Kevinia(twin), KeKe & Ashley~

Love, Jasmine

Even though you're a goofball,
I love you so so so so much
and I want to spend the rest of my life with you!!! Go Black-hawks; Blues suck.

Melanie,
One thing I truly hate is drama. Drama is something I was never put through in H.S. Except in your case. It was a lot of drama btwn us, at least for me. The searing, arguing, threats; then the texting, laughing, flirting... You said you would neer talk to me again, and now your say you'll keep seeing me, even when we're done here at lane. Melanie, I hate drama, but I luv you .-=] I'll always remember high school with you as being totally worth it <3

Love,
Abimael

P.S. Same question... Do you believe in destiny?

Melissa H.

At homecoming we danced, and right then I felt something. I had been waiting and wanting and that dance was a key moment. J.T. said "if your love is all I have", but because of your current situation, you will never know. What was once a crush, is now love, growing stronger and stronger each day. You would always tell me you shot the sheriff... and I would finish off the rest. Quite a few times you've said I have a big ego, so that's who I am.

- Ego

<3 To all my favorite girls<3
Liz, Yadir, Alexandra, Catherine, Angie, Diana D., Ariyel, Jazmin, Lucy, Brittany, Soph. girls Lilly and Alexis, Danielle, Laura K, Diana A, and of course Annabel and Amaris. I lve you all. You will always have a special place in my heart <3

Love

Abimael <3

To My Pumpkin Phoo,

My mother once told me to never let any man disrespect you and to always live life with confidence. I have made many mistakes in my life from simples lies to dating bad guys. The only best choice I have made for myself was having you come into my life. You not only changed my life, you also gave me your unconditional love. (As you know, and so does God, I have prayed for you since I was seven. ou have shown me new things and encouraged me to do nothing but better myself. You are my heart, you are my soulmate, my bestfriend and my boyfriend. If it wasn't for you, I wouldn't be who I am now today. I appreciate you and everything you have done for me.

HAPPY 2 YEAR ANNIVERSARY, BABE!

From Me2U,
Apple

BATO!

There's something I've always wanted to say it's when I see you, everything minute, of every hour, of every day. It's when I talk to you, and you tease me in that way. It's what makes you. You, that takes my breath away. It's everything you do to make me smile. It's what makes me want you to stay a while. If you feel that what I feel is right, then please Bato., call me tonight.

Your Friend,
Lisbeth Segura

Baby Cakes,

It may have started out as a "Booty Call" but everytime I look into your eyes, it brings such an indescribable feeling. I'm happy we're together+ hope we continue to grow!

Luv, Bubbe

10 reasons why I love Sam Grady:

1. He is really cute!
2. He watches Disney movies with me
3. He notices when I use a new shampoo
4. He looks good in plaid
5. He always calls back first
6. He lets me clean his kitchen
7. He bought me a batman wallet in Mexico!
8. He kinda smells like peanuts
9. He travels from China to see me.
10. He loves his man moccasins.

To Alex,

Hey Baby, just wanted to tell you for hte hundredth time that I love you and say Happy Valentine's Day. I am so glad that I will be spending it with you and I hope we spend many more together. Thanks for always being there for m and know that I'm always going to be there for you too. Always remember that you are my best friend, and I could never replace you.

Te lubese, Linda

Christian Sandoval,

Happy anniversary! This has been the best year of my life and I want you to know that I love you so much. You are my best friend and I am blessed to have you in my life. Thanks for always being there for me and I look forward to more years to come.

Love Always,
Andrea Alypan

Tina, I knew at once my attraction for you would follow right after I heard you say "Chee-cago"

-Alex

Juniors

To my division: 046 ILY all! Only one more year guys! To my sisters: Dolch & Nemo ILY both! You'll do fine in college. To my 2nd period besties: thx for letting me use the saw! :) ILY! Ashley, Felicia, & Joanne ILY ladies! To my physics beffs: you girls are the absolute best. ILY "pero mucho mucho muchooo!" LOL! To the freshy boys bball team: you are all hilarious. Just not Coach Gyllenhall or "Coach B." (They're lame (jk!)) To my freshman division, Happy Valentine's Day from your STARS Mentor =) & finally to Ahmed, B, Drea, & Abby & Aziz ILY guys!!!! =)

<3 Tali
P.S. Karen! It's on your forehead! xD hahaha jk (ILY Happy Imaginary BDay =)

To my love Evin:

I'm so happy to have you in my life! You are incredibly good to me and I thank you for always being there for me. I love you and I will always love you. Never stop smiling. Ever since I met you at the wedding you always smiled and were yourself. =) All I want are more wonderful days with you. <3 I'm happy that I met you and your awesome family. I love you! *Kiss*

Happy Valentine's Day Evin!!
yours truly: Ana Rivera

Al mio amore Zulema,

Il mio cuore e per voi, ti amo con tutta l'anima non posso vivere senza voi. As you can see I am not that great in writing a letter in Italian, but if I could I would tell you I love you in every language imaginable from Arabic to the Monkey language. I think I might have to make a new language because I can't find the words in our vocabulary that describes how I feel about you. You're such a wonderful and beautiful person. I want to be the cloud that holds your thoughts, the day that you dream of and the ZzZzZzZz of your sleep. I want to be your all!

Your one and only

I love Nader Ihmoud
Tina Ruan, Spook, Abdul,
B.L.O.B & M.P.C

Love Chelsea

i love mi pastelito
de naranja! <33

Dear GRACE,
You don't know me but I've been admiring you from afar for two years now. I have seen all your plays since Larceny and Old Lace. I lovingly watch you on the Western bus and I follow you in the halls every day. You are so lovely, it pains me to see you change your relationship status to anything but "single." I'm too shy to profess my undying love to you or add you on Facebook, so I'll keep stalking you until we graduate. But graduation doesn't matter, I know where you live and all, so my life will have purpose even after we depart from Lane Tech. you are the one, Grace McQueen, you're my destiny LOVE ANONYMOUS!

ZG
<3
BV

Happy Anniversary
Jordan and
Beatrice
<3

Flory you're the hottest thing in the world

I love being in your division.
Your Secret Admirer

Hi BOOM! I'm sure you already know this but I think you are the most amazing girlfriend a guy can ask for and you made these past two years the best two years of my life (so far). I can't wait for us to spend the rest of our lives together <3
I LOVE YOU OLIVIA MICHELLE MOWERS

-Max

Kem cho, oh heck no. Majanna cho, you ain't my bro. Bill de ghay jana, waha pav khava banana. Biryani masala, ou ain't a saala. Gujvathi, Urdu, Punjabi I'm a hijabi. I don't eat havaam, I only eat Haldivaam. Thamaavo Pil che khavaah, you're not my Gulaab

- To my loves [Our Guju Rap]

2 mii divaz. Tasha, Brianna, Bre, Shanae, Chelz, & Jas. And mii doggz Abdul, Spook, Darnell, & Brandon. HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!!!

GUCCI

i <3 U KW ur da bestest BFF
eva...i <3 DH 2 shh...it's a secret...

Happy Valentine's Day and Happy Birthday Karen! You're weird but cool. I hate Jonathan. Just kidding. You're the best ev. Hi Ange and Berenice, and Nelma. What up Tonio

-Sadeta <3

Dear Karla Montiel

I am not only writing this to you as your boyfriend, but as your best friend. We have been through moments that I will never forget, and obstacles that we have surmounted as a couple. I predict that I'll be writing to you next year, because I just can't see myself without you. Better yet, I promise you this. Happy Valentine's Day Sweetie.

Love,

Aziz Susarrey

Ari, Happy Valentine's Day! Wow I can't believe it's been so long! But that's ok, because since it was with you it makes it worth every second. I'm happy to be able to spend the day with the person I love, YOU. I love you and hope to spend many more Valentines with you.

Love Luis

My Valentines. I love my besties! - Chris K., Shanae J., Jasmine W. I'm in love with my haters!! - Too many to name
Ambrell "Breezy Badd"

Zygmunt Marek Czykieta,
I love you so much baby. You are the joy of my day and your kisses make everything better. You make me laugh when I don't even want to smile. Happy one year and one month anniversary love!

- Sreeruppa Dey

Dearest bbyjarofume,
This past year has truly been sublime. Everyday I am filled with an excitement to be with you and to embark on our adventure of the day, you make me smile from ear to ear and give me butterflies in my stomach [still]. You have truly made a difference in my life, and I'm not just saying that. I love you. [and that deserves a period at the end]

Love,

Bbypants <3

Div. 045

I expect all of you to be at my wedding ceremony. It's imperative that we continue the love fest that occurs during division everyday. I love you all!

Mr. Yadizzle

Happy Valentine's Day Dulce, Aurora, Omar, Edrienne, (Arturo, Ed, Natalie, Jane, Ellie, Gio, Julian, Jamie, Love) you guys. You guys are awesome and fun to hang out. Class of 2010
=) xD > <

Sincerely, Carol Div. 051

Eloisa Zarco!

Thank god for buildings because when I'm with you, I feel like jumping off of them

Love Nena

P.S. in case you didn't realize jumping off of buildings is bad!

This is for all the french toast girls! You know who you are! I <3 all you girlies and I miss running with you guys! Anywho, Happy Valentine's Day! Remember I'm always here for you guys when you need me! "French toast dominate! French Toast, don't hate!" LOL =D The memories are priceless! Shoutout to Div. 047, with the best division teacher ever, Mrs. Palmares! To all my Div. amigos, I <3 you guys! Also, Happy Valentine's Day to all the girls who think Valentine's Day sucks! I agree! =] Just remember to wait for that one guy who will make your heart smile! =]

-Listen to your heart

(Nathan, you owe me dinner because of the unfortunate events that occurred January 23, 2009. Anyways I'm happy you're my Valentine AGAIN!!!! I don't know how it happened. I guess I'm just LUCKY!!!! You're amazing. Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Amanda

Amanda Ruiz,

You are super hot!!! I always think about you. Those were the best cyber months of my life. The texts and facebook. It was love. Please find a way to technologically communicate with me.

Love, Kristopher Bruce

R-To, Bro, Rubber Ducky, Booty Chin. Dang! You are so obnoxious, belligerent, obscene, loud, noisy, & screechy! I don't know what I'd do without you so Happy Valentine's Biffle! Te digo Chacho Meng! <3
K-Lo P.S. I "HAYT" CHU!..NOT! <3

Dear Hot Spicy Mamacitas,

You got dat flava and dat swagga dat I be liking. I can make your boo status taken! Rachel Ehrenburger - McCarthy - Monroe and Lidsay P.P. Gxyz you guys are da cat's meow/bomb diggity fo sho! Love Always, Alex Alfaro, Bato Mxyz, Sloblo, Kxyz, Eric Camacho, & Jake Pxyz

Juniors

Happy Valentine's Day!
Jazmin Montenez, Angelo River, Lillian Vaughn,
Edwardo Diaz, Carisa Pappas

Love Y'all

Happy Valentine's Day
Alondra, Eli, and Arely
and Eddy =)

- Rosa

Ned, my love for you is like diarrhea, it never stops.
Happy 2-year-8-month anniversary, and Happy
Valentine's Day! I love you.

Love, Angie

Just want to say Happy Valentine's Day to my best
friends, Marina Diaz, Nihad Hadzic, and Tali Arroyo.
Plus to the wrestling team and to its real managers and
Div. 030. I love you lots!

Abby Mercado

I LOST THE GAME

Lane Tech Drumline for lyfe! One line, one
sound. This is for everyone in the line. Every-
one is family. Join the line. David don't leave
the line.

Happy Valentine's Day to everyone. FLOC
CITY ALL DAY. I LOVE ALL MY BROTH-
ERS. I hope yall have good Valentine's Day. Ya
lil sis, Brittney. I LOVE YOU GUYS!!

CHELSEA
NO MATTER WHAT HAVE BEEN THROUGH I
HAVE NEVER STOPPED LOVING YOU! DESPITE
THE WAY I ACT, LOSING YOU WILL BE THE
HARDEST THING I WILL EVER DO! I LOVE YOU
- SNOOKUMS

2 all my M.P.C. Sistaz! T.A., J-hood, Rarr, Ear,
and Cool-lade. Have a happy Lover's Day. Love,
Lady P, C-Sea, BreBaby, Laun Bootay, and Bam
Bam, <3 Luv Ya Lotz! To best buddy Tron, we
luv u! Gucci!

Never gonna give you up, never gonna let you
down, never gonna run around and desert you.
Never gonna make you cry, never gonna say
goodbye, never gonna tell a lie and hurt you.

Happy Valentine's Day! This goes to my awe-
some girls, An, Mayra, Mabel. Lol. And you too
guys. Alvaro and Ernie. Luv you guys. XOXO
Grecia

Let's play a guessing game.
What give you a feeling of lightheartedness? What consumes
your every though every single minute of the day? What takes your
breath away everytime you experience it?

It's THE GAME and YOU JUST LOST!

I HEART YOU KONRAD!
LOL.
LOVE, ASHLEY L.

Happy Valentine's Day!
Be my Valentine, Chuma, Athina, Hajan &
Vero. I will love you always.

Jocy <3

I love you Briana
and hope you read this so I didn't pay \$2.00 for
nothing. Happy Valentine's Day!!!! <3

Shane

David, it's been an amazing 9 months with you.
I love every moment that we spend together. I
love you so much. Happy Valentine's Day!
Love, Holly

To Isabel Hernandez:
This message goes out to my one and only true
love!! My Isa!! I love you oh so very much,
without you, I dunno what I'd do! Love, tu
media naranja

Starbucks loves
that Java =) <3

HAPPY VALENTINE'S KNEE-
LIE-DUR! Don't forget the stick
man =) - Fluffy (no homeboy =))

23

From K.R.

To: Boofull

From: Snuggle Cuddles

Hello Beautiful. You're what I go to school for.
You are my Lovebug and I will be sorry if I
can't have you. Don't ever push me away to be-
ing just friends because I will always be good to
you. Everytime I'm with you, I just want you to
hold on a little bit longer, only 6 minutes more...
(But our games can only be played one day at a
time. I fell in love with you when you looked
me in the eyes and tonight, on Valentine's Day,
Please Be Mine.

I love you too gorgeous!
Happy Valentine's Day *wink
wink* =D

To my amazing XC French Toast girls: I LOVE
YOU! Thank you for everything! Plus Veronica
M. and Laura I., greatest girls ever.

Abby Mercado

Dear Paulina,
I know over the past couple of years, I haven't made the
best impression on you. But now I'm read to blow out
the competition and make you my girlfriend. I know I
can do it! Love, Reed Lubin

Ishboo oh ishboo you make
all my wishboos come
trueeee!

Boy likes girl; girl likes boy; boy
buys girl stuffed bear, Valentine's
Day is born. Happy V-Day everyone!

<-- AWW DANG,
ME TOO! ~McLovin

I love you Lovely Luna,
will you marry me?

