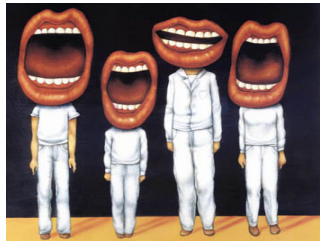


IN THE HEART
OF THE
WARRIOR



Warrior gives advice, Pg. 3



THE WARRIOR

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Lane Technical College Prep High School

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New students adjust to new environment



An Academic Center student zips through the halls of Lane. LTAC students, at only 12 or 13, are a full two years younger than freshmen.

By Vanessa Pena

Walking into the halls of Lane in your early teens, not knowing where any of your classes are, with new thousands of new faces surrounding you, can be very intimidating.

However, the new incoming freshmen no longer have to worry about being the smallest of the bunch, thanks to the Academic Center students.

Marvin Junay, Div. 579, less than five feet tall, is glad there are seventh graders. This way he is not the youngest one around.

"I bet I am more muscular than them, but Lane is too big for a small person like me," Junay said.

Freshman Stephanie Tariga, Div. 573, does not feel any older than or superior to the seventh graders. Instead, she continues to feel intimidated by the upperclassmen and meeting new people.

"I still feel the same because we don't see the seventh graders, and I am still short and small," Tariga said.

Jamir Jackson, Div. 752, is not struggling with his new surroundings claiming he feels more mature attending high school compared to other friends his age just in middle school.

"I'm not intimidated because I am taking higher level classes so others should be intimidated by us," Jackson said.

Jackson's only issue at Lane is getting

called "cute" by the upperclassmen that talk to him.

Another newbie to Lane this year, Ivan Chavez, Div. 575, does not feel any intimidation since he is from a big city. Chavez is just looking forward to the club opportunities that Lane has to offer.

While the others may not feel intimidated, freshmen such as Kristi Gallardo, Div. 573, and Zachary Pierucci, Div. 572, have noticed drastic differences between their old elementary school and high school.

"The hardest part was finding people to talk to. My graduation class was me and 16 other kids," Gallardo said.

While both Gallardo and Pierucci are adapting to Lane, they have managed to make plans for their future years. This includes Gallardo wanting to join the Environmental Club and Pierucci playing varsity hockey with another branch of high schools in Chicago.

Tyler Carrera, Div. 578, Mr. Paul Carrera's son, is looking forward to playing lacrosse at Lane, and feels welcomed by the upperclassmen.

"The upperclassmen don't bother us, which I like a lot," Carrera said.

However, Samiha Uddin, Div. 573, is still trying to get comfortable at Lane and questions why freshmen are ever given a hard time.

"What did we ever do to the upperclassmen?" she said. "Why do they make fun? They were freshmen once."

WELCOME EDITION

Underclassmen trust siblings to hand down advice on Lane

By Sophia Swenson

Palms sweaty and hearts pounding, more than 1,000 freshmen and LTAC students enter Lane's doors. All are nervous and, while plenty find themselves lost, only some have their own personal guides pointing them in the right direction.

It is no surprise that Lane serves as a home to more than one member of the same family. And with their relatives attending Lane, a few new students found the fluorescently-lit hallways to be a little less intimidating and a little more comforting.

Adam Reborn, Div. 390, a junior at Lane, had no problem giving his sister tips about new teachers and navigating Lane's hallways, while simultaneously, "[Trying] not to let her do any freshman stuff."

Lane lanyards, using a map in the hallways, and carrying drafting sup-

plies have been considered standard "freshman traits" at Lane. Although some choose to wear their lanyards with pride, many freshman and LTAC students are encouraged to hide such a "newcomer give-away."

Andrea Meza, Div. 752, an LTAC student, heard similar advice on how to avoid looking like a freshman from her sister, a current junior at Lane.

"Don't wear your hang-around," Meza said, "And don't ask upperclassmen for directions because they'll send you the wrong way."

Lots of the warnings seemed to be about surviving life in the hallways.

"[My cousin told me], 'you have to be careful because the big kids don't watch where they're going,'" said Olivia Clafford, Div. 752, another LTAC student who stands a full foot shorter than most Lane students.

Not all Lane veterans were as helpful to their younger siblings with whom they now share a school.

Meza's sister was not too fond of the idea of Meza going to Lane. She worried it might make a dent in her social life.

