

IN THE HEART OF THE WARRIOR

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Long-lost 1908 Loeb painting found and restored

By Natalia Santillan

On Friday, March 30, 2007 The Lane Tech Century Foundation will present an unveiling of a lost mural that was found and restored in 2005.

The mural traces back to 1908, when Dorothy Loeb, a student from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago was commissioned to paint a mural for the newly-opened Lane Tech, which was then located at the corner of Division and Sedgewick.

Over 85 years later in 1994 an immense restoration project of the many Lane murals was spearheaded by then Lane teacher, Mrs. Flora Doody. She realized that the mural was missing when she found only 10 of the eleven murals originally given to Lane from the Chicago Public School Art Society.

"We couldn't find it, so everyone thought the painting never got here," said Dr. Barbara Cook, the Executive Director of the Alumni Association.

Doody was still curious and she kept researching until Mr. Allegreza discovered a photo in a 1935 Lane Yearbook of the mural hanging in the civics room. The discovery made her realize that the mural had arrived and had made its way into the school's current building. Where, exactly, the painting was hiding, however, was still a mystery.

Doody thought the the painting was possibly behind the cityscape picture that replaced it, but when she took an art conservator, Barry Bauman, with her to investigate, they did not find it there.

In 2004, a colleague of Doody, Connie Kieffer, was visiting Lane conducting research when she saw a copy of the mural on Doody's desk. Kieffer told her she had seen that mural last week in her friend's garage in Highland Park. Her friend had acquired the painting through her deceased uncle, Alex Topp.

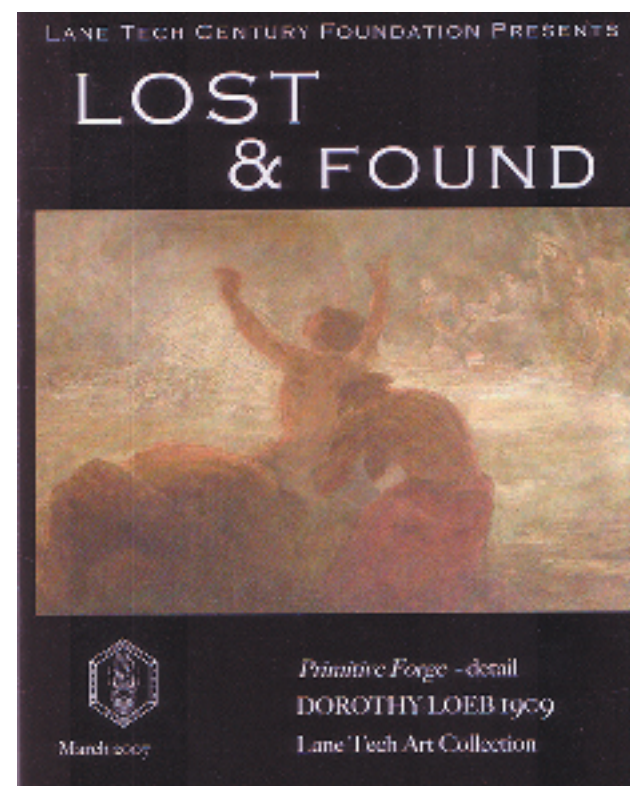
Apparently, Topp, who taught art classes at Lane during the 1950s, took the mural home to keep it safe, according to Cook.

Doody took Bauman and Cook to meet Kieffer at her friend's house to examine the piece, and they found it to be the true painting by Loeb. The owner graciously returned the mural back to Lane and Bauman took to restoring the mural.

"It is overwhelming how things happened by chance, and it will be so exciting to have it

restored in the room where it was originally placed in 1934," said Cook.

The reception will take place in the civics room from 6-9pm. Admission is \$10.



The lost mural depicts a group of workers gathered around a cauldron into which metal was being poured.

Women's History Fair fills library to capacity

By Kaya Flowers & Melissa Foley

The Women In Literature classes, taught by Ms. Feuer, celebrated Women's History Month by hosting a fair after school on March 15.

The fair featured music by famous female artists, profiles of famous female poets, and posters with facts about women posted all over the library. Long pieces of brown paper covered parts of the walls where students and teachers were encouraged to graffiti with markers. Books about famous women like Emily Dickinson and Sylvia Plath were laid out on tables for students to peruse. Most importantly, the students of the class had their semester projects on display. These projects were related to the curriculum of the class and included board games, poster boards, poetry books, and zines.

"We had a committee of



The Women's History Fair held in the library on March 15 attracted so many students that some had to wait in line outside to get in.

students who met once a week for a month to help plan this," said Ms. Feuer. "All of the students in the classes contributed to set up, projects, and things like that."

Food was served, including cookies adorned with a pink female symbol. The library buzzed with discussion as more

and more people entered.

Soon after the fair began, the library was crowded to capacity and a line formed outside with people who were anxious to get inside.

"I would have been thrilled to have 50 people attend. I was overwhelmed with the amount of people," said Ms. Feuer.

Many people who were supposed to be inside helping with the fair were forced to wait in line as well, due to the large crowd. Students of the classes walked around to ensure everyone was enjoying themselves.

"It was great to see people actually learning," said Jennifer Perez, Div. 771.

Students of the Women In Literature classes also helped to supervise board games, answer questions about some of the facts posted on the walls, and serve food. Balloons that read "March is Womens History Month," waved all over the library. Parents, teachers, and students were quick to compliment all of the hard work put into the fair that made it so special.

"This should definitely be a tradition. It was fun and informative," said Caroline Van Den Bosch, Div. 752.

"I would like for this to happen again next year, but we need a bigger space," said Ms. Feuer.

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*The Warrior is an open forum
for student expression
produced by the students of
Lane Technical College
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Lane students put the “eating” in cheating

Students say there is a free-for-all on free lunch.

By Daniel Castro

One lunch. Two lunches. Three lunches. Nothing happens. Getting away with taking multiple lunches seems to be rather effortless for students seeking more than one.

“How would they know? There are like a million people getting their lunch at once,” said Tom Hayes, Div. 875.

In fact, every single person interviewed admitted to either having taken more than one lunch, using someone else’s ID, or knowing of someone who has abused the free-lunch system.

“I get there early to get a lunch, eat fast, and get another one. I’ll go to the nachos line first then I’ll go to get a chicken sandwich on the other side,” said an anonymous sophomore.

Lunchroom faculty, though, has taken notice.

“We are aware of [the abuse],” said Mr. Pikes, Lunchroom Manager. “I don’t think it’s a real big problem. It’s a large school and might have a large percentage [of offenders].”

However, it appears as though the school administration does not know such abuses exist.

“I didn’t know there was an abuse,” said Principal Dr. LoBosco.

Nevertheless, students continue to defy the system with total disregard for the consequences.

“You never hear about [students being caught]. We don’t even know the punishment,” said Timothy Egedus, Div. 777.

None of the students interviewed were familiar with the punishment, if any, nor did they know of anyone ever being caught.

Another student is quick to point out a free-lunch abuser in the act.

“Look! I just saw her pass by with one lunch and now there she is with another one. It’s not fair,” he said.

Students admit that obtaining a second lunch or cheating the school to get a free lunch is quite simple, and they use various methods for doing so.

One student mentioned that he/she has seen people eat their lunch while waiting in line to pay. They finish it and they simply walk away and get another one.

“My friend last year found an ID on the floor and [the student on the ID] looked a bit like him. It was a free-lunch ID and he used it for the rest of the year without ever being caught,” said Grace Morrow, Div. 865.

Students point out that some of this year’s student ID pictures came out darker than usual, making it easier to pass for someone else.

A junior student also points out that people can lie on their lunch applications to not only qualify for free or reduced lunch but to obtain additional benefits like cheaper or even free AP test fees.

Currently, about 60 percent of Lane students qualify for free or reduced lunch prices.

The Lunchroom Manager, however, does keep a running list on a computer database of the students that get caught, but news of this rarely reaches students.

Move over Mr. Roboto; “Moto-Lola” heads to Nationals

By Natalia Santillan & Paige Grabinski

This year, Lane Tech’s new robotics team won the Rookie All-Star award at the First Robotics Competition (FRC) Chicago Regional held at the UIC Pavillion on March 18. Because of their achievement, they will be going to Nationals on April 12-14 in Atlanta, Georgia.

“That’s pretty good considering this is our first year ever doing this program and the Chicago Regional is where lots of veteran teams come,” said Ed Wesley, Div. 932.

The FRC is a varsity sport in which high school students are given the opportunity to explore the realms of engineering by working with professional engineers to build robots. FRC challenges teams by creating imaginative game rules that require the robots to perform

certain tasks.

Lane Tech took part by joining a new robotics team called Team Challenger, which incorporated students from Northside Prep and Whitney Young. It proved a unique combination as these schools are traditionally rivals.

“Initially, there was a bit of friction between students from different schools but once we are unified we realize that we have a common role and we make a stronger team,” said Wesley. “I think that all the members of the team are wonderful people. We all bond together. I think that the importance of teamwork comes before school rivalry,” he said.

Whitney Young student Adela Isovich said, “We are rivals but it doesn’t stop us from being friends.”

“One of the advantages of this program is that participants are able to work with students they normally



Long lunch lines cause confusion in the school cafeteria.

“Out of 4000 students, I have about 60 students on the list, for whichever circumstance,” said Pikes.

Even so, some students argue that that number is quite low.

“Some people get away with it?! No, everybody gets away with it!” said Matt Siek, Div. 853.

“I would think way more students get away because it seems like everybody has done it and it’s easy to [do],” said an anonymous junior.

Monitoring of the serving lines also takes place during lunch periods.

“We actually watch the serving line but we don’t spend a lot of time on that,” said Pikes. “Our main focus is that we want to feed everybody; so we don’t want to harass the students that come through the line.”

Students, however, wonder if the school loses financially from frequent student abusers.

“This should be monitored more closely. The school might lose money if everyone does it,” said Hayes.

But, the economic impact on the school, according to Pikes, is still not substantially huge.

“Financially, no we don’t really lose, but if an auditor catches [the students], the school will

lose money,” said Pikes. “If a government auditor comes in, they could charge the [student’s] family for that second lunch and every lunch from September until now at \$3, full price, per lunch.”

Pikes does admit that steps can be taken to reduce or eliminate this problem. He makes mention of SNAP (Student Nutrition Accountability Program) which is already in use at several schools nationwide.

“A SNAP system will definitely tell you how many people second use [their IDs] through the machine,” said Pikes.

However, acquiring the system would be expensive and the school would have to pay for it. Each station costs roughly \$700, totaling about \$2,800 for it to be implemented in Lane’s four lunch lines.

“The only way you can really deter people from abusing the system would be by using the SNAP system,” said Pikes. “That would actually stop it or bring it down to a minimum.”

The administration does not consider students taking additional lunches to be a major problem.

“If they want a free lunch and they are hungry,” said LoBosco, “let them eat.”

would not be able to work with in an applied educational environment,” said team programmer Andrew Wesley from Whitney Young.

The robot built by Team Challenger was named Moto-Lola, which honors the team sponsor, Motorola. “Lola,” for short, weighs 80.3 lbs, and can go as fast as 15 mph. Team Challenger won the Xerox Creativity Award for the robot’s unique Holonomic drive-base in their last regional in Milwaukee.

“The drive design has been tested... and performs very well,” said Jeff Gerhardt, Program Coordinator. “We have a very fast (12 feet per second) and unbelievably maneuverable robot.”

This year, the game in which the robots compete at each competition is called “Rack n’ Roll.” Teams are grouped into alliances, and the robots from each alliance have to pick up inflatable inner tubes and

place them on racks. Meanwhile, they must defend their alliance’s robots as well as interfere with the work being done by their competitors’ robots.

“During the competition, teams show their spirit by cunning and aggressive game play,” said team driver Matthew Karpenking, Div. 759. “In the field, one will see defensive maneuvers from the other teams; all to prevent the opposing team from scoring. It gets very intense.”

The competitions prove stressful as teams try to make engineering adjustments before entering the arena.

“Some of the challenges we’ve undergone were to work on fixing mechanical and logistical problem we’ve come across with our robot; especially in the short time that we’ve had,” said Modesto Echezarreta, Div. 756.

TurnItIn.com to cut down on student plagiarism

By Anna Treesara

Teachers have attempted to prevent plagiarism by deducting points, calling parents, or not giving credit at all. Students, aware of these consequences still continue to plagiarize, whether it is from the internet, textbooks, or even another student. However, teachers have discovered a more effective way of enforcing this policy.

Lane teachers recently began using a website known as TurnItIn.com. The site holds a collection of over 4.5 billion websites, textbooks, and assignments previously submitted to the website. After a student has submitted his/her assignment, TurnItIn.com scans its database and reports back to the instructor with a similarity percentage that compares the student's assignment to online sources, textbooks, and other student work that has been who have submitted to the website.

