

# THE WARRIOR

October 2008

Lane Technical College Prep High School

Volume 41/Issue1/ Page 1

## IN THE HEART OF THE WARRIOR

### News

Yellow IDs

Gradebook

Freshman  
Programs

Chinese Class  
Economy

### Features

New Teachers

Facebook Checks

Secret Dating  
Teen  
Pregnancy

### Editorials

Homecoming

Twilight

Summer Movies

### Sports

Cross Country  
Down under

Boys' Soccer

Girls' Tennis

## Class of 2009 rush the field at Pep Rally



Seniors storm field after the Homecoming pep rally on Oct. 3.

By Anna Treesara & Dulce Arroyo

For the past few years, seniors have attempted to avoid going to third period after the annual pep rally. On Friday, Oct. 3, a group of seniors, who have named themselves the 2009 Renegades, attempted to carry on this tradition by rushing onto the field and up the hill on the south side of the stadium.

These students were detained by security, had their IDs confiscated, and were taken to room 113 for the rest of the day. Their punishment

was originally going to be a three-day suspension and included threats to take away Oktoberfest. It was then changed to an in-school suspension on Friday partnered with not being able to attend Lane's Homecoming game or dance the following night.

Of the 37 students, 12 were athletes. At a recent practice, these athletes were informed of an additional punishment: suspension from their respective teams for 20 percent of their season. Additionally, if these athletes attend any games during that time they must sit in the crowd, not with team members.

## Two students injured by car on Western, Addison

By Anna Treesara

On Tuesday, Sep. 16, Noemi Villanueva, Div. 911, and Stephanya Tirado, Div. 925, were hit by a white Pontiac Grand Am on the corner of Western and Addison during 4th period lunch.

As they were waiting to cross the street towards Hero's, a white Chevy Aveo that had the right of way, began to turn west onto Addison. Simultaneously, a Pontiac zoomed past the red light on Western, crashing into the white Chevy as it was turning onto Addison. As a result of the crash, the Pontiac continued moving towards Lane's campus. As the Pontiac slowed down, students ran out of the way as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, the Pontiac hit Villanueva and Tirado.

"I thought to myself, 'Oh my god, it's coming this way,'" said Tirado. "I immediately ran, but the car still hit me. Apparently, I

wasn't fast enough."

"I saw the car coming, but I just kept looking at it," said Villanueva. "I completely froze."

Villanueva and Tirado were taken to Thorek Hospital on Irving Park and Broadway and were given x-rays.

Villanueva had her ankles x-rayed and Tirado had her whole body x-rayed.

"[I had] cuts on the ankles, my left shoulder hurt, and my right thigh hurt as well," said Villanueva. "I wasn't hurt as badly as Stephanya though."

"I was unable to bend my right leg, which was why I was taken on the stretcher," said Tirado. "Walking up and down the stairs still hurts."

Tirado's other injuries include deep scrapes on her feet, scratched up knees and shoulders, a busted lip, and a bruised rib.

The driver of the white Pontiac was a woman named Andrea Deline from Federal Heights, Colorado.

Many students reported she was behaving erratically at the scene.

Dr. LoBosco said several coaches were involved in the decision to impose these punishments.

"Since my season is practically over, I don't really care," said Jaci Spera, Div. 923. "It sucks for [students] that are really counting on their sport to get them into college."

Maria Joyce, Div. 930, student athlete, is depending on a scholarship.

"I have a few college offers, but I was not signed yet," said Joyce. "I can't get signed to a college if they don't see me play."

Students found out about the plan to rush the field through text messaging, Facebook groups, and word of mouth.

"I got a mass text from more than one person and I thought it would be fun," said Erik Bose, Div. 903.

No "Renegades" claimed to know who came up with the idea, but went along with it for the sake of having fun.

"I definitely think it was worth it. This being our fourth pep rally as seniors, we wanted [it] to be memorable," said an anonymous student who wished to be referred to as Student X. Student X was also the first to jump the railing and run onto the field.

"I have never felt so much school spirit in all four years at Lane," said Jeremy Olvera, Div. 926.

But not all students agree.

"In retrospect, it was fun for about 30 seconds, [but] wasn't worth getting in trouble," said an anonymous senior.

>>SEE "Rush the field" Page 6

"Her eyes were extremely red," said Tirado.

Tirado said that even though it could have been from the shock, she was still surprised to see her eyes so red.

Brandi Mines, Div. 932, said that Deline was messing around with her hair and looking around.

"It's like she knew she was in

trouble," said Mines. "But there was nowhere for her to go, so she just continued standing there."

As a result of the accident, Deline was charged with three tickets and was held responsible for Villanueva's and Tirado's hospital fees.

>>SEE "Car Crash" Page 6



Stephanya Tirado, Div. 925, receives treatment from paramedics after being hit by a car on the corner of Western and Addison.



# THE WARRIOR STAFF

2008-2009



**Editors-In-Chief**  
Samantha D'Anna  
Anna Treesara

**Managing Editor**  
Anna Chlopecki

**Copy Editors**  
Alexander Conner  
Francessa Sanchez  
Sahar Shafqat

**Features Editor**  
Lucia Ramirez

**News Editor**  
Noemi Villanueva

**Entertainment Editor**  
Dulce Arroyo

**Photographers**  
Natalie Reyes  
Crystal Rivera  
Joanna Stepkow

**Sports Editor**  
Lauren Corso

**Business Managers**  
Stephanie Lopez  
Rachel Steibing

**Columnists/Critics**  
Brittany Baughman  
Melanie Johnson

**the Warrior Online Team**  
Tony Zhou

**Advisor**  
Mr. Seth Johnson

**Technical Advisor**  
Mr. Damir Ara

**Principal**  
Dr. Antoinette LoBosco

THE WARRIOR is a student-produced newspaper published by the Journalism students of Lane Tech College Prep High School. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those shared by the editors or faculty and administration.

Your opinions are important to us. Please email any comments, questions, critiques, or corrections to:

Feedback@lanewarrior.com

THE WARRIOR

# New yellow IDs to help with security

By Tony Zhou

With nearly 4,500 students at Lane, bright yellow IDs have been introduced so security guards and teachers are able to identify students.

What are the benefits of the new yellow IDs?

"The new IDs are easy to see, and identifiable with this year's [students]." said Ms. Rice, the Dean of Students. "It speeds up the process of checking whether students have their IDs or not," said Rice. "It makes our job a lot easier."

Some students are not happy with the new IDs.

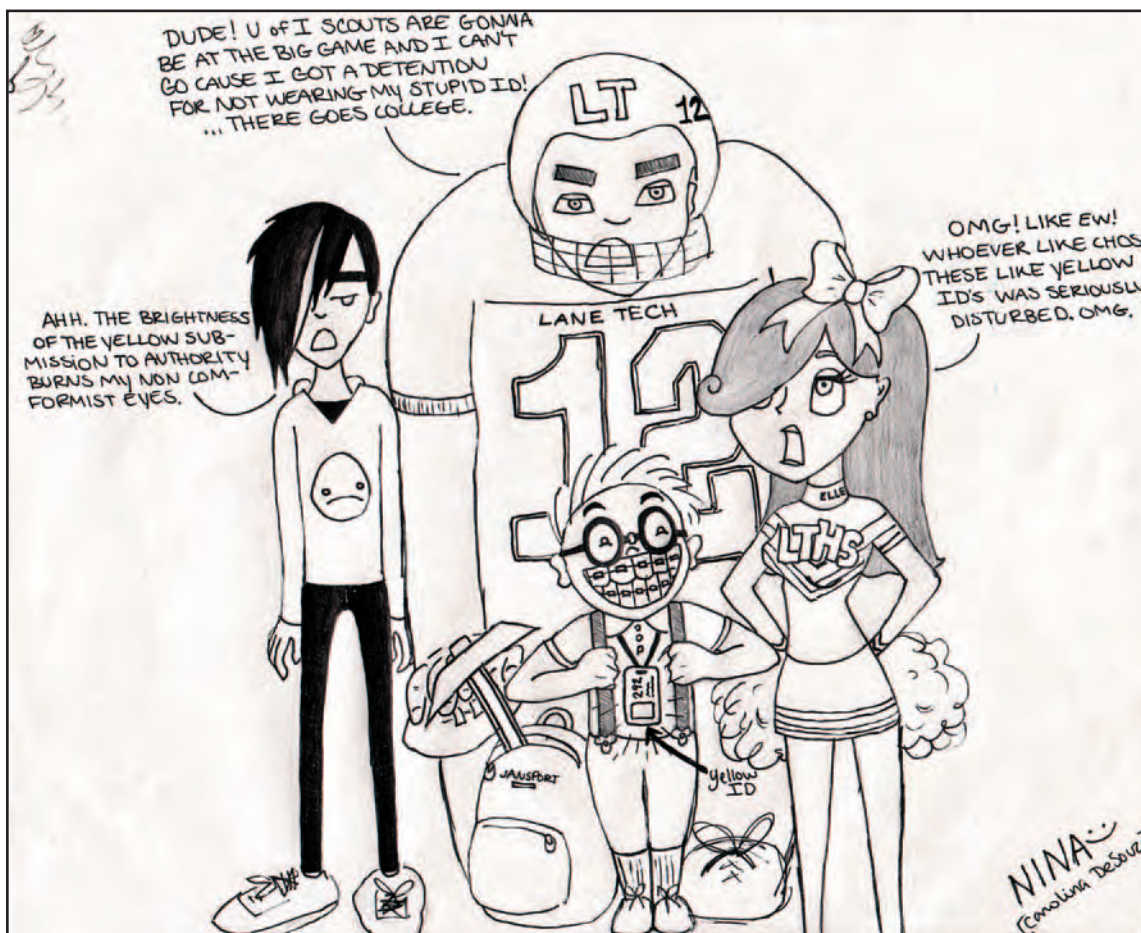
"They are the ugliest things I have ever seen," said Edwarda Desouza, Div. 931. "[They] could have made them a less obnoxious color."

"Kids from other schools make fun of me for it," said Reymond Mallari, Div. 932.

Most of security are seen doing classroom checks.

"It's kind of ridiculous how security walks into our room and checks if we have them on," said Anna Mroczkowska Div. 925.

"What's the point of having them on in class?" said Tesi Hormova, Div. 924. "Every one of my teachers knows who belongs in their class or not, so them doing spot checks in classes is pointless."



Last year's IDs are no longer accepted as valid forms of identification.

"At the metal detectors, students yanked out their [old] white IDs, and I sent them back out," said Rice.

"I'm one of those people that sometimes forgets my ID," said Mary Anne Reyes, Div. 928. "I always used my last year's [ID], but now I can't."

"The permanent one will also be yellow," said Mr. Kenmotsu, technical coordinator.

Rice and Dr. LoBosco spoke of a few ideas concerning the IDs. These included having different colors for each lunch period and having bus permits printed on the back of IDs. However, the only change made was the printing of students' schedules on the back of their IDs.

## Letter to the Editor:

### National Honor Society responds to critical column in June 2008 Warrior

It is true that acceptance into the National Honor Society requires a 3.5 GPA as well as 50 service learning hours. However, it was stated that no D's or F's would be tolerated. There is some falsehood in this statement. F's are not tolerated, but D's (if GPA and service learning hours qualify) will be looked into. A sponsor or officer will check what the class was, what level of class, why they did so poorly, and even talk to the teacher about the applicant. D's are looked into on a case-by-case basis and all possibilities will be examined.

Another requirement of acceptance is that 75 service points must be earned. However, service points have no longer been of use for several years now, due to their confusion. Activity points are now used and can be earned by doing various extracurricular activities, such as being on a sports team, club, or an organization outside of class. Classes like yearbook or newspaper cannot earn activity points because they are classes at Lane. Although they devote large amounts of time to the newspaper and yearbook, they do not compete outside of class and earn a grade with credit for their efforts.

Activity points must be signed by sponsors of their activities in order to appear on their transcript these forms during division and must be signed and turned in within a span of 1-2 weeks. The article discussed how division teacher do not distribute these forms and simply do not know what to do with them. In order for students to acquire the materials needed to National Honor Society, they must raise their voice and speak to either their division teachers, current officers, or the sponsors of National Honor Society. Also, these sheets are not used by the National Honor Society sponsors to select the applicants. The applicants are given a different sheet which is only used to verify an activity if a sponsor is no longer available. One of the aspects that NHS looks

for is involvement around the community and a system must be present to observe it.

Obtaining information about NHS is fairly simple. It is true that information is posted on the Daily Bulletin and is announced during divisions. Although it may seem "impossible" to be able to hear the announcements over the intercom and the Daily Bulletin is not printed and posted up in division rooms anymore, the Daily Bulletin is easily accessible on the Lane website. Information is also given at the activity fair, to Lane Scholars meetings, and on the NHS bulletin board next to the school store. If a student is determined about earning a spot in NHS, further research of information can easily be done.

Activity points may discourage student from applying to NHS, but if a student has any concerns about their chance of getting in, the sponsors of NHS are more than willing to speak with them. For example, James Peculis, the Vice President of Membership of NHS, was short on his minimum service learning points requirement. He spoke to Ms. Hanly about his involvement and activities at Lane and learned that he could earn 150 points for competing in the science fair for three years.

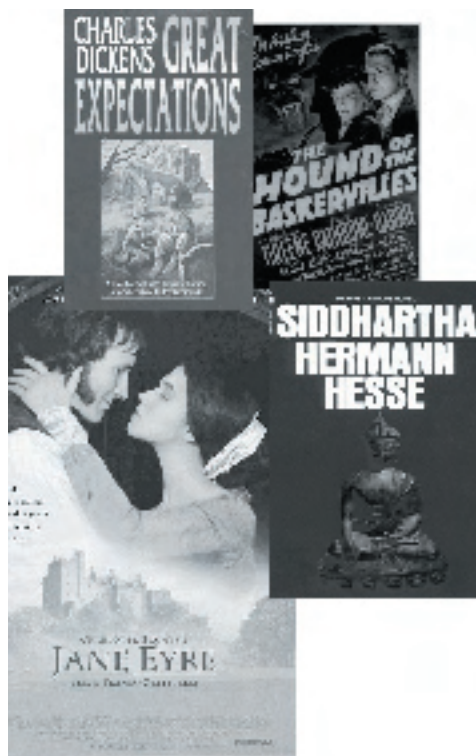
Overall, we feel that NHS is a lot fairer than the article stated. The goal is not to make it as hard as possible for a student to get in, but it is selective and some requirements are necessary. The sponsors and members of NHS greatly encourage students to apply to NHS and if concerned about any aspect of their admittance, they are able to speak to the sponsors and officers. After all, 500 students are qualified for NHS solely based on their GPAs. We appreciate our voices being heard.

Thank you!



# Lost art of reading affecting grades

Many students do not bother to read summer reading books and cheat on exam.



By Noemi Villanueva

For many students, summer is a time to get away from school and relax. But with many ditching the summer reading assignments, some had to resort to cheating to pass the exam.

This year, the junior exam was nullified due to suspicion of cheating. Several teachers noticed a large number of high grades on students' exams.

"It's pretty suspicious when more than

half my class got an A and other teachers were reporting the same thing, which was highly unusual on any exam, especially the summer reading exam," said Ms. Thompson, head of the English Department.

According to Thompson, the English Department decided the multiple choice section of the test was void, but some teachers decided to count part of the essay. The exam for *Hounds of the Baskervilles* will be given again on the semester final in January but will have different questions that are probably more challenging.

Antonio Stevens, Div. 029, considers the situation to be unfair since some students did read the book and were not among the ones who cheated.

"I enjoyed reading the book, but I'll probably forget important details if we have to take it for a semester final," said Stevens.

Although several juniors did not read over the summer, they are not alone.

The incoming freshmen had to read *Chew on This*, and for several, reading over the summer was just too much to ask.

Alejandro Serrano, Div. 269, does not consider himself a big reader and believes summer assignments clash with having fun during vacation.

"Summer and reading: it's just a big no-no," said Serrano.

Others agree and admit that reading is the last thing on their minds during summer break.

"A lot of friends I know had work every day and some took classes over the summer. But the majority are just lazy," said Melvin Hernandez, Div. 903.

Besides having other priorities during the summer, many students' reason for not reading is that the selected books do not appeal to them.

"High school takes the fun out of reading," said Citlali Arroyo, Div. 046. "[The books] are so boring and people just don't have that momentum to pick up a book and read anymore."

With little motivation to complete the assigned reading, many students feel better in thinking that one bad test will not affect them.

Although Renee Villar, Div. 928, did not read *Siddhartha* this summer, she was not worried about the exam.

"People really don't care because it's the first test anyway, so there's more grades that they can rely on," said Villar.

Hernandez agrees.

"Last year I got a 70 percent on the exam and passed the quarter with an A. The first grade doesn't matter," he said.

Hernandez was barely able to pass the exam by turning to Sparknotes for last minute help. Sparknotes is a website that provides reading material as well as summaries and plot overviews of several popular books.

Joshua Browne, Div. 909, believes there are better things to do than to sit down and read, and also uses Sparknotes often to get quick summaries on books he does not read.

Since she has started teaching, Thompson believes there has been a challenge getting students to read the summer reading assignments and it has been more pronounced in recent years.

"I don't think kids read anymore because there are other forms of communication that are much easier to ingest like the *Red Eye* and texting," said Thompson.

She also believes that teachers have made a stronger effort to pick books more relevant to students' interests.

"I think we should invest in what is more timely and not rely so much on the classics," said Thompson.

Several students would agree and believe that the books chosen for the summer reading lists have been boring and do not appeal to their interests. But Lane students are not the only ones who feel this way.

Kristina Mercado, a senior at Niles West High School, was assigned to read *The Curious Accident of the Dog in the Nighttime* her freshman year. She believes it was a bad choice on her school's part to choose this as the summer reading assignment.

"I read like the first two pages and I couldn't stand it," said Mercado. "I didn't even bother."

Louie DeLeon, a senior at St. Benedict High School, had to read *Animal Farm* and *Demon and Angels* this past summer but failed to do so. He received an essay exam and failed the first test of the year.

"Barely anyone I knew read the books," said DeLeon. "Everyone just used Sparknotes the night before and we put whatever we could think of on the exam."

Since several students fail to read over the summer, teachers will be determining the future of summer reading assignments. Exams and projects for the summer reading books will be reevaluated for the summer of 2009.

## Edline, Gradequick replaced by Gradebook

By Joanna Stepkow

Edline, the program that allowed teachers to post grades and assignments online, has been replaced by Gradebook, a program with the same purpose.

Many students wonder why Edline is no longer in use.

"[CPS] forbid us from using Edline and Gradequick," said Dr. Lobosco. "Gradebook is supposed to combine what the other two programs do."

"Gradebook is a function added to Impact, a CPS district-wide program already used by Lane," said Mr. Kenmotsu, head of Lane's Technology Department. "Since Gradebook overlaps some functions with Edline, the school went with Gradebook."

Gradebook was not ready for use for the first month of school, which worried many students.

"It sucks that [I didn't] even know what I [was] getting in any of my classes," said Odette

Ramirez, Div. 916.

Students who frequently used Edline to monitor their progress were lost.

"I checked my grades every week [on Edline], and when I found something wrong I told the teacher to fix it," said Kelly Segarra, Div. 916. "It helped me regulate my grade. If I saw it going down I knew I had to work harder."

Many of the staff also thought it was unfortunate Edline was not in use anymore.

"I'm disappointed they made us drop a program that worked so well for us," said Lobosco.

"It is a shame that students don't have access to assignments, grades, and class information," said Ms. Tracy, German and Spanish teacher.

