

College Night brings 160 schools

By Mary Presley

Upbeat and groovy music filled the ears of inquiring students and parents as they anxiously gathered on the second floor gym and hallways for Lane's 38th Annual College Night held Thursday, March 22.

Students and parents had the opportunity to meet representatives from more than 160 colleges and universities, as well as branches of the military. The Illinois Student Assistance Commission also conducted two Financial Aid Seminars that assisted families in financing their ideal college education.

As students met with representatives, some realized that they were not the best fit for their dream schools and found new options. Others were confident and looked forward to college next year.

Lane Tech cheerleader Nicole Martens, Div. 385, dreamed of attending Northwestern University because she believed the school offered everything she needs.

"My dream college is a place with a good rank, close to home, and has a good med program," Martens said.

Upon learning more about North-

western, Martens felt discouraged upon discovering that she might not be Northwestern material.

"I'm not going to get in...no, not at all. I need to work on my ACT score and hopefully everything will work out," said Martens.

Despite this bad news regarding her dream college, Martens is not throwing in the academic towel yet.

"They want you to visit their school and be a part of their community so you will have a better chance of getting in," said Martens, who is planning to use her alumni connections to her advantage.

Martens is not the only student who discovered new things while attending College Night. Sophomore Ben Sodolski, Div. 479, discovered a potential new future.

"The Air Force appealed to me. It sounds pretty cool, learning how to fly a plane," said Sodolski, who admits video games played a big part in his dreams of wanting to learn how to fly a plane.

Alex Garcia, Div. 372, also attended College Night and learned about different options for paying for college.

"Most schools give you lots of scholarships and financial aid," said Garcia, who

would like to attend Northwestern University.

Aisha Delgadillo, Div. 353, attended with her mom and also found out important financial information. She hopes to attend University of Wisconsin-Madison, but is unsure if she can afford the tuition.

"It is really high. It's nearly \$40,000, so I hope I get enough scholarships," Delgadillo said.

Unlike most students, Brandon Zimony-Schmitt, Div. 378, has planned ahead for paying for college.

"I already have money saved for college," said Zimony-Schmitt, who will still look for scholarships and financial aid support.

Most of the college representatives that attended the event spoke about the type of student that they looked forward to accepting.

"We look for a well-rounded student: very successful in academics, but shows they are a good leader, or have a talent like art or music," said the representative from Spelman College, a four year liberal arts women's college located in Atlanta, Georgia.

Most students with a GPA of 3.65 and an ACT composite score of 23 are eligible



University representatives crowded the gym competing for students.

for acceptance at Spelman College.

Like most representatives at College Night, the Spelman representative had several selling points about her school to aid in recruitment.

"No other school has the Spelman sisterhood or alumni relationship Spelman has," said the school's rep, "and no other school teaches you how to be a woman leader."

With high hopes and a healthy dose of optimism, Charlotte Molina, Div. 380,

is sure she will attend DePaul University next year.

"It fits all my needs for business and I fit the needs for DePaul because of my ACT score and GPA," said Molina. "I don't want to be over confident, but I'm confident."

Whether dreams were crushed or born anew, College Night helped many iffy students and parents feel a little more prepared about the important decision before them.

Tardy scanners fail; still long lines outside tardy office every morning

By Priscilla Monsivais

8:09 AM Late, but still enough time to make it to division. All of a sudden, BAM, you are at the end of a very long tardy line. You finally receive your tardy, and RINGGGG division is over and you have to run to first period. What a perfect way to start the day!

This school year Lane purchased new mobile handheld scanners to help speed up the process of giving out morning tardies. The new devices were supposed to be able to scan an ID and print out tardy slips on the spot for students to take to their teachers.

However, because of numerous technical problems the hand scanners have been decommissioned this year.

These devices were similar to the handheld scanners used a few years ago to enforce student attendance at Turkey Bowl. Those scanners were decommissioned because the system would often fail if too many IDs were scanned. The new scanners were supposed to be able to record tardies directly to 210 using Lane's WIFI system.

Technology Director Mr. Miceli believed this would improve enforcement of Lane's attendance policy because it was an improvement over the mobile tardy machines Lane has used over the past few years, which are bulky and need to be wheeled around on carts. These also can take a long time to set up and have reliability issues.

"[Handheld scanners are] smaller so a security guard can even issue a tardy after passing periods to a student. A cart [coming towards you] would be intimidating and the student could see it and run away," Mr. Miceli said.

Even with the addition of the new

handheld scanners, problems with the system persisted.

Occasionally the new handheld scanners would add extra tardies to students who had their IDs scanned only once. Sometimes as much as an extra 25 tardies were added. This created problems not only for the attendance records but also the disciplinary records.

Additionally, the new scanners quickly ran out of paper to print the tardy slips. Students then had to walk to the Tardy Office in the auditorium and wait in very long lines that sometimes extended half way down a row in the auditorium.

Sabeen Arman, Div. 387, is one of many students who have had to wait in these lines.

"It was kind of pointless getting a tardy for your division teacher when you're late for first period," Arman said.

First semester, Arman had 11 tardies to her first period class. Her teacher threatened to lower her participation grade. In the end, she decided against it because she regularly participated in class and was a good student overall.

Deisi Williamson, Div. 359, says the scanners were a good idea but the inability to print tardies for a multitude of people at one time made them inefficient.

"The auditorium has a pretty good process, but there's just so many people who are late, it's frustrating," Williamson said.

Danielle Reeves, Div. 364, was regularly late to school, but that changed when Mr. Wendorf threatened to kick her off the dance team and give her Saturday detentions.

Reeves' division teacher tried a more positive approach towards motivating her to be on time.

"She clapped for me when I showed up on time [to division]...the first time in weeks," Reeves said.

Some division teachers are concerned about the effects of multiple tardies. Mrs. Ojo, teacher for Div. 352, says that each day there are about three kids late to her division. That may not seem like a lot said Ojo, but if every division has three kids late everyday, then that's where the line comes from.

Mrs. Perez, teacher for division 475, says the teachers are told to hold their students to the highest standard when it comes to punctuality. Unless there is an announcement or email indicating otherwise, Perez will hold them to that standard by insisting they pick up a tardy slip.

Perez said her division students have come to understand that they must be in the room and in their assigned seats before the final bell rings or they will receive a tardy.

Miceli and Assistant Principal Dr. Dignam have spoken about the problems with Omicron, the company that sold Lane the handheld scanners, but they have been unable to solve the problems.

"We asked for a full refund..." Dignam said. "The company obviously wasn't too happy."

But when you distribute a product and it does not work, says Dr. Dignam, you have to give a full refund unless they can provide a new product that works.

"They wouldn't have an [updated] product until next year...[which] we'd be interested in because kids have to stand out in the cold and rain sometimes and that is just not fair."

Until then, Lane has returned to the old cart system, which means more tardies caused by slow bulky equipment.

Lane takes Healthier Schools Challenge

Salad bar to be added in cafeteria next year

By Diana Castro

Lane's 2011-2012 Healthy Schools Certification Progress Report has Lane's Wellness Committee pushing Lane to become a healthier school.

The Healthier Schools US School Challenge is a voluntary program of the USDA. The program recognizes schools that create healthier school environments with nutrition education, physical activity, and physical education. The Wellness Committee has begun working with the PTO in hopes of gaining support of parents.

"CPS is much more responsive to parents and students," said Carla Serantoni, Lane Health teacher and Wellness Committee member.

The Wellness Committee has been brainstorming ideas for promoting physical activity opportunities for all students before, during, and after school, not just for teams. The committee plans to explore these ideas in the upcoming months for physical activity for juniors and seniors who are not required to take a P.E. class.

Lane has already started taking steps to better their healthy school status. According to a Lane Wellness Committee bulletin released on March 14, 2012, Lane has received a grant for a salad bar in the lunchroom.

Lane has about 1,200 students who participate in the daily school lunch program. The installation of the salad bar and cafeteria staff training are scheduled to begin in the spring.

"[Lane] will now offer new fresh options for lunch," Osada said during the PTO meeting.

Serantoni said that some schools within CPS serve only organic food, but they receive special funding from other sources.

A new department of CPS, Health and Wellness, has made changes to promote healthier schools as well. The new CPS administration came up with new policies to promote healthier schools that reflect changes in the USDA. With these changes, two nutritional classes would be required. P.E. health classes would be the only place to integrate them. Mrs. Serantoni agrees with the new policies. Serantoni said the new fundraising policy would be the most difficult change. This year, CPS stopped approving food fundraisers inside the school building.

"Last year, [Lane] made \$41,000 in profit from candy sales alone," said Serantoni.

Food fundraisers are still acceptable but not during school hours. CPS now also frowns upon food rewards from teachers, like candy and pizza parties, in classrooms.

Serantoni has noticed these health changes around Lane, not only amongst students but in Wellness Committee meetings as well.

"I've noticed that at meetings they have started putting out fruits instead of doughnuts," Serantoni said. "Teachers and administrators have to be role models."

Ms. Lauren Osada, another Wellness Committee member, said during the latest PTO meeting that professional development days have been healthier lately as well.

While CPS currently only has 32 schools that have the Healthy Schools Certification, Lane is striving to be next. If Lane reaches that certification, it would be honored at a public celebration and eligible for a \$2,000 grant to further promote the program.

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Division to meet once a week in proposed schedule

By Ben Palmer

Division can be anything from a tight-knit group to a silent study hall. Whatever the dynamic, it is bound to change next year if the "Full School Day" plan is approved.

"We will have division once a week for 45 minutes," said Dr. LoBosco. "It might have to be on Fridays since we have so many Mondays off."

These days off will be significantly reduced next year, as Columbus Day, Pulaski Day, and report card pick-up become student attendance days.

LoBosco also confirmed that negotiations are still under way for the potentially longer school day. "Nothing is official yet," LoBosco said.

LoBosco added that divisions will remain the basis for standardized testing. Divisions will also still be organized by number, teacher, and room. LoBosco said that for meetings and school functions, "division is more organized."

Programs that operate during division, like the morning TV broadcast, will have to adjust to this change in the schedule. LoBosco said adjustments will be made to improve and lengthen the broadcast.

"I already contacted Mr. Yadao about doing a weekly

longer news report," LoBosco said.

The new morning broadcast will be "a revision of what that program is like. More current events...more like a news program," LoBosco said.

The broadcast would be around 30 minutes once a week, if current plans are approved.

Another division-based program, the STARS Mentors, will also be effected by the less frequent division. STARS mentors visit freshman divisions twice a month. Counselor and program coordinator Ms. Dulberg says that the STARS will return next year despite the change in schedules.

"There were a couple of days when we weren't sure what we were going to do," said Dulberg. "I wasn't sure how I was going to organize [the mentors], or how I was going to assign them [to divisions]."

Dulberg is embracing the new division time table and hopes that freshmen and their mentors can spend a full 30 minutes together once a month.

"I think less visits but more time per visit would be better," said Dulberg, who thinks that the new division schedule will not drastically affect the program. "There will still be Freshman Kick-Off, and we'll still have our after school stuff."

"If [mentors] only visit once a month," LoBosco said, "it might give them more quality time."

Give Back rocks Lane auditorium

By Cody Lee

All around the school, the walls were filled with Give Back + Savanna and Charlie Kim posters. Normally people just blow past everything posted up in Lane, but apparently not this time. The debate fundraising concert generated a healthy, 150+ crowd in the auditorium on March 2.

Everyone wooed as the curtains opened to the surprisingly shimmering gold background. Soon after, Savanna Dickhut and Charlie Kim took the stage together and began with their original song "Mixed Signals." Before long the whole audience was clapping to the beat.

"[At Lane] I feel like I can connect to the students more," said Charlie Kim. "In open mics you don't really know the audience, but here you see the kids everyday so it's more personal."

Following a few collaborative songs, Savanna left the stage to let Charlie perform a solo piece entitled "Vincent," a song dedicated to Mr. Bertenshaw's discussion on Vincent Van Gogh.

Savanna soon returned, and the duo closed with a cover of "It Will Rain" by Bruno Mars which induced countless numbers of "I love you guys!" from the crowd.

When Savanna and Charlie were over, a 10 minute intermission began, with a raffle that got surprisingly rowdy as kids yelled and ran to claim their winnings. The prizes included, but not limited to: a 5 pound Hershey's bar, a photo of Zac Efron, gift cards, and a autographed picture of Christina Aguilera.

Once the intermission was done, the curtains spread again to Give Back (and their blinding strobe lights). The sound of screams and claps rattled through the auditorium. The band opened with a song that remains nameless until the

release of their new EP, dropping this spring.

"It might be kind of weird since there are seats, as opposed to a normal rock show where people are up there jammin'," said Owen Jones, drummer of Give Back.

But that did not stop the crowd from rockin' out to this Neon Trees-esque band. Students were in their seats clapping, singing, and dancing along. There was even the stereotypical row of girls fanning themselves.

"We've played everywhere from basements, to really terrible bars out in the suburbs, to some pretty legit venues like the Beat Kitchen and Empty Bottle," said Jones. "But playing at Lane is a lot different. It's a lot more familiar and I think that's so cool."

The concert, was a hit amongst students.

"I had a really great time. It was something nice to do after school, and the fact that the music was good definitely helped," said Scott Olivares, Div. 265.

"Oh my god, Give Back was awesome! After seeing [the concert] I would definitely see them again," said Gabby Hernandez, Div. 353.

On top of the enjoyment, the show was for a good cause.

"Obviously the money will benefit us, but [the concert] also helps get the debate program out there," said Joey Peculis, Div. 274. "It shows that we are actually doing things like fundraising and that we're active in the Lane community."

Since the concert was such a success, some seem to think the school could expand on the idea and have more concerts in the future.

"They should have more Lane bands do this kind of thing," said Charlie Kim. "There's Crash Hero, and Twin Peax, and a bunch of others. It could be awesome."



Give Back performs a song from their new EP, releasing soon.

Archive of the Issue

Just over 88 years ago, the Lane Tech Daily ran front page sports stories reporting on Lane's participation in national level sporting events. The swim team finished in second place behind a high school from Atlantic City, N.J. at the Na-

tional Indoor Swimming Championships held at Northwestern University.

The track team took sixth at a meet where the all-time high school records were broken in both the 60-yard hurdles and the pole vault.

LANE TECH DAILY

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RECORDS FALL AS LANE SWIMMERS TAKE SECOND PLACE IN NATIONAL MEET

Colbath Wins First Place on Fancy Diving; Relay Teams are Second

MARKS TUMBLE AS LANE TRACKMEN PLACE SIXTH IN NATIONAL TRACK MEET

Gandenski Jumps 5 Feet 10 Inches and Wins First Place in the Contest

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To the tune of breaking records Lane's swimming team won second place in the National Indoor Swimming Championship at Northwestern University. Atlantic City, N. J., won the championship by scoring eighteen points while Lane garnered thirteen markers for second place.

The Tech 160-yard relay team gave the Eastern lads a struggle, but finished second, Atlantic City tying the National Interscholastic record in this event. In the Medley relay Atlantic City established a new National record being hard pressed by Senn, New Trier, and Lane. The latter finished in the order named.

Lennox of Oak Park, national prep breast-stroke champion, broke his own National record in that event, clipping two-fifths of a second from the old record.

Hill of Minneapolis Central and Smith of Detroit Northwestern were also among the group of record-breakers, Hill breaking the 100 yard backstroke and Smith breaking the record for the plunge.

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THE LANE TECH DAILY

NATIONAL SWIMMING MEET

(Continued from page 1)

Colbath starred for Lane with a first place in the fancy diving. Peterson and Crothers won third places in the 40-yard swim and 220-yard swim respectively.

SUMMARIES

40-yard swim: Peterson, Lane, third.
220-yard swim: Crothers, Lane, third.
Fancy Diving: Won by Colbath, Lane.
Medley Relay: Lane Tech, fourth.
160-yard Relay: Lane Tech, second.

The splendid results attained by Lane's swimmers in no small measure due to the skill and efforts of our expert, Coach Kripner.

TRACK MEET NOTES

(Continued from page 1)

seven and three-eighths inches in the pole vault, thus shattering the record made in 1916.

Sexton of Hyde Park tied the world's indoor record for the 50-yard dash in the fast time of five and one-fifth seconds. However, this record will not stand.