Kamila Postolowicz, Div. 752, said her sister took some time to warm up to the idea of the two attending Lane at the same time.

"She wasn't super happy about me coming," Postolowicz said. "Now my sister's okay with me going here. When we see each other we don't really talk."

As freshman and seventh graders enter high school life, it means for many older siblings or relatives that their once little brother or sister has become a teenage brother or sister. And although they can still talk to them in the hallways, or walk them to class, it has come time for many Lane students to let their siblings head off towards their grown up lives.

"He just said 'good luck' and went his own way," said Sergio Cuenca, Div. 751.

LTAC students held out of high school clubs

By Erik Brito

They are in the same building, in some of the same classes, but the seventh graders of Lane will not be allowed in the same clubs with the upperclassmen.

As the new year begins, Lane's seventh graders are eager to join the clubs offered at their new school. Approximately 90 enrolled LTAC students will be offered a list of clubs and sports just for them. Along with clubs such as Science Olympiad and Battle of the Books, the seventh graders will also have the opportunity to run their own Student Council.

Some seventh graders are disappointed about being separated from the rest of Lane's student body.

"We interact with them in class and in the hallways," said Jamir Jackson, Div. 752. "We should be able to join their clubs."

"It stinks," said Aliyah Vale, Div. 752. "I guess they didn't want high school kids to pick on us."

On the other hand, Kamila Postolowicz, Div. 752, believes the separation is a good idea. She said that they are still, "too young," to be in the same clubs with high school kids.

If Lane were to allow the seventh graders to participate with the rest of the school's clubs, many of them would react the way Alex Boush, Div. 750, did, with an enthusiastic, "Yipee!"

Unfortunately for Boush, the administration was adamant that seventh graders not participate in high school activities.

First, the LTAC's early dismissal would mean a lot of waiting around during eighth period (when LTAC students don't

have class) in order to attend club meetings.

A second reason behind the administration's decision to keep both programs' extracurriculars separate, is that certain clubs offered to the LTAC students require them to be of a certain age in order to participate.

Finally, the administration wants to ensure the LTAC remains a separate program from the high school.

Still, Kaiden Friedrich, Div. 752, said, "It'd be cool to join the clubs and get a bigger variety than what we have now."

LTAC students, Jazmin Aveces, Div. 751, and Sam Sklar, Div. 750, are indifferent towards the administration's decision.

"I don't really care," Sklar said. "I spend two hours [every night] doing homework, which gives me no time for clubs."

Aveces agrees, finding herself busy enough with the piano lessons she takes after school to even think about joining clubs at Lane.

"We want the kids to have something to look forward to once they are enrolled as freshmen at Lane," said Ms. Beck, coordinator for the Academic Center. "Next year we hope to add more clubs."

"They should at least let us make our own clubs," Jackson said.

Suggestions include a drama club or ethnic clubs like the ones available for the high school students.

"Next year kids will be able to create their own clubs if they meet the [school's] requirements," Beck said.

The program is still new and, as Beck says, Lane is looking at other Academic Centers in the Chicagoland area for inspiration to ensure the center continues to run smoothly.

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A typical seventh grade day

By Emina Cirkic

They walk through the halls like everyone else at Lane, talking with friends and rushing to get to class. The noticeable difference, however, is that many stand less than four feet tall and actually wear their ID's. The seventh graders attending Lane this year live normal lives like the rest of the students at Lane; their schedules, however, are a bit more hectic. Barely into the first stages of their teenage years, the Lane Academic Center (LTAC) students have to juggle the social adjustments high school brings and a heavy course load.

The 84 students that are attending the LTAC are in the top 97th percentile in the city. LTAC students are taking ninth grade level classes and already getting high school credit for them. Most of the LTAC students must take honors algebra 1, honors biology, and an honors world language of their choice. Language arts, social science, music/art, and physical education are among the other classes they are required to take.

"The classes here are a lot harder, but also more interesting than at my old school," said Abigail Henkin, Div. 750.

So far, most of the students seem to be adjusting without any complications.

"The [LTAC students are] blending in beautifully...minus their height," said Ms. Ulmer, the LTAC Language Arts teacher. "[They] are excited to be here and learning is their number one priority. They aren't distracted with high school things."

The significant age difference between the upperclassmen and the LTAC students provides teachers with different classroom atmospheres throughout the day.