ERIK CHEN, WRONG AGAIN
You are wrong once again! teehee xD

- Nick Nguyen

TO MY BABY DAVID
U R THE LOVE OF MY LIFE. THOUGH ALL THAT
HAS HAPPENED BETWEEN U I WILL ALWAYS
LOVE U & WILL ALWAYS BE HERE FOR U. U
MEAN THE WORLD TO ME.
LOVE U 4EVA CHELS <3

BRIAN RAMOS IS A
SEXY BEAST =) <3!!

To my girls (&guys)
I LOVE YALL SO MUCH. I'M SO HAPPY TO HAVE U
IN MY LIFE. YOU GUYS ARE SO AMAZING.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD DO WITHOUT
YOU

CHELS <3

Happy V-Day to my girls! Nicki, Stephanie, Amy, Suzi,
I love you!
Happy Vday Ada, Izzy, Elizabeth, My Lunch Table,
Oh! and a Happy V-Day to some new friends, Pamela +
Juan!

-Love Amanda

Happy Valentine's Day Yuliya, Byanka, Julie, Amanda,
and all my paisas.
(You guys know who you are!) Div. 047, Class of 2019,
JUNIORS

Ivette

Happy V-day! ^.^
Wubberz my smokin' hawt
wifeys!
KUNG POWER FAMILY! <3

Hey it's me, and you know who you are. I've
been needing to say this, but its been too hard.
Uh my milkshake brings all the boys to the
yard...

To my best friends Kaitlyn, Paulina, Enisa and
Alisa: will all 4 of you be my valentines?! I
couldn't choose just one, so you guys all better
say yes <3

Rina L

Karen, you're the
best thing that ever
happened 2 me, I'm
the happiest guy
ever when I'm with
you. Happy An-
niversary my love.
MUAH!!! I LOVE
YOU!! / Johnny-
Boy

I LOVE MR. EISENBERG! WE ARE BFFS
FOR LIFE! My best friends forever are Ashy,
Lauren Daly, Courtney Wolfe, Megan Knapp,
Panties, Katie, Lamb, Peter Yawanis, Jo Chavez,
Liz Hock, Arisa DeLeon, my wife - Michelle
Cavanaugh, Jordan S., Molly Dunbar, Jenna
Wasserman, Olivia O'Donovan, Chris Malogan,
Kara Goss, J-Flo, and the love of my life, Jes-
sica Anetsberger. Ms. Radlein is amazing. And I
love everyone about that. Love Taylor Hogan.

Hey Hun :) Happy Valentine's Day. MMMM A year and
two months this month HeHe...No one I'd rather be with
on such a lovely day :D

I love you Ewok. My sweetheart.

Love, Kodak

To My Wonderful Junior Classes,
Thanks for being such hard-working students
this year. Have a fabulous Valentine's Day!
Hopefully there are brownies are your future!
- Mrs. Michie

Roses are red, violets are blue, V-Day @ LT wouldn't
be much without you! Yeah that's what she said so I
figured it's true so from a distance just know that I'll
always love you

~And so the lion fell in love with the lamb.~
Sending all my love to my anonymous best class of
Lane Tech 2010!
Forever & Always,
(I WANT TO OUR CLASS PRESIDENT!)
Lauren "Low-low" Wagner

Java loves <3 Starbucks ;)
No more 3x5's!! <3

- He knows who.

For the best division ever!

DIV 047

A tu division, a tu division!

Vamos chicos, vamos mas

rapido!

Vamos chicos, vamos mas

rapido!

Love Mrs. Palmares

Nicole McIntyre:
There just aren't
enough hours in the
day for our love, bby [P]

I love you Lovely
Luna!

I love you more
Lovely Luna!

I love you the most
Lovely Luna!

Seriously though you will forever
be the shining gem that takes my
breath away, Lovely Luna

Te quiero much Cosa
Bella!!

Pancake

Joel, ILYMTUWEK
Beanie, you know ILYM...TJ
Aleks, Jose, and Liz,
We should pay more attention and Jose is okay with the
fact that we are alive.

- AYESHA =D

Are you missing a lung? Are you tired of going through
life without one? Ask for Nick to get one quick.

Call now!

-(773) 865-2293

Mr. Nick Nguyen

Babe the last 3 months with you have
been amazing. I'm so glad we're together.
I would love you even if you were ribs!

Love Andre

To my cookie lil Arisa. Happy Valentine's
Day Babe. Why you so cute for...I'm so
happy to be wit you. Thanx for being with
my crazy self. Forreal fasho tho hope you
know who it is.

CHIBITA
THIS IS ME PROCLAIMING MY LOVE FOR
YOU (NO HETERO LOL) xD (DULCE MADE ME
BUY THIS).

ESKIMO-N-CHUN-
KEE

10-12-06

Yo My BayBee!! =]]
Mi Corazoncito!

Moonlight,

Let me attempt to be your sky and compli-
ment your shine. Perfection my goal because
the word conforms to you. Let me refuse the
yellow orb's continuation so that our night
sensuaffectation works for no means and stays
the end.

The V to the Unit

Dear Sugarcake,
I just want you to know that I love you and Happy
Valentine's! TQM

Your Dork,
Cuppycake

Hey Sreeruppa,
We have been together for over a year now. We
have had many bad times but even more good
times, none the less. Overall I see happiness in
what we have together. What I mean to say is
that you mean a lot to me, without you I don't
know what I would do. You are the reason that I
wake up every morning. Remember, you mean
too much to me. I love you baby. From Ziggy.

Dear Jake-Ryan P.,

I dream about you every day. I'm in your trig
class and I listen to you brag to your friends
about your weekend. You're amazing.

Love, your secret admirer

I LOVE YOU
SUNSHINE!!! <3
-6.14.06

Jordan, love you was the best decision I ever
made for myself. <3

Love,

Beatrice

SOOO DUDE WE TOO ILL FO
THIS SHIZ SOOOONNN!! =D
ILY NIKKA

To the misfits in the corner, I'll see you guys in jail in
the future 'cause we're savvy like that ~ Aquaman,
Cap'n George, Monica, Know Me, Steph, No Name,
and that smart blonde we've got to name. F3412 7h3
POW312 dud35

Happy Valentine's Day! Jackie, Jamie C.,
Jammies & Paulina, I love you girls more than
anything!

Love,

Jola

Happy Vday baby! Love my bff Megan and my
jr and soph peeps. And a special shoutout to my
lunch crew! Are you happy now? "Love does
not alter." Love for today. ILY - Carmen C.

Hey everyone 2day bus passes are now \$23. Have
you lost yet? Well here are some more things to make
you lose, 7, Oprah, black people, wobuffet, W, Ricky,
Adrian, Andres and Sebastian, numbers in general and
of course THE GAME.

Byanka, I just want you to know
that you're great - beautifully
smart, funny - and I want you to
know that you're appreciated.

I love lab partner!!!

...I thought you would know
by now...

Happy Valentine's Day! Ricy I love you. I
bought this because Caitlyn was selling them,
even though you don't go here. Muah!

From Gel
Happy Valentine's Day Baby! How can I sum up how I
feel in 40 words or less? I can do it in 3. I <3 U! It's just
me and you girl, we don't need no one else.

Webber + Ms

SOPHIA I LOVE YOU
YOU'RE MAI WAIFU
STOP CHEATING ON ME.

Nelida,

Since I saw you in Spanish class, I knew you were cool.
Now you're the only reason I come to school. Happy
Valentines' Day!

You know who this is. LOL!!!

Cute Carmen, Hilarious Nathan, Naughty Cody,
I'm sorry for leaving you guys. 5th was the best.
Miss you guys. We still the lunch crew =]

Love you, Flory

To Azis&Karla. My two good friends have
found love with eachother. I honestly couldn't
be any happier for you two. I wish the best of
luck and keep your love strong.

Abby Mercado

Hey Rach,
Are you tired yet, because you've been running through
my mind alot lately. Is still tell people your my girl-
friend. So this Valentines day will you be my girlfriend
again? With love, Mike "Varsity Baseball" Monroe

Hi Yiz! I'm glad you're my
FIENDR!! You're my special
masha =]

NATALIE GADDINI!!!

-Adam Pena

To my people, ya'll know who ya'll is. I love you guys
with all my heart. We are best friends for lyfe. Lil' Bit,
Bre, Foe-Foe, Breezy, and everybody else. I love ya'll.

Love,

Ms. OhSoKrazi

Yea, you're in college, and yea you don't go to
Lane - whatever. I just want everyone to know
I <3 you.

- The Girl Next Door

Roses are red, Violets are blue,
My dearest Div. 028,
I Love You.

Flory =]

Dear Natalie Gaddini,
How I love you so. You should leave Jake for me
because he is a crow.=) I love Jake Adam (the cute
one), Jensen, and everyone involved in this. Love note.
(P.S. Adam Pena rocks! Jake Pieruccini is lame!

XOXO Ashley H.

Hey baby! Wow 22 months now I can't
believe it. I know we've had our ups and
downs but we're still here and going strong.
I love you so much and I always will. I
love you always and forever, Ari Santiago
Happy Valentine's Day!

Matchups of the YEAR! Ashley vs. Katie Special Guest
(JonesStasia vs. Dani Becca vs. Gaddini
Chris Leyba vs. Mike varsity baseball Monroe
Reed Lubin vs. Culeb Albo vs. Stan
Tom vs. Ashly

"Never gonna give you up, never
gonna let you down, never gonna run
around and desert you!

Never gonna make you cry, never
gonna say goodbye, never gonna tell
a lie, and hurt you!" <3

~McLovin

My Squishy and Smurf you two are
my "Everything". You are the sunshine
to my world. I hope to be the light of
yours.

"Why do we fall Master Bruce?... So we
can learn to pick ourselves up"- Batman
Begins. I will always be there for you.

Nina Palumbo, Happy Valentin'es Day,
my sweetheart. When I am with you I am
the happiest I've ever been. When I hold
you, I can stay there forever. When I kiss
you, everything else goes away. You are
absolutely wonderful. I love you.
~Joseph Rodriguez

I love you handjelina jolie
Antonio Stevens

To Mireya,

On our 1st date ur dad showed me his axe but 4 some
dumb reason I still went ahead and asked Will u be my
girl? and u said yes So I've never looked back, cuz I've
been heavily blessed.

Love, Arevedo

I have much to tell you and
I hope you do too one of
them is I'm happy I met
you

Hey Carl,

You don't know who I am, but I know
you, everything about you. The intelligent
things you say make my insides tingle. I
hope one day to make the greatest debater
mine, all mine.

By the way, your blonde hair makes you
even sexier.

Happy Valentines Day! I love you Paickle, Pho,
HG! Vertex, Duarte, Maria, Kenny, Aarika, Tay
Skunk, Matty, Jennifer, and Jenny! One Oh!
(Except Tay)

Love Always, Pad Thai/OG

PAOLA RAQUEL ARROYO
Wait! more needs to be said, love you
babe

- Nando

To my Batman,

Happy Valentine's Day Babe. You've saved
me since 11-24-08, and you will always be my
super hero.

Love Always, Kellie

Happy Valentines Day!

K-LO!! Man bro I love you and your hippopo-
mous taradactile side. You my biffle! I don't
know what I would do without you. Just know
I'm always here for you no matter what and I
HAYT CHU!!! <3

To the love of my life,

Roses are red,
Violets are blue
I'd write your name in this,
but I haven't met you.

Anonymous

TO MY BOO-BOO nena, je
t'aime mon amour, we don't need
boys we have "en boire"!

To my dear loving Catalina
May you be mine? May our hands grasp one
another? May you continue to love me, because
without the feeling "LOVE" may as well perish.
Does your heart sing out loud, does it begin to
beat really rapidly whenever you see me? May
wekiss under raw, under the blue sky, or how
about everyday for the rest of our lives. May I
call you Darling? And may we simply steal the
moon together?

Juniors

Happy Valentine's Day - Div 039
- Best Division at Lane! Rock on! ~C
Nan - Siiii
You make me smile like frogs in blenders or fat people fall down stairs.
- David

To my 2 lovebugs Jackie & Marcuz I love you guys so much! => Thanx 4 always being there for me ever since freshman yr. Hope both of ya'll have a happy V-Day.
Love,
Sandra

Div 033 Rocks!!!

Happy Valentine's Day, Des! It's been an awesome month and eleven days, and many mny more in counting! I can't wait to see wht else 2009 has in store for us...and our contracts.
-The Frenz
Lindsay G.
A person can only try so hard to make up for his mistakes he made in the past. In the end, no matter how much a person tries...it means nothing if the person he is trying to make it up to won't give him a chance.
Sincerely,
An Old Friend

I love you Kelsey <3
10/12/08 and Catie too!
Marvex Brown Fernandez is looking for his Valentine come forth to complete his love conclusion
- WRITER =)

Girls we have been through so much since freshman year. We have had our ups and downs but we still are as close as sisters.
I love you girls. Geana, Erica, Lucy, Dogmaris, Love Lizbeth. Hi Isael (LOL)
Happy two year anniversary babe ! It's amazing how time has passed by so quickly. We've been through a lot in these two years and I want to thank you for all of the great memories. Love you babe!
Isael

Sophomores

I'm gonna miss you when you go off to college. Call me everyday boy. Love ya. Join Drumline!
To John O. (The 1st baseman) I loved you the first day I (we) saw you.
-Much Love Baby
-LAXY

Hiiiiii
MAYEEEEEEE!
Mary and Tara,
Happy Valentine's Day my loves. I love you two like you wouldn't believe. Thanks for always being there for me and thanks for being my division buddies. haha. I love you!
Love always,
Kaitlyn, oh and Allison

To: Eddy T.
As I thought of you today,
I thought of all the things we did to feel this way.
As the hours passed on,
I knew that loving you wasn't wrong.
As I sat here,
I realized that you are the one,
And as I love you,
I know that with you is where I belong.
Love, Dayanna

APUSH- 1st period of T.H.E.M. : Congratulations on a good 1st Semester! I'm proud of all of you! Keep up the hard work and effort till the APUSH exam! The Big B.O. (Benevolent One).
Socheata you are my everything. You light my life up like how the stars light up the sky. I love you pookie.
6-25-08 Forever
From your babe

Happy Valentine's Day, Amy, Katie, Kelly, and Lia! No love for you Choney, lul. Well, maybe you too. Vi amo!
Love, Aidan

Happy V-Day to my favorite sophomore girls, Betty, Gabie, Lizzie, and Nina. You guys are the coolest sophomores ever.
XOXO Grecia- Your awesome junior friend

1) The pen I used to write this: \$ 2.08 (it's gel)
2) Paper to write on: \$.50 (it was a news-paper)
3) This ad: \$6.00
4) Valentine's Day gift I got for your bear, Chester:"???"
5) Knowing you'll be smiling when you read this: Priceless
To: Sabrina
From: Eri Q.

