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Lane Technical College Prep High School

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Stolen scales stump staff

By Almasa Pecanin

A number of scales and balances have been stolen out of Lane science classrooms during the past three school years.

The most recent theft occurred during the week of Jan. 16. Damian Burkat, Div. 371, was in his seventh period physics class taught by Mr. Durham when Ms. Machaj, who teaches in the same room, arrived with security guards to inquire about the missing scale. According to Burkat, after no one confessed to taking the scale, security searched every student's bag.

"I didn't mind being searched, but I wouldn't like that to happen again," Burkat said.

Machaj, the owner of the stolen scale, said she takes the theft personally in a way because it was an item she had purchased herself.

"It's strange," said Natalija Simicevic, Div. 384. "Why scales? I just don't understand."

Mr. Kopack, a Lane Chemistry teacher and department head, chooses not to make assumptions.

"I think the kids would answer that better than I could," Kopack said.

Others, however, have some theories, including that the scales could be used for weighing drugs. Not everyone finds this likely.

"I don't think people would want it for drugs," said Sarah Nueschen, Div. 371. "I think it was probably just to mess with their teacher or because they think it's funny."

Since the scales are very expensive, it is possible they have been stolen simply for profit.

"They probably could get a lot of money from them on eBay," said Kath-

rin Kajderowicz, Div. 369. "That's really horrible, though."

One teacher suggested the scales may have been stolen to be used for home experiments. Machaj disagrees, saying that any student doing home experiments is a hard-working student who would be less likely to resort to stealing.

"To just take [the scale], that shows that it's not a good kid," Machaj said.

The thefts have put science teachers on high alert. Many like Kopack and Mrs. Trine have taken the extra precautions of making sure equipment is locked and safe any time teachers are out of the room.

"It made me nervous," Trine said. "I was really shocked. I felt we were at a school where we could treat each other decently."

According to chemistry teacher Mrs. Hollingshead, two scales were stolen from her chemistry room two years ago during second semester. One of the scales had been in a teacher office that joins two rooms. Since students are not allowed in that room, she said it is possible the scale could have been taken by an adult. One of these two scales was found in a student's locker.

After that incident, Hollingshead purchased locks to secure the scales when they are not out and in use.

The thefts also proved to be a financial setback for the science departments. According to Kopack, the balances were replaced with grant money Lane had received from DonorsChoose.

"That money could have been used for something better for the Chemistry department," he said.

"It's a result of someone making a bad decision," Kopack added. "That bad decision affects the whole group."

Students pack AP Fair



AP Chinese teacher Ms. Chang surprises a crowd of sophomores on Feb. 7 by speaking to them in Mandarin.

By Ben Palmer

The week of Feb. 6 held the annual AP fairs, where freshmen, sophomores, and juniors glimpse potential elective choices. As always, the immensely popular AP Psychology elective garnered much attention, but students were also buzzing about the presentation by Ms. Chang who began speaking only in Chinese to promote her AP Chinese class.

Taking advantage of one of the only times teachers can directly appeal to students for enrollment, many teachers tried their best to both summarize their class and appeal to the many students. This was not a problem for AP Psychology teacher Ms. Langford.

"My name is Ms. Langford and I teach AP Psychology," she began. An uproar of claps and cheers followed. Langford, accompanied by fellow Psych teacher Mr. Parsons, told students she was looking for only 175 juniors to sign up for AP Psychology, then took her leave.

After a moment of chatter, Mr. Wasielewski took the stand and waited for quiet before he spoke.

"And for those of you who cannot take AP Psychology,

my name is Mr. Wasielewski and I teach AP US Government and Politics."

This garnered a laugh from the students who were aware of the difficulties of getting into AP Psychology.

"Ninety percent of people I've met have AP Psychology on their course cards," said Alex Magnowski, Div. 461. "Not that my GPA isn't high enough, but a lot of people might rush for it."

After AP Art History teacher Ms. Friedman announced "there will be cookies" at the meeting for her class, students stood up, preparing to charge the other side of the lunch room.

"It was kinda scary," said Michael Regula, Div. 474. "People were rushing to AP Psychology and AP Human Geography and dispersing between the rest, except for the AP Art classes. That was just depressing."

Mr. Parsons, who manned the Psychology table, says a rush of students to grab an info flyer is common yet unnecessary.

"It's human nature that everyone wants to see what everyone else is seeing," said Parsons.

Sophomores start early in Lane ACT prep

By Kevin Morales

With ACTs just around the corner, juniors are starting to prepare themselves by enrolling in Lane's ACT prep classes. Sophomores are also taking advantage of the opportunity, and will be getting a head start in Lane's first sophomore level ACT prep class.

Many students who sign up for the ACT are under the impression that they will be reviewing the four different subjects covered in the exam: English, math, science, and reading. This is not the case. Mrs. Thompson, Lane's Assistant Principal, reminds students that the real purpose of ACT prep classes is to develop testing strategies, not learn old lessons.

"It's not a method of trying to re-teach [students] all of the science, all of the math, and all of the English they've learned over the past...it's more of teaching them the strategies so they can learn how to answer those difficult questions," Gholston said.

Students, for the most part, are expected to have a full understanding of each subject on the

ACT. In the prep classes, they will be able to receive tips or reminders in any of the subjects, if necessary.

"None of the ACT prep actually replaces the real classroom instruction that really drives the knowledge of the students," Gholston said.

Gholston noted that students who took the prep classes last year "scored higher collectively than those who were not involved." Although the scores were only a few points higher, they showed that ACT prep helps on the exam.

"[The class] brings down a lot of stress on a person," said Cristian Roman, Div. 355, who signed up for the prep class.

"It's an important test and I want to be prepared as much as possible," he said.

Roman, who is also on the Boys' Track Team, hopes that he will benefit from the classes as much as possible without letting Track practice interfere. He hopes that he will be able to improve managing his time while taking the class.

Haja Mondisa, Div. 372, says that her skills in taking tests are not as strong as she would like them to be, especially in math.

"I personally don't think I'm a good test taker

and I want to improve my skills," Mondisa said.

Mondisa believes that taking the ACT prep class alone will not be enough to help her on the exams.

"The class will give me an edge, but I will still have to practice more and study," she said.

A new addition to the ACT prep program this year is a session designed for sophomores. According to Gholston, last year several sophomores and their parents wanted a prep session for their grade level. Due to the lack of space, however, a program for sophomores couldn't be developed. When organization for this year's prep classes began, it was decided that a separate prep session would be made for sophomores.

"We had an overwhelming response from sophomores signing up to take the ACT prep class, so that was good," Gholston said.

By signing up for the class this year, sophomores will not be excluded from taking the ACT prep class again their junior year.

Noah Baron, Div. 462 finds the idea of having an ACT prep just for sophomores very convenient.

"How could a sophomore not take advantage

of this?" Baron said, "We're lucky to have this."

Baron expects that although the classes may be "boring and tedious," they will be beneficial in the long run. Baron is sure that with this prep class, sophomores will be "getting the upper hand" when it comes to taking the ACT.

"It'll be interesting to see what happens," Baron said.

Natalia Ziemkiewicz, Div. 464, who also is enrolled in the special session, already has an idea of what to expect on the ACTs. While in sixth grade, Ziemkiewicz was invited to take the ACT exam due to high scores on her ISAT exams. Now as a sophomore, she is taking advantage of this new opportunity.

"I'm not a great tester," Ziemkiewicz said.

Ziemkiewicz thinks that more sophomores should sign up for the prep class.

"If you're dedicated and devoted to being successful in life, then [sophomores] should take [the prep class]," she said.

The pressure is on for the juniors who have to work to improve their strategies for the ACTs. As Ziemkiewicz put it, "It all depends on the student."

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Warrior Editor,

I read Ms. Feuer's letter to the editor published in the January 2012 Warrior regarding the December 22, 2011 assembly. I agree with Ms. Feuer's position on representation. However, I feel her point of view is inordinately skewed.

Ms. Feuer alleges that the Christmas musical assembly "is the one time of year when diversity is ignored leaving some members of the Lane Tech community feeling marginalized and disrespected." Why should anyone feel that way? Every event cannot be, and should not be, a celebration of everything. The Homecoming pep rally is a celebration of athletic teams. Should my biology pupils and I feel disenfranchised and offended because our classroom accomplishments are not addressed at the pep rally? Two days and two evenings are devoted to celebration of, among others, Jewish, Muslim, and Eastern cultures and traditions every March during International Days. (I mention these specifically because Ms. Feuer incorrectly alleged inequity toward them specifically in her letter). If equity is a time issue, two days and two nights of inclusion certainly trumps an assembly of less than two hours.

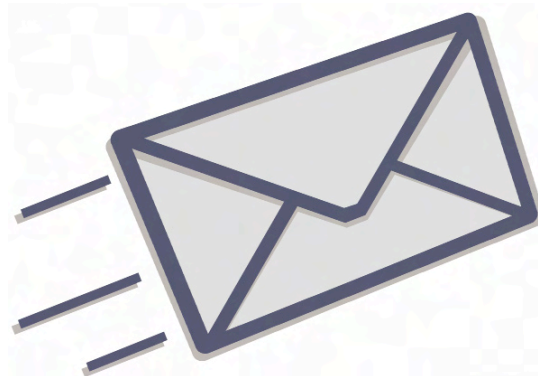
Christianity is a defining component of my diversity, and the diversity of other Christians, that also must not be ignored, marginalized, or disrespected. Unfortunately, our school celebrations are sadly devoid of celebrating the contributions of Christianity to the development of Western civilization. For many years there has been a designated place for Islamic worship

at Lane. There is no designated place for Christian worship. An Asian club is having a practitioner of an eastern religion come to school to perform a religious ceremony invoking a blessing on instruments that they will use in performances. If I arrange for a Catholic Priest to come to school to celebrate Mass and administer the sacraments to me and Catholic students, will my efforts be equally supported in the interest of preventing me and Catholic students from feeling the marginalization and disrespect Ms. Feuer references?

Ms. Feuer is correct when she claims there is inequity. That inequity will only be rectified when there is a designated place of Christian worship at Lane and our clubs celebrating ethnicity that is Christian-based are encouraged to publicly celebrate that Christian base. At this year's International Days celebration, among suggestions too numerous to list in the interest of brevity, I would encourage: the Italian club to erect an altar to St. Joseph; the Polish club to display a Picture of Our Lady of Czestochowa; the Irish club to distribute fliers teaching that the shamrock is a representation of the Holy Trinity; and the Filipino Club to have a priest offer benediction in Latin before tinnikling. This would help to better represent the identity of the Lane community, correcting the inequity.

Ms. Feuer expressed feeling offended by the assembly. For the record, I do not find offensive the celebration of cultures or the expression of religious beliefs that do not count me as a member or address that which defines me.

Jim Keating
Biology Department



Correction

In the January edition of the Warrior, we ran a page 8 story headlined "Excuses, excuses. Students have them down." In the story it was reported that an unnamed English teacher excused a student from having to do the summer reading project after the student untruthfully told the teacher he "works 40 hours a week and has a kid."

The English teacher has contacted the Warrior to correct this misinformation saying that the student who provided this excuse was reported to the Discipline Office and did, in fact, have to complete the summer reading assignment just like all other students in the class.

The teacher in question said that the details of the story were sufficient to reveal his/her identity to enough students and colleagues that it necessitated a correction.

We apologize for the mistake.

--The Warrior Editorial Staff

Snowstorm slows student commutes

By Aubrey Caraballo

Alexander Garcia, Div. 372, was sitting in the back of the Western bus when he looked at the time and realized he was not getting home anytime soon.

Administrators canceled after-school activities on Friday, Jan. 20 so students could get home before the snowstorm became worse.

Regardless of what time school officials decided to end classes, it still took many people hours to get home.

"I was on the bus for 20 minutes and I still did not pass Belmont yet," Garcia said.

That was just the beginning of Garcia's journey home. After about an hour, he finally made it to Armitage where he had to wait again to take a second bus home.

"I waited for half an hour there while it was still snowing," Garcia said. "I got lucky enough to get on the bus."

Getting home was difficult for those who relied on the CTA. A group of students waited at the bus stop on 2500 W. Addison for 30 to 45 minutes before the long buses arrived. The long buses on Addison are usually there to pick up students by 3 p.m.

Even when the buses came, not everyone was able to fit inside them. This caused some people to take shelter in the nearby fast-food restaurants. Many students were eager to get out of the cold weather, which left everyone dripping wet and white with snow.

While some struggle to get to school and back during hazardous weather, others have the luxury of driving their cars.

Ashley Sturgeon, Div. 361, was lucky enough to be offered a ride home from her friend Tim that snowy day since his track practice was canceled.

"It probably takes us 10 or 15 minutes to get home on a normal day," she said. "That day it took probably 30 minutes or more."

Although driving a car home is easier than waiting hours for a bus, it does not necessarily mean the trip will be safer.

Garcia saw two accidents while he waited in the cold for the bus on Armitage.

"In the first accident, one of the cars slid on the snow and rear-ended the car in front of it," he said. "A few minutes later, another car slid and hit a parked car."

Alex Escobedo, Div. 260, did not see an accident, but he was almost the victim of one. As he was walking home, a car that was driving out of an alley did not have its brakes pressed in time, causing it to slide towards him.

"I almost got hit," he said. "The driver should have been more careful and he did not even apologize."

Escobedo walks home everyday to his house which is only a couple of miles away.

"I walked home during the blizzard last year," he said.

Even on foot, getting home took a little longer than usual. He usually takes 20 minutes to walk home [if he is in a rush], but on this day it took him almost an hour.

"I was walking slowly so I would not slip," he said. "I think the school [should] add salt to the ground [around Lane] to ensure the safety of the kids that usually walk home."

Walking carefully spared Escobedo the pain of slipping on ice and falling down in front of everyone. Garcia was not so lucky. As he left school and walked down the path towards Popeyes, he slipped on ice that had been covered by the new-fallen snow.

"I kept losing my balance until I fell," he said. "It was pretty embarrassing."

The Weather Channel's forecast for Jan. 21 called for only about half an inch of snow, but the Windy City received closer to five inches.

Students who commute to and from school in extreme weather understand it is one of the downfalls of living in Chicago.

Archive of the Issue

On Valentine's Day in 1956, the Lane Daily ran an article reporting on the history of Valentine's Day. The writer also offered the opinion that "the practice of sending Valentines seem (sic) to be diminishing slowly year by year."

Fifty-six years later, the Warrior would like to offer a retraction of this sentiment and direct our readers to the multitude of Valentine's messages printed on the inside pages of this issue. Happy Valentine's Day.



Creator, host of tv show Soul Train, Don Cornelius dead at 75

By Cherrell Anderson

Don Cornelius, the laid back, smooth, deep voiced creator and original host of one of the longest-running U.S. syndicated television shows, Soul Train, died on Feb. 1 in his Los Angeles home from an apparent suicide. He was 75 years old. The show, which originated in Chicago, brought black pop culture through music, dance, and fashion onto Americans' television sets from 1971 to 2006.