"TurnItIn.com first gained notice in 1998 with high-profile media mentions [on] Good Morning America and World News Tonight," said Angela Rhee, Product Manager of TurnItIn.com. "We license TurnItIn.com to schools of higher learning only."

Ms. Langford, Psychology teacher, was the one who introduced the website to Lane.

With the help of Mr. Miklusak, Chemistry teacher, they gave presentations to the administration and the English Department. In December, Lane officially opened an account with TurnItIn.com.

"I used TurnItIn.com at the charter school where I worked prior to Lane," said Langford. "We all had great success with it, so I wanted to bring it to Lane."

Teachers have not wasted time getting their students to submit their assignments via TurnItIn.com.

Mr. Sheldon, AP U.S. History teacher, uses TurnItIn.com several times a week and has his students submit not only papers, but homework, review sheets, and other assignments as well.

"All teachers should use it," said Sheldon. "It's paperless, and nothing ever gets lost."

Many teachers have found TurnItIn.com to be beneficial in other ways as well.

"I look at TurnItIn.com not only as a tool for checking plagiarism, [but also as] a way to check for correct citations when I grade research papers," said Ms. Starr, World Lit. teacher.

"Most students learn how to do proper research with TurnItIn.com," said Langford. "Teachers are always having conversations about how to write."

TurnItIn.com is quickly becoming popular among the teachers, but the case is entirely

different among the students.

"It's inconvenient for me because I don't have internet access," said Stephanie Mora, Div. 921. "I have to come early to school nearly every morning just to submit my assignments."

"TurnItIn.com ruins my focus on homework," said Jennie Wojtas, Div. 936. "I really don't try as hard as I used to and don't put as much effort into it. I just worry about getting it in on time."

Other students would rather Lane spend money to improve the school in other ways rather than invest in a costly website. Lane spent \$3,670 for a one-year license with TurnItIn.com.

"The school should put money into more useful stuff like new books and other supplies for students," said Matt Siek, Div. 853.

"It's a waste of money for a high school to buy," said Siobhan Ditchfield, Div. 922. "Teachers at Lane can tell if a student plagiarized without an expensive program."

"We actually got a discount," said Dr. Lobosco. "It's ordinarily \$5,000, but our school year had already started."

Teachers, aware of student reactions, responded by saying that Lane is a college prep high school. Colleges such as Georgetown University, University of California, and Tulane University are among the many customers that

use TurnItIn.com and have a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism.

TurnItIn.com color-codes plagiarism, making it easier for teachers to detect. The colors are shown in areas where plagiarism exists. This can mean several words, sentences, or paragraphs. Blue represents the smallest percentage of plagiarism, green represents an average percentage of plagiarism, and red represents outright plagiarism.

Though some students are not happy about the use of the site, there are several others who hold a positive view about it.

"I like the idea that students who cheat on a paper will get caught," said Riham Ramadan, Div. 925. "It's one thing to cheat on a small homework assignment. But it's another thing to plagiarize."

"Turnitin.com makes sure the student knows when the assignments are due," said Abigail Gonsalves, Div. 935. "And students don't have to worry about leaving their homework at home, because they already submitted it to the website."

"It is difficult for students to adjust to something like this," said an anonymous sophomore. "But

it also keeps students focused and honest."

Originally intended for the English and History Departments, TurnItIn.com has spread to other departments as well.

Miklusak has seen significant changes in his students' work. "My students can see what a research paper is supposed to be much more easily using TurnItIn.com," he said. "They're learning how to NOT just cut and paste."

Although TurnItIn.com is becoming more popular, not all teachers have familiarized themselves with the program. In the near future, Dr. Lobosco plans to hold a meeting to inform teachers about the website.

"This is going to be a trial year," said Lobosco. "If the teachers like it, they'll do it again next year."

Technology is beginning to catch up to teachers, allowing them to discover for themselves its benefits. Students have not stopped plagiarizing entirely, but teachers are expecting to at least reduce the amount of plagiarism through TurnItIn.com.

"The school should put money into more useful stuff..."
- Matt Siek, Div. 853.

Letter to the Editor:

Local Marine recruiting center responds to Warrior article "Military recruitment on rise at Lane."

To whom it may concern:

My name is Staff Sergeant Joshua D. Kuhs. I am the Non Commissioned Officer in charge of Recruiting Sub Station North Center located across the street from Lane Tech High School. This letter does not in any way represent the personal views or policies of the other branches of the Armed Forces of America.

I recently read the article titled "Military recruitment on rise at Lane." As a service member who has been in the service for almost eight years now I completely agree with, and support the right to free speech. This is one of the rights as an American that we are provided by the Constitution of the United States, which I myself and every other service man and woman, have volunteered to protect. I thought that it might be beneficial to address these errors so that any future articles written regarding military recruitment will be correct and the staff and students who run the Warrior will not lose any credibility.

One of the statements made by one of your students implied that "Marine recruiters lie straight to your face." This disturbed me because this particular student has never talked to a Marine recruiter. I know this because as a high school senior at Lane Tech you must talk to the recruiting station that had recruiters specifically assigned to that high school. No other station by law is allowed to actively pursue, recruit or conduct an interview with

that student until he graduates unless he/she is the designated recruiter for that high school. I feel it was a little unfair to print that statement without checking the credibility of the student by calling the recruiting station and asking one of the representatives here if we had actually sat down and spoken with that student.

If a student is interested in the military as an option, and he/she does not get the information from recruiters, where will he/she get the credible information that they deserve and need to make an educated decision? I strongly believe that unless you have served in the Marine Corps you really don't know much about it. We must also keep in mind that times change and so do military equipment, job fields, and the overall lifestyle of people in the military. Unless you are actually a United States Marine Corps recruiter it is impossible to know everything that there is that the Marine Corps can offer, which is why all the Marines on my staff have been through hours of rigorous training regarding our product knowledge, and still must conduct training to this day until they depart from this duty.

I can assure you that my staff of recruiters have been thoroughly screened and trained about recruiter misconduct, and have no problem telling these young men and woman both the advantages and disadvantages of the military lifestyle. When you walk into a recruiting station and see posters, pictures,

and pamphlets with young men and women holding rifles and doing training, one might stop and think to themselves that this could be a dangerous job.

The United States Marine Corps takes pride in the role that we play in the Nation's current conflict, and we make it perfectly clear that in some of the 300 job fields that we offer; you may potentially and voluntarily serve in harm's way. For over 230 years we have been the tip of America's spear and we will proudly continue to do so, voluntarily. We are only 180,000 people strong, and we do not want anybody to serve within our ranks, standing next to us, if they do not fully understand the aspects of their job and are willing to be there.

At the very end of this article there was a statement saying "Recruiting Officers for the U.S. Armed Forces did not respond to questions about military recruitment at Lane". I am going to quote this; "No one on my staff, including myself, was ever contacted about military recruitment at Lane." If we would have been, I would have gladly and enthusiastically answered any questions that your staff may have had.

The United States of America is the greatest country in the world. A country where you can express your opinions and beliefs without being persecuted. Once again I would like to reiterate the fact that I support the right to

free speech, and we strongly believe that all the men and women who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces make it possible for people to say such offending and disrespectful things about the people who gave them that right. I am personally asking for a retraction in your paper regarding the statements about the "Marine Corps recruiters lying straight to your face" as there is no proof or at this point credibility in this statement. What you had was an opinion, not a factual statement.

As representatives of this community we just ask to be looked at as people. People who were assigned a job, but as United States Marines we will carry on with the mission tasked onto us and we will do it with the "Honor, Courage, and Commitment that has made the United States Marine Corps the world's most elite, well-known, and respected military organization to ever assemble.

If you or any member of your staff would like to contact me regarding this, or any other military recruitment matter please feel free to do so.

Respectfully Submitted,
Semper Fidelis (Always Faithful),

Ssgt. Joshua D. Kuhs
NCOIS RSS North Center
United States Marine Corps

Sugar fuels Acadec team's impressive performances

By Lorri Kaczmariski

The Lane Acadec Team has worked hard and been successful in this year's competitions. They placed first in their Division, second in City, and third in State competing against other city and suburban schools.

These accomplishments have taken a lot of hard work. The Acadec team meets in room 252 in the mornings, eighth period, and after school everyday studying the material for the competitions.

Mr. DeRoss, the Acadec team coach, said this year's material was very rough and had to be taught in a short amount of time, but the team stayed positive and determined.

In an Academic Decathlon students test their intellects against students from other schools. They are tested in 10 subjects: Art, Economics, Essay, Interview, Language and Literature, Math, Music, 'Superquiz,' Social Science, and Speech. They are allowed 30 minutes to complete each subject, but for some players, it seems longer.

"It's like taking the ACTs, but 10 times harder," said Mike Boshardy, Div. 751. "It takes many hours and many Swiss rolls."

Most of the team members agree that keeping a constant sugar high is helpful when studying and testing. The most popular candies are pixie sticks. The team members said it can

get very tiring after lunch during studying sessions or testing.

"We live in room 252," said Ashley Owen, Div. 776, while eating a pixie stick.

Out of the 10 subjects, one of the most popular is 'superquiz.'

"I never thought I'd become a competitive nerd," said Mike Boshardy, Div. 751.

In this test, nine students from each school compete. Those nine students are then divided into three teams, and the two best scores from the teams are added to the total school score. The team has a little ritual they perform where if a team member

gets a question right, he or she spins a pencil in the air to let other teammates know.

Some of the subjects that make the team nervous are speech and interview. One of the tests is an impromptu speech where the student gets a topic, and only has one minute to gather his or her ideas.

"It becomes really fun and addicting," said Boshardy. "I never thought I'd become a competitive nerd."

The team said the best way to answer questions is at a constant, comfortable pace. They practice this a lot, but sometimes they prefer to work alone to more effectively get their studying

done.

"We know each other way too well to work in a group," said Jaime Pyra, Div. 853.

Not just anyone can join the Acadec Team. Letters are sent to students with high PSAT and reading scores, and from there they have to try out for the team. Sometimes Acadec members will recruit other students if they seem to have "Acadec" potential."

This is DeRoss' eighth year as the Acadec Team coach, and it is still as enjoyable as his first.

"These kids are amazing. They take tests for fun," he said. "They worked very hard, and were very dedicated to practice. It's nice to see."

JROTC receives gold star for near flawless inspection

By Kathy Portillo

Brass shined, ribbons in place, and nameplate aligned are among a few of the things JROTC cadets have to make sure are done for their weekly inspections. But on Friday, February 9, there was no room for excuse.

The supply office had been open that week afterschool Tuesday and again on Friday morning. Every cadet was expected to have proper uniform because it was Lane's JROTC Command Inspection; an inspection held every three years.

Every cadet is accustomed to weekly uniform inspections, but Command Inspection is nothing like it. It is not an inspection of every individual cadet, but the entire JROTC program as a whole.

Officials inspect the JROTC website, cadet portfolios, JROTC curriculum knowledge questions, uniform inspections, Color Guard presentation, Drill presentation, and a staff briefing. This inspection is important in JROTC because there is something other than the weekly 50 points to be earned. It is a gold Honor Unit with Distinction star worn on the uniform showing where the JROTC programs stand in the city.

It means that everything is in excellent standing. The gold star is the highest that can be achieved for a unit, followed by the blue star, and then the white star.

For the 2006-2007 school year, 27 schools were inspected throughout the city. Lane scored

the highest with a 589 out of 600 points, which is about a 98 percent.

Lane lost those eleven points for a couple of reasons. The Color Guard wears a different uniform referred to as dress blues in which the female cadets wear a skirt. One of the female cadet's

were doubtful of the outcome while others believed the gold star was attainable.

"I knew we were going to keep the star. We have a great battalion and have trust with the other cadets," said Bravo company executive officer, Noe Ortiz, Div. 750.

To some, the star may seem small and insignificant, but for many cadets, especially those on staff and the instructors, the gold star is an indication of effort.

"There was a lot of work in the beginning and certain people had to pick up the slack [when] others didn't keep their end of the bargain. You could also begin to see the frustration," said Sergeant Figueroa, one of the JROTC upper-classmen instructors. "But as it got closer, they began to work as a team and I knew they would do well."

There were also extra measures being taken. On February 3, the JROTC had a practice inspection in which students had to be at the school from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm. It was done so everyone had a clear idea of what to expect during the real inspection. That way, if any errors occurred, they would be spotted and corrected before the actual inspection.

Cadets and instructors agreed that teamwork was key in making the inspection successful.

"It went beyond all of our expectations," said Charlie company first squad leader Jonan Lara,

skirt was too short.

Also, a few points were lost on the staff briefing, and some on the battalion inspection.

Some cadets said the outcome of the inspection was a welcomed surprise.