CHUBBY WUBBY -N- FATTY
12-31-08
Be Mine!
Cassie, I love the way you take my breath away, the way you make me smile and make me feel safe. I love how you're the most beautiful person I've ever met, and I love how you're perfect in every way.
-Alex
Gogus! Zycze ci Superowych Walentynek. Mam nadzieje ze sie nafaszerujesz czekoladkami i slodyczkami. Ucz sie dobrze bo musisz zostac na topie!
Kocham cie! - Sapcia
I love Rosina. Alnoor, Sualah, Salman, amd Maliha!
So.... Whose your Valentine? :P
I love Patrick (But hate you Spongebob) and Kala Larka
HAHA (inside joke) - Samim and Maliha.
La clase de Espanol es muy divertida y loco!!! XOXO

I can't think lately
It drains me to do so
My lungs close
My stomach curdles
I can even hear the tick and tack of my heart but it beats to your beat.
It beats to think, to hold, to be mesmerized in this metronome of you.
eMWitko

I <3 you, my fat raptor
-Chan Kho Kim

Jamaal, Happy Valentine's Day Bae... Hopefully you'll be with me on dat day... this makes 3 months for us. Stuff happen, but we lasted and I'm happy that we made it this far... Haterz gone write.. so Luv, Marii, MUAH!!

Rawr! Rawr! Rawr! Happy Valentine's Day Bianca! I love you lots!
No hands! :D
From G.I. Jon

Mon Cher Shakey,
I know I put you through a lot and even though I refuse to deliberate on my reason for holding back, you know I'm forever yours! T'adore Dashawn. Love always,
Kha'Dijat A.K.A. Iggy Lewinsky!

Happy Valentine's Day DIV 155
Love, Ms. Feuer

WWWHHHaaDDOWWWNN, I looked at the sky last night, and the north airplane was still there so I made a wish, it better come true because Colombia doesn't include you. Happy V-day.... :]

Hey Izaboo! I <3 u! You're the coolest chick ever and I hope that Arthur asks you out soon (or my brother) lol. That would be MEGA-TOLL!!! ... Love your bff Mel Gullenhaal :)

Down by the bay where the watermelons grow,
I met a boy and I took him home, and I will dare not let him go! I love you Eduardo Bustamte
- Caty

LTVB JV Volleyball
Emily and Marah <3 you guys!
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL!

My heart full of black fire
A thing that should not feel love
But some how all you have done is inspire
Now this pain and hate, I am free of

My hate, my anger, destroyed with my mask
Covering my face, my darkness, my pain
All I can do is nothing but ask,
You, my mask's bane

How can I deserve one such as you?
Loving me forever more
Pass the darkness, guiding me through
Giving me peace during heart's war

Seeing you in my heart burns with a undying flame
Being close to you, my angel, show me light
Holding you in my arms stops this unbearable pain
The love of your heart gives me flight

Think of me, think of me fondly when we said good bye
Remember me once in a while, promise me you'll try

I'm sorry that you fell in love, I'm sorry that you became my white dove. I don't know if this was fate, but I understand if your heart is filled with hate. I never wanted to cause you pain. I never wanted to make your tears fall like rain. I wonder what happens after this after all, you are my bliss. Please don't cry, I'm sorry, it is time to say goodbye.
-Lost within my regrets

Jose-Caring, loving, warm, cozy, lovable, sweet, kind! I love him.
-Isabelle

Freshmen

Love you all my krazy friends!!
Joselyn, Fabi, Jose (Obama), & Luis
Raquel, you're really cool & I like you a lot. Will you go out with me?
From Joey.

Ms. Sebestyen
loves her world
studies class,
and of course
her fabulous
freshmen!

Zeljko you're my inspiration

Roses are red, violets are blue, Joker watch out, I'm coming for you!
From: Harvey Dent
P.S. I love Steve!

P.O.K.!
Hey you! Happy Valentine's Day. Brenda you are the bestest friend I have ever had in my entire life. I really value our friendship. Also you know that I care about you & will be there for you whenever you need me.
Happy Valentine's Day Your friend, Henry

Susie, Erika, Marilyn, Jorgey, Diana, Kathy, Martiza, Arely, Annett, love u guys! u make mee highschool days! all the inside jokes..aye! lmao. So yeah, glad I got to meet u, always gonna be here for you guys thru thick & thin. Love you! =)
Happy Valentine's Day to STARS mentor program and Freshmen (Class of 2012) From: STARS!!

To my freshman boy (Jamie) don't feel so confident towards something you can't lean on because you're going to fall. Don't cheat when the girl is playing fair but most of all remember karma is real even though you're fake. =)
Happy Valentine's Day <3
-Maricela

P.S. I love you! (NOT!) =)
P.S.2 Happy b-day Callo!
From: Algebra

Happy Valentine's Day Lusi,
Dora, Brianna, Sapna, Jasmine!

Dear Angela Kopec,
Happy Valentine's Day <3

I love ya!
-LB
Adam,
We miss you in 4th period lunch.
-AA, Chipmunk, and Bear
P.S. What am I?!

Hey you! Happy Valentine's Day. Brenda you are the bestest friend I have ever had in my entire life. I really value our friendship. Also you know that I care about you & will be there for you whenever you need me.
Happy Valentine's Day Your friend, Henry

Howdy Partners!!
Yee Haw!

Erik, you don't know me, but I have a crush on you. I will find you soon.
Ms, Erik Brito<3

Angelina I love you yo man wellz.
P.S. Im king D and we on later on

Poz for being my freshman best friend you kinda suck at it. So... Will you be my Valentine?
- Eloise Zarco
(your favorite manager)

Happy Valentine's Day
to Div. 276!
Mrs. Seratoni

To Vanessa Espino, The Wifey!!!
I love you so much & just thinking so you know you'll akways have me! Happy Valentine's Day Love! You sparkle-Jessica!

George Bailey: I'd go to the whole wide just to find you...Happy Valentine's Day, my sweet. I love you, Mary Hatch

To my best friends, have a merry christmas, um I mean Valentine's day.
-David Arevalo

Tay, Ryan, Steph, Ashley, Jeh, Sam, Alex, Syd, Mac, Ale, Joseph, Fatima, Arifa, and Joey you guys are the bestest! thanks for making this year bearable.
I love you guys! xoxo-Ritza
P.S. Long live the Jimmys! =]]
Eduardo!
...oder "Bruno"? Ich liebe du viel! Du bist meaine Lieblings-junge! Ich hoffe du hasst eine guten Valenteins Tag! I'm glad you're in my Gernan Klasse 'cuz you're great eye candy!
- Cessa, oder Claudia XO

Sexy Sexy Godsel, you're the #1 Best Staller on the team and everyone thinks you're super cool for that. But I wanna know if you will be my special valentine with hearts and kisses?
-#1 Stalker

Others

Walter Joe Gonzalez,
Thank you for always letting me see a side of you that no one else does. You've been through so much and you haven't always made the best choices but no matter what people think I truly do know your a great guy and the only one who gets me through everything. Never once have you doubted me and you always trusted me with everything, No matter how stupid you can be in the end it doesn't matter because you're my best friend and that's all that matters. Happy Valentines Day Bestie:]
- Your Best Friend Forever,
Ashley G. <3

GDADDY, I LOVE YOU WITH ALL OF MY HEART AND SOUL! THANK YOU FOR LOVING BOONEY COONEY AND I TO PIECES.

TO ALL ORCHESTRA MEMBERS:
MAY YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!
P.S. LISTEN AND ADJUST FROM: SECRET ADMIRER

Dear Francesxa Atian,
Your smile brightens my day especially when I sit bright and early in the morning during first period. I wish you could see me more than a classmate or friend. Your First Period Secret Admirer.

S-4! Thank you for all your work. You guys are amazing and I will miss you guys! Also, Ananthu Nguyen, will you honor me with your beauty at Mil Ball?

I love Mr. J.
I love ya love ya love ya
Mr. P!

J'aime ma bete, Jacenta Huerta!
Stop with all those "garcons"! Love Nena

We love Ms. Oh, Mr. Jeon, and Mr. Caines. Happy Valentine's Day!
- From the Overachievers =]

Vote Rachel for Mil Ball Queen!

Godsel, you look good in your singlet.
Admiring you from not too far,
Your Stalker

Dear Coach Kori, Roof, Kev-o, Marchan, and Coach E!
Thank you for being such great mentors for me these past 3 years! Thank you for believing in me and helping me realize that I can do anything I set my mind to! I will miss you all when I go to college next year! XOXO Jennie

I LOVE U, KAT-LAN, BOOTYCALL, SHABI, BYANKABIANCA, LUNCH CREW, DIV. 028, TPC, My seniors, Girls Lax Team, Putnam, Susie Q, and everyone else.
~3 Carmen

Love to all the wonderful people in G.S.A. and Buddhist Club. You guys kick butt!!!
B.V.

Happy Valentine's Day Filipino Club! We love you guys so much. Nothing makes us more happy than to be around you guys & get to see your beautiful faces everyday! Whether its clapping sticks or getting our feet clapped in those sticks, we manage to still smile & have fun, because its YOU guys that make practices worthwhile. Although our practices end in March, our love for you never. Love, Team Adobo

if (roses==red &&violets==blue) {system.out.println("mr. law pwnz!!");} else {system.out.println("u r 2 sook, lolol!");}

Querida Sra. Perez,
Tu eres mi amiga bella, sincera y generosa. Gracias por todo. Te amo para siempre. Feliz Dia de la Amistad.

10x for all the food in 7th period. I love you:]

Happy Valentines Day Hawaiian Club!
I love you guys and I'm proud of you! Girls, you all shake it till your hips break and guys, you are my hardcore warriors forever!
aloha aloha! Prez. Obanias

Lets give it a go
Nader Ihmoud =]

Chinese Club - You are the best!
Your devoted and grateful sponsor.
A. Pacer

Jill and Ms. House,
Have an amazing Valentine's Day! You guys have made my senior year unforgettable. Thanks for everything.
xoxo Rachel

Yearbook Students! You know who you are!
I enjoy working together with you everyday. Don't know what I ever would do without you! KSL:]

DANCE TEAM: I LOVE YOU GUYS!
HAPPY VALENTINES DAY! AND
YMI: LOVE YOU TO DEATH BFF!:]

My 7th period pre-calculus class is the best -Mr. Fornal
Gracie! Thanks for putting up w/me, I feel the love. Kelsey, love you always hope Daniel treats you to something nice hint hint:] Happy Valentine's Day to everyone else who is special to me! Podgers

to my students. who make my day everyday -Mr. Jeon

"YOU ACCEPT THE LOVE YOU THINK YOU DESERVE"

We're on the ball so let the good times roll and shut yo face!

Happy Valentine's Day
W.M.D.'s! (Girls Track Team)
- Roof

WADDIWWWWWW! To our wrestling team and coaches..Coach Miedona, Coach Alec, Coach Q, Coach JR, Coach Colon, and Coach Perres. We love LT wrestling! Imma tech you boi! Imma move on you! RELAX! Sexy, Sexy Godsel *pause* NOT! BAMF! Chase Wilsoooooooooon *deuces*! Hit pause or poz? Bringing home them W's! You're fired! HM! Nobody's Perfect (Carmen)! The D! Finn! Corn on the cobb! Captain Harvey! Maxi Pad Schneider! Stevenson got pinned by a girl! Piowitz (OMG your a junior)! Jankowskiiii! Geo dude (BFF)! CAMPOS! Ihmoud! Younnnnnnn Knee-onz! Lek! Gel-ko! Guy you're sexy! Juan (not the better Alvarez)! NO HOMO! Ready 1,2,3 LANE TECH WRESTLING!-Managers (all 20 of us) & put put esp. Megan, Olga, Ali, Kellie, Eloise, Tina, Carmen, Abby, Nen, Katie & Jess:]

Happy Valentine's to Rosa, Elizabeth, Alondra, Eddie, Paula, Ada, Vanessa, Pancake Shalonda, and Victoria.

?? If your the cream, then you know who this is from. I LOVE YOU and I am Happy because of you! Happy Valentines!
Louis Trinca- Pasat, Div. 023

To: the Asian guy from the Stairway M
-you have really nice hair and are a total cutie<3
From Stairway M user (4th period to 5th)

KA AW

To the best counselors in LANE TECH: Ms. Coorlas and Ms. Dulberg. To the best teacher in the milky way: Mr. Valderrama B.V.

Dear Maggie aka, ducan johnson
Are you egging my house right now?
Is bonnie taylor? How about edward cullen and PRINCE? Can I come over? I need to poop.
PS: I set your furby on fire.

Kaaaaww
We get by with a little help from our friends because all we need is love

To my Uki Club Members:
I love you guys! Can't wait to polka on Int. Days.
~Chpokio

To all my bowling girlies:
Thanks for an awesome year!
I love you guys! Let's win city today!
~Captain Rachel

Hey adam, babe well you know i love you and im sorry for being a meanie sometimes but I care for you so dont ever think i dont =)

Division 911! How did we (mi esposo y yo) get so lucky? Fortunately, I haven't had to call 911. Let's pass our classes, pay our debts, and finish strong!
P.S. Luke is still angry.

Mr. Maslanka extends the warmest of regards and the most heartfelt appreciation to all of those students who, with patience, fortitude, and discipline, have endeavored to follow my tangential trains of thought.

To all my Journalism freaks. Congratulations on your biggest paper ever! Thirty-six pages!
Keep up the good work.
-Jiggedy J

Advertise in

The Warrior

Email us at:

advertising@lanewarrior.com

To Ecuadorian Club!
I Love You all!
- Your President
Carolina Ortiz

Dear Buddhist Club, I just want to let you all know how much I love you all. During each meeting, I do my best to let everyone feel safe and comfortable. Without you all, I would feel unhappy at lane. Love, Brian Chansy

There is only one happiness in life, to love and be loved.
-George Sand

Happy Valentine's Day
Jill Woods. Love Mom

Te amo much Gatito! Finders Keeper. Happy Valentine's Day.
Love Gaby.

Yasmin
You are my sweetheart and I love you. (Even though you snore...j/k)
Love, Shafqat

BOO SKINS + Joishia,
I love you, and hate you all in one. We're perfect together.
~Thugaboo Jones

I LOVE THE DANCE TEAM
LOVE, YOUR CAPTAIN
JAMIE

Mrs. Vale-Suarez,
You are one of the coolest teachers. I look forward to your class everyday. I know its wrong for a student to feel like this for a teacher, but I can't help it.
~Never Tardy

PATY,
TE AMO
HARTO
~JUAN

"Never gonna give you up, never gonna let you down, never gonna run around and desert you!
Never gonna make you cry, never gonna say goodbye, never gonna tell a lie, and hurt you!" <3 ~McLovin

Wo ai wo zhong wen ke de jia. Period 2!

-Ben ni

Happy Valentine's Day to my current and future Chinese Regular and Honor classes
Zhu da jia qin ren jie
kuai le!

Dear Amanda Ruiz,
I am so lucky to have you. I don't know what I'd do without you. You are my dream girl and I couldn't ask for a better girlfriend. You're amazing!
Happy Valentine's Baby!

En lugar de la escuela de cuyo nombre no quiero acordarme, no ha mucho tiempo que estudiaban unos monstruos- despues de las clases y los sabados tambien. Todos les salio bien por haberse esforzado tanto.
-Cerrantes?