Cornelius was born Donald Cortez Cornelius in Chicago, Illinois on Sept. 27, 1936. He graduated from DuSable High School in 1954 and served in the Marine Corps in Korea. Before he made a place for people to boogie on down the "soul train line," Cornelius had several careers including an insurance salesman and a Chicago police officer. His TV hosting career began when he went to broadcasting school in 1966, looking for a break in the field. Cornelius's unique baritone voice landed him a job in the news department and as a substitute disk jockey on WVON radio station in Chicago.

Transitioning from radio to television, Cornelius became a sports anchor and the host of A Black's View of the News on WCIU in 1968. He had an idea for a music television program and brought it to the attention of the station owners. With just \$400 of his own money, Cornelius created a pilot episode for Soul Train, which was named after a promotional event he composed in 1969. At the time, there were no television programs that catered to Black audiences.

"I had a burning desire to see Black people presented on television in a positive light," Cornelius said in VH1's documentary, Soul Train: The Hippest Trip in America.

"[Soul Train] gave an opportunity for Black artists who would never [be invited to] American Bandstand," said Ms. Chappell.

Soul Train premiered on Aug. 17, 1970, featuring teenagers dancing to the latest soul and R&B music and a performance by a musical guest. It was inspired by the American music-performance show, American Bandstand. The show's producer and longest host, Dick Clark was influential to Cornelius.

"Almost all of what I learned about mounting and hosting a dance show I learned from Dick Clark," Cornelius told Advertising Age.

Soul Train was also one of the very limited sources in seeing artists perform.

"When we were growing up, you didn't see artists perform unless you went to concerts. There were only two venues: Soul Train and American Bandstand," said Chappell.

"Now, there's MTV, BET, VH1, all these media outlets that we didn't have back then," Ms. Malinowski added.

With a train dancing across the screen during the opening theme song, railroad tracks painted on the dance floor, lights and brightly painted walls, Soul Train aired on Saturday mornings and quickly became popular, attracting many children and teenagers.

"My dad was such a big Disco guy; he had the 'fro and everything back in the day," said Monica Velazquez, Div. 267. "From watching [Soul Train], he got his rhythm and a love for music."

"My family grew up watching Soul Train so the trends were followed, the dance moves, the music, etc.," said Rochelle Smith, Div. 360.

Businessman, George Johnson of the Johnson Products company,

helped Cornelius make the show a national television program. It was syndicated in 1971. The show then moved to Los Angeles.

Over the years, Cornelius presented many famous performers such as The Jackson 5, Aretha Franklin, Run-D.M.C., and Stevie Wonder. Each guest would usually perform twice, and after the first song, there would be a brief interview.

Teachers recalled memorable moments they watched on Soul Train when they were younger.

"Anything with the Jacksons [was memorable]. It was like the world stopped when Michael Jackson performed," said Chappell. "He was on there as a little boy and performed so many times, I was watching him grow up on Soul Train."

"I mostly remember Barry White," said Ms. Malinowski. Barry White had a memorable performance on Soul Train when he brought a 40-piece string-laden orchestra on stage.

Besides the famous performers, the "Soul Train dancers" were just as popular with the viewers, some of whom danced regularly on the show.

The dancers performed the latest moves such as "pop-locking," and "the robot" as well as their own creative routines. They were stylish and some even wore elaborate costumes and used props. One of the most notable dancers was Cheryl Song, an Asian woman with extremely long hair who appeared in funk musician Rick James' Superfreak video and Michael Jackson's Beat It video. NFL legend, Walter Payton has also appeared as a dancer on the show. A dance duo, Jody Watley and Jeffrey Daniel went on to be a part of an R&B trio, Shalamar, which had success in the late 1970s and 1980s.

The show had two distinct elements. One was "The Soul Train Scramble Board," where two dancers had one minute to unscramble a set of letters which formed either that episode's performer or a notable person in African American history. The second was the famous "Soul Train Line," in which all the dancers formed two lines with a space in the middle for the dancers to strut down and groove in consecutive order.

"I can't tell you how many times I've been to a party that has had a Soul Train line. We did the Soul Train line everywhere; we did it on the sidewalk!" said Malinowski.

Soul Train was also known for its catch phrases, referring to itself as the "hippest trip in America" at the beginning of the show and closing with "...and as always in parting, we wish you love, peace...and SOUL!"

Cornelius can be described as a post civil rights integrationist because although Soul Train catered to Black audiences, White dancers regularly appeared and those of other races like Song, Elton John, David Bowie, Christina Aguilera, and the Backstreet Boys, as well as other non-Black artists, performed on the show, expanding their reach to Black audiences.

"Probably the reason why I'm still an Elton John fan is because he had the guts to be on [Soul Train]," said Chappell.



divorce, he was suffering from several health issues, including a stroke and disclosed ailments that required brain surgery in 1980s. Cornelius was quoted in newspapers at the time saying he did not quite feel the same.

Cornelius also had legal troubles. In 2008, he was arrested at his home and charged with spousal battery, assault with a deadly weapon, and dissuading a witness from making a police report. A year later, he was sentenced to three years' probation after pleading no contest. Cornelius wanted to quickly get the case settled due to his failing health.

"I am 72 years old. I have significant health issues. I want to finalize this divorce before I die," said Cornelius in legal documents obtained from the divorce.

On Feb. 1 at approximately 4 AM, Cornelius was found dead by police officials in his home in the Sherman Oaks district of Los Angeles. He had a gunshot wound to head, that officials later said it was self-inflicted. He was taken to Cedars-Sinai Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

"It's a sad event to mark the beginning of Black History Month," said Chappell.

"I was pretty shocked [about Cornelius' death], and reading the story behind his death made me sad, but he will be remembered for everything he brought to Chicago and the music community," said Velazquez.

Chicagoans honored the legacy Cornelius left on the day of his death. A Facebook page invited Chicagoans to create a Soul Train line in Wicker Park and received more than 300 RSVP responses as of 9 PM. Forty-five minutes later, about 150 people showed up on Milwaukee Ave., according to a Tribune photographer. Many were dressed up in costumes and afro wigs.

"The legacy of Soul Train lives on in our music, in our dancing, in the soul..." said Smith.

Cornelius is survived by his two sons, Anthony and Raymond. He will forever be remembered for creating an era not only in Black culture, but American pop culture as well.

As Cornelius departed, he would have probably left by saying his famous line he used to close his iconic show: "...and you can bet your last money, it's all gonna be a stone gas, honey. I'm Don Cornelius, and as always in parting, we wish you love, peace, and soul!"

Lane seniors consider Historically Black Colleges & Universities

By Cherrell Anderson

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) were established before 1964 and most after the Civil War to give African Americans a chance to get an education during a time of racially segregated schooling. Times have changed and now students of various races and ethnicities in the U.S. are welcome to attend school together. However, some Lane students are interested in attending an HBCU, seeking the bond of a predominately Black school and its cultural enrichment.

"I went to an all Black elementary school and I took it for granted because I wanted diversity," said Sharon Lloyd, Div. 260. "Now that I have it, I miss that cultural bond. When I'm around people of my race I feel more accepted since we understand each other, have the same sense of humor, etc."

"I wanted something different. I've been at a diverse school for four years and at an HBCU, it's like a big family. It's a racial bond," said Imari Walker, Div. 277.

Some expressed their not so pleasant feeling about being at a diverse school such as Lane.

"At Lane, I feel like the spokesperson for my race," said Mercedes Matz, Div. 264. "For instance, if someone (non-Black) asks me about slavery, people will look at me as if I know someone in my family who went through it."

"I get a little offended when someone White teaches me Black history because they haven't been personally affected by it or had relatives who were," said Walker.

As students are eager to learn about their intended majors, one of the main subjects they are interested in learning is who they are as far as culture and history.

"I want to learn and pay attention to who I am."
--Sharon Lloyd, Div. 260.

"I feel that with any college, you want to be in a different environment and graduate, but I also want better knowledge of myself and culture," said Matz.

"It's not all about a school being all Black. At an HBCU, I'll have a better feel about where I came from and a deeper appreciation for it," said Juliannah Muiyiwa, Div. 274.

Students talked about a few of the 105 HBCUs that appealed to them.

"I know Howard University is an elite school and I like to be surrounded by a lot of educated black people. I am only interested in the most renowned HBCUs," said Matz. "I have a lot of family that's alumni of Howard and a cousin there now who loves it!"

Howard is one of the top HBCUs, located in Washington, D.C.. Howard's student newspaper is The Hilltop, which is the nation's only HBCU daily newspaper, co-founded by Harlem Renaissance writer, Zora Neale Hurston in 1924.

"I was interested in Tennessee State University and Jackson State University," said Lloyd. "I was accepted to Tennessee State first and it's my dream school, so I want to go there."

Former talk show host, Oprah Winfrey is an alumni of TSU. "I'm interested in going to Florida A&M (Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University) and Alabama State," said Latoya Friend, Div. 280. "Florida A&M is one of the few HBCUs with a Public Relations major, which is what I'm interested in. Both schools have good dance lines too."

FAMU is widely known for its marching band, the "Marching 100," which has performed at major events such as the Super Bowl and the Grammys.

"My cousins who have graduated from FAMU have become engineers at top engineering companies," said Matz.

There is currently controversy surrounding FAMU due to recent acts

of hazing, one of which lead to the death of a student. However, some students considering FAMU have not given up on the school.

"The hazing situation makes me want to go even more because I want to support the school and stand up for it," said Muiyiwa. "People are saying it'll make the school lose its credibility, but I think it'll only lose its credibility if no one is supporting the school."

Racial diversity at HBCUs exists as colleges work harder to maintain enrollment levels and because of increased racial harmony and low cost of tuition. Schools such as Langston University in Langston, OK and Tennessee State have 12 percent Caucasian students, according to the U.S. News and World Report Best Colleges 2011 edition. In addition, statistical profiles note that several other hbcus have significant percentages of non-African American students such as Asian, Hispanic, and International students.

"It's funny to have an HBCU like Bethune-Cookman in a very diverse area," said Walker. "It's in Daytona Beach, FL where there are a lot of White people."

Despite stereotypes and down-talk, Lane students with interests in HBCUs express an optimistic attitude towards them and how they can benefit from them.

"Some people try to stereotype Black people as uneducated. HBCUs prove them wrong while Black people are graduating from these schools with degrees and getting careers," said Friend.

"People downgrade HBCUs, but you have to understand that they don't have a lot of funding, they are low on staff, so they do what they can," said Walker. "That's why their enrollment isn't as selective."

As acceptance letters are rolling in for seniors and post-high school decisions are being made, some may consider an HBCU as their future choice whether it be for their appreciation for its history, a close-knit bond, or for the things that makes it unique.

For a complete list of HBCUs, visit The Network Journal at www.tnj.com/lists-resources/hbcu.