"Edline was great for parents to check things," said Ms. Console, Counselor.

However, Gradebook is now up and running.

"I think it is a great idea that we

can finally see our grades," said Jaci Spera, Div. 923.

Gradebook includes student and parent portals, websites where they can view their grades, which are updated every time teachers enter grades.

The student portal is easy to access for the student. However, many have not received their login and password yet.

"I have not gotten my access information yet," said Peter Theoharis, Div. 902.

Many had no idea that the student portal is now running.

"I didn't know it was finished, said Annett Felix, Div. 916. "I have not received my account information either."

Those who received their account information and logged on to the student portal noticed some positive aspects of Gradebook.

"Gradebook is pretty efficient, and it always seems up to date," said Feras Abbas, Div. 902. "You can check your overall grades

and if you want to check it in-depth, just click on the grade and you can review all the tests, quizzes, etc."

Not everything on the portal is clear to students.

"I don't understand the attendance," said Jesus Roman, Div. 903.

The parent portal is especially helpful for parents with more than one child.

"Parents can view all of their children that attend CPS in one place," said Kenmotsu.

Another change is the new grading scale enforced by CPS. The five point scale is higher than what the school used before, and it is locked into Gradebook.

"There is an imbedded grading scale implemented by CPS. It is higher than teachers would like it to be," said Kenmotsu.

However, the system will not force teachers to use the default scale.

"There is a way around the

program. Teachers can enter normally what they do, and when progress reports come out, they can override the information," said Lobosco.

This process may be time consuming.

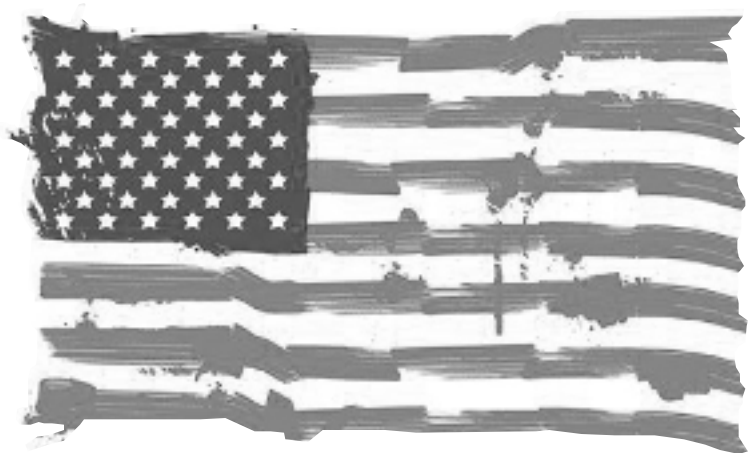
"It is not hard to override the scale. But when teachers have to change each student's grade individually, it takes time," said Kenmotsu.

Several CPS schools have been trying to get CPS to change the grading scale back.

"Many of the schools have been consulting with CPS staff as far as modifying the scale," said Kenmotsu. "CPS are scheduling meetings with administrative leaders."

Over the next few weeks everyone should receive their login and password if they have not already. Gradebook, although not perfect, is now running, and will continue being improved to serve the students and parents better.





# Election 2008

## Mock Election 2008 Lane students get tough on politics

By Tony Zhou & Stephanie Lopez

With the upcoming presidential election on Nov. 4, it will be interesting to see the results of how the voting trends of high school teens compare with most of American voters.

Lane results show that Barack Obama would be the next president.

A survey was conducted amongst Lane students, independent from the mock election given by CPS.

Approximately 150 students were randomly selected for the survey. Those surveyed were categorized to mirror Lane's demographics based on ethnicity. Forty percent were Hispanic, 28 percent were White, 13 percent were Black, 13 percent were Asian, and 5 percent were Multi-Racial or classified as Other.

Some students showed a lack of interest when it comes to voting.

"It's not important to me at least," said Ralph Deleon, Div. 928. "I don't think my one vote will make a difference anyway, and

I'm also too lazy to vote."

"It's not important to vote. Didn't anyone learn anything from the Gore/Bush election?" said Dina Ahmetspahic, Div. 924. "Your votes don't matter, and it never did."

Some students believe that their votes do matter.

"Whoever wins will deal with the economy, and that will definitely affect us and the lifestyle we choose to live," said Sergio Correa, Div. 927.

Like Correa, there are other students who find it necessary to vote and to take part in the election process.

"Voting is the only way for everyone to express their opinions," said Riham Ramadan, Div. 925. "It's one of the best opportunities we have as a nation, and I think it's great that every citizen can vote compared with countries that don't allow voting."

"Voting affects us as people directly," said Ervin Mallari, Div. 904. "Legislation can change depending on who's in control."

Some students who are not old enough to

vote want the opportunity to vote.

"I wish I could vote," said Mallari. "I miss the cutoff by two months."

"It would make a difference [to vote]," said Santine Hsueh, Div. 906. "My leader influences my future."

Race may be considered by many as a voting criteria in the election process.

"I'm voting for Obama because he's Black," said Khysiera Cook, Div. 281.

Other students see race as a non-issue.

"I don't see this campaign as a race issue. It shouldn't be about that," said Edwarda DeSouza, Div. 931. "It should be about who can do the best job for America."

Other students think race and gender are both an issue when voting.

"McCain has Sarah Palin on his side," said Nicole Vargas, Div. 272. "And I want more women's rights."

Others vote because they support the views of a candidate.

"I agree with most of Obama's views. John McCain changes his mind a lot," said Lisa Mrock, Div. 026. "For example, with oil, he doesn't want to drill, but now he does."

"I really like [Obama's] ideas about the economy, including oil prices, taxes, and MediCare," said Jose Aguero, Div. 906. "McCain is another Bush. They have a lot of the same views and policies."

According to Correa, one of the biggest issues we face is education. He believes that Obama is the candidate who strongly addresses the issue.

"I like Obama because he expresses more interest in funding for education as well as starting a mentor program for teachers," said Correa.

Other students support McCain.

"I think McCain's experience outweighs Obama," said Sylvia Nunez, Div. 152.

Although this survey showed who Lane students would vote for, it is uncertain who will win the presidential election.

"The results should be interesting," said Principal Dr. Lobosco, "It is either going to be our first African-American President or first female Vice President."

## The histories of our future: McCain and Obama

By Alexander Conner

There's a lot of talk about the two presidential candidates lately, and it grows each day the election gets closer. Before one can decide which candidate is better fit for the future one must learn about their pasts.

John McCain was born Aug. 29, 1936. McCain graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1958, in the bottom three of his class. He then became a naval aviator. In 1967, during the Vietnam War, McCain's plane was shot down and he was

taken in as a POW until 1973.

It was there that McCain was tortured daily and forced to live in miserable conditions. When he was not brought out for a grueling round of torture, he lived in a small bamboo box where the heat was always stifling, and the smell was enough to drive a man mad. Surrounded by other POWs in nearby boxes, McCain was able to talk to them and form bonds which gave him the strength to endure various torture exercises. This showed his tormentors he would not break, and instilled hope in his fellow POWs. McCain could have gotten out early due to his father's Admiral position in the Navy, but McCain refused to denounce his country and stayed with his fellow Americans for almost six agonizing years.

John McCain retired in 1981 and met Cindy Lou Hensley, his current wife. McCain then ran for

U.S. Representative in 1982.

After serving two terms as a representative, McCain then was elected a state senator of Arizona winning every reelection up to 2004.

On the other side of the election, Barack Obama was born on Aug. 4, 1961, in Honolulu, Hawaii. When Obama was two years old, his father and mother divorced, and Obama only saw his father once more in his life. His mother remarried Lolo Soetoro, an Indonesian geologist. Obama moved to Indonesia in 1967. When he was ten years old, he moved back to Hawaii to attend school while living with his grandmother.

Obama later graduated from Occidental College, Columbia University, and Harvard Law School. During his time at Harvard, Obama was elected the first Black president of the Harvard Law Review.

After graduating from Harvard, Obama directed Illinois' Project Vote from Apr. to Oct. 1992, a voter registration drive. It achieved its goal of registering 150,000 out

of 400,000 unregistered African-Americans in the state. In that same year, Obama married Michelle LaVaughn Robinson, who he had met when she mentored him at their law firm.

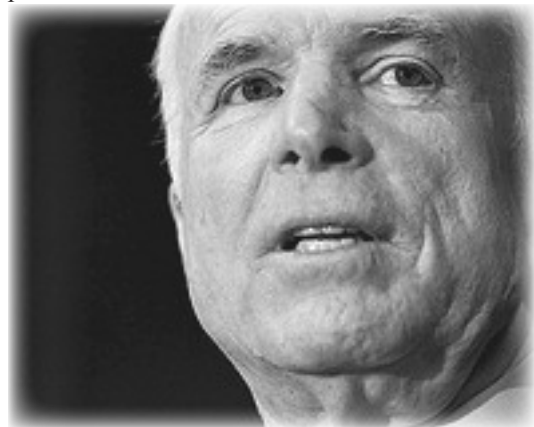
In 1993, Obama joined Davis, Miner, Barnhill & Galland, a twelve-attorney law firm specializing in civil rights litigation and neighborhood economic development. There, he was an associate for three years, then was a counsel from 1996 to 2004.

In 1996, Obama was elected state senator of Illinois and won reelection in 2004. However, Obama's second term in the senate has been mostly dedicated to his presidential campaign.

He and Senator McCain do take breaks from their campaigns to vote on important legislations such as the 700 billion dollar US business bailout that just recently passed.

McCain has lived a life of military service, facing his foes with grim determination, losing partial use of his arms. He then continued his public service with a career as a politician. Obama has lived his life as a public servant, fighting with pen and tongue. He fought corruption, helped inspire communities, and rose to the position of U.S. senator.

Both men are now presidential candidates, and only on election day will we know which man the people would prefer as their president.







## Eligible Lane students to vote in election

By Brittany Boughman

In the race to see who will be the next President of the United States, some Lane students are taking a stand to make their voices heard in the most practical way possible – voting in the upcoming national election.

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, any United States citizen 18 years of age or older, who has lived in a major city for 30 days, is eligible to vote in the election. The age qualification applies to few Lane seniors, but those who are eligible are taking advantage of registering to vote.

"I registered because I want to make a difference," said Nicolette Nazaroski, Div. 906. "I want to make my impression on society in any way possible."

Some students are anxious for

the outcome of the upcoming election.

"This country has been through enough due to the stupid decisions of our [current] president," said Juanita Marty, Div. 905.

"I'm tired of [the mistakes made] these last eight years," said Daisy Ortiz, Div. 927. "I'm definitely ready to move on and I believe that, as a country, we are too."

Some students are deciding not to register.

"I don't think that the candidates are prepared to deal with the new problems in the economy," said Daniel Baltudis, Div. 040.

Some students under the age of 18 do not have the option to vote, and wish they had the opportunity.

"I would like to register, but I can't because I'm not old enough," said Joshua Amaya, Div. 928.

# What really matters? McCain, Obama on the issues

By Sahar Shafqat

Obama and McCain are poles apart on major issues concerning the future of America.

The economy, Iraq, and health care are just some of the issues that are vital to the public in this year's historic election.

## ECONOMY

The economy is especially important now because of the economic conditions worsening and President Bush's \$700 billion bailout plan. This plan is supposed to help the stock markets recover on Wall Street and aid the businesses on Main Street. After much deliberation the Senate and House passed the bailout bill and President Bush has expressed his hopes for the rapid recovery of the economy.

McCain plans to make the Bush tax cuts permanent and eliminate the alternative minimum tax. The AMT is a part of the federal income tax system and is for those who owe personal taxes. He also plans on reducing the public's dependence on oil and reducing gas prices.

Obama intends to give tax relief to the middle class and help to stabilize the economy. He supports ethanol subsidies but is not an advocate of expanding nuclear power as a means of energy resources.

can and bring them back home. McCain plans on keeping the troops in Iraq.

"We cannot react to past mistakes by embracing calls to begin troop withdrawals or to revive our previous failed strategy of a partial troop pullback. That will be an even greater mistake, a mistake of colossal historical proportions, which will seriously weaken American security," said McCain in an interview with the *Washington Post*.

"I'm proud of the fact that I put forward a plan in January that mirrors what Congress ultimately adopted, and it says, there's no military solution to this," said Obama in the democratic debate in 2007. "We've got to have a political solution, begin a phased withdrawal, and make certain that we've got benchmarks in place so that the Iraqi people can make a determination about how they want to move forward."

## ABORTION

On the matter of abortion, McCain wants to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, whereas Obama spoke openly about his beliefs that women should have a choice and he supports the *Roe v. Wade* decision.

"I have been a consistent champion of reproductive choice and will make preserving women's rights under *Roe v. Wade* a priority as president," said Obama in an interview with the *New York Times*.

## HEALTH CARE

The candidates differ in their viewpoints for health care. Obama would require that all children have health insurance and he plans to pay for it by rolling back President Bush's tax cuts for households earning over \$250,000. He is also aiming for universal health care. This means that health care will be extended to every eligible resident.

McCain wants a free market, consumer based system for health care. He has pledged affordable coverage for people without a mandate. This means he will not require everyone to obtain health insurance and

he wants people to be able to choose their own healthcare.

## IMMIGRATION

Obama and McCain support a course to legalizing illegal immigrants, but that includes a requirement for learning English and paying fines. Both candidates also voted for the fence along the Mexican border.

"[We] have to recognize that we've got 12 million undocumented workers who are already here, many of them, living their lives alongside other Americans. Their kids are going to school. Many of the kids, in fact, were born in this country and are citizens," said Obama on Larry King Live in 2007. "And so, it's absolutely vital that we bring those families out of the shadows and that we give them the opportunity to travel a pathway to citizenship."

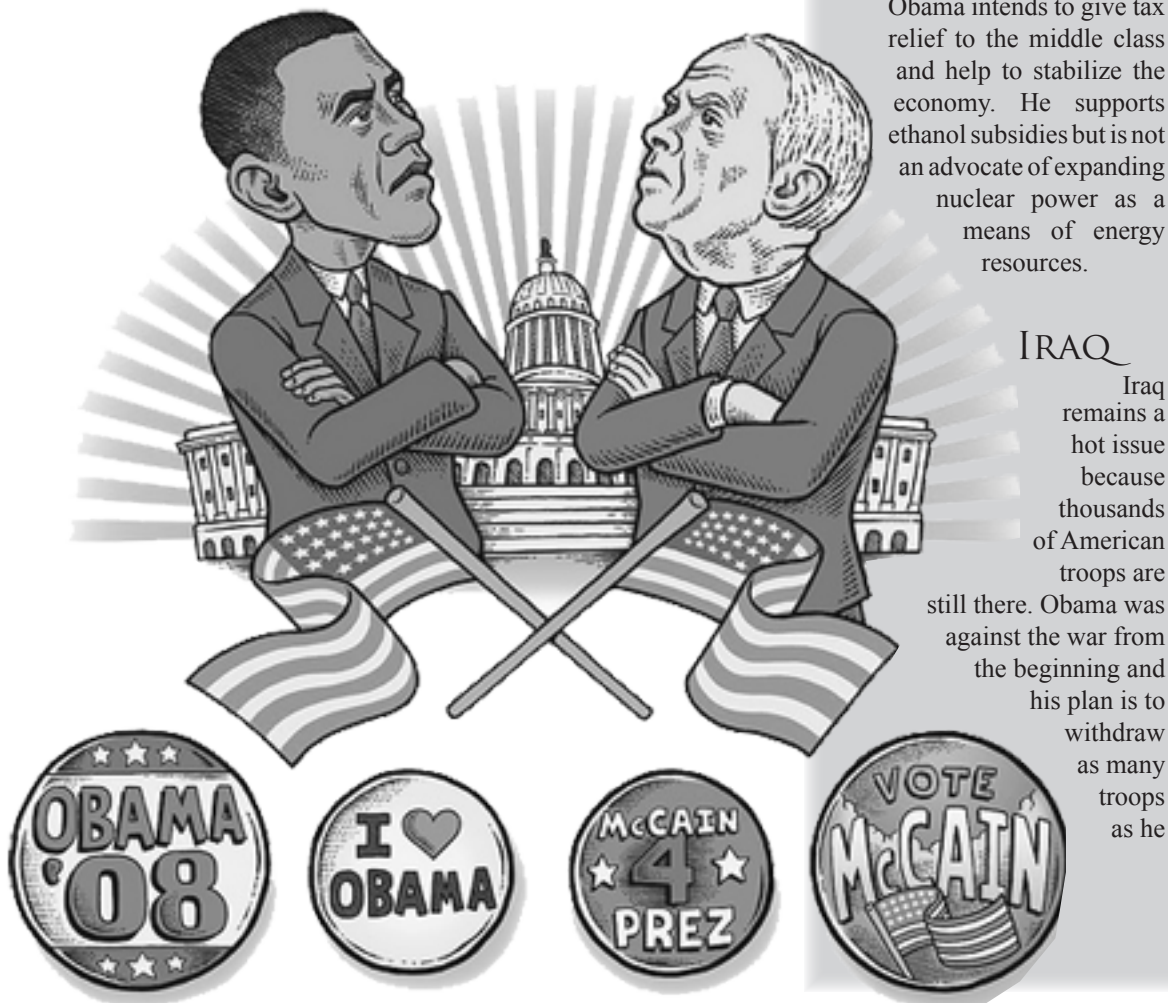
"Millions of undocumented immigrants persist in the shadows. I will work to pass comprehensive reform that protects our security, bolsters our economy, and preserves America's tradition as a nation of immigrants who are welcomed as long as they work hard and play by the rules," said Obama.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

McCain and Obama support a mandatory cap-and-trade system to reduce carbon emissions. This method involves the government setting a limit on carbon emissions and requires companies to bid for permits to emit greenhouse gases through an auction.

"We need a global response to climate change that includes binding and enforceable commitments to reducing emissions, especially for those that pollute the most: the United States, China, India, the European Union, and Russia," said Obama in an issue of *Foreign Affair* magazine in 2007.

McCain said that if China and India were to give this plan a try then the U.S. would consider it but on our own terms.



## IRAQ

Iraq remains a hot issue because thousands of American troops are still there. Obama was against the war from the beginning and his plan is to withdraw as many troops as he



## >> Rush the Field

Continued from page 1

Students brought to 113 were not allowed to leave unless escorted by a security guard. Escorts did not occur until around fourth period.

As a result of leaving their bags in their second period classes, some students' belongings were stolen.

"When I returned to my class, my entire bag was gone," said Joyce. "[It] contained my yellow Powerade, my keys, and my \$300 Moto Q 9c cell phone."

Fortunately, her belongings were returned to her.

Several of the detained students thought the administration overreacted.

"There was a big misconception that we were trying to ditch school and leave for the day," said an anonymous senior. "Our only intent was to run to the middle of the field and chant."

"The punishments given out were ridiculous," said Student X. "It looks really bad to punish so many kids that are good students, participate in clubs and teams, and contribute to Lane's atmosphere."

However, LoBosco thought the punishments were fair.

"I didn't see it as a prank," said LoBosco. "I saw it as a dangerous precedent that other classes would follow."

"[Many students disciplined were] athletes and honors and AP students. We are all good kids, who for the most part have never been in trouble until this," said an anonymous student. "We shouldn't be punished this harshly. There was no one hurt and no destruction to school property."

Though LoBosco was surprised to see that numerous AP students and athletes were involved, that did not influence the punishments given.

Some students reported that their parents agreed that the administration overreacted.

"When I told [my mom] the story, she laughed and wondered, 'Why all the commotion over a petty, innocent prank?'" said Jillian Flores, Div. 912.