"I expected to do O.K. and maybe get a blue star, but never actually expected to get the gold," said Bravo company commander Mauricio Pineda, Div. 766. "I never expected to score so high, and I didn't expect much from the underclassmen, but they pulled it together."

Many cadets, mainly seniors,



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Temperatures at Lane always extreme: This is why we're hot

By Veronica Lozano

Lane itself may be having hot flashes.

According to Mr. Markey, Lane's Chief Engineer, the school is supposed to be maintained at a temperature between 70-72° during school hours, but it seems to be colder or hotter to some people. The heaters are on from 4 or 5 am to 10 pm Monday through Saturday, but are turned off on Sundays, since the school is not in use.

"The school is cold," said Elda Martinez, Div. 768, "Especially on Mondays. I always need to have a sweater on in the building."

"The first floor is really cold," said Vivian Rivera, Div. 021. "Some people in room 140 go as far as wearing two sweaters and a jacket."

Even a chemistry teacher agreed that the first floor is too cold.

"I'm wearing three layers [of clothing] right now," said Ms. Anderson, who teaches class in room 129.

Recently, Mr. Kopack's room (141) had a broken window that allowed snow to enter the building. The engineers are in the process of fixing this problem.

Cold also slips into the school through the cracks of the windows.

"A lot of these windows don't have good seals," said Anderson.

According to some students, it seemed to be the opposite situation for the fourth floor.

"The fourth floor rooms seem to be overly heated," said Sabina Numanovic, Div. 035.

"Some of these [fourth floor] rooms are too hot and some, at times, cold," said Ms. Thomas, Music Appreciation teacher, "[But] the orchestra room is the coldest room in the school."

"The orchestra room is kept cool because Mr. O'Brien really likes it cool up there," said an anonymous senior.

The so called "heating season" is from Oct. 1 to the end of April. The highest rate of usage of gas/heat is during the months of December through March. According to Markey, the total annual cost of heating the school is \$45,000.

There are a few different types of heat sources used within the school, including a tunnel system, water boilers, vents, and radiators in the corner rooms.

The school may be old, but many of the heating problems may not be because of its age.

"Students sometimes mess with the thermostats in the rooms or they put things in them," said Markey.

Many teachers try to prevent students from tampering with the thermostats.

"I keep my students away from the thermostats, [because] that's the engineer's



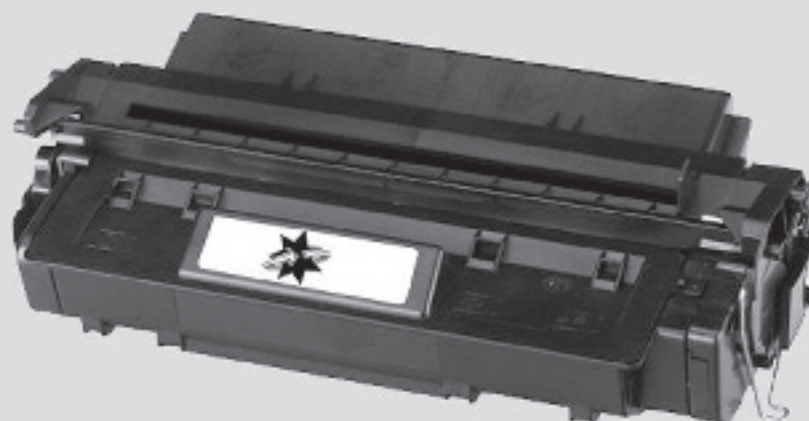
The Boiler Room located in the basement below the lunchroom is where the school's heating systems are located.

job," said Ms. Larson, chemistry teacher.

No matter what the engineers do to keep the school warm, they cannot please everyone.

"In the building field, there's always someone who is [always] hot or cold," said another engineer.

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Caffeine addicts suffer over loss of Starbucks

By Dorothy Gicela

The sudden removal of Starbucks from Jewel has left many Lane students going about their day without caffeine.

The Starbucks booth was removed in February, even though it attracted many students and teachers every morning, lunch period, and afternoon.

"I don't know why they removed Starbucks," said Melisa Brkovic, Div. 903. "With all the customers they had, it seemed like they made a lot of money. I think the school had something to do with it, because students would always be late to class carrying a Starbucks beverage."

According to Jewel employees, Starbucks planned to close all of its Jewel locations due to an expired business contract.

In a statement, Kelly Mattran, marketing manager of the Midwest region for Starbucks, said: "We are constantly assessing which locations and licensed partners make the most sense for our business and

customers. The decision to close all Jewel Starbucks locations was reached mutually by Starbucks and Supervalu."

Due to the disappearance of caffeine from the closest retailer to the school, many students have suffered feelings of withdrawal and sadness, lamenting the absence of caffeine in their systems.

"Starbucks lured me in with its sweet caffeine, then it disappeared, leaving nothing to caffeinate my soul," said Catie Houston, Div. 856, frequent buyer of Starbucks' coffee.

"I walked into Jewel one day and it was like my Starbucks Caramel Macchiato fell off the face of the earth," said Dana Simpson, Div. 766.

"There was an empty space where Starbucks used to be, as big as the empty space left in my heart."

Other students are quite happy with the removal of Starbucks.

"I'm pretty sure that if I continued fueling my Caramel Macchiato addiction, I'd be too broke to go to college," said Maciej Krolicki, Div. 770.

Other students expressed opinions



showing Starbucks was never a major part of their daily routines.

"Starbucks has much better quality, no doubt," said Katelin Cash, Div. 852. "But I'm poor so

I shoot for the Dunkin' Donuts."

"I don't see what the big deal is with Starbucks, its okay, nothing special," said Sebastino Aviles, Div. 767, occasional buyer of the Iced Caramel Macchiato.

Caffeine, a stimulant, has numerous positive effects, such as its ability to reduce boredom, decrease depression, and increase alertness, and physical stamina.

A study done by psychiatrists Roland Griffiths of John Hopkins and Laura Juliano of American University found that people who have a one-cup-a-day habit can easily become addicted.

It is not the buzz, however, that keeps people coming back for more, but the symptoms of withdrawal.

Symptoms usually include headaches, drowsiness, lethargy, irritability, trembling, restlessness, and reduced concentration. Depending on the person, withdrawal symptoms

occur 6-18 hours after stopping the intake of caffeine.

Caffeine is one of the remaining legal drugs that continues to thrive in the American Society. Starbucks plans to open at least 40,000 new stores, and half of them are to be located outside the United States, according to Starbucks Chief Executive Jim Donald. He says that his company is adding six shops and 350 employees each day. And although Jewel is losing Starbucks, its biggest rival, Dominick's Finer Foods, is adding them.

Students looking for a new place to find coffee need to walk a bit further than Jewel. Dunkin' Donuts has not only coffee but a small selection of flavored coffee drinks. McDonalds coffee which costs less and is supposedly better than Starbucks, according to a consumer reports survey, is free on Mondays. And for those who are insistent on drinking nothing but Starbucks, the location nearest to Lane is on Belmont and Leavitt.

Guitar class to play at the House of Blues



Guitar Class Teacher, Mr. Sweet, plays with his students on stage at the House of Blues at last year's performance.

By Monika Janczuk

Three years ago the class was non-existent, and students were yearning for another way to complete the required music credit for graduation.

Today, the ears of musically inclined students instantaneously pick up the notes drifting in the air as they take exhausting trips up four flights of stairs into room 400. "Sign up for Guitar, Perform at the House of Blues" reads a sign nearby.

Lane is one of the only high schools in the Chicagoland area that offers a guitar class.

What started as an after-school activity evolved into a class that promised students a spotlight on the famous House of Blues stage downtown.

"I use it as a selling point at electives," said Mr. Sweet, Guitar teacher.

"With diverse students come several needs," said Mr. Carrera, Music teacher. "The class has fulfilled a need for many [students] who are not interested in traditional ensemble."

"[Students] benefit from the class because it is always

good to know how to play an instrument," said Kristina Butzen, Div. 870. "Music is something that everyone can be a part of...to participate is very beneficial."

The 93 students enrolled in the class obtain the privilege of playing 10 songs with other high schools and elementary schools around the city as part of the International House of Blues Foundation (IHOFB), and the Make An Impression Guitar Program (MAIGP), sponsored by House of Blues and Washburn guitars.

"I think a lot of kids are psyched about playing there," said Geraldine Arruela, Div. 789.

"I am excited," said Jackie Micula, Div. 853. "I've always dreamed of going [there]."

According to the House of Blues website, The IHOFB is dedicated to promoting cultural understanding and creative expression through music and art, while bringing music programs to school and community groups. The program's aim is to explore history, music and the cultural impact blues and folk music.

Lane is one of few high

schools that participates in this program.

"Usually we play on Tuesday or Wednesday," said Sweet.

Although the performance is scheduled for May 22, there is still no official date. House of Blues will schedule the performance around the dates of bigger acts that generate more money.

The performance will be held during the school hours of 10:30 am and 1:00 pm, and will be open to the public.

Over the years the IHOFB has donated a total of 31 guitars to Lane as compensation for performing. In the past, Sweet has written grants to receive free guitars from the House of Blues.

In the Hall of the Mountain King composed by Edvard Grieg and Message in a Bottle by Sting are two of several songs that will be performed by Guitar I. Blue Bossa, a jazz piece by Kenny Dorham and Cannon in D by Johann Pachelbel will be performed by the Guitar II students.

"The only requirement was that we had to go perform," said Sweet. "I think it's a privilege."

A trip to the Archive Office reveals Lane's interesting past

By Maggie Byrne

As I begin my treasure hunt in the archive office, with the dim lighting and the clean scent of old papers surrounding me, I feel as if I could reach out and touch the past. And, on many levels, I can - at least pieces of it. I can hold in my hand newspaper articles written in 1914, and flip through Tech Prep yearbooks dating back to the first graduating class. Staring into the faces of boys that have long since left Lane, I am reminded of the history and tradition of this school. Each book and artifact in this office is a portal to that history just waiting to be opened.

SCHOOL COLORS

Myrtle and gold: they are the colors of our team and gym uniforms, the colors of the chairs in the lunchroom and the banners hung around the school, and the colors which Lanites use to paint their faces and hair at pep-rallies.

Two slightly conflicting stories make it hard to be sure where the colors came from. But by combining the two stories from 1908 and 1966 issues of the Tech Prep, the story of their origin seems to be as follows.

Very early in the school's history, the administration decided that Lane needed traditional colors. The students were asked to submit their suggestions. Bud Nelson, an early student, brought up this issue with his family, and an aunt suggested that "the colors of her ladies Bible Class of the Belden Avenue Baptist Church were very pretty." Bud submitted the colors myrtle green and gold, and they were chosen along with maroon and grey to be voted on.

Forty-four boys were elected as delegates to choose the colors for Lane. Green and gold won the vote 25-19. At first the colors did not take. In September of the first year the colors were introduced, the students held a mass meeting

to contest and vote again on the school colors.

Principal Bogan dismissed the meeting saying, "The school colors are green and gold...you boys chose your colors. Now stand by your choice."

Whatever opposition the colors might have faced at first has been overcome in the past one hundred years. Today myrtle and gold are just another part of daily life at Lane Tech.

SCHOOL SONG

Like so much at Lane during its early years, the school song was created entirely by a student.

Jack Nelson, class of 1915, was assistant conductor of the Lane Orchestra and manager of the Lane Glee Club. He felt that Lane needed a song that expressed school loyalty. He wrote both the words and music to the school song, *Go Lane Go*. It was performed in public for the first time by the Glee Club on December 15, 1914, and was an immediate success.

When Lane's athletic department needed funds, Nelson gave the song's publishing rights to Lane. The principal had two boys from the free-hand drawing department score and letter the publication of *Go Lane Go* which were sold at Glee Club and Orchestra concerts. Athletes sold over 200 copies per performance at fifteen cents each. The first two printings of 1,300 copies sold very quickly and as a result, athletic funding soared.

SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Because Lane did not have a newspaper, the only way to communicate information was through bulletin boards. Students congregating around the boards caused congestion in the hallways. Jack Nelson proposed the idea of a school newspaper in 1914. Principal Bogan had doubts about whether it would work, but finally consented on the condition that a complete copy be on his desk the next morning.

Through the print shop, Nelson determined the size of the paper. He then went about collecting stories and writing articles for the first edition. He had to type all the news onto a sheet of paper for the print shop so it could be printed the next morning. On September 17, 1914, *The Lane Tech Daily* became the first school newspaper in the country to be written, edited, and printed completely by students.

SHOP CLASSES AND THE WAR EFFORT

Lane has always prided itself on being a self sufficient school, but during World War II it helped to support not only itself, but the war effort as well.