Te Amo,Flaquito.
Felices 3 años!
<3 Cecy

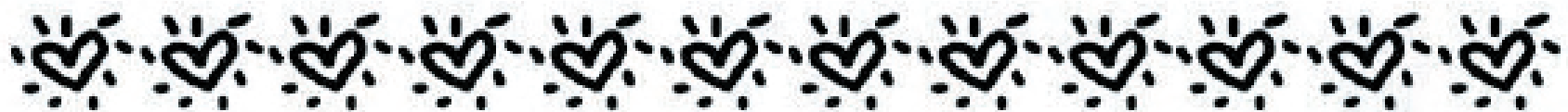
My JROTC Little ones!
Thank you so much for making my final year at Lane so enjoyable. You all are the future of the Warrior Battalion. Keep drilling and P.T. strong. I know you can do it! Get our gold star back and show them what our battalion is made of. I will never forget any memory of the things we have accomplished as a family. I know my last few months at Lane will be awesome and it's all because of you. I can't wait for Raider Challenge, Memorial Day Cermonies, and Military Ball! Remember to vote for me for Queen! I'll be coming back to check on you guys and y'all know that. Good luck little ones. I love you, SERIOUSLY!
STAY ALERT, STAY ALIVE
C/CAPTAIN Jenna Shepard

Galletitas,
"En tanto que de rosa y azucena/ se muestra la color en vuestro gesto/ y que vuestro mirar honesto/ REFRENA el corazon; DISFRUTAD de vuestra alegre primavera/ antes que el tiempo airado/ cubra de nieve la hermosa cumbre./... todo lo mudara la edad ligera..."
-Renacentista

Eh mi gid Ben, Michael, Sarah,Natalie, Patrick, David, Liz, Div. 032, Irish Club, all my teachers and anyone else I may have forgotten- HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY! I love you all sooo much and hope you have a great day! Shoutout to Max my love, who won't read this,and the rest of my friends at LP! Love, Grace

J2 is better than J1!

I love you Shaheen, and Dylan, amd Flaco, and Maddy, Erik Prado, and Coach Roof, and Tony, and Marchan, and Kori! Thanks for being such great friends and mentors! I love you all and I'll miss you very much next year.
xoxo, Jennie



THE DATING GAME

The dos and don'ts of true love and dating

By Samantha D'Anna

Affection. Emotion. Lust. Uncertainty.

Most are familiar with the pre-date nerves: That unsure feeling and the anxiety that come along with it.

Forty-four percent of the adult America population is single, according to the article "Top 10 Dating Statistics Everyone Should Know," by William Irvin. That is over 100 million people; odds still in favor of single people who are looking.

THE NUMBERS

Those teens not in a steady relationship are certainly not lacking in the dating department. More than half of teens, 57 percent, say they regularly go out on dates, and a third say they have a steady boyfriend or girlfriend, according to a survey of 4,600 teens (ages 12 to 17) conducted last year by New York City-based market research firm Mediamark Research, Inc.

The dating scene has changed over the years, possibly making it easier to do. During the 20th and going into the 21st century, dating has become more relaxed, and there are now substantial differences between social and person values from decades ago. For example: Traditionally a man is expected to pay; but in recent times the practice of "going Dutch" (splitting the expenses) has become common and acceptable.

"I have no problem with paying, but I see it as her being more independent if she offers to pay," said

Alex Santillian, Div. 022.

Nonetheless, there are still conventional men who have not altered their values or practices.

"I always pay. Always. I think as a male, the man should pay no matter what," said Orlando Berrios, Div. 927.

Whether traditional or innovative, most have an idea of their ideal date.

"Honestly I think dinner and a movie alone and then going to meet up with a group of friends after would be a great date," said Jessica Hannon, Div. 927. "You can really see how they are around your friends."

"Something to do with water; like a beach or a water park. Somewhere I could go to show off," said Alex Ruiz, Div. 904.

"It wouldn't matter. It could go from doing a lot of things to doing absolutely nothing," said Santillian. "As long as the person is fun to be around."

"The best dates are always the first dates - those awkward, 'I don't know what to do' dates," said Mia Spingola, Div. 910. "They somehow manage to always be the dates you look back on and smile about."

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT?

According to "Top 10 Dating Statistics Everyone Should Know," by William Irvin, you have, at the most, 15 minutes to make the first impression.

Love at first sight, as defined by Wikipedia, is an

emotional condition whereby a person feels romantic attraction for a stranger on the first encounter with the stranger.

Seventy-one percent of people say they believe in love at first sight, according to a poll taken on www.topdatingtips.com.

"I believe it. It is just that feeling that you have to go up and meet the person. You know right then and there that something about it is right," said Ruiz.

"I picked up a dandelion and blew off all the seeds and said the infamous line 'Only you can make my wish come true. Will you be my girlfriend?'"

She said yes and then we just sat on my garage roof with my arm around her and watched the sunset," said Jamie Peculis, Div. 905.

Who says young love can't last? The truth is that slightly more than 1 in 10 teenagers (12 percent) are currently in a relationship with someone they have been dating for more than a year, according to the Mediamark study.

"I believe in lust at first sight," said Hannon. "There could be an immediate physical attraction, but personality is the main component of love."

"No, love takes time. Love at first sight is just infatuation," said Berrios.

"WELL I USUALLY DON'T KISS AND TELL, BUT..."

While it is safe, a date doesn't always have to be the usual dinner and a movie. The most unforgettable dates are more of-

ten than not the ones that are thoughtful and personal.

"We had lunch on the beach. I brought Potbellies, we had little plastic wine glasses, and had sparkling grape juice," said Hannon.

"It was very cliché, but I loved it."

"The best date I have ever been on was when Jesse blindfolded me, stuck me in the car, and drove around to confuse me. Then he made me walk up a hill, blindfolded, to find he had a whole picnic set up waiting for me," said Karen Espinoza.

Unanticipated dates are frequently cherished and etched in memories forever.

"My favorite date I think was when Karen and I went to Pizza Hut for dinner, then went glow in the dark mini golfing and

played pool," said Jesse Correa, Div. 904. "It wasn't anything fancy and that's why I loved it."

"The best dates that I've been on with my boyfriend always are simple things. I love it we just go out to

when brunch or chill out at his house," said Devshree Rawal, Div. 925.

"I think it's those times when I can truly get to know him and we can really just have some alone time to catch up with each other and get away from our busy lives."

But with the good comes the bad.

"I took this girl out once that would not stop talking! The nasty part about it was she didn't stop talking even when she ate, so I pretty much was dodging food all night," said Berrios. "Then at the end of the night when I took her home I put the music extra loud so she wouldn't talk, but guess what? She didn't talk; she yelled the whole way home."

DATING ADVICE

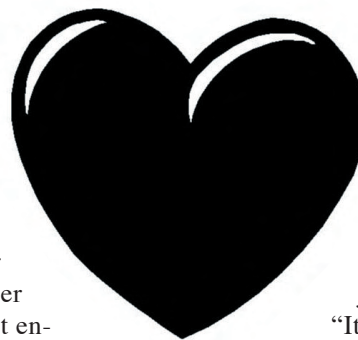
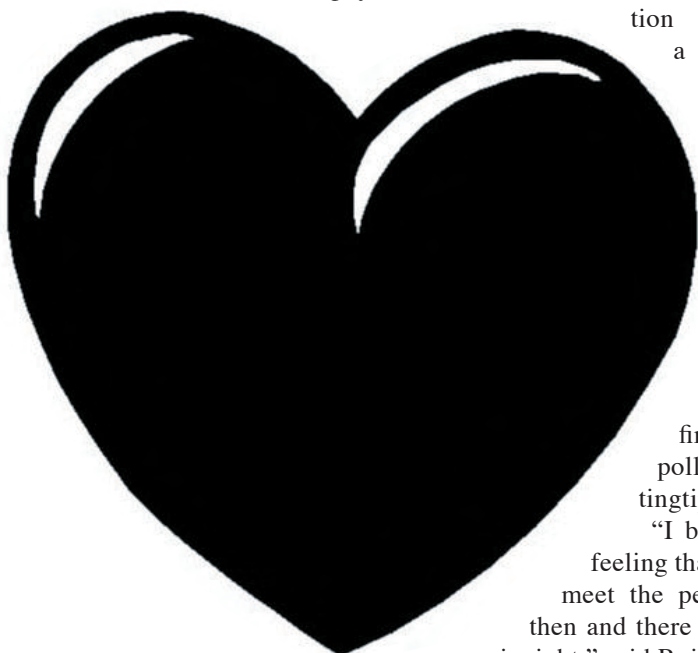
Mix it up. It is easy to fall into the same dating trends. Think outside of the box and get out of your comfort zone on your next date..

-Keep it simple. It isn't too cliché to go a concert, sporting event, or even a movie. Do things the other person loves; she/he is sharing the experience with you it should be a good time

-Work on a project together. Whether it is for school or just for fun, this can be a fun and unique date.

-Have a DIY date. Do it yourself dates are great for bonding and learning about the other person on a more personal level. Make homemade pizza or just create something together. It's a great way to interact.

-Go on an EDU-date. Take classes on anything from dance to painting. Learn something new together.



Teens dish out on learning how to cook

By Anna Treasara

Teenagers face a variety of pressures in today's society and from their families. But who knew that those pressures included learning how to cook?

"My father is always saying that when I'm older, it'll be too late to learn [how to cook] and right now as a teenage girl is the perfect time," said Enanna Sheena, Div. 925.

"My parents always tell me that in Mexico, girls my age already cook, clean, and work," said Noemi Garcia, Div. 904. "My family [feels] that it's a woman's job to nourish her family both spiritually and physically with good traditional meals."

Many teenage girls believe that being pressured to learn how to cook goes hand-in-hand with being pressured to grow up.

"My grandma always tells me I have to know how to cook and clean because I will be someone's wife and mother someday and will have to take care of my husband and kids. My grandma [began] telling me this when I was only a freshman!" said Tina Ruan, Div. 028.

"Since I'm a senior and I'll be going off to college soon, I'm being pressured to [learn how to] cook even more," said Samra Pecanin, Div. 905.

Some teens have already been pressured to grow up quicker and learn how to cook.

"My parents went to Poland and left me and my brother for a month," said Patrick Maciejewski, Div. 917. "I had to step up and make us meals. I really learned how to become independent and take care of myself."

"My mom made me go to culinary school at Kendall College over the summer to learn how to cook because she doesn't know how to. She never learned because she's always working," said Erik Bose, Div. 903. "This was after she married my stepdad, who used to be a head chef. She wanted me to be a man that could cook like him."

"My mom was at work when I got home from school, so a lot of times I would just experiment and mess around [with cooking]," said Donjuan Guillen, Div. 914. "I never really took cooking seriously until about three years ago. [I started watching] the food network and it completely changed my view on cooking. It taught me a lot, but most of all it inspired me to actually give it a try."

Besides pressures from their families, teenage

girls also face pressures from other teenage boys.

"I've heard a ton of my guy friends complain that women don't cook anymore and that their ideal wife would know how to cook," said Sheena. "They know they're going to have to learn sooner or later because we are not inferior."

"Some guy friends like to say that all women should know how to cook," said Angela Zuniga, Div. 924. "I know they tend to say this jokingly, but ultimately they do prefer women who can cook."

"Boys like to think they are all tough and women should do

then moms push their daughters to cook more, so they're just keeping the stereotype alive," said Bose.

"It does bother me that my dad doesn't help because when nobody cooks, they usually end up ordering out," said Guillen. "And there is nothing that bothers me more than ordering take-out when there is food available in the house."

"I just feel that the domestic roles that used to be only a woman's responsibility have not been left behind," said Zuniga. "In a lot of homes, men are still the main breadwinners, so they feel they have the right to be treated like kings in a way."

However, Zuniga does believe there are some rare cases.

"There are men out there who realize their wives work just as hard and they alternate housework, cooking, and even babysitting, which is amazing," she said.

Many teenage girls haven't learned how to cook because they're surrounded by easier ways that allow them to eat.

"[Teenage girls] should not be pressured to learn [how to cook] since there are so many pre-made and frozen meals," said Petya Randelova, Div. 916. "I use Mr. Microwave everyday! Hot pockets, frozen lasagna, heating up leftovers, you name it. I love him," said Sheena.

"If I'm hungry, McDonald's is only a block away and delivery is only a phone call away," said Ruan.

Though many teenage girls don't know how to cook, they still believe cooking is relevant to today's society.

"We need to learn to cook so that we don't become so dependent on unhealthy fast food," said Garcia. "The money used to buy a pizza can instead be used to buy groceries that can last you for at least a week."

Other students think it is more important for males to learn how to cook.

"Women are becoming less likely to act like personal cooks for their husbands," said Zuniga.

"Every guy should have at least some knowledge of cooking," said Maciejewski. "That way, they don't have to be so dependent on their moms, girlfriends, or wives."

Some students said that if Lane offered a Home Economics class, they would definitely take advantage of it.

"It actually teaches something for everyday life," said Vanessa Burroughs, Div. 922. "It teaches you how to cook, sew, and balance a checkbook."

Dr. LoBosco said that as far as she knows, there has never been a Home Economics class offered at Lane most likely because Lane used to be an all-boys school.

"Today, Home Ec classes fall under a program called Education to Careers," she said. "In order to offer the class, students would have to commit to a three-year ETC program, beginning sophomore year and ending with a double period senior year. Lane does have a few ETC programs, but there has not been much interest among the student body and several of the programs have since closed over the last few years."

the cooking and cleaning," said Ruan.

An anonymous student believes that women should know how to cook and admitted that he was somewhat influenced by his Sociology class.

"I learned about gender roles, where boys would usually go out to work while the women would stay home and cook," he said. "It just seems weird that a girl wouldn't know how to cook. I probably wouldn't date her."

Other teenage boys disagree.

"I'm not interested in a housewife," said Maciejewski. "I want her to go out there and make money so we can both be rich!"

"Guys shouldn't choose girls because they know how to cook or not," said Pipat Tienchai, Div. 923. "That's like saying girls are attracted to athletic guys, but not all guys are athletic."

Some students believe that times have not changed as much.