SUMMARIES

60-yard low hurdles: Watson, Lane, fourth.
High Jump: Won by Gandenski, Lane; height 5 feet 10 inches. Friberg, Lane; Bartlett of Lyons, and Rettig of Lake View tied for second place, height 5 feet 9 inches.

Lane remembers Hammies

By Sophia Swenson

"CQ CQ CQ, this is W9WKR, Whiskey Niner Whiskey Kilo Romeo, Lane Tech High School Chicago Illinois calling CQ and listening for any call."

Up stairwell J on the fourth floor, a door stands just to the right of where the stairs end and the band room begins. Unnoticed or ignored by most students, the door leads to a room that used to house Lane's own Ham radio station, W9WKR. Before cell phones or the internet, Lane had its own social connection to the outside world, which was used and kept up by members of the Radio Club, or "Hammies."

"Ham radio is a hobby. It's the only international hobby in the world except stamp collecting," said Barry Nelson, class of 1962, and member of the 1960 and '61 Lane Tech Radio Club.

Ham radios are not like the radio stations you listen to in your car. A person who wants to use a Ham radio studies for a licensing exam, given by the Federal Communications Commission. Once a Ham radio license is earned, the person who passed the exam is allowed to contact other Ham radio users all over the world, either through Morse code or by speaking into a microphone.

Ham radios don't have to be used simply for social reasons. If there is especially bad weather, or if power lines and cell phone towers do not work, Ham Radio users are still able to make contact with each other, and get help if needed.

Starting in 1910, Lane Tech's "Wireless Club" (as it is listed in the 1910 yearbook) allowed members who were interested in wireless technology to convene and have discussions about the latest gadgets. By 1937, the Radio Club began to piece together an actual Ham Radio, which they were able to use by 1939. Licensed members were allowed

to communicate via Lane's call number, W9WKR, and gain access to other Ham Radio users from all over the world through antennas on the building's roof. "Hammies" would then have short conversations with a "Ham-mie" on the other end of the receiver regarding any topic other than religion, politics or sex (a rule that all Ham Radio users have to abide by).

Nelson still uses his Ham Radio today, and remembers that Radio Club members were given the opportunity to study for their licensing exam under the instruction of students who had already received their license. None of the licensing exams were easy, and Nelson estimates that only half of the boys who took the exam actually passed. In fact, it is unknown whether any of the teachers who sponsored the club had a Radio License of any kind.

Radio Club members were separated into three different categories based on their level of experience: Beginners, Intermediates, and Advanced Hams. Although the requirements have changed, beginner licensing tests required a hopeful Hammie to tap out 13 words per minute of Morse code.

"It's not like studying for a driving license, it's a whole different ball game," said Nelson. "You got to send and receive Morse code... It's like learning German, or Spanish or French, like a whole different language."

During the school day, Radio Club members would take a hall pass to the "Ham Shack" and use the radio until their next class began. The Radio Club room was not always in the tower by the fourth floor band room. At one point it was housed in a third floor classroom. Nelson remembers stealing hall passes from his Radio Club sponsor's desk.



He then had some friends who worked with the school's printing presses forge the sponsor's signature onto that stack of passes, enabling Nelson to go to the Ham Shack anytime he pleased.

"You could sit there all alone with all those radios," said Nelson. "You were free to operate any time you wanted."

Just like those who text "LOL" or "JK", Ham Radio users have their own language as well.

"CQ" or "seek you" is a general call used even today. It means "I am available to talk with any other ham anywhere in the world."

"And you thought your generation had us beat with your LOL and BTW and many others. When you send Morse code you learn to use standard abbreviations like CUL, see you later, and BCNU, be seeing you, and many more," said Nelson, who ends his conversations with a "73" which means "best regards."

By the mid 1970s, Lane's Radio Club became less and less popular, finally ending in 1974. Without the Radio Club, Lane's previous call numbers W9WKR were made available for any Ham Radio user to adopt. Luckily, the historic call letters were kept within the Lane family after Barry C. Cook, a Lane Alumni, jumped at the chance to use them with his own Ham radio.

Although Lane's antennas are no longer live with conversations between Hammies from around the world, historic call sign is far from dying out.

Art Club finally established

By Julia Kulon

She dug into the printed Desigual tote, her hands revealing a long-winding scroll of paper, crayons and color-pencils. Marcissa Marcias, Div. 458, looked at the semi-circle of teenagers surrounding her and with a glint in her eyes, announced, "Dig in, y'all!"

The little group looked a bit hesitant at first, but soon people surrounded the tote and the room burst with excited creativity.

The Art Club, established at the end of the first semester, is led by President Marcias and Vice Presidents, India Armstrong, Div. 471, and Taylor Vacala, Div. 473. The club is sponsored by Mr. Ara, Lane's Graphic Design teacher.

"I wanted to join a club that had something to do with art beyond the classroom curriculum," said Marcias, "but there wasn't one necessarily."

"We were in [art] class and we started having a discussion," said Vacala. "It sort of came to us that we should create that club where we could do art together."

The Art Department currently offers classes in the traditional media of drawing, painting, photography, graphic design, and sculpture. A new addition for the 2012-2013 year will be Mixed Media, which will be taught by current photography teacher, Ms. McMeans.

"We want to explore new techniques," said Armstrong.

"Not all schools in the city have an art program, and the club is a realization of the many opportunities that Lane can offer to its students," Ara said. "I think it's great. [Club members] can come together beyond the classroom, hang out, and produce art."

Given that the idea was sprung half-way through the school year, three promotional posters were created and hung around Lane's hallways and cafeteria. The posters proved effective, and attracted many of the current members of the club. About 20 students attended the most recent meeting.

The club officers also relied on word of mouth.

Hector Montalvo, Div. 469, and Tammy Chen, Div. 469, found out about the club directly through Armstrong. Priscilla Montalvo, Div. 752, also came along with her big brother.

"By exploring art, you can explore yourself. Art can help you reveal thoughts and feelings," said H. Montalvo.

The club has attracted a variety of artists. Different members have a media they want to explore and dabble in.

Jessalynn Medina, Div. 580, is a painter and a recent origami enthusiast. Medina's god-mother bought her an origami kit last year, and Medina has mastered the basics.

"I mostly fold animals: cranes and elephants," said Medina. "Then there's this spike-ball that I'm trying to figure out."

A spike ball, part of modular origami, (a type of origami that involves the assemblage of many identical parts that strives to create an interesting geometric form) is a cuboctahedron made of 12 modules. It was originally created by Rona Gurkewitz and Bennett Arnstein.

Alex Vargas, Div. 545, is all about exploring the three dimensions, particularly the possible structures that could be created from sheet metal.

"The curriculum of Lane's art department can be very limited to the teacher's vision," said Vargas. "For me, that's not being an artist. But this club can help me be that artist."

For Ruth Borgardt, Div. 564, her media of choice are wood and drawing.

"I love wood," said Borgardt. "I'm hoping the club will actually motivate me to finish something," said Borgardt who claims to struggle finishing her art projects.

At the end of the year, the club hopes to put on an art show at a local gallery displaying every member's artwork and talents. The artwork will be joined together under the theme of 'Blue.'

"I am hoping that my friend [who owns a gallery] will give us some wall space," said Ara, "so that this could be done in a real gallery space, and properly."

All members filled out a proposal, containing a sketch of their idea, their interpretation of the theme, and the materials they will need to execute their projects.

The art show is not to be confused with the Art & Clay Fest, an arts festival that will be happening in May at Lane. The festival, organized by Mrs. Moore who teaches Ceramics, will display the talents of art students from every department.

The club plans to fundraise for members' needed materials. For Valentine's Day, the club (with Ara's help) created linoleum print cards featuring things like bouquets of flowers and octopuses making hearts with their legs.

The club paints and draws away every Monday in Room 139 after school.

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Students feel pain of bulky bookbags

By Julia Kulon

When she was a freshman, Jackie Campoverde, Div. 462, started to experience serious pain in her shoulders and back from carrying her heavy one shoulder bag. This pain was not something she had experienced in grade school. Halfway through Campoverde's first semester, the pain became unbearable.

"My shoulders cried for a backpack," said Campoverde, "At that point I really didn't care anymore."

Campoverde quickly switched to an old backpack of her sister's, and the shoulder pain gradually subsided.

"Now everything is perfect," said Campoverde. For many, school bags are not only a case for carrying books and pens. A bag can create the perfect personality statement, the perfect health hazard, or both.

According to TeensHealth, backpacks are a better option than shoulder or messenger bags for carrying books and supplies, because they distribute their weight evenly across the shoulders. Even so, a heavy backpack could be worse for the carrier than a messenger bag. Heavy backpacks cause people to learn forward, eventually rounding their shoulders and curving their upper backs. In addition to back pain, neck and shoulder pain can also occur.

The best solution is for one to carry a load that is proportionate to their height and weight.

Fabiola Cruz, Div. 277, 4 feet 6 inches tall has experienced back pain since her freshman year. Although she receives a ride to school from a relative in the mornings, Cruz, who lives about 30 minutes away from Lane, walks home after school.

According to Cruz, the commute home can "feel like a really long walk, especially with a full book

bag."

"Since junior high, I have always carried a book bag that was about half my size," said Cruz.

Cruz has considered alternatives, such as getting a book bag on wheels (suggested by her father) but was talked out of it by her mother when she came to get Cruz one day for an early dismissal.

"[Her being] present physically in the halls with all the students, and seeing how difficult it was for her to get around, she became totally against the idea of a rolling backpack," said Cruz.

Cruz's back pain is frequent and persistent. She can only fall asleep at night if she uses rubbing alcohol and heating pads.

Gabe Mendoza, Div. 273, thinks back pain, for the most part, is "a myth."

"People complain," said Mendoza, "There is always going to be that one day where someone gets homework from every subject."

For others, the correlation between back pain and book load is taken into consideration. Luis Rios, Div. 282, spent about two weeks before school started thinking about various bag choices.

"I was trying to estimate how many books I was gonna be forced to carry," said Rios.

Ultimately, the trendiest look won over Rios' heart.

"But at the end, it all came down to what looked best," said Rios,

"I went for the messenger bag. The European look is super cool."

Danielle Morales, Div. 269, also took a more fashionable approach.

She switched from a backpack to a satchel sometime during October.

"The backpack was tiresome," said Morales, "I couldn't really use it beyond school, and I wanted something a little more stylish."

Morales bought a satchel from Urban Outfitters

outlet for five dollars.

"[The bag] is wide enough for my books," said Morales, "It can also be used as a purse on the weekends, the straps are detachable."

Morales admits the switch was motivated by her abnormally light load.

"[My] senior year has been [much lighter] than my past years," said Morales, "I don't have as many textbooks that I need for classes."

In contrast, Leslie Castillo, Div. 268, converted from a purse to a backpack at the beginning of her senior year. She definitely feels the difference.

"I used to use purses," said Castillo, "and I would carry a lot of books and there wasn't a lot of space. My shoulders would hurt at the end of the day. It was painful."

This year Castillo uses a black Northface backpack.

"A lot of my friends have a black Northface and I thought that if I needed a backpack, I would probably get a Northface, and I did," said Castillo.

"I love the straps, they have padding and are extremely comfortable," said Castillo, "I'm finally content."

Still, Castillo worries about others.

"I see the seventh graders in the hallways carrying huge backpacks," said Castillo. "They're little, and I can't help to wonder if that's healthy or not."

Cruz shares this concern as well, and does not want to face major back problems in the future.

"I don't know what exactly I'm afraid of happening, but I want to become a doctor and that requires you to be on your feet a lot," said Cruz.

Cruz ultimately attributes her backpack's weight to her rigorous course load, and inclination to study.

But this rule does not apply to everyone. Mendoza, who is ranked at the top 25% of his class, is in AP Physics and AP Psychology this year and carries a light load.

"I just got lucky with the teachers," said Mendoza.

Patty Kaluza, Div. 279, agrees.

"I feel like a backpack's weight depends on the teacher and the teacher's way of teaching," said Kaluza.

Kaluza, who takes AP Biology, carries a one shoulder bag that is "small, but fits everything."

But Mendoza also feels his light backpack is a product of strategy and knowing one's way around the "system."

"Share lockers with someone if you have a class by [theirs]," said Mendoza, "I'm guessing that [some underclassmen] don't know the building and don't know what four minutes feels like in the beginning. Eventually, they'll get used to it and learn."

Mendoza is adamant that the standard is the same for everyone.

"I barely carry anything, but that doesn't mean I'm not getting a quality education," said Mendoza, "There's simply no correlation."

***"I would carry a lot of books and there wasn't alot of space. My shoulders would hurt at the end of the day,"
~Leslie Castillo, Div. 268.***

Morning grooves bring pizzazz to hallways

By Aleksandra Bursac

As students drag themselves back to school Monday, their energy levels drop. In order to prevent sour faces from crowding the halls, Student Council has initiated a new Lane custom. An upbeat song is played every morning between 7:45 and 7:50.

Student Council Sergeant at Arms, David Nunez, Div. 454, has been playing the songs for the last few weeks.

"Recently students haven't been turning in music so I figured I would bring my own," Nunez said.

Student Council used to play songs only on Mondays. They felt that people coming back from weekends needed some motivation to go to school. Songs were also played on Fridays to anticipate the weekend. Then Student council began playing music everyday since they felt students needed a lift every day.

Students can submit songs to Mrs. House in Room 128. They must be on a CD-R, the only type of disk readable by the stereo in the main office which plays the morning music.

- The requirements of the songs are as follows:
- The song has to be no longer than 3 minutes, some exceptions on exceeding this time would be about 20 seconds.
 - The song may not contain any verbal language that is considered school inappropriate; clean versions only.
 - Songs that are turned in should not contain any references to sex, drugs, or any other misconduct.
 - If a CD is turned in, it should have a title of the track along with the lyrics, which will be revised by the Student Council and then decided whether it is accepted or not.

The Student Council hopes this will continue year round, but in order for that to happen people have to submit songs.

"We are asking people to submit songs because we have a limited taste on what to play. In addition, a limited music library. We can't have the latest songs played unless we pay for the songs on iTunes, and that would be a burden if we had to do this almost every week since there are only 14 Student Council Officers," Nunez said.

Even though the Student Council thinks playing songs is a good idea, students have mixed feelings.

"I think it's entertaining, watching groups of people dancing down the halls and singing at the top of their lungs," said Kate Zitek, Div. 254.

"I wish it wasn't so loud," said Emma Gonzalez, Div. 285. "But it's a great way to get pumped in the morning."

Students are not the only ones listening in.

"Some teachers love the songs. [They] even dance to them," Nunez said. "I recall a couple of teachers dancing in the halls to the song Danza Kuduro by Don Omar."

Not everyone is happy with the song choices.

"I really didn't like the Eminem song [they played]. I don't want to walk into school and hear about a guy beating up his girlfriend. Not exactly a positive way to start the school day," said Patsy Chavez, Div. 251.

It's not just the lyrics that can upset some people, the lack of variety in the choice of music makes some students feel left out. "Anything by Cage the Elephant, The Who, The Kills, The Killers, Rise Against, The Beatles, Metallica, Silver Sun Pickups, The Pierces, The Cars, Chevelle, etc. would be good," said Pioter Lesniak, Div. 574.

Though students have their differences, the Student Council will continue playing songs in the morning. Let the dancing begin.

Trends change... tradition endures.



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Teachers drop pounds, gain confidence

By Mary Presley

Lane teachers have been shedding pounds while using different techniques to accomplish their own personal goals.

PE teacher, Mr. Lollino used to weigh 396 pounds, but has lost close to 140 pounds gradually over the last five years, 70 pounds over the last year alone.

"I was a Big Mac away from 400 pounds and that's when I saw myself and said 'this looks disgusting and I want to do something about it,'" said Lollino.

In taking action to lose weight, Lollino utilized the elliptical machines in the fitness room and weight room four to five times a week. He also began to eat smaller portions and eliminated all the sugars from his diet.

"Portion control is huge. I would have a little bowl of something as oppose to a huge dish of something. I stopped drinking pop and stopped eating a lot of sweets and tried to limit my fried foods," Lollino said.

Lollino points out that a key component to controlling weight is only eating until you are not hungry anymore.

"After having two or three bites of something you're really not hungry anymore. You just want to eat what's in front of you. When you eat until you're not hungry anymore, it could be pretty satisfying," Lollino said.