"I look forward to both [high school and LTAC students]. It is a nice balance in my day," said Mr. Chipman, the Social Science teacher for the LTAC students who also works as a history and German teacher for high school students.

"They are all full of high energy and ask a lot of questions," Chipman said. "I need more patience with them. I am impressed with [the students]. They are bright and eager to learn."

When the LTAC students reach eighth grade they have to take all honors classes, which include survey literature, geometry, chemistry, world studies, a language, and physical education. By the eleventh and twelfth grades, all their classes will be AP electives.

"I'm excited for AP classes. They'll be fun and it'll be a chance for me to figure out what I like to do," Henkin said.

In addition to the specific schedules, LTAC students also have their own separate clubs and academic activities. Any sports the LTAC students participate in will run through the CPS middle school league. It will include soccer, volleyball, double dutch, tennis, and cheerleading. They will also be participating in History Fair and Science Fair.

The LTAC students applied to the six-year program in order to excel in school while tackling a challenging academic load.

What to know about where to go around Lane

Looking for something to do after school? Want to impress a date? Want to impress a date on a budget? Fortunately, Lane's neighborhood is full of places to keep a Laneite busy.

By Ben Palmer & Max Albekier

For something to eat after school, the usual haunts around Lane apply.

Local Spots

Tasty House, or simply "Tasty," is the premiere Chinese restaurant in the immediate area. Quick, easy, and pretty dang good. Affordable, too!

Not feeling Chinese, but still don't want to travel far from school? Wing Stop, McDonald's, Wendy's, Big Boy Gyros, and Hero's are all ridiculously close, greasy, and cheap. Straight to the east is a collection of thrift stores including Village Discount Outlet along Roscoe near Damen. Affordable and trendy, these second-hand shops are a great place to go if fashion is your forte rather than food..

The new Mariano's, speaking of food, has been described as everything from a heavenly paradise to a Jewel designed just for Lane students. The word on the street is overwhelmingly positive, and it won't be long before it likely becomes a typical Lane hangout like the ever-cheap Dunkin Donuts or Tasty House.

A map of popular local haunts

- = Lane
- = McDonalds
- = Hero's
- = Jewel
- = Dunkin, Tasty, Big Boy
- = Wendy's
- = Mariano's
- = Village Discount
- = Ignite
- = Lincoln Square



Staff loses classrooms, lunchroom to LTAC

By Airis Cervantes

As the seventh graders and the largest Freshman class in the past two years enters Lane, there have been some changes around the building.

Some teachers have had to change classrooms, the staff lunchroom has been converted into the Academic Center lunchroom during fourth period, and some teachers have had to change their regular routine.

"I don't go [to the staff lunchroom] anymore. I bring my lunch everyday and eat in the English Department," said English teacher Mr. Valderrama.

Before the Academic Center was created the staff lunchroom provided teachers with a different menu from the students. Now, the crowded, noisy lunchroom, "does not seem very appealing," Valderrama said.

"There's too many [students] and it's too noisy. You try to get out and hope you don't get bumped by a seventh grader," said drafting teacher Mr. Pietka.

Pietka has changed his routine and now goes to lunch sixth period and grades papers during his free fourth period.

Not only have teachers had to share their lunchroom with the seventh graders, but some teachers have been asked to

move classrooms for the convenience of the LTAC students. As the seventh graders adjust, organize, and carry heavy boxes at the start of the school year, teachers are doing the same.

Biology teacher, Mrs. Ciciora, moved from room 425 to 360 over the summer with the help of her husband and son.

"At the begging I didn't like it because I don't have cabinets. I put it all on the floor," Ciciora said.

An advantage is that, "it's cooler by 10 degrees." However, Ciciora's concern is that a lot of her equipment needs to be locked up and there is currently nowhere to put it. Still, Ciciora understands it was necessary for her to move classrooms.

"I don't mind. Just give me cabinets that lock," she said.

Other teachers have experienced a greater change because of the Academic Center. In the past few years Mr. Chipman only taught world studies to Freshmen, but this year he teaches it only to seventh graders. He is also balancing two German classes. Overall, moving from the third to fourth floor has been a great experience.

"I am more secluded but I'm not in the mix anymore," Chipman said.

Although, Chipman has become acquainted with his neighboring teachers on the fourth floor, he realizes that he is far from his history and language department.