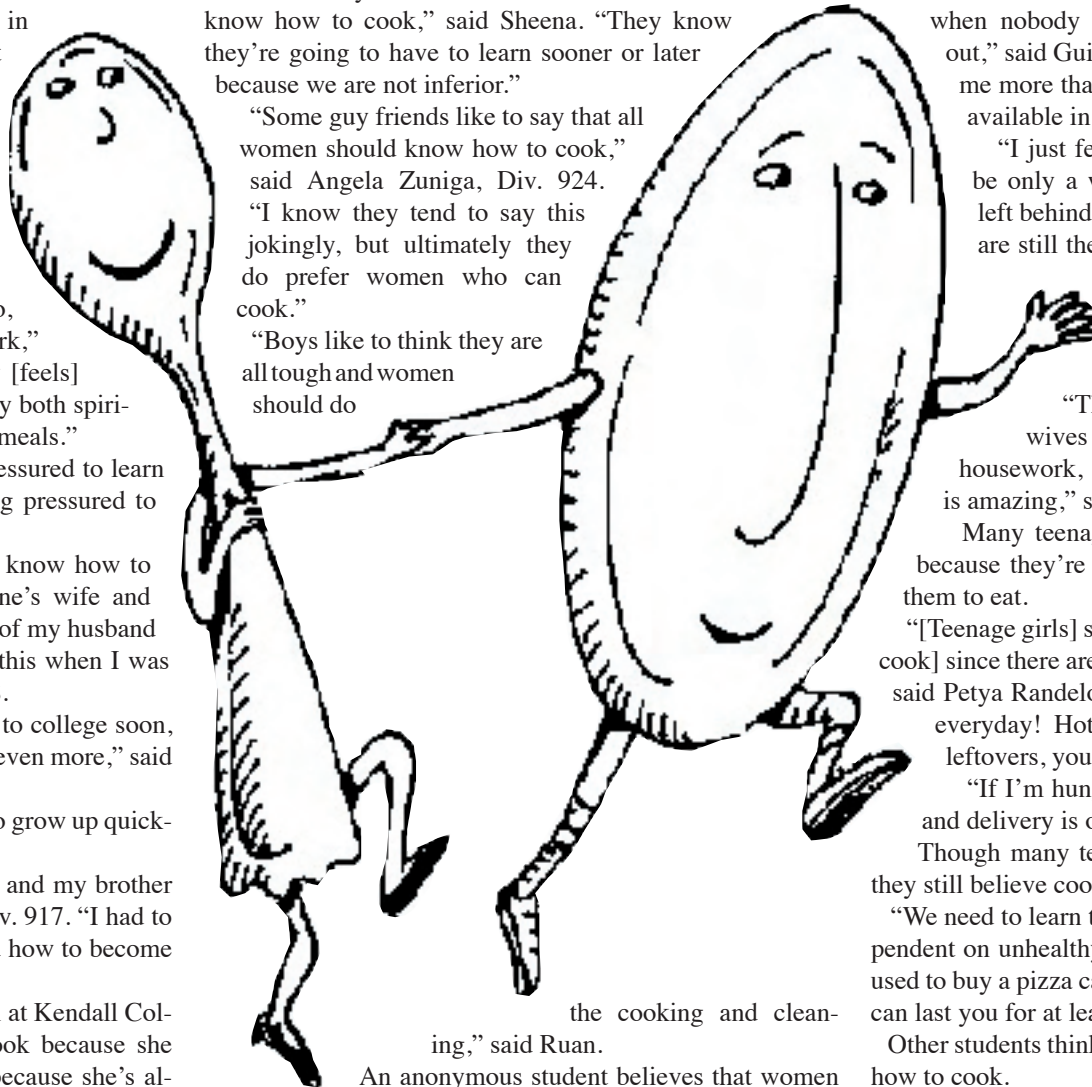
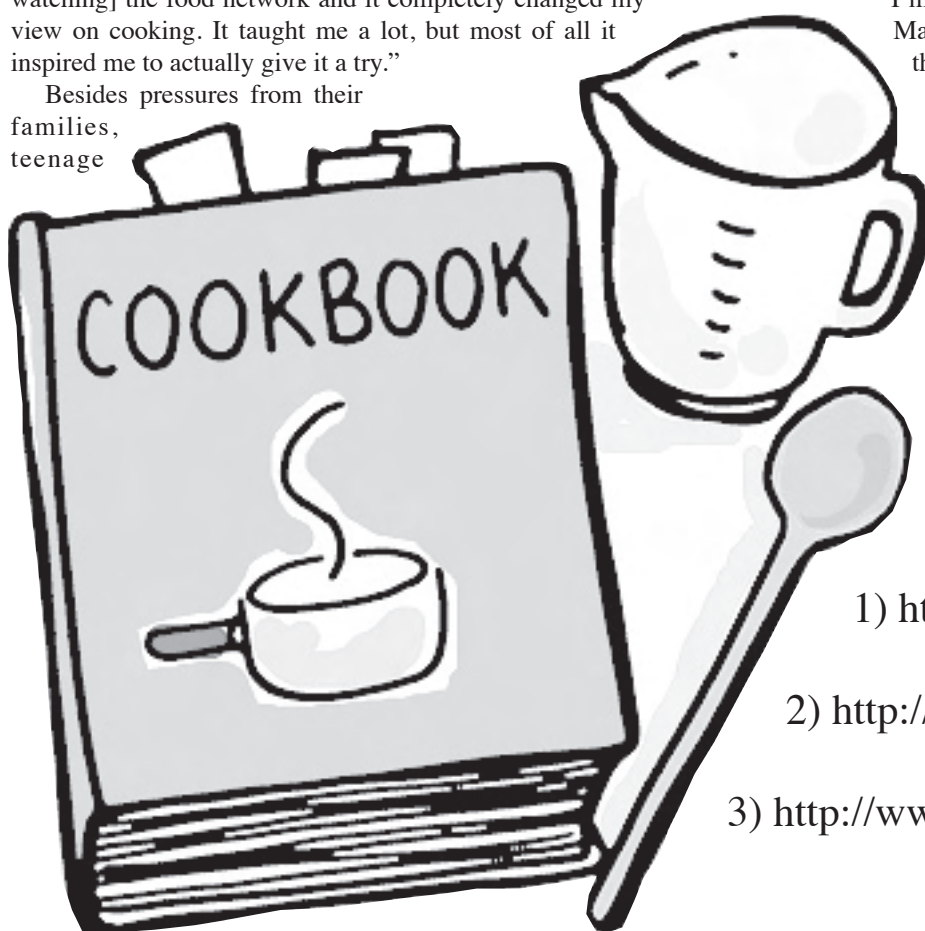
"It's stereotypical when someone says that only girls should cook, but

For easy recipes go to:

1) <http://www.buzzle.com/articles/easy-recipes-for-teens.html>

2) <http://parentingteens.about.com/od/recipesforkids/a/snacks.htm>

3) <http://www.foodnetwork.com/quick-and-easy/index.html>



Earrings on your teeth?



By Jessica Figueroa

A little girl once asked me, “Why do you have earrings on your teeth?” My cousin and I just laughed it off. At least this was a different one. If the little girl had been a few years older she probably would have called us brace faces, metal mouths, or maybe even train tracks. Haha. And those are just the common ones off the top of my head.

Until someone else points them out, those of us with braces usually forget we have them. But everyone else notices them. After all, they are pretty visible.

But they become most obvious when you get rejected because you’re taking time to develop the perfect smile. (i.e. have braces on). Like there was a time when my friend was crushing on this guy in one of her classes. One day they got paired up to do a project together and it seemed like they hit off right away. They started talking more and they even started hanging out.

According to my friend it was going great, but after awhile she started to wonder why he didn’t ask her out so they could officially be boyfriend-girlfriend. It seemed like he was pretty into her. Finally she decided to confront him about it. He explained that he liked her and everything, but how were they supposed to make out? My friend thought that was the stupidest rea-

son for not wanting to go out with her, but he insisted he just couldn’t go out with someone who had braces. What a wimp!

Braces aren’t something to be ashamed of. They’re actually pretty neat if you think about it. They fix ugly teeth and give you a beautiful smile at the end.

The wire on braces basically exerts pressure on the teeth. This constant pressure moves teeth into their proper positions over time. Braces also help the ‘bone remodeling’ process in which the tooth is loosened by the pressure of the braces and the bone grows in to support the tooth in its new position.

The amount of time a person has to wear braces really depends on their situation. It can range from six months to eight years. So pretty smiles don’t come easy, or even naturally in many cases. Celebrities like Britney Spears, Cameron Diaz, Tyra Banks, Angelina Jolie, and Dayanara Torres all had braces once. And they ended up with pretty great smiles.

I can’t wait to see how I look when I get my ‘grillz’ off. My perfect white smile will go perfectly with the white True Religion Jeans I’m planning on getting. Then I’ll get to do some rejecting around here! Oh yeah! It’ll be like, “Boy, do you really think this perfect smile is gonna go out with you and your disastrous overbite?” Pshh.

Pretty shallow, right? The point is, don’t judge someone based on their appearance. Be a bigger person by looking past the physical because if you treat someone like they’re less than you, you may be surprised to see what they’ve become in a few years. Who knows? Maybe then they’ll be out of YOUR league, and wouldn’t that suck? Remember what they say about karma? It will come back to bite you. And I’ll bet it has sharp – and perfectly straight – teeth.

How to become the stalker of her dreams



By Safiya Merchant

Once when I entered my fourth period Journalism class, my friend rushed up to me and exclaimed, “Oh my God, did you see that kid walk up behind you and feel your skirt? He’s a total stalker!”

After the momentary shock, I demanded to know more. She told me that as I was walking down the staircase towards the first floor, a boy was walking the opposite way until he saw me. He then immediately turned around, followed me, and, for a few seconds, fingered my polka-dotted skirt. Once class ended, my friend and I walked up to the second floor and found that he was following me again! He even watched me as I went to my locker!

Stalkers are one of the most dreaded aspects of the high school experience. They can be harmless, but they also have the potential to be dangerous predators. Those who are stalked are also torn between two choices: remain silent and continue their discomfort or to hurt their stalker’s feelings through their rejection. I, however, confronted my stalker amongst a crowd of students and told him, more or less, to “back off or I’ll tell the police.” I knew it was a bit extreme, but I was desperate to stop his stalking. I couldn’t wear my favorite polka-dotted skirt without worrying that some guy was going to fondle it!

For those who are stalked my best advice is to tell an adult, such as a security guard or a teacher, if your stalker ever threatens or, God forbid, attempts to attack you.

To all those stalkers who hide behind doors, wishing for that special guy or girl to notice you, here are a few tips:

1. Don’t touch your object of affection since he or she may sue you or file a complaint with the police. A restraining order isn’t exactly what the college boards are looking for.

2. Try to be discreet. Eyeing someone through a glass panel on

a door while they’re at their locker isn’t exactly subtle. Besides, you could get hit in the face if someone else happens to push open the door.

4. Plan out your “stalking route” with reason. If the object of your affection has his or her locker on the first floor and your fifth period class is on the fourth floor, resist the urge to walk down three flights of stairs.

5. Confidence is key. If you really know and like a person, simply ask them out. You’ll finally find out if they’re interested and you won’t be late to class.

6. Finally, don’t even stalk in the first place. If someone won’t give you the time of day, move on. You deserve someone who will like you for who you are and give you his or her utmost attention.

What is most important to remember about stalkers (at least the harmless ones) is that they, like the ones they stalk, are human. They only wish for love and affection. They just go searching for it the wrong way.

Nowadays, when I see my previous stalker, he stares at me for a second but quickly averts his gaze. He’s probably worried about that restraining order.

Group projects: all of the work or none at all



By Grace McQueeney

Imagine you are sitting in class, and your teacher says, “Alright class, please break into groups of three!” Whenever this happens, I feel immediately discouraged. I start to wonder who I will be paired with, what we will have to do, and whether or not I will be stuck with all of the work, or blamed for not doing enough.

Group projects can be a problem in any class- History, English, Science, etc. While some may think that group projects are beneficial because the work is spread out, I believe that they are inconvenient, detrimental, and unnecessary.

A downside of working in a group is that you may not know the people you are paired with. You might look at this as a good opportunity to make new friends and meet

new people. On the other hand, we choose our friends. Our friends are people who we get along with and enjoy being around, not people we do homework with. Dealing with school related work all of the time with someone you have just met is a bad start to a friendly relationship. Arguments are very easy to come by, and so is placing blame. Instead of trying to get to know these new people, you have to get down to business and finish your work.

Some believe that group projects are a great way to teach students to collaborate at an early age. However, students in school learn to work with each other in school anyway, whether or not they are assigned group projects. Most students participate in school activities such as clubs and sports teams. While participating in these activities, students learn to collaborate and mingle with each other in a stress free, balanced way.

When it comes to group projects, there are usually two types of people: those who do all of the work, and those who do none of the work. It is often very difficult to find the balance between the two among the group members. If you are the one who does all of the work, it is usually either because everyone in your group is lazy, or because you feel like your work would be the

best quality for the grade. If you are the one who does none or very little of the work, it is either because you are being lazy or because someone else took over everything. Both of these positions can leave you feeling insecure about the work you are turning in. No matter how much work you do personally, in group projects your group will either sink or float together.

Group projects are usually very inconvenient. If the project involves work that needs to be done outside of class, students must take time out of their already busy schedules to arrange a meeting. This is especially difficult if the group needs to meet more than once; students often live far away from each other. For example, I once had to work in a group on an English project. Everyone lived so far away from each other that we had to do all of the work over the phone and through email. Miscommunications happened, and the project ended up being incomplete.

Group projects are inconvenient, unbalanced, and just plain obnoxious. Students’ schedules are busy enough as it is, and doing homework is something I know that I would rather do by myself. In my opinion, teachers should not assign group projects at all, and let students earn the grade they themselves deserve.



Self-defense class would add a punch to P.E. curriculum



By Noemi Villanueva

Although many students may know how to throw a good punch, very few know how to properly defend themselves in a sticky situation. A self defense elective at Lane could let students have a jab at learning new skills as well as gain self confidence to handle an unexpected situation.

Even if many think that a brutal kick to the groin or a hard stomp on the foot are forms of self defense, it is actually using your smarts to avoid violence with another person. Many people tend to make spur of the moment decisions that can compromise their safety. A self defense class can teach students how to act smart on their instincts and make quick decisions when hit with a tough encounter. Every student should know how to defend themselves and this class

would be a great motivation to do just that.

While a self defense class may be a long shot in trying to reduce assaults, it can be an incentive for students to be more aware of their surroundings. This class can let more students feel comfortable going to and from school knowing that they are prepared to handle any type of situation.

With a larger body of students feelings secure about their surroundings, Lane could feel reassured about how safe and confident its students feel. Besides teaching physical skills, a self defense class can also incorporate verbal skills needed to talk yourself out of difficult circumstances. Several students may encounter peer pressure and a class like this can help them be ready to handle it.

Many skills that would be taught in a self defense class can readily be integrated into other classes. Without fully realizing it, a student can develop their self esteem and confidence levels to be positive and more open to trying newer things. Since this class would also teach verbal skills, communication abilities would become more efficient among students which would allow even the shyest person to become more outspoken. Student to student interaction could provide for more realistic sce-

narios and encourage students to fully engage themselves in the class.

For those who have taken a gym class, most will likely say that it is a good break throughout a full day of classes. Since many students do not fully take advantage of their gym classes, a self defense elective would give students a reason to take it seriously. Students can learn defense skills while practicing a healthier lifestyle by exercising.

And who says the class could only be limited to students? Teachers and other staff could come and knockout some free time by taking part in the class. Such a class can hold several people and can make all the difference in people's lifestyles.

While not everyone may be able to take the class, an elective like this can be a big step in encouraging safety and self awareness for those who do. With a new outlook on one's surroundings and a strong sense of confidence, anyone could benefit from a self defense class.

And who knows, perhaps a class like this could be the start of newer, more creative gym classes? A self defense elective could encourage a more serious, yet inventive way to keep fit while also teaching valuable life skills.