Before losing weight, Lollino had to deal with emotional side-effects of being 396 pounds.

"I was embarrassed. I couldn't go into a normal clothing store and find normal clothes. These big outlets and big men stores didn't have stuff in 4x and 3x. It was... hitting me pretty hard," Lollino said.

On the brighter side, Lollino never gave up. At times he was frustrated but he knew losing weight was not going to happen overnight.

While on the journey to lose weight, Lollino had to understand that maintaining weight is a lifestyle rather than something that just happens.

"Weight, unlike your hair color or eye color, is a behavior, which means you can control it. You need to understand the body you have you created. If you get to the point where you don't like the way you look, you can change that," said Lollino, who is very

proud of the fact that he lost weight the old fashioned way rather than having surgery or stomach staples.

Very happy with his progress, Lollino wants to lose more weight until he weighs about 180 or 190 pounds. With the motivational words from people in his department, who remind him everyday how much he weighs, Lollino knows he can continue to lose weight.

Lollino is not the only teacher at Lane who was not proud of the way his body looked.

Unhappy with his appearance and the lack of exercise in his life, **English teacher Mr. Yadao** lost 35 pounds in two and half months.

A high protein, low fat, and low carb diet called the Dukan diet, which consisted of methods for losing and stabilizing weight in four distinct phases allowed Yadao to eat as much as he wanted as long he stayed in the parameters of what the diet required.

"It is a diet that makes you lose weight a lot quicker than most diets and it teaches you how to keep the pounds off," said Yadao.

Yadao has not only seen the physical changes of his body, but the changes in how he feels.

"I don't think I have exercised more in my life. The great thing about this diet is that you see changes right away. My endurance and stamina have gone up. I would be out of breath after a good five minutes of working out and now I'm running three to four miles every other day. It's a good sign because I never used to do that ever before in my life, especially at this age," said Yadao who is 28.

Yadao, in seeing his dad and family members struggle with diabetes, was encouraged to be healthier and lose weight.

"My dad was diagnosed with diabetes about a year ago and around that time it was a sudden wake up call for me. A lot of my family members do have diabetes. They have a lot of heart problems and have died of lung cancer and other types of illnesses," said Yadao, "I wanted to make sure I don't fall into that habit, even though genetics is something you can't really escape. I at least want to try the best I can to maintain my health."

Similar to Yadao, **English teacher Ms. Jennings** also used strategies to help her shed pounds and keep them off.

Jennings lost weight that she preferred to describe

as "more than 35 pounds" by food journaling in an app on her phone called My Fitness Pal. It helped her focus on what she was eating and how much she was exercising.

"I really enjoy and appreciate all kinds of food and if you think about the choices that you're making like if you have a sweet tooth, like I do, you can choose fruit over a candy bar or cookies. Just being aware based on your activity level versus the number of calories you're taking in," Jennings said.

Running marathons since 2006, and running the New York City Marathon this past November, Jennings chose to lose weight not only because of her age but because she loves running.

"I'm not getting any younger and I want to be able to continue to run because it is a really important outlet for me so I knew that health wise and physically especially with my knees it would just be easier," Jennings said.

Academic Center Coordinator Ms. Beck has lost 25 pounds in the past year and a half. In efforts to get back into the shape she was in college as an athlete, Beck decided to get back in shape and change her eating habits.

"I was always very athletic, and I already worked out five days a week, so I just had to make sure to stay healthy by changing my eating habits," Beck said.

Beck's typical meal plans start off with either a protein bar or egg whites. For lunch she has a sandwich with fruit or a salad. Then for dinner she has chicken with vegetables.

"I had to cut back on carbs because I realized I was having way too many carbs than I really should be having, so I really made sure I had protein," Beck said.

Beck's biggest motivation in getting healthier is the long term reassurance that she will be in shape and healthy as she gets older.

"I want to make sure I am always eating healthily and trying to maintain a good body in the sense where, as you get older, you have more things you have to worry about. I don't want to have a heart attack or diabetes," Beck said.

Besides losing weight to look good, **Special Ed. teacher Mr. Dan O'Donnell** decided to lose 35 pounds in six months for his family.

"I have young kids and I just want to be able to move around a little better. I just want to be around longer for them and when you get to be a certain age you start worrying about that," O'Donnell said. "When you carry weight when you're older you tend not to lose it later in life, so I just wanted to get back down to where I was 10 years ago."

In order to lose weight, O'Donnell stopped eating starches, bread, potatoes and sweets and replaced them with fresh fruit, salad, and meat. Along with changing his eating



PE teacher Mr. Lollino once 396 lbs is now down around 250 lbs.



Photos of Ms. Jennings before (left) and after (right) her weight loss show a startling difference.

Business Communications class developing Lane Tech app

By Agnieszka Chrzanowska

Lane Tech – there's an app for that.

Mrs. Spence's Business Communications class is designing the very first Lane Tech App.

An app, or application, is a specialized program that can be downloaded onto a mobile device. Most students are familiar with apps for iPhones such as Angry Birds, Words With Friends, Fat Booth, and Instagram.

The Lane App will be the central ground for all the information and tools students need.

"We are pulling information from various web-

sites and placing it all into one area," Spence said.

The app will be divided into separate sections. Each section will then have sub sections and so on. As of right now, the app is expected to carry a Lane bell schedule, Lane calendar, Gradebook and Classzone login page, as well as a CTA Bus Tracker. The app will also include information on tutoring, electives, majors, student activities, various departments (like music and drama), sports, and the College and Career Center.

According to Sharazadi Dyson, Div. 282, who has been working on the app with her class, there may even be a game.

She explains a lunch section will also be on the

app.

"You'll be able to find coupon deals and numbers to places around Lane so you can order your food ahead," Dyson said.

The plan will allow students to download the app, possibly for a small price, in the Android Market. The money collected, if they decide to charge for the app, will go straight to the Business Communications funds to help pay for further modifications on the app.

If all goes according to schedule, the app is expected to debut in May or June.



New faces from distant places arrive to Lane

By Emina Cirkic

Caitlin Thorn, Div. 363, does not seem different in a crowd of Lane students that is until she starts to speak.

Thorn transferred to Lane from a high school in Wellington, New Zealand through a one-year foreign exchange student program. She arrived her second semester of junior year and will be a student at Lane until the end of her first semester of senior year.

Like many people who roam the halls of Lane for the first time, Thorn's initial reaction was that, "Lane is HUGE!" Compared to her high school at home, Thorn has felt an enormous change coming to such a big school in a large city.

"I was hoping to get put in a big city. A lot of kids [in exchange programs] get put in little cities with nothing to do," Thorn said.

Coming into the middle of her junior year at Lane, Thorn got to pick all the classes she wanted to without worrying about graduation requirements. This semester she is taking Law, Music Appreciation, Marine Biology, Speech, German, Spanish, and Guitar. She enjoys getting to pick from a variety of classes.

In Wellington, the school system is much different from that of CPS. According to the UN Human Development Index, New Zealand has the second best school system in the world. Free primary and secondary education tuition is a right for all New Zealand citizens. Also, permanent residence from a student's fifth birthday until the end of the calendar year following the student's 19th birthday is mandatory.

"In Wellington, we go to primary school (first-sixth grade), intermediate (seventh-eighth grade), college (high school), and then to the University. It's weird, [at Lane] juniors and seniors sometimes mix classes," Thorn said.

Even though she has only been in Chicago for a short while, it already "feels like home," Thorn said.

"My parents were really cool about me coming [to Chicago]. They couldn't wait for me to get out of [Wellington]," Thorn said. "It's weird because I've never been away from home alone before and my parents were totally cool about the whole thing."

Her host family has given her a lengthy tour of Chicago and shown her all the skyscrapers and shops.

"I like that there's so much to do [in Chicago]. I like all the shops. I've been to



Caitlin Thorn, Div. 363

the Water Tower place and Old Orchard," Thorn said.

In Wellington, the social atmosphere is very similar to the one in Chicago.

"We just do what city kids here do, but we only have two large skyscrapers," she said.

Although, she is adjusting to normal Chicago life, some kids at Lane are unable to let her accent pass by without commenting on it.

"We say things weirdly. I have to repeat myself so people understand me," she said. "Sometimes, I'll say a word and realize no one understood what I just said."

In Wellington, some teenagers use slang or say things differently than in the USA. For example, they usually slur right over a 'l' in a word and replace it with a 'w'.

"Instead of pronouncing the word c-o-o-l, my friends and I say coow (long 'o' sound)," Thorn said.

Thorn plans on staying at Lane until the end of first semester next year. Although she enjoys the new freedom and change, Thorn's home will always be in Wellington.

"The city is great," she said, "but there are no green valleys or hills in Chicago!"

Judith Hartmann, Div. 278, has been a student at Lane for nearly a year and looks like an ordinary American student at first glance. It is not until she says she is the foreign exchange student from Germany that students notice Hartmann is not American. A close look at her features such as her blue eyes and brown curly hair make her look stereotypically German. Her outgoing and friendly personality has helped her make many friends at Lane.

"It's so much more fun here than in Germany. So many people have just randomly come up to me and said 'hi' in the halls because I'm from Germany," Hartmann said.

She traveled with the Youth For Understanding exchange program and was randomly placed in Chicago. Only four days before her flight did Hartmann discover she was coming to Chicago. Upon arriving to the city, she suffered from culture shock. The kids in Chicago and Lane were so different than what she was used to.

"Students are so quiet and disciplined [in Chicago]. In Germany, students are holding discussions throughout a class period and the teacher just guides the class," she said.

Hartmann also points out that American kids have a lot more rules and are therefore more rebellious than kids in Germany. In

Flygt makes music in, out of class; plays in three different bands

By Cody Lee

Usually after putting on a pair of headphones and listening to some Afro-Brazilian Samba, it is pretty hard to picture a blonde, big bearded, caucasian man from Wisconsin as the musician. Mr. Flygt is not the average music teacher who had a little garage band in the 80's, he is part of three radically different musical groups who jam all around the Midwest.

He plays in Fatbook, an 8-piece collective that plays jazz-influenced rock, Bloco Maximo, a 12-piece Brazilian percussion group, which Flygt describes as, "a bunch of white guys playing Samba together," and Ragged Claws, a relaxed indie band with a pinch of Africa stirred in.

"I've been playing the drums since I was 10 years old, man," Flygt said. "I knew I wanted to take it seriously and that's what I've been doing ever since."

Despite starting the drums at a young age, Flygt manifested an interest in Africa in college.

"My teacher was all about it; he had a West African drumming group, and it was just so awesome," Flygt said. "A lot of people can only play the drumset and focus on one thing, but I wanted to be as broad as I possibly could."

He has been to Africa twice and intends to go again this summer. The "uniquely free" culture he experienced from Ghana inspires him in his every day life, especially his clothing. He has been frequently spotted rockin' a dashiki, multi-colored pants, and some Jordan Spizikes.

"He's probably the blackest, white guy I know," said Jaquan Braggs, Div. 265. "I wish, every night, that someday I'll have swag like him."

His "swag" makes him easily mistaken as one of those overgrown students with a full beard. The fact that he is still in his early 20s makes him even more incognito. Undeniably, as a teacher, fitting in with the kids makes a difference.

"For real, Percussion with Mr. Flygt is the best class at Lane," said Tyrek Harden, Div. 362. "He's always so full of energy. He's like one of us, but...a teacher."



New music teacher, Mr. Flygt, has garnered attention from students for his diverse taste in music.

On top of being enjoyable to the students, his musical expertise keeps the kids awake and paying attention.

"He's helped us grow as musicians, dancers, and singers, and it's actually interesting stuff unlike most classes," said Angie Rangel, Div. 380. "We get up out of our seats and really have fun. It gets me excited!"

Being so active in his subject, Mr. Flygt's knowledge of percussion is vast and continues to grow. From playing the African atsimivu, to the Brazilian caixa, and all the way to the American drumset, his dexterity shines through to all of his classes.

"For me, although not dig to anybody, I think it's more important for kids to have someone who's doing a lot outside of school too," Flygt said. "Like, I want to teach but also I want to play. Kids need that, and that's why I love being here."

Even though he is a teacher with an actual job to do, he always has the time to stop, greet ya' with a high-five, and brighten up the halls of Lane.

"You can still be a teacher and be cool and play shows and scream at people," Flygt said. "It's all good."

"He's always so full of energy. He's like one of us, but... a teacher."
- Tyrek Harden, Div. 362

Germany, Hartmann does not follow many rules and her parents trust her judgment. Since she is over 16, Hartmann is allowed to legally drink beer at public bars.

"I'm never home on the weekends; I don't have a curfew. One time I was out having a few beers with friends at four in the morning. My mom just texted me to see where I was and that was it. It's safer in Germany!" Hartmann said.

On weekends, Hartmann and her friends go out to clubs that also have a 16 year old age requirement. The dancing and behavior of teenagers astounded Hartmann in Chicago. She attended Homecoming this year and was surprised.

"When you go dancing, you go with friends. No random guy will come up to you and try to get you from behind. At homecoming, guys came up to me out of nowhere! The dancing [at Homecoming] was like 'woooah!'" Hartman exclaimed.

Adjusting to social behaviors is just another obstacle Hartmann faced coming to America for the first time.

"In Germany boys respect [girls] more. American boys push the limits. If they want to do something with you, they'll let you know," Hartmann said.

Hartmann has been an active member in the Lane community. She has participated in Tennis, Grease, and has been a spirited Lane Warrior throughout the year.

"I love America," she said. "I'm scared to come back to Chicago and all my friends will be in college all over America! I'm also scared of going back to Berlin. Everyone has lived their lives without me; it's going to be weird going back."

Benedict Bauer, Div. 266, is 4,698 away from home and having the time of his life. Hailing from Innsbruck, Austria, Bauer has



Benedict Bauer, Div. 266

spent the past seven months in America living with a host family. Innsbruck has a population of 100,000 and Bauer's school (one of the larger schools in Austria) has a student body of 1,000 people. Innsbruck is a small town surrounded by the Alps and forests. The surroundings in Chicago may be different, but the culture is very similar.

"In Innsbruck we don't have skyscrapers or a downtown, but I didn't really experience culture shock. The lifestyle [in Chicago] is not much different than in Austria," Bauer said.

In Austria, Bauer has taken advantage of the rough terrain and nature around him. It has shaped him to be an excellent athlete. In Innsbruck, Bauer often skis in the

Alps or practices Tae Kwon Do. At Lane, Bauer was on the swim team, soccer team, and danced for Ecuadorian Club. He is currently on the water polo team.

"I joined Ecuadorian Club because I wanted to dance salsa!" he said.

One of his favorite things in Chicago is all the food. He likes having many options available and likes trying new things he wouldn't have access to in Austria.

"I really like all the different kinds of food that you can eat here. I really like Mexican and Asian food. I actually didn't gain weight here even though I eat a lot more," Bauer said.

Bauer is a very committed student in Austria. He plans on studying Math and Physics in college. Unlike in Austria, Bauer got to choose his classes. In Austria there is a very strict set of curriculum plans. However, college is free, so Bauer does not plan on attending a university in Chicago.

Bauer is also very committed to his family. His parents let him come to Chicago because they trusted his judgment. However, they warned him of all the dangers on the streets on Chicago before letting him go.

"Some of my family members heard that there is a lot of crime, in Austria we don't have a lot of crime, and were a bit worried," he said. "I was really excited. I mean, I could have ended up in South Dakota!"

Bauer will continue his stay in Chicago till the end of the 2011-2012 school year.



Judith Hartmann, Div. 278

Students explain meaning of their unique names

By Georgia Tankard

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet," said Juliet in Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

In one of Shakespeare's most famous (and most tragic) plays, Juliet observes that names are simply names without profound meanings and silly stories. Contrary to this some students at Lane have names that defy Juliet's beliefs.

Troi Valles, Div. 358, was given a name meant to inspire her throughout her life.

"My mom wanted something original," Troi said.

The name Troi was inspired by Helen of Troy, daughter of Zeus and Nemesis, whose astounding beauty captivated observers. While her first name is quite unusual in itself, Troi's middle name often takes most by surprise. This name will never be found in a baby book or dictionary. Like Shakespeare often did, Troi's mom decided to make up her own word: Strongspirit. Troi's mom always felt that her own middle name (Anne) was boring, so she decided to give Troi and her sister unique middle names.