Shop projects were geared to producing supplies needed by the military. They built 3,000 model airplanes which were used for target practice purposes, 100 stretchers, and 565 convalescent tables. They also built 200 ping pong tables, 2,000 ping pong paddles, and 750 card tables which were donated to army hospitals to boost morale. In addition, they made 100,000 bandages for the Red Cross, and raised over \$16,000 in donations for military medical programs.

DANCE CARDS

Another interesting shop project was the creation of dance cards for Prom. The cards had metal or mother of pearl covers, which were shaped and engraved by Lane students.

In the early 1900s dance cards were a popular tradition. The dances that would be played that night were printed on the card and boys would sign a girl's card if he wanted to dance with her. These cards were gifts which Lane boys could give their prom dates and a tradition which Lane is starting to renew now.

ROCKETS

In the late 1950s and 1960s, Lane joined the space race in its own way.



A dance card booklet from Lane's 1934 prom.

Lane's Amateur Rocket Society spent two years developing and building a rocket which they called the LARS. On February 19, 1960, seven Lane boys and their sponsor stood on a rocket firing range in Texas, hoping their rocket would set an altitude record for single stage solid propelled amateur rockets.

The rocket was supposed to reach a feet of 35,000 feet, but forty seconds into its flight, the rocket's engine burned out before reaching the projected height. The stabilizing fins were lost early into the flight, causing the rocket to spin out of control. The rocket only reached a height of 700 feet. After two years of hard work the boys were left with no other options but, as club sponsor Mr. Eckl put it, "pick up the pieces and start over."

This rocket's failed flight was still an impressive feat. After all, the Army had been interested enough in the extracurricular work of highschool boys to fly the club out of Chicago so they could launch the rocket.

CURTAIN

All Lane students have stared at the fire curtain in the auditorium on countless occasions without

realizing that there is a story being told in the painting - their own story.

Much of what students probably assume are simply designs are really symbols in the Crow Tribe, which tell the story of Lane's "tribe." In the strip running along the bottom are some important symbols. The diamond within a diamond shape, which is repeated at the bottom, is the medicine man's watchful eye. In Lane's story, and for the Crow People, this represents the shrewd watchfulness necessary for survival. Also, the hat shaped symbol to the right is a sign for water. And a snaking line represents a trail, much like the one Lanites must follow to achieve success.

The symbol on the left, which looks like a forked tree, explains that generations must grow from one another to keep the race alive. It reminds Lanites to grow from the past classes to keep the honor of Lane alive.

The symbol for rain, opposite the forked tree, is a sign of plenty. And the thunderbird track, running vertically on either side of the curtain, represents a mythical giant who preserves peace.

John Walley, who painted the curtain in 1937, left a hidden meaning for the students who would see it. The Lanite embarks on a path at Lane, develops wisdom and a watchful eye, lives at peace with fellow students, and then takes another trail to reap the plentiful harvest of life.

The archive office is a wonderful space, unique to Lane. Few, if any, other high schools have enough history and tradition on file to warrant their own archives. The documents and artifacts in the office provide a fascinating view of what Lane was and where it came from. Students wishing to do research in the office, for class assignments or out of personal interest, are asked to make an appointment with Dr. Cook or Mary Beth Ficht in the Alumni Office, room 110W.

No snow days in CPS leaves students cold

By DeLaney Savoie

With winter on its way out, students are focusing more on the approaching spring season, but the unpredictable Chicago weather is making this past winter hard to forget.

Despite the warm temperatures in the beginning of winter, Chicago received a few weeks of harsh temperatures in the negative numbers. Along with the freezing weather came lots of snow, making

it difficult for many students to commute, and very tempting to not attend school at all.

On one of the many harsh snowy days this winter, the student attendance rate dropped to 82 percent, which is extremely low for Lane. More than 30 teachers were absent that day.

"It's ridiculous how they keep schools open through some of this weather, especially when the temperatures are so cold that it's dangerous for people to be outside for more than five minutes," said

Adrian Roman, Div. 853. "I feel sorry for the kids that have to walk or wait for the bus."

However, CPS is known for keeping their schools open even through the most extreme conditions. Many of Lane's faculty are not even able to recall when the last official snow day was. There is much speculation as to what the real reason is for the lack of snow days at Lane.

"What I've heard is that the school gets money for every day they're open or they get money

for every kid that comes to school or something like that," said Piotr Bednarczyk, Div. 868.

Even though the policy is that when one CPS school closes they all do, several times this year some closed while Lane remained open. A few students have speculated that it is because of Lane's huge size or due to its location on two main streets.

"I heard that the school only closes if the CTA stops running," said Erik Tetlak, Div. 861.

The real reason behind Lane

never closing does not have to do with the CTA, but with the elementary schools.

"Mostly it's because the younger grammar school students can't be left alone. If they have to stay home from school, then more parents will stay home from work," said Dr. LoBosco.

Whether this is the true reason for lack of snow days or not, the final decision of whether or not to close school due to weather is up to Arnie Duncan, CEO of CPS.

Why are students so sleepy in class?

By Miriam Vargas

During a typical school day, many students feel tired. This, combined with being in a "boring" class can result in students falling asleep.

The National Sleep Foundation found that teenagers need to sleep at least 8.5 to 9.5 hours each night but most students at Lane are not able to do this due to homework, and extracurricular activities.

"I fall asleep in class because sometimes I have long practices after school," said Jessica Fuentes, Div. 757. "Then I come home and have to finish a lot of homework and on top of that I have to study."

"I'm too tired from wrestling practice and from staying up late doing homework the night before," said Rodolfo Cordero, Div. 772.

Students cite other reasons for falling asleep in class such as the teacher and the classroom they are in.

"I sometimes fall asleep depending on the mood of the day," said Darnell Abston, Div. 031.

"Sometimes I'm tired, the teacher is boring, and that makes me [unable to] concentrate," said Allyne Scott, Div. 029.

"I fall asleep because my teacher is boring and has a very monotonous voice, [which] makes me go to sleep," said Jaleesa Reed, Div. 760.

Other students claim the

classroom environment makes them sleepy.

"I get so comfortable in my class because the room is hot," said Victor Pudolek, Div. 774.

Not all students, however, think sleeping in class is acceptable.

"If you snooze, you'll miss out on important things!" said Haunath Khan, Div. 031.

"I usually get sleepy during sixth period but I don't fall asleep because that would be rude," said Leo Martinez, Div. 760.

Many teachers are not interested in hearing excuses for why students fall asleep, saying students should always be awake and attentive regardless of the circumstances.

"No learning will take place if they sleep!" said Ms. Oppice, Italian teacher.

"I try not to let students sleep. It's difficult to learn the material if you're unconscious," said an anonymous history teacher.

"It's disrespectful and it shows that the student is not paying attention, and does not care about their grade or what is being taught," said Mr. Ara, Art Design and Animation teacher.

Although most teachers do not allow students to sleep in class, the majority of students said they slept because the teachers did not

do anything to stop them.

"It just seems that my teachers just let me sleep," said Reed Lubin, Div. 031.

"Most of the time that I fall asleep, my teachers leave me alone," said David Fitz, Div. 773.



A student sleeping in class.

Other teachers do not seem to care that students are sleeping in class because they believe it does not matter if the student is awake or not.

"The teachers just let me sleep because they know I will fall asleep again," said Adam Gonzalez, Div. 869.

"Most of my teachers let me sleep

when we aren't doing anything," said Nicole Johnson, Div. 777.

Some teachers find ways to force students to stay attentive in class.

"My teacher would ask everybody to raise our hands in order to get five extra credit points so obviously if you are sleeping, you don't raise your hand," said an anonymous junior.

Last year, Mr. Carrera grabbed the garbage can and slammed it on the sleeping student's desk," said Juan Correa, Div. 774.

"My activities are loud and require lots of energy, making it hard to sleep," said Oppice.

"I keep a digital camera in my classroom so when I see a student sleeping, I snap a shot and show it to parents when we have parent-teacher conferences and ask the student to explain," said Ara.

Other methods used to keep students awake include having erasers thrown at them, or having a glass of cold water dumped on them.

Many students are aware that sleeping in class causes their grade and participation in class to decline. But until they start realizing the importance of a good night's sleep, Lane students will continue to sleep in class.

Students sneaking in to avoid tardies

By Armando Cortez

It is CPS policy that a student, in order to enter the school, must go in through an entrance with a metal detector, but students try to sneak through just about any entrance in order to avoid a tardy. Some students even go as far as to text message other students to come and open a locked entrance for them to avoid a tardy.

"I'll be sitting in my first [period class] and I'll get a text from one of my guys to go and open a door for them," said Alberto Gonzales, Div. 776. "It's just hard to do that without getting caught."

"I've had my friends come and open the door for me," said an anonymous senior, Div. 770. "All I did was text them what entrance I was at and they came and opened it."

Have Lane students put their minds to more than just academics and figured out a way to beat the tardy system?

"I think some have but they will eventually be caught," said Mr. Wendorf of the attendance office.

Almost every entrance can be used to sneak in. Some of the ones most used by students are the boys' locker room, girls' locker room, auto-shop garage, entrances B, H, I, J, M, O, and even the auditorium.

"I've done it before but just because I was on my last tardy and I couldn't afford to get another one cause I'd get a Saturday," said Diana Lugo, Div. 861.

"I did it because my friend told me that you can't get caught," said an anonymous senior, Div. 781.

A poll of a 100 students found that approximately 32 percent of students have snuck into the school in order to avoid a tardy.

The trend seems to be catching on.

"It's a smart alternative to avoid a tardy," said an anonymous senior, Div. 760.

Security guards try to secure the

entrances by routinely checking the doors throughout the day. But students will jam the lock on the door by putting an object there to keep it from locking. This can be done using a penny, gum, paper, or even a rock. The administration is not fond of such practices.

"If you can sneak in that means an outsider can," said Dr. Lobosco.

There are only 14 security guards and it is impossible for them to watch every entrance.

"We can't be everywhere, but if everybody helps out we can do the job," said Mr. Jenkins, security guard.

It is the responsibility of the teacher to send the student to the tardy office if he or she does not have a tardy pass, but some teachers will allow students to come in without one. It contradicts the tardy policy the administration is trying to impose.

"It's partially the teacher's fault, because the teacher should enforce the tardy," said Mr.

Lewis, a history teacher. "This is the thing you don't want to do in the real world. The number one reason for firing people is tardiness, and students should be held accountable."

Some teachers make students go get a tardy even if they are a minute late. They claim that they are following school regulations.

"Arriving to class on time is important because a student that comes to class late distracts the classroom and that's not good for students trying to learn, or for me trying to teach," said Mrs. Warner, a French teacher.

Some teachers are more lenient concerning the tardy policy. They believe that if it does not affect the student's grade it is acceptable for the student to be tardy once in a while.

It is not a mystery to the administration that students sneak in, but they warn that this poses a major safety issue. They suggest that students use the prescribed entrances.

The Teenage Internal Biological Clock

By Miriam Vargas

In 2006, a study was conducted by the National Sleep Foundation that found out that teenagers need to sleep between 8.5 and 9.5 hours each night. According to the study, teenagers do not receive enough sleep which increases their tiredness and decreases their performance throughout the following day.

But this is not necessarily the teenagers' fault. Everybody has an "internal biological clock" that basically tells the body when to fall asleep and when to wake up. It was found that teenagers' internal biological clock undergoes a change where the internal biological clock keeps them from falling asleep early in the evenings. This is due to the body chemical melatonin, which helps the internal biological clock adjust to a balanced sleep-wake cycle. Because of this, many teenagers who try to go to sleep early are not able to because their internal biological clocks keep the body from sleeping.

Lack of sleep can result in decreased learning, focus, coordination, and the ability to concentrate. This also affects athletes because sleep deprived athletes have a slower reaction rate. Lack of sleep not only gets in the way of school, but it also affects physical growth by slowing it down.

This decrease in reaction time has also caused many driving accidents. According to research done by the National Sleep Foundation, teenagers are most likely to be involved in car crashes because they are sleepy and are not focused on driving.

Some of the advice that the National Sleep Foundation gives to teenagers that will help them reduce their lack of sleep includes: Do not nap for more than 30 minutes a day, avoid all types of caffeine after 4:00pm, do not use the computer right before going to bed because it acts as a stimulant keeping the brain more awake, and do not exercise right before bedtime.

But what the National Sleep Foundation most strongly recommends is to go to sleep at a consistent time every night in order to regulate the body's internal biological clock.

Budget cuts “driving” students crazy

By Jessica Hall

Sophomore students are concerned about recent changes that have been made in the Driver's Education department. Ranges, which include driving on the range with an instructor, and traffics, which include driving on the street with an instructor, for multiple sophomore students were pushed back due to a recent budget cut to the Driver's Education department.

The decision to institute the cut was made by the Board of Education Sports Administration.

Head of the Driver's Education program, Mr. House, shared some facts regarding the budget cut.