R-e-s-p-e-c-t, find out what it means to students



By Francessa Sanchez

Everyone has an attitude. And when someone believe it's necessary, they'll use it.

Respect is a strictly enforced rule here at Lane: the security guards remind students about it during assemblies every year, and clearly state that any rude behavior will not be tolerated. The point is well taken, and if a student makes rude comments to their teacher, they get disciplined accordingly: write-ups, detentions, suspensions, lowered grades.

But what about when a teacher gives a student a glimpse of their bad side? Is the rule of respect at Lane equally enforced to faculty?

One of the faculty said something questionable to me when I was talking about some absences I had received due to attending doctor appointments. Under the impression that my absences were excused with permission from the faculty member, I had left near the end of the day and went to the appointments, having been directed to come back the next day with a doctor's note to verify my appointment.

Returning the next day with a doctor's note in hand, I was then informed that I should have gotten a both a reinstatement and an early dismissal for the absences, and that "I should have known better."

That's not the comment that floored

me, but it sure as hell led up to it.

After re-explaining my situation to the staff member, I was then hit with the awkward comment, "I would expect that kind of intelligence from a freshman, not a senior." It wasn't until I'd walked out of the room when I realized that it was an insult.

It wasn't even that rude of a comment, but the fact that I didn't have a comeback was what made it such an insult. I would have felt much better about the whole thing if I had thought for a second and said something like, "Well, I don't expect an enormous land mass to have any form of intelligence, but you're still working here."

It seems that comments from faculty are often made, but with more of a hostile personality.

While getting the newspapers ready in the main office for distribution, two faculty members took one and began to read it together. We then found that one of the pages was printed incorrectly.

"I hope that didn't happen to the Hookah story," said Anna Chlopecki, Managing Editor, as she flipped through the pages.

"I hope that didn't happen to the Hookah story," mocked one of the staff, in a squeaky and childish tone.

How often do these instances occur, and how should students react to them?

First of all, it would be better if the situation were handled in a mature manner, without resorting to a hostile confrontation. It would also be easier if another adult were present when the issue is discussed. If you feel you are being disrespected, find a stern yet polite way to address the person and state that you will not allow it.

Of course, not everyone will handle heated situations correctly: a teacher I had last year seemed to think that it was acceptable to use swear words to get through to students when they upset him.

So, how can these situations be correctly taken care of, and who can properly address them without bias? How often do teachers disrespect students, and what can students do to let others know what happened?

Maybe there should be a 'discipline office' for teachers when they are rude. Because the fact remains that some staff need to be more closely evaluated when it comes to controlling their 'attitudes' and patience with students.

Honors students unable to take electives of their choice



By Maria Murczek

"Congratulations, you have been accepted into the Lane honors curriculum." Based on standardized test scores and elementary academic performance (you know, the good stuff), a student is admitted into the special curriculum. But just as easily as they came in, they can get kicked out.

Best of all, it is not always their fault. I was put in all-honors when I started my freshman year. I was pretty proud of myself. My sister had been in honors during her four years at Lane, and I wanted to continue that. Besides, it raises a student's GPA (and rank) and is more of a challenge.

Sophomore year, I found an interest in photography and wanted to take the class. As I signed up for junior year classes, I visited my counselor in order to make sure that photography would not mess up the rest of my schedule. Photography is not available as an honors class, he said. But if it was and I didn't take it, then I would no longer be in the curriculum. He said it should not be a problem, and that was that. I signed up for the class and waited for junior year to arrive.

I'm now in the core curriculum, taking photography, with my schedule ruined (and still unfixed). I remember going to my counselor, angry beyond belief, ready to get my mom on the phone. It had not been my fault, I was told the wrong information.

Why can't I take the classes that I want along with the mandatory ones? Just because I am in honors does not mean I am only have book smarts, I just happen

to work hard. Honors students should have their choice of electives. They keep up their grades so well that it only makes sense to reward them somehow.

According to the curriculum options sheet, an honors student has to take a regular music performance or appreciation class. Other regular classes that are allowed are P.E., Health, Driver's Ed, ROTC, and Drafting. Additional electives cannot be regular, but either honors or AP as well. Senior year, core students have a grand total of five electives; take lunch out, and they only have two mandatory classes.

A solution to all this would be allowing honors students to take the electives they want. Or, at least allow one elective a year, no matter what it is, to be regular-level. There could also be a way of still getting the honors credit if the class is available otherwise. These solutions, though, will most likely not happen.

A more practical solution would be to change one's strict mindset. When I found out that I was no longer in honors, I thought that my chance of getting admitted into the college of choice was over. Life was over. I can't afford full college tuition (I don't think anyone really can), so I need the maximum amount of academic scholarships. That's too bad, because there went all my free money!

All colleges really care about is a student's overall performance, especially the cumulative GPA. You can keep taking honors classes and be in core, it is not the end of the world. If the curriculum is unknown to colleges, why have it then?

At the beginning of the year, I thought that figuring myself out had the large cost of losing honors. Now, I feel that cost is not so pricey. I am taking the class that actually means something to me, without losing my academic strength. My grades are even better than they have been in past years.

So, my advice is to think twice before your ideal class for the more academic one - it might just be worth it.

CPS weather policy leaves students out in the cold



By Caitlyn Kolakowski

On Thursday, Jan. 15, and Friday, Jan. 16, temperatures were extremely low. News stations and Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) advised people that the weather was unsafe and that they should stay indoors. Yet in that same advisement they declared that CPS schools were still open.

Thursday had a high of one degree and a low of -13 degrees. Friday's high was six degrees and the low was -17 degrees. The wind numbed one's face immediately upon walking outside.

In addition to the dangerously low temperatures, there were certain days that there was a major snowfall. On Jan. 12, there was an overnight snowfall of two to five

inches and the storm carried over into the morning. Again weather was said to be bad, but yet students going to CPS schools were told to come to school. However, suburban schools had those days off plus other days that week. Since the 1999 ice storm, CPS has never cancelled school.

On the CPS website there is no set severe weather school closing policy available for CPS students and parents to look at. There are no certain circumstances under which school officials will cancel school in cases of extreme weather.

One reason I believe that CPS remains open, is because the CTA is still running. As long as students have a way to get to school then they have to come. However, a positive for days of extreme weather is that the administration at Lane closes the tardy office allowing students extra time to struggle through the snow and extremely cold weather to get to school without the punishment of being late to class.

This bad and even dangerous weather can be especially harmful to students driving to school or taking public transportation. When the streets are covered with snow and ice, chances of students getting into an accident are heightened. For students taking public transportation in below zero weather can be harmful to

them when they are waiting for a train or a bus.

On the other hand, going to school provides some students with adequate heat that they would otherwise also not be able to receive at home.

Other schools in the Chicagoland area only close if CPS schools are. These schools are also aware that CPS rarely closes on extreme weather days.

In an article in the Washington Post, former head of CPS Arne Duncan said that it would take "a hurricane, an avalanche, or a tidal wave" to close public schools in Chicago.

Barack Obama appreciates CPS policy. He said, "My children's school was canceled today. Because of what? Some ice?...We're going to have to apply some flinty Chicago toughness to this town." Before his presidency, Obama's daughters attended CPS schools and he remarked that school was never cancelled. Even the president notices that CPS schools never are closed.

I believe that CPS should provide people with certain conditions under which schools should be closed. This way we would maybe have some days off from school and would not have to struggle and go through the stress of getting to school on days of extreme weather.

The blame game: India v. Pakistan



By Sahar Shafqat

Like many Americans, I was shocked by the attacks in Mumbai, India on Nov. 26, 2008. The financial centers of the country were attacked by terrorists, much in the same way that America's were on 9/11. Horrifyingly, the terrorists killed elderly men and women as well as children. The death toll added up to 163 with more than an additional 300 injured.

Human life is lost everyday, but when it happens in a way where someone tries to play God and kill anyone in sight, it is more distressing.

After the attack, the Indian government blamed Pakistan, without any evidence. Being of Pakistani origin, I did not appreciate the accusation.

Recently, however, evidence has been gathered that points blame on a Pakistani-based militant group named Lashkar-e-Taiba. Pakistani officials

have announced that they are leading a thorough investigation and will hold the perpetrators accountable. While Pakistan is denying the allegations that the suspected perpetrators are linked to their government, India is trying to keep a diplomatic stance and wait for justice. Progress has been slow, however, since Pakistan recently went through major political changes and remains a failing state under the Zardari administration.

So why did India's Prime Minister Manmohan point the finger at Pakistan without the proper evidence? Tensions between the two nations go back awhile.

In 1940 Muhammad Ali Jinnah began calling for the establishment of Pakistan as an independent, Islamic nation to be separated from India. This partition finally took place in 1947. People moved to Pakistan and Bangladesh (also established in the partition) if they wanted to be a part of an Islamic state. (Pakistan literally translates to the "Land of the Pure").

I do not know if the attacks on India were religiously motivated, but it seems very likely since religious differences have caused numerous clashes between the two countries for decades.

Nevertheless, blaming the entire Pakistani nation for the recent attack is unfair because it does not reflect the

attitude of the entire nation. There are Islamic extremists who fight and terrorize the world in the name of God, but there are also devout Muslims who believe in peace. Unfortunately, the extremist religious militant groups are giving the entire country of Pakistan and Islam a bad name.

Obviously, the resentment from the past has created boundaries but by holding on to the nuclear weapons each country has and threatening to use them is not going to take them anywhere.

The most important thing right now is to capture the perpetrators behind the heinous crime in Mumbai and give them the proper punishment. Recent reports show that the two governments will be cooperating to bring the culprits to justice. Pakistani officials have "cracked down" on most of the allegedly involved groups of the attacks by shutting down camps and arresting individuals involved.

The tensions between the two countries have yet to destroy any friendships between Lane students of Pakistani and Indian backgrounds.

"It's not that we don't care [about the events] but we know that it's a certain group, not the entire country [of Pakistan] to blame," said Devshree Rawal, Div. 925. "If anything, I talk to people from Pakistan even more because I can discuss what's going on and get



Military officials guard the border separating India and Pakistan.

their point of view."

Tamanna Islam, Div. 934, is from Bangladesh, one of the countries partitioned and established as a majority Muslim country.

"The attacks were wrong no matter who did it," she said.

For peace between India and Pakistan to ever come about, it is important that they follow the example of these Lane students and keep an open line of communication and willing spirit of reconciliation.

Obama election causes inappropriate gloating



By Melanie Johnson

November 5th of 2008 was an historic and memorable time for many people around the world.

That night Barack Obama became the first African American president and at the same time brought together millions of people from all walks of life in Millennium Park to witness this extraordinary moment.

Obama's vote into the whitehouse has been awaited for since the era of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement. That night, I was relieved and proud that America as a majority came together for a common purpose and necessity:

change.

My mother among many that night cried tears of joy and disbelief. All I could remember that night was my mother in tears repeatedly saying, "Oh my God!" She later told me how significant this was not only to African Americans and my family, but the United States of America as well.

She was proud to see such an accomplishment after Blacks were oppressed for an extended period of time. All she could think about was my grandfather who grew up as a sharecropper in Mississippi and ran away from home to Chicago in order to live a better life. This is one of the many stories I have heard from elder African Americans to the younger generation, informing us of how remarkable this event is and how time has drastically changed for the better.

Although this was a joyous time, I witnessed many events that occurred after Obama was elected that I believe were really ignorant and disappointing as an African American. I heard many Black Americans make crude remarks to other races just because

"the president is Black".

I think that is a very immature mentality that should be dropped. Obama as president does not give others (Blacks) the right to insult and boast to other races. To me this election was very significant to many, not just Blacks, and means that there should not be any excuses as to why someone cannot excel or achieve any goal because of their race, color, ethnicity, background, etc.

I believe Obama represents Americans from all over; he gives all Americans hope we too can achieve the American dream. Although he was elected two months ago, it finally seemed real and actually sunk in when he was inaugurated on Jan. 23. I mean, who would imagine that the a person of color would be elected into the White House when it was originally built by their enslaved ancestors?

This event has shown America's progression both socially and politically and is something for the rest of the world to see. We have set a precedent for future generations everywhere and should take pride in accomplishing what many thought was just a dream.

Mex in the City: Is it worth risking the friendship?



Dear Mex in the City,

Have you ever thought of your best friend as being more than a best friend? And if so, do you think it is worth risking that relationship for one that would be more than just friends?

- Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

I can understand where you're coming from. It's only natural to sometimes fall for your best friend; you hang out together a lot, have inside jokes, and know things about the person that other people might not know. And strong relationships usually start off as great friendships because there is already a foundation built.

But, of course, there is the inevitable risk of ruining the friendship or making things awkward.

Now, I don't know just how much you like your best friend, or how long you've known the person. But one thing's for sure: you need to find out if this person is digging you back. Ask a mutual friend, or act flirtier when you're together. If you can sense that they're equally giving back the same amount of affection, then there really shouldn't be much holding you back.

However! IF they are already in a relationship, consider its stability. Are they honestly happy? Or can you sense flaws that are honestly tainting the relationship? These are factors you need to be sure of before you make any rash decisions.

And finally, dear Anonymous, ask yourself if it is really what you want. Can you honestly see yourself being more than just friends with this person? Or is it possible that this is only a minor attraction you are mistaking for something bigger? Keep in mind that once you attempt to take things to the next level, things will definitely change.

The choice is up to you, so think things through and weigh your options carefully.

Signed,
Mex in the City

Mex in the City wants to hear from you! Submit your questions at dulcearroyo@lanewarrior.com or drop off your question in the mailbox of Warrior Advisor Mr. Johnson.

Blackhawks pride is back in Chicago



By Lauren Corso

It's hard to believe that in one year a team can go from down in the dumps and out of the public's interest to one of the hottest topics in the sports world.

The Chicago Blackhawks, once the epitome of sports pride in their prime during the 1960s, have gone through a roller coaster of ups and downs.

With legendary players like Bobby Hull, Stan Mikita, and Tony Esposito, the Hawks surged to a Stanley Cup Championship in 1961. But after great success, plenty of lows followed. The team began losing games, fans, and alumni as years passed under a very unpopular owner, William Wirtz.