<div>Hey Lily how you doin? I love you so so so much! Be epic now!</div> <div>Dear my love, I'm very tired. But I hope you have a wonderful valentines day. Go Kimberly Kimbo! Katy's awesome. Love, Jenny</div> <div>To Madison Benm: Life without you is like a broken pencil, pointless. I want to spend years with you. I remember all the times we had together and I want to go ignite with you. <3 Andrew</div> <div>Yo Coach, leave the throwing to us. -Fourth Lunch Football</div> <div>Dear Rachel and Alana. You two are the prettiest, most beautiful and amazing girls I know. Also Elise is my everything. You light up my day + seeing your beautiful faces lite up my day. Love- Sean Psenka</div> <div>Anthony Soto, get on skype. We gots to play Terraria. I got a fire sword that does 50 damage! - Harmony waters</div> <div>Dear debate team, Without you, my weekends would be lonely and my life would be bare. Ms. House, you are the BEST debate coach/ teacher. I made my partner a promise- I would quit debate if your were not the teacher. <3 John Pierre- you rock the CDL- after all, it's like the rootbeer. Novi, continue to flourish. "Blood makes the grass grow. Kill, Kill, Kill!" <3 Varsi member</div> <div>This one is for the girls: You are all beautiful. Don't let anyone tell you otherwise.</div> <div>Torry wants you. You know who you are. Go get em tiger. P.S. I love you Felicia Day.</div>		<div>FRESHMEN</div> <div>Katy is the girl. Jenny is the best friend in my Health. She jokes around some-times, but she's my friend. Go Indians!</div> <div>Giggity Gooooooooooooo</div> <div>Happy Valentine's Day DIV 585! - <3 Mrs Fuerte</div> <div>Bea, you are a beautiful goddess. You're the apple of my eye. I love the way you smell. Baby, I love you. From your family. Zoë, Eva, and Meghan.</div> <div>To Madison, I love all the times we had together and I want to hang out. -Love your small buddy.</div> <div>Happy Valentine's Day Cookie! - Jarr</div> <div>Hey Gracie - Poo, I love you, and dragons. Happy Valentine's Day! <3 - Love Topz</div> <div>To my babies <3 I love you guys and without you I don't know what I would do. You guys are my heart and I would do anything for my loves. Ashley, Ranisha, Shuntonese you guys are wonderful. -Love, Lenny</div> <div>I love you because you are so un-derstanding to Lucy McDonald.</div> <div>Dario, I love your skirts. You get me crazy. Keep it up, babe. Johny McMilligan</div> <div>Araceli Rangel & Zulmarie Hernandez: Forever Aloru <3</div> <div>I Love you Aimme Cazares<3 -Elmo</div> <div>We love each other, we hate each other we see each other everyday then go to not seeing each other for weeks No matter what your still who I refer to as my best friend I love you Berenice!</div> <div>Dear Annie, Brenda, Amy, Taylor, and Hajdi: Hi. You are all too cool. I love you... I hope you love me too. Love, Nia P.S. What is zzub zzubb? a bee flying backwards</div> <div>Hey! You guys are the bestest friends ever and I'll love you guys forever! Don't forget me because if you do, I'll never stop hugging you! I have too many people to love but just know you're amazing and I'll always be here for you! - Sabrina Aponte</div> <div>Hello Luu, I would say hi, but I'm too shy so this is what you get. Happy Valentines day! <3 Sincerely, Mr. Forgetful</div> <div>I <3 you Andjela! -BFF Dragana</div> <div>Hey Honey Bunchez, You're so cute and adorable! You're amazing and always there for me! LOVE YOU! - Your girlfriend, Alexis</div> <div>If you ever get mauled by a bear with chainsaws for hands, i hope he doesn't hit your face cuz i think you're cute. Love, Sammy</div> <div>My favorite class is English, room 202, and the best teacher ever, Ms. Meacham, teaches me. Ev-ery day is fun and interesting. Favorite class ever!</div> <div>Dear beloved Madison, your brownies are as sweet as your smile. When are you gonna make me brownies? Because last time you dropped the bomb.</div> <div>Happy Valentines Day little sis, hope you are enjoying your freshman year! Love you Ashley! Love your big sister Kate.</div> <div>Meisha <3 Thanks for the birthday present. I love you so much. You're my favorite Freshman.</div> <div>Jenny Delgado my seniorita! I love you.</div> <div>My Dearest Chef Boyar- Avatar, Words can not describe how I love your spicy Meatballs. Depend-ing upon your true gender, which I am completely unsure of, I shall meet you on the balcony at dusk. Marry me, The Lunch Table.</div> <div>Dear Anthony, Hi! So I purchased a spot in the newspaper to write you a letter. Any-way I like you a lot and you're a great boyfriend. I love your hair flip and I love you! Happy Valentine's Day! - PS. I'm in like with you!</div> <div>HAPPY V-DAY DIV. 555! - LOVE, MS. FEUER</div> <div>Bring your shovel with you.</div>			
<div>Shray, Gareth and Dion, you guys are amazing. I love you all dearly. I play all of you. I hope this gets me ten swag points! Lunch with you guys is the best. *points*</div> <div>Dear Megan, I enjoyed Duna's party so much. I'm hoping we could continue to talk. The best way is probably if I just ask you, will you be my girl? Meet me outside O today. Hope it's a yes. J.</div>		<div>SOPHOMORES</div> <div>Happy Valentine's Day DIV 480 & DIV 481! -<3 Mrs. Fuerte</div> <div>ES MY BABY!! You are the most amazingest wifey ever Korynna Pepin and you also make a pretty cute penguin. You are the beat to my rhymes, the pepperoni to my Louis and the xbox to my Friday night. Basically, you're my everything and I couldn't be happier. Love, Alexander</div> <div>DIV 461 - They can't keep us apart! Happy Valentine's Day! Ms. Paganelli</div> <div>Since Freshman year, I have been madly in love with you. You could say that it was love at first sight. I love everything about you and I would never trade my feelings towards you for anything. Jacob, every moment I have spent with you has been a dream. To think that I have met the most perfect guy is amazing. I want you to know that I love you and that you will always be in my heart <3</div> <div>To: #36 AKA C.G.S. Your smile is intoxicating. Too bad it's never been to me. You're so friendly, but I'm too shy to even say "hi" or give a friendly smile back. Maybe I'll get the courage to when I'm no longer a brace face. Maybe. From: That one dorky girl</div> <div>You know how special you are to me, Maria. Just to remind you, I wrote you this message. Yum, right? <3</div> <div>Keep smiling, keep shining, you know that you can always count on me... Fasho! That's what friends are for! Oh, I'm sorry, I'm not even sure which end that came out of. I'm the Maya Rudolph to your Kristen Wiig.</div>		<div>TO: THOMAS THE GAME -KIWI-KIWI</div> <div>I love you Alex Madsen <3</div> <div>You're the only one for me Shana Lombardo <3</div> <div>Dear Liz Sherman, They say that first impressions are often true. I first met you, I saw the image of Snow White in your face, and its beauty captivated me. That famous archetypical princess- with hair as dark of ebony, lips as red as a rose, and skin as white a snow- never more aptly fit any other character but yours. However, I'm not your Prince Charming, and I fear I never will be. So I send this token of affection to you, as a friend, because you are the fairest in the land. Sincerely, Anonymous</div> <div>Dearest Maddie, you're so adorable! I'm pretty sure you know who this is :D Oh and Alex is awesome!</div> <div>I didn't know who I wanted to write to so I'll just talk about a few. I just wanted to tell the girls of the Three Amigas that I love them and you guys are the best thing that ever happened to me. Best friends forever right? I have to give props to my 4th period lunch table, left side row 4 table two. Yeah, we're the ones that sing extra loud. I love you guys mucho! There's this one guy I call my crush, he's super sweet and cute; we don't talk much but I wanted to say Happy Valentine's Day sexy! -From BritBrat screaming Icecream</div> <div>Shout out at the Asians. Let the lights dim some. Hey Nyrah I love you girl! Jackie Chan!!</div> <div>Ouff!!! Since the first day I saw you I knew you would be mine. It's our 1 month 1 day- anniversary and I wouldn't wanna spend valentine's with anybody else. Those lips and those eyes are always the best part of my day. Happy Valetine's Day babe<333 -Frankie(;</div> <div>FRAAANDSHIP!<3<3</div> <div>Alex Espinoza, you are one special girl. You are talented and beautiful. I love that I can trust you with anything. Your hair is fabulous and you make me fall in love with you more the way you play that guitar.</div> <div>Maddie Guzman, you are so beauti-ful an d amazing. Your eyes make the stars look like they're not shin-ing. I love your curly hair and cute dimples. I LOVE YOU!!</div> <div>J.V. + you're the pop to my tart. JK. Te amo<3 C.H. -I love you this much "pinches fingers". We shared a box cuz "it's a recession". Je t'aime<3</div> <div>Hi Liz :) Love you a lot! May all your Valentine wishes come true! -Mateo</div> <div>Maribel Jaramillo, I may have known you for a while, but when we're together it feels like forever.</div>	
<div>JUNIORS</div> <div>To the two most beautiful girls this planet could ever inhabit, without you is a world I would never inhabit. To Celeste and Jessica Happy Valentines Day - Noor your bff</div> <div>All my love goes out to da captain of the rebel muslims #yolo</div> <div>Nancy! This year has been amazing with you. I'm lucky to call you my best friend. You're amazing in all the ways possible. My seat is warm <3 -Love you Gueca (Don't Feel Special)</div> <div>Hi Alija! The game :D Love You! -Mazar</div> <div>Debbie Luna, you're the one for me.</div> <div>You're what keeps me believing the world's not gone dead, strength in my bones put the words in my head, when I pour out to paper, it's all for you... Cuz that's what you do.</div> <div>Happy Valentine's Day! I love you bestfriend. We have had some of the craziest moments together. I'm glad coming into highschool didn't pull us apart. ILY <3</div> <div>Dear Javier Reyes, I love you!!! <3</div> <div>What better way to spend Valentine's Day then to be stuck in school and be assigned homework for the night! Happy Valentine's day to those lucky chumps.</div> <div>So we haven't been together long, but it's okay, times are measured in quality, not quantity, so with that said, these last few weeks have been some of the best of my life. --With love, your fuego</div> <div>"My name is B.G. and I'm the best thing that hap-pened to our faaaaamily tree! If you listen to me if you're grateful to me, life according to me, B.G.!"</div> <div>Almasa! Babygirl, I love you! Are you sure your name isn't Danielle? Happy Valentine's Day!</div> <div>BILL COSBY <3</div> <div>Dear Diana, Delano, & Ceci, You guys are the nestest-estes-estes-estes-estes people ever! Just saying :) Love you guys -Nish</div> <div>Grace Kerpan, will you be my valentine?</div> <div>This is for angela, she needs to sell these, cause she is on the newspaper. She is the best around, nothing is ever gonna bring her down. Da da da da da damn--- :)*<3!- Biff! (Bill Cosby is Omar's sexy man chocolate)</div> <div>Dear captain picard... you're the best around.</div>		<div>i love you my babi-boo-boo! Shaddi love -your future husband</div> <div>TU ERES BELLA Y MUY CARIÑOSA, Y ERES ALGUIEN QUE NUNCA DEJA DE SORPREN-DERME CON UNA SONRISA HERMOSA. TENERTE EN MI VIDA HA SIDO INCREÍBLE.</div> <div>BUT YEAH, YOU ARE A SPAZZ, BUBBLE-WRAP AND ALL.</div> <div>Dear Sasha, I love spending time with you :) Happy Valentine's Day <3 From Alex</div>			

Ruben, I love you so much! Happy Valentine's Day! This is our third year celebrating this holiday, let's go for fifty more.

What are the things, that I wanna say...just aren't coming out right? I'm tripping on word, you've got my head spinnin' I don't know where to go from here...

Where there is love, there is life, without my wife I have no life, so let us not make haste, but rather enjoy our time. Kassandra Tapia, te amo :)

You make me dance like a fool, forget how to breathe, shine like gold, buzz like a bee. Just the thought of you could drive me WILD. Oh you make me smile.

Dear Sigyn, Just go for it :)
-Prisi <3

Dear Kari, I'll NEVER regret the day I randomly told you that our freshman orientation leader looked like Carmen from George Lopez. Your friend, Prisi <3

You are the light that's leading me to the place where I find peace again. You are the hope that keeps me trusting.

Hey BFF Boberg will you be my Valentine? Love you mucho babe. XOXO Vgmathes

Samantha Nguyen, it's been over a year and you still owe me my ice cream.

Our friendship is strong, stronger than love on its own. We are brothers and sisters, not by blood but by bond. We love one another, even at our low. That is why I love you all so.
Jessica, Tina, and Brittany

Eyyo Nikki be my Valentine?
Love You!

Aldina, will you go to prom with me?
-Dan Maz

Happy Valentine's Day DIV 363 & DIV 365!
-<3 Mrs. Fuerte

<3
x 1234567891846212893486216984 to the hundredth power.

Amanda Campbell, The first day I met you, all I could do is admire your beauty. I got lost in your piercing green eyes. Your sense of humor is amazing and I have a deep crush on you. Your boyfriend won't ever get in the way of that. - Sincerely your secret admirer.

Dear Diana, Javier, Aleks, Melanie, Alex, and Jill, division would not be the same without you guys <3 (385)

Dear Georgia,
Your fiery locks light up our world. We admire you with great zeal. Remember to always use your zinc oxide. Love, Ginger Roots of the World.

5th period is the best with Amador and Natalie. Ooo I'm a doctor.

I can't even fathom how beautiful you are Stefanie! Gosh I don't even think you realize it.

Happy Valentine's Day :) ILY Nomin.
From Ivan

I love Andres Martinez!
BFF for life <3
-Claribel

Dear Justin, Tim, Joey, Jimmy, Brian, you guys are amazing. I love you all. It would be a god given gift for you all to be my valentines. Yes, in that way. From your boy, Andrew Pinto.

K- Dawg, Happy Valentines Day and keep doing those math equations!

"Old folks sittin in a front porch swing still holdin' hands like they were sixteen. Fifty good years they're a lovers dream Darlin' that could be you and me."
-KC Fall in love

Division 352, I love you! Happy Valentines Day! -Ms. Ojo

Dear Daphne, I love seeing your beautiful face everyday in 3rd. You deserve something nice, so here you go. Happy Valentines Day <3
-Anonymous

Happy Valentines Day Tyler! I'm happy to be spending this day dedicated to love with my best friend. I love you so much bubbly!

Happy Valentines Day to the best lab partner in the universe! Love you Robin! And Happy Valentines Day to the best boyfriend in the universe, Robby. I love you both forever and always. Love always, Vicky

Happy Valentines Day! Zoe! We have been together for so long! I hope you realize the extent to which I love you! Shynie loves you! 9.9.8 XOXO

Dear Jacky Boyzo,
I hate your stinking guts. You make me vomit. You're the scum between my toes! Yo love, Mott (:
HAPPY 3 MONTHS <3

Dear Ashley Jenkins, Hi! Happy Valentine's Day from your best friend Ra. Can't wait till after finals.

JUNIORS

Jim + Pam = <3

I tried to
zip zop
but my
zoobity
didn't bop

Happy Valnetine's Day, Keyli!
I love you <3

Love Looms in
Div. 355
- Ms. Taitt

Alexis Higgs, you are the best cheerleader I know! Always remember our shoulder dances on our way to school to "We Found Love"! I love you and you better take Lane to state again next year!

Hey Isamar Gomez, I really like you

367 is THE BEST division ever!
Love, Jordan

Dear Someone,
I think you're really cool...keep it up...I LOVE GEORGIA TANKARD! G-TANK 4 LYFE Love, HoHo

To Juniors, I love you
From The Higgs Boson

Dear cute cat, I want you to know that I love you, and thank you for sleeping on my head every night <3 -- Liz

Ashley, just wanted to let you know I <3 YOU from annonymous (a.k.a. Justin) ...OH wait :)

Nancy Garcia, Our love for you can only be compared to the heat of .1000 suns. Unlike Alberto (Div.252) We acknowldgde your existence. Thank you for being Alive. <3 <3 Jorgie M. & Carlos G.

#staygucci @moises @karle @aline @isabel @alexuaswagoc @noahitalianstalliondina @shr @gkerps @fox @lorz @naia @lanetech @god @tinasonic shoutout 2 all the hipsters love your muslim Princess XOX

Brandi Bosco, Happy Valentine's Day sweetie! I love you sea turtle :)

Eyyo Nikki...just making sure you saw this! Love you!

Physics with the red folder:
Choose one: A) You are the best
B) You are the best
C) You are the best
From: Jo

Physics with the purple folder:
photography, music, ceramics, fresh linen soap, individuals all, you're the best, energy, data charts, free fall.
From: Jo

Physics with the blue folder:
Textbooks are read, your folder is blue, of course, you are the best class, too.
From: Jo

Physics with the green folder:
Though time is the enemy, you are the best with the most energy.
From: Jo

Physics with the yellow folder: Let your talents shine, best class of mine.
From: Jo

I luv ya'll the mostest. We gone be seniors next year, less make it the craziest year eva. Whatup '13! Holla atcha mamma's & daddy's. Much love.

Kiko, we know you've been through a lot but you know that we are always here for you. We know that sometimes we act like we think you're joking but we always say I love you with sincerity.
-Chili and Gretchy

Anthony Bransford,
I've loved you since freshmen year. I think you're beautiful and have a nice smile.
Happy Valentines Day <3 - Anonymous

You are just perfectly imperfect. I love you, forever and always.
9.17.11 <3
-Your Superman

Lane Tech would be lame with you!
#Pierogi Gang

To my bros in 7th period!!! Love you guys!! =)
P.S. I love Maggie Popek.
From: Da Gonzalez Brothers

Roses are red, waffles are brown.
You turn our frown upside down.
Be our Valentine? Love, Alexis & Maddie

Dear Vanessa, Agnes(quazi), Renee(frodo), Val, Liz, Jocelyn, and Natalie.
I love you all!
Vanessa: Don't fall off a bridge and forget.
Agnes/Renee: Don't be as blonde
Val: You are amazing!
Jocelyn: Never stop being majestic.
Liz: Study your geography! love ya!
Natalie: I love you the most (Shh! don't tell anyone) :D

I'M OLD GREGG!
I love you Jazmine N. Lee.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

TO MY FAVORITE DIVISION IN THE LAST 2 1/2 YEARS!

DIV. 373, YOU GUYS ARE AWESOME! -MR. S

Jess, Tina, and Brittany, I love you all just because you are a great time.

Halt! I love you so much Diaz. I miss seeing you everyday. I love being your wife because we were made for each other. We need to have our baking day soon.
Love, Lara

To Division 369:
This may or may not be our last year together. If it is, we love you guys so much. We had some great memories!
From Almaza & Jessica

Hey you're a great friend we had our ups and downs but look at us now we're still friends. I wouldn't have it any other way.
Adalberto Rojas

Happy Valentine's Day
Div 385

FOR MY BABY GIRL

I <3 YOU RYAN

I love you Ashley Grover, Pam Javier, Rub. Elguero, Khizra Younis, Madre Villagomez, and Victoria Figueroa. You guys are flippin amazing And I love you little bro. <3 Happy Valentines day.

To my partners in crime (Victoria & Shajay).
I just wanted to let you know that I fondly appreciate you both and I value our friendship more than anything you can imagine. Hopefully our friendship will last beyond the high school days.
Love ya <3

DK all day, love you baby even though you don't go here (: Peanut. Happy Valentine's Day!