“The money was running out and Driver's Education is funded by the Sports Administration. Programs like this are usually the first targeted when money

gets low,” he said.

Dr. Lobosco made it clear that the budget cut was not a school decision but was an action decided by the Sports Administration who collects the money.

“The fees are collected from students in driver's education who do not come to Lane,” said LoBosco. “We collect them here and send the check to the Sports Administration who is running Driver's Ed. I guess there are years when they let the schools run their own finances and there are years when they don't. This is a year when they are not.”

Ms. Ramsey, a Driver's Education classroom instructor who disagrees with the budget cut, believes that for many students, getting a license on time is important and the delay hurts them.

“For the most part students want to drive,” said Ramsey. “Some students have bad

elements in their neighborhoods and CTA is not so beneficial. Other students have family situations such as sick parents and grandparents who depend on them for transportation,” she said.

The budget cut mostly affected the scheduling of traffics. Because Lane's facilities are also used by students from other schools, rescheduling is even more complex, though there is no favoritism shown to Lane students when rescheduling traffics.

“We've been calling kids to reschedule,” said House while answering the phone to reschedule another student's traffic. “Students from both Lane and outside schools are getting the same treatment.”

“My mom got a call about my first traffic being rescheduled,” said Selena Arreguin, Div. 904. “My traffic date was supposed to be February 5th but was changed to March 21.”



A driver's education student practices driving on the range course.

Compared to last year, this years' traffics have been scheduled farther apart.

“Traffics last year were, at most, a month apart. This year they are about two months, maybe longer,” said House.

“My traffics last year were a few weeks apart,” said Khushbu Desai, Div. 881. “They filled up fast. I finished my traffics while I was in driver's ed. I was in the first range group, so I was first to get my license.”

There has been much opposition to the changes in the Driver's Education program due to the

budget cut.

“We filed a complaint,” said House. “Parents have been calling and we give them the phone number to the administration so that they can call and voice their opinions.”

The Driver's Education department is focusing on scheduling as many students as they can for traffics and ranges. The schedule has almost filled up for the remainder of the school year. The department is unsure about how the budget cut will affect the summer driving schedule.

Street racing a popular activity among Lane students

By Omar Aguilar

A blue 1997 Honda Civic DX pulls up to a red light on Irving Park and Western Avenue. Suddenly, a black 1998 Mitsubishi Eclipse right next to it begins to rev its engine. The driver of the Civic revs his engine back. Both drivers shift in to 1st gear and peel out when the light turns green. Street racing scenes like this have become increasingly popular among teenage drivers.

“I've been driving for a year and a half now,” said Jonan Lara, Div. 788, who owns a 1999 Toyota Corolla. “I didn't really get into racing until this past summer when I met the racing team I'm with now.”

Street racing has become popular among young drivers due to the success of movies such as The Fast and the Furious, and because drivers like showing off their skills and seeing who has the faster car.

“Yes, [I race] whenever I get the chance,” said Mauricio Pineda, Div. 766, owner of a 1999 Honda Civic. “I got into it about a year ago. I race for the fun. It's a rush of adrenaline for a couple of seconds. It's a natural high.”

There are several ways to challenge another driver to race.

“You meet [another car] at a stop light and look over at them

and rev your engine until they do the same,” said Justin Montañez, Div. 776, who has been racing for 8 months with a 1996 Honda Civic his dad gave him. “Or while you're driving, honk your horn at a car that looks like it will race you, and if they do, just go.”

Just as a race can occur randomly on the street, there are locations where organized races are held on certain nights. These races are run by street racing teams that consist of different cars and drivers.

“There are a couple places to race here in the city. [Racing occurs on] Lake and Cicero, but the best one is down south on 42nd and Pulaski,” said Lara. “It usually happens late at night on Fridays and Saturday. It could go on until 2 a.m. or later, or it could end as soon as midnight because of the cops.”

Popular car makes used in street racing include Honda, Toyota, Nissan, Acura, and Mitsubishi to name a few.

“[The popular cars used in racing] are foreign makes because not only are they cheap, but they're also very economical

with gas and easy to modify,” said Alexander Erdmann, Div. 769, who drives a 1994 Honda Civic SI.

Drivers who race usually modify their cars with parts that will increase their performance. Some of the equipment installed consist of cold and warm air intake, turbo, air dynamics,



shocks, inner-laced tread tires, restriction chips, and the famous Nitrous Oxide System also known as NOS.

“NOS goes to the intake manifold and allows for more oxygen,” said Alex Calderon, Div. 777, owner of a 1996 Honda Civic DX which he sometimes races.

Because there is more oxygen, you can also inject more fuel, allowing the same engine to produce more power. However, an engine needs a lot of nitrous oxide for NOS to work. If NOS is engaged too soon during a race, the car will not speed up to its full capacity. In most states, NOS is illegal on the street if the tanks are opened and connected to the car.

Most street racers drive with manual transmission because of its effectiveness during a race.

“I drive manual transmission, because I know it's better for racing and it's much easier to burnout [with my tires],” said Montañez.

In a poll of 100 Lane students, 95 percent said they drove an automatic transmission, while only 5 percent drove manual transmission. Most drivers preferred automatic transmission because of its easiness. Drivers do not have to worry about releasing the clutch too quickly, shifting gears, or stalling the car.

“[I prefer automatic] simply because it just takes less work and it's easier. With manual you have to learn all the tricks and then get good at it,” said Aldo Gutierrez, Div. 763.

The trick with driving a manual transmission is that the driver must release the clutch and accelerate at the same time to get the car moving. First-time drivers have to practice in order to get the feel of that friction point. Once the car is moving, the driver shifts through gears as the car accelerates at higher speeds. Experienced drivers can do tricks like double clutching, heel-and-toe, and granny shifting.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of death for people between the ages of 16 and 20. Nationwide statistics show that 49 people are injured for every 1,000 who participate in illegal street racing. Drivers who are caught racing can be arrested, have their license and vehicle taken away, and face jail time.

“Yes, I've been pulled over by the cops,” said Pineda. “Most of them [were] for speeding. I've gotten my license taken away and I'm currently under probation for about six months.”

Despite the risks, students continue to race their vehicles.

International

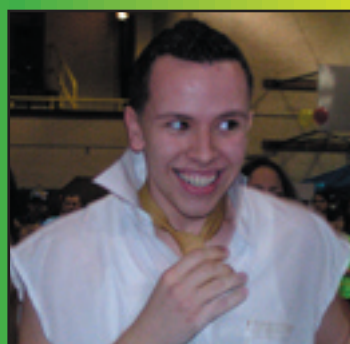


20

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Choosing between in-state and out-of-state colleges: Do what's right for you



By Rachel Hagfors

"You need to experience new things. Spread your wings and go away to school. That's the

only way you'll ever get the real college experience." We've all heard from one teacher or another throughout our duration at Lane. "Don't go to UIC or DePaul, everyone goes here." I know I've heard that from more than one teacher.

Going away to college isn't right for everyone. I'm staying in the city for school because it is what will benefit me in the long run, despite what many teachers have said. It's not easy for some students to just get up and go away to college. The majority of students, myself included, are not asking for a pity-party. What we are requesting is not to be judged for not even applying to schools out of the city.

With my GPA, I probably could have received the same deal (a scholarship and financial aid) that I received at DePaul to some other school farther from home. But it is nearly impossible for underclassmen to find jobs in some of these rural universities. There will always be an opportunity, whether it is working in one of the university cafeterias or offices, but there's the high possibility that it may not be enough.

Regardless of whether or not I bring my car with me to college, more than likely I would leave it at home. The insurance isn't going to pay itself. My cell phone bill is another monthly expense that I need to take into consideration. I'm not a student that can depend on her parents for a monthly allowance. When it comes down to it, my mom will always support me. But why would I want to put an extra burden on her to send me money? I've seen her go through it with my sister who tried going away to school and it just isn't worth it.

I have a job with a pretty steady income and I'm getting along fine. The "college experience" to me is getting myself prepared for my career. I consider myself responsible. Going away to college isn't the only way to "experience" it. I understand that most teachers just want us to have the social experience of staying away from home. But that doesn't mean you have to necessarily leave the city. Everything has a cost to it, and it should be left to the student to determine what is a priority in life. Life after college and life out of your parents house can be achieved in other ways besides living on campus at a school far from home. It can be a well thought out plan that includes staying in the city, working, saving, and preparing to live on your own.

"Don't let your financial problems keep you away from going to school," several teachers have said. Sure, there are loans and scholarships available. But those aren't going to pay the rest of your expenses. All of the social activities that teachers are wanting you to experience



**Pictured above: The in-state UIC campus blends in with the city.
Below: the out-of-state, smaller-town campus of Michigan State.**

don't always come free. If you are one of those people who pretty much supports herself/himself, remember the price that comes with it. Think about what is most

important to you and prioritize. Just know that staying in Chicago doesn't limit you from anything. It's a city of endless possibilities.

Young people should care about the world around them



By Monica Neris

It seems to me that each year young adults are continually focusing less on the important issues in our society than on entertainment, sports, and pop culture. We all know that watching a

show on MTV is more entertaining than watching the nightly news or reading an article in Newsweek. Almost every student at Lane would prefer watching a movie in class rather than listening to a long lecture on Napoleon.

However, one day our generation will be leading this world. Hopefully one day we will all wake up and realize that we are adults who have a purpose in life. The reason we are forced to go to school and are strongly encouraged to get a college degree is because we are the future. We are the ones who can create change and stand up for what we feel is morally right or wrong. Young America holds the key to order, peace, and equality.

In other words, we as the young generation need to care. We cannot brush aside problems and use the excuse, "It won't affect me," because in some way every law that gets passed, every environmental issue ignored, and every college degree that is not received, can and will affect us.

The solution is simple. Find a news program and watch it once a week and become familiar with some of the main issues such as abortion, gay marriage, healthcare benefits, immigration, and affirmative action. Start to get familiar with the views you develop on these issues and start looking into presidential candidates for the next election who take a similar stance. For the seniors who have or will be soon turning 18, remember to register to vote and never for one second think that your vote does not count because if all of America thought like that we as a country would lose our purpose. As Americans we should have pride in the fact that we are able to have a say in the choices are government makes for our own future.

Another important way in which you can become a better individual is by going to college. Any college is a good college. Never be discouraged by a community college. Just by going to college, your mind broadens and you start to see the bigger picture in life. I truly believe that education can solve all of

the problems in this world and that by getting some type of degree from a post-secondary school, you are not only making yourself a better person but also helping everyone else in the world in some way.

The last and probably most important piece of advice I can give is to always keep an open mind. At Lane we have students from all over the city who have been raised differently and, therefore, have different viewpoints on everything from movies to presidential candidates. So in order for everyone to get along and understand one another, they must be willing to hear another side of the story. When people argue with you about anything, listen to what their main points are, and make an effort to digest what they are saying and think about it for a while. The best way to solve a problem is to really understand the motives, reasons, and objectives of the opposing idea. In other words, take what you have heard from someone else in order to restructure your own views.

Overall, young adults need to have a bigger voice. We need to vote, become educated, and listen to one another in order to move forward in life. The only way to become involved is to find at least one issue that you as a young adult are passionate about and do everything you can to make change or keep order.

Losing a parent changes everything



By Michelle Aleksic

Losing a loved one is one of the hardest things a person can ever go through. Just not having that person who has loved you since the day you were born is something eventually every person in this world will suffer.

Losing a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or even a friend can give your emotions a run for their money and take you on an emotional roller coaster. For me, it was watching my mother die right before my very eyes and not being able to do anything about it. Losing a parent for many is the worst moment in their life.

My mother was admitted into the hospital and the doctors had no idea what was wrong with her. She was eventually diagnosed with cancer but the doctors didn't

know where it originated. They finally figured out that it started in her liver and had spread to her gallbladder, kidney, and onto her spine. Having so much pain on her spine, she was treated with radiation therapy and also medication to dull the pain. I've heard so many times now that she is in a better place because she isn't in pain, and now I think that everyone was right because it was so hard to watch her suffer. Though at the time, all I could think was that she should deal with the pain because to still feel something meant that she was still alive.

Though mothers nag us constantly about cleaning our rooms and getting good grades, we love them anyway. Your mom is the one who brought you into this world and she teaches you to love with your whole heart and knows you way down deep into your soul. For girls, your mom is like your best friend. She has gone through everything a girl will go through. You go to your mom for advice or just to sit and talk about girl stuff.

My mom was the one I went to for anything. If I needed to just nag about things at school, I would go to her. If I complained about anything she would always listen and see if she could come up with a solution. I could go to her for just about anything. She was my rock, the one that would always be there. Of

course, every mother and daughter have their arguments about curfews, school, or boys; and my mom and I were no different, but you only get one mother in life and everyone needs to take full advantage of the time you are able to spend with her.