To the South

For the Romeos and Juliets, cheap might not be a priority. If making a good impression on that special someone is the goal, taking a short bus ride down to Clark/Belmont could be the key. The neighborhood is full of sit-down dining, and the famous Ann Sather's Swedish restaurant. One bite of their cinnamon rolls is enough to make any Lane student forget prices and pig out.

To the North

Further north, the Western 49 bus stops right next to the booming Lincoln Square. With enough shops, restaurants, and super affordable movies (at the Davis on Lincoln) the area is perfect for bored and hungry high school students.

A little more expensive is Barba Yianni Grecian Tavern on Lincoln in the square, a great place to get some superb Greek food and flaming cheese. Even if a meal costs about fifteen bucks a person, watching cheese burst into flame is a great stress reliever after school.

If burning dairy isn't your thing, right down the road is a Coldstone Creamery, and a beautiful fountain square to enjoy company or study outside. Fountains not ornate enough? Right across the street is a collection of Thai restaurants including Opart Thai House, right under the Western brown-line stop.

For students who aren't gluttons, the Lane area offers hangouts like Ignite, a popular pay-per-hour geek party spot complete with lounges, flat screens, and video games galore.

Lane is a school of athletes, nerds, gluttons, "watching-my-weight"s, and every other type of person from awkward high school TV shows. So go on a date, find a new hangout, or eat the stress away. Or, in the Case of Barba Yianni, burn it off. With cheese!

Dear Newbies... a word of advice

“Venture out”



By Cody Lee

High school is one big playground. I am assuming that most of the incoming freshman and seventh graders are familiar with one of those. You have the "too cool for anything" kids gossiping over on the bench, and the show-offs doing pull-ups on the monkey bars. And oh, how could I almost forget about the suck up chatting with the teacher instead of playing with the rest of the kids.

High school is chock-full of different settings, and the

best advice I could give is DON'T TAKE IT TOO SERIOUSLY. Make sure to let your mind wander. Try out new things, and different identities. If you want to be a jock one day and on the chess team the next, do it. That's how you end up actually finding yourself.

Sure you are going to have the people that will try to judge and make fun of you, "OMG your shoes don't match your shirt!" But seriously, who cares? If you saw me now, it would be pretty hard to believe that I wore vests and ties to school freshman year...I don't really like to talk about that. You're probably going to have some embarrassing moments yourself. Don't take them seriously.

You'll also have some of the best times of your life. Don't waste your whole high school experience stuck doing one thing with one group of friends because, trust me, you will regret it. To get the full high school experience, you need to venture out.

If you're one of those kids who has never done their homework, switch things up and do it for once. Or if you're a goodie-two-shoes now, take a walk on the wild side and get a detention. (Now obviously I'm not saying do anything extreme like flip over a desk and storm out of your classroom, but something mild. Maybe try getting caught texting in the hallway).

With all the diversity going on at Lane, you can never go wrong. Just take everything as it is. Relax. Go with the flow, and I promise that high school will be a whole lot easier. Well, unless you get hard teachers...

“Look the Part”



By Dirce Toca

It's time to hang out with the big kids. On the first day of school the bell rings and you step outside your division room. You have your Lane lanyard around your neck, book bag filled with notebooks for every class, and a map in

your hands figuring out which way to go. No! Just stop. Are you trying to let everybody know you're a freshman? Might as well write it across your forehead.

Here's a few tips on how NOT to look like freshman:

1. Don't wear your hang around. Just don't do it, promise?
2. Your gym uniform is called a gym uniform for a reason. Don't wear it as an outfit. Don't wear it on spirit day, either.
3. Look at the map before the bell rings for your next class and memorize the way. Walking around with maps in your hand is not cool.
4. Ditch the huge backpack.
5. Don't carry so many textbooks and huge binders in your hand. One or two max.
6. That being said, USE YOUR LOCKER. Lane provides them for a reason.
7. Stop running. Speed walk if you have to. No running in the hallways.
8. No awkward u-turns. Unless you want everybody to know you were going the wrong way.

You're only a freshman once. Enjoy it. Take these tips and use them.

“You will never be alone at Lane”



By Julia Kulon

There will probably be a moment sometime this year when you feel hopeless. It may happen when you're coming back home on the bus. It may happen when you're up for the first time at 12am finishing your first 'high school' paper. It may happen when your teacher gives you your first 'high school' test and even though you studied all night, you blank out.