060411
Dear Joey! Happy Valentine's Day Baby! You the bestest and make me the luckiest girl! Besitos! 7-9-11
Love, Alyssa

Dear Alyssa, you are what makes coming to school bearable for me! Without you, Lane would be completely different. Without you in my life I would be a completely different person!
Happy Valentine's Day, love ya!

I love Brittany Mussen, Jessica Morales, Lizzy Sanchez, and Emily Schoenbeck.
Ps. I love lil wayne plow sobotka.
Ps. Caroline Glowacz should go out with Wayne sobotka
<3 Nick Rzany

Happy Valentine's Day to my loving boyfriend who fills my life with joy. And HAPPY Valentine's Day to all my closest friends.

To Katie and Gabby,
Roses are Red
Violets are Blue
I wouldn't have anything
If i didn't have you
-Oscar

You're the best thing that ever happened to me, on rainy days your my sunshine, your the bubbles to my bath, and cheese to my mac. I love you with all my heart and soul and always will coolio :)
love, Ditto

To Liz Starky,
Happy Birthday To You, It's Valentine's Day Too!
With much love from me, I hope this message makes you happy.
-Love Oscar

Calleigh, you beautiful spirit, why do you lock yourself up in these chains, I don't wanna see your tears baby.....it'll be okay
from the Dark Lord

Dear Ana,
Happy Valentine's Day, babe!
It's been a real pleasure knowing you (:

Happy Valentine's Day Magdalena Popek. You are the cutest thing I have Evahh seen! <3
-Deanna

Robin made me buy this but Happy Valentine's Day anyway!
Love you!

Shoutout to my Gihia luv Hope Basil, Stay fresh
Love, Georgie

To my best friend in the whole wide world, happy 5 months and happy valentines day Kathrin. SML <3

Yo babe its over
Text me when you're ready to be friends. Other than that have a Feliz Valentines day.
-Anne Frank

I hope someday you'll come to realize, how perfect you are when seen through my eyes.
Ana,
Will you be my Valentine?

Gilley, Gilley. Gilley, you're so silly.
Love, Sara BFace

Jazmin Lara, A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out. I love you Jazmin!
-Your wife. 11/25/11

Claribel Diaz,
You're an amazing friend even though you hate me.
Love your Prom Date

To the most amazing and wonderful girl in the world. The greatest person and the one who knows how to put a smile on my face. I love you my adorkable turtle.
Love, Andres Martinez

Noor you the door to our coor, although you can be a boor we adoor you! Happy Valentine's Day.
Love you bffs,
Celeste & Jessica <3 <3

I love you shnukums

Dear Class of 2013,
Thank you for your hard work learning kinematics and dynamics first semester. Your physics teachers are very proud of your accomplishments and we wish you the best of luck in your continued study of science.
Happy Valentine's Day, from your physics teachers.

"To infinity...and beyond!"
~Buzz Lightyear

Dear Favi, let me just say that I love you and that you are the best wiffay I could've asked for. I hope you like your gift :)

Happy Valentine's Day! Zoe! We have been together for so long! I hope you realize the extent to which I love you! Shynie loves you! 9.9.8 XOXO

#staygucci @aline @karle @linda @Izzabellerz @Noa @Shr @sandz @Juanie @Aarie @EcuaswagOC, @LaneTech @Kern @DrLoBosco @aubry @Jrizzle @Torito @mexiswagAlex @therestofyou <3

To my little dino. Love, Cuddle bear

Loving you is easier than breathing, and 5/27/11 you opened my eyes to how beautiful life is

Daphne Trujillo,
I love you SO much. Happy Valentines's day. DZD <3 #foreveralone. Sike. Everyone wants you. Including me.
Love, Your secret admirer

Heart Heart Heart, <3 <3 <3, Heart <3 Heart. (Premature ventricular contraction) -Love, Taco

Mini Senior Section

Alex Blanco, you are the window to my soul. My heart flutters everytime I see you. I don't know what my life would be without you. <3

Up, Up, Down, Down, Left Right, Left Right, B, A, Select, Start.
Is that the code you used to steal my heart?
--Nick

Happy Valentine's Day: Jessica, Aaron, Christina, Julian, Bill, and Richi! XOXO Love ya'll DT Luvvvvvv, Jasmine :)

It might be those brown puppy dog eyes or maybe the strong six foot frame that carries me around. Perhaps it's the silly voices you make and the ability to make any conversation light hearted. What about the way you keep me safe or how you're the best big spoon. It could also be our goodnight routine or our summer time bike rides. Maybe it's the way we mature together and forgive each other's mistakes. Whatever it may be, it promised a lasting valentine. BOY, you had me at, "Let's make Easy Mac together!!!!"
Kocham cie Maxsio Albekier :3 XOXO, Annie <3

ALL MY SINGLE PEOPLE
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY :) Margy, KAT, Jas <3

Happy Valentine's Day, Bunny! I can't say how much I love you. I feel so amazing and beautiful because of you and I have never been happier. 8/31/11

J1 & J2,
You guys are doing great. Keep up the impressive work.
Love, Mister J.

Winter Ball welcomes students back to the 90s

By Agnieszka Chrzanowska

Students relived memories of their childhood at this year's Winter Ball on Jan. 27. The theme, "90s Throw Back," stirred up the turntables with popular music from at least 13 years ago and let students break out their old polyester dresses and chain link necklaces.

Bill Phan, Div. 258, Senior Class President, was a part of the committee to plan Winter Ball along with the rest of the Senior Class Officers.

"Since we're seniors, I feel like time is flying by and we're growing up so fast. Having a throwback theme made me feel like a kid again and made me reminisce," Phan said.

The officers were not only in charge of picking a theme, but also choosing a DJ, decorating, and selling tickets.

"When we looked through a theme book, the 90s theme was decorated [with a lot of] bright neon colors," Phan said. "We decided on vibrant balloons and the neon sunglasses, which we thought would be a fun idea."

Rachel Brustein, Div. 251, agrees. She thought the theme was "happening and new."

"The theme was an [innovative] idea because 90s music is what [Lane students] grew up with," she said. "I think they played good 90s songs, but definitely could have played more."

Some students disagree, arguing the theme was not "dope" enough.

"The theme didn't allow for good music to be played, and when someone goes to a dance they expect dance music," said Alejandro Serrano, Div. 269. "I think it had a lot to do with our generation not exactly being familiar with the music and with the way it is danced."

Phan explained the DJ was just doing his job when playing the 90s music selection.



Mick Dado, Div. 460.



Hannah Viti, Div. 252



Cody Lee, Div. 265 & Abbey Schuster, Div. 379

Music was not the only perk of the 90s, fashion was too. The theme called for casual cropped tops, parachute pants, and windbreakers. Unfortunately, the official dress code gave students a hard time finding permitted 90s apparel.

"I wasn't sure how to dress up fancy for a 90s theme," Brustein said. "People didn't dress up because they didn't know where to get a 90s [inspired] dress or didn't know what [formal 90s style] really looked like. I really wish it could have been a casual dance, so everyone [would have] worn 90s clothes."

Serrano agrees.

"If the [Winter Ball] dress code would've been modified to further influence the 90s style, that would've been so cool," he said. "Like say people couldn't [enter] unless they wore something that fit the theme. More kids would've looked up [the style] and tried to [dress] 90s."

Even though 90s fashion gurus MC Hammer and Britney Spears did not show up and 'NSYNC did not get the chance to say Bye Bye Bye, most students still partied like it was 1999.

City kids with country vibe find home at Lane

By Georgia Tankard

Lane is a microcosm of the diversity of this nation and one of the most undiscovered demographics is the cowboy boot wearin', red solo cup totin', country sensations.

In the face of Chicago's urban lifestyle, some Lane students take pride in their love for the country and the serenity that accompanies it.

Take George Zima, Div. 354, for instance. Having spent much of his childhood in Wisconsin, Zima grew up and was automatically drawn to the country lifestyle, and so he continues to make a statement about his bond for the country with his style choices and attitude. On a given day Zima typically wears large cowboy boots, thick denim jeans, a unique belt buckle, a flannel shirt tucked in and a hat or a carhartt jacket.

As some farmers chew on wheat, George chews toothpicks.

"I have seen kids as I walk down the hallway give me weird looks," said Zima, who gets criticism for his style and has been called a redneck on various occasions, yet he continues to walk down the halls proud to wear what he feels comfortable in.

"As you get older you really don't care what people think of you," said Zima.

Zima is also an avid hunter; when an opportunity to go hunt arises he seizes it.

"I've met some people who have been scared of me because I hunt deer," said Zima.

People automatically relate hunting to violence, but Zima sees it as a hobby. He typically hunts upland birds including grouse, and pheasant with his family or neighborhood friends. When all the day's catch have been collected, they are eaten.

"I hunt one deer a year and about five birds every month or so, I smoke the birds on the smoker or make soup and the deer is made into stew, steak, burgers, brats, jerky, and chili," said Zima.

Zima is a hands on country boy who has a love for cars, fishin', huntin' and muddin'.

"People in the city are just like, 'oh hey, let's go to this fancy new restaurant that's byob.' I'm just like, 'you're crazy. Let's go muddin' or fishin'," said Zima.

No doubt, Zima's love of the simpler country life is strong.

Skye Berger also spends quality time in Wisconsin throughout the year. You can often spot Berger wearing cowboy boots and she will not hesitate to share her love for the packers, or bring up how she wished she lived in Wisconsin.

"Wearing [country style clothes] makes me feel closer to there than I actually am," said Berger.

In the city she often feels out of place, yet the country makes her feel welcome.

"Wisconsin is like my second home and I wish it was my first home," said Berger. "People there are generally nicer and more respectable than people here."

Berger feels that the influences of the city have not touched upon her, and thus she doesn't share strong ties with it.

"I don't feel like part of the city," said Berger.

As a result she tries to surround herself with people with similar ties to nature and the country, but regardless she still feels a little out of place.

In the country Berger finds something special.

"It's very calm and not busy; it's more open. I feel like there's more to do there than there is here," said Berger.

In Wisconsin, Berger goes snowmobiling, snowboarding, and sledding. She grew up listening to country music and when she goes to Wisconsin she embraces her country side fully.

Hope Basil, Div. 354, also has strong ties to the country.

"My parents always listened to country music when I was little but I used to not like it and said, 'okay, this awful can we turn on backstreet boys or something,'" said Basil.

Eventually she started to listen to Rascal Flatts, and then dug into the hardcore country, falling in love with it. The main turning point for her was when Basil spent a lot of time in rural areas during the summer of her eighth grade. This sparked her inner country.

Basil's parents were grateful that one of their kids listened to country music. She met the criteria for a real country girl.

She has found a profound connection with country music.

"A country song is timeless and it's not just a fad," said Basil.

She is also considering moving to the country one day.

"I am so fortunate to have grown up in the city but there's something about country living that's so simple; something about having a field to run around in whenever, but I also like the southern cities. I'd do anything to live in Nashville one day," said Basil.

Basil's love for severe weather also draws her to the country.

"I've been weather obsessed for a while and the worst weather happens in the country," said Basil.

She finds that when she visits her family in the South there is a genuine welcoming spirit like no other.

"Southern hospitality, you may think it's a joke but it's not," said Basil.

Peter Tuttle, Div. 261, is without a doubt a country boy.

"If it can't be fixed with duct tape it's not worth fixing," said Tuttle.

Tuttle is an off road vehicle in the mud type.

"Out of the 10 radio stations that I can save in my car, 10 of them are country music stations," said Tuttle.

He has even turned some of his friends on to country music.

"I'd like to think I'm unique among my friends, all of them hate me because I've convinced them to listen to

country music," said Tuttle.

Having spent quality time in Wisconsin the country has had a large impact on his life.

"My uncle has a house in Wisconsin and it's [on] 40 acres of woods, and we all have tractors and off road vehicles. I spend a lot of my time there; it has made me who I am," said Tuttle, who is not afraid to criticize the city.

"The city is terrible," said Tuttle, "There's too many people around; I'd like to be secluded," he said.

Tuttle is fulfilling his dream of moving out of the city by attending Illinois State University in the fall located

in Normal, Illinois and the name says it all. Normal has a population of less than 60,000.

"On Mondays there's Muddy Truck Mondays. They hose down a cornfield and you go out there with your truck and you drive around in the mud," said Tuttle.

This is his idea of a good time.

"There's more pressure [in the city] because there's more people and more mainstream media and tv that influences you; you don't have to worry about that in the country," said Tuttle.

These Lane students find a sense of peace in the country.

Black Tie

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The Statistics of Attraction

By Aleksandra Bursac & Emina Cirkic

The Warrior polled two freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior divisions with questions that have boggled the minds of many students. Both guys and girls completed surveys about what they really think about the other gender.

- 91% of girls think a guy should make the first move and grab their hand.
- 65% of girls think hats are attractive on guys.
- 83% of girls believe a good personality makes a guy more attractive rather than physical appearance.
- 55% of girls notice a guy's smile & laugh upon first meeting him.
- 25% of girls first notice a guy's eyes; 20% notice his clothes.
- 52% of girls don't mind texting a guy first to start conversation.

- 21% of guys like it better when a girl wears her hair up in a ponytail.
- 79% of guys prefer a girl who wears her hair down.
- 94% of guys prefer a girl who wears light eyeliner and mascara.
- 6% of guys prefer a girl who wears heavy eyeliner and mascara.
- 43% of guys prefer when a girl wears yoga pants and a sweatshirt.
- 57% of guys prefer when a girl wears jeans and a nice top.
- 89% of guys would rather date a girl who is cute and smart rather than "hot" and dumb.
- 73% of guys think it would be a turn on if a random girl approached them and said they were cute because it displays confidence.

Cyberflirting turns romance into virtual reality

By Deanna Schnotala

Over the years, the dating game has changed. The way boys approach girls and how they flirt is different than how it used to be. Now-a-days, one of the most common ways is cyberflirting. But most agree, it doesn't work.

Cyberflirting includes texting and using social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter. These methods are all very "21st Century." Some believe doing anything in the "cyber" realm is taking the place of real human interaction. It also takes less courage.

"People do it because it's easier to send a message than it is to walk up to a girl and say, 'Hey, you're beautiful,'" said Nick Covarrubias, Div. 371. "It's mainly for people that just want flings."

While cyberflirting has made it easier for a person

to "approach" someone they want to meet, taking the easy way out may not lead to such a strong relationship.

Kevin Carreno, Div. 381, prefers flirting the "old-fashioned" way.

"In person, you can feel the emotions and the chemistry," Carreno said.

Both Covarrubias and Carreno have admitted to cyberflirting in the past. They also agree that it has not worked out in the end.

"I think maybe one time it got me a date," Covarrubias said. "But even that didn't lead to anything."

Cyberflirting also can send a message of laziness or that someone does not care enough to give their courtship a personal touch.

"Anybody could put anything online," Covarrubias said. "They could send it to anybody. So that doesn't make the girl feel special at all."

Sasha Marroquin, Div. 383, has had boys try to flirt with her over Facebook.