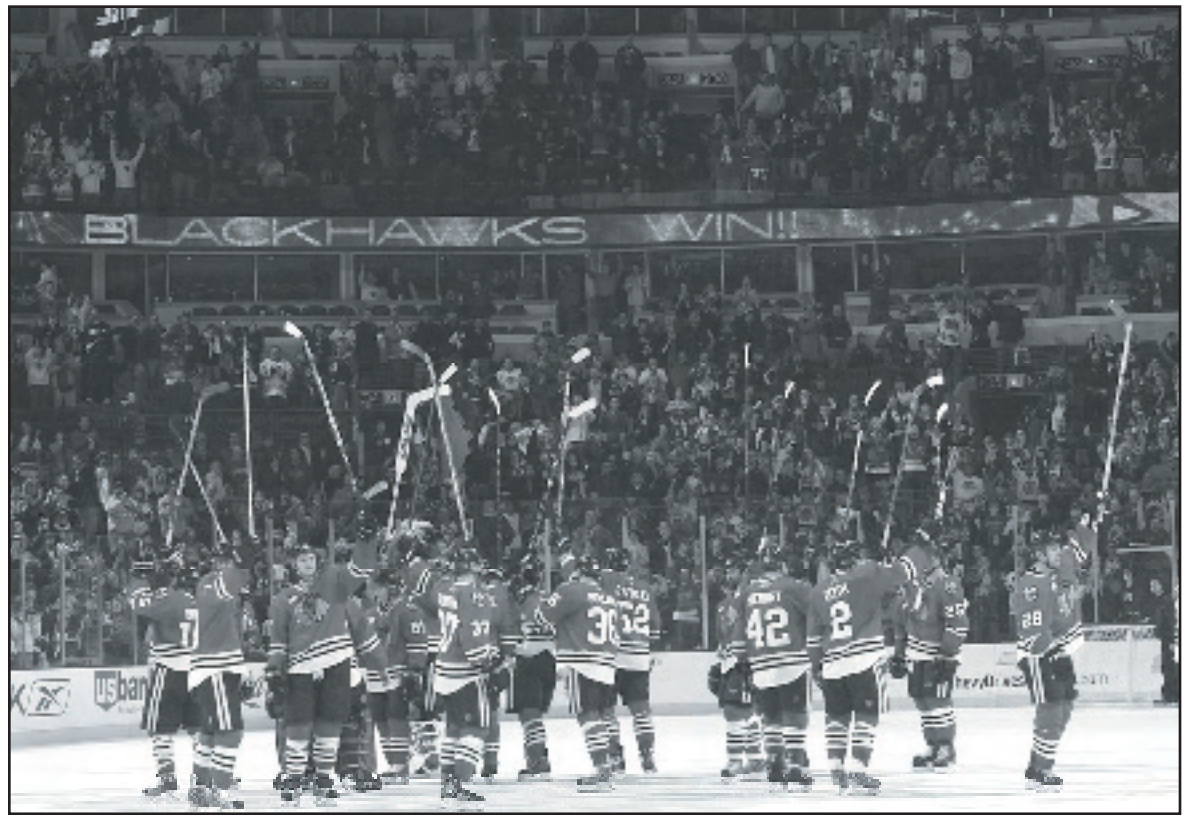
The Blackhawks have struggled tremendously in recent years; reaching the playoffs in 2002 and not returning since. This year, however, the Hawks are well on their way to finishing high in their conference and at least making an appearance in the post-season.

So maybe that's the reason for the sudden return of "Blackhawks pride" that has been sweeping through the city lately. Or maybe it's the team's two 20-year-old stars, Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews, who are responsible for all the Blackhawks buzz. While there may be several reasons behind the wave of excitement among both long time hockey fans and newcomers alike, here are my top three reasons why Blackhawks pride is back and here to stay for a while.

3. Kane and Toews - Arguably one of the best center-wing combinations in quite some time, the two young players have easily become the faces of the franchise after being drafted in 2006 and 2007. Kane went on to win the Calder Trophy for Rookie of the year in the 07-08 season, and this past summer the team named Toews as captain, making him the youngest one in the NHL. They appeal to die-hard hockey fans, young kids, and teenage girls across the country, putting the Hawks back on the hockey map.

2. Front Office Magic - Off the ice, one of the biggest parts of the Blackhawks resurgence has been the addition of John McDonough to the front office. Since taking the job as President in 2007, he has been working the same marketing magic he previously used with the Cubs. After being out of the public eye through the late 90s and early 2000's McDonough has been mostly responsible for the 175 percent increase in merchandise revenue, more than 300 percent increase in season ticket sales, and the 12 sell-out crowds in the past season. In addition to that, all 82 regular season games are now, for the first time in franchise history, being televised - something that was marked taboo under Wirtz. Because of this increase in exposure, the team has won back fans from past generations that had left, along with a new wave of younger hockey fans that can now be apart of something special.

1. Historic Happenings - In only about a year the Blackhawks have made several headlines in the hockey world. The first was a result of McDonough creating the inaugural Blackhawks Convention last summer - the first ever in the National Hockey League. Ten-thousand plus fans attended the three-day event, which



The Chicago Blackhawks salute their fans after a win at the United Center.

brought together players from the past and present, and featured interactive games, discussion panels, and autograph sessions.

The second was pure numbers. The team itself set a record with a nine-game winning streak this season. It was the first in team history, and a proof to other teams across the league that the Hawks are indeed becoming a real threat.

But by far the most history making event in the past year has been the Winter Classic at Wrigley Field. In large thanks to McDonough, league officials made the Blackhawks the host to one of the biggest spectacles in the NHL, a regular season game played outdoors in the dead of winter on Jan. 1, when the Hawks squared off against their rivals, the Detroit Red Wings, in one of the most recognized sports venues in the world. From a first hand account, I can honestly say that it was the best sporting event I have ever been to. It also brought some much-needed national attention to the team.

Now I love the Hawks. But in the same breath I can say that I am still not a hopeless dreamer. The Blackhawks are not a Stanley Cup Champion team...yet. But in the next few years I believe they can be. With a few extra pieces and the work ethic that this team has, they are very much on the rise to the top.

The Blackhawks now have something that they lacked before: a seventh man, 22,000 fans strong every night pushing them in the winning direction.

Wrestlers go to extra lengths to make weight

By Stephanie Pineda

People are constantly struggling to get rid of those few extra pounds, but wrestlers seem to have the right idea and some effective methods not only to lose those extra pounds, but to lose them within days.

Before their matches, wrestlers go to a weigh-in where they must "make weight" in order to qualify to compete in their weight class.

"There are 14 weight classes," said Coach Miedona, Head Wrestling Coach. "For example, one weight class is 152. The wrestler has to get on a scale and be 152.0 or less. If it's 152.1, it counts as a forfeit for the school."

Wrestlers who do not make weight may wrestle in a heavier weight class, but that has consequences. If one person misses weight and the coaches decide to move that person up a weight class it displaces the person who was already scheduled to wrestle in that class, and can mess up the entire line up.

"Wrestling a heavier weight class is more difficult than a weight class that is lower," added Matt Finnegan, Div. 173. "Therefore, wrestlers cut down to a lower weight class to fulfill the full potential of the wrestler."

Because of these factors wrestlers understand the importance of making weight.

"It's discipline," said Nader Ihmoud, Div. 028. "[If] you can't

make weight, you shouldn't wrestle."

Some wrestlers struggle with making weight for meets so often they will go to extra lengths to try to get rid of excess weight.

"[These] methods include dieting, and extra conditioning after practice with layers of clothing to produce more sweat," said Finnegan.

This is usually done in the days before a meet, but for some wrestlers it may not always work in time for the meet. Some wrestlers will then resort to unsafe methods of cutting weight.

"There are illegal methods that the state bans for cutting weight," said Miedona, "such as using plastic suits, chewing gum or tobacco to make you spit, wearing plastic bags during exercise, or going to the sauna. [I] do not allow any of those methods to be used."

In addition to this, in order to prevent excess weight loss by high school wrestlers, the school has a certified body fat tester come in at the beginning of every year. This person then takes the weight of all the wrestlers, gives them all hydration tests, and measures their percentage of body fat. The body fat tester then puts this information into a formula on a computer, and the computer determines what weight class each person can wrestle at and how much weight they are allowed to lose.

"At that point, it's really not up to me anymore, what weight class each person wrestles," said Miedona.

Fantasy sports allows students to live out sports dreams

By Ricardo Guzman

Lane sports fanatics who fantasize about being sports stars have found an outlet in online gaming simulations called fantasy sports.

Fantasy sports are online strategy games where a player controls a sports team consisting of players from the real sports world. Basically, the player acts as an owner and manager of the team. It is a head to head game against another opponent in your fantasy sports league where the athletes on your team are rewarded points for what they do on the court, field, or course, such as hitting homeruns, making three pointers, scoring touchdowns, etc.

There are all kinds of fantasy sports leagues including baseball, basketball, football, hockey, soccer, and golf. There is also fantasy congress, where players choose members of the U.S. House of Representative and the Senate and track their participation.

Many sports enthusiasts have been playing fantasy sports for many years now.

"It gives people something to do while they follow the sports," said Mr. VonMoser, a substitute

teacher at Lane. "It's hard not to be biased because I'm a Bears fan and I don't want to root for one of the Bear's major rivals, Minnesota's Adrian Peterson, to rush for 200 yards, even though he can do that any game."

Studies by the Fantasy Sports Trade Association show that 19.4 million people ages 12 and older in the U.S. and Canada played fantasy sports in 2006. The number rose to about 30 million people in 2007, showing how quickly the industry is growing.

Other studies estimate that about 22% of males between the ages of 18-49 play fantasy sports in the U.S.

Although most of Lane's fantasy players interviewed claim they do not put money into their fantasy leagues, an estimated \$3-4 billion are spent by Americans every year on fantasy sports.

Students at Lane find that fantasy sports can be frustrating if the outcome does not turn out how they wanted at the end of the week.

"A couple years ago I played in a fantasy baseball league... I was playing against this guy who beat me by one point! [I was so angry]," said Peter Targos, Div. 043.

"In my fantasy football league I was 11-0 going into the final week of the regular season and I was winning big time by 30 points," said Josh Hahn, Div. 050. "The other guy had one guy left to play on a Monday night game, and his last and final player scored 33 points and I ended up barely losing by 3 points."

In the final week of their play-offs some players suffered an unfortunate ending.

"A couple years ago I got beat by one point when the other player only had his final guy win that week for him," said Tevin Hemmans, Div. 046.

People find out about fantasy sports through different ways. Some find out through word of mouth. Some receive information and links from a fantasy sports website, such as espn.com, mlb.com, nfl.com, fantasycongress.com. And some find out through the common advertisement.

"I found out just watching ESPN one day and thought it would be cool to try it," said Hemmans.

Internet web sites offer free or pay-to-play formats. The free leagues are usually public and do not come with as many settings and features, such as trade options, chatting, prize eligibility, and many more. Most fantasy

players play through the free leagues. The players who play in the pay leagues have a chance to win prizes, whether it is a gift card, trophy, or even a large amount of prize money if they win the championship.

"I don't play for money; the free one is good enough for me... but if you got the money go for it," said Targos.

Like any other competition, tempers tend to heat up during matches. Trash talking and bragging rights are on the line also. Those rights are intensified when players are in the same league as friends or family members.

"During the draft this [old] guy kept talking trash and telling me how all my players sucked. I played against him and I [killed] him by like 40 points," said Hahn.

In recent years fantasy sports have been accused of being another form of gambling after fantasy sports industries gained billions of dollars from fantasy sports enthusiasts. The point was argued in the case of *Humphrey v. Viacom* in 2007, where the plaintiff claimed that the registration fees paid by fantasy sports leagues participants are tantamount to wagers or bets. A judge in New Jersey ruled in favor of

Viacom, saying that the fantasy sports players' activities do not constitute illegal gambling. The many fantasy sports leagues enthusiasts breathed a deep sigh of relief.

People who believe it is gambling view fantasy sports as a game that you are not able to control, and that the outcome is solely in the hands of the players on the field. Others claim it takes skill to scout and research the players, and to find those with the best statistics and tendencies.

"I don't play for money, but if I did I still wouldn't see it as gambling," said Hahn. "I guess you could say that it is skill then."

"I think it's more of a skill because you need to have knowledge on the sport and player," said Targos.

"I think it's both," said Mr. Vonmoser. "Who really picked up Wes Welker (an NFL wide receiver), that's skill; but then there is luck because what if your guy gets injured?"

With the fantasy baseball and auto racing competitions nearing, many of Lane's fantasy players are already getting into gear and looking to hit a home-run in the new seasons ahead.

Low stakes gambling common among students

By Lauren Corso

Recent statistics indicate that more than 50 percent of teenagers 16 years and older partake in some form of gambling. Sports gambling seems to be most common.

"I gamble because it makes the games more exciting. They're more fun to watch," said Sergio Perez, Div. 931.

'Fun' was a commonly used term among Lane students explaining why they gamble. Most claimed it is something they usually do with friends and family for relatively low amounts of money.

"I don't think it would ever become a problem for me because I just do it for fun. I don't gamble money I don't have," said Radoslav Petkov, Div. 926.

"Usually I make bets with my family, mostly my cousins," said Perez. "It depends on how confident I am, but it's never been over twenty dollars."

Although some aspects of sports gambling among youth can be light-hearted, it can become a serious addiction, even a cause for the rise of support groups like Gamblers Anonymous.

"It definitely can become addictive. People obviously like money, and gambling can be a good way to get some. If someone doesn't have a job you can

gamble your way through to get money," said Marcin Witkowski, Div. 908.

Gambling has become easier to do in recent years because of the internet, which hosts hundreds of sports-related gambling sites. This had enabled a larger portion of the public to place bets, run tournaments, and compete in fantasy leagues.

Even professional athletes have run into trouble in the world of sports gambling. Just a couple years ago professional hockey player Jaromir Jagr admitted to accumulating a \$500,000 debt over five years of gambling with the CaribSports website.

This is not to say that old fashion gambling has gone completely out the window with the wave of technology.

"The bets I make are organized at the place I get my hair cut," said Petkov.

"I bet on European soccer games, which team is going to win and what the goal difference will be," said Witkowski. "Or probably once a month my friends and I meet up for poker night. You only have to get in with five bucks, but you can end up coming out with fifty."

One of the busiest times of the year for sports betting arrives in the spring and has the fitting name "March Madness." The NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament has become a craze not only in

American sports culture but also in the gambling world.

According to Frank Streshley, senior analyst for Nevada Gaming Control Board, the money legally wagered on college basketball last March more than doubled to \$195.7 million from \$95.9 million in February. About \$6 billion more is illegally gambled in office pools, and with online and street bookies says USA TODAY sports analyst Danny Sheridan. He predicted that The Final Four would produce \$2.25 billion more in illegal bets.

March Madness definitely catches on at Lane where both students and teachers fill out prediction sheets for the tournament.

Whether or not students consider gambling to be a problem, it clearly has become increasingly popular among younger adults. In cases where ones gambling habits are not handled correctly it can become problematic.

"I know my cousin lost a lot of money and he got in a lot of trouble; like he wouldn't be able to pay rent," said Perez.

"I have friends that have definitely

won a lot and lost a lot with gambling," said an anonymous teacher who admits to gambling in the past. "It's different now because I have a family to care for and miscellaneous expenses like gambling aren't part of my life anymore."

Similarly, most students claim not to have a gambling problem, saying it is something they do not take very seriously.

"I've lost fifty or sixty bucks, but in the end I've won a lot more than I've lost," said Petkov.

Some aspire to try their luck on a bigger stage.

"I would want to go to Vegas and gamble there. There are a lot of different opportunities to gamble and win money," said Perez.



Girls' Basketball loses at City tournament, looks forward to State

By Julie Dimas
& Vanessa Landa

On January 31, the Lane Varsity Girls' Basketball team suffered a devastating 77-24 loss to rival Whitney Young and were eliminated from the City tournament. The loss dropped the team's record to 13-13 on the season.