"My mom wanted to give me an impression of who she wanted me to be," said Troi.

Her mom felt that the name Strongspirit would serve as an inspiration to her daughter.

As she sees her name, Troi finds a sense of strength and hope in it's motivational qualities.

Clementine Frye, Div. 363, was not actually named after the fruit.

"[Clementine's weren't] genetically modified yet," said Frye.

In fact, the fruit wasn't modified until Clementine was five but from that point on the fruit jokes never ended.

"In grade school people would say 'you're a fruit let me put you on my lunch tray,'" said Clementine.

Clementine always laughs at people who mispronounce her name because she assumes they don't know how to pronounce the fruit.

Clementine also finds that no one can judge what kind of person she is based on her name because it is so unusual, which makes talking with people becomes easier.

"It's easier to converse with strangers because often questions about my name come up," she said.

Apart from the fruit jokes, and silly mispronunciations Clementine is pleased to have such a unique name.

At Lane while there is a wide variety of students

with interesting names, its common to find androgynous names added to such an unusual mix. In Johnny Cash's song "A Boy Named Sue" Cash sings, "Life ain't easy for a boy named Sue," and this appears to be the cold hard truth.

Alexis Garces, Div. 385, has written on paper what seems to be a fairly common female's name, yet Garces is in fact a boy. Alexis' mother apparently got the name from a famous Ecuadorian singer.

"My mom told me there was some famous singer in Ecuador named Alexis, but I never believed her," he said.

Alexis was in fact indifferent about the origin of his name.

"I never cared enough to go out of my way to find out about it," he said.

In grade school students would say his name with a girls voice, but eventually the childish mockery subsided, and he gained an ambivalent attitude about it.

"I used to get mad at my mom [for the name], but I've learned not to care," Alexis said.

As he matured, Alexis became more comfortable with his name.

"When I came to high school, I met someone else with the same name and felt better about myself," he said.

With this in mind he breathed a sigh of relief and decided to make the best of what he was given.

"When you're little it matters more because you're trying to fit in, but now in high school it doesn't really matter anymore," said Alexis.

Mikee Baldwin, Div. 455, is in a similar situation. Upon hearing her name many might think of a male's name or nickname, but that is not the case. Mikee was in fact named after the famous Filipino horse rider, local television host, and actress Mikee Cojuangco. Like the actress, Mikee was born in the Philippines.

Mikee often gets confused by reactions to her name.

"People sometimes think that it is actually my nickname and ask me what my real name is," Mikee said, who gets frustrated with this constant feedback.

"I didn't like it at first because no one else has the name and because it's a boys name," she said.

Regardless, Mikee eventually took pride in knowing that her name was special.

"I am probably the only girl in the world with this name," she said.

Diriangu Sanchez-Palumbo, Div. 373, was named after a famous tribal chief from Nicaragua who fought against the Spanish conquistadors. A folk song in Nicaragua, called Nicaragua,

says "Oh Nicaragua, the most beautiful country of my love, Fertilized with the blessed blood of Dirianguen." It is evident that Dirianguen's legend has lived on.

Dirianguen's father is from Nicaragua, and so his parents chose the name to bring him closer to his culture.

"It has made me more humble and understanding of culture's," said Dirianguen, who takes pride in having a unique name.

Dirianguen also believes that names share a connection to your personality.

"It stands out, even though it's a bit weird. It gets people thinking about the meaning behind it," said Dirianguen.

When he was younger a friend of his couldn't pronounce his name and so he started calling him Didi instead.

Dirianguen has been teased for the feminine nickname, and he constantly has people referencing Dexter's sister Didi in Dexter's Laboratory. Regardless, the name has stuck and he disregards any criticism.

Sean Shaughnessy, Div. 375, has a whole lot of Sean in his name.

"I think it flows well," said Shaughnessy, who was named after his father, Sean.

Even though his parents chose the name, they still tease Shaughnessy about it.

"They both make fun of me for it," said Shaughnessy.

Shaughnessy has been called Sean-Sean and a wide variety of nicknames.

Urania Reyes, Div. 369, has heard one too many planet jokes in her lifetime.

Her mom got the name after searching through a baby book.

"She didn't even think about it," Urania said.

She later found out that it is the name of a Greek muse.

When she was younger, Urania was teased by her fellow classmates, many of whom called her spider because Urania sounds like spider in Spanish. Today she still gets random laughs here and there but disregards them and categorizes those teasers as lame, immature people.

"[My name] sort of captures all of my sides as a person, what people see and what people don't see," she said.

Urania realized that her name was a part of who she was, and embraced it.

"I think people will judge you based on your name, but I don't think it's that important," Urania said.

In many of her science classes, most specifically chemistry, the uranium joke always seems to get students laughing.

Urania has encountered enough of the silly jokes to look them over, and she feels that any normal name just wouldn't suit her.

Olufolabi Agunloye, Div. 359, has a name that

translates to "the king born with wealth." Olufolabi's mother chose a name that embodied Nigerian ideals.

"In Nigeria, names are important because you carry it forever," Olufolabi said, who finds power in his name.

"My mom always said that you should be proud of your name and I am proud," Olufolabi said. He argues that people are quick to judge unusual names.

"People are slow to accept me as a regular kid down the street from America," he said.

Along with the bias attached to unusual names like his, Olufolabi has also dealt with a wide variety of goofy nicknames.

"Throughout the years people have called me floppy disc, falafel, flip flop...most of the time I don't even care," said Agunloye.

Skye Berger, Div. 352, had blue eyes for a short period during her infancy but eventually they became darker. Her mom wanted her to have blue eyes like her dad.

"My dad also had the name in mind, and my mom was hoping I had blue eyes like the sky," said Skye.

Her mom also considered what a sky represented when choosing the name.

"She named me Skye because it represents beauty and it's unique," Skye said.

Skye's middle name, Morrissey was inspired by the lead singer from The Smith's, which both of Berger's parents had a passion for before they met.

While her first name is uncommon, it is her last name that prompts most jokes.

Berger often hears "Oh can I get some fries with that burger" or "If you were my kid I would have named you well done."

As she hears the jokes she laughs. While her name is unusual, Berger relishes its unique qualities.

"My name is unusual but that's what I find is so cool about it," said Skye Berger.

Zorohn Reed, Div. 285, got his name by a simple chain of events.

"My dad was watching a TV show and saw the name," said Zorohn.

After this the details were all a blur, and to this day his parents don't remember what show it was from.

"I'd rather have them remember what show it's from," said Zorohn.

Zorohn consistently hears people pronounce it wrong, and on a few occasions has been called "Zorohn the Moron."

Apart from the petty jokes, Zorohn is fond of the name but his curiosity for it's origin will never stop.

Like it or not, no matter the reaction that unusual names stir up, the butchered pronunciations made, or the allusions they bring to mind, names are with us forever.

"In grade school people would say 'you're a fruit let me put you on my lunch tray'," said Clementine Frye, Div. 363.

What was her name again?



What on earth was his name?



Schurz band director dies; Lane music department consoles

By Karina Maya

School rivalries are a common occurrence. The students get riled up competing against each other and cheering for their own schools. But this does not mean that rival schools cannot come together during difficult times. Lane and Schurz high schools proved that this is possible.

On Feb. 11, Schurz band director, Carl Annis, passed away. Lane band director, Mr. O'Brien knew him for 15 years and informed his students of what had happened. Lane band students signed sympathy cards for the band students at Schurz.

Prior to his death, Mr. Annis had many health related issues such as diabetes, a weight problem, and an incident in which he fell down some stairs and hurt his spine. As a result, he had to conduct band while sitting down. But none of this stopped him from doing what he loved.

He was involved with music for many years and taught at Schurz for at least 25 years. Before teaching at Schurz, he played the trombone as well as other instruments and traveled all over the country with a band. When he was younger he played for the Schurz football team, competed in boxing, and was an eagle scout. He also cared a lot for his students. He never missed a football game and he was always at contests supporting his students.

"No matter what school you went to, no matter how good or bad you were, he was always encouraging students," Mr. O'Brien said.

Mr. Annis really bonded with his students and he will be missed

by them a lot.

"When my friend texted me, my heart just dropped. For a second I told myself that I must be dreaming. It's still hard to believe that he's really gone," said Schurz band student Kathy Olivares.

"He was really cool, he wasn't really like a teacher, more like a friend you can talk to," said Schurz flute player Rosa Villa.

Lane students tried to appreciate what Schurz students were going through after the loss of a beloved teacher.

"I thought, 'How would I feel if that were to happen to us?' Not everyone has a passion for music, so it's sad to see someone who had that passion pass away," said Concert Band member Cassandra Tapia, Div. 356.

"Like any teacher I'm sure students looked up to him. I can't imagine losing a band director. They're special because they give someone the gift of music," said Symphonic Band member Jazmin Reyes Div. 371.

Fellow Schurz band director, Tim Anderson, knew Mr. Annis for 39 years and was very thankful for the sympathy cards.

"Simple acts like that make you believe in human kindness again. Because once in awhile you start to doubt," Anderson said.

Even though he remains loyal to his school, Anderson admits that

he considers Lane family.

"As an Old Bulldog I hate and despise everything green and gold, we got our butts kicked way too often to feel any differently. Kind

"There's nothing wrong with school rivalry. But when you push that stuff aside, there really isn't a difference between students here and there," O'Brien said.

of like a big brother that always picks on you. On the reverse side, you will do anything to defend your brother when anyone on the outside circle attacks him," Anderson said.

O'Brien thinks the same way.

"There's nothing wrong with school rivalry. But when you push that stuff aside, there really isn't a difference between students here and there," O'Brien said.

The days following Mr. Annis's death were very hard for students and faculty.

"There were plenty of laughs and tears as we remembered Mr. Annis, but at some point you have to get back on the horse and start riding," Mr. Anderson said.

Mr. Annis will definitely be remembered by the people he left behind. And even though Schurz is a rival school, the students at Lane pushed it all aside and offered them a shoulder to lean on.

International Days traditions change over past four decades

By Diana Barragon

It takes months of preparation and it even hurts the wallet a bit. When it actually arrives, all the months of hard work are put to the test for several three-minute performances over the course of three days.

This is International Days. Every year, ethnic clubs hold tryouts and choose who they think is best to perform in their club. Immediately after, the focus is all on practicing for International Days in March.

On these days there is much excitement given off by the performers, but what most people do not think about is the history of International Days.

"[International Days] wasn't much. It was maybe five or six clubs and there was no dancing," said Mr. Allegrezza, a social science teacher who has worked at Lane since 1971.

Before dancing became the focal point, International Days consisted of booths with information and food on the different cultures. In the evening, a dinner was held in the lunchroom. Allegrezza described it as, "something like a poduck dinner."

International Days started in 1973 shortly after girls were admitted to Lane. The idea came from Yvonne Childs, a history teacher.

"She was passionate about International Days and worked tirelessly to get it off the ground," said Mrs. Harris, a social science teacher at Lane who worked with Childs.

International Days slowly grew through the years to become the massive event it is today, which now takes up two full school days and two nights.

Besides no dancing, according to Allegrezza, the national anthems of the ethnic clubs used to be played each day leading up to International Days. While this

is not done anymore, there are still a few things that make the International Days of today much different from before.

"[International Days] was simple. It got crazier and the costumes became more provocative now," Allegrezza said.

Although Allegrezza may not be too fond of how these days have transformed, some say otherwise.

"I think the students are more serious about presenting and the dancing is much nicer now," Harris said.

Apart from those few changes, International Days has also changed in terms of the kinds of clubs due to the changing diversity of the students.

"There used to be a lot more European groups, but now there are a lot more Hispanic clubs," said Mr. Berlanga, a drafting teacher.

As Lane and its students change throughout the years, International Days changes as well.

Dancers put months of preparation into International Days performances

By Robin Buford

The gym is filled to its capacity. Students walk around, laughing and goofing off with their friends when all of a sudden-booming music starts. Within seconds, everyone surrounds a stage in the center of the gymnasium watching as costumed classmates rush into their places and begin to dance. International Days performers spend so much time dedicating themselves to perfecting their dance, it's only natural they would have fears about the outcome of their clubs performance.

LaQueishia Cummins, Div. 369, a new member of Native American Club, was overwhelmed with the excitement of being a part of International Days.

"I joined because they're a new club. This was only their second year dancing, and I really wanted to be a part of International Days," Cummins said.

Students may share different backgrounds, but it was clear that the costumes, music, food, fun and friends drew everyone to come celebrate this event together. However, International Days are not all fun and games. Clubs had to prepare as soon as they could in order for International Days to be a success. Students and staff put in many hours and hard work so that the rest of the school could enjoy themselves during the festivities.

"We had been practicing for a few months, daily after school until about 4:30pm-5:00pm and on weekends since February. I even set aside time at home to practice," Cummins said.

Practicing was only half the battle. Performers had to have the right attitude and ability to stay on the ball so they would not mess up during actual International Days' performances.

"I took everything very seriously, attended all practices, and whatever it took to do our best during International Days," Cummins said. "Few members dropped out, but were replaced. Some just weren't dedicated enough. However, I thought every club was working just as hard so we were doing the same."

With practice comes perfection, but of course students did not want it to be all work, all the time. In the months of preparation for International Days, club members became very close and relied heavily on one another to do their part.

"The fun definitely outweighed difficulty of practicing, but I was always nervous about forgetting moves or messing up. We could have always used more practice but overall the club was ready," Cummins said. "As a team we usually helped each other and not just depend on the president for assistance. No club is perfect, we sometimes fought, but overall we were all pretty close."

With all the hustle and bustle of practicing and the excitement of International Days, important business such as the February 29th debt deadline slipped the minds of some unfortunate dancers. Complications arose for these students who did not consult the Budget Office about their debts before the 29th. Cummins as well as others were upset some members would be unable to dance due to the deadline.

Performing among hundreds of people is no easy task and nerves almost got the best of some performers.

"It's not an audience's place to judge. They should have come to support their peers hard work," Cummins said. "If they weren't in International Days they don't understand our struggling efforts to practice and manage our other priorities. The best thing to do was to keeping going if someone were to mess up."

Rochelle Smith, Div. 360, became one of the new members of Club BSA (Black Student Association).

"I joined the club because I loved that this was a place where specifically African Americans could show that there was something positive we could do," Smith said.

Like many other clubs, BSA dancers practiced as much as possible so they could put on a great performance. Having practiced two to three times each week since December and everyday for the three weeks leading up to International Days, Smith believed her club members to be ready for International Days.

"I definitely thought we were ready if our nerves didn't

get the best of us," Smith said.

Many students have said they're expecting good feedback since everyone's dance has improved a lot since previous years. Smith was anticipating the outcome of her club's performance and hoped to give the audience a good show.

"I was hoping the audience would feed off our energy and appreciate the work we put in to entertain them. Hopefully the audience wasn't rude because this was my first year dancing," Smith said.

Debt's deadline affected many of the clubs. Most members were disappointed that some of their friends wouldn't be able to perform with them, also hoping that the decrease in dancers wouldn't affect their overall performance.

"We had to rearrange spots at the last minute because some girls had to drop out because they couldn't meet debt deadline. Hopefully it didn't affect our performance too much," Smith said. "Honestly I hope no one made any mistakes."