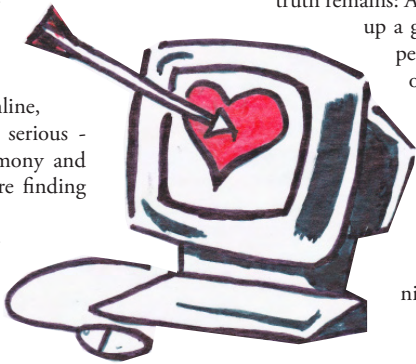
"I think it's creepy, and in some cases, I feel like it's cyberstalking, not flirting," Marroquin said. "...After the fifth time of me telling them to LEAVE ME ALONE, you'd think they would get the hint."

While some people are just flirting online, others are looking for something more serious - even marriage. With websites like charmony and match.com, people all over the world are finding spouses.

With so many people successfully finding love through the internet, the cyber approach to dating is not easy to dismiss.

"Computer dating is just as valid as doing it in person," said Mrs. Arter.

Of course, the relationship eventually has to leave the virtual world and enter the real world. So even if cyberflirting is just a start, sooner or later, the age-old truth remains: A boy will have to walk up a girl and talk to her in person, or vice-versa. If one is really serious about impressing that special someone, he or she might consider showing the confidence to do that from the very beginning.



Students suggest remedies for bad break-ups



By Erik Brito

For Kathy Salgado, Div. 282, two things help her mend a broken heart: ice cream and Netflix.

"I buy myself some vanilla ice cream, like gallons, and [watch] Netflix all day," Salgado said. "Three days and I'm good."

Doing this allows Salgado to "distract herself from the pain." It is a method she has had to apply three times in her life.

When going through a breakup, several things can occur. A person moves on, they cling on to bits of hope, or

completely shut down. When the last of these occurs family and friends can provide key support.

Liah Soto, Div. 276, and Emily Dones, Div. 276, have the same idea as Salgado when it comes to helping their friends heal.

"Ben & Jerry's.... action movies and thrillers," said Dones.

"No romantic movies at all," Soto added.

To top it off Dones and Soto listen to "Crazy screaming rock music. That's how you do it," Dones said.

"You always have to tell them that 'it's going to be okay,' 'we're there for you,' and that the guy they were dating was so ugly," said Soto.

"Even if he was the hottest guy ever," added Dones.

Maria Olvera, Div. 263, says her friends chose to forget the guy even existed.

"I named [my ex] the 'he-who-shall-not-be named,'" said Kat Ayala, Div. 267, as she laughed along with Olvera over the Harry Potter reference.

Ayala's tip to heal is simple: delete everything. Delete the person's text, phone number, and remove them as a Facebook friend.

"After that, you get sad," Ayala said. "Then you talk about it, and after a while you're going to be annoyed by it."

Both girls believe that friends should not be turned to if all they are going to do is show pity and bring up the ex. What one really needs is to be distracted.

"I just need my friends with me because I need someone to keep me from using my phone [to text my ex]," said Soto.

Friendships are tested as well in a breakup. Dones and Soto cut ties with their friend's ex in order to show loyalty to their friend.

Dones has even taken this loyalty a step further by taking her heartbroken friend paint balling.

"...Because' than you imagine the person you're hitting is your ex," said Soto.

"Exactly," Dones agreed.

Strange gifts of Valentine's past

By Kristen Reyes

It's Valentine's Day and you are entire second-grade class has made boxes to fill up with all of your love notes. Chocolate kisses, pink heart-shaped lollipops, and little cards that have the words "Be Mine" all over them are typical.

However, this year you find something different. Between all the candy and cards, someone dropped a rock in your Valentine's Day box. A perplexing gift to some, but to another it could be the most unique gift they've ever received. For Alyssa Santana, Div. 385, receiving a rock has remained on the top on her list of "most original gifts."

Tom Kryca, Div. 263, tried giving a unique gift on Valentine's Day of his freshman year, but it did not go over as well as he had hoped.

"I once carved wood into a heart and wrote 'Tom + Renay' on it and gave it to her," Kryca said.

A group of kids found out about his efforts and bullied him about how "uncool" his gift was. Kryca regretted making the gift and the torment went on for days. As the Valentine's day candy slowly disappeared so did the teasing.

"Dumbest idea ever...I wonder if she still has it though..." Kryca asked.

Another Valentine's Day disaster occurred in eighth grade for Andre Garcia, Div. 276. Garcia received a bright pink "I (heart) my girlfriend" t-shirt from his girlfriend at the time.

"Oh...it's cute...I'll wear it next week," was all that Garcia could say in response to the gift.

"It was so embarrassing...we ended up breaking up a week later," Garcia said.

Though Garcia claims the "embarrassing" gift was not completely the reason for the break-up, it did add fuel to the fire.

It wasn't until Antonio Abreu, Div. 378, found women's underwear placed in his locker that he experienced the curse of bad gifts.

"It was probably one of the most unexpected gifts I've ever gotten," Abreu said.

The gift was from Abreu's close friend at the time. Once word spread about his "unique" gift, Abreu decided it was not the best idea.

"Now that I think about it, it was a pretty weird gift," Abreu said. "I don't even know how to describe it."

Ari Harris, Div. 256, has also received unexpected message from an admirer. Earlier this school year as he was walking through the Lane hallways Harris was approached by a girl who handed him a small note. It was from an admirer he had heard about earlier in the year.

"It said I was her 'dream guy' and that I was 'gorgeous'...but I still don't know who sent it," Harris said.

Will his secret admirer ever reveal herself? Perhaps this Valentine's Day she will step forward and talk to him person.

Whether attempts at love work or fail miserably, one can be sure that new and interesting methods will be used by creative Lane students once again this Valentine's Day.

College-bound students consider long-distance relationships

By Maggie Popek

Dating a senior leads to one inevitable problem: graduation. And graduation means college, where one can find parties full of singles on the prowl. While this may be a good time for many, it is a temptation that can cause relationship problems, especially for a high school sweetheart who has been left behind.

Emily Ciasto, Div. 350, and Cody Davis, Div. 270, have been dating for five months and are planning on making their relationship work after graduation. Although Davis is undecided on what college he will be attending, Ciasto is looking into the same colleges he did, in hopes of joining him after her graduation in 2013. Meanwhile, she is planning on seeing him on the weekends in order to stay together.

"I thought long-distance relationships were stupid and couldn't work. But our strong relationship makes me be-

lieve it is up to the person to make it work," Ciasto said.

The strength in their relationship goes hand in hand with the amount of trust they share.

"Cody and I have been faithful to each other and not given each other any reasons to be suspicious, so our trust is very strong," she said.

Ciasto and Davis are only one of many couples facing this situation.

Sara Glowacz, Div. 350, and Alan Gunderson, Div. 253, have been dating for a year and a half and are also planning on making their relationship work after graduation.

"I thought long distance relationships didn't work and are just bad for people, but it depends on the distance," Glowacz said. "If it is close enough that you can see each other every weekend, or every other weekend it will probably work out."

As for communication, Gunderson believes that it will not be that much different from the usual calling and texting.

"I think we both realize it won't be 24/7 communication and I don't think it would be a good thing anyway," he said.

Glowacz admits that she is a little scared because she will not be there all the time to see what he is up to, but she trusts him completely.

Despite all the trust and strength in a relationship, it may not be the healthiest thing for a college freshman to hold onto.

Psychology teacher Mrs. Langford explains that college is the time to branch out and meet new people. Relationships only limit students to their dorm rooms where they would Skype with their significant other back home. She offers some advice for those students who are questioning whether or not to stay together after graduation.

"If you are a junior dating a senior, after prom be the better person and let that person free. Break up and give him or her a chance to let him or her have the college experience he or she deserves. It is the responsible and

mature thing to do," Langford said.

This, of course, is easier said than done, and some couples cling to the hope that they can make their relationship last even though they are apart.

Special Education teacher Mr. Dan O'Donnell married his high school sweetheart a few years after they graduated. However, he agrees that relationships after high school do not often work out.

"My wife and I were lucky," he said.

O'Donnell's relationship was aided by the fact that he and his wife both attended college here in Chicago and admits that things would have slowed down if they had been farther apart.

Even if a relationship is put on hold, the possibility always exists of starting things back up again a few years down the line. Until then, several Lane couples have a tough decision to make between now and graduation.

Dear Freckles, Happy Valentine’s Day!
You’re my first!
P.S. This means war... Pain face

Happy Valentine to Jesus my lord and savior. He loved me so much he died for me!!! -Geneva

His days are done.
Would you be mine?

Laura y Patricia 4- EVA
<3 <3 <3

Happy Birthday Fikunayo,
you’re so Nigerian!

To: Connie, Cliff, and Fred
Love, Jimbo
Creative writing rocks -- Liz. R. <3

Wolf Pack, we love you! We may be going to different schools but our friendship will last forever! Can't wait to be roomies Dais! Who the kiss are you <3 <3 <3
Lily and Ted FOREVER!!!!!!

I BELIEVE IN SHERLOCK.
MORIARTY WAS REAL.

Hey babe! lol. I know I drive you crazy & you can't stand me sometimes, but it's all good cuz you know I'm worth it haha. I know we both didn't expect to be here, but I'm glad we are because, my life has been so much better with you. You are The egg Memuffin of girlfriends, Chipmunk! Love you!

“We could build a fort out of pillows in our living room, play tag in the kitchen like we used to do. I can hide, you seek, come find me. We could take our bikes to the park, you know the one downtown or we can swing on the swings until the sun goes down. Nothing’s changed with age.”
That’s why I love our relationship. We’re best friends that just enjoy being with each other, no matter what we do. Days spent with you whether it just be bumming around or going on cute dates, is never a day wasted because I am blessed to just have you as my girlfriend, and my best friend. Though we’ve had some bumps on the road in our relationship lately, I know that our communication and trust will keep us together. Plus our relationship is only growing stronger and we’re getting closer as friends. This is just a little bit of why I love you. Thank you for being an amazing girlfriend to me. I love you Diana Jaimes. :]

Mahal Kita, Panda-kun!
There’s no one else in the world that I’d rather spend my life with. I love you!

Arrowhead Editors - Abracadabra!! CBs and deadlines and hot sauce. Thank you for your spirit, dedication, humor, and constant focus. You are a SPECIAL group of girls and you brighten my day! :) ShaJenJen

Happy Valentine’s Day DIV 251, DIV 252, DIV 253!
<3 Mrs. Fuerte

Shane, Its our Senior year and its almost over. We’ve been staring at each other for too long. Show me you like me as much as I like you. I promise you won't regret it!

To my ones and onlys, My sisters, my secret keepers. I can't thank you enough for all you have done for me. I adore you guys! For Tania & Brenda :) Happy Valentine's Day.

A year of tears & love. I love you, Happy V-Day. - X.A.A.

Dear Damian,
Te quiero Guapo
Love, Patty

Julianah, Janiah, Natalie, Mosadi, & Sherrelle; I love you guys. You make my school days the best. I could be so irritated, yet I'm back to myself when I'm around you all. Always remember that #sheRatchet! <3

S.G.S. girls - thank you for everything
Love, Lupe <3

Jaime Cardenas <3
“I’m lucky I’m in love with my best friend.”
LOT! 02.03.11 <3
Thank you for changing my life.

To my yearbook boobos :)
Love you guys
- Jasmine G.

Paper: 10 cents. Pen: 20 cents. 5”: \$2
Years I’ve waited for you: 17. The amount of times you make Ceci smile: still counting...Having Michal. S. in my life: Priceless :)

Shout out to Div. 251 and to my Student Council Family! Love you guys!
Love, Cheetos

“I need you, like penguins need the arctic.” <3 eeee! eeee! eeee!
-Mrs. Carranza

SENIORS

Michael Mcshan, Our lub is something especial!... like halo-halo! Which cow is the most beautiful cow? IKAW! I love you bebs!
-Your KHB wify

PeeFinn <3
Be my panda?
I love you always and forever,
-xoxo, your boo.

Mrs. Wierd, I wanted to be short and sweet. I LOVE YOU and I kind of want you to be mine this year, so you're stuck with me. But hey you have been since 07-01-10. Te amo mucho mi Corazon.

AP Italian: Buon San Valentino e ricor-datevi: è sempre più sexy quando si usa il congiuntivo! Prof

Michaelson Pech,

PROM?
-Ra

Senior Class
Happy Valentine’s Day!
Mrs. House

Take me on a trip, I’d like to go someday
Take me to New York, I’d love to see L.A.
I really want to come kick it with you
You’ll be my American boy,
American boy
Love, Goldilocks

Dear Eric, These past 2 years have been amazing. I'm so happy that I'm with you & I don't think I would be this happy with anyone else. I was so lucky to meet you that first day in the range car even though you are an extremely huge distraction whenever I have to drive. Oh & by the way, I can drive with the whippers on! But everyday since then has been perfect for me even though we have had our ups & downs. I feel that I'm the happiest person in the world & everytime I see you I still get butterflies. Happy Valentine's Day Eric. Love you always, Lauren

Happy Valentine's, Cherrell... or should I go back to my old ways and say CHERYL :) lol Anyways...BOILED GOOSE!!
-Much lurrve, Jasmine G.

Happy Valentine's Day Sarah! Finally, it's the day where you can eat your fav food all day long: CHOCOLATE!! I should make brownies now...
-Jasmine G.

Happy V-Day Mary! Go look for your chocolate, capricorn, pretty smile, white teeth man! Love Jasmine FACE

Hey Vanessa. You are a shining star. -J.P. <3

Happy Valentine’s Day to my loves! E.T.N. <3 Our las year together and I just want to say I LOVE YOU ALL! Each one of you has a special place in my corazoncito! :) We have to make the most out of what's left of our senior year. Thanks for the memories!
Love, Jessy <3

Happy Valentine’s day to my amazing BIG BOYS!
-Ceci <3

1-29-11 <3, our day. Remember how you said that we had to wait til we date to write each other a love poem? Well since we're officially together now, here it is. I like you so much. There's so many things trying to separate us but I promise to never give up. Maybe, one day, we will be together for 2 years, 10 years, forever. I'm sorry this isn't a poem :(I just like you. Babe, are you an alien? Because there is nothing like you on Earth! :) Thanks for being my valentine.
love your v/3

Kim-Tim!
Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Year. You've been with me through thick and thin. I adore you, with all my belly nubban. You're the reason why love is so special to me.
Te quiero!
-Pochocho :)

Hiu,
All I can say after almost 2 years is “You're the moo to my cow” (: I LOVE YOU FOREVER AND EVER! 7.4.10 -Nicole Kao (:

This is my first year being single for Valentine's day. So this goes out to all my bros who've been there for these past years. You've made high school so memorable. Please be my Valentines and lets rage instead on 2/14.

White chocolate and other stuff.

Do you remember when we first met, I sure do. It was some time in early September.
Credo di averlo memorizzato :P
Te quiero Carino <3

Thanks Aaisha and Nimrah for stopping me from making the biggest mistake of my life. Love you guys. <3

Dear Alex M.
I love you. Let's move to London together. <3

Andre&&Elizabeth are the best!
Looove you guys!!!<3<3(;

LOKY,
89-3 <3 I love you with all of my heart. You're my blond tailed best friend. (: I hate living so far from you. You'll be my children's godfather one day. SWAGG!