"When I called my mom after school she sounded happy and called me a little rebel," said Jasmin Velazquez, Div. 919. "She even told people at the office [she works in] about what we did."

While in room 113, security guards suggested to the students that they should write an apology letter to the administration.

Many students did not have their IDs when security guards asked for them. While in the line to receive a temporary ID, one student attempted to escape. As a group of senior girls passed by the line, the student joined them without being noticed. But back in room 113, she was eventually found out and named by students.

Another student, however, did manage to escape by joining band members that passed the line.

"They called people to go to 210, and when I was in the line, I just slipped out and went back to class," said the anonymous senior.

Though the punishment included not being able to attend both Homecoming events, a senior wishing to be called "Aci" still went to the game.

"Since I left my real ID in my locker, I used it to get in the game," said Aci. "But I did see Ms. Rice during halftime, so I put on my hoodie and hid."

Aci's girlfriend, another student involved, also entered the stadium entrance without a problem. Though her ID was taken away, she was recognized as a student from Lane because of her "senior suit" and was let in.

The creator of the Facebook group, who wished to remain anonymous, does no regret creating it.

"Most of those who got in trouble don't feel bad, so I don't beat myself up for it," said the creator. "Everybody who did it made an independent decision. I didn't make anybody do anything."

Dulce Arroyo, Div. 908, explained what was going through her mind when she realized her best friend, Villanueva, had been in an accident.

As Arroyo was coming out Door A, her friend David Follick mentioned that two girls had been hit by a car.

"I sort of had this strange feeling that it was Noemi. So I ran to Addison and Western and my gut feeling was right. It's just the scariest thing to see your best friend crying on the ground next to a paramedic," said Arroyo.

"I was in disbelief that something like this would happen, especially to friends that I see almost every day," said Elena Granados, Div. 915.

Students who weren't involved

in the accident said they were also shaken up by the scene.

"When I went to go see what was going on, I was scared of crossing the street," said Diego Ledesma, Div. 919.

"I'm just angry because people don't know how to drive carefully," said Luke Sagadin, Div. 911.

"It was like watching a movie," said an anonymous senior.

"Drivers need to be more careful," said Alyssa Pantoja, Div. 047. "Lane students are everywhere."

Villanueva and Tirado were originally given Oct. 26 as a court date, but that has been delayed, because Oct. 26 was a Sunday and courts are not open on Sundays.

## Talent show canceled due to low turnouts

By Melanie Johnson

This year, students will be unable to dazzle audiences at Lane's annual talent show due to the lack of profit and low turnout in recent years.

Senior Darwin Stewart, Div. 913, is angry that the talent show is cancelled because many of Lane's students will not get the chance to showcase their talent.

"Since I'm a senior, I want to leave with those type of entertainment memories and it's a shame that people's talents will go unnoticed," she said.

The talent show began as a way to fund-raise for Lane sports, but has not been profitable to the Athletic Department.

Necessities such as gas for team buses are needed and with the steady increase in gas prices, more profit from the talent show was needed.

"Ms. Rice and I made this decision," said Coach Rio, head of the Athletic Department.

Ms. Rice, the Dean of Students and the head of the talent show for 16 years, believes that the show should be cancelled.

"We have talked about this for the last few years. The talent show has shown to be less profitable than other events such as International Days, which sell out and fill the auditorium," said Rice. "We even went to two nights of the talent show so more kids could be involved, but the seats didn't even fill the first floor."

"Since the attendance is so low it makes me and the administration think that the students are not interested in it," said Rio.

One student believed that more people would attend if they were interested in the acts.

"Since people can't do what they want, it gets boring because it has too many restrictions," said Shaun Anderson, Div. 171.

Rice, however, disagreed and believes that there needs to be limitations to prevent inappropriate and vulgar performances.

"People can't do what they want because we have standards. We select a diverse panel to select the acts so everyone will have a fair chance," said Rice.

Students also say that they would be willing to come if the talent show was free because the tickets are costly.

"Since we have [various] staff [working] here after hours, it costs money. That's why we can't do it for free," said Rice.

"After we pay the security and [janitors], there's no more money after that," said Rio.

Rio emphasized that support is key to make a beneficial profit.

"The talent show is something that we always had and would continue if we had support," said Rio. "[Cancelling it] is not something we wanted to do, but if there's any indication that we can get more support then we'll do it next year."

## >> Car Crash

Continued from page 1

Tirado said that Mines was one of the most helpful people at the scene.


"Brandi called the ambulance and made sure to write down [Deline's] license plate number," said Tirado. "It's weird because I had recently just met her over the summer, and she happened to be the one help me out."

"I don't normally eat lunch with Stephanya and Noemi," said Mines. "My friends and I just happened to be walking that day. I wanted to write down [Deline's] license plate number just in case she tried to run away or something."

**BYOB**  
BRING YOUR OWN BAND

**2:00PM NOV. 15 @ THE SUBTERRANEAN**

**A HIGH SCHOOL BATTLE OF THE BANDS  
FEATURING LOCAL TALENT! BROUGHT  
TO YOU BY ELEVATED SOUND PROMOTIONS!  
MORE INFO [HTTP://BLASTBEAT-TV/ESP](http://BLASTBEAT-TV/ESP)**



# Advertise in

# THE WARRIOR

email us at:  
[advertising@lanewarrior.com](mailto:advertising@lanewarrior.com)



# Lane's new teachers for 2008-2009



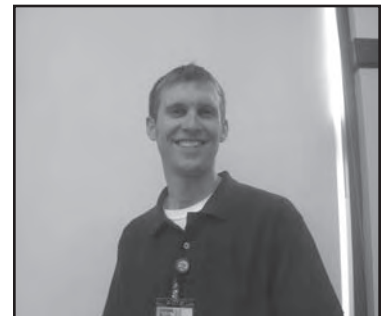
Ms. Carol Smith  
English



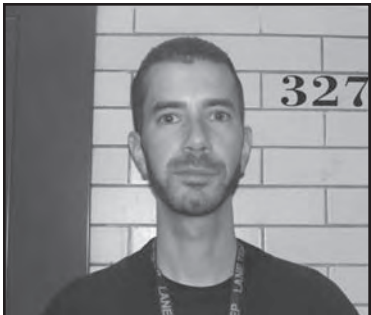
Mr. Michael Torrey  
English



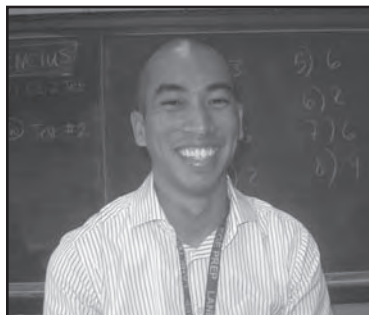
Mr. Nicholas Poirer  
English



Mr. Kevin O'Neill  
English



Mr. Chris Becker  
Mathematics



Mr. Quocnam Nguyen  
Mathematics



Mr. Michael Caines  
Mathematics



Mr. Ryan Bates  
Social Studies



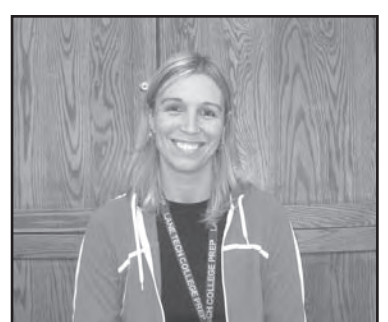
Ms. Haojing Cheng  
World Language



Mr. David Pohlman  
Physical Education



Ms. Christina Clemons  
Special Education



Ms. Holly Frank  
Special Education



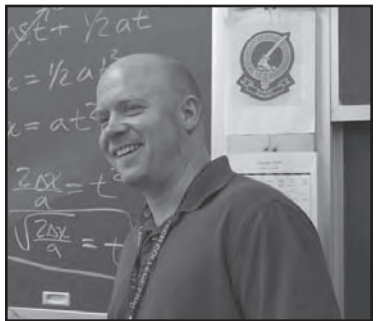
Ms. Amber Abbas  
Chemistry



Mr. William Van Zet  
Chemistry



Ms. Lucy Young  
Chemistry



Mr. Glenn Wilson  
Chemistry

# Lane welcomes freshmen with new programs

By Dulce Arroyo

The school bell rings, and hundreds of students fill the hallways as they push and shove their way to class on the first day of school. The upperclassmen are less worried, while the freshmen struggle in the crowd and try not to forget where their next class is.

Lane accepted 1,111 freshmen this year, all of which were completely new to the school and were in need of some type of guidance.

Two new programs were added along with the Big Brother/Big Sister (BBBS) program, giving the freshmen more opportunities to make friends. The S.T.A.R.S. (Students Together Achieve Results Successfully) Mentor Program and Freshmen Connection have similar goals as BBBS, but held different events during the summer.

## Freshmen connect while they have Lane's hallways to themselves

Freshmen Connection's goal was to make the transition from junior high to high school more successful, while helping the freshmen academically. As a CPS initiative, Freshmen Connection was created in order to decrease the high school student drop-out rate.

The program lasted from Jun. 30 to Jul. 25, with morning classes (8am-12pm) held by a group of teachers and run by Ms. Hart. These classes helped students in subjects such as math and science. On Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, Colonel Kochheiser was in charge of social activities, such as team building and sports.

According to Kochheiser, approximately 400 freshmen participated

in the program. The only difficulty was recruiting teachers and upperclassmen.

"It was around late May that CPS told us about Freshmen Connection, so we needed teachers and counselors to join fast," said Kochheiser. "We made division announcements and gave teachers a bulletin to read, but it was still an effort to sign up 20 students [to help with the program]."

Miguel Ramirez, Div. 903, joined, and said that those who helped were paid a total of 900 dollars.

Ramirez believes that the freshmen benefited from signing up.

"I think it made a difference socially. You can tell the freshmen who were in it apart from others because they weren't as reserved anymore," said Ramirez.

Though there was a lack of time to prepare, students found Freshmen Connection useful.

"In Freshmen Connection, you meet many people," said Erik Dohner, Div. 270. "So when you are walking in the halls, you have people saying hello to you."

Angela Kopec, Div. 270, attended sessions for about three weeks. During that time, she got a sense of what Lane would be like.

"[The Freshmen Connection schedule] was like going to a normal class, and we even had lunch regularly," said Kopec.

## Big Brother/Big Sister looks out for freshmen

With the help of their Big Brothers and Sisters, the freshmen were able to meet their division peers during orientation, and become acquainted with the school.

BBBS presidents Stephanie Mora, Div. 921, and Megha Shah, Div.

923, agree that the basic priority of the club is to make the freshmen feel comfortable.

"Our objective was to make the freshmen feel more welcomed, and to show them that they are in a safe environment," said Shah.

BBBS provided a fun and friendly atmosphere in hopes to relieve any worries.

"We do a lot of activities with the freshmen and try to get them familiarized with the school," said Mora.

Although BBBS only had two days to interact with the freshmen, Shah believes that the freshmen benefited from orientation in other ways.

"The freshmen get a feel of Lane and its rituals and learn a bit about the school's history," said Shah.

Phong Che, Div. 260, felt at ease when he was able to laugh at his Big Brothers and Big Sisters for getting lost while giving the tour.

"We also played some fun games with them, and they provided us with useful information," said Che.

BBBS activities included giving tours of the school, playing games such as the Human Knot and the Name Game, and singing the school song.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters also helped freshmen loosen up by letting them scream out their year and battle with the upperclassmen.

"It's always been a tradition for the freshmen to yell out their year," said Mora. "It develops a sense of pride early on."

## S.T.A.R.S. helps freshmen 'shine' on first day of school

The S.T.A.R.S. Mentor Program, run by counselor Mrs. Dulberg,

helps freshmen transition into Lane as well. Nationally known as the Kick-Off Mentor Program created by Lee Lonzo, the program uses a more personal method.

Five to six student mentors, known as Green Stars, were assigned to each freshman division. The Green Stars are also in charge of keeping in contact with each of the freshmen assigned to them.

Students that applied to become mentors needed teacher recommendations and filled out an evaluation sheet. In the end, 230 of the 260 that applied became mentors.

A lead council of 14 students, known as the Gold Stars, was created to help advertise the program. They also helped plan the one-day event when the freshmen met their mentors.

Peter Guidizi, Div. 907, was selected as a Gold Star, and believes that the program does work.

"The freshmen feel more welcomed at Lane and are comfortable with asking their mentors questions," said Guidizi.

Green and Gold mentors are scheduled to visit their freshmen divisions twice a month. They must also eat lunch with them monthly in order to maintain a close relationship.

"My mentor is nice and very informative if I have questions," said Scott Olivares, Div. 265. "The mentors tell us about their freshmen experiences and encourage us to join sports and clubs."

## Programs not fool-proof

Though all three programs have a common goal in helping the new students, there are still problems that arise.

Kopec, for example, may have

liked the opportunity to walk through Lane's halls during Freshmen Connection, but she is still adapting to the school's size.

"It's so hard getting to my classes on time," said Kopec, regarding the four minute bell. "I still get lost sometimes."

Other students found Freshmen Connection a waste of their time because it felt like summer school.

"It was boring; all we did was sit there and do work," said Anabelen Diaz, Div. 252. "So I left after the third day."

Erick Marquez, Div. 281, believes that the S.T.A.R.S. program is not effective, judging from both the mentors' and students' attitudes.

"They act like they don't care [about the program], and like they're not really interested," said Marquez.

Jesus Roman, Div. 903, volunteered as a Big Brother this past summer.

Since the Freshmen Connection lunchtime overlapped with the BBBS break, Roman noticed an early problem.

"The freshmen would form cliques, and we were surprised," said Roman. "Since the kids who were in Freshmen Connection already had their groups, it was going to be harder for others because they weren't in it."

Although such problems may affect other freshmen, students like Diaz were positively influenced by the encouragement of upperclassmen.

"Their experiences were helpful," said Diaz. "I like the programs and I'm going to join next year because now I want to help other students, too."

# New Chinese language class offered at Lane

By Noemi Villanueva

New doors opened to several students this year with the addition of the new Chinese Language Class. Though only 12 students signed up initially, four Chinese classes were filled over the summer.

With little time to promote the class, Lane sent fliers in the mail during break along with packets containing Quickstart information. Students were able to call the Programming Office if they wanted to add the class to their schedules.

Throughout the summer, Lane had the option of opening a new Arabic, Russian, or Chinese class. CPS offered to pay for any funds to cover the class expenses and as a result, Lane had begun an official search for a new Chinese teacher.

Ms. Cheng, who now teaches Chinese, was recruited from China this year through the Startalk Chinese Teacher Professional Development Program at Depaul University. Her decision to join Lane was a coincidence, but her personal interests also led her to travel out of China.

"It is my passion to teach Chinese and share Chinese culture and civilization with people from all parts of the world," said Cheng.

Cheng has taught Chinese and English as a Second Language extensively in China and

the United States. She claims that though she has never taught high school students, she still finds a link between her old jobs and her current one at Lane.

"Since Lane is a college preparatory, my college teaching experience will help students [acquire] a flavor of what college learning looks like," said Cheng. "They can be prepared for their future studies in college."

Although Lane's environment is different from what she is used to, Cheng says she likes Lane and her students seem very eager to learn about China and its culture.

"I really enjoy it," said Benjamin Nieto, Div. 159. "We learn not only about the Chinese language, but the culture and customs also. It won't be the easiest thing to learn but it is rewarding."

Several students agree and consider the course to be demanding and especially different from other languages they have learned.

Benny Llamas, Div. 928, is taking Spanish, Italian, and Chinese, and finds Chinese to be the most difficult of his courses.

"[Spanish and Italian] just come naturally to me since they're both romantic languages, whereas Chinese is tonal and quite the challenge," he said.

Nieto took French his freshman year and between the two languages, he believes

Chinese is the most difficult because it requires more studying.

"[Chinese] takes more practice in pronunciation, which is the key in Chinese as a missed accent can change a word's meaning," he said. "Since it's not Latin based and lacks an alphabet, you literally have to learn from the ground up."

Aarika Homan, Div. 090, also claims pronunciation is a challenge and chose to take the class because of her close link with the Chinese culture.

"I chose to take Chinese because I have visited Hong Kong several times before and my step-grandma speaks Chinese," said Homan. "For Christmas I want to surprise her by talking to her in Chinese."

Several students share a range of interests in the Chinese culture but agree that diversity in the classroom is not as mixed.

"There is some diversity in my class, but there are a lot of Asians," said Homan. "But most of them don't speak Chinese, so they are beginners just like everyone else."

Others claim there is a wide range of ethnicities in their classrooms.

"There are Hispanics, Chinese, other

Asians, Caucasians, and African Americans; the class is a melting pot," said Nieto.

Cheng believes her diverse classes may be a benefit for students to become familiar with different cultures.

"Though I have quite a number of Cantonese Chinese heritage students, I have noticed a large diversity," she said. "I think this diversity can be a resource for us to develop global perspectives through exploring the commonalities and differences among cultures."

Many who are now taking Chinese plan to pursue the language and also apply it to future career possibilities.

"I plan to be an interpreter using sign language, so if I can work my previous Italian, Spanish, and now Chinese training into that, I cannot express how great that would be," said Llamas.

According to LoBosco, if several students taking Chinese want to pursue the language further, plans will be made to start a Chinese II class next year.

学生

"Student" in Chinese

"I chose to take Chinese because I have visited Hong Kong several times before and my step-grandma speaks Chinese," said Homan.



# Economic crisis hits U.S. Lane students

By Anna Chlopek

The financial crisis of the U.S. economy has spread its burden onto banks, investment firms, and the pockets of Lane students.

With inflation increasing, Americans have seen the cost of their basic needs increase. This is visible through the cost of gas, school supplies, the price of fast food around campus, and something as simple as a 25 cent pack of chips now costing 35 cents.



Inflation, in simple terms, is the loss in purchasing power of a currency unit such as the dollar. Every dollar used to be backed up in value by a set amount of gold. The protection of keeping that value at thirty-five dollars an ounce ended with President Nixon's term because of war debts. Annually the inflation rate is approximately four-to-five percent, which means that the cost of everything increases.

## Job Opportunities

In recent years minimum wage has not kept up with inflation. The federal minimal wage last increased from \$6.55 to \$7.25 on January 1, 2006. Illinois is planning to increase its minimum wage to \$8.25 by July 2010.

Regardless of these changes, students who tend to accept lower wage jobs will have less money to spend, and with this drop in spending power, businesses will have fewer customers. As a result, there is a loss of jobs.

These statistics will affect

Lane students because the lower wages will directly affect the Lane community. Many seniors look for jobs to begin financing their college expenses. Numerous students are seeking employment to pay for personal expenses, or to help financially their families.

"Some students do have to work an after school job, or even two just to help their family get through the month," said Patrick O'Connell, Div. 182.

This is important because cuts in spending by businesses will mean jobs are harder to find, especially for younger, inexperienced students.

"I went through the whole process of job applications, resumes, interviews, and still had difficulty acquiring a job," said Kasia Gurbisz, Div. 928, a student who now works at Abercrombie. "I had to go through the process more than once, and couldn't find a job for half a year. It made my plan to support myself financially difficult."

These economic conditions



have caused businesses to take measures in securing themselves financially, reducing costs to meet profit margins. Thus, companies are changing the schedules of their workers to help reduce expenses.

"I work at Potbelly's. We get a lot less hours now, and shorter shifts because shorter shifts mean less paid breaks," said Edwarda DeSouza, Div. 931. With jobs unavailable, the money that students have for spending will decrease.