That last situation actually happened to me. At the end of my first week of high school, my Survey Literature teacher said we would have a grammar test on Monday. I studied all weekend. Come Monday, I suddenly couldn't remember anything. English in grade school was something I had excelled in, but all I could think in that very moment was, "What's a gerund? What's a participle?"

I spent the rest of the semester making up for that test

because I was too stubbornly proud to ask for help or go to tutoring.

Now as a senior, I have realized two things. One is that the hopelessness I felt could have been avoided. But the more important realization is that as I asked my peers throughout the year, everyone seemed to have experienced it in one way or another.

That hopelessness is okay. It will probably happen, and it's alright when it does. It's not necessarily a good feeling, but the catch is that it's not necessarily a bad one either.

You know what kind of feeling it is? A normal one.

There are about 4,500 students at Lane and one of them is going to feel the same way as you. You will never be alone at Lane. Take solace in that.

You'll come to realize that big really means small in some cases. This is one of those cases.

Take the hopelessness you will feel at that very moment, and use it for reflection. Use it to better yourself. It's okay if it busts you in shape as long as you remember that there are other feelings awaiting you these next four years: happiness, pride, and success.

I struggled in trigonometry junior year (math has never been my strong suit) and with my freshman year experience in mind, I went to tutoring the first moment I realized I was slipping. Tutoring allowed me to understand the basic concepts and relieved me of any stress that I might have had with my grade in that class.

What's important is that you don't let it defeat you. I didn't let the scary beast of trigonometry rear its teeth at me.

What's more important, however, is that you take that feeling and you cultivate it: you can come out a stronger and bigger person. For example, don't be like me – go to tutoring!

You got that? Good. Now, run along to your first class. (Don't actually run, though. You can get there walking in four minutes. I promise.)

“Get Involved”



By Agnieszka Chrzanowska

Fear has always proven to be a great motivator in my life. It's like a best friend who knows you can accomplish something phenomenal even in the worst of times. It's like a vegetable, so bad it's good for you. Most importantly, fear is proving that you're still alive and breathing.

Entering high school I was a reserved student, or as some would call me behind my back, a loser. My day became a routine. Wake up, learn, sleep and do the exact same thing the next day. Exciting!

For me, freshman year was a torture I wish was never necessary. I wish I could have skipped it and moved on to greater things. I had major anxiety issues which allowed me to make zero, yes, you heard that correctly, ZERO friends. I opened up

to one friend who I knew would help me when I needed it, but she didn't even go to Lane. I was too scared and too nervous to meet anyone and was terrified of the “big, scary seniors.” At one point I even thought, “Lane will be the death of me,” (hypothetically, of course).

The years passed and things improved. Sophomore year, I befriended a new crowd of people and was able to branch out and leave most of my anxiety behind with their help. By the time junior year arrived, I thought I had everything in the palm of my hand. I was a “social butterfly,” as one of my good friends once called me. What my friend said truly made me realize I had potential.

I confidently joined clubs, tried out for International Days, involved myself in sports, the student body, and tried to make something out of myself. I wanted to make sure I didn't waste my potential because, frankly, everyone has potential, even a measly freshman.

I am now a Senior.

Looking back at my high school career I wish I would have involved myself sooner, as high school passed by much too fast. I wish I knew everything would be okay in the end and that all my anxiety would be gone. I would not have spent as much time worrying and maybe a little more time living.

I should have known that everyone finds their niche in high school and because of that you should not be scared to be here. Since freshman year, I have become care free and completely in love with life. I am just waiting for senior year to fly by and for college life to start. It's going to be a bittersweet feeling to be a freshman once again, but this time I won't be scared of the “big, scary seniors.”

“Friends are important”



By Erik Brito

Let's face it kids, you're about to enter a school similar but at the same time different from your old school. Back in your old school you were the top dogs. Here, you're fresh meat. So to make this ride as smooth as possible, please, Classes of 2015 and 2017, pay attention.

Your friends are your second family and the sweet part about that is you get to choose them. Making friends is crucial when you're new. They're the people that you eat lunch with and take the bus home with. They are also there to stand up for you if someone's looking for trouble. More than 1,200 new students are enrolled this year. Will there be someone you can be best friends with? Yes. Will there be people who, no matter how hard you try, you're not going to like? Yes, and they probably won't like you either. It's all good!