I love you small fry!

SEXY = KELLY + SANDRA

There are things and thoughts for which I long to say, so I shall express them to you on this day. However, I will say a few words so that might suffice. I love you Imaris. And, that's 40 words.

Much love and adoration to all my girl-friends! Thank you for all the laughs, silliness, and loveliness. xo, Julia

Angie Jamarillo
will you be my
prom date? (:
<3 -M.M.

Dear Lupe, So I want to start off by saying that you are a blessing in my life. Everything you do for me I appreciate every single day. You're the most beautiful girl in the world. Your eyes make me fall in love with you every time I look at them. Your smile is gorgeous! It's been three years since I've met you and I literally walked in your life. Before anything you're my best friend who I can trust, laugh, and even cry with. We've been through the worst together so we deserve to have eachother at our best. I still get butterflies when I see you smile. I've fallen in love with you and it feels amazing. I'm happy I'm in love with my best friend, I love you 2-3-11
Sincerely, your prince charming

You may only be one person to the world, but to one person you are the world. I love you Ely. -A.R

To Kimmy Silva
How is Kon?
-Marco Polo

Dirce, Zumiya; I love you guys. Thank you for everything. DZD. <3
-Daphne

12-25-11

<3

<3

When I find love that's when I find you, and we can do the things we never got the time to. Better late than never but never late is better. They tell me time is money so we'll spend it together. I'm down for whatever, you just lead the way...
I love you to the moon and back, May.

LETICIA GARCIA.
let's have another date at Rico Bene's <3

To the most precious, most amazing, awesome, beautiful, most terrific girl in the world, I dedicate this valentine. I'm also giving you my heart even though you've had it since we saw Puss and Boots. I love you Diana Barragan! Be mine <3

Happy Valentine’s Day, Amors!!!
(That’s you, Rene!)

Ciao Airis!
Just wanted to let you know that you're the reason I wake up every morning, and you're what keeps me going everyday. I'm so glad you said something on the train that one day and you're the best Christmas gift any man could ask for and now all I ask is that you be my Valentine.
Your boyfriend, Ricardo
P.S. Mi piace molto pandita e io ti amo

NATKAY&CK
LOVE YOU GUYS

E.Sagadin, You hibernate like a bear, it isn't fair. You're alright I guess...
JK. You're the best! --Anonymous
P.S: Whatever Discount.....

Dirce Taco,
My bwest fwient.<3 It's our last year & the last time we get to write in these. So I'm gonna' write to you cause I love you. Honestly, you're the BEST FRIEND anyone could ask for. Happy Valentine's Day, & remember you're never forever alone because you'll always have me. Promise.
-Vato

Mia Anairis Irizarry!...
I Love You <3
5/27/11
p.s. I got your note!

Happy V- Day! (:
Love you <3
Nothing can compare to how I feel about you! (:
4/13/11 WE DO IT!

Eddie, Tony.
What would 7th period be without you guys?
Love you <3

Dear Annie, wanna go out or something? I love you quite dearly. We have spent 29 months together and I'm ready to spend my whole life with you. I can't wait for this weekend babe. CUTEST COUPLE... SWAG.
With much love,
Max Albekier

Dear BamBam,

Ever since I got to know you, my life changed for the better. You are THEE bestest boyfriend a girl could ever ask for and I consider myself truly lucky. I never thought I'd love someone as much as I love you. I guess this is what true love feels like? Who knows what the future has in store for us, all I know is I want you in it <3 i love you
-Pebbles

Dear Caitlin, the wonderful thing about Tiggers, a Tigger's a wonderful thing. Their tops are made out of rubber, their bottoms are made out of springs. They're bouncy, pouncy, trouncy, flouncy, fun, fun, fun, fun! Oh the wonderful thing about Tiggers is I'm the only one.
-I love you (7 Years)

Ulices, will you go to prom with me?
-You know who
P.S. I won!

NCL, I know we've fought alot these past few months. I want to say i'm sorry for the way I've treated you and the way things have turned out. Idk how to show you that I'm only YOURS. here's the only way how I can show you: I, Jacob Medina, am Nicole Lloren's ONLY! EVERYONE ELSE STAY AWAY! I'm IN LOVE with you and forver will be!
7-1-10

Sweetheart, thank you for every smile, laugh, hug, and kiss! I love you and I love us. Jenni+Max(:

Happy Valentine’s Day!
To my best friends forever!
We are still the 3 twins in my heart!

Happy 18th Birthday Timon!
- Love Mufasa and Pumba

This is a shout out to my babygirl Eli Manning. I LOVE YOU. I can't believe we lasted a whole year. I wanna be w/ you forever. Muahh (: LMAO
I love our beautiful baby, Jocely Gomez! - ROFL

Dear Monica, Roses are red, violets are blue, I'd like to be Matesprits with you. Would you have a redrom romance with me? Love, your Taurus.

Fatima Sabonovic!
I just wanted to tell you, you have the prettiest eyes and you should have won the senior notable.
<3 <3 <3

To the only guy that makes me feel the way I do every single day. Gbro, you're the best. Love you mooshi.

Patty Finn: The way you look in red makes our hearts glisten like the night sky. The cozness of your facility is stunning. My face brightens when you're shoved into a locker and frightened. Our love has only tightened since Pre-K. Good Day.
From - Anonymous

You’re an amazing friend.
love you -- your Turtle

Secs Tape - Best Lab Group ever! Thanks for all the laughs this year! Love, Rachel. Caitlin photobombed this.

Caitlin & Ben,
Do you guys like Madam Kim?
<3 Rachel

Babe I'm so happy I found someone like you :) Thanks for everything you've done for me. I love you George <3 PS: Never forget "ohh rice ohh pizza" lol

Spongebob!!!

Best friends now, best friends forever!
Memories last us a lifetime.
Moo Buns and Bacon <3

Ur my #1 all the time. Ily
<3 Marilyn Cao

Dr. Perez, taking it back to freshmen year with your fruity sweater. You're like my brother. I'm blessed to have you and pupi Loky in my life. I love you! RACK CITY!!

Babe you are the cutest & fluffiest Hamster in the whole world I couldn't be happier with anyone than I am with you. -Eddie

I get “BAGS” under my eyes from staring at the “BLUE” “MOON.”

Happy Valentine's day to my French Horns Karen and Sara and to my Drum Major sister Lauren! I love you guys! Love Kaitie

Mr. Fornal, will you be our valentine?
-Your 2nd period

Hey! Andre! I love you and you're amazing! -Sabrina. You're a great wrestler and you're an awesome lunch buddy! Great things are coming your way! Love life!

NATKAT FO LIFE!<3
LOVE YOU MINI NAPS!!

Beata
I've known you for so long and I'm so happy to finally be with you. You're the best thing that ever happend to me. I hope you have an amazing Valentine's.
Kocham cie (zerwony kapturku :)

Patrick

Hey Elizabeth:
Just wanted to tell you that you are a beautiful and wonderful girl who I will always hole dear to my heart.
Dre White
Blessing and Curse Mixtape

I <3 YOU OLAS family! You guys made this year amazing.
-Mayra

Julian Bil,
I just met you, but I can tell I really like you. You're so cute and funny. I'm just scared you'll reject me. If you know who this is, please text me. -secret admirer

DEAR SCOTT I WANT YOU

Pedro, you can't dance or sing like Sharukh, or travel through time in a blue box like The Doctor, but that's ok cuz I bet they can't change a diaper like you! Love you baby!

Dear Jacque,
It's been fun but it's over!
JK!!!

When I started dating you two years ago, you were so beautiful! Each daysince we become more and more in love with each other. You're the first thing I think about in the morning when I wake up and you're the last thing I think about before I go to bed. I could not see myself without you in my life! Just think of us as two apples on the same tree, meant to grow old together! You are the fire in my heart that I never want to put out! I love you alot, happy valentine’s day little girl<3
Love, Aaron

Tatted fo life!!

Hon Italiano II
Siete delle
bestie ed avete
molto stile.
Buon San
Valentino: Prof

HAPPY VALENTINE’S
DAY! <3
To the Boy’s Track Team
-Girls Track

Mr. Yost, your last concert
was “rockin”
(stupidest thing we have ever
written)
p.s. We like your socks!

Ecuadorian Club, we love you and
thanks for making this happen.
Love, Itsel and Coraima

OTHER

Happy Valentine’s
Day to ALL of my
wonderful students.
-Mr. Flygt

Student Council,
Happy Valentine’s Day

Break - A - Leg cast, band, and Krew
for Grease!
Your funny Valentine, Mrs. Hanson

To my AP Environmental classes,
There is no one I’d rather take a long walk off a
short pier with. XOXO
-Mr.Davey

Happy Valentine’s Day Dance Team! i
love you guys :)
<3 Deanna

Happy Valentines day div. 585 looking
forward to 3 more great years! Mr.
Sweet

When I wake up in the morning am I
going to have a partner?
LT Softball, Love you guys!

Mute Spittahs!

It's easier to regret NOT doing something than to
regret doing something. Don't spend the rest of your
life wonderin "what if." Just tell him/her.
Rejection leads to wisdom.

Amina is awesome!!! India Club <3 <3 - India
Shrasta, Azeema, and Justin are the coolest!
...Amish... :O
Juliet loves giraffes

To all my friends, you guys are the best! I couldn't
ask for nicer friends!! I can't believe from the time
I met you til now we could develop such a great
relationship! Love you GUYS! <333

Hey you. Yes you. The sign that you’ve
been asking for from God... This is it.

TO ALL MY AWKWARD CHILDREN:
I LOVE YOU!!
-Luka Stenson
Way

TO ACADEC: YOUR HARD
WORK & DEDICATION HAVE
MADE ME VERY PROUD. YOU
ARE FINE YOUNG PEOPLE
WITH VERY BRIGHT FUTURES!
MR.STEPEK

To my Environmental Science classes,
Thanks for not mentioning that whole “arson by
candlelight” thing... XOXO
Mr. Davey

Happy Valentine’s Day to all of my
Ethnic Studies classes!
-Mr. Cockrell

“Don’t ask yourself what the world needs. Instead, ask yourself
what makes you come alive and then go and do that. Because
what the world needs is people who have come alive.”
Happy Valentine’s Day to my classes! - Mr. Spedale

Happy Valentine’s Day to the
dance team! I love you girls so
much and I am very proud of you
all. Let’s kill it at Senior Night!
XOXO, your captain, Kasey

Happy Birthday Cordarius!! I love you. Today is
not only Valentine’s Day, it is your birthday. Rest In
Peace and Happy 8th Birthday and Valentine’s Day!
Love your big cousin Brianna Byrd.

Happy Valentine’s Day to everyone
in Student Council
-CM

Dear Mrs. Fuerte, thank you for
being so pretty. You are such an in-
spiration to us. You are so youthful
and helpful. Thank you for being
there for us. We love you! <3
-Ana, Carla, Janet, Div. 252

I LOVE YOU!
-Ms. Arter

Semester’s end finds students scrambling

By Brenna George

Scrambling on the edge, holding on by a mere point. Many students are earning grades on the very edge.

The end of the semester is the final push for students to get the grade they want. Students with borderline grades have the pressure of making the jump to a higher grade or to keep the grade they barely have.

Ms. Blanchfield, a physics teacher, had an entirely different experience with finals.

“More grades were changed by the Final exam than I thought,” said Blanchfield.

Most of her students’ grades were dropped by the final, meaning students with borderline grades in her class fell to the undesirable side of the grading scale. She did curve her final “a bit” because she knows her final is very difficult.

“It’s a lot of stuff for students to remember,” Blanchfield said.

Mr. Golden says you have to be very borderline for a final to raise a math grade.

“In general, finals never help students. They hurt them,” said Mr. Golden. “If a student is struggling all semester, they’re not going to do well on the final.”

Mr. Golden is so confident, he makes deals with his failing students. If they pass the final, he’ll pass them in the class. It has never worked. The students always fail the final.

On the contrary Ana Hernandez, Div. 275, studied for hours for her finals and ended up pulling up two of her grades.

“It was stressful, but in the end it worked out,” Hernandez said.

Anastasiya Sapatynska, Div. 467, had a borderline grade in her HT class of an 89.03 percent. Her grade on the final exam dropped her overall grade, but she did not ask her teacher for the higher

grade. She knew the teacher would not budge.

Sapatynska says that classes are harder this year because teachers are nicer freshman year. She is already planning to make this adjustment.

“Next semester I’m going to try to finally achieve that A,” Sapatynska said.

Some students like Liliana De Leon, Div. 352, have found this year harder than last. De Leon plans to go to tutoring, study harder, and slack off in her extracurricular activities to achieve a better grade next semester.

To improve those borderline grades for next year, Blanchfield suggests looking over notes and practicing problems at least two weeks in advance to make sure one is proficient before the final. Cramming the night before finals is not the route to earn the grade.

Better luck next semester!

Will the world be eclipsed by apocalypse in 2012?

By Diana Barragan

Flip-flopping of the Earth, cosmic storms, and solar storms sound crazy when taken out of context. In actuality, all of these are just a few of the things happening that are leading to doomsday predictions.

Whether these are believable or not, they are still a part of the current fuss about whether the world will end in 2012.

"I think now that the whole big deal is out about 2012, people are taking certain things [natural disasters] to the extreme," said Sebastian Silverio, Div. 563.

Eschatology is the study of predicting the end of the world. One widely known group of eschatologists are the Mayans. They gained their popularity mostly due to their calendar.

What most people do not know is that the Mayan, or Mesoamerican, calendar contains several different calendars within itself. The date December 12, 2012, when most people think the world will end, just marks the end date of the Long calendar in the Mayan Calendar. However, the other calendars within the main one can have an even longer end date. For example, according to maya-portal.net, the p'iktun has an end date of October 13 4772 AD.

With movies like The Day After Tomorrow, Armageddon, and 2012, it is hard to buy into believing that this time the world might actually end. The failed attempts at predicting this event does not help either.

"Nothing points out to something big happening in a couple months, but there's

so much hype about it because in all these shows they're like 'this guy predicted this and he was right,'" said Stephanie Porrata, Div. 275.

While people like Porrata are not too convinced about the idea of the world ending. There are still those out there that have what seems like slight fear that it just might happen.

"A lot of crazy stuff has been happening with the world and it seems pretty plausible," said Celia Serrano, Div. 359.

Since Serrano holds a slight belief that this could happen, living life to the fullest this year while keeping up with her grades is key in her eyes.

"Let's just hope the Mayans weren't right," Serrano said.

Students are not the only ones objecting to the end of the world prophecy. According to an article by Charles Choi from msnbc, many of the "disasters" that are said can end the world have already happened. So why are we still here?

"For instance, some theorists claim that from our point of view, the sun will cross in front of the plane of our galaxy on Dec. 21. However, the sun already does this twice a year," said Don Yeomans, manager of NASA's Near- Earth Object program office, in an interview with Choi on January 1, 2012.

While the Mayan calendar prediction is the most recent, there has been other end of the world predictions that never happened.