## Gas Prices

To add another strain on the pockets of students and teachers, the price of gas has increased significantly. In September, the price of gas reached a record high of \$4.49 per gallon. Recently, gas prices have fallen down to levels closer to what they were last year. Nevertheless, students and teachers who drive to school have felt the burden of the higher gas prices.

"I can't drive to school every day because the gas prices are too high, and if I have to take the bus, it still puts a hole in my pocket," said Latifa Boddy, Div. 933.

As a result of the increase, students and teachers are looking for other ways of commuting. Biking to school has increased, especially in good weather.

"I ride my bike to school because it's far more reliable than buses," said David Villegas, Div. 932. "It helps me out when training for cross country, and it is really enjoyable."

Regardless of the increased bike use, much more effective political actions will need to be taken in order to cure the dependence America has on fossil fuels.

## Cost of College

The increased costs also include college tuition. This could create

a problem for seniors currently making their college decision.

This year alone, there was a four percent increase in college tuition according to [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com). In addition, student loans have and will become more difficult to attain.

In-state annually is around \$10-15 thousand and private tuition is around \$30-40 thousand. Student sink in debt while in college and consequently they spend much of their lives paying off. The cost of colleges affects the decisions that seniors are making.

"If money was not a major issue, I would be able to go out of state, but since everything is going up (air fares especially), it will not be easy going to a college a plane ride away," said Abigail Gonsalves, Div. 935. "I would have to worry about tuition expenses, dorm room expenses plus, travel expenses!"

"I will not go to a school if I will be in tons of debt later on. I will reconsider the school before entering into tens of thousands of dollars in debt," said DeSouza.

Other seniors say the high cost of college does not bother them because they rely on scholarship money as support.

"Unless someone tells me that there are absolutely no scholarships, the price of a school will not faze me," said Sarah Whitehouse, Div. 917.

While students may not let the cost of college affect their decision there is worry that financial aid will be much more difficult to obtain.

"Getting financial aid will more than likely be a lot harder, especially for middle-class students," said Broddy. "I'm applying for a lot of scholarships, so I try not to let the price get to my head."

# Reverend Meeks calls for first day boycott

By Lucia Ramirez

On Tuesday, Sep. 2, Reverend James Meeks called for a boycott of poor CPS schools.

Meek's objective was to take students to New Trier, a wealthy suburban school, so they could enroll there because he argues that students in Chicago, particularly on the South side of , do not have the same amount of funding as wealthy suburban schools do.

According to the Chicago Sun-Times, public school funding comes from both state and federal sources based on factors such as enrollment, property values, attendance, special education, and other calculations depending upon the state.

In an article published on [abclocal.go.com](http://abclocal.go.com), Arne Duncan, CPS's CEO, said that the CPS schools "have tremendous needs," because "nine thousand students come from homeless families."

Although the amount that is being given to the school districts is based on a formula for local property taxes, some believe that these differences in money affect students' own expectations of learning.

"Society is saying that we value white students more than

black kids," said Mr. Parsons, Psychology teacher. They [black kids] have the overcrowded, falling-apart schools. If we don't have expectations for them it's because we don't value them and their future."

Many people thought Reverend Meeks had a good cause.

"I am in favor [of the boycott] because he [Meeks] has a point and he proved it," said Dr. LoBosco. "Where you are born should not affect the education you get."

"Meeks led an important cause. He started a movement," said Raul Ortiz, Div. 916. "Most importantly, he got attention from the media to inform many parents who don't even pay attention to school funding."

Others did not agree with his approach.

"It's a good idea that he is interested in this problem," said Shawn Ward, Div. 905. "But I think he should have found another way to protest than taking kids out of school."

"Kids should go to school, and not be part of a situation like that," said Andres Ayala, Div. 023. "School should be the main focus of kids. The school administration and parents should take care of the money

stuff."

About 2,000 Chicago students attended this boycott. No Lane students participated in boycott. "Attendance was high that day," said LoBosco. "I knew it wouldn't be a problem because most of the kids that attended were young kids whose parents put them on the bus."

Tuesday morning, students and parents met up in the House of Hope church on the Southside of Chicago. School buses were rented to take the families to New Trier Township. After arriving in school buses, the CPS students were welcomed by the administration and staff of New Trier. According to [suntimes.com], CPS students were welcomed with a huge sign made by New Trier students that read "Welcome to New Trier, CPS students." New Trier Parents Association provided protesters with cookies and refreshments in the gym and auditorium.

According to [chicagodefender.com](http://chicagodefender.com), Meeks has proposed the Illinois 21st Century School Reform Initiative, a pilot program that would address academic shortfalls at underperforming schools throughout the state. Meeks has asked for the state to fund the \$120 million.



# JROTC looks to rebuild its ranks

With a growing number of students, JROTC takes steps to live up to the "School of Champions" reputation.

By Rachel Steibing

With new leaders and a new Drill Hall, JROTC is improving the program and increasing their numbers.

"I think this year will be better than all the rest because [JROTC] is more developed," said Javier Martinez, Div. 923. "We have learned from past people's mistakes and we have built on that."

Returning leaders have worked hard to get the program recognized.

"We are really starting to build up JROTC [around school]," said Zach White, Div. 926. "And we are living up to the 'School of Champions' reputation."

Last year, only 217 students were a part of JROTC. At the beginning of this year 249 students were enrolled. Over the last month, JROTC held a "Recruiting Competition" within classes and gained 19 new cadets. However, due to schedule changes, the program still holds only 250 cadets for the 2008-2009 school year.

"Even though our numbers have gone up, we still need more participation," said White. "Our goal for this year was 275 students."

CPS has regulations governing how many instructors can work

at a school based on the number of students in the program. Lane currently has four JROTC instructors. Lane could be at risk of losing an instructor because there have been under 250 students participating for the past three years.

"Next year, if we do not have at least 250 students at the beginning of the school year and the end of the school year, we will lose someone [an instructor]," said White.

"We like to have as many students involved as possible," said Colonel Kochheiser, Senior Army Instructor. "Numbers are not the most important thing though. It is the leadership opportunities. However, larger numbers will allow us to be more competitive in contests against other schools."

Some students think that the war has had an effect on Lane's proud military history.

"I think [the war] has made kids think more about whether they want to join or not," said Mr. Eisenberg, Physical Education teacher. "[They] think more about what they want to do in the future."

Parents and students often think that if they join JROTC they will have to join the military after high school.

"If I had the choice between gym and JROTC, I would choose gym," said Samantha Alvarez,



JROTC students line up in the Lane basement during one of their many inspection days.

Div. 904. "I would be too afraid to go to war."

Other students believe that the war would bring an increase in JROTC participation.

"I would think the numbers would have increased," said Cindy

Villalobos, Div. 919. "We need more soldiers and more people are being called to serve."

Some instructors think that the war has nothing to do with JROTC participation.

"There is no connection," said Kochheiser. "First, Lane JROTC is not the military. The military has not been tarnished because the military did not get us into the war. War reflects badly on elected leaders. Second, we have a military model, but we are not the military and we are not involved in the war."

Numbers have drastically dropped since JROTC first began.

"Fifty percent of the school used to be involved in JROTC," said White. "Now it is only about five percent."

Last year, JROTC moved into Room 148 because the Drill Hall could not be used due to stadium renovation. This year, JROTC will

move back into the Drill Hall in early February.

"We need the space!" said Kochheiser. "Having us in a new, refurbished room shows the administration's support of the system and we are grateful for that."

The Drill Hall has been around for several years and is important to the JROTC students.

"It brings back the memories of freshman year," said Jocelyn Mejia, Div. 923. "It is our Drill Hall and it [will be] good to have it back before we [the seniors] leave."

Leaders in the program are doing their best and working hard to keep the number of JROTC members growing.

"Our senior leaders are excited and organized," said Kochheiser. "They have some really fun things planned to liven up this year."



Male and female freshmen students work out during P.E.

## Freshmen gym classes now co-ed

Due to a law mandating that P.E. classes must be co-ed, Lane combined freshmen male and female classes this year, moving away from the traditional same sex classes of years past.

"In elementary school you've got to play sports with guys," said Miranda Lonzo, Div. 261. "So it's the same thing going into high school."

Some differences however may arise at the high school level.

"It might get awkward when it comes to health," said Estephania Rodriguez, Div. 284. "Girls might have questions they don't want to ask in front of guys, but it really doesn't make a difference to me."

## LANE JACKETS

**WOOL BODY LEATHER SLEEVES QUILT LINED**  
Complete with all lettering and emblems  
Made the way you want!

CHOICE OF SLEEVE COLOR  
SPORT NAMES ADDED  
YOUR LETTERS AND PATCHES SEWN ON  
EMBLEMS AND ADDITIONS SEWN ON JACKETS  
VARSITY JACKET CLEANING

**CHICAGO KNITTING MILLS**  
3344 W. MONTROSE, CHICAGO (773)463-1464





# just watch me



# take the lead

## Join us for an Open House

Saturday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Schaumburg Campus  
1400 N. Roosevelt Blvd.

Saturday, Nov. 8, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Chicago Campus  
430 S. Michigan Ave.

Roosevelt's five colleges offer degrees in programs including Biomedical Sciences, Business, Communications, Education, Performing Arts, Psychology and Sociology.

To register:  
1-877-APPLY RU  
[www.roosevelt.edu/openhouse](http://www.roosevelt.edu/openhouse)  
[applyRU@roosevelt.edu](mailto:applyRU@roosevelt.edu)

**ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY**

CHICAGO • SCHAUMBURG • ONLINE  
[www.roosevelt.edu](http://www.roosevelt.edu)







# Dirty dancing, drunken behavior at homecoming



By Francessa Sanchez

Upon arriving at Lane to go to the Homecoming dance, I noticed a long white limo drive up to Door M and let out at least 10 girls, all with six-inch heels and dresses whose hems hung right under their butts.

Are Lane dances a way for students to show off their sex appeal?

With the dressing restrictions including only no windbreakers, joggers, and gym shoes, it was basically anything goes when it came to proper attire.

Other students [girls] showed up in strapless dresses whose hems also hung under their butts. I found the sight a little horrifying: girls grinding on their dates in the most sexual manners possible. It was almost like everyone was fornicating to loud, obnoxious, sexually graphic music.

It really makes me wonder what these girls are thinking. I mean, this dance wasn't at a nightclub, and even if it was a nightclub, what kind of message would they be sending to the other men who are there around them? "Oh dang, she's showing me the bottom of her ass cheeks, I want a piece of that." The way someone portrays themselves is the kind of attention they will get from others around them.

So why would someone dress that revealingly? I know I wouldn't want a guy to think about what I look like without my dress on when he first meets me. I find it better to dress conservatively sexy. Cover up your chest and show off your legs with a nice pair of open-toed (anti-porn-star) heels.

The other thing I noticed was that a few students showed up to the dance completely hammered. I even had a run-in with one of the guys.

I was dancing with my boyfriend when the guy stumbled into me. I turned to say something to him, he started to walk away, slowly, with his upper arm grazing my chest. I grabbed the guy's arm and lightly pushed him off of me. He turned to face us, dumbly looked at me, then at my boyfriend, and pushed him.

The guy started to walk away, I grabbed him by the arm again and pulled him in front of me. He reeked of booze. I asked him if he was okay, and he replied, "I'm fine," and slowly walked off.

Why would a student come to a school function that hammered? Do people really think it's necessary to be drunk in order to enjoy themselves? Personally, I can wait until I'm twenty one to start drinking. Why start to destroy my liver sooner than I need to?

By the time Lane security noticed the revealing form of dressing, there was only an hour and a half left of the dance. It would have been pointless to make the students go home, so the issue was left alone. As for the drunk student, he managed to get past the staff unnoticed. Maybe security should put some more restrictions on the dances, and assign more people to chaperone. Next time, there should be more specifics on what to wear to the dances, and the students who attend them should be examined more closely before attending them.



By Dulce Arroyo

The Warrior is pleased to introduce a new addition to its already award-winning format: an advice column.

High school is full of drama, whether it be related to school, friends, or... relationships. I think it's safe to say that the most common problems that weigh on our minds are matters of the heart.

As Arts & Entertainment Editor, I have the opportunity to offer my objective (though not professional) opinion on any relationship problems about which the students of Lane need advice.

We have all had our share of such problems in this arena - confusion over mixed signals, how to act around a certain crush, or doubts about relationships that become stressful. And though it's pretty easy to ask a friend for advice, they may not be honest enough to give a straight answer.

## Spirit Week needs fresh ideas



By Natalie Reyes

Spirit Week is something I personally look forward to here at Lane. This year being my senior year, I was extra excited because it would be my last Spirit Week at Lane.

This year it was a success, as in all my years here, but I think in the future it can be better. For the past four years, it's been the same: Sports Day, Retro Day, Twin Day, and Spirit Day. They changed a day this year: Geek Day.

I think Lane should change the days up every year.

Next year, Monday should

## Mex in the City

### The Warrior's new advice column

Too often they will beat around the bush in order to avoid hurting our feelings. But don't you just want the gosh darn truth?

That's where I come in.

Since I'm not directly involved in any way with your problems, I won't be biased. Instead, I'll view the problem from an objective viewpoint and give advice on the best possible solution. Though I'm not a psychologist, I've been through many relationship ups and downs. I've crushed, been crushed, and almost lost friends because of crushes. Trust me, if anyone's been in the game of love countless times, it's me.

So, how am I going to give you a valid opinion?

Along with my own experiences, I will also consult trusted sources who are reliable authorities on relationship issues. Remember, I do not guarantee the results that you want. I can only offer the most diplomatic advice from my point of view.

So don't hesitate to ask! It's always refreshing to hear a different opinion.

After your entry, you may sign as "Anonymous" or give a fake name such as "Confused 09."

Questions should be emailed to [dulcearroyo@lanewarrior.com](mailto:dulcearroyo@lanewarrior.com) or dropped in the mailbox of Mr. Johnson, Warrior sponsor, in the main office.

I'm looking forward to receiving any and all questions!

Sincerely,  
Dulce Arroyo  
Arts & Entertainment Editor



be Superhero/Villain Day. On this day everyone would dress up as a superhero or villain, or at least wear a t-shirt of one. It would almost be like a Halloween costume. For characters like the Hulk or the Joker, students could paint their faces and act the part. Friends could dress up together: one as the hero and one as the villain.

Tuesday should once again be Geek Day. Students seemed to really enjoy this day and pulled it off very well. Students not only dressed the part, but played it as well. It was a fresh idea that has never been done. I personally found it hilarious to see students running through the hallways.

Wednesday should be Celebrity Day. Students can pick a celebrity and come to school looking like them. Again it would be like a Halloween costume dressing up as someone famous. With so many people in the media, actors/actresses and singers, it would be funny to see people dressed like them. To see an Elvis Presley

walking down the hallway would be one for the yearbooks.

Thursday should be Dress Like Your Teacher Day. Students can pick a teacher they like, or even dislike, and poke fun at them. They would get to dress like them, and to take it to the next level, they could talk and act like them as well. The teachers should dress like students on this day also, switching the roles in the school.

Friday would stay Spirit Day because here at Lane, it's a tradition to show school spirit and represent your graduation years. It's also the day the Homecoming game and dance take place. It's a day to support Lane, and students seem to like this day.

If spirit week was not so predictable, I think more students would participate in it. It would be fresh and students would have to be creative to stand out in the crowd. The crazier the day, the more students have fun with it, and will be willing to participate.



# Facing the facts on Facebook

## Are social networking pages restricting students from the colleges of their dreams?

By Samantha D'Anna

It's a Friday night. Drinks are poured, cigarettes are lit, and cameras come out. Everyone hurries to squeeze into the picture, smiling and hoisting their drinks in the air. A few days after the party, the pictures are posted. Later that day a college admissions officer rejects the application of one of the students appearing in the photo.

College applicants are finding out the hard way that when it comes to online privacy, just when they need it, it isn't there. Personal pages, like Facebook and MySpace, can be accessible to everyone, from administrators to parents to the police.

First opened to the public in 2004, Facebook has since become a very popular social networking website with over 67 million members.

"Facebook is an easy way to keep in touch or talk with friends that you do or don't see every day," said Heather Seick, Div. 919. "It is something that you keep private between you and your friends."

A new survey, of 500 top colleges, conducted by the education company Kaplan, a unit of Washington Post Co., found that 10% of admissions officers took personal, social networking pages into consideration when evaluating applicants. Of those colleges, 38% said that what they viewed "negatively affected" their perception of the applicant. Only a quarter of the schools checking the social networking pages said their views were improved.

Most universities still have no policy detailing when it is appropriate for school officials to look at the personal websites of prospective students.

Most students, even when admitting they have inappropriate photos on their side, think it is not the business of universities to look at them.

"Yes I have inappropriate pictures on my Facebook but who doesn't?" asked Peter Guidizi, Div. 907.

"Most people have inappropriate pictures on their Facebook pages, no doubt. But that's a teenage kid for you. Almost every high school student is going to have pictures of them drinking and partying, and some just with their friends goofing around. It's going to happen," said Kelly Stanton, Div. 925.

"Majority of people on Facebook have inappropriate pictures; pictures containing liquor, drinking, smoking, goofing around that might be inappropriate," said Seick.

Dina Ahmetspahic, Div. 924, defines "inappropriate" as drinking, smoking pot, and being slutty.

"[Inappropriate are] any pictures I would not want teachers or employers seeing. Such

as being scantily clad or drinking, unless the situation can be explained, such as wearing a bikini in pictures because you are at the beach," said Edwarda DeSouza, Div. 931.

Unsurprisingly, most high school students think their personal websites should be off limits to college admissions counselors.

"It's not fair that they look at it, and I don't know how they manage to do it if you have a private page," said Stanton. "But anyways I don't think it should be put into consideration for acceptance. You couldn't fill a college with all 'innocent' people."

Although DeSouza has nothing she is ashamed of on her Facebook, she disagrees with colleges viewing students websites as part of the admissions process.

"Also in my case, I happen to have unpopular religious views, and political views that are definitely in the minority of the common applicant pool. I do not believe that I should be penalized for putting my views on what is supposed to be a private social profile. Judging by people's profiles is unfair, and gives many people an unfair disadvantage," said DeSouza.

Ahmetspahic, who claims to have nothing "inappropriate" on her personal page, has no problem with colleges looking at her Facebook.

"It is fair for colleges to look because they are accepting you to represent them; they have a right to know who and what kind of person they are taking in," she said. "However, they ought to only be allowed such a thing at the student's approval/permission. My profile is set to private--friends only can view it. I feel it an invasion of privacy if a university could see it, but I understand they look because they want to see that real person; not hope that the personal essays are real."