Sometimes, I think about the future and what is in store for me and what I plan to do in my life, but at that same moment I can't even bare to think what's going to happen because in the back of my mind, I know that my mom won't be there to see it. I'm a junior and I'm starting to look forward to being a senior and graduating, but I know that on graduation day I won't be able to see her face when I get my diploma or hear her voice to tell me how proud she is. I will have these same feelings when I graduate from college, when I get married, or when I have children. All of these wonderful achievements and moments that are supposed to be the happiest of a person's life, will also be the saddest for me because I will always wish my mom was there to share them. What I need to believe is that though she won't be there, her presence always will be.

My family's and my life has changed forever. It's been a little over three months, and it still feels so unreal. Most of the time I try to keep my mind off of thinking about her and missing her, but she is always in my thoughts, because with my memories and love, she will be with me for the rest of my life.

My First Vote



By Frank Weinert

I've given a lot of thought to the right that I will have for the first time in 2008: the right to vote. I take this right very seriously and I wish to be an informed voter, not someone who votes based on ridiculous TV ads and campaign lies. I refuse to take part in the corrupt two-party system run by billionaires whose interests are to serve themselves and their wealthy counterparts while the neglected working-class is left behind with nothing more than unfulfilled promises and unfounded hope.

Around election time, the people who want real progress in this country are faced with the dilemma of choosing between the lesser of two evils (or the evil of two lessers, as I see it). But I cannot bring myself to support this system of fear and coercion. I am fed up with the Republican Party and I am fed up with the Democratic Party. They are truly two sides of the same rotten coin. The conclusion I have come to is a revolutionary one: I will vote green.

After checking out the official Green Party website, www.gp.org, I found myself agreeing with all of their views and policies. After all, it's hard for any decent human being to disagree with their values of a grassroots democracy, social justice and equal opportunity, environmentalism, agricultural reform, the need for fair elections, and the impeachment of War Criminal President Bush. The Green Party is the true party of the people with no corporate support to pervert their dedication to public service. It is best said on their website: "Greens have the courage and independence necessary to take on the powerful corporate interests."

Many things have influenced my radical conclusion, but the major event that led to my decision was a funeral that I attended last summer. This funeral was for a man named Frank Zeidler, the Mayor of Milwaukee from 1948-1960. He was the last socialist mayor of a major American city and was re-elected twice during the McCarthy era. In 1976 he was the Socialist Party candidate for president of the United States. When asked what it meant to be a socialist mayor, Zeidler once said that it meant there was no corruption or graft and that there was no debt. I learned a lot about this intelligent, moral, religious, and humble man from attending his wake, his funeral, and the reception where friends, family, and colleagues gave speeches about his passion. I know that people are probably turned off by his status as a socialist, but I challenge anyone to find anything about this man that speaks badly about his character. His opponents during his time as mayor criticized him for his sympathy toward the civil rights movement, but finding anything truly degrading about this man will be harder than finding a needle in a haystack.

After learning about Frank Zeidler and the Socialist Party, which was a prominent alternative party for a while, I see the same struggles and desires for a better world in the Green Party. I will always support the underdogs of this world who hold the moral higher ground. It is a modern day tale of David and Goliath, and the Davids who stand up against the evil Goliaths will always gain my respect and admiration. It is the same as the Biblical story of struggle, only the Greens are David and the two corporate parties are Goliath. Which side are you on?



Still waiting on the world to change



By Jennifer Olczyk

Surrounded by people anxiously waiting to get into the auditorium for International Nights, I couldn't help but notice how excited everyone around me seemed to be. I must say, I was anticipating a great show, but I was horribly disappointed.

The crowd was extremely large and everyone was pushing into the auditorium rushing for the best seats. I had to speed walk through the aisles to find a spot. There were many blue T-shirts that said "security," but there didn't seem to be too much order as to how the seating and collection of the tickets took place. That was only the beginning of it all.

There were countless people in the crowd that showed

their pride when their native flag passed them in the procession. They cheered vigorously for their flag, and then when other countries passed by, there were a few rude remarks. There goes "sharing our diversity" right out the window.

The bulletins handed out read "Tonight you will experience the beauty of humanity through song and dance." All I experienced was a few cultural dances and a ton of half-naked girls. Most of the costumes seemed to be lacking any sort of fabric. I had seemed to be blinded by golden belts and breasts. This definitely didn't seem like a family event. I wouldn't take pride in having my grandmother watch body parts flying out of places they shouldn't be leaving.

The bulletin also claimed that "Each club performing tonight represents a different culture, and each student has worked tirelessly to present his/her best performance."

I don't doubt that a great amount of time was spent in preparing for International Nights, but I wonder how much time went into thinking about the clothes that were worn or the image that was presented through some of the dances. I can say with certainty that some of the clubs

did present themselves properly and in a very culturally appropriate way. Some of the costumes were designed very well and at least covered a good portion of the body.

On the other hand, there were some that showed almost everything that could be shown. Some would argue that the costumes and dances that were created were cultural, but if wearing nearly nothing and dancing like a hooker is what is cultural, I'm scared of what tomorrow may bring.

The ending performance of the display of flag seemed to be delayed for a while, but when the curtain opened, the words of the song playing struck me.

"Now we see everything is going wrong with the world and those who lead it."

We just feel like we don't have the means, to rise above and beat it.

So we keep on waiting (waiting)

Waiting on the world to change

We keep on waiting (waiting)

Waiting on the world to change"

From the way International Nights looked to me... I guess we will keep waiting for the world to change.

Breast implants falsely inflate self-image



By Bianca Chassagne

So many female celebrities are looked upon as role models for teen girls everywhere when they shouldn't be. Many of the celebrities who are not happy with their imperfections turn to plastic surgery instead of embracing their flaws. One

of the major issues females tend to have with their bodies is the size of their breasts. 2002-2003 saw an increase in the number of girls aged 18 and under get breast implants. It tripled from 3,872 to 11,326, according to the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery.

I do not believe it is normal for a girl who weighs about 100 pounds to be walking around with DD's. Not only will she most likely suffer from back pain, but there are possible problems with getting breast implants. I read a story about a girl who got breast implants, and a few months later began to have "shooting pains through her arms, followed by intense joint pain and crushing fatigue." It turned out she had rheumatoid arthritis, and had to pay \$6,400 to have them removed. (According to the FDA there has been no scientific link between breast implants and autoimmune diseases). Women should not have to endanger themselves in order to be considered beautiful by society.

Another problem with breast implants is that the teen girls who receive them may not be used to all the male attention they will get from them. They will have to learn how to deal with being the center of attention, and with the comments that come along with having a large chest, especially when theirs is not real.

Also, should a girl choose to have breast implants, it is very expensive to get them and to maintain them. According to <http://www.infoplasticsurgery.com/cost.html>, work done on breasts can cost anywhere from \$5000-\$8000 depending on the specifics of the surgery being done. It is absolutely ridiculous that someone would spend that much money on something so vain.

That really says something about our society. Why is it that teenage girls are so insecure about their bodies? I blame society for idolizing the Barbie doll image, and making girls feel as though they are inferior if they do

not have that body type. Sure, idolizing a body with curves is a step up from idolizing the body of one who never eats, but why is it that society likes to play on the insecurities of girls?

So many celebrities obviously grew up feeling insecure about themselves, and it stuck because as soon as they became famous, they had plastic surgery. They were probably teased in high school about their flaws, and when they became famous, their self esteem issues became worse. In the tabloid magazines, all they do is point out the flaws of women, which makes them feel as though it's high school all over again, except now they have the funds they need to "perfect" themselves.

The statistics for men who get plastic surgery is far less than the percentage of females. Of all the plastic surgeries performed, women make up 91% of the patients. Women are willing to spend a lot of money just to make themselves feel better so that they won't be criticized by society, and themselves. I understand that many teens wish to emulate the celebrities who appear to have everything, but breast implants are not the way to go. Although it is true that many of the large chested members of society receive a lot of attention, they are receiving attention for all the wrong reasons. Hollywood has put such an emphasis on beauty, that the standards are becoming more difficult to reach. Few women are made thin with a curvaceous figure, so why is society trying to go against nature?

It is society's fault that women feel it necessary to put foreign objects in their chests, just to make their clothes fill out better. Women are to blame for chastising those who are not as curvy, as well as men for making women feel as though they are undesirable if they are lacking in the chest department. Women are willing to risk great amounts of pain and discomfort, possible disfigurement, and even the higher risk of death.

According to a study done by the National Cancer Institute, patients who received breast implants were two to three times more likely to die from brain cancer, and nearly twice as likely to die from suicide, pneumonia, and emphysema, compared to the general population. Also, implants patients had an increased risk of respiratory tract cancer.

I believe it is terrible that women are willing to risk all these dangers. Everyone should focus more on what's going on in the world, rather than what's inside her bra.

Wait your turn!



By Natalia Santillan

Being an upperclassman, I am able to eat off the school campus. I'm very grateful the administration allows this. But sometimes, when the weather isn't so dandy and sweet, I am privileged

to eat inside the school lunchroom.

Actually, it's not much of a privilege but more of a hassle and an annoyance. This is primarily attributed to the widespread cutting that goes on in our very own school lunchroom.

It seems to me that every one thinks it's normal and ordinary to go and cut students who have been in line. I think to myself, "HELLO!?? Do you not see me waiting in line!"

Unfortunately, everyone is afraid to say anything, or there is just not energy to say anything at all to these frequent "line-cutters." It seems to me that it's pretty much the same people you see cutting everyday. They are those who disregard others who wait in line.

I have noticed that there are many dimensions to line-cutting. It's ridiculous, but not only will one person cut you in line, so will this person's friends, and their friends, and their friends' friends.

Next, you'll see what I call a bulge. A huge chunk of kids are all trying to form one line, but it's impossible because there is no space to do so.

I don't know what my peers are thinking, but don't they know that aside from being rude, it is also quite dangerous? There are lunch room attendants walking around with hot food; someone could get hurt.

I think a major step to fixing this problem would be if security took the lead in helping form lines. Not only would this help formulate a fast and easy method of getting lunch for our large student body, but it would also help create a respectful mindset in our student population. That way, when Lane Tech students graduate, they will be well-mannered, respectful, civilized students.

Is American educational system one of equal opportunity?

Why everyone has a change in Education



By Karie Drucker

In this country, people are born into a versatile class system in which everyone has the ability to change his or her position.

Not everyone has the opportunity to attend a school that is well funded or live in a neighborhood that is crime free, but every single person in America is able to obtain a free public education and is required to do so by law. Not every child is fortunate enough to be born into a family that is financially stable, nor does every child have caring parents to guide them. But every single person in this country has the opportunity

to work hard in any school they attend and make the most of the education they are given, even if it is inferior to schools located in upper class white neighborhoods. Furthermore, current improvements being made to the public education system are making it more and more difficult for students to fall behind.

According to an article in the Chicago Tribune on March 6, standardized state achievement test scores went up eight percentage points in the 2005-2006 school year.

"Low-income and minority pupils posted the largest increases, which helped narrow the gap between their performance and that of their white, Asian, and more affluent counterparts," according to the report.

Funding for public education is also being increased. Governor Blagojevich has made a proposal to invest \$10 billion in Illinois schools over the next four years, which is three times larger than any increase in state history. There will also be significant changes made to the amount of funding towards textbook quality, better technology, and teachers.

Blagojevich's plan will not only allow the state to find better qualified teachers, but will compensate them more generously, thereby encouraging them to take teaching jobs in areas they otherwise would not.

Can it really be true that "virtually none" of the math and science teachers in inner city schools are properly qualified? This is impossible to believe, especially with the implication of No Child Left Behind, a program designed to notify both parents and the Board of Education if a teacher is under-qualified, and in most cases the teacher is either re-endorsed or removed entirely.

Parental involvement in public education is no doubt beneficial, but by no means necessary. There are thousands of grants available to teachers who apply for them, and teachers can illicit as much change if not more than any average parent.

Many city schools even outscore suburban ones. The reason for this, according to Chester E. Finn, president and Trustee of the Thomas B. Fordham foundation and expert on American public education, claims that this is due to the city's awareness of the problem.

"...The suburban schools of America are not as good as they think they are," he said. "The difference is that our suburban schools are complacent and think they're fine...In inner cities, people know they have a problem."

He went on to say that as a result, inner city schools take measures to solve the problems.

"The big secret in life is that there is no big secret. Whatever your goal, you can get there if you're willing to work," said Oprah Winfrey, referring to her own life. She is a prime example of the work ethic that overpowers any discrepancy in the school system. She was born poor and attended an under-funded school in a low-income area, but due to her hard work and persistency is one of the most influential women in the world.