This loss was not surprising to shooting guard, Martha Glodz, Div. 159.

"Whitney Young ranks first in state and fourteenth nationally. Without a doubt they're an amazing team. I mean we weren't expecting to go in and win," said Glodz.

Nevertheless, the loss was especially disappointing because the team did not raise its game to play well against a tough opponent.

"One weakness for us was getting back on defense. We gave them too many transition points and put-backs. The first half we were mentally out of it, [and] a little too intimidated," said Glodz.

However, Glodz also pointed out that during the second half of

the game, the team came in with a "we've got nothing to lose attitude" and was able to get off better shots.

Although the game didn't go as well as they had hoped, according to Mary Feeney, the new Varsity Girls' Basketball coach, there is no doubt that they tried their hardest.

"I like that our girls never gave up. Certainly it was a tough opponent we faced. I think our girls just gave it everything they had and they played their hearts out and I'm really proud of them for that," said Feeney.

According to other members of the team, despite their mediocre record the team has improved significantly.

"We had a rough start, but as the team came closer together, we grew and our defense has come together because we started talking more...and it allowed us to focus on the court," said Captain Maria Joyce, Div. 930.

Forward/guard Jordan Holod, Div. 924, agrees.

"Our defense improved most of the season and our whole teamwork [as well]," said Holod.



Point guard Jazmin Carranza, Div. 055. makes a move towards the basket.

Another of the team's strengths is its players' tenacity.

"I think our strong points are that we never give up, even to the last minute, even if we're getting

blown up by 40 points," said Joyce.

Overall, despite all the setbacks in the season, the Girls Varsity Basketball team is optimistic about the remainder of the season.

"We [have] one more regular season game to play and then we open up against Steinmetz on February 16 for State," said Feeney. "I think we [have] a pretty good chance. We've been working really hard and we've been getting better every game, and I like our chances [at State]."

Overall, most of the Varsity Girls Basketball team believes that the game against Whitney Young was a memorable loss and positive learning experience.

"I usually don't play a lot and I got in the third quarter, and I scored a basket against a six foot girl," said guard/forward Samantha Nikolich, Div. 025. "I played post, which I usually don't do and I did really well. Considering we got beat by a lot, I think that was one of my

good games," said Nikolich.

"It was definitely a game that helped us prepare more for state playoffs," said Glodz.

Feeney says one of the team's biggest obstacles is their lack of size.

"If I could get them to grow a little bit that would be nice," said Feeney. "We've been a little vertically challenged this year, but certainly we're going to work on a lot of basic basketball fundamentals."

"We're short but fast," said Joyce. "Also, the fact that we come together socially...is what makes us unique because we can laugh on and off the court. Even at the Whitney Young game, we got killed but we came out the locker room laughing, and we still managed to smile. We were having more fun than them and they were winning," said Joyce.

"I think one strength going into next season is that, it'll be my second year [coaching]," said Feeney, "and I'll know the ropes better on how it works. I think that would help: just knowing the routine and what we're trying to accomplish."

Top Lane athletes look to compete at college level

By Erik Prado

Every year, Lane averages around eight city titles, led by exceptional athletes. Only some of these athletes have the potential to compete at the top college level, and colleges have noticed who these athletes are.

Lane's most recognizable sport is football. They have a long history of winning, and this year was no exception.

The football team recently won city for the first time since 2004. Playing a big role in their success this year was Louis Trinca, Div. 023. Trinca is a versatile player, playing linebacker, wide receiver, and tight end. According to the Sun Times, Trinca is an intriguing college prospect.

Some athletes may be cocky because of their talent, but not Trinca.

"I am a very humble person and I don't really pay attention to stuff like that. One thing I do know is that Lane has a large history of college talent and I hope to be a part of that family," said Trinca.

The following colleges have already contacted Trinca: Arizona University, Iowa, University of Illinois, Northwestern, Duke, Michigan State, and Hofstra University. Hofstra University is the only college that does not field a Division 1-A football team.

Division 1-A football teams contain some of the best talent in college football.

"I most definitely want to pursue football at the collegiate level," said Trinca.

Hoping to improve for his senior season, Trinca has joined track this year to increase his speed. He also signed up with the National Collegiate Scouting Association. The NCSA sends highlights and information about Trinca to colleges.

"The recruiting process has been really busy for me. I met with coaches, visited colleges, and talked with coaches on the phone. I've had the most help from Coach Rio, who has been contacting colleges to help get my

name out there," said Trinca.

In the past four years, the track and cross country programs have sent twelve runners to Division One schools. D-1 schools contain the best talent in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

Eight runners from Lane have run for D-1 schools since 2007. Four of the eight participants in track have been walk-ons. One of the biggest names for the Boy's Track team this year is Christopher Kyles, Div. 909.

A sophomore in 2007, Kyles was on the 4x100 meter relay team that finished 7th in state. He was also on the 4x200 meter relay team that finished 6th in state. Kyles is also a member of the football team, playing the safety position.

Last year at the state finals, Kyles placed 5th in the 100m dash. For the 2009 season, Kyles is a top sprint returnee in the state, and one of the top 100 returnees in the country.

Already, Kyles has received scholarship offers.

"DePaul, Purdue, and North Dakota State have offered scholarships," said Kyles.

All three of the previously mentioned schools participate in D-1 athletics for track.

"I want to attend a school with good coaching," said Kyles. "Education is important, but I think any big school can offer good education."

Kyles hopes to receive more offers after this season, during which he hopes to finish first in the 100m dash at state.

Senior Idia Omiagate Div. 933 is a star for two sports at Lane. Last year, she won both the 100m and 200m dash at the City Championship. A strong performance during the 200909 season will boost Omiagate's stock.

Omiagate is also a star in tennis. She qualified for state last year and also won the city doubles with her sister, Nike Omiagate.

Another top runner for both track and cross country teams is Jennie Wojtas, Div. 936. However, while colleges have contacted her,

she does not see herself running for a team next year.

"I did not want to join that NCSA thing we had at school, because in college I do not want to be tied down to a team. If I decide to run, I want to run for a running club in college. Once I get used to campus life, I'll work to join the team," said Wojtas.

Wrestling also has potential college recruits. Senior Justin Cobb was a state qualifier last year and was instrumental in helping Lane win the city title. Along with the veterans on the team, a new face on the wrestling team has the future looking bright.

Max Schneider, Div. 281, is currently ranked 6th in state for class AAA for the 135 pound weight class.

Interestingly, Schneider had never wrestled before this season. As he is just a freshman, Schneider hasn't been contacted by colleges yet, but he hopes to.

"I believe I can get [a scholarship]. I don't have the money, so any type of scholarship would help. I don't want to be in debt," said Schneider.

Schneider certainly has a bright future for the Lane Wrestling team, with three years left. Already this year, his record is 29-1. He recently finished 1st at the city championships for his weight class.

These are only some of the top athletes at Lane. Others such as Maria Joyce, Div. 930, and Shaheen Kazmi, Div. 920, are most likely to compete at smaller colleges.

Kazmi is one of Lane's top cross country and track runners. Joyce is a two sport athlete, playing basketball and softball.

"Smaller schools are usually D-III or NAIA, (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) which are the schools that have been contacting me, which I wouldn't mind running for because I just want to have the chance to run at the collegiate level," said Kazmi.

"I've had contact with Morton College, Alverno, ICC, and Niagara to name a few.

I unfortunately messed up my GPA freshman year and it went downhill from there. It makes being recruited a challenge, so if any advice I can give listen to me when I say your grades are always first, but if you are like me don't give up because there are options," said Joyce.

Certain sports have athletes receive more offers from colleges than others. Track and cross country runners receive more offers because there are many more opportunities for them. Football, basketball, and baseball are the most competitive sports to earn athletic scholarships.

Colleges don't immediately hand out scholarships to athletes: student character is also an important factor.

"There are different criteria for different colleges. For example, smaller colleges look for good students, not necessarily top tier athletes," said Coach Roof.

"I think that when colleges offer you scholarships, they look at not only how good you are at your sport, but also your potential as a future athlete," said Wojtas.

The college recruiting process often lasts months, sometimes years. The process alone has Lane athletes thankful.

"It just feels good to know that there are coaches who see potential in you being on their team to compete at the collegiate level," said Kazmi.

"Being recruited has been really flattering and pretty cool. I mean, although I am one of the best runners at Lane, I'm definitely not the best compared to everyone in Illinois or the U.S., so just knowing that people see some potential in my abilities has been really uplifting," said Wojtas.

Once these athletes graduate, who will be the next big athletic stars at Lane?

Only time, practice, commitment, and strong character traits will bring about the next athletic stars at Lane.

Dance team steps up with new additions

By Sadeta Causevic

There have been some surprising new additions to this year's Dance Team. Peter Ak-Palu, Div. 053, the first boy ever to make the squad, is one of them.

Ak-Palu had to choose between dance and basketball. He loves both. Even though many refer to him as "Wade" - after his idol, NBA superstar Dwyane Wade, - Ak-Palu ultimately chose to pursue dance because he wanted to get more professional experience and training. He believes he made the right decision.

"I love dancing and I like girls, so it's like killing two birds with one stone," he said.

He did admit that at times it was hard to deal with the negativity of people talking behind his back, but to him, hating is a weak emotion. He did not let it get to him and focused on his goal of getting better at dancing.

"I don't care what people are saying about me because I'm doing what I got to do to get to the next level in my dance career," said Ak-Palu.

Ak-Palu was not the only boy who made the team. There were eight initially. But he is the only one left.

"We accepted all the boys who tried out, but most of them quit because they beat out their girlfriends," said Coach Deidre. "Peter was the only one who stuck to it."

Through it all, Ak-Palu's teammates were there to support him.

"Peter is committed and dedicated to dance. I see his passion for dance," said Alexandra Romero, Div. 930.

The team encouraged more boys to join this year to make the dances more entertaining.

"I love that there's a boy on the team.

I wish we had more boys so we could do more tricks," said co-captain Shenay Rivers, Div. 903.

To some members, it was awkward when he first joined.

"It was weird because the moves were feminine. He said he would make them manly," said Alexis Morin, Div. 030.

He ended up getting more comfortable after a while and even taught the girls some new moves.

"Peter makes the moves more unisex," said Coach Natalie.

She said that she choreographs the routine and then lets him play with his part to make it his own. The coaches try to incorporate more hip hop to routines to involve him. The only time he sits out is during the Pom, which is when the girls use pom-poms.

Currently Peter is helping to choreograph the Hip Hop Competition Dance Team of Lane with their new routine. He is choreographing the entire second part with the song "Number One Spot" by Ludacris.

Another addition to this year's dance team is that for the first time in Lane's history, there is a freshman on the Kickline Competition Dance Team. Her name is Kasey Chronis, Div. 251. Before starting high school, her parents contacted the Kickline coach, Coach Deidre, about their daughter trying out. In the end, she blew everyone away by her talent and earned herself a spot on the team.

"I will never forget how during her freestyle she did a quad, while others mostly did

a hip hop freestyle," said co-captain Paige Jovanovic, Div. 919.

There was a competition on January 11 called the Rolling Meadows Invitational.

clothes, and shoes," said Coach Natalie.

The team chooses not to fundraise because it is too much of a hassle. They do payment plans instead. For those still on the team after the first year, they only pay about \$100 for new practice clothes.

Usually the tryouts for the team are after State, which is around March. There are two days of tryouts. If a dancer makes it through those cuts, she (or he) is on the team until competition season. There is both a Kickline and Hip Hop competition team.

"If you're on the competition teams, you will more likely make the team again next year. If you don't, then you will have to try out again," said Jovanovic.

The dance team encourages everyone to try out, even if they have no dancing experience.

"I tried out not knowing how to dance, but I went for it and succeeded. So don't be afraid to try something new," said Romero.

Members of the team say they are so tightly knit they consider themselves a family. According to the coach they get along "too much." Most, however, insist the distractions are worth the friends and memories they are making along the way.



Peter Ak-Palu, Lane's only male dance team member, watches a routine.

The Kickline Competition Team placed third and needed 6.5 points to qualify for state. At this time last year, they needed about 20 points to qualify.

The Dance Team also hosted a summer camp at Lane in August. It lasted three days and cost \$10. They believed it was a success, so they are going to host another camp.

While the fee to attend the camp is only \$10, the cost of making the team skyrockets to \$550.

"You pay for custom bags, performance uniforms, warm ups, three pairs of practice

No City title for wrestling, but still hope for Regionals

By Sadeta Causevic
& Amanda Ruiz

This season was a good one for Lane's Wrestling Team. Even though they did not win the City Championship this year, they placed second.

"Although we lost City, we got second, which is respectable," said Head Coach Meidona.

The team's current record is 15-6, and improvement on last year's 14-10.

"We beat schools this year that we lost to last year. We also have more kids ranked this year," said Meidona.

Justin Cobb, Div. 936, Maximilian Scheinder, Div. 281, and Nick Jankowski, Div. 285, are ranked this year. Schneider is ranked seventh in the state. Cobb and Jankowski are honorably mentioned as well.

The school that is ranked number one in the state is Oak Park River Forest. Lane faced them and lost, but Lane did win four of the 14 matches against them.

"I knew we would lose against the

number one ranked team, but we still did good because we did win against four of their wrestlers," said Hiathem Hamdan, Div. 168.

Kelly High School won first at City. Kelly scored 278 points while Lane finished with 254 points. Lane placed second out of 59 schools but had several impressive finishes from their wrestlers. Cobb, Schneider, and Matt Finnegan, Div. 173, placed first in their weight classes. Chase Wilson, Div. 164, placed second. Jankowski and Hamdan won thirds. Pawel Piotrowicz, Div. 032, placed fourth, and Giovanni Toledo, Div. 171, placed fifth.

"We had more 1st place winners than any other school at City. We also had more medal winners than any other school there as well," said Meidona.

Lane had to forfeit two weight classes, which kept them from gaining more points.

"Unfortunately, due to uncontrollable circumstances, we had to forfeit two weight classes, which took points away from defending our City Championship," said Meidona.

Their last meet, Regionals, was

held on Saturday, Feb. 7, though results were not available in time for this story's publication. The top four in the tournament get to go downstate.

"My goal is to qualify at State, place at State, and get scholarships," said Cobb, whose current record is 34-3.

His teammates believe that he will perform well at Regionals.

"Cobb is a certain qualifier at State," said wrestler Nader Ihmoud, Div. 028.

Schneider is a freshman who has dominated his opponents. His record is 33-1. The only wrestler to beat him was ranked number one in the state.

"I have one loss, which didn't make me mad because I almost beat him and he was ranked number one. It is not a big deal that I lost," said Shneider.

Coach Meidona doesn't know how the team will do at Regionals, but he hopes to retain their title from last year.

"Our goal now is just to focus and defend our Regional Championship," he said.



Lane's Cameron Hill skies in a blur toward the basket as other players look on in Saturday night's game. Lane soundly defeated Kelly High School 57-35 while celebrating Senior Night.