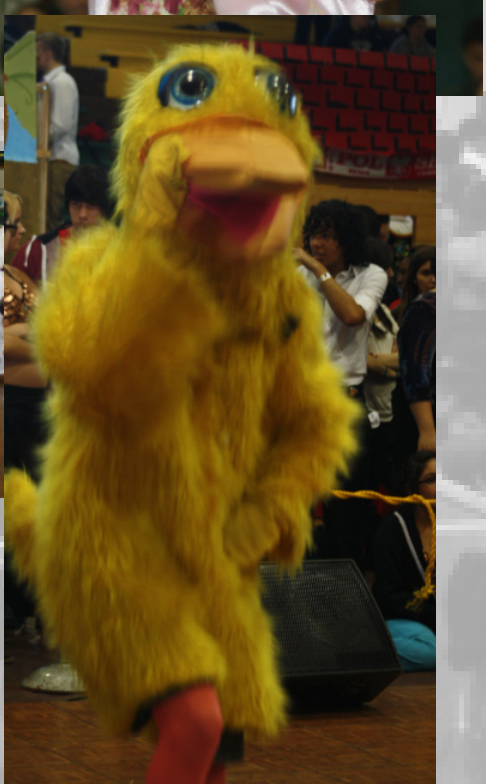
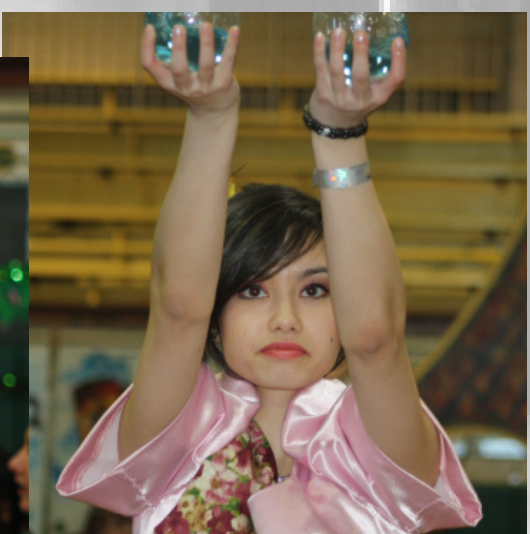
Marisol Silva, Div. 380, of Korean Club, however, was terrified of making a mistake, whether it was noticeable or not.

"I was really scared of messing up. I would hate to have dropped my fan or forgotten a part of the dance," Silva said. "Everyone had been working so hard I would hate to have ruin that."

Although Silva was shaken up over the fear of making a mistake, her friends made the experience and practices much more enjoyable.

"We use to practice every Wednesday, but then just about everyday. The girls were getting used to the fans but I was afraid for the boys," Silva said. "They had to learn tae kwon do for our performance. It was fun to watch them practice though, we all shared a few laughs."

With all of the clubs working hard practicing, others became aware of the serious effort their peers put into International Days. Family and friends came out to support the performers, and with all the love and excitement roaring in the audience, the performers knew that there was really nothing to fear.



Students make most of spring break with traveling

By Marissa Higgs

Spring symbolizes rebirth and growth. One way to celebrate this change in season is a spring break vacation.

Spring break is a time of year when people travel all around the world with their friends and families as a way to get away from their normal everyday lives. Lane students are not missing out on this week long vacation. While some prefer to stay in the city, others decide to venture out to other parts of the world.

700 islands spread across 100,000 square miles make up the Bahamas. It's one of the top tourist sites in the world and Michael Rodriguez, Div. 470, plans on going there with his family during spring break.

Rodriguez is very excited about his upcoming trip. Before this, he had only been to Wisconsin as a spring break vacation and did not find the trip too entertaining. He

believes this is going to be the best vacation he has ever been on.

"I do think it will be the best spring break I've had, and I'm excited for it because who wouldn't be excited for the Bahamas? It's warm, sunny, and scenic," Rodriguez said.

Being that the islands are only 50 miles away from Florida, the Rodriguez

family is not flying there. Instead, they found a more creative way of getting to their destination.

"Well, we will take a boat from Miami to the island of Bimini, stay there for a day, then just [travel] around the islands," he said.



Kiri Youngquist, Div. 474, always goes somewhere with her family for spring break. This year, she is traveling back to the "Big Island" of Hawaii. In recent years Youngquist has gone to Maui, California, and Minnesota.

Youngquist and her family very much enjoy Hawaii and have visited more than once. She admits that a previous trip to Hawaii was one of her fondest spring break vacations and cannot wait to go back this year. She is excited for all that there is to do.

"I'm going scuba diving, swimming with dolphins, snorkeling, kayaking, and I might go horseback riding," she said.

Rodriguez and Youngquist are not the only Lane students to travel south for spring break. William Lino, Div. 475, will be leaving March 30th with his mom and dad to go to Honduras. His family likes to go there every year.

"Well it is kind of a tradition to go at least once every year and we decided that we would go during spring break," Lino said.

His grandmother and brother live in Honduras and Lino, and his parents, like to visit them periodically. They go to a small pueblo known as Santa Barbara, where there is not much to do. However, Lino does enjoy the safe environment he enters when he arrives at Santa Barbara. He thinks of it as a nice contrast to the always busy city life.

Patricia Vanegas, Div. 459, is leaving on April 1st

to go to San Juan, Puerto Rico. Like Lino, Vanegas enjoys how small her vacation spot is compared to Chicago.

"Puerto Rico is really small and the local people know each other very well," she said.

Vanegas is looking forward to seeing much of her father's family who still live on the small island, which is home to about the same amount of people that live in Chicago.

"Hopefully I'll go to the beach and have fun with my stepmom, older sister, and baby brother," Vanegas said.

Her most recent trip to Puerto Rico was also her first time there. A few weeks ago she went there to attend the funeral of a close family member. One of the reasons why she is going this spring break is to take care of some family matters. However, she is also going as a birthday present. Vanegas hopes to relax and enjoy the vacation after a difficult couple of weeks.

While some students travel to visit family or to relax, other students are traveling for completely different reasons. Michael Henry, Div. 378, and the rest of the Lane baseball team are making a trip to Florida to play baseball.

"We're going down there to play schools we haven't played before and to get ready for the season which starts the day we come back," Henry said.

The baseball team will not have much time to do things other than play baseball while in Florida.

"Since we have double headers and practice every day, all we'll have time for is things like swimming at the hotel at night," he said.

Henry could not be more happy about going to Florida with his team though. He loves baseball and enjoys bonding with his team, therefore he is excited about the trip.

"I don't mind it at all because baseball never gets old or boring to me. Playing against schools in other

states is very exciting," he said.

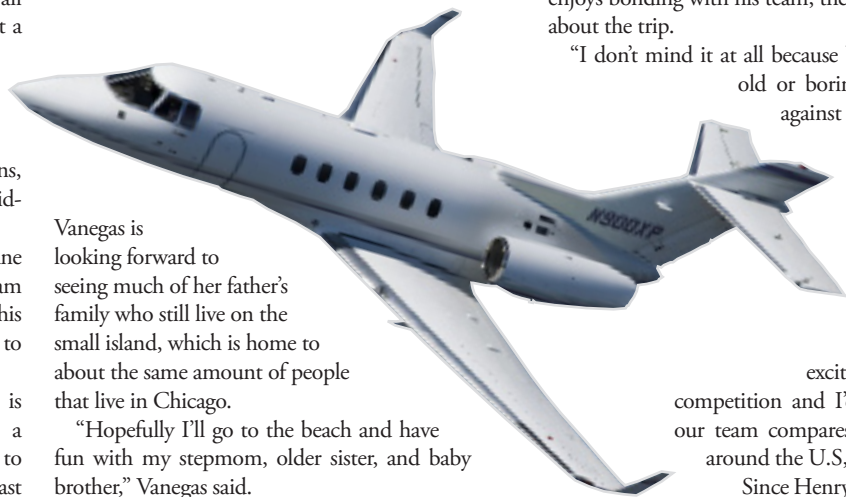
However, that is not the only reason why he cannot wait for spring break.

"I'm most excited for the level of competition and I'd like to see how our team compares to other schools around the U.S.," Henry said.

Since Henry is making the trip with his teammates and spending all of spring break away from Chicago, his parents decided that they would support him to the best of their ability. They are going to Florida separately from the team to watch Henry play.

Rodriguez, Youngquist, Lino, Vanegas, and Henry all have one thing in common. The five plans on enjoying their vacation time by adventuring out of Chicago and exploring some familiar and not so familiar places.

Spring break may not be an exciting time of the year for certain people, but some Lane students are planning delightful vacations. Many of which are bound to create memories that will last a lifetime.



Bilingual students help parents with language barriers

By Gabrielle Onyema

No matter how you say it, the fact still stands: there are communication issues between Lane students and their parents.

America is a hub of diversity due to immigration. Sometimes new places can lead to new problems. Parents from different countries may not be as proficient in English as their children are. When parents are not as knowledgeable at their new country's language, their children step in to help.

"Both me and my parents are from Bosnia," said Haris Heto, Div. 450.

It did not take long for language barriers to spring up soon after Heto and his family moved to America.

"When we first came, my older sister had to translate everything in the airport and talk to all the people. My parents weren't good at English," Heto said.

Translating for bilingual parents can range from small conversations, to big transactions.

"When I was younger my mom used to take me to the doctor's with her to translate. If my parents saw something they liked on TV and wanted to buy [it], I'd speak for them over the phone," Heto said.

Helping parents understand a new

language can be tough for some and not for others. Different kids have different feelings on their parents' dependancy on them.

"It was kind of annoying," said Peter Jelonek, Div. 453. His parents hail from Poland and are fluent in their native language. English does not come as easily.

"My mom was a substitute teacher, but she said things wrong and her grammar was off. It bothered me and she used to get annoyed too," Jelonek said.

Heto and Jelonek have this in common.

"They were constantly asking for help with things," Heto said.

Juan Uribe from Div. 450 didn't feel the same way. He was born in Colombia.

"I didn't mind helping my mom with everyday things like conversations. She liked it when I helped her out," Uribe said.

There are some unique situations among the young translators.

"My mom is deaf," said Sirena Olivan, Div. 468. Olivan can communicate through sign language fluently. She has been helping her mother communicate for years.

"I remember when I was young, when she'd want to order at restaurants I would have to help her. I wasn't good at sign language then," Olivan said.

"When I was younger my mom used to take me to the doctor's with her to translate. If my parents saw something they liked on TV and wanted to buy [it], I'd speak for them over the phone."
-- Haris Heto, Div. 450.

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"If she didn't use me, people would have to write stuff out with her. It's easier just to translate," Olivan said.

The parents of the Lane students do not appear to show any negative emotions in response to their children's help.

"They're usually thankful," Heto said.

"My mom appreciates it. I feel like I'd

do a better job translating if it's appreciated and not expected," Olivan said.

These Lane students speak from past experiences in their younger days. Jelonek feels that as time went on, his parents needed his help less as they learned to navigate through their new American surroundings.

"Now they speak a lot better, and they've got more English [speaking] friends to help them," Jelonek said.

While parents are typically the support system for their children, when it comes to language, sometimes the children step up and take the lead for their parents.

Pranks do not always end in laughter

By Jessica Morales

Many people enjoy playing pranks or practical jokes on each other. But, the question is: when does a prank get out of hand?

Tina Somic, Div. 368, is one student that has fallen a victim to a practical joke that may have gone too far. As Somic was waiting for the Western bus after school, a boy she didn't recognize ran past and slapped her butt. Her first reaction was 'weird', but then she realized there was an unidentifiable sticky substance all over her pants.

"I was extremely mad and couldn't believe that someone would do that to someone they don't even know," Somic said.

Immediately after she felt the stickiness on her pants she tried to catch the boy, who was now accompanied by another male. In her rage she tried to identify the pranksters.

"I asked people if anyone knew who it was because I wanted to tell the school. Those were one of my favorite pairs of jeans," Somic said.

After cooling down, Somic realized it really didn't matter anymore. She was able to get the sticky stuff off her pants, and never dealt with them again.

Somic is not the only student that has experienced a prank that has gone too far. Joey Blatz, Div. 365, broke his tibia and fibula, shattered his ankle, and cracked the growth plate in his right leg due to a practical joke gone wrong.

Last year on June 1, Blatz thought it would be funny to draw on his friends arm with a sharpie and try to make a quick getaway. They would always do little pranks to each other such as, pushing each other or trip one another in the hallway. Usually the pranks never escalated very far, but this time was much different.

"He went into a rage and started to chase me, but as I was getting away I slipped and fell down the stairs," Blatz said.

As Blatz plummeted down a flight of stairs he knew

that his life was about to change. As he lay there his wide-eyed friend joked, "good thing I didn't push you." Blatz chuckled, but the situation at hand wasn't quite as funny to him.

All he could think was, "What was I thinking? I just ruined my whole summer," said Blatz.

He lay there for 45 minutes before the paramedics came. They couldn't tell him what was exactly wrong until he got to the hospital and his parents were present. The pain was so excruciating that his doctors compared it to childbirth.

His right leg will always be a little shorter than his left because of the accident. On June 2, he had surgery on his leg. Originally they were supposed to pin it, but it was so bad that the doctors had to put a drum screw in his ankle.

"My ankle looked like it had a baseball inside it! I couldn't believe it was really that bad," Blatz said.

He had a cast for six weeks and could not play football for nine months.

"I was most upset that I couldn't do anything my whole summer except sit inside and hear about all the fun my friends were having," Blatz said.

Another student that was part of a prank gone wrong is Dylan Smith, Div. 372. Smith thought it would be funny to put eye drops in his teachers water when she left the room, not expecting to get caught.

"When she got back everyone tried hard not to laugh, but it was too hard," Smith said.

The next day at school he heard his teacher was out sick. Smith still thought his prank was pretty funny until he was called down to the principal's office.

"I knew I was going to be in a lot of trouble, but didn't know how much," Smith said.

Smith was punished for the act and says his relationship with his teacher has changed since the incident.

Many people pull pranks for fun, and don't think about the consequences. These students have experienced the bad side of a practical joke.

Some jokes send people into hilarious crying hysterics, but others just straight to tears.

Intimidation, fear of rejection keep students from applying to top colleges

By Airis Cervantes

As acceptance letters come through the mail and students faces glow with excitement, no person would ever guess that there is a doubt in their mind. Receiving acceptance letter after acceptance letter only questions some students to ponder on the "what if." What if I hadn't been so lazy? What if I had applied to my dream school? What if I had the chance of attending there?

Some seniors at Lane contemplate what schools they would be deciding between if they had applied to their dream school. They regret not having the confidence to apply to more competitive schools, afraid they would be rejected and their hopes crushed in the process.

Having gotten accepted to all the schools she applied to Amanda Sturgill, Div. 271 wishes she would have applied to University of Wisconsin-Madison. Sturgill was not told by family or friends that she would not get into UW-Madison, but she discouraged herself from applying when she compared herself to other students at Lane.

"Richard Tran Div. 280, went out for the biggest schools! He has something to write

about and I don't," said Strugill.

Tran is devoted to his community organization, has volunteered in a foreign country, all while maintaing an exceptional GPA and participating in extracurricular activities.

"How can I compete with that?" said Sturgill.

Sturgill does not consider herself "amazing" and says that she has not had difficulties in her life.

Sturgill also admits that she did not apply to any of the California schools that she initially wanted to attend.

"My mom told me she didn't think I would get in," said Sturgill.

However Sturgill's friend tried to convince her to apply to California schools, but the fear of rejection and senioritis kicked in.

Nancy Miguel, Div. 271 also regrets not applying to Stanford, the school of her dreams.

"I had the individual ability to rise above, but I didn't take the risk. That's going to be one of my high school regrets," said Miguel.

Miguel has not recieved responses from all the schools she has applied to, but she expects to get accepted into all of them. Miguel agrees that when you start com-

paring yourself to other people it brings down your confidence.

"I discouraged myself. I didn't think I was what they were looking for. I considered myself average," said Miguel.

Even if Miguel had applied and been accepted to Stanford, her financial state would be questionable. Not knowing how much money a school was going to give her made her realize that maybe it was not worth applying.

"It's heartbreaking to think you could've gone somewhere, but you cant. It's defeating," said Miguel.

Psychotherapist F. Diane Barth believes that the first step to take is to accept those feelings and understand that they are reasonable even if they are not accurate. Many students take college rejection letters personally even though for 50 American colleges they reject more than they accept.

"It's like all those late nights, all those after school activities that I was in, it wasn't enough to get in. It hurts," said Graciela Ascencio, Div. 262.

Ascencio has also been accepted to all the schools she has applied to and now re-

Is ditching class ever justified?

By Erik Brito

Ditching. It can be the last minute decision to take a second lunch period or the carefully constructed plan to skip a whole day of school.

"While I think ditching is wrong," said Sean Demagiba, Div. 271. "I think that sometimes we do it because we have to."

Demagiba goes on to explain about times where a person's body and mind need a break or two "be free."

Tomek Tutka, Div. 555, warns not to "do it excessively," since getting an education is important. But for him there are days where he wants to "forget everything, and just chill."

While teachers understand this sentiment, few advocate taking time for yourself during a school day.