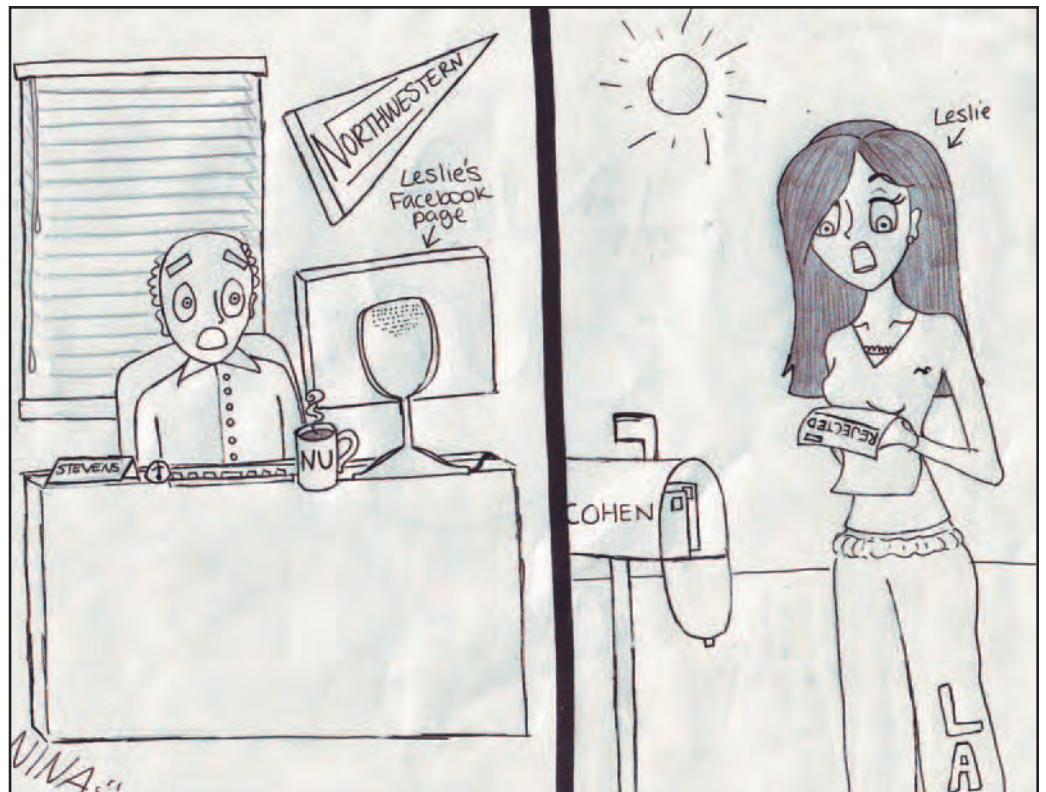
There are red flags when sifting through the many applicants, whether it is suspensions or absences. Social networking pages add an entire new category to the selective process of admitting students, therefore some Universities just chose not to.

"No we don't check personal pages like Facebook and MySpace, not at all," said Tim Carter of Northern Illinois University

Undergraduate Admissions. "We do not take that into consideration during the admissions process."

"We don't check those," said Theresa Koltzenburg, of University Relations at Western Illinois University. "WIU has a MySpace and a Facebook, we try to friend students, but the friendships are not used to evaluate for undergraduate admissions."

We don't look at social networking sites, we



are looking at the application, the essays, and the prospective student's involvement," said Kristin Smigielski, an admissions counselor at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. "We don't believe it is necessary. We base our decision on everything in the application. We see who the student is by what is in their application."

In another study, Nora Ganim Barnes, director of the Center for Marketing Research at the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, surveyed that 21 percent of universities used social networking sites for recruiting prospects and gathering information about applicants.

Students' futures may be made or broken by what is seen on their social networking website.

Thomas Griffin, director of undergraduate admissions at North Carolina State University in Raleigh told the *Wall Street Journal* the school does an internet search, including Facebook and other sites, if an application raises "red flags," such as a suspension from school. Griffin claims several applicants a year have been rejected in part because of information on social networking sites. In a recent application, the university reviewed a student who disclosed in his application that he had been corrected for fighting. The school found a Facebook page with a picture of the applicant holding a gun.

"We have to use this information to make the best decision for the university," said Griffin.

Greg Roberts, senior dean of admission at the University of Virginia told the *Wall Street Journal* his staff is free to check out anonymous tips about social networking sites or use the information if the admissions committee is reviewing a "tight" decision.

This process is clearly not popular among Lane students; many believe it is unfair that this may what their application decision can come down to.

"It isn't right that colleges take this into consideration because if they only wanted kids who just studied all the time they would

have to get rid of half the kids in their school right now. It's a phase of being a teenager and its going to happen. It isn't not fair that something like that can decide whether or not you get into a certain college or not," said Guidizi.

"What we do in our private lives is our own business. That is in fact our right as American citizens, as long as what we are doing is not infringing on the safety or rights of others," said DeSouza. "If someone wants to wear questionable outfits outside school and post them on Facebook that is their own problem."

"It is not fair that they put what they find into consideration, because Facebook is clearly not a thing that displays intelligence or character," said Ahmetspahic. "Yeah, maybe some personality traits can be inferred by reading through a person's interests or whatever, but Facebook does not represent any one person."

Not everyone agrees.

"Well doesn't your page kind of represent your personality and even if it doesn't?" said Haseeb Mirza, Div. 936. "You shouldn't have stuff up there that would affect your chances of getting in a college. It's common sense."

"If you do not want to be judged by your pictures, simply do not put them up. There really is no way around it. If you have them up, take them down for the fall of your senior year, or something," said DeSouza. "I myself do not have inappropriate pictures up, but I am going to hide any and all details about myself that may cause a college admissions committee to be biased against me and my application."

"Many people boast about their illegal activities and whatnot on these pages, because they feel free to do so, and colleges have a right to not accept you because you drink a lot or smoke pot--nobody wants to accept potheads, and with good reason: they're lazy and pretty stupid," said Ahmetspahic.

### False Friends

More and more college admissions officers are checking personal pages like Facebook and MySpace to evaluate applicants. Here are some tips suggested by the *Wall Street Journal*:

#### Don't:

- Include offensive language or references to illegal behavior on your site.
- Make offhand, negative comments about colleges.

#### Do:

- Establish privacy settings so your posts aren't accessible to the general public.
- Consider all communication could be public one day.



# Scholarship opportunities just around the corner for Lanites

By Samantha D'Anna

Although some students are not just waiting around for money to be handed to them, it is a relatively small percentage.

Scholarship applications are just one more thing to add to the growing list of inevitable senior tasks leading to the first day of college. Students are getting a reality check when it comes to the burden of college finances. Many students don't recognize there are solutions: scholarships and grants.

"I've been applying for scholarships ever since the middle of last year," said Joey Hynes, Div. 934. "I did win one from the ACE (Architecture, Construction, and Engineering) Program. It was only \$1,000, but it is still something."

However, some students are completely unaware of what is being offered.

"I didn't even know you applied for scholarships. I thought they just give them to you," said Alexis Boin, Div. 906.

According to Daniel Cassidy's *The Scholarship Book: The Fourth Edition*, "The National Commission on Student Financial Assistance" a U.S. Congressional Subcommittee, found that while there was more than \$7 billion available to students from corporations, only \$400 million was used. Some 6.6 billion dollars went unclaimed, not because people were unqualified, but because they didn't know where to look.

"I am aware of the scholarships out there, and I am trying, but it seems like there is just so much competition," said Hynes.

The reason may not be that students are lazy. They may just be lost.

"Scholarships are just one more overwhelming thing to do before the year is up," said Mia Spingola, Div. 910.

Assistance is provided at Lane in the Counseling Office, with guidance counselor and Scholarship Coordinator, Mr. Vacek.

"Number one: scholarships take time to fill out; number two: students are not aware of all the possibilities," said Vacek.

"Scholarship Coordinator? Who are they and where are they?" asked Hynes.

"I had no idea there was a Scholarship Coordinator," said Dyon Bryant, Div. 917.

"As the scholarship coordinator it is my job to post all the scholarships that I am aware of on a weekly bulletin," said Vacek. "I also look at personal statements and essays students write for their scholarships. I talk to students a lot about what scholarship they're looking for and how to make their application the best it can be."

The scholarship newsletter that is distributed by Vacek lists scholarships, a few details of the scholarships, and their deadlines. The newsletter should be posted in senior divisions and can also be found in the Counseling Office in room 212.

Students can be easily discouraged when they see the substantial numbers in college costs.

"I'm very interested [in scholarships] because I have an older brother in college currently, so if I got money it would be very helpful," said Bryant.

"I try to find any scholarships that I am eligible for, mostly academic," said Hynes.

"I know the scholarships are out there. I just

haven't really gotten around to applying for them. I don't leave for school for another nine months, so what does it matter?" asked Jessica Hannon, Div. 927.

"I'm only a junior. I'm not really worried about the money situation yet," said Jackie Manrique, Div. 021.

Students are often deterred when it comes to applying for scholarships.

"I'm running out of incentive to look for scholarships," said Spingola. "I never hear back from any of them [scholarships] and I haven't been rewarded for any of them. It just seems kind of pointless."

Vacek believes students need to persevere.

"It depends on how many people apply for that scholarship," said Vacek. "Many times not

many people apply for a certain scholarship and so those who do the work to apply have an excellent chance at winning."

To attend a four-year private college the average cost is \$23,712 and the average cost to attend an in-state, public, four-year college is around \$6,185. College finances are a significant amount of money, but there are sources that will lend a hand and if they are applied for. Students shouldn't let these costs mislead them. According to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). The following are facts about this investment:

- About 56 percent of students enrolled at four-year colleges or universities attend institutions that charge tuition and fees of less than \$9,000 per year.

- 43 percent of full-time students enrolled in public four-year colleges and universities attend institutions that charge tuition and fees between \$3,000 and \$6,000.

- While private four-year institutions have a much wider range of tuition and fee charges, only about six percent of all students attend colleges with tuition and fees totaling \$33,000 or higher per year.

Many students do not let money define whether they attend college or not. However, it is a huge factor.

"No, I don't think not having the money for school is an excuse, but it is outrageously expensive," said Hynes. "If I had the money that I wanted, I would consider U of I and Purdue, but I may have to settle for UIC or IIT."

"Money isn't an excuse for not attending college," said Spingola. "The money is out there. It just takes time."

After grants and scholarships, financial aid is added into the equation of college costs. The entire cost the average undergraduate pays for his/her college education is thus extensively

lower than the published tuition and fees.

"Sometimes [money] can be [the reason for not attending college]," said Vacek. "But more often than not it should not be. There is so much money out there through the government, the college itself, and private scholarships, that most colleges could be in reach financially."

There are many different websites and tools available to students seeking to acquire scholarships. Many of these websites provide College Calculators and step-by-step Profile Creators that are later used in applying for scholarships.

People with a bachelor's degree earn over 60 percent more than those with only a high school diploma. Over a lifetime, the gap in earning between a high school diploma and a B.A. is more than \$800,000, according to a 2007 College Board Study, Education Pays.

## Recommended Scholarship Websites

- 1) [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- 2) [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)
- 3) [www.finaid.com](http://www.finaid.com)
- 4) [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- 5) [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- 6) [www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com)
- 7) [www.wiredscholar.com](http://www.wiredscholar.com)
- 8) [www.smexpress.com](http://www.smexpress.com)
- 9) [www.meritaid.com](http://www.meritaid.com)
- 10) [www.collegeanswer.com](http://www.collegeanswer.com)
- 11) [www.schoolsoup.com](http://www.schoolsoup.com)

## Ethnic food may cause obesity in Lane students

By Joanna Stepkow

Nearly one in five Lane students is overweight. The statistic rises to nearly one in four among minorities.

Teen obesity statistics reveal that obesity is different for each ethnicity and gender. According to the Obesity Society website, 17.9 percent of Caucasian, 17.7 percent of African American, and 20.0 percent of Hispanic teen males are overweight. For females, 14.6 percent of Caucasian, 23.8 percent of African American, and 17.1 percent of Hispanic teens are overweight. Among these statistics, obesity occurs primarily in Mexican American and African American teenagers. What exactly influences the rise in (teen) obesity?

Culture may play a role in a person's eating habits. Studies (Obesity Society) show that African American women have the greatest risk of becoming overweight. According to Lane students, the food is the problem.

"It is greasy because almost everything is fried," said African American Corey Hunter, Div. 933. "[I think] Black people are [the] most overweight because of the fried foods [and sugar-filled deserts] they eat."

Although the diet may contribute to the weight problems, the result is often seen as a non-issue.

"I think it is more acceptable for girls to be overweight in our [African American] culture," said Hunter.

This acceptance of an overweight image may have to do with the opinion of African American women.

A recent study by the Obesity Society revealed that while Latin American women report greater body image dissatisfaction, African American women prefer a larger body.

Opinions as to whether a larger weight is accepted amongst cultures and genders differ, primarily between the Hispanic students. Some believe that being overweight is a good characteristic.

"It's a tradition that it's better to be fatter. It shows you're healthy and full of life," said Paola Lopez, Div. 021.

Although the culture may accept obesity, some say that it can bring up issues between family members.

"If you're overweight, your family will criticize you, especially the older generation like your grandparents or in-laws," said Jesus Roman, Div. 903.

"[Being overweight] is not really mentioned too often," said Javier Pena, Div. 921. "There's a bit of teasing, but for the most part, it's not meant to offend."

The reason for an unhealthy weight may be due to the fact that food is seen as a central part of the Hispanic culture. Karen Koenig, an expert on the psychology of eating, says that growing up in a family that reinforces unhealthy eating habits may result in weight problems later in life.

"Food is very important [to Hispanics]," said Ortiz. "It's seen

"Last year our seniors were offered a total of \$7 million dollars in scholarship money from colleges and private businesses," said Vacek. "So there is a lot of money out there. You just need to apply for it."

However students may view the costs of college, they should keep in mind that they will be repaid and then some, in the long-run.

Helpful tips when applying for scholarships include:

- Start early. Each scholarship has a deadline that needs to be met.

- Be prepared. You may have to send for your transcripts and test scores, and ask for at least two letters of recommendation from people who know you and your potential.

- Research potential scholarships. Keep records of all the scholarships you have applied for.

- Evaluate what you want to major in and pursue as a career. What are your abilities, successes, achievements, honors? Where do you see yourself in the future?

- Apply for all possible scholarships. Make the letter short, sweet, and to the point. Identify yourself and state what you are requesting. For a quick response, enclose a stamped, self addressed envelope.

- Present yourself professionally in your application. Remember the three C's: complete, concise, and clear. Your application is the only thing representing you to the scholarship committee.

as offensive in my house if you come over and don't want to eat."

"It shows love," said Pena. "Eating a meal is a family affair. A lot of times it's a chance for family to relax and talk to each other. Besides eating together, we also cook together a lot. Most will help with the cooking, and of course talk while they cook."

The way the food is cooked may also play a role in the weight issue.

"Spanish food is very greasy. We use lots of oil," said Lopez.

Although one's family may not make the best nutritional choices, some [students] still do.

"My family doesn't eat healthy. When they order [takeout], I still make something for myself to eat," said Danielle Wilberschied, Div. 913.

Some students are able to eat healthy food more often than others.

"My parents always make sure we have plenty of fruits and vegetables at home," said Christopher Tidd, Div. 040.

"My family eats traditional foods, but my mom also makes healthy things, like beef stew, and chicken soup," said Roman.

Although students may be too busy to have a proper meal throughout their day due to school, homework, extracurricular activities, families, or other related issues, finding a healthy alternative to a McDonald's dinner may be the best route to take. In the long run, a healthier style of eating may contribute to a healthy body image and self-esteem level.





## Forbidden Love: students dating behind parents' backs

By Lucia Ramirez

Parent's rules about dating have not been a problem for many Lane students because they manage to date anyway.

Many teens start dating around seventh grade when they are about 13 years old, but what exactly does dating mean? According to Parents' Rules on Teenage Dating written by Jennifer Hunter, dating is going out to the movies or anywhere else together without any parents or escorts.

For many, relationships may start since they are younger, but these relationships do not really fall into the category of dating since all the couples might do is see each other in school.

Some teens do not feel comfortable telling their parents about their relationships for various reasons. One of the main reasons is that dating is against their parents' rules.

According to "Sex, Drugs, And Dating Make Teens Feel Older," another reason is that "dating, sexual activity, and substance use seem to make teens feel older than they really are."

Many parents tend to be protective of their teens, so they set rules and boundaries that limit these teens. According to "Teens and Dating: Tips for Parents and Pro-

fessionals" by Kate Fogarty, teens are looking for intimacy, companionship, affection, and social support from their romantic partners. Some parents however, see dating as a way for teens to engage in sexual activities, so they try to protect them from this.

"My parents see teenage girls getting pregnant and they think that I'm going to end up the same if I date," said an anonymous senior, Div. 916.

In a poll [taken by Fogarty,] of over 1,000 teens, ages 16-18 one third (33%) agreed that sex is "expected" of people their age who are in a relationship.

**"You have to find ways to meet up,"**  
said an anonymous senior, Div. 902.

**"You have to be secretive, make up excuses that aren't too obvious."**

"My parents think that relationships lead to sex and sex before marriage is against our religion," said an anonymous student, Div. 902. "They [parents] tell me to remember my religion and my faith."

"I would tell my parents that I'm dating, but I want to wait until I settle down with one guy," said an anonymous senior, Div. 916. "So if I get in trouble, it's worth it."

According to Teens and Dating: Tips for Parents and Professionals, dating is connected to adolescent risk behaviors such as school failure and limited educational goals.

## Teen pregnancy: trendy again?

By Natalie Reyes

According to womenissues.com, three quarters of a million teens become parents every year. Between the years 1995 and 2002, teenage pregnancy dropped 25 percent.

With high-profiled teens recently having babies, Jamie-Lynn Spears, Britney Spears' younger sister, and Bristol Palin, vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin's daughter, a mother-to-be, teen pregnancy might seem popularized.

"Some girls look up to people like them as role models, just because they're on TV and may see them as doing no wrong," said Brittany May, Div. 912.

Johnny Resendiz, Div. 932, disagrees.

"I don't think [teens intentionally get pregnant] because most people our age know that they are not ready for kids. I actually think it'll force teens to think about it and make right decisions," said Resendiz.

"I think that Palin and Spears' pregnancies won't influence teens, but it can show that teen pregnancies do happen," said Jillian Fitzner, Div. 934.

Teen pregnancy is definitely a conversation topic. A Sept. 18 episode of The Tyra Show

focused on teen pregnancies. Tyra interviewed guests who were pregnant or wanting to have kids. One seventeen year old guest was pregnant with her third child. There were thirteen and fourteen-year-old girls who were trying to have babies because they want a child.

"I will have a baby shower. That will cover some of my expenses," said a thirteen year old guest who said she was trying to get pregnant.

It's not just individuals in the media that are influencing teens to have sex.

"TV shows like *Degrassi*, *Gossip Girl*, and *The Secret Life of the American Teenager*, [aren't] bad shows, but they just expose too much," said May.

Teen pregnancies can sometimes be mistaken as being glorified.

"Only through the media are teen pregnancies glorified. In Palin's and Spears' cases it is only being glorified by the media," said Resendiz.

Veronica Cruz, Div. 913, agrees.

"It seems like everyone is getting pregnant now," said Cruz.

"I think it's crazy how many teenagers are getting pregnant with so much protection," said May. "It just seems like they don't care about what they're

doing to their lives, especially when they're still in high school. It just makes sex education in school useless."

"There are a lot of ways to prevent pregnancies, but people also understand that accidents happen. Condoms and birth control are not 100 percent," said Fitzner.

During the 50s and 60s teen pregnancy was looked upon differently than it is today, especially if you were unmarried. Times have drastically changed.

"Back then people were more scared to get pregnant, but today it's like 'I'll have sex, and then get the day after pill,'" said Cruz.

"When my parents were growing up, teens were more involved in sports and activities and just hanging out with each other. Teenage pregnancy wasn't as big a problem as it is now," said May.

"I feel it's so bad right now that it can't get any worse than it already is," said May.

"I don't think things will change anytime soon," said Resendiz.

"It will get worse. It's so bad in society now and it seems as if sex is the number one issue in the media," said Lauren Salas, Div. 917.

"My dad thinks that we should concentrate on school," said an anonymous senior. "He thinks boys can take a lot of my time and will sidetrack me from my goals."