The American public education system is not dysfunctional, nor does it automatically hinder its pupils. There are flaws in the system, as with any government funded program, but the officials of the state of Illinois realize this. They have taken steps to improve it, and are well on their way to creating a public education system that caters to everyone, not just Whites and students in more affluent neighborhoods.

**"Can it really
be true that
'virtually none'
of the math and
science teachers in
inner city schools
are properly
qualified?"**

Public education does NOT bridge the gap



By Maggie Byrne

In America, the land of equality and opportunity, opportunity is not equal. People from minority and low-income backgrounds simply do not have access to the same resources as people from higher-income backgrounds. It is idealistic, and perhaps a little naive, to hope that public education is bridging this gap.

In theory, free education for all students should mean that every student, regardless of race, social status, or economic class, receives the same tools they need to succeed in life. In practice, this just is not so.

Low-income neighborhoods are often also high-crime areas. Most of the best qualified teachers do not want to work in schools where they do not feel safe. As a result, most schools in low-income, high-crime areas have trouble finding properly qualified teachers who are willing to work there.

One professor who was a member of a Gear Up program, and worked with teachers in inner city elementary schools, explained just how bad this problem is. To teach in grades five through eight, teachers must have special certifications in the subjects they teach. He said that virtually none of the math and science teachers in these schools had the proper endorsements. Math and science are in high demand, and most of the teachers are not willing to work in inner city schools. Faced with this fact, principals in low-income schools are forced to hire any willing applicants even if they are vastly under-qualified.

According to this professor, these teachers have little, or less experience with mathematics than their students. He said that many lacked even basic, functional math skills, like using rulers properly. This essentially cripples the students. After all, how can these students be expected to perform on the same level as students from middle class neighborhood schools who have highly qualified, properly endorsed teachers. It is easy to say that because of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), conditions like this cannot exist. Yet in Illinois one in four public schools does not meet requirements of the NCLB. In addition, recent reports remind us that the federal government does not review a school's self reported statistics on how "highly qualified" their teachers are. Go ahead and say that because of NCLB under-qualified teachers are being dismissed. But remember, no matter how hard it may be to believe, the fact still stands that in low income schools, where teacher retention rates are below 50%, principals hire anybody they can get and under-qualification slips through the cracks.

Parent involvement within the public schools is essential, especially to secure additional funds. Parents of children in low-income schools are probably less able to assist the schools in their fund raising efforts. Unlike their middle class counterparts, low-income parents both have to work full time and are unavailable for planning and running fund raisers. In addition, because many of these parents are either products of the same poor school system, or immigrants who are not proficient in English, they might lack the educational skills necessary to write grants and effect change in the schools.

Illinois is ranked 47th out of the 50 states in the amount of funding the state provides for education. True, Blagovich has proposed a funding increase, but how much can it help when funding equity between low and high income schools is so distorted? According to recent information released by the Illinois State Board of Education, Illinois is ranked "50th (dead last) in the size of the gap in per pupil education spending between the highest and lowest poverty districts - the gap has been widening each year." The investment gap is astounding. Yearly per child funds vary from \$23,000 in the highest income areas to less than \$5000 in the lowest income areas. How can it be argued that public education provides equal opportunity to all students when one child's public education can cost more than \$18,000 less than another?

Although low-income and minority students are not doomed to failure, the public education system has made success much more difficult for them. Because of problems within the system, as well as social issues outside of education that are not addressed, public education remains skewed in favor of middle class students.

There are many people who through hard work and determination have overcome their status and schooling to become very successful. But students should not have to overcome educational backgrounds. Rather, education should be a tool they can use to overcome other challenges. Even the most optimistic people must admit that students from low income areas must work much harder to achieve success. But is it fair that the 85% of CPS students living in poverty should have to overcome not only the difficult socio-economic challenges they face, but also a shocking educational disparity as compared to their affluent counterparts to achieve the same level of success? If this is what is seen as fair, then this country has a long way to go to justify calling itself the land of equality.

Chess Team finishes strong; looks to improve next year

By Crystal Lee

The fourth Annual All-Girls Open National Championships took place March 16-18, at the Palmer Hilton Hotel in downtown Chicago.

Lane was not able to defend its title, but took second place as a team in the 18 and under section. Individually the team did well, and the four girls who made Lane's team left the tournament with trophies.

Olena Jaworska, Div. 754, finished fourth with a record of 3-3. Brittany Maglaya, Div. 904, came in eighth and finished 2-4. Terian Kosciak, Div. 853, finished ninth with a record of 2-4.

"Girls don't play chess, so people are trying to have girls only tournaments to get more girls to play chess," said Coach Parsons.

With so few girls on the team, Olena Jaworska, Div. 754, who won the Nationals last year, played an important part in Lane's success.

"There's a stereotype about chess players [that is] not true, but people believe it," said Parsons. "Coaches don't go out of their way to recruit girls at the high

school level because chess is dominated by boys.

Although Lane did not defend its National title, the team has had a great season. Lane placed first at city and finished 27th out of 118 schools at the state tournament. Rival Whitney Young placed second at state, but did not participate at city, which gave Lane an advantage.

Tournaments for the team are usually scheduled for Saturdays, but occasionally take place on Sundays as well. The team

meets at Lane at 7:00 am to board a bus, and usually returns around 7:00 pm.

"I'm serious about the tournaments, but I don't totally freak out," said Roger Macias, Div. 878. "Most of the time people just come ready to play chess."

"Tournaments are high pressured," said Terian Kosciak, Div. 853. "Sometimes I get nervous. The worst feeling is when you realize you're going to lose, but you just don't know when."

With the season ending soon, Parsons

and members of Lane's Chess Team now have an opportunity to reflect upon the outcome of the season.

"This year was a rebuilding year," said Kevin Velazquez, Div. 857. "We lost a lot of seniors [but] the team did a lot better than I thought it would."

"We had an addition of good young players [and] some people stepped up," said Parson. "At times, the team has played very well."

One reason why Lane has had a successful season is because of how hard its chess players play and practice.

"I think stubbornness, intelligence, and competitive spirit make a good chess player. I think that all of these are important qualities to have," said Parsons.

The other reason why Lane has been successful is because of the consistent team practices.

Practices are held Mondays and Tuesdays in room 238 after school from 3:00-5:00. Team practice is different from the practices of other sports because the only time it is scheduled is when they are preparing for tournaments and competitions.



Is Lane really the "School of Champions?"



By Jonathan Quiles

If you drive past the corner of Western and Addison you will notice a large sign that reads "Lane Tech College Prep," and below that in smaller letters it says "The School of Champions." What is that supposed to mean exactly? Does it mean that we have

champion personalities, or are they really implying that we win Championships?

Since I've been an athlete at Lane Tech, the Varsity City Championship total up to this point, not including what we have won this year, is thirty six.

Thirty six is the type of number that matches up with teams like the Yankees or Duke University Men's Basketball. But for anyone who really pays attention to high school sports, or even just public high school sports for that matter, knows that there is no real competition in the city. Lane Tech is basically the biggest fish in the smallest pond. And if that doesn't spell it out for you, all I'm saying is we are the best of the worst sports teams in the state.

It is said that in order to be the best you must beat the best, and we're really not accomplishing that. The Varsity Football team won the City Championship in 2004. I'm not taking anything away from them except the fact that they never had to face any of the Public League power houses. Morgan Park and Hubbard High School chose not to participate in the city playoffs because they were favorites to win a state title. So does that really make us the best team in the city?

Or how about our cheerleaders who just won a city championship for the first time in about six years. Congratulations to them as well, but guess who decided not to show up for the second year in a row? Whitney Young High School. Young beat

our cheerleaders two years ago and are always regarded as a favorite to win city. But because we won the city championship without them there, does that makes us "champions?"

Last, but certainly not least is our Chess Team, which won the City Championship this year. Once again guess what school decided not to show up and just happened to finish the season ranked number two in the state? Whitney Young. But we still manage to call ourselves champions.



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Basketball team struggles, but hopes to rebuild

By Lauren Corso

Lane's Varsity Boys' Basketball season came to a close on March 2 with a 51-73 road loss in the Regional Championship to Loyola Academy. The team finished the season with a conference record of 2-8, and an overall record of 16-16. But both the coaches and players know their season is far from over.

"We're not there yet. We've come a long way, but what we need to do is improve each year," said Coach Jarka.

The team may be finished with their games for the year, but that definitely does not imply an end to practice. For Jarka and the other coaches, an end to one season just means the beginning of another. The main goal for the team is improvement, and the head coach will stop at nothing to do so.

"I have a reputation of being very strict," said Jarka.

This is emphasized in how strictly he adheres to his belief that "student" should come first in student-athlete. He wants talented basketball players, but it is also necessary they perform well as students.

"The player can be eli-

gible school-wise, but that doesn't necessarily mean by my standards," he said. "I'm not going to ask a C student to get straight A's, but I need them to maintain good grades at their level."

Jarka removed a few players from the team this year because they were not able to meet his expectations for an complete student-athlete. However, he was able to find two young players who met his expectations to fill those spots. Erik Bose and Riley O'Neil were both moved up from the Sophomore level to Varsity.

"They're both academically solid, and sound physically and emotionally," he said.

Jarka knows building a basketball team must start early, which is why he emphasizes the importance of the summer camps to which players are invited.

"The summer before Freshman year I went to Lane's summer basketball camp. I could tell that Coach Jarka was not kidding when he said, 'We are going to change this program around,'" said Bose, Div 903.

Jarka uses those camps to his full advantage over the summer, especially for recruiting new talent from the middle school



Members of the Boys' Basketball team gather together to cheer on the starting line up as they are introduced before a game.

level.

"We're trying to find the best 6th, 7th, and 8th graders out there," Jarka said.

By improving the program, Jarka and his coaching staff hope to bring more spirit and pride to Lane Basketball.

"Lane has never had a basketball culture," said Jarka.

But along with the other coaches, he plans to change all of that.

Jarka compared the direction of the program to Duke's transformation into one of the biggest powerhouses in college basketball history, while still maintaining a rigorous academic record. Lane plans to practice, study,

recruit, and improve as much as possible to turn the team around and make it one of the best in the area.

"I'm very pleased with where we ended," said Jarka. "But we need to get stronger, improve our skills, and overall understanding of the game. We will make this a basketball school."

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Empty stands cause silence during games

By Sophia Lugo

Normally a crowd's cheers drown out any other sounds at a High School sporting event. But at Lane, it is the silence that is deafening.

Lane's athletic program is the largest in the city, but at sporting events, it seems as though teams are not getting the support seen at other schools. Some people, however, like Neil Hernandez, the publisher of the website lanetechfan.com, feel it is unfair to compare fan attendance between schools.

"I generally do not like comparing one school's attendance to another because each school is in a different situation," said Hernandez.

These different situations include student body size and

the location of the school. Since Lane is a magnet school, a common reason for students not attending games is that they would have to travel a long way to get to and from games. But this is an unconvincing argument to some.

"I don't think it has anything to do with the size or geographical make-up of the school," said Athletic Director Coach Rio, "because there are parochial schools with students from all over and they find time and a way to get to games."

"If you compare Lane fan attendance in general to some top sports programs in the suburbs, like New Trier, Naperville Central, and Downers Grove South, we [Lane] probably lack in that area," said Hernandez.

Some students argue that the

suburban setting is the reason other schools have higher sport attendance than Lane.

"It is part of the 'fun thing' to do on a Friday or Saturday night in the suburbs," said Kyle Welsh, Div. 783, "rather than in the city where there are more things to do."

There are some sports that do manage to get decent turnouts for their games, like football and basketball. But other sports struggle to attract fans on a regular basis.

"No one ever goes to [boys'] volleyball games," said Richard Miller, Div. 784

Some players on these teams are upset about the lack of support.

"It is sometimes disappointing when there are no fans there to support us for a big game," said Mary Dennewitz, Div. 776, Girls' Basketball and Soccer player.

Many athletes say when they play in front of a crowd they play better and they have more pride in their sport.

"It is really encouraging to have fans supporting us," said Girls' Water Polo player Kristina Pilman, Div. 752, "Hearing people cheer for you is motivation to do a good job."

"All athletes would appreciate having fans come and watch them play," said Baseball player Daniel Serrano, Div. 775. "It gives the players more confidence."

Athletes can feel a difference in the environment of a game when the crowd is larger.