"Everyone should take part in self care," said Mr. Hoof, a guidance counselor. "But there is definitely a way to do that without taking a day of from school."

He went on to explain the value of alternative methods for relaxing, such as reading a book, working out, going shopping, or just sitting down and enjoying a tv show.

"It's not always easy, but [you can] find the time in the hours outside of eight to three," he said.

Still, even Hoof admits staying home from school occasionally when he was in high school.

"I would be like, Hey ma, I don't feel great. I could go to school today, but I want to stay home," he said.

Hoof was quick to point out, however, he was never in danger of failing any classes and he always worked hard to catch up in his school work after missing a day.

Unlike Mr. Hoof, when Dr. LoBosco attended high school she made sure she was in school every day. She even claims to have become an-

gry with her mother for letting her sleep in.

"I would ask her, 'Why didn't you wake me?'" said Dr. LoBosco. "She would say 'Well you look so tired, I though I'd let you sleep.' I loved school, and, let's face it, what would you do when you stay home?"

Assistant Principal Ms. Rice is also on the idea that students should never ditch.

"Kids need to be here everyday, in order to learn," Rice said. "When I was a teacher if a kid ever cut my class it was an insult to me."

Rice said students should follow their teachers' example. Teachers do not have the option of ditching a period. If the teacher is there then so should the student.

"I don't believe that a student choosing to cut is the teachers fault," she said. "I don't believe that's a reflection on the teacher, that's a choice that a kid makes."

"I think those kids don't really care about school in general and that their parents never really enforced education as something important in life," said an anonymous source.

"Sometimes I think that teachers and administration make too much of a big deal and do not give us the freedom a 'college prep' school should," said Iaona Cornea, Div. 252.

Jupiter Angulo, Div. 263 says that he does not have a need for skipping classes or school days.

His parents encourage him to attend school unless of a severe illness.

This year he is taking six AP classes and even so he finds no reason to ditch.

"I guess I'm overwhelmed but I'm not going to take a day," said Angulo. His reason: for 11 years of his academic life Angulo has not miss a day of school.

"It does mean a lot to me after all this time," said Angulo.

"I mean every once in a while [you can ditch]," said Alex Rodriguez, Div. 257. "But I think if you ditch for no reason than you are not smart."

"Kids need to be here everyday, in order to learn," said Mrs. Rice.

"While I think ditching is wrong," said Sean Demagiba, Div. 271. "I think that sometimes we do it because we have to."

alizes that she should have applied to her reach school, Marquette University.

"If you didn't get at least one rejection letter, it means you didn't apply to high enough schools and that you were selling yourself short," said Ascencio.

Although her family encouraged her, Ascencio thought the college application process was very stressful and she discouraged herself when she compared herself to other students.

"It made me feel like if they are so intelligent and they're only applying to UIC and safety schools, then why would I be encouraged to apply to really far out schools?" said Ascencio.

"I knew a lot of smart kids that got rejected, so I was like, why should I waste my time?" said Jakub Ogara, Div. 264.

According to Ogara, students should set college standards, therefore he, "accepted rejection before it even happened". For Ogara its not about the grades, but it's

about doing better than other people.

Patricia Mota, Div. 283 has also been accepted to all the colleges she has applied to thus far but regrets not applying to some of her top colleges.

"I would've applied to Boston College but I was too afraid of getting rejected," said Mota.

Mota does not think that she could have handled a rejection letter, it would've hurt her ego.

"I dont like other people saying I'm incompetent or I'm not good enough," said Mota

Rejection letters can leave a mark on a person's ego, but according to F. Diane Barth, rejection can lead to creativity, personal strength and a growing capacity for problem solving. Closed doors can open many unexpected opportunities. They can take us places where we didn't even know we wanted to go and in the end we end up exactly where we want to be.



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STANDOUT OF THE ISSUE: Matt Rajca

By Sophie Swenson

A butcher, a baker, a software engineer. For many high schoolers, the thought of a career is very fleeting— not many sixteen-year-olds can say with certainty what they want to be when they grow up. But for Matt Rajca, Div. 254, it is a different story.

As a child, Rajca dreamed of becoming a pilot, but soon realized that following this ambition was a bit unrealistic.

“You wouldn’t just fly airplanes for fun,” said Rajca, “[But] it’s completely possible to create the next Facebook from the comfort of my own apartment.”

Rajca quickly discovered another passion of his, which has grown into much more than just a hobby.

Last year, Rajca was named the fourth best teenage computer science engineer in the world by Google. Not only that, but he has created software that is used by people all over the world, and sold multiple iPhone applications to the Apple’s app store.

Rajca’s fondness of building sparked his interest in software engineering. By the age of 12, Rajca had already finished his first computer science project: a fully featured web browser. By June of 2011, Rajca was selected among some of the top young computer science engineers to go on a four day; all expenses paid trip to California, and receive a private tour led through Google’s headquarters.

Google judged its contestants based on how many points each competitor earned. Throughout the competition, contestants completed software projects which earned them points. Points were earned based on how many projects were completed, and how difficult these projects were. The more projects a contestant completed, the more points they earned. More points were given to more difficult projects.

Since Google has been rated the best employer in the country, anyone visiting its headquarters would have been excited to see how the happiest employees in the job market are treated. Apart from the free vending machines, ice cream stations, and bicycles employees can pick up and ride around at Google’s headquarters, Rajca also took his own private trip to Apple’s headquarters.

“Apple is more of my company,” said Rajca, “[Mac

computers] enable you to do stuff you couldn’t before.”

Although Rajca is grateful for the title given to him by Google, he also appreciates the opportunities that Apple has given him by creating the first personal computer. Without Apple’s contribution to the technological world, Rajca believes that computers would still be used by just scientists in laboratories, as opposed to regular people who are interested in technology. Believe it or not, before his experience with computers reached a whole new level, Rajca used to be just another regular Mac user. As his interest grew, Rajca taught himself how to maneuver through software by brainstorming projects he wanted to work on, and then learning all that needed to be known along the way.

As a software engineer, Rajca spends much of his time working on his own endeavors, but has been hired by different companies as well. Within the last year, Rajca was hired to update a graphics editor called Pixon, which allows Macintosh users to create and edit digital art (also known as pixel art). Not only does he add to the software, but Rajca also manages the Pixon website, as well as its Twitter account.

Apart from his work with Pixon, Rajca worked with another company, which created a file sharing application for the iPhone. According to Rajca, file sharing allows users to publish data on the internet for others to see, like a virtual flash drive or “a folder in the cloud.” Eventually, Rajca got bored with file sharing, and moved on to more exciting enterprises.

“I quit [working for other people] after two months— file sharing isn’t that interesting,” said Rajca, who prefers to stick to his own projects.

Recently, Rajca has been working with a technology called Kinect, which is connected to a camera, hooked up to an Xbox. A player stands in front of the camera and moves around as the camera captures what the player is doing by detecting the movements of the player’s joints by using skeletal tracking data. By copying the player’s movement, Kinect technology transfers the actions of the players, and mimics them using the avatar in the game.

“I always try to look at what’s out there, and try to see the next best thing in technology,” said Rajca.

Like any other user, Rajca bought his Kinect at the store, and programmed it so that it ran just like it would for a regular Xbox. By playing with the Kinect, Rajca learns more about its skeletal track-

ing data so that he could find a more meaningful use for the Kinect, as opposed to just using it for entertainment.

Rajca imagines that the Kinect will be used for healthcare, physical therapy, and practicing instruments instead of using it to play Just Dance, or another Xbox game. Already, a physical therapist in the United Kingdom has seen Rajca’s work with the Kinect and is interested in using it to benefit her patients.

One of Rajca’s favorite aspects of being a software engineer is that millions of people from all over the world are able to view and use his creations. Most of the people who use Rajca’s projects come from Apple’s App Store to which Rajca has added two applications. Because of Rajca’s fascination with music, as well as technology, the first application he created was a digital metronome.

“I always liked music, so I decided to combine my interest in music with technology,” said Rajca, who claims that his was the first metronome application that could be used on an iPhone out of the hundreds that are currently available.

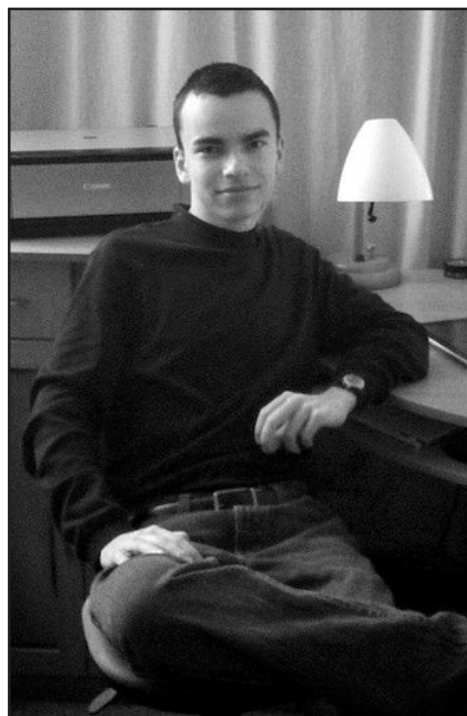
Apart from the metronome app, Rajca published a second application called “Gazette,” which allows users to read articles and other information that is constantly updated through the application. Rajca has since removed both applications from the Apple store, but has not stopped creating his own personal applications which he does not plan on selling.

“When you’re the only developer on a software product, you find yourself spending as much time responding to feedback, debugging, writing catchy product descriptions, designing graphics... You just don’t have a whole support/marketing/quality assurance department taking care of all that for you,” said Rajca, “I had to choose between moving forth with new projects or supporting older ones.”

One application Rajca has created mimics the first 1976 Apple computer and its programs, and another allows Rajca to rotate virtual wind turbines on his iPad’s screen by blowing into a microphone.

Since application publishers receive 70% of the profits made from their creations, Rajca has stowed away more than enough money to help him get through future projects. In fact, when Rajca decided he wanted to add to the Apple App Store’s applications, he had to pay a \$100 fee in order to get the rights to publish his products. Rajca told himself that if he were to make his \$100 back in profits from his applications, all his hard work would be paid off. Looking back, it seems silly that somebody with Rajca’s success would be concerned about making back a profit of only \$100, seeing as he made more than 10x that amount within the first 20 days of his applications release.

As Rajca works on more advanced projects, he makes sure he has the latest Apple equipment to



Rajca, Div. 254, sports his best Steve Jobs look.

make designing and engineering for the future possible. Over the years, Rajca has owned three iPads, four iPhones, four iMacs, and an Apple TV.

“Some people call me crazy,” said Rajca, “but for me [owning the latest Apple equipment] is an investment.”

Rajca’s fascination with Apple doesn’t stop there.

Apart from owning and using all of Apple’s products to further his projects, Rajca considers Steve Jobs, the creator and CEO of Apple computers, to be the most influential person when it comes to his work and life ethic.

“[Steve Jobs] doesn’t expect anything less than insanely great,” said Rajca, “I like technology, but I could never be a CEO.”

Like Steve Jobs, Rajca is always looking forward. As for the future, Rajca hopes to enroll in a computer science program for college, gaining experience through internships along the way, and eventually earning himself a career with Apple. After a few years with Apple, Rajca plans on returning to his own personal projects at home. Rajca envisions a program on the iPad that would show sheet music, and turn the pages for the musician as he plays his instrument. Although this is just one of the many possibilities that he has for his future, Matt Rajca intends to always keep looking forward.

Lane junior starts clothing company, Bear Bodies

By Kevin Morales

Many would think that running a company of their own might be too much to handle. But Mykee Hugh, Div. 377, has accepted the challenge and opened up his own business.

In early Feb. of this year, Hugh launched his very own online clothing company, Bear Bodies. Bear Bodies offers uniquely designed clothing at a fair price to young customers.

The name of his business, Bear Bodies, has a significant meaning to him. Hugh goes by the nickname “The Bear.”

“I always ate a lot,” Hugh said, “and I got a sign from my uncle that said, ‘Don’t feed the bear!’”

As a result, Hugh decided to incorporate the nickname into his enterprise.

Running a company is a first for Hugh. He has had some experience in the business field while working in different positions at various companies, the highest being store manager. Having his own company was something Hugh always wanted.

“My lifetime goal has been to have my own business. Once I had the ability to start [a business]...I went with it,” Hugh said.

Hugh says that he was inspired to fol-

low the example of the graphic clothing store Threadless. Like Bear Bodies, Threadless started off as an online company. Over time, Threadless gained more business and popularity to the point where the owner had enough income to purchase a storefront.

“I’m hoping [Bear Bodies] becomes like Threadless. They’re my idols!” said Hugh.

In order to get everything up and running, Hugh had to go through a lengthy process before he could officially open for business. Some of the tasks involved in the process included acquiring copyrights for the company’s name and logo as well as registering the company to collect and pay taxes.

Of course, a company needs funds in order to get started and Hugh did not look very far to find some.

“It’s all self-funded,” he said.

Bear Bodies offers shirts that sport unique looks that Hugh designs with the help of customers and his panel. His panel is a group of close friends that help him organize the business or draw up new designs. He also gets additional help with publicity from supporters or previous customers.

The clothing is made for both guys and girls although, at times, some clothing may be exclusive to a gender. Hugh explained that the clothing cir-

culates around an animalistic theme. Currently Bear Bodies only offers t-shirts. But Hugh plans on offering other types of apparel such as hats and hoodies with the Bear Bodies theme. T-shirts can be ordered off of his website: bearbodies.tumblr.com.

Hugh has the clothing made at a printing company. He sends in his chosen designs to print on the t-shirts and has them shipped to his home in bundles of 20 to 25 pieces. To store the new pieces, Hugh went to the extent of purchasing a new dresser to hold his entire inventory.

Hugh admits that running his own company is a lot of work.

“It’s a learning experience,” he said. “Once you start, it’s something completely different from what you imagined.”

Regardless of what may happen, Hugh remains optimistic about his company. He believes that anyone can try to pursue their goals at any time, even if it is as early as high school.

“If high school students have a goal and they expand on it, they can really make it into something,” he said. “If it doesn’t work, you dust yourself off, evaluate what happened, and maybe try again later...you have to cross your fingers and wish for the best.”



Kevin Manasala models a Bear Bodies t-shirts.

Teaching styles keep students engaged in classroom

By Nicole Perez

Falling asleep during class, being able to listen to music, never turning in homework, and having partnered tests. These are some of the things that the stereotypical “favorite” teacher allows. For some students, “easy” teachers are better teachers. Students at Lane have a different perspective.

Many students at Lane have a favorite teacher. Some of those teachers give very little homework; some are really laid back in class. Juliette Rosado, Div. 366, has a favorite teacher based on how that teacher makes hard work fun.

“I love Ms. Radlein because she makes class funny, even when what we have to learn is hard,” said Rosado.

While some other trigonometry teachers do not check homework or give easy tests, Radlein checks homework every day.

“[It’s] for a good reason because it is really hard learning the material without homework,” Rosado said.

Other students like Rosado feel the same about actually learning the material. Grace Tamayo, Div. 358, has never had Ms. Radz (as her students like to call her) as a teacher, but she was Tamayo’s volleyball coach freshman year. Tamayo would go into Radlein’s class during her lunch period just to visit, and would see how she related with her

students on a whole different level.

“She would try to make math easy to understand, and as interesting as she could. Not only that, but she always cared about her students,” said Tamayo.

She admits that whenever she has any sort of problem, Radlein would be the first adult that she would talk to about it.

Jake Domsy’s, Div. 375, favorite teacher is Mrs. Applequist, who teaches Early World History. They take a lot of notes in her class, but even so, he admitted the class was not overly challenging and that she is a really relaxed teacher. While history is infamous for being long and boring, Applequist has done simulations of how it would have been to go to school under a cruel leader by teaching almost the whole period like a legalist ruler. Domsy was thankful that

she only did that for one day. Another student in her class thought it was pretty cool of her to risk embarrassing herself in front of the whole class.

“She was really scary; we weren’t allowed to even look at her. She didn’t laugh or anything, it was pretty awesome. What made it even weirder was that she was like 7 months pregnant,” said Kyle Olvera, Div. 261, who is also in Applequist’s Early World History class.

Usually students are the ones performing skits. This time the teacher

put one on to help their students. Francisco Moreno, Div. 273, is a senior who is struggling with senioritis, but one of his teachers puts his condition to rest.