"It's not a big deal and we all die at some point, plus two people have gotten it

wrong," said Diane Barrera, Div. 551.

Perhaps it may not have been the mistake of just two people, but certainly one example is the panic in 1999, Y2K, which brought the fear of the possibility of a nuclear war due to computer failure. However, this did not go as predicted.

"It's stupid and not going to happen because they say it's going to happen and then it doesn't. Then they find a new date," said Steven Guardinl, Div. 459.

Another prime example was the fear of Halley's Comet in 1910. Panic erupted in the Chicago Yerkes Observatory after an astronomer said that the tail in the comet contained cyanogen, a poisonous gas. It was believed that this gas could potentially wipe out life on Earth. But it was soon announced that this gas was so thin that it could hardly do any damage. By the time the public heard of this, they were already out purchasing gas masks and other protective materials. When Halley's Comet passed in May 1910, nothing happened.

The events in 1910 and 1999 both demonstrate what people tend to do when under a certain impression, even if it is true or false.

"I think the idea of the apocalypse is taken out of proportion. I mean the date just ran out on the calendar," said Adam Glueckers, Div. 475.

Even though the end of the world has not been correctly predicted, this story, however, does have an official ending... now.

Superstitious athletes depend on rituals for success

By Marissa Higgs

Ricky Reyes, Div. 479, prepares for the football game by putting on the lucky socks he has not washed since before the season started. Casey Cusano, Div. 370, has to touch her bedroom wall right before she leaves to go to a softball game. Joey Velazquez, Div. 370, steps up to home plate and makes the sign of the cross before his turn to bat during a baseball game.

Reyes, Cusano, and Velazquez all have one thing in common, they are superstitious when it comes to the sports they play. Superstition in sports is nothing new to Lane's athletes. Students who play a variety of sports have admitted to performing several pre-game routines that they believe bring them good luck during their fight to win.

"I never wash my game socks for a whole season because I believe it will bring me luck and I listen to Rock music when I go to sleep the day before until game time because I believe it will get me focused before a game," Reyes said.

This is not something new for Reyes. His socks have been avoiding the washing machine for 5 seasons now. However, he does not feel self-conscious about his smelly tradition.

"There are others on the team that I've seen who do the same so no one really says much about it," he said.

Giovanni Hobyl, Div. 559, also believes unwashed clothing from previous games will bring him the luck he needs to win.

"Starting the week before [the first] game I won't wash my [uniform]. From the beginning to the end of the season I won't wash it," Hobyl said.

A few of his teammates admit to being a bit disgusted by his actions, but it is something he has been doing for the past 7 years. His superstitious ways did not start out as a way to beat his competition either.

"I just never brought my stuff home," he said.

Cusano, like Reyes and Hobyl, is a superstitious person. In addition to stroking her wall every night before a

game, she has a certain way of getting her belongings ready. If anything is even slightly off, she has to start from the beginning. Otherwise, she believes she will lose a softball game.

"I have to pack my stuff the night before. If I forget anything I have to go back home, take everything out of my bag and start over," Cusano said.

She very much believes that her ritual brings her good luck. If she does poorly during a game then she has to change something. She did not do well during a game once and decided to touch a different bedroom wall instead of her usual one. Once the new wall started bringing her good luck, she decided to keep that as her special wall.

Some athletes are not as defined by their superstition. In many sports, the act of doing certain superstitious things is nothing new. It is not uncommon for people who play the same sport to do similar things in order to play well.

Asia Niforos, Div. 555, plays soccer. During games she has to wear socks under her shin guards so that she is wearing 4 socks at all times. Her shoes also have to be double-knotted. She refuses to play a single game without doing so.

"If I don't do it then I do bad [in the game]," Niforos said.

Although there are many athletes who need to do certain things in order to have good luck, some do superstitious things for other reasons. Velazquez has been playing baseball since he was 4-years-old. He admits to doing the sign of the cross before batting since 8th grade. He doesn't necessarily do the sign of the cross because he hopes for good luck but instead he does it because of his faith.

"Its a religion thing I guess, just praising God to make sure God is there but usually people do it because if they didn't it would be like bad luck," he said.

Any athlete can be superstitious about something. Whether it is Michael Jordan wearing his University of North Carolina shorts under his uniform in every game, or Casey Cusano rubbing a specific part of her wall before every game, certain athletes find comfort in knowing they are lucky.



What a girl wants this Valentine's Day? Romance



By Emina Cirkic

It was a cold December morning and my friend Anna and I were getting ready for a bonding day downtown. She thought it was an ordinary day, but I knew she was going to be in for a HUGE surprise.

There was this guy, Zach; we were all friends with for a while. Their relationship turned in to the typical "I like her, she likes me, but I'm not going to say anything." Eventually, I persuaded Zach to make his move. He planned a day for Anna and I culminating in meeting up with him so he could make his grand gesture: asking Anna out to prom. We went to various places downtown like the movie theatre, Cristkindelmarkt at the Daley Plaza, the Art Institute, and little cafes. At

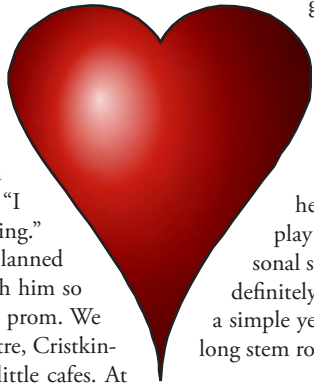
each of these places, he left her little notes that eventually spelled out "Will you go to prom with me?"

The last place we went to was the ice skating rink at Millennium Park where Zach stood on the ice with the word "Me?" in one hand and a bouquet of flowers in the other. It was one of the most romantic and well-thought-out moves I had ever seen.

The next day I told my friends at school about it and all anyone said throughout my entire story was "Awww" or "Oh my God!" and the occasional "I wish I had a guy like that!"

Sometimes it feels like there are no more romantic gushy moments. I hear guys complaining about how hard it is to get a girl's attention or to make a girl fall head over heels for them. So much thought and concern over problems that can be easily solved with one, simple thing: romance.

Even if a girl says she hates flowers and bristles at the thought of "cheesy moments." Don't believe it. Every girl wants a guy to take an extra step to make her feel special. It doesn't have to be some grand display of affection like renting a yacht and having a personal showing of fireworks on the lake (although that would definitely earn a guy some serious points). A simple flower is a simple yet grand gesture. No need to buy a whole bouquet of long stem roses...one flower is all it takes.



Here is a list of the **top 10 romantic gestures** guys should try this **Valentine's Day** for that special girl.

1. **Kiss her in the rain or snow. (Here's hoping for bad weather this Valentine's Day!)**
2. **Give her flowers... even just one.**
3. **Only communicate through hand written letters for the day.**
4. **Personally make her a homemade lunch.**
5. **Sneak little cute notes into her locker, books, and notebooks.**
6. **Randomly dance with her...even if there's no music.**
7. **Pull a move from Dirty Dancing - reenact the iconic end scene.**
8. **Take a walk at sunset on the beach...or along Lake Michigan.**
9. **Give her at least three genuine compliments within the day.**
10. **Call her favorite radio station and dedicate a song to her.**

Women notice everything -- and I mean everything. A simple romantic gesture will knock her off her feet. It seems as if all the simple stuff men used to do for women before, just doesn't happen anymore. No one writes romantic letters to one another or gives little gifts for no reason. It's the little things that count the most in a woman's life.

So there you have it, the key to a woman's heart: Romance. Happy Valentine's Day everyone, especially to the hopeless romantics out there! I hope to see love letters, single stem flowers, and giggly girls all over Lane today.



Look What I Stumbled Upon...

By Aleksandra Bursac

<http://www.mydearvalentine.com> - This website is great for poems, quotes, horoscopes, and other romantic tidbits you can use on Valentine's Day to make your sweetie melt.

<http://wilstar.com/holidays/valentn.htm> - Outlines a cute history of Valentines Day.

<http://howtoimpressaboy.net/> - Don't take this humorous site too seriously, but it is adorable.

<http://www.links2love.com/guys.htm> - Provides love advice and other fun stuff.

hedgehogcomics.com/?p=31 - very cute last minute valentine for you to print out and give to your special somebody. It's sure to impress ;)

<http://thevow-movie.com/> - Enough said. The Vow is looking to be the biggest romance flick of the year so take your girl to the movies!

Elephant in the Classroom

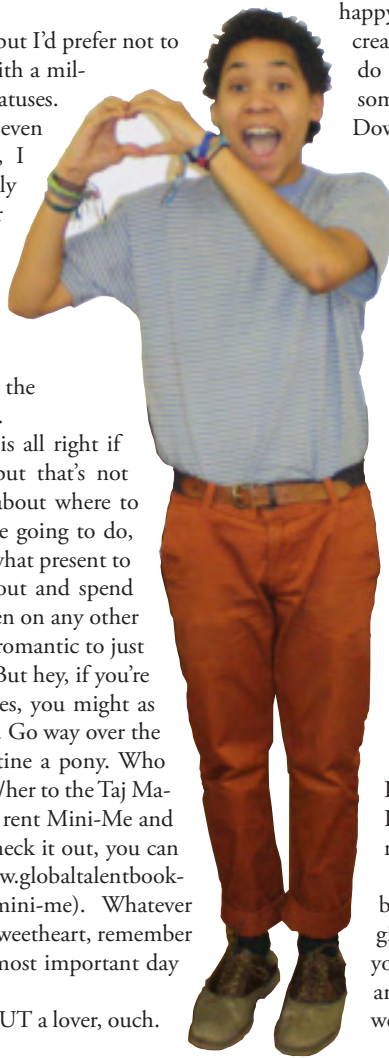
A column dedicated to examining those awkward high school situations

By Cody Lee

I don't know about you guys, but I'd prefer not to login to Facebook and be fed with a million mushy Valentine's Day statuses. Stalking people's profiles isn't even fun these days (and trust me, I LOVE stalking profiles). But only seeing posts like "All I have for Valentine's Day is my ice cream" gets pretty boring. Seriously, what is everyone's deal? It's a pointless, Hallmark-made holiday that leaves everyone depressed and heartbroken. Even the movie "Valentine's Day" sucked.

I would say that Valentine's is all right if you have a significant other, but that's not even true. You have to worry about where to take him/her, what you guys are going to do, what you're going to wear, and what present to bring along with you. You go out and spend \$10,000 on your little date, when on any other day it would have been equally romantic to just stay in and order chinese food. But hey, if you're going to partake in the festivities, you might as well take it to a whole new level. Go way over the top. I'm talkin' buy your valentine a pony. Who doesn't love ponies? Or take him/her to the Taj Mahal. Or wait... my best idea yet, rent Mini-Me and take him along on your date (check it out, you can actually rent that lil' guy: www.globaltalentbooking.com/booking-verne-troyer-mini-me). Whatever your plans might be with your sweetheart, remember that it's Valentine's Day! The most important day of the year...right?!

And for those WITHOUT a lover, ouch.



Valentine's Day is not the best day for you. You have to sit around and watch other people look especially happy while you go home, eat chocolate ice cream, and cry yourself to sleep. But I say, do something different. Maybe try to rally some folks up and stage an anti-love protest. Downtown. Wearing all black. In the middle of the day. Wielding molotov cocktails. Nothing says "Valentine Shmalentine" more than a protest like that. Here's an even better plan: Every couple that you see, just scream at them. Get all up in their grill. You can yell "get a room" or simply "I hate you", either one works perfectly fine. If you're alone on Valentine's you might as well ruin it for everyone else...right?!

For me, I have a girlfriend. I'm going to take her on a surprise date to the movies to see Star Wars: Episode 1- The Phantom Menace 3D. We both love Obi-Wan Kenobi. Then after, I'm going to let her get anything she wants from Burger King. Oh man I'm so excited! I know she's going to love it! I hope she doesn't read this but I just can't wait. Valentine's Day rocks! I love it, I love it, I love it!

Oh wait, did I just write that out loud...? I meant that Valentine's Day stinks. Sorry, I was just getting a little caught up in the moment.

But on some real levels right now, don't be too serious about Valentine's Day. Don't give in to all the hype...it's just a day. So can you please do me and my newsfeed a favor and stop with all of the Valentine's talk, we're growing a little tired of it. Thanks.

As Good As It Gets

Advice so nice you'll read it twice

By Mary Presley
marypresley@lanewarrior.com

Dear Mary,

There's this guy who I'll call "Jake." We have known each other since freshman year. I've had classes with him up until this year. We used to flirt, talk, and goof around all the time. I always thought he was cute, but nothing more...he always seemed to have a girlfriend.

Junior year, I started liking him...a lot. My feelings I guess grew for him over the years and junior year my feelings for him were deep. He'd always play with my hair, or crack jokes all day. But, throughout the years of knowing him, I learned he can be quite a jerk.

He is very good looking and is one of those guys that knows he's hot stuff. Girls flirt and try things with him all the time, so I don't think I was ever on his mind in that way. I know I made it clear that I liked him in that way, and he didn't respond to my message.

This year we don't have any classes together. Now he completely ignores me; doesn't even say 'hi' to me in the halls! He knew I liked him a lot. I try to forget about him but I can't. Sometimes I think maybe just a little fling or one make

out session with him with help me get over him. I know that's a bad thing to do...but I'm tired of being the good girl all the time! Mary, if you have any advice on how to get over him or what I should tell him or just do about the situation, I would appreciate it!

~ sincerely,
Confused :(

Dear Confused,

Wow, I can totally relate to you one hundred percent. Sometimes us good girls try to spice up our lives by taking chances and coming outside of our shells. This is totally okay, but not to the point where you have to do things you know are wrong.

I know you do not want to become just another one of Jake's "girls," so never do something that you and your gut feeling do not agree on. You seem like a smart girl that does not need a big headed jerk like Jake. I know he is cute, flirtatious, and hard to resist, but you have to let him go. He is not the type of boy you should want as a boyfriend. Keep him



strictly under the "crush" category in your mind - a boy you absolutely like, but will never ever go there with.

Jake seems like a shameless heart breaker who obviously treats his victims the same way he has treated you. I would tell you that whatever happens do not fall for him, but I think you already did. The best way to get over him is to realize that he is not the boy for you. Think about the future and all the tears you will shed and all the times you will say "I'm so stupid," if you decide to try to make something work with a player like Jake. Never put yourself through something that you can already see yourself regretting.

Maybe when Jake is ready to grow up and stop checking himself out in the mirror he will finally see you. You know what? Don't even wait around waiting for him to notice you again. If you told him how you felt before, that one time is enough.

As for why he doesn't speak to you in the hallway, he could feel bad about not liking you as much as you liked him or he really has just not noticed you in the halls. Regardless, move on from Jake. Stop thinking about him, looking at him, asking about him, or going through his pictures on Facebook. There are plenty of boys like Jake, but there are more boys that are better than him. Trust me you don't need him because he does not need you. And sometimes that's as good as it gets!!!!