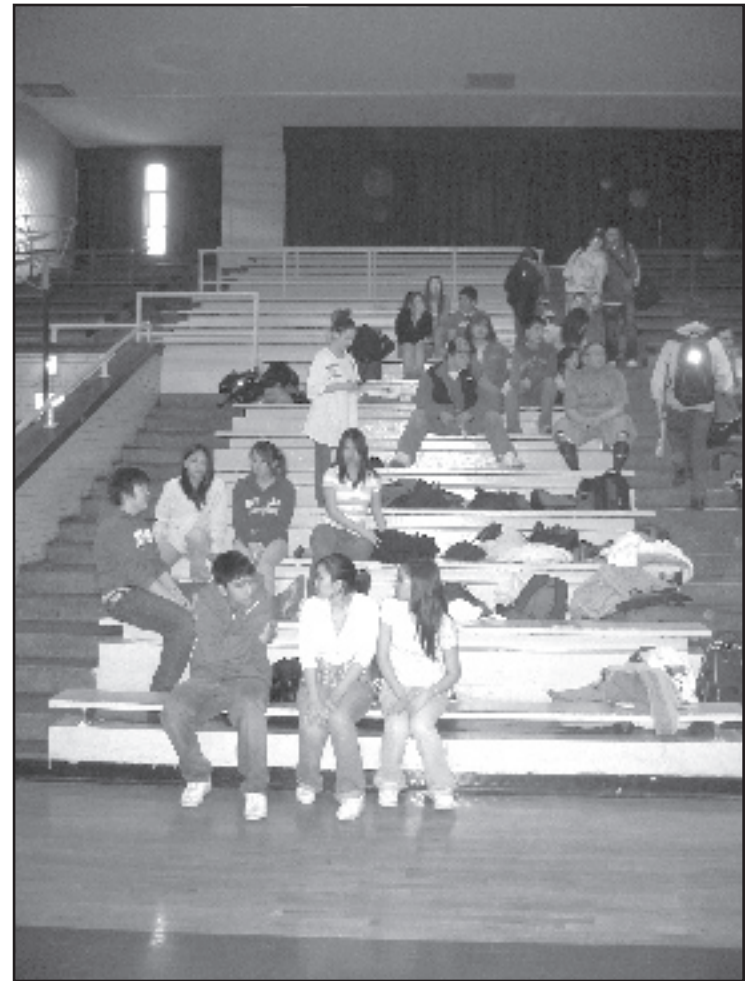
"I think I play better with an audience," said Girls' Volleyball player Farah Elakhaoui, Div. 763. "I just get this adrenaline rush when I hear all of the fans cheering; I love it, even though I don't get to hear it very often."

Students said that one way to increase attendance would be to hold more night games.

"Night games will attract more people and then hopefully they will want to go to more and more games," said Lacrosse player Dominick Aluisse Div. 768.

Fan attendance is very important to many athletes. The athletes have worked hard and they want to show everyone what they have worked so hard for.

"It is more than just a game for us [athletes]," said Aluisse. "Non-athletes need to see all the dedication and effort that we put into [our sports] and go to support us."



A small portion of the few fans that attended a Boys' Volleyball game on Friday, March 23rd.

Upcoming home games for the month of April

- 4/2 Baseball vs. Curie @ 10:30 AM
- 4/3 Boys' Lacrosse vs. Taft @ 4:00 PM
- 4/4 Baseball vs. Jones @ 10:30 AM
- 4/7 Baseball vs. Notre Dame @ 10:00 AM
- 4/9 Girls' Softball vs. Northside @ 4:00 PM
- 4/10 Boys' Volleyball vs. Kelvyn Park @ 4:00 PM
- 4/11 Boys' Water Polo vs. Morgan Park @ 6:00 PM
- Girls' Water Polo vs. Morgan Park @ 7:00 PM
- Girls' Soccer vs. Farragut @ 5:30 PM
- 4/13 Girls' Soccer vs. Amundsen @ 7:00 PM
- 4/14 Boys' Lacrosse vs. West Madison (Wisc.) @ 1:00 PM
- 4/16 Girls' Lacrosse vs. St. Ignatius 7:00 PM
- Girls' Softball vs. Schurz @ 4:00 PM
- Girls' Soccer vs. Von Steuben @ 7:00 PM
- 4/17 Boys' Lacrosse vs. Libertyville @ 7:00 PM
- 4/18 Boys' Water Polo vs. Kenwood @ 6:00 PM
- Girls' Water Polo vs. Kenwood @ 7:00 PM
- Girls' Soccer vs. Schurz @ 5:30 PM
- 4/19 Boys' Lacrosse vs. Oak Park-River Forest @ 7:00 PM
- 4/20 Boys' Water Polo vs. Whitney Young @ 7:00 PM
- Girls' Water Polo vs. Whitney Young @ 6:00 PM
- Baseball vs. Harlan @ 4:30 PM
- 4/21 Baseball vs. Northside @ 1:00 PM
- 4/24 Girls' Water Polo vs. Lincoln Park @ 7:00 PM
- Boys' Water Polo vs. Lincoln Park @ 6:00 PM
- Baseball vs. Lakeview @ 4:30 PM
- Boys' Lacrosse vs. Notre Dame 7:00 PM
- Boys' Volleyball vs. Walter Payton 4:00 PM
- 4/25 Girls' Soccer vs. Northside @ 7:00 PM
- 4/26 Girls' Softball vs. Walter Payton @ 4:00 PM
- Boys' Lacrosse vs. St. Ignatius @ 7:00 PM
- Girls' Lacrosse vs. Regina Dominican @ 5:00 PM
- Boys' Volleyball vs. Gage Park @ 4:00 PM
- 4/28 Boys' Water Polo vs. Mather @ 9:00 AM
- Girls' Water Polo vs. Mather @ 10:00 AM

*** All Lacrosse and Soccer home games are held at Lane Stadium, Girl's Softball plays at Horner Park, and the Baseball team plays on the baseball field behind the stadium.**

"Most of the time when people come to one game, they usually come to more because they realize how fun and exciting games really are," said Girls' Volleyball player Nicole Rizzo, Div. 770.

Many people said that if games were announced and made known to the student body, more effectively, more would be able to attend.

"You can't go to something if you don't know about it," said Emma Paley, Div. 781.

Rio thinks there must be another reason than this because he has tried many different ways to advertise upcoming games. There is an electronic message board outside of the Main Gym that posts upcoming events, there is a board outside of the Main Gym that has a list of all of the current season's games, and there are announcements in the daily bulletin about upcoming games.

"It is a responsibility of the students to go out to the games," said Rio.

Attendance seems to be at the top of Rio's agenda. He has made it known that he feels it is a shame that more students do not support their athletes. His step towards a solution started when he sat down with all of

the coaches. He required that each coach and their teams, when they are not in season or in practice, to attend a specific number of games.

This was started primarily for the Winter sports, and more so with the Spring sports. He expects this policy to be in full swing by next year, which he hopes will increase attendance from the very beginning of the school year.

He has also stated that it is not just the students' fault for not attending or promoting the games enough, and that the staff should take more responsibility in promoting these events.

"I really think that if the faculty pushes these events then more athletes and even non-athletes will come," said Rio.

Not all attendance at sporting events has been bad, however. The Boys' Basketball team went to the State Regional final game against Loyola, where about 1,000 Lane fans attended the game. This was a great turnout for a Lane sporting event and especially an away game.

The need for higher fan attendance is an ongoing work in progress. The only way it improve is through student participation. This participation is increasing, but at a slow rate.

Japczyk holds her own in male-dominated sport

By Taylor Biagi

Elizabeth Japczyk, Div. 025, was the only female on Lane Tech's wrestling team this past season. Her record was 1-1, and her season was cut short due to an arm injury.

Seeing herself as a serious and tough competitor, Japczyk is disappointed when she notices disrespect and poor sportsmanship portrayed by athletes she encounters at her meets because she is a girl.

"Other people I've faced at matches have shown very poor sportsmanship," said Japczyk. "Guys are like 'if I get beat I got my butt kicked by a girl.' And if they win they 'just beat up a girl.' They usually don't want to shake my hand."

In one incident this past season, during a match against Mather High School, Japczyk's male competitor pulled on her headgear, which is illegal. They continued wrestling and he slightly head butted her. She hit him back, and they had to be separated after the bell. He was disqualified from the match.

"He decided to quit because I was about to win," said Japczyk. "After the match was over, it was like a giant roar swept through the gym. Everyone on their feet. It was an amazing feeling... because it was my first match back [from my injury]."

Although she may receive negative comments about being a female in a male dominated

sport at times, Japczyk does not let it effect her.

"It doesn't bother me at all," she said. "Of course [other girls make rude comments]. They can be terrible. But whatever. Other girls will call you 'manly' but you can't let that bother you. Some boys say things to me, and it's usually nasty, like 'I'd wanna wrestle you!' Some are disrespectful, but most aren't."

However, Japczyk says most people are very supportive of her.

"My teammates are the best. They are very respectful," she said. "At first I think they feared me. My coaches treat me really well. I'm not given special treatment or anything. I hate that. When you're on the mat, you're a wrestler."

Most people at Lane are encouraging, supportive, and even somewhat inspired, particularly female students who hear of her accomplishments as an athlete.

"I think she's got a lot of guts and it makes girls look even better," said Enanna Sheena, Div. 925. "It shows that we're not letting guys walk all over us and that we're just as tough. And I think that even more girls should join!"

"It shows that Lane has a very versatile students and it also shows equal opportunity for the people that enjoy participating in school sports," said Natalie O'Sullivan, Div. 929. "It's a really great example of how society is changing too,"



Elizabeth Japczyk, Div. 025, puts her opponent in a lock earlier this year. Japczyk is the only female wrestler on Lane's squad.

Although many support her, not everyone thinks that a girl competing in "a guy's sport" is a good idea.

"To be honest, I think boys should wrestle boys and girls should wrestle girls," said Tim Linse, Div. 918. "I wouldn't want to fight a girl, and I don't think it's fair to the other competitors. She might get hurt."

These opinions don't bother Japczyk, who encourages other girls to try a sport that they might be afraid to try, like wrestling.

"Honestly, I'd like to encourage girls to try out if they think they have the endurance," she said. "I think it's the toughest sport out there. Never give up, because

if you're a girl that's what they expect you to do."

Japczyk has been wrestling since the sixth grade. Japczyk plans to wrestle for Lane next year.

"I plan to do it as long as I can. I

love it, so basically all through high school and college."

Japczyk is eager to continue her career and advance her skills.

"I love it. It's the only sport I brag about," she said.

Girls' Bowling Team strikes down competition

By Natalia Santillan

This year, Lane's Girls' Bowling team bowled over the competition, winning the City Championship title.

"This is the first City Championship out of the four years I've been here," said bowler Christine Arce, Div. 750. "I cried. Everyone said 'stop crying, its not a big deal.' This was my last game, and I was glad that we came out on top in my last year," she said.

"We kept our games up. Everyone did what they had to do. They bowled higher than average games. That's what helped us win," said a smiling Arce.

Morgan Park is Lane's biggest competition. They placed second at City Championships. Lane Tech placed 6th at Sectionals, but did not achieve State Finals, because of their results.



Bowling used to be done as a club, but is now a sport. Unlike all other sports, bowling is not fully funded to have practice for their athletes everyday.

Practices are usually held at Waveland Bowl. The bowling team practice only once or twice a week.

"That's all we can afford. They [Waveland] charge us regular fare. They let us practice, but at no special rates," said Bowling Coach and Physical Education teacher, Mr. Brian Hoffman.

When asked about the level of competition in the sport, Hoffman said it is getting more and more competitive in the city, but the suburban schools are the real powerhouses.

"We're not like suburban schools," said Hoffman. "We don't have funding to practice everyday."

Wrestler's actions lead to disqualification

By Jonathan Quiles

For the past 17 years, Lane Tech's Boys' Wrestling team has been a dominating force in the public league winning 14 of the last 17 City Championships.

This year the team didn't follow in the footsteps of those teams before them. Lane finished a disappointing fourth place in the overall team City Championship, while having only one individual, Scott Minneci, Div. 767, win a City Championship. Minneci defended his title this year.

The reason for Lane's unexpected finish is a little controversial. The individual score for Lane wrestler Koshion Barfield, Div. 754, was disqualified. Barfield lost a very close 7-6 match against defending city champion Raymond Brown of Fenger High School. Afterwards, Barfield, who thought the referee's decisions were questionable made a bit of a disturbance, and was disqualified by the tournament official. Barfield allegedly lost his composure and struck a table rack which

led to a domino effect of tables falling to the floor.

"I don't think I deserved to be disqualified," said Barfield. "I don't even think I did anything that serious. I didn't mean for it to be so loud. Those weren't my intentions."

"People get angry and lose their temper sometimes," said Minneci. "It's a part of sports."

"I know he didn't mean for that to happen," said new Head Coach Mark Miedona, "but I can't argue with the end result."

Not all went down hill for the Indians though. Lane's Jamele Williams, Div. 770, qualified for state as an individual, and Lane qualified as a team after winning the Mather Regional. Lane would eventually lose to De LaSalle in the first round down state.

Despite finishing the season with some disappointing losses, the Wrestling Team did receive some interest from Div. III Knox College looking to recruit four of their wrestlers.