“Mr. O’Neil never wakes anyone up from sleeping, but then again no one ever sleeps in his class,” said Moreno who put a twist on the stereotypical perfect teacher.

Moreno enjoys O’Neil’s class because it is the perfect mixture of interactive teaching and a relaxed setting to learn in. A few other students who do not like the teachers they have for English have actually requested to transfer into O’Neil’s class.

Yousra Jouglaf, Div. 269, takes Law with Ms. Sebesteyen. While Law can seem overwhelming because of its several “what if” situations, Sebesteyen has a way of leading the question into a group discussion. Not all teachers allow these types of debates because they have the potential to get out of hand.

“Ms. S helps us by using real life examples, and her humor actually helps a lot, but to me, the fact that we have an open discussion kind of class is just awesome because most teachers just don’t let us learn that way,” said Jouglaf.

Sometimes, a teacher’s method for teaching is not everything. Personality is a big factor for Andre Garcia, Div. 276.

“The best kind of teachers are the ones who feel like they never grew up and want to be best friends with you,” said Garcia.

Not everyone has a teacher that they love. Many students say they do not like any of their teachers because they give busy work. While the definition of an “awesome teacher” varies, it is clear that an awesome teacher is not always just the one who allows sleeping or texting in class. Who can make a student feel like they are learning important information, while making the class interesting are favorites too.

“The best kind of teachers are the ones who feel like they never grew up and want to be best friends with you,” said Garcia.

GEMS Program attracts Lane girls to field of science

By Claudia Maj

Step aside boys, the girls are coming through! That is, in math, science, and technology of course.

The GEMS program (Girls’ Electronic Mentoring in Science, Engineering, and Math) was first introduced to Lane while assistant principal Dr. Dignam and science teacher Mr. Kopak were interviewing science teachers for the 2011-2012 school year. Throughout every interview they had asked the teacher whether or not they would sponsor and help with the club.

One of the interviewed teachers, Ms. Finchum, was a mentor/tutor for the club while she was a student at UIC. She and Dr. Dignam discussed the start of GEMS here at Lane.

Now the girls meet for GEMS the first Monday of every month to explore their interests in math, science and technology. The meetings take place in room 305 after school.

“We started this club to get girls excited to be in a field that is mostly male dominated,” Dignam said.

The girls have gone on field trips together and they work on experi-

ments to build interest in topics brought up in the club. They also receive news about possible internships and scholarships in the math and science fields.

A common event that takes place during the meetings is having a guest speaker visit.

Most visitors that come to the club have been women who have excelled in careers in math, science, and technology.

“I have heard about many women taking the lead in scientific jobs but I never had the chance to meet any,” club member Anastasiya Sapatynska, Div. 467 said, “I want to be an anesthesiologist nurse so I was really excited to hear that one was going to visit us, and I loved how much she enjoyed her job.”

Statistically it is shown that there are still less women working in the math and science field. According to an article published November 4, 2011 in the New York Times, women only make up 17 to 18 percent of those who have a bachelor’s degree in engineering and computer science. Just over 40 percent of bachelor degrees in the physical sciences and math are earned by women.

“Young girls and women may have all the skills needed to be top-notch engineers or scientists, but if they fall victim to believing in

stereotypes, they may not think they will be successful,” Project coordinator Sarah Shirk at UIC said.

President of the club Jacqueline Hardin, Div. 474, does not let stereotypical views stop her from continuing her education in science.

“One thing I know is that I want an occupation in the field of science, and that is mainly why I am in GEMS, it helps me figure out what I like and dislike,” Hardin said.

As president, Hardin helps the adult club sponsors. She also informs the other members about upcoming news and meetings and welcomes the guest speakers.

The Google office will be visiting Lane March 26, during ninth period, where they will be talking about careers in computer science.

The club currently has an open enrollment, which means any girl can still join the club by signing up to the club’s contact list via the Lane Tech website.

The main goal of the club is to keep girls’ hopes and spirits up so they will not give up in preparing their dream jobs. GEMS is raising ‘Girl Power’ to its highest.

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The Hunger Games satisfies appetites of fans

By Ben Palmer

Sleep deprivation, mass congregation, and starvation. These are the woes of *The Hunger Games*. These were also the joys of devoted fans who saw the film at midnight on Mar. 22.

Based on the first of three successful young adult novels by Suzanne Collins, *The Hunger Games* follows teenager Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) as she fights for her life in a government-sanctioned death match.

A rough premise for a young adult fiction book? You bet. The novel presents a grim dystopian future in which North America, now united as Panem, is a gritty slave state split into 12 districts and one glimmering Oz-esque Capitol. Each year, two children or “tributes” are randomly chosen from each district to fight to the death. Katniss takes her sister’s place when the latter is chosen by frilly Capitol escort Effie Trinket (Elizabeth Banks). The male tribute is Peeta Mellark (Josh Hutcherson).

From here, a dark and violent adventure begins. The two are half-heartedly advised by alcoholic

former champion Haymitch Abernathy (Woody Harrelson) who adds some comic relief to the tense sequences before the Games begin. Once in the arena, however, it is nothing but tension with very little let up until the last few minutes.

The film, at a whopping two and a half hours, was able to perfectly capture the novel. The drudgery of District 12, the rainbow of glimmering wrongness that is the Capitol, and the numbing relentlessness of the Games are aptly represented.

It should be noted at this point that though the novels are for young adults, this is not a film for children. Complete with neck-breakage, spear removal from a little girl’s abdomen, and death by hallucinogenic bees, the film is not a walk in the forest.

Lawrence embodies the physicality of the chilly Katniss as she goes about the arena, though at times appearing almost too gentle and pretty. Hutcherson also manages to keep his handsome looks despite disguising himself as a rock, being stung to near death by super-bees, and being bitten by mutant dogs.

These are the only problems I had with the film.

The cinematography was brilliant, a safe combination of beautifully eerie panning shots of the forest arena and hand-cam style shots of bloody combat. The fate of an R-rating was narrowly avoided by shakily filming the most violent scenes, allowing for a little squish pop and red, but no horribly graphic imagery.

In fact, the most horrifying thing about the film is the premise. Twenty-four children go in, and one comes out alive. Innocence is sacrificed for the sake of entertaining the over the top Capitol and to prove loyalty to the icy President Snow (Donald Sutherland).

While Oscar season is almost a year away, I would not be surprised if *The Hunger Games* took home a few awards for costumes and makeup. The sequences in the Capitol are stunningly surreal, displaying the gender-bending fashions and makeups



of the uber-rich. Essentially, the Capitol is like a gay Wizard of Oz themed nightclub, which serves as a stark contrast to the Orwellian look of Katniss and her destitute fellows in District 12.

With a non-stop supply of blood pumping action, there is little I can say about the film that won’t reveal too much. I only hope that the next films, based on sequels *Catching Fire* and *Mockingjay*, will be as beautiful an adaptation as *The Hunger Games*.

Dress code issues rise with temperature



By Sophia Swenson

Ahh, spring. Birds chirping, sun shining, and season of the discipline office gym shorts. I don’t acknowledge that it is spring until I see that first girl tugging at her skirt right outside of door A, praying she won’t get noticed by security and shipped off to 210.

It’s like a game of Russian Roulette: either you’ve made it past the metal detectors, or asked to go upstairs and trade in your unbecoming pants for gym short that are, ironically, against the dress code. Has anyone ever noticed that our gym shorts and several sports team’s uniforms don’t quite reach the knee? Tsk, tsk, Lane Tech.

But all facts aside, I get it. Lane wants to keep its students looking “appropriate” and “professional” for the school day. The thing is, I’m pretty sure we passed that point about 20 years and 30,000 push-up bras ago.

It’s not just girls who are giving the dress code a run for its money, though. One accessory in particular that seems to be on every teacher’s “no-no” list are boys’ earrings. I don’t mean to wave the red “sexist” flag here, but this rule does seem a little unfair to gentlemen who just want a little more zest in their lives. If girls can get

away with earrings that are big enough to get stuck in the door, surely boys are allowed wear a tiny stud!

A question that always comes to mind on a particularly hot day is how students can maintain a normal body temperature when we are expected to abide by the dress code. I, and a bountiful number of students, can affirm that there are many parts of this building that reach a solid 90 degrees towards the end of the year. Open windows and battery-operated fans can only go so far, people! As for those of you who are shaking your heads and saying “Lane is never that hot,” I have something to say to you:

1. Your first-floor office is air conditioned.
2. Please, come visit my science class on the fourth floor when it’s 85 degrees outside. Have a seat. Stay a while.

Not only does being incredibly hot and sweaty make it hard to care about anything my teacher is saying, but also it poses a risk for dehydration. So unless Lane’s willing to fix the ants-living-inside-half-of-the-schools-water-fountains business, I suggest that from April- September Lane’s dress code be lifted. Not only will this keep kids from passing out in class, but it will make the banisters in major stairwells a lot less sticky.

Let’s get real, Lane Tech: we are not going to be able to wear what we want until we can band together as a whole and stop dressing like we’re auditioning for the Bad Girls Club. So ladies, if you look in the mirror and can see the color of your bra through that shirt, change. Boys, if that deep-V surpasses your nipples, for the love of god, change. Otherwise, I don’t see what the big deal is about a hem that’s at mid-thigh, or even a stud that belongs to a boy.

Elephant in the Classroom

A column dedicated to examining those awkward high school situations

By Cody Lee

If you all haven’t realized by now, prom is probably the most feminine high school experience ever (behind Freshman football, of course). High schoolers plan and plan forever, and talk about it like it’s their royal wedding. “Oh my gawd, we all have to wear pink, and the limo has to be white. If it’s not, my life will be ruined!”... That’s the typical female sentence when discussing prom. But nowadays the male’s statements aren’t too different; they usually sound something like this, “Oh my gawd, we all have to wear blue, and the limo has to be black. If it’s not, my life will be ruined!”. Masculinity needs to make its revival, drama kings.

When most think of prom, they picture a lousy DJ, a pointless theme, and a girl sitting on the floor crying her eyes out. Personally, I think that sounds awesome, right? It’s so American Pie. But all of this glamour doesn’t come easy. Prom takes planning. And no one is more on top of it than the guys.

Weird huh? Aren’t the girls supposed to be the ones that do all of the organizing, or is that “so 1950”? Boys are usually the ones



that don’t care about much and take whatever they can get, but not when dealing with prom. And I am guilty of this too fellas. Don’t think I’m a saint.

You know, I never envisioned a day where I would go into a dressing room, and take an hour. That happened last week... I went into a fitting room at the same time as my girlfriend, and when I got out, she had already purchased everything she needed, and was sitting in an arm chair. Waiting. That was the moment my masculinity was flushed down the toilet.

Dudes, we need to get our manhood back. While I was sitting alone in my candle-lit room last night, contemplating this, I came up with a few perfect solutions to make prom as manly as can be.

- 1) Camouflage tuxedos. Self-explanatory.
- 2) Roll up to prom on a motorcycle. Now I’m sure that’s not possible for most students, but hey, if you can... do it.
- 3) Getting a little more realistic here, avoid matching colors with your date, it looks like she dressed you.
- 4) Don’t take your friend, cousin, neice, or even your lovely mother; find a real date. Even if that means asking 99.9% of the school’s female population.
- 5) Don’t cry when you realize this is your last school dance. Instead, try punching a hole in the wall like the man that you are.

Men, it is time. It is time we fight. We fight for our pride, our honor, and our dignity. We can’t let prom take all the hair off our chests (even though I don’t have any yet). This is our moment. Give me a M. Give me a E. Give me a N. What’s that spell?! MEN! YAYYYY!...wait...what...

Swipe to turn, jump, slide your way through Temple Run

By Jasmine Lee

Angry Birds, Words With Friends, Fruit Ninja. Downloads show that these games are nothing less than popular. Lately though, room is being made for a game that could be considered “up and coming.”

Temple Run is a game that takes minimal skill. Nothing but the quick swipes of your finger guide your character as he runs through a maze filled with turns and jumps, all the while being chased by evil creatures trying to eat him. No big deal? To many Lane students it is the exact opposite.

“It’s distracting, but so addicting!” said Aida Besirevic, Div. 362.

Sarah Nueschen, Div. 371, agrees that Temple Run has the power to distract you from other common daily activities.

“It gets in the way of some things, because once you start playing you become determined to get



your high score, so it could go on forever!” Nueschen said.

So what makes this game so addicting?

“Everything about it is addicting. It’s just the overall need to beat your high score,” says Besirevic, “You want to get at least a million points and not die!”

“The score on my iPod is about a million, but on my iPad...like 7 million,” Nueschen said.

Casey Cusano, Div. 370, feels it’s not just the points that evoke the passion.

“Those monkeys are so scary,” Cusano says, “I just really want my guy to survive, so I get pretty emotionally involved.”

Besirevic herself knows all about being emotionally involved when it comes to Temple Run.

“This one time I was playing on the bus, really focused on the game, and I guess I was yelling and stomping my foot, and this woman was just glaring at me like I was crazy. I couldn’t help it though,” Besirevic says.

Playing on the bus is not unheard of, but it does add challenge to the game.

“I always get so mad when I play on the bus, because it makes the game harder,” Cusano says, “My guy on Temple Run is moving, I’m moving, the bus is moving. It’s annoying. But I play anyways, because it is just so worth it.”

For some, like Besirevic, setting isn’t a problem, finding an iPod or iPad to to play the game on is a mission in itself.

“I have to play on other people’s iPods. If they aren’t using them, I just play until they take them away,” said Besirevic, “and if I should be leaving, I’ll just stay and play until I reach the score I want. Even if I have to be home!”

While it may seem like this game can’t be left alone, there are some people who just are not consumed by its “addictive” quality.

“My relationship with Temple Run is complicated,” said Mercedes Lee, Div. 262. “I like to play occasionally when I have nothing better to do. You know, when I’m not at school, working, doing homework, or hanging out with friends.”

It may be hard to believe that there are people out there who think Temple Run is just a game, which is understandable considering the fact that as of Feb. 10th (and since being released Aug. 3, 2011),

Temple Run reached 36 million downloads in the Apple App Store. That’s more than the population of Canada. And that’s without it being released for Android users. For those Android users out there who have been waiting for it, according to androidpolice.com, it should be out Mar. 27th.

“I yell while I play at my house, and my mom always tells me I need to calm down because it’s ‘just a game’. She clearly just doesn’t understand the severity of the situation,” Cusano said.

While Temple Run’s download count may be small compared to that of games such as Angry Birds (whose download count was last marked at 250 million), it has also only been around a short time in comparison to Angry Birds, which was released in December of 2009. That’s not to say Temple Run is the game for everyone though.

“I find Fruit Ninja to be more enjoyable. You get that little pomegranate thing at the end, and it’s exciting,” said Lee, “Temple Run is just the same thing over and over again.”

With Temple Run dominating the Top Five Free Apps in the Apple Market, and an Android release coming soon, Temple Run may just be around for a while, keeping people occupied one swipe at a time.

Back stage with cast of Grease

By Agnieszka Chrzanowska

Jasmine Garcia, Div. 252, was crammed in a 10 x 10 foot room with six or seven other girls. She disregarded the beads of sweat forming on her forehead and continued to apply stage makeup.

Minutes later, Amy Clinard, Div. 275, squeezed into the same room. Within seconds she was undressed and putting on her first costume of the night. She cocked her head in my direction.

“Don’t mind me. I do this all the time,” Clinard said.

Roughly 65 other students roamed the narrow dressing room corridors hours before the Lane Tech production of Grease. Each dressing room door held a different set of characters - literally.

These characters were not necessarily John Travolta or Olivia Newton-John, but they were Lane students with strong personalities.

I was drawn to the vibe in the dressing rooms and decided to take a walk through them before the final performance of Grease.

To my left were a group of random students singing. As inviting as this was, I continued to make my way past several dressing room doors until I stopped in front of one in particular: the boys’ dressing room.

I eased my way inside; trying to go unnoticed. The boys were putting on their black leather jackets and looked tough – hair gel and all. They threw in a few eyebrow raises that would have made all the girls swoon and fall to the floor. Thankfully, I made it out of the room just in time.

I continued to make my way down the hall while actors rushed around the basement. With only about an hour left until showtime, things became chaotic. Performers ran around with clothing unfastened and hair and makeup only half way done.