Classic high school musical, Grease, opens at Lane tomorrow

By Azalee Cano

Girls adorned in tight pencil skirts, scoop neck blouses, and bright pink jackets that read "Pink Ladies" crowd together and loudly laugh. Boys squeezed into tight denim jeans and fitted white t-shirts with packs of cigarettes rolled up a sleeve form their own group. Some of them wear devilish black leather jackets with the name "T-Birds" patched on the back. Soon singing breaks out and lyrics are traded chronicling the cliché "misfortunes" of the teenage life. Welcome to this year's school musical: Grease.

Last performed at Lane 10 years ago, Grease has been resurrected this year for Lane's annual musical production.

"It is the quintessential high school musical," said Director Mrs. Hanson. "It is popular, fun, and has lot of amazing singing and dancing."

Grease is a light-hearted story set in a high school in the 1950s about a group of seniors dealing with the overly-dramatic complexities of being young.

They deal with common teenage mishaps like falling in love for the first time and trying to find a date for prom.

Although the musical has a care-free vibe to it, it also touches upon subjects like alcohol consumption, gang violence, teen sex, and teen pregnancy.

The students will be performing the original script written for the musical, which means the swearing and reference to alcohol and cigarettes will not be excluded.

"Lane's version of Grease is a bit more raunchy compared to other high schools," said Vanessa Paolino, Div. 254, who plays Ms. Lynch, a no-nonsense, old-fashioned English teacher. "Raunchy is always more fun."

"Raunchy is a part of theatre. Plus, it is extremely realistic. We all curse and stuff," said Anjela McGraw, Div. 572, who plays one of the Casino sisters.

Because the musical was written first, songs that were written for the screen play will not be performed.

"[The story] is basically the same as in the movie, except we don't sing some songs like *You're the one that I want*," said Jessica Cleary, Div. 273, who plays Sandy.



An uptight Ms. Lynch (Paolino) with cool kid, Danny Zuko (Anthony Mendoza).



It's no sweat for The Pink Ladies to look nifty.

In the midst of all the excitement opening day brings, some of the senior cast members have bitter-sweet feelings about the production. While they are really happy to have all their hard work finally pay off, they also share a sense of melancholy because it will be their last performance here at Lane. Just like in Grease, a lot of goodbyes will be said.

"[It is a] perfect fit for our last show," said Ana Lovric, Div. 267, who plays Rizzo, the sassy leader of the Pink Ladies. "Everyone is pretty equal in the show, everyone gets a chance to do their thing, everyone gets the chance to shine."

"We're a big family, and as soon as [the show] is over it's going to be a bunch of goodbyes," said

Rebecca Lange, Div. 257, who plays Jan, a loud and pushy Pink Lady.

Seeing this classic on stage will bring feelings of nostalgia to some. For others it might offer a glimpse into the near future. One thing is for sure, according to cast members: good, quality fun.

"It isn't the typical Grease. People should go see it because it's almost as fun for the audience as it is for the actors," Paolino said.

The play opens tomorrow, Feb. 15 and will run through Saturday Feb. 18. On Feb. 15 and 16 the show will start in the school auditorium at 3:45. On Feb. 17 and 18 the play will start at 7p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Give Back shows joy, maturity in new album *Modern Philosophy*

By Julia Kulon

When I walked out of the Beat Kitchen after seeing the band Give Back, (a lineup also joined by *Crash Hero* and *The Blisters*) into a snowy January night, I felt all too enchanted and deliriously happy.

Being someone that prefers to curl up with a book and a mug of hot tea on her free Friday nights, I attributed the feeling to the simple revelation that I had finally crossed something off my high-school bucket list: see a local band play in a small crowded space under fluorescent red lighting.

The following Tuesday, I bought Give Back's CD off i-Tunes and left their music playing in the background as I did things around the house. The giddiness I experienced that snowy January night crept back into me.

I concluded that perhaps this feeling wasn't the result of crossing something off my imaginary bucket list; it was much simpler than that. Give Back creates a mood that I loved, that made me happy, and that made my toes want to dance.

The word 'golden' came to mind. Give Back is simply golden.

Taking photographs at the concert on that January night, I captured several images of the energy erupting on the stage. Big grins illustrated the band members' total and pure investment in their mu-



JP Walsh, Lane sophomore and keyboardist for Give Back, loses himself in the moment.

sic. And a true camaraderie among the four suit-clad boys was obvious. Introducing themselves and thanking all for coming out, their abundant happiness infected the crowd immediately.

This might be the only time that a plague - a crowd of swarming of teens - could be described as beautiful. But that's what it was. Beautiful.

Songs off Give Back's anticipated debut album, *Modern Philosophy* were played throughout the night. Their more well-known songs, *Three Days* and *Hello I Am* were sandwiched in between the songs that only a true fan would know such as *Be There Too* and *Invisible Homicide*. The set list was a carefully planned showcasing of their range. The boys stomped and jumped around the stage, constantly re-energizing themselves.

Vocalist Ryan Walsh at one point took off his dress shirt, only to expose a black t-shirt, giving the crowd a gripping tease.

The attention of the room held to the very end, and the band made sure to make a shout-out to their producer; a sign of sleek classiness and professionalism which made Give Back even more compelling to me towards the end of the night.

At the end of their set, drummer Laneite Owen Jones jumped into the crowd and gave his lucky girl a swooping kiss. The gesture solidified the band's young age and excitement.

Give Back is a band from our generation certainly, but it also remembers to pass on respect to musical traditions. There's a bit of The Strokes and The Fray in them. Some of their chords are reminiscent of old CDs that some of us with ex-hippie parents used to dance to.

Give Back's positive sounding chords don't compromise or bend to



Owen Jones, Lane senior, jams away on the drums.

any cynicism. The band-members of Give Back are young and upbeat, and they want to share that feeling with the world. What triples the effect is their astoundingly mature self-confidence on stage and on record, which is both rare, and self-assuring.

Having followed their Facebook page since last June, I have already seen Give Back grow. The band members have evolved and matured as musicians - something sure to continue as they play together more and more.

Their album *Modern Philosophy*, released Jan. 21 on i-Tunes (only \$9.90), is pure enthusiasm and appears to be only the first spectacular stop in their adventures.

Substitute teacher Mr. Yost rocks with his band The Kickback

By Diana Castro

The crowd erupts as the band begins to play, but that lead singer isn't just any singer. He's your English sub.

Lane substitute Billy Yost has been playing guitar and singing in his band The Kickback since he moved to Chicago in late 2009. The Kickback has been mentioned in Rolling Stone's Hype Monitor and has opened for bands like Plain White T's, Tapes and Tapes, and White Rabbits.

Yost and his five older brothers all played in a band during high school. While Yost does not have any formal music training, he did take three years of piano lessons and played saxophone in high school. He eventually had to stop playing because his teachers found out he could not read music.

"I would listen to them play it, then play," Yost

said. "I learned quickly."

Originally from South Dakota, Yost moved to Chicago with his older brother Danny because they knew they needed to move to a bigger city to do what they wanted to do musically. Yost's girlfriend had also already been living in Chicago for a year.

"Chicago was just the best fit," Yost said.

The Kickback consists of Yost, his brother Danny, Tyler Zee, and Eammon Donnelly. The band, which already has released two EPs, is currently working on their first full-length record.

The band practices a couple times a week and the Yost brothers work on the recordings everyday after school until around 6-7pm.

"[The album] is going to sound exactly how we want it to sound," Yost said.

Yost says he has also received plenty of positive feedback about his music from teachers and students at Lane, though some question whether it is a

solid career choice.

"You have to do what you love, regardless of how silly it may seem," Yost said.

The band will be playing once a week at Schuba's throughout March and plans to be touring all over the country this summer.

Still, Yost says the band's most loyal supporters seem to be local. They have developed a strong following in their college town and have built up a strong and diverse fan base in Chicago.

"[Our fans] range from ten or eleven year olds to our parents," Yost said.

Aside from his aspirations to be a successful musician, Yost says that he loves being a substitute at Lane and hopes to someday teach English, adding that if he were to teach anywhere in Chicago, he would want it to be at Lane.

"I love it here," Yost said. "I hope someday I wind up a teacher here."



The cover for *Mea Culpa Mea Culpa*, The Kickback's fourth CD and a four-track EP.

Boys' Swim Team prepares for Sectionals

By Victoria Figueroa

As students walk into Lane the unnaturally bleached hair of some boys doesn't go unnoticed. This can only mean one thing: It's nearing the end of the Boys Swimming and Diving season.

The end of the swimming season means more pressure for the Varsity Boys Swim Team, which has not won a City title since 2009. They lost to Whitney Young in 2010 and 2011.

And it was to Whitney Young that Lane suffered its first loss of the season on Feb. 2. Still, the team believes it can rise to the occasion by season's end and challenge for the City title.

In a final warm-up before City, the team soundly defeated Latin School of Chicago 88-68 on Senior Night, Tuesday, Feb. 7.

According to team captain Matthew Gullickson, Div. 365, Lane has an advantage over most other teams.

"We have a lot of depth that other teams don't," Gullickson said. "We may not have the fastest swimmer in an event, but we're able to take second, third, and fourth."

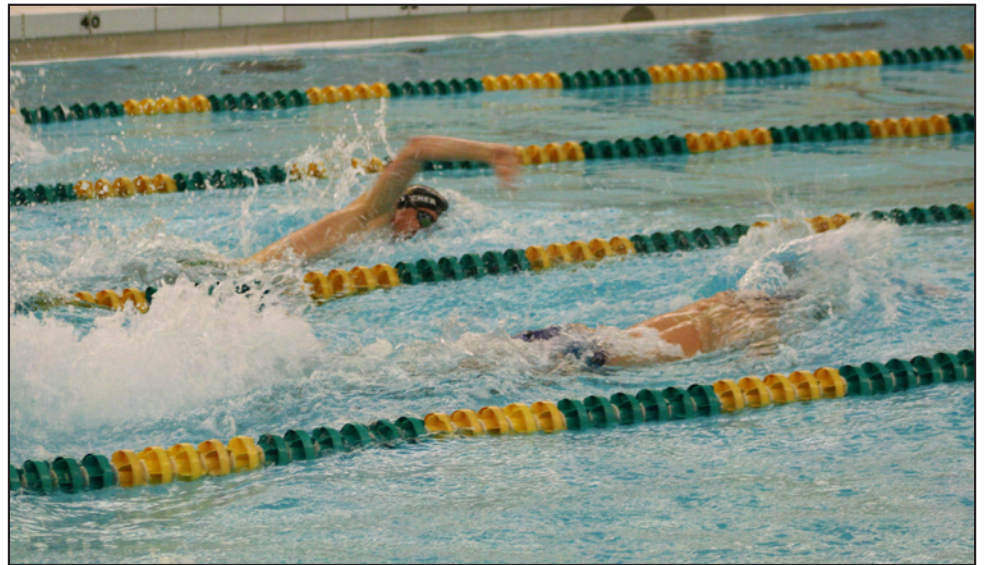
Team members have to continue to improve their times if they want to keep their spot in the lineup since they are also competing against each other to represent Lane at City and Sectionals.

"We compete for varsity spots," said Giovanni Palacios, Div. 359, "so whoever is performing better gets the City spot."

Coach Rummelhoff makes sure his boys are focused at meets, prohibiting the use of their iPods, or cell phones. They cannot fall asleep, go up into the stands to socialize, and above all they must avoid being disqualified from their given event. If they do not conform to any of these rules, there are consequences.

"[Coach Rummelhoff] gives us what he calls 'motivational workouts,'" Palacios said. "[They're] motivational in that you have to be motivated to not want to do this."

The workouts not only test the boys physically but also mentally. The exercises are designed so that their bodies can do it, but just



Varsity swimmer Jake Boettcher, Div. 375, reaches toward the finish at the Feb. 7 meet.



Liam Hoy, Div. 261, the only senior on this year's Varsity Boys' Swim Team is hoisted up in a kayak on Senior Night.

barely. So it becomes a test of mental toughness to finish. If they fail, they have to start over until they do it correctly.

Team members hope all the practices and workouts will not be in vain.

The Swim Team is one of the few sports at Lane that requires both before-school and after-school practice. The swimmers practice from 6:00 to 7:30 in the morning. They alternate days of practicing

in the pool and "land exercises" that can vary from sprints to weightlifting. Every day after school they practice in the pool from 3:15 to 5:30.

"You put so much effort and work into the season, when it finally pays off it's a really good feeling," Gullickson said.

The team goes to Sectionals Feb. 18 where they hope to win and qualify for the State competition.

Athlete of the Issue Nick Jankowski, Div. 285



Photo by Sophie Hellinger

Pictured here, Jankowski locks down a Mather wrestler in the first round of the City championship. He won city this year in the 126-pound weight class. Jankowski has wrestled at Lane since his freshman year. He began wrestling 12 years ago.

Favorites

Color: Green

Movie: Dazed and Confused

Food: Steak

Music artist: Blink 182

Class: Contemporary American History

Sport Team: Notre Dame Fighting Irish

Moment: "Making it to team State last year."

Q & A

Warrior: What's the hardest thing you have had to overcome as an athlete at Lane?

N.J.: Definitely the weight cutting and practice. You need to train all year round and be disciplined when it comes to controlling your weight so that you are ready for every obstacle on the mat.

Warrior: What made you want to wrestle at Lane?

N.J.: I always knew I was going to wrestle at Lane. I talked to the coach before I got in and I knew [Lane was] one of the best in the state.

Warrior: Have you had to overcome any injuries while wrestling at Lane?

N.J.: Freshman year I tore some ligaments in my neck while practicing. I had to sit out for a few weeks, but after that I was fine and got right back into it. Nothing too serious...

Warrior: How do you prepare for matches?

N.J.: Usually I like to get a good sweat going by running or drilling a few matches before my own.

Warrior: How dedicated are you as a wrestler?

N.J.: I see myself as a pretty dedicated wrestler, but not as much as I should be. I plan to be a lot more involved this off season.

Warrior: What is your greatest motivation

N.J.: My main goal in winning is to put up as many points as I can for the team.

Basketball Team's late flurry not enough in White Out game



Photo by Aleksandra Bursac

Christian Aranez, Div. 278, sprints across mid-court against Taft at Lane's annual "White Out" game, Jan. 24. Lane was narrowly defeated 52-47.

By Aleksandra Bursac
& Vanessa Pena

Lane's annual "White Out" game was literally a white out this year, canceled by the snowstorm that struck Chicago on Jan. 12. The game was rescheduled for Jan. 24.

Herd of fans rushed to the main gym shortly after school to support the Boys Basketball team. Anyone willing to pay a dollar received a white t-shirt with "Lane Tech Basketball" printed in green to wear during the game.

Additional fan tactics included remaining quiet until Lane scored its tenth point

of the game. Before that the crowd wiggled "spirit fingers" to cheer the team on.

When the tenth point was finally scored by Zach Calamus, Div. 255, the crowd exploded in a fit of screaming and jumping.

Ultimately, however, Lane fell to Taft by a final score of 52-47.

Ironically, the team's slow start - when all was quiet - was what might have cost them the game.

"We came in as prepared as we could be, but we didn't start the game well," Calamus said. "Our shots just weren't falling so that took away some of our confidence and gave [Taft] all the momentum. We came back on them a little, but we weren't consistent at anytime."