Even though they are allowed to date, some students like Daisy Macias, Div. 924, prefer to hide it from their parents. Macias believes it is her private life and she feels uncomfortable sharing this information with her parents.

"My mom would embarrass me and make a big deal out of it. She would want to meet him," said Macias. "When I'm outside with my boyfriend, my mom sneaks my nephew out the window and yells out 'We're watching you!' It's really embarrassing."

Even though many parents do not allow their teens to date, many find ways to sneak around and do it anyway.

"I get away with it because I either say I'm going out with my friends, or I sneak out the house when they go to sleep," said an anonymous senior, Div. 916.

"You have to find ways to meet up," said an anonymous senior, Div. 902. "You have to be secretive, make up excuses that

aren't too obvious. One time I told my mom I was going to put money in my bus card, and then I said the machine was not working so I had to go to another place to put money on it."

"Since my sister and I drive, we take our own car when we leave. Then we leave our car stranded somewhere where my dad won't see it and we get picked up by our boyfriends," said an anonymous senior, Div. 923.

Even though they lie, for many teens, lying is a sign of disrespect toward their authorities.

"Lying is disrespectful, but if I didn't do it [date behind my parents' back], I would have a boring life," said an anonymous senior, Div. 923.

"Dating behind their backs isn't disrespectful," said an anonymous senior, Div. 902. "What they don't know doesn't hurt them."

"In a way it's disrespectful because I'm lying, but in another it isn't because they know they can trust me, but they don't," said an anonymous senior, Div. 916.

When some teens go against their parents' rules, they do not think about the consequences

their decisions may bring them.

"One time I snuck out of the house and when I came back at two in the morning, I found out I had been locked out of my house," said an anonymous senior, Div. 916. "I was really scared, so I called my sister 18 times so she could open the door, but she didn't answer me. I had to break the screen of the basement window so I could go back in."

Parents' rules are very strict for many families. When teens do not abide by these rules, the consequences can be serious. Due to the strict consequences they might face, many teens encounter a feeling of fear when they date behind their parents' back.

"He [my dad] has warned my sister and me before. He said he would send us back to Mexico if we lie and take advantage of him," said an anonymous senior, Div. 923. "He will hit us if we got caught."

"My dad would have a heart attack if he knew," said an anonymous senior, Div. 902. "They would send me back to my country in two days."



# Ramadan, a time for self-reflection and spiritual growth



By Sahar Shafqat

The first day of school this year, Sept. 2, was an ordinary first day for most students, but for Muslims all over the world, it marked the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan.

Ramadan is a time for spiritual purification which is achieved by fasting, self-sacrifice (not eating or drinking), and prayers (five in a day).

The five pillars of Islam include, declaration of faith in Allah and his prophet Muhammad, prayer, charity, fasting in the month of Ramadan, and pilgrimage to Mecca.

On a typical day in Ramadan, I wake up around 4:30 a.m. and

help my mom prepare breakfast. Although it is difficult to eat so early in the morning, I have to eat and drink tons of water so I can feel full for most of the day. Afterwards, I pray the Morning Prayer (Fajr) and then I get ready for school.

When it is time to eat, during sundown, we must begin by eating a date, which is a sweet edible fruit. I eat and drink a lot of water because obviously, I have been hungry for most of the day. I usually have a ton of homework as well and have to stay up late to complete it. This routine continues through the entire month.

Some people may ask why I choose to fast all day? The simplest answer I can give is that it is my faith. I choose to fast to feel how a person who is less fortunate than me feels when they cannot afford food or do not have access to safe water. I feel like I can share the pain of those who do not have the means to provide a meal for their family. I can share in that hurt and ache of those who do not have much in life, including food and clean water, which are the basic and primary needs of people. I feel incred-

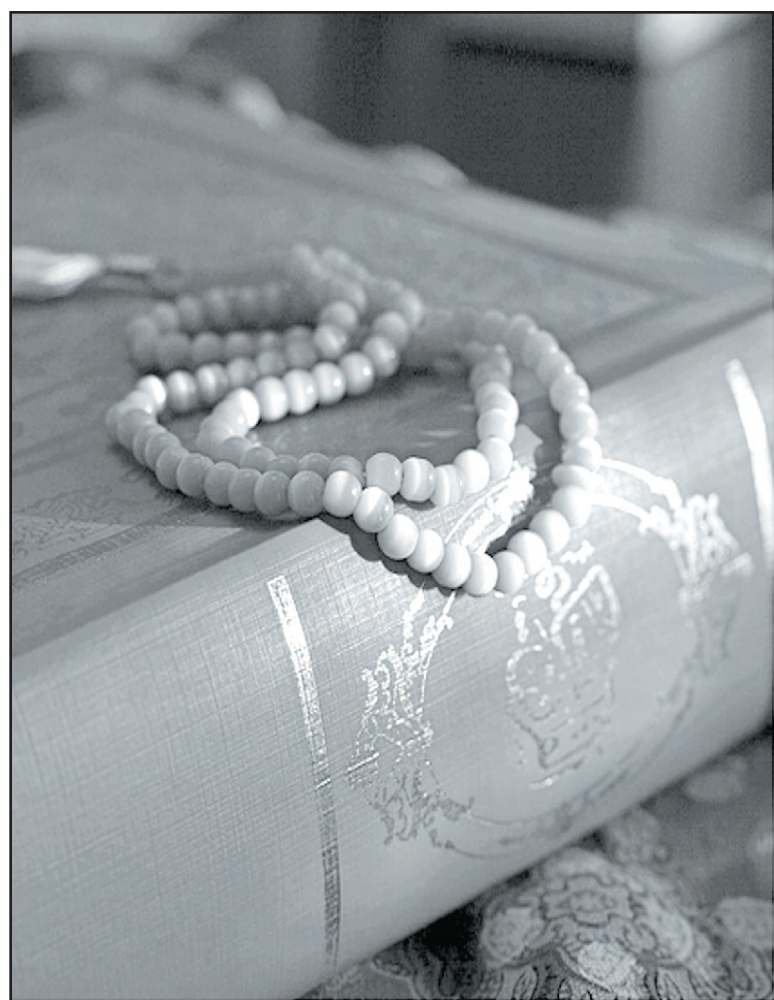
ibly thankful for what I have.

Charity is an important part of being a Muslim, especially in the month of Ramadan.

In some areas of the world that are less developed, families are surviving on less than a dollar a day. Every day, about 22,000 people, including children, die from malnutrition. My family and Muslims in general who can afford it, donate to charity.

So many people around the world do not have food or water to survive through a day. People need to become aware of the fact that there are millions of people in this state of vulnerability and weakness. They cannot turn to anything else but their faith in God and thank Him for what they do have, rather than dwelling on what they do not have.

If people who have the means to give aid will choose not to, then hope is lost for those who desperately need help. But if people are willing to lend a helping hand by volunteering at a shelter or donating money to a charity, then I think that we can change a lot of the wrong in this world.



# Massacre in Mexico relived through novel

By Lucia Ramirez

Forty years ago, the Mexican government was involved in a disgraceful act where they killed hundreds of their own people.

The massacre was the climax of growing tension between students of UNAM (National Autonomous University of Mexico) and the government. The student protesters were demanding freedom to political prisoners, as well as freedom of speech in their country.

In 1968, for the first time in history, the Olympic Games were being held in a third world country, Mexico. Due to the approaching Olympic Games, the government wished to control the student protest. The government saw the perfect opportunity for the world to see the example of a "perfect" country. The student protest was halted by the government because it would have potentially embarrassed Mexico internationally. The students led many marches throughout the city prior to the march on Oct. 2, 1968, which was attended by 50,000 students and ended at the Plaza De Las Tres Culturas.

During the large gathering assembled for a speech from the National Strike Committee at the

Tlatelolco housing unit, soldiers and police surrounded protesters and opened fire. Hundreds were killed and over one thousand people wounded. Those killed were taken in military tanks to

an unknown place and burned; those wounded were hidden in military hospitals. During that night, the government cleaned up the plaza and all the evidence of the massacre. The government

attempted to cover up the incident and was largely successful in limiting public knowledge of the event. National and international media coverage was hushed.

In 1971, however, *La noche de Tlatelolco*, translated to the English version, *Massacre in Mexico*, was the first book written about this horrific event. Elena Poniatowska, a writer, journalist, and professor, is the author of this book, which I read about a year ago. In this account, Poniatowska relates the story of the student protesters that were massacred on Oct. 2, 1968. One of the most interesting things about the book is that it is not written as a typical story where the writer uses a plot to narrate. Instead, it is a collection of interviews Poniatowska conducted with many of the participants of this protest.

On Oct. 4, I attended a conference at the Museum of Mexican Art hosted by Poniatowska in commemoration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the massacre. During her speech, she explained the events that lead to the massacre of '68.

Poniatowska stated that many of the articles she wrote during those days were never published. Being a journalist, she felt that her duty was to inform every Mexican citizen and the world of the genocide that occurred that

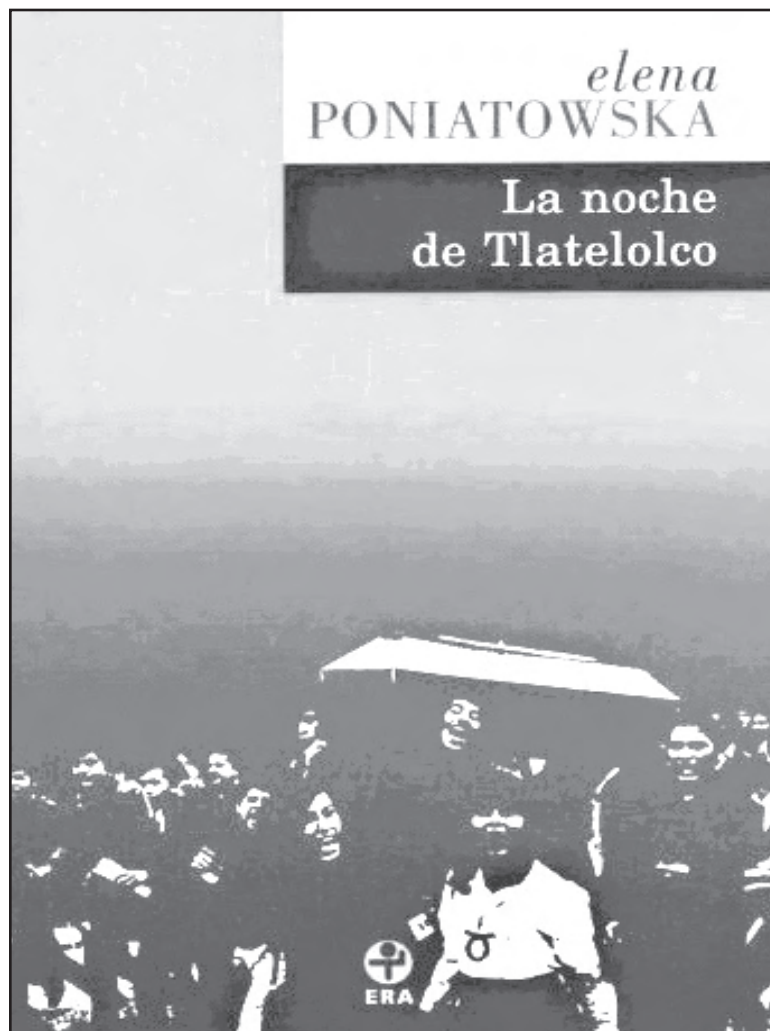
day. The exact number of people that died is still unknown, partly because many of the families of the murdered were afraid to speak out and demand justice at the time.

Ten days after the massacre occurred the Olympic Games started and Mexico was again a "peaceful" country. Everyone was sitting in front of the television watching the Olympic Games and going on with their lives as if nothing had happened.

Poniatowska's book is an account that brings to light many of the details surrounding this event. Poniatowska's book is the voice of all those families, prisoners, and survivors. In it, she tries to make sense out of the nonsense.

Today, 40 years later, the Mexican government still does not have an explanation for why this happened. Forty years later, the mothers of those who disappeared on that day, gather in a march every Oct. 2 demanding justice.

I think the book Poniatowska wrote is a wonderful account of what *really* happened that day. I recommend this book because I think it is important that everyone is aware of history. More specifically, it is important for Mexican-Americans to learn the history of their country of origin, even if it's shameful.





# Club Day brings more choices to students

By Crystal Rivera

Every year when Club Day comes around hundreds of students crowd into the lunchroom as clubs recruit people to sign up. Even though Lane already offers a club for all sorts of interests, new clubs seem to pop up on the scene every year.

## Veggie Club

Focusing on the lifestyle of vegans and vegetarians, the Veggie Club aims to create discussions that teach people the best way to deal with being a vegetarian or vegan.

"Veggie Club tries to raise money for good causes," said Riham Ramadan, Div. 925, Vice President. "We also try to volunteer at animal shelters that don't euthanize animals because animal rights are the main reason most people become a vegetarian."

The club is also hoping to take field trips to vegan and vegetarian restaurants. Even meat eaters are welcome to join as long as they are open to new ideas and the vegan/vegetarian lifestyle.

For more information on Veggie Club students can talk to the club sponsor, Mr. Lewis, or co-presidents Edwarda DeSouza, Div. 931, and Melaney Mitchell, Div. 929.

## Video Production Club

Interested in becoming a big shot producer and working in Hollywood? Then the person to talk to is Mr. N. Ceh, and the club to join is Video Production Club. No formal training or prior knowledge is necessary. Members will be able to produce their own documentary while learning the basic skills of production. Equipment is available and students will be

taught by both Mr. Ceh and film professor from Loyola College, Jeff Harder. All students get to keep their documentaries and if enough students join, it is hoped that a small film festival can be held to show off all the student productions. For those interested in video production as a career, this could be a good addition to any portfolio or college application. The club meets Mondays during 9th period.

## Film Studio Club

Although not a new club, one much like Video Production Club is Film Studio Club. In this club students learn about the pre-production and post-production processes. Students will also learn about camera angles, the editing process, and how to write a script in proper format. The main project of the group is for each of its members to write a script and make a short film. Every film-making process is taught step by step and professional equipment is used and provided. For more information, students should look for Nicholas Fanelli, Div. 912, and Rudy Alfaro, Div. 051.

## Cricket 101

Although it is not a popular sport in the city, in Chicago's neighboring suburban schools, the sport of Cricket is gaining more and more recognition.

The club was first created in an attempt to put cricket on the map, but now it has grown to be more than Syed Kauser, Div. 931, President of Cricket 101, could have ever imagined. Not only is there enough people in the club to create a competitive cricket team, but there are more than enough to make both a varsity and a junior varsity team.

Although no CPS school has a cricket team, Lane's team will play against suburban schools. Anybody can join the club, but to play on the team students must try out. The team is open to anybody who has a curiosity to learn.

## Ping Pong Club

Ping Pong, also known as table tennis, was repopularized over the summer because of its exposure in the Olympics. This motivated some students to put together a Ping Pong Club for this school year.

No experience is necessary and everything is taught to students. All equipment is provided, but hard core ping pong players usually bring their own paddles.

Although this club is new, it has been a huge success with many more members than anticipated. Sponsored by Ms. Jennings, Ms. Applequist, and Mr. Law, the club meets every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday during 9th period in room 202.

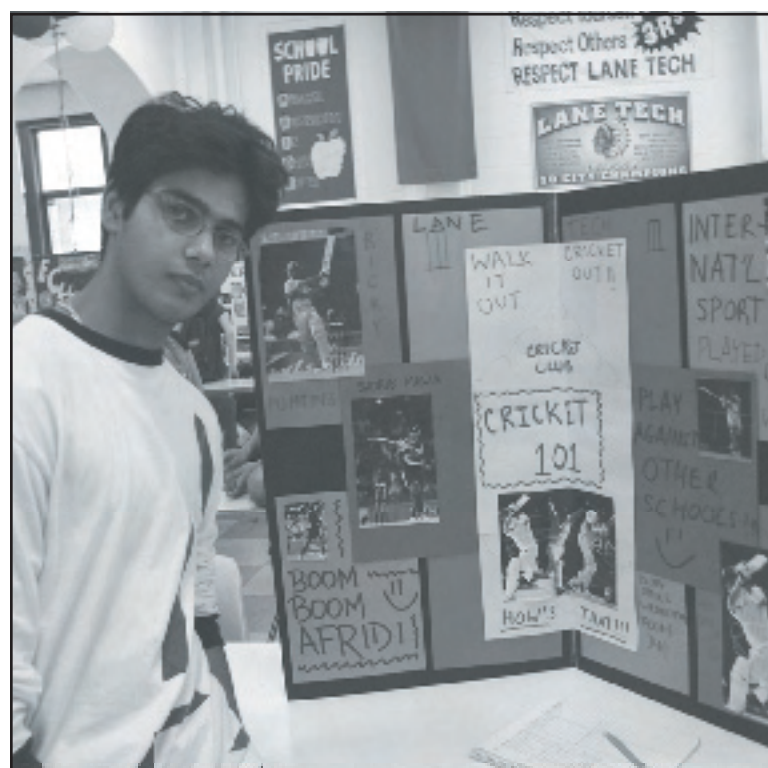
## Cuban Club

A new ethnic club to join the many already in existence at Lane comes straight out of Cuba. Like any ethnic club it is based on embracing and appreciating the Cuban culture. Students will learn about the culture through traditional dancing, music, food, and clothing.

It is unknown at the time whether the club will dance at International Days. For more information students can talk to Mrs. Chmielewski. The club meets every other Wednesday during 9th period in room 315.



Nicholas Fanelli, president of Film Studio Club stands by his display.



A member of the new club, Cricket 101, advertizes at Club Day.

# Students looking fashionable once again this season

By Francessa Sanchez

As serious work begins immediately at Lane, serious fashion statements also become a part of Lane's daily routine.

Some students consider their first few days of school the most crucial in making a good impression.

"Usually it's the sophomores, because they've been through the first days of school once before. Now they want to do it even better the second time by showing off their appearances and not their smarts," said Zayna Karaman, Div. 907.

Other students consider the idea

of appearances a non-issue.

"I care about my appearance, but I believe who I am is more important, and my personality outshines any outfit I could possibly put on," said Kiara Lanier, Div. 932.

More name brand items as well as new styles can be seen on both the male and female students.

"Nike Dunks are really popular now with both guys and girls. I notice that more guys are starting to wear the skinny jeans and fitted shirts, and that the girls are sporting Coach purses," said Jalyne McClain, Div. 903.

Ms. Carroll, a teacher from the Special Education Department, who also works part-time at a

Banana Republic, said that new women's shoes, called 'Ankle Booties,' are climbing up the fashion ladder, along with Newsboy Caps, Bermuda shorts, and a dark shade of purple.

Ankle Booties are open or closed-toed heels that go as high as the ankles, Bermuda shorts go down to the knees and have a plaid-khaki look, and Newsboy Caps are hats that have smaller bills than normal baseball caps. Carroll also said that the traditional argyle pattern is coming back into style.

"It's been around forever, but I think it's going to be pretty trendy this year," said Carroll.

Lane's students aren't the only

ones concerned with fashion: even Lane's faculty have noticed some new forms of dressing this year.

"I see a lot of guys wearing sweaters with ties. It's that whole Jonas Brothers look. I'm not a big fan of it," said Mr. Ara, Computer Animation and Design teacher.

Although some students look as though they shop at high-priced stores such as BeBe, Anne Taylor, or Express, it can be the exact opposite.

"Forever21 is my favorite store. You can buy so many cute things there that won't make you go broke," said Karaman.