I was lucky enough to safely dodge my way down the hall to the Pink Ladies dressing room. This room was full of all the saucy Pink Ladies, the smoking talkative girls of Rydell High. A character with more than six hectic costume changes called this room home.

I exited the room and walked the rest of the way to the end of the dim hallway. As I inched closer, I could hear music getting louder; though this was not a radio.

“We sing any random songs that come to us, not only songs

from Grease,” said Charles Bania, Div. 253. As he made this comment, students began to belt out lyrics.

In any given room there was makeup being put on, and a lot of it.

“No one really knows how to do makeup, there are maybe two makeup artists,” said Anna Gianni, Div. 456.

The amount of time allotted to get ready is not nearly enough for only two makeup artists to fix everyone up. Therefore, most people do their own makeup, taking pointers from people every now and then.

Students helped each other get ready in groups, or in “cliques” as some students referred to it.

“When we chose our dressings rooms we all just ran down to the basement and called dibs on a room with our friends,” Garcia said. “It’s a first come first serve system.”

Megan Irving, Div. 278, admits to there being drama between groups of friends when choosing dressing rooms.

“The cliques remind me of Rydell High,” said Jill Cutro, Div. 385. “Everyone [gets tired of] each other in [the drama production]. We are together every day after school and get cranky. We ignore the drama so that the chemistry is good on stage,” she said.

Anthony Quezada, Div. 452, added that he is a, “no drama llama,” and that boys usually keep the drama to themselves.

“How are we supposed to have unity with each other if there is turmoil within the cast. I try to avoid it as much as I can,” he said. “Girls have a more personal take on words while boys find the reason behind the drama first.”

Victor Flores, Div. 451, thinks differently.

“I love [the drama],” he said. “We all work professionally and don’t let drama get in the way. Things do get resolved.”

Ana Lovric, Div. 267, agrees.

“Drama goes on with any show, but we are still a family,” she said.

As show time grew closer, I exited the backstage chaos and took a seat in the auditorium.

Before the show, performers walked around the aisles flirting with theater-goers and pulling them onto the stage for hula hoop contests and bubble blowing contests.

The entire auditorium was packed and loud, to say the least. Obviously the cast put on only their best and brightest side when they were on stage, contrary to the havoc backstage.

The cast maintained a careful balance between on-and-off-stage drama. The result was an entertaining throwback to the Rydell High class of 1959.

Frugal students save on Prom

By Alexandria Martinez

From the dress, to the shoes, to the hair, nails, accessories, and let’s not forget the 95 dollar price tag on the ticket itself, Prom can be quite a costly venture for Lane’s ladies. Simply hearing the word brings just enough stress and excitement to make a girl feel overwhelmed. However, no need to fear, these senior girls have a few tricks to keep the Prom price tag perfectly affordable.

With Prom drawing near, Gina Lagattuta, Div. 270, has been feeling her blood pressure rise whenever her classmates talk about it.

“I’m starting to freak out because it’s like everywhere you go, people are talking about Prom, and I haven’t started anything,” Lagattuta said.

Wyliah Soto, Div. 276 has been feeling the same way.

“You wouldn’t think people would be buzzing about Prom until the date is actually close, but I’ve been listening to people talk about costs and plans since like, November,” Soto said.

All of the talk surrounding Prom, has forced Lagattuta and Soto to think about how to make Prom a little less costly.

“I bet one of my friends can do

my make-up for free if I show them a picture of what I want, and I’m sure I can do my own hair...with practice,” said Lagattuta.

“I have a budget limit for my dress. I will not spend more than \$200 because I’m only going to wear it once and there’s no need to spend a fortune on a dress you wear once,” Soto said.

Carnesha Smith, Div. 275, started her Prom planning in advance.

“Every week when I get my paycheck, I buy one thing for Prom,” Smith said. “One week I’ll buy a piece of jewelry, the next I buy shoes, and so on. One thing every week so I don’t end up spending a ton of money at once. It has made the cost thing a lot easier.”

Smith has also plans on asking people she knows to give her things for prom instead of Graduation gifts.

“My cousin does hair at a beauty salon, and I’m working on convincing her to do my hair and nails for free instead of getting me a Graduation present,” Smith said. “It saves her money, and it saves me money! Everybody wins!”

As Prom is drawing nearer and nearer, consider some of these students’ tips and tactics to ease the stress of planning and paying for that special night. Good luck!

Schneider wins State for second time; looks to future

By Madeline Savoie

For Max Schneider, winning state for wrestling this year was merely checking off the last item on his high school to-do list. His win at state was expected after his past years’ records. Now with high school drawing to a close, Schneider has a whole new list to write.

Schneider is currently considering five Division I schools including, California Polytechnic State University, University of Nebraska, University of Illinois, Penn State, and Purdue. Cal Poly, on the central coast of California, is his top choice as he is looking forward to moving out of the midwest. Though the schools’ wrestling ranking has factored into his decision for college, Schneider and his parents have also been factoring in cost, academics, and overall pros and cons of the schools.

“Wrestling is not going to be my entire future,” Schneider said.

He explained there is no professional wrestling career for him after college. Unless, of course, he decides on an Olympic run.

“I plan to stop wrestling in my late 20’s, and life is just...an unknown after that. Is the world going to blow up? Who knows?!” Schneider laughed. “I guess I’ll become a normal person and go find a job or something.”

Schneider’s parents have pushed him athletically, but they also always encouraged him to do well in school. They knew he needed academics to fall back on. He is currently interested in studying business or computer science in college.

Though Schneider is looking forward to leaving people who only know him by his name, he admits high school has left a great impact on him.

At Lane, Schneider learned how to be a part of a team; a quality that many years practicing Judo did not instill in him. With the wrestling team at the forefront of his competitive mind, his biggest regret was not placing in state with the team his junior year.

His biggest accomplishment, other than his two state titles, is overcoming a brutal shoulder injury.

“Getting injured is one thing, but a overcoming a serious injury is different,” Schneider said.

His shoulder injury affected him not only physically but also psychologically.

“I started thinking, ‘Will I be able to wrestle in college? Will I ever be able to wrestle again?’” he said.

It was a threatening concern for Schneider at the time, who was motivated to wrestle.

“My injury was like a big dark cloud over my head,” he said.

His injury made him realize he was more impatient than he

thought. Four months of rehab was required before working out again, and six months before wrestling. Though, Schneider could not bench himself for that long, he cut his rehab time almost in half. Schneider was working out after two months and wrestling in competitions after four.

Pushing his limit proved to be a regret after a relapsed shoulder injury five months after his initial recovery. Instead of getting a suggested full shoulder reconstruction surgery, Schneider opted for rehab again. He learned to be patient with himself in order to have lasting results.

With injuries far behind him, Schneider powered through his last season with confidence. At his last competition he was focused and ready. He said he was not nervous; a strange feeling for him and his usual nerve-wracked self before every other match.

“I got nervous in quarter finals, but I was determined at the very end,” he said.

The realization that his high school career was over was surreal and allowed him to walk into competition with a cool, clear mindset. His final state championship win in the 152 pound weight class was the perfect high note to end his last high school season.

While away at college, Schneider plans to visit Lane over break to check up on the team’s championship legacy.

Sports keep students from finding trouble

By Kaitlin Trevino

Many students who play sports during their high school career start at a young age, and may have saved themselves from the dangers of being a teen.

Whether it be bad influences from a neighborhood or basic teen laziness, sports may be a blessing in disguise for some athletes.

Leticia Garcia, Div. 269, has been playing soccer since she was six years old. Garcia, who is from the southside’s Pilsen neighborhood was exposed to negative influences at the

age of 10.

“I was associated with gang members, [and] exposed to drugs at a very young age,” Garcia said. “But I rejected it because of soccer.”

Though she has taken a break in between, she returned to soccer to keep her on the right track.

Just like Garcia, Alex Gabbard, Div. 254, said football prevented him from becoming a troubled teen.

“[Football] saved me from drugs, and being a reckless child. It turned me into a man,” said Gabbard. “It made me more responsible, and guided me through high school. [Football] made me who I am.”

Gabbard is not the only one who feels his sport helped him

develop as a person.

“Sports have taught me discipline and hard work,” said Sean Pfeiffer, Div. 276. “[They] also made me even more of an outgoing and mature person by being able to take risks and handle high pressure situations.”

Three-sport athlete Tony Abreu, Div. 378, also benefited from the learning experiences provided him.

“I’m better with talking in front of people now. Since I’m used to playing in front of big crowds,” Abreu said.

Garcia said soccer was emotionally helpful for her.

“I always wanted to fight people, and [soccer] helped me control my anger,” Garcia said.

Though there are achievements and perks to being a student athlete, there are also downsides. These include rough hours, limited time for other

things, and injuries.

“I don’t have much time to hang out with friends, like on a Friday night. I have to be up early for practice or a game,” Abreu said.

Abreu also admits the lack of time takes a toll on his dating life.

“There aren’t too many girls that are cool with being kind of on the side all the time, because of how busy I am,” Abreu said.

Pfeiffer agrees that sports take up a lot of his time, but understands the hard work pays off.

“Baseball is everyday, sometimes twice a day, but that’s what it takes to be as good as you can be,” Pfeiffer said.

Ultimately, sports are like these athletes’ second homes, providing them with structure and guidances.

“I wouldn’t know what to do, if I wasn’t playing everyday,” Pfeiffer said.

“[Football] saved me from drugs, and being a reckless child. It turned me into a man.”

--Alex Gabbard, Div. 254.

Boy's Lacrosse starts season with home loss



Photo by Sophie Hellinger, Div. 450.

Lane's goalie, Daniel Takata, stops a shot on goal from a Belvidere player.

By Madeline Savoie

The Boy's Lacrosse team kicked off their season with a home game at Lane Stadium against Fenwick on March 15. Though the warm weather made for a promising start, Fenwick ultimately triumphed 12-2.

Fenwick scored the first goal within minutes of the start of the game. They scored again before Lane's Reid O'Neil, Div. 357, scored the team's first goal of the season. Fenwick was up by seven in the third period when Greg Urban,

scored Lane's second and final goal of the game.

Lane's boys left the field with heads and spirits low, but Varsity player Anthony Wojdyla, Div. 276, sees the loss against Fenwick as "a very necessary stepping stone for the team."

Wojdyla says since their first loss, he has seen the boys' commitment to the team grow, seen the following weekend when they earned their first win against Belvidere, 12-0.

"Our goalie, Daniel Takata, has stepped his game up," said Wojdyla, which has given a huge boost to the defense.

Wojdyla also cited the hustle of several offensive players as a strength of this year's team, adding that "it hurts to see their... faces after a loss."

Wojdyla says the effort of team members seems to be improving as the season progresses.

"I look [the boys] in the face every day, see their sweat, blood, and bruises, and all the while they stick with this," he said. "They're thirsty and I can't wait to see them in a more fierce competition."

The next two home games to be played at Lane Stadium are scheduled for March 29 at 6pm and May 4 at 7pm.

Dance team fights for recognition with strong showing at State

By Alexandria Martinez

The Lane Tech Dance Team has been hard at work this year perfecting their routines in order to compete in the Illinois Drill Team Association (IDTA) State Competitions.

It finally paid off for them on Saturday, March 17. The Dance Team competed in two categories: hip-hop and kickline, winning 5th place in kickline and placing in the top ten division for hip-hop. This is the first time the Dance Team has won any awards at State.

Still, most of the girls on the team believe they do not get enough credit for the athleticism needed to compete in Dance.

Dance Team captain, Kasey Chronis, Div. 251, thinks Dance is long overdue for some respect.

"As of yet the IHSA (Illinois High School Association) has not recognized dance as a sport," Chronis said. "However, next year, it will be considered a sport and the IHSA will be holding competitions."

With aspirations to become a professional dancer, Michelle Zabierowski, Div. 375, agrees with Chronis's sentiments.

"I take dance really seriously, and when people brush off our hard work like it's not a big deal, it's like a slap in the face," Zabierowski said.

Eesle Koh, Div. 255, agrees.

"Just like other people are passionate about their sports, we're really passionate about dance," Koh said. "It's said that 'if you can get injured, it's a sport.' Well, we get hurt quite frequently, so dance is definitely a sport."

Alexis Catibog has had to correct people who do not think dance is a sport.

"When the dance team went to take yearbook pictures, we were about to sit down on chairs set up in the room when the photographer told us to get up because those seats were for 'sports teams,'" Catibog said. "I yelled out 'Dance is a sport team!'...it just gets me so worked up."

Considered a sport or not, the LTDT girls are proud of how far they made it this year, adding yet another award to "the School of Champions."



The Dance team shows off their fifth place trophy for their performance in kickline.

Athlete of the Issue

Admir Suljic, Div. 456



Admir Suljic Div. 456 is the only sophomore on the varsity basketball team.

Favorites

Color: Green

Movie: The Godfather

Food: Honey BBQ wings

Music artist: Kanye West, Kid Cudi, The Weekend

Class: Team Basketball

Sport Team: Chicago Bulls

Moment: The tenth point in the White-out game

Warrior: What was the hardest thing you had to overcome this year?

Suljic: "Recovering from a bad game. I'm a sophomore, and my team doesn't consider me one. They expect me to play hard every night, and knowing that you didn't is sometimes hard to recover from."

Warrior: What inspired you to play basketball at Lane?

Suljic: "The coaches here made me feel so welcome, and the bond and love this team has for each other is crazy."

Warrior: Did you have to overcome any injuries this year?

Suljic: "I fractured my finger towards the middle of this season. The ball hit it in our game against Ridgewood."

Warrior: How do you get ready for games?

Suljic: "Music always gets me in the mood, and in particular the artist Wale."

Warrior: How dedicated are you as a player?

Suljic: "I've always been competitive and hungry to win. In order to win, you need dedication. And the Lane Basketball team has this."

State Playoffs end too soon for boys' basketball

By Kelly Mrofcza

St. Patrick's High School gym was filled with people sporting similar shades of green and gold, but supporting two different basketball teams. The left side of the gym had people rooting for St. Pats as the right side supported the Lane's Boy's Varsity team in the second game of the state playoffs.

Lane started the game strong. They were up by one point at the end of the first half despite the fact that the St. Pat's "stud section" was loudly chanting at them and singing songs during free throws.

"When we were doing well, the [St. Pat's] chants just added fuel to my game," said Sadzid Grahic, Div. 285.

The second half was not played as well as the first.

"We lost our confidence after we kept missing shot after shot. [St. Pats] kept making more baskets and it just went downhill," said Eric Simmons, Div. 284.

The game ended with a final score of 55 to 31, ending Lane's basketball season.

"We got away from everything that worked for us in the first half because we got comfortable. You can't do that against a good team," said Zach Calamus, Div. 264.

Although they lost, the team hopes to have generated some excitement about Lane's basketball program.

"Everyone says that Lane isn't a basketball school," Calamus said. "We competed against every team this year and hopefully showed people Lane can be a basketball school."

Simmons thinks this year's team has been more successful than past years because players' individual talents meshed well into a solid team.

The boys were disappointed to see their season come to an end, but look back on the season with some fond memories.

One of the most stressful games the team played faced was against Shurz High School, but it was also one of the most helpful.

"[Shurz] is team a that we should have beaten, but we played down to their level and lost," Grahic said.

With the help of their head coach, Mr. Logalbo, the team used the game as a motivational tool, getting them ready to face stiff competition in the state playoffs.

"[Logalbo] let us know that we could learn from our mistakes that game. After that, we wanted to prove to people that the loss was just a bump in the road and that we were better than that," said Grahic.

Perhaps the most memorable event of the season was the team's trip to Canada where they spent four days playing in a tournament.

"We played against a couple Canadian teams, shopped, and went to the movies. Just spending that much time with your best friends is something you won't forget," Calamus said.

A lot of the team's success this year has to do with their team chemistry.

"There weren't any cliques and none of the guys that were younger were looked at differently. We were all varsity players and a big family. Each guy accepted his role and excelled in that role," Grahic said.

As the 2012 seniors leave their jerseys behind, next year's team promises to continue to put Lane on the map as a formidable basketball school.

"We have a really good class of juniors coming up and the new seniors want to have the same season we did this year," said Reid O'Neil, Div. 357.