While some students have the

luxury of buying the real deal, others find it easier to get cheaper alternatives. Other than spending \$88 on a blazer from Victoria's Secret, students can take a more affordable approach: buying a look-alike at Forever21 for \$23.

Magazines such as Seventeen, Cosmo, or Macy's contain ads from other stores such as JC Penny's, Nine West, and Pacsun, all with pictures of new fashion styles for both genders.

Although some of Lane's students are going through changes, whether they be style, fashion, or self-image related, Lane will continue to be the foundation for students' creativity.



# Twilight fans thirsty for Edward Cullen

By Anna Treesara

The Twilight Saga, (*Twilight*, *New Moon*, *Eclipse*, and *Breaking Dawn*), a popular book series written by Stephenie Meyer, has many students fantasizing about attractive fictional vampires.

The Twilight Saga is a series of four novels that take place primarily in Forks, Washington. The storyline focuses on a teenage girl named Isabella Swan, often referred to as Bella, and her love affair with Edward Cullen, a “teenage” vampire. Though Edward is a vampire, he chooses not to drink human blood and instead hunts for animal blood. He is not the typical vampire that is portrayed in movies. Throughout the series, Bella struggles with being in love with a vampire, discovering that she is always a magnet for trouble.

Much of the Twilight Saga’s popularity seems to come from female students’ obsessions with Edward Cullen.

“You get this mental picture of what Edward looks like and you’re like ‘Oh my god, he’s gorgeous!’” said Brittany Owen, Div. 923. “So you want to know more about him. Then you secretly hate every other guy because he’s NOT Edward.”

“I think secretly, we all would wish to be Bella and meet a perfect guy like Edward,” said Patrycja Antuszezwska, Div. 925. “These books let us into her head letting us relate to her and relive her experiences.”

“Edward is this fictional guy that every girl wants!” said Abigail Gonsalves, Div. 935. “And Bella is the clumsy girl that everyone can relate to.”

“Every girl has at one point in her life wanted an Edward,” said Devin Semrow, Div. 922. “Some invincible, super sweet, caring, loving, passionate man to protect them from something: whether it’s a bloodthirsty vampire, or stress from school.”

The majority of Twilight fans

have proven to be young females because of the romance.

“I’ve explained the story to my boyfriend and he refuses to read it,” said Kirstin Anderson, Div. 907. “He claims that it’s a girly romance book. Although it has action, a lot of the popularity the book gets is because of the intense love story.”

“Women have that emotional attachment and I just think girls relate better than men when it comes to love stories,” said Santine Hsueh, Div. 906.

Some Twilight fans think Stephenie Meyer is the next J.K. Rowling, author of the Harry Potter series.

“Stephenie Meyer is right up there with J.K. Rowling,” said Owen. “They’re pretty much neck and neck.”

“Although the stories aren’t much alike, the supernatural [aspect] seems to be growing in popularity, especially based on these two authors,” said Anderson. “Also, Meyer’s popularity and support group are huge, much like Rowling’s were.”

Many Twilight fans disagree.

“While they are both fantasy books targeted at the young adult audience, Harry Potter explores the coming of age dilemma, and Twilight is purely for entertainment reasons,” said Antuszezwska.

“Twilight is mostly for young girls [whereas] Harry Potter is basically for everyone,” said Lily Lai, Div. 905. “It would be odd to see guys or adults reading Twilight.”

Some students believe they have grown out of reading supernatural stories.

“Harry Potter was my teenage series about supernatural worlds,” said Joshua Amaya, Div. 927. “I’ve grown from that genre of books/writing. I just see it as a tad bit immature. No offense to the people who like the series.”

Many Twilight fans admit that they started reading the series due to its popularity, and not because of its plot.

“I honestly started because of the hype,” said Mary Anne Reyes, Div. 928. “[When I was told it was about] a vampire love story, I thought that just sounded weird. Boy was I wrong! Much like other girls, I fell in love with not only Edward, but the whole story itself.”

“A lot of girls were reading it and raved on and on about it,” said Gonsalves. “I have read other vampire-involved books [before] and they were not the greatest, so I was skeptical at first.”

Some students have begun to grow tired of the attention Twilight gets.

“I look back and realize how awfully annoying I was,” said Semrow. “Because the series is pure entertainment, and in retrospect is downright weird, such a commotion for it can get annoying pretty easily.”

Although, many Twilight fans are eager to watch the Twilight movie, premiering Nov. 21, many are already uncomfortable with the actors/actresses chosen to portray the characters.

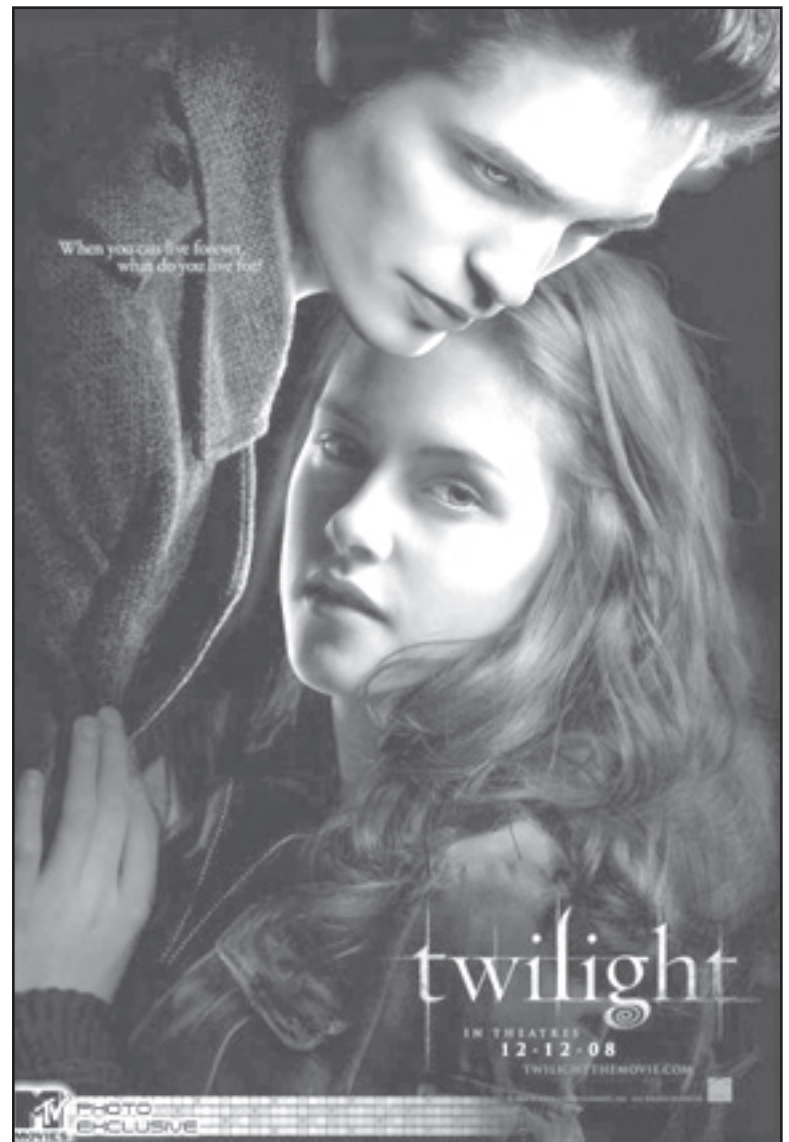
“The actress who plays Bella doesn’t fit,” said Anderson. “Also, I’ve heard they’ve changed the script quite a bit, adding and deleting scenes. However, I still want to see it even though I know it won’t be as good as the book.”

“At first, I didn’t really like the character that’s playing Edward; Robert Pattinson,” said Lai. “I’m also a bit disappointed for the actor playing Jacob. His face doesn’t fit. But I’m slowly getting used to them and I hope they do their characters justice.”

Other Twilight fans disagree.

“A lot of people don’t like the actor who’s playing Edward, but I sure do,” said Jonalyn Ongos, Div. 934. “He was exactly how I pictured him. And I think they got the right Bella too.”

“I think their choice on every single character was perfect,” said Antuszezwska. I think everyone should give them a chance. I was also very skeptical about the direc-



tor. She seemed insane when I first saw her. But now I realize she’s just one of us: a passionate fan that would do anything to make this book come to life. From the clips that I have seen so far, I can already feel the chemistry and electricity come from the book onto the screen.”

Meyer plans to write more novels for the Twilight Saga. For the most part, the series has been written in Bella’s point of view. However, Meyer is currently working on *Midnight Sun*, Edward’s version

of the first novel, *Twilight*.

The publication date for *Midnight Sun* has been postponed indefinitely due to an unauthorized leak of its rough and unedited draft on the internet. However, Meyer’s authorized draft of *Midnight Sun*’s first chapter can be found on [www.stepheniemeyer.com](http://www.stepheniemeyer.com).

For more information on the Twilight Saga, such as fan sites, the upcoming movie, Twilight t-shirts, and many of Meyer’s past and upcoming ideas, visit the website mentioned above.

# Siddhartha not so enlightening to some

By Anna Chlopecki

*Siddhartha* is the tale of a quest for enlightenment. Enlightenment would be better achieved by removing the book from the senior reading list.

Lane is a college preparatory high school. How does a book that would never be considered a college level book be a part of the last step of a seniors college preparation? Books such as *Siddhartha* by Herman Hesse are a complete waste of time when other books could be read to prepare us for college.

*Siddhartha* is the story of a man going through many different phases in his life. His main goal is to seek nirvana, which Siddhartha finds— a typical cliché ending.

*Siddhartha* would certainly make a good book for discussion because the ideas introduced by Hesse are

quite interesting. The philosophical journey that Siddhartha goes through is intriguing, but it would perhaps work better in religion, a philosophy class, or an English elective.

Regardless of how complex the ideas are, the way they are expressed does not challenge the reader. The lack of elevated vocabulary, rhetorical devices, and overly complex structure, do not prepare students for college English classes.

ACT wrote a 63-page article called “Reading Between the Lines” about how poorly high school students are prepared for their college careers.

Only 51 percent of 2005 ACT-tested high school graduates are ready for college-level reading—and, what’s worse, more students are on track to being ready for college-level reading in eighth and tenth grade than are actually ready

by the time they reach twelfth grade.

Furthermore, this under-education has serious consequences.



According to ACT the shortage of basic literacy skills costs U.S. businesses, universities, and underprepared high school graduates as much as \$16 billion per year in decreased productivity and remedial costs.

With this in mind, administrations should consider challenging their students.

SAT created a list of 101 great books for college bound students. The majority of the books on this list are classics, such as, *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen, *Inferno* by Dante, *Death Comes for the Archbishop* by Willa Cather, to name a few. These books are enriched with challenging diction and complex styles of writing, which make them the perfect choices when preparing for college.

AP classes at Lane do require classic literature to be part of summer reading. This summer, seniors had to read *A Tale of Two Cities* by

Charles Dickens, and *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë, which are both included on the SAT’s must-read list.

Honors and Regulars classes should also be introduced to a more challenging reading list. Certain students decide not to take AP because they cannot handle the high impact work load. Students should not have to be unprepared for college because of that decision.

Clearly, students need to be introduced to challenging literary classics. Classics will expose students to the complex composition and advanced vocabulary that they will need in college.

With the introduction of said literature, the gap between high school and college would certainly shrink. This can allow students to have a successful journey towards enlightenment in college.



# Dark Knight leads list of most popular summer movies

By Francessa Sanchez

Several films are released every summer, and it is often difficult to choose which ones to see. But of all the movies released this past summer, I recommend seeing the following.

**The Dark Knight** was a great film, with only a few disappointments. Due to Heath Ledger's unexpected death, the film became a topic of interest among his fans. He immediately set a foreboding tone for the whole movie when in an early scene, he said he would 'make a pencil disappear' and then did so by shoving another villain's face into it.

I've seen some students at Lane with t-shirts of 'The Joker' and I'm considering buying one. This, I believe, shows the impact that Ledger had on his fans. The movie was a tribute to Ledger, as it really showcased his talent. Although the movie lasted two hours, I didn't want it to end.

Christian Bale, however, annoyed me during his scenes as Batman. From what I remember of the first movie, Bale never talked like he had asthma and a scratchy throat. In *The Dark Knight*, his conversations as Batman were hard to comprehend, hear, or just pay attention to because of the low growl in his speech. Despite this setback, the movie is a must-see.

**Tropic Thunder** was an R-rated comedy due to its abundance of profanity and perverse comments. However, the movie would not have been as funny without them:



the characters delivered vulgar phrases at just the right moments that made me laugh hysterically.

A scene in the movie that caught me totally off-guard was one of Jack Black running through a small town, wearing only his underwear, screaming, "DON'T JUDGE ME!" Scenes like this, with random reactions from the characters, were what kept my interest. Despite the vulgarities in the dialogue, the movie was hilarious.

**The Hulk** was another fantastic action film. Edward Norton and Liv Tyler were perfect for their roles, especially since Norton is easy on the eyes. The scenes with the Hulk looked real and life-like. The gunfire

and explosions made me cover my ears a few times in the theatres, but the loud noises added to the effects.

At some point in the film, Lou Ferrigno, the original Hulk, had a cameo appearance as a security guard (with biceps bigger than my head) working in a University. Norton needed to get into the University, so he bribed him with a pizza and told him something like, "You're the man." I enjoyed the movie enough to watch it a second time in the theater.

**Kung Fu Panda** is now my all-time favorite cartoon movie. It had me at the edge of my seat, giggling and bouncing around like a kid in a toy store. The cuteness of all

the characters, especially Jack Black's big fluffy panda, made the movie more enjoyable. What I noticed, however, was that the movie seemed afraid to deal with death; at one point, a character died, but in an unusual way.

The character (who will not be named so the plot is not spoiled) said that it was 'time to go.' He went under a blooming peach tree, turned into flowers of the tree, and floated off in the wind. Again at the end, it seemed as if another character died, but then he picked up his head and said something like "I'm not dead, you idiot, I'm just really tired." I'm not sure why there were no actual deaths in the movie, but it may have to do with the fact that its audience would mostly be children. Nonetheless, the movie made me feel like I was a carefree kid again.

**Step Brothers** was an obscenely funny movie. The idea of two grown men living at home with their mommy and daddy is fathomable, but I think that their efforts to tear each other apart in the process seemed a bit unreal. That may have been the point of the movie: disgustingly hilarious jokes along with shocking comments to keep the audience laughing. Will Ferrell has done better comedies, but this film managed to keep me entertained, even though it wasn't as good as *Old School*.

Although some summer movies are only good enough to be watched on TV rather than in theatres, the movies I saw were definitely worth paying the \$10 to go see, and the \$5 to rent from Blockbuster.

## Express movie filmed at Lane honors Ernie Davis

By Lauren Corso

*The Express*, starring Dennis Quaid, was filmed at Lane nearly two years ago and came out in theatres Friday, Oct. 10.

*The Express* tells the story of Ernie Davis, the first African-American to win the Heisman Trophy, the award given annually to the best player in college football.

Lane students might be more interested in the film than the average viewer. As the camera panned across the Syracuse football practices, it was exciting to see the familiar Lane Stadium in the background, along with the view of the west end of the school. There was also a most likely accidental shot of a very modern DeVry, which clearly did not fit in with the 1950s setting. Several times during the movie I caught myself bumping the person next to me saying, "Hey, look there's Lane."

If the main objective of the film was to deliver excitement and overwhelming emotion to the audience, it was successful. There were slow motion scenes of Davis running with the football, accompanied by strong instrumental pieces. Mix in a

few tear-jerking moments and it was easy to get emotionally attached to many of the characters who were battling against the odds.

Although somewhat reminiscent of numerous other inspirational sports movies (i.e. *Remember the Titans*, *Miracle*, or *Rudy*), *The Express* had a very interesting way of capturing its audience's attention, moving chronologically from Davis' childhood to his very early death at the age of 23. It was easy to become attached to the character, feeling as if you were growing up along with him.

The casting choices also made the movie more interesting. Dennis Quaid was the biggest name in the film, but much of the other cast members were lesser known actors, making the connection to the audience a bit more relatable. It was much easier to believe in the character of Ernie Davis because his character was played by a somewhat unknown actor.

To enjoy the movie, viewers will have to be able to look past the overdone locker room speeches and one too many football practice sequences. Although the film was based on a true story, it seemed a little sim-

plistic in the delivery of the plot. As I watched I had a sense of déjà vu from the many other inspirational sports movies I've seen. It also could have used a little more authenticity in some of the lines and more depth

on some of the characters.

However, as a huge sports fan, I found *The Express* to be a good film. I would warn that for those who are non-sports fans, this may not be the movie to watch because

of its many football references that are at times slightly hard to pick up on. But overall, *The Express* was a very inspiring movie, and to those at Lane, may hit a little closer to home.



The Syracuse flag flies above the Lane Stadium as a prop for the movie *The Express*.



# Girls' Track Team members compete in Australia, Hawaii

By Sahar Shafqat

Lane athletes from the Girls' Track and Field Team competed in the 2008 Down Under International Games and along the way ventured into the outback of Australia and tranquil waters of Hawaii.

The girls on the team stayed in Australia, where the competition took place, for seven days. At the competition, Lane athletes won a handful of gold, silver, and bronze.

"The atmosphere there was great and inviting," said Wojtas. "In the competition, I won a silver medal in a distance medley relay (DMR) for the 18-19 age group."

Samantha D'Anna, Div. 919, participated in the 800-meter race and also in the DMR 400-meter race with Heather Seick, Div. 919. They both won the gold for the races.

"It was the best time of my life," said D'Anna. "In the morning we would practice and we were on our own for the most part and we had a curfew of midnight."

Besides winning several medals, the girls were also able to socialize.

"It's a great experience because I got to meet a lot of nice people and build friendships with them," said Kara Goss Div. 912.

"I made friends with people from all over the US," said Wojtas. "All the Australian guys were really cute and it was cool to meet people there."

"The people and the experiences were great," said D'Anna. "There were teams there from New Zealand, South Africa, and Indonesia."

Students also experienced the lifestyle and culture of Australia.

"We went to this wildlife place and got to see so many animals like kangaroos and hold koala bears," said Wojtas.

D'Anna admits she had her doubts in the beginning.

"I didn't want to go at first when my parents told me," said D'Anna. "I even cried on the plane ride there, but it was the most fun I have ever had."

Although the girls were in Australia for the majority of the trip, they also enjoyed three days of vacation in Hawaii.

"We got to take surfing lessons and go to Dream World, which is

like six flags," said D'Anna.

The trip to Australia and Hawaii was expensive, costing up to \$4,000 dollars. The money covered everything from the meals to the hotel. The students, coaches, and parents participated in the fundraising process.

"The parents helped with the fundraising and I asked my friends, family, and neighbors for donations," said D'Anna.

The parents of the participants organized a silent auction and the students sold raffle tickets for free trips to Australia provided by The International Sports Specialists Inc. They also wrote letters to companies for sponsorships.

"We fundraised a lot of money," said Coach Roof, the coach for the Illinois team.

"It's important to realize that it is an Illinois team," said Roof. "It is



not a Lane team. I was hired to take athletes there and I think the trip gave them a college experience and exposed them to foreign travel."

The competition this year included volleyball, golf, cross country, track and field, freestyle wrestling, cheer, basketball, soccer, football, and swimming.

The International Sports Specialists, Inc. was founded in

1989 and is based on the premise that International Games enables them "to use the common language of sports to bridge the continents." For more information visit [www.issi-usa.com](http://www.issi-usa.com).

The success of the Down Under sports program resulted in an expansion of the program to involve many countries, including Indonesia and New Zealand.

# Body paint stains more than skin

## Students show school spirit through a questionable medium.

By Samantha D'Anna

Where does school spirit end and being provocative begin? Students may be crossing a thin, undefined line.

On Friday, Sep. 5, Oak Brook High School was forced to deal with this issue. When three painted boys, members of Pep Club, arrived at the Friday night football game carrying a Bengals flag, problems arose as soon as Athletic Director, Susan Bonner, noticed the subtle line had been crossed. She immediately ordered the boys to get dressed.

Bonner claimed it was a matter of consistency.

"The community wouldn't stand for girls wearing bikini tops or sports bras in the stands, so why should boys be able to dress as though they were headed to the beach?" said Bonner.

This incident led to banning the practice of body painting at Oak Forest High School, and left schools not only in Chicago, but around the nation to face the same question: Where do you draw the line?

"NFL fans paint their bodies," said Daina Kriesemint Div. 910. "I don't really see the difference in high school."

"I don't think there was anything wrong with the painted bodies," said Jackie Manrique, Div. 021. "But there is a difference between boys and girls doing it. I could understand how some people could have a problem with it."

It is often difficult to tell what is acceptable for boys to do and what is acceptable for girls to do.

"I think that it's just more accepted for boys to paint their bodies," said Sioban Stahl, Div. 902. "When girls do it, people are definitely going to make a bigger deal out of it."

"It's not fair. Guys can do whatever they want," said Jessica Hannon, Div. 927. "And when a girl does it, it's inappropriate; it comes up all the time."

"I think it has become more and more acceptable,"

said Stahl. "Brandi Chastain, especially made it okay for women in athletics to feel comfortable in just a sports bra."

Lane students, year after year, attend football games with their bodies painted myrtle and gold, showing their school pride. With a few exceptions, the majority of shirtless students are young men.

Recently, at the Lane Tech v. Fenwick football game at SoldierField, a group of nine young women attended the game with their stomachs painted, spelling out "LANE TECH!"

"We thought it would be a fun way to start off senior year, by getting really into Lane spirit," said Hannon. "We got a lot of positive attention, but the negative feedback was apparent also. Some of our peers disagreed in our way of showing our pride."

Although many schools around the nation are debating whether to allow students

to practice school spirit this way, Lane administrators are not as concerned with the issue.

"I saw the girls. I thought it was very cute. People took pictures. It wasn't a problem whatsoever," said Dr. LoBosco. "It isn't really that much of a concern at Lane. Kids have been being very respectful of the

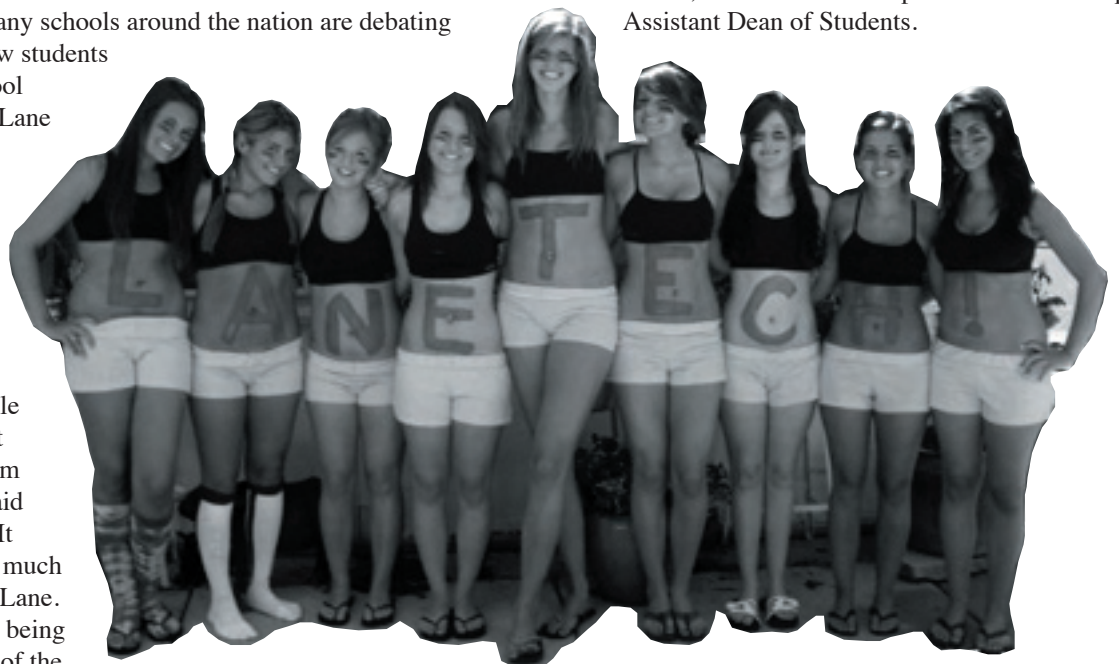
rules; they're just representing Lane colors and supporting the school."

"I think we should be able to do and wear what we want," said Stahl. "But I could see how people say you should follow the dress code, because it is a school function."

"I think that it is okay to paint your body," said Anthony Jantke, Div. 908. "It's just a way for guys and girls to show their school spirit. As long as the school is okay with it, then it's fine."

Some do believe decisions have to be made and rules have to be enforced.

"Next thing you know, you're looking at underwear, with students, where does it stop?" said Mr. Milsap, Assistant Dean of Students.





## Tennis team finds positives in tough season

The Omogiate sisters star for Girls' Team once again this year.

By Noemi Villanueva

In a tough season for the Girls' Tennis Team, Varsity doubles partners - and sisters - Idia and Nike Omogiate were a bright spot. Competing in the State Tournament the sister team reached the fourth round.

"Our biggest strength has been our number one doubles team with sisters Idia and Nike Omogiate," said Tennis Coach, Mr. Chipman. "Their current record is 11-0 and they're also City Doubles Champions," said Chipman.

Though both Varsity and JV teams finished with 2-5 records on the season, Mr. Chipman, Tennis coach, said the team has had some close matches, especially against some of Lane's rival schools.

"Our biggest competitors are definitely the other selective enrollment high schools, like Payton, Whitney, and Northside," said Holly Giersh, Div. 043. "We took some tough losses from all of those schools, unfortunately. Their girls have really tough serves to return."

Flory Ann Evia, Div. 028, said one of the toughest games of the season was her match against Lincoln Park. Even though the team lost, she claimed it was an amazing game.

"I played an intense doubles game with Jaci, my wonderful doubles partner, where our tiebreaker game lasted in the 14

or 15 point range," said Evia. "It was such a frustrating yet exciting game that I will never forget."

Even though Evia lost her match, she recalls another in which her teammates, the Omogiate sisters, earned an exciting victory over Whitney Young.

"Idia and Nike played an intense doubles game against Whitney Young where the rallies

strong this year."

Although the team has lost a valuable player, several agree that the team has shown improvement throughout the season.

"Our team has improved so much since our summer practices," said Giersh. "Tennis is a really precise sport, and there is always something that you need to work on."

Giersh believes that even as the team improved, good sportsmanship and support never left the courts.

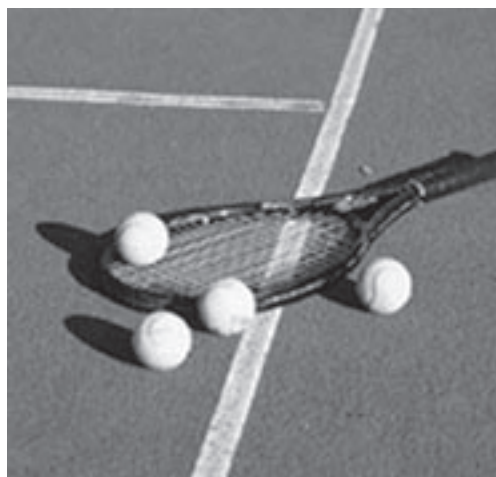
"My partner and I always have a word of the day. Whenever we miss a serve we have to say the word so we don't double fault; it's a superstitious thing that we do," she said.

With the season coming to an end, players agree that they are going to miss playing for the team.

"I've made so many more friends since being on the team, and we've had so much fun on the bus ride to matches and at practice," said Giersh.

Coach Chipman already acknowledges that next year will be a rebuilding season.

"I hope for more freshmen and sophomores," said Chipman. "We will soon need new blood in the program and I hope these rising stars will seek out as much training as possible!"



and game points were literally battled for; their doubles games are like those seen in the US Open," said Evia.

With the season packed with intense matches, several agree that there has been some change this year from the last.

"Those of us who played last year have certainly felt the absence of Francesca Palombo, who was an exchange student from Rome," said Chipman. "She brought a certain fiery spirit to the team that hasn't been as

players and coaches knew what went wrong at Soldier Field and saw areas in need of improvement that would help them win their upcoming games.

"Just coming out with more passion and ready to play," said Andre Alvarez, Div. 916, defensive end and co-captain.

"It was the first day of games," said team captain Marcel Gibson, Div. 903. "It's was a learning process for the team."

"Second half we played our best," said running back Thaddeus Scott, Div. 032. "If we had played that way the whole game we would have won."

"We could work on our passing," said Negron. "We need to be motivated from the start instead of getting motivated when we're los-

ing."

Even though they have continued to win, players and coaches both acknowledge the team has some weaknesses.

"We don't have a lot of players after the starters," said Coach Rio, head coach of the Varsity Football Team. "We just need more kids going out for football who are better athletes."

"Our weakness is probably our bench," said Alvarez. "We [also] need to pass the ball more and have more consistency in our plays."

"Blocking the quarter back when it comes to plays is a weakness," said Scott. "We also need to improve in the way our team clicks. Our running isn't as good as our passing and our passing isn't as good as some other parts of our team."

## Lane selected as pilot school for student-athlete scouting program

By Lauren Corso

At least 50 of Lane's most promising student-athletes will get the chance this year to carry on their skills at the next level. With academic and athletic excellence at the forefront, Lane was chosen as the pilot school to work with a collegiate scouting agency in order to help promote students into college programs after their high school career.

The National Collegiate Sports Association (NCSA), which has an office in Chicago, is a national scouting program that works with high school athletes in choosing a college and gaining scholarships. Working along with athletic Director Rich Rio, Dr. LoBosco, and Lane coaches, the NCSA will select a minimum of 50 student athletes to participate in this scouting process.

"The NCSA is a very successful scouting agency and are very effective in getting students to the collegiate level," said Rio.

Coaches at Lane were notified of this program at the beginning of the year and were given the opportunity to select athletes they think would benefit from it. All athletes that are interested in participating must attend an Oct. 21 informational meeting with a parent to sign up for the program. Once they have signed up the NCSA will select applicants based on their athletic performance and academic accomplishment.

"[NCSA] will then stay in contact with the athlete on a weekly basis and email back and forth," said Rio. "They will network with the school until they can determine

[the athletes'] university."

The agency will look at student-athletes that compete in baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track & field, volleyball, and wrestling. They will be in contact with schools across the country at all levels and try to find the best fit for each student, whether it be a DI, DII, or DIII program.

"They are going to try to persuade the student through their expertise what the best fit for each individual athlete would be," said Rio.

Several student-athletes believe the program could be helpful.

"Picking students to help them with the college process and scholarships is a great idea," said senior Holly Holod Div. 927.

However, for seniors the process of finding the right school may be coming a little too late.

"As a senior it's unfortunate because we might have a disadvantage because we've already been applying to colleges," said Holod. "It would've been great to be a part of this last year."

Although some students may not be able to receive the full benefit of the agency, the opportunity to work with the NCSA could still benefit many because the free service could potentially match them with a college that fits their academic and athletic skills.

"We are very fortunate because we are the pilot program and they can choose so many athletes free of charge to them and their families," said Rio. "It is a great opportunity for everyone."

In spite of the fact that players are quick to point out areas of play they are dissatisfied with, it is hard to deny with the team's success that they have several areas of strength as well.

"We have a very nice mix of juniors and seniors," said Rio. "Our team speed is also a team-strength."

"Our defense used to be one of our weaknesses and now it is probably one of our team strengths," said Alvarez.

"Our defense has good running and they don't let the other team rush the quarterback," said Scott.

"Defense is our strength," said Gibson. "It has more consistency and more production."

"Not only do we have a good running defense," said Negron. "Our offensive line has stepped it up from last season."

As with every sport at Lane Tech, expectations for the season are high and when it comes to the football team, it's not just the coaches who believed the team should be good this year.

"I expect our team to win city if not higher," said Gibson. "We have a great team and everyone just has to put in their one-eleventh."

## Football Team pushes for post season

By Crystal Rivera

Boys' Varsity Football won its Conference Championship and eighth game of the season by beating Curie 34-14 on Friday, Oct. 17, at Lane Stadium.

The next Friday the team went on to play Amundsen in the first round of Public League Playoffs and won 35-0. They are now looking forward to facing New Trier in the first round of State Playoffs.

Boys' Varsity Football started off the season playing a game at Soldier Field and suffered a disappointing 23-21 loss to Fenwick High School. The team bounced back by winning the next eight games they played, putting their record at 8-1. Many of the team's



# Lane battles it out to become city champs

By Lauren Corso

The Boys' Varsity Soccer team has done it again, by winning another CPS title this past Friday.

The team beat Kelly High School in an overtime shootout, scoring three penalty kick goals to Kelly's two. This City Championship, however, came only after much adversity in the regular season.

Though entering the 2008 season with a veteran group, including nine seniors, the team has been plagued with injuries and other obstacles.

Nevertheless, under head coach Andrew Ricks the team finished their regular season with a record of 6-2-3, and went undefeated in the CPS tournament enroute to winning the City title.

"Our expectations are always high," said Ricks. "We want to try and win the highest honors; a city championship, a regional state championship, possibly a sectional championship."

"My goal is to win City, and to go farther than we did last year in State," said senior midfielder Humberto Pina, Div. 907, early in the season.

The senior-heavy team knows that experience has helped the

team achieve success this year. And though Lane won several games by convincing margins, they were not always ahead in many of their games. A few players admitted they tend to get off to a slow start.

"Most of the games we start off losing," said senior forward Henry Gomez, Div. 928. "Right now we're working a lot on finishing, and I think that will pay off."

The team's injuries have affected all areas of the field including offense, defense, and even goalie Greg Gaczol, Div. 933. The players, however, hope that this negative can turn into a positive, as it has given younger team members an opportunity to gain experience and improve the team's depth.

"[The injuries] are both good and bad because it means the newer guys have to step up; but at the same time they're learning," said Pina.

Ricks agrees.

"We take pride in the depth of our program; that one door closes and another one opens," he said.

Taking that next step up for Lane also includes challenging itself outside of city competition. Like many other athletic teams at Lane, soccer finds its toughest competitors in the suburban leagues.

This year the team competed in an event called the Pepsi Showdown which pitted them against competitive suburban teams. Lane lost three out of the four games they played in the Showdown, showing the team still has room for improvement - improvement that will have to show if they're to advance in the State competition.

"Usually the suburban schools are a little stronger and they're a little more fit," said Ricks. "I think we're better ball handlers though, and we can move better with our feet; but as a whole they play better as a team."

"The suburban teams are more disciplined and have set plays," said Pina. "They already know what they are going to do before they get on the field."

However, team chemistry is one of Lane's strengths that they hope will help them as they face tougher competition in upcoming games.

"Most of us have been together since freshman year and there is a lot of good team chemistry which I think helps us," said senior defender Kenny Bahena, Div. 910.

Lane's post season came to an end on Oct. 21 when they lost 3-0 to Taft in the first round of playoffs.



Lane soccer players Dylan Allingham and Ivan Velasquez charge towards the ball during practice.

# Boys' softball wins another city title

By Rachel Steibing

On Friday, Oct. 17, the Boys' 16 inch Softball Team beat Kelly High School to win their fourth City title in a row.

In the first playoff game held on Tuesday, Oct. 14, Lane dominated Carver by a score of 21-0. Thursday, Oct. 16, the team played Roosevelt and won 18-1 to advance and play Lakeview where they won by a score of 15-2. The next day, the team played Taft in the semi-finals and won 15-1. They then played the city championship game against Kelly and won 21-0. In their five playoff games, Lane outscored their opponents by a score of 90-4.

Lane had lost to Taft earlier in the season and they needed to beat them to get them in the final.

"I was more nervous playing Taft in the semi-finals," said Taylor Tonachel, Div. 933. "I thought it would be a harder game than the City [championship]."

Players and coaches were confident they could advance to the championship game.

"I was a little nervous going into the game," said Alan Pearson, Div. 929, "but we did so good with the first three playoff games that I knew we were going to win."

"We were a much different team from the first time we played them," said Mr. Stavrakas, assistant coach.

Lane had anticipated playing



The boys' softball team proudly holds their plaque after the final game.

Payton for the championship. Payton however lost to Kelly by a score of 11-3.

"I was angered," said Stavrakas. "We had built a nice rivalry with them. They always bring out a good team. Our kids always get geared up to play their kids. Nevertheless, a championship is a championship."

"I do not know how that team beat Payton," said Pearson.

This season was the tenth year Lane has fielded a team. In its first nine years, Lane won six city championships and competed in the championship game eight of nine.

"Payton is our biggest city competitor," said Mr. Bradish, head

coach. "They have beaten us once in the championship game and we have beaten them four times."

"Payton is one of the best teams in the city," said Michael Allen, Div. 937, "and they always give us a run for our money. When you know you are playing them it always gives our game a little boost."

The season started off rough for Lane.

"We were .500 half way through the season," said Bradish. "We ended up slaughtering everyone through the playoffs for the first time in the history of the sport."

The team's regular season final record was 7-3.

"At the beginning of the season, no one would have guessed we

would have won a city championship," said Earl Daley, Div. 907, "but as the time passed by the team proved they could."

The team worked hard to get better during the season.

"Their hitting improved a lot," said Jessica Hannon, Div. 927, softball manager. "They got more into the games and more into being a team."

"We got a lot better because we practiced and we were dedicated," said Pearson.

"I think we became more patient," said Tonachel. "We were able to hit better and get more runs quicker."

Players and coaches both contributed to the improvement of the team.

"I have to give a lot of credit to the assistant coaches," said Bradish. "They come out and really know this sport. They convert these kids into 16 inch softball players. This year it just took a little longer."

There were 12 seniors on the team this year, but only six of them were returning players.

"It is awesome to be a returning player," said Pearson. "I have gotten a lot better and it is fun to teach the new players what I know."

The new players and old players all got along well and played as a team.

"The team chemistry is pretty solid," said Allen. "If something is said about somebody we all know it is a good laugh. I would say the team is very laid back."

This year there was one freshman

on the team, one sophomore, and two juniors. Consequently, there are only four returning players for next year's team.

"In this sport, because it is varsity, there are always a lot of seniors," said Bradish, "so we are always rebuilding."

"I'm just glad [the seniors] got to win a city championship before they graduated," said Stavrakas. "These are memories that will be with them for a lifetime."

When softball first started, schools just put a team together to play, but over the years the sport has become a more popular and programs have grown.

"Softball is getting much more competitive," said Bradish. "We actually have to fight to keep our strong tradition of softball going."

During the championship game, spirits were high as teammates cheered on one another.

"Their energy was a lot higher during the playoffs than in regular games," said Hannon. "The guys who usually were not really into the game were into it. At City, everyone, especially the seniors, knew it was their last game and really wanted to win."

There are normally around 20-25 people who come out to watch the game; mostly the player's parents or friends.

"Now that we have won four city championships in a row, maybe we can get a little fan support," said Pearson.