Find the friends who will not let you fall. Some of you might be worried about your old friends. You know, the ones that couldn't get in. You can choose to cut ties or to keep in contact with them. If they are important, they won't leave that easily. Don't tell yourself you won't like someone when that weird kid in the corner can be the one person that will be with you your whole life. Be open, meet new people, and make great friends, but don't forget to be a great friend.

Ever hear that cheesy line “Be yourself?” Well, guess what? It may be a cliché, but it's true. Change happens. I know I am not the same guy that entered this school three years ago. Did I change everything about myself? No. I still like to wear regular jeans, white sneakers, and a funny t-shirt. I still play chess and Yu-Gi-Oh when I get the chance. English is still my favorite subject in school and reading is still one of my favorite things to do. With these geeky quirks of mine, I found friends who accept me and I accept them. You too can find friends who accept you for who you are no matter how strange you might be.

Friends are important. However, don't let your friends keep you away from your responsibilities. The reason I ended freshman year with low grades was because I put my effort into having fun and hanging out with my friends. I spent more time on Facebook than studying and doing my work. It was my fault, not my friends'. I was the one to blame. So make the time to do work; your friends will still be there and they will understand. Now getting all A's is great but if getting the A's means no friends, than I'd rather get four A's and three B's. Finding the balance of friends and school makes freshman year fun and rewarding.

There's more to high school than this. You all will soon find that out. These four years are not going to be the best years of your life. However, they can be some of the best and they all start with this one. Have fun!

“Hold on to yourself”



By Madeline Savoie

I am an immature teenager just like all of you. Sure, I'm three years older, and sure I can act more mature if need be, but in reality, I haven't grown up in these four years like all those teachers, parents, and college counselors said I would. Often times I look around and think about how everybody seems to have changed so much, and yet I've stayed relatively the same (at least as far as I'm concerned). Giving it a second thought though, maybe staying the same is a good thing.

At the end of your first, second, and third year here, and finally graduation day, if you can look back and say to yourself, “Yeah, I'm still me,” all the better for you. You've made it through high school without being changed by the cliques, peer pressure, or those social teenage norms, set by shows on MTV.

Maybe MTV has a point though. It's likely that the guy or girl you have been crushing on for three years will graduate without ever knowing who you are. Your teachers may never pronounce your name right, and your locker may be in the most remote corner of the school...every year. Some friends are going to ditch you. Your relationships may not last longer than a few weeks, or maybe even a few days. You are probably going to write a bunch of sappy statuses on Facebook when life's bringing you down, and all those people who can truly sympathize with your problems will “like” it; and things will finally start to look up.

If throughout all of that, you can hold on to yourself, congratulations. If not, it's okay. Those freaks will end up writing clichéd advice columns for the school paper.

Athlete of the Issue: Anna Lagattuta Div. 562



Lagattuta's running skills have shined in cross country. Team members are divided into two groups according to their running times. As a freshman, Lagattuta has already earned a spot in the advanced group.

Favorites

Color: Red

Sports team: Blackhawks

Food: Thai food

Celebrity: Leonardo DiCaprio

Hobbies: Playing soccer, running, and cooking

Music: Taylor Swift and Adele

Question & Answer

Warrior: How long have you been running?

Anna Lagattuta: This is my first year running cross-country.

W: What made you decide to run cross country?

AL: I've played soccer my whole life, since I was really little. In high school I wanted to try a new sport. I heard a lot about cross country. Also, being a soccer player, I knew I could run!

W: How do you do in cross country meets?

AL: We've only had three meets so far. At our last meet I made 7th place over all and it was a two mile course. We haven't gotten exact times yet but it was close to seven minutes a mile, which is my average time per mile.

W: Is it difficult being a younger member of the team?

AL: At first it was really hard being a young member because I knew no one and felt like such a little underdog. At this point it doesn't bother me too much and I really love the team.

W: Who helps you practice the most?

AL: I think my group helps me practice the most and work really hard every day. When I started off, I was in the lowest group and wasn't really being challenged. Now my group makes me keep going even when I feel like my legs are going to fall off.

LTAC students get their own sports teams

By Kelly Mrofcza

Greatness can begin at an early age, one just has to be given the chance to show it.

Luckily for Lane, the new Academic Center gives seventh graders the chance to achieve their greatness in sports earlier than students would as a freshmen.

This summer, camps for multiple sports such as basketball, cross country, water polo, and non-contact football for boys were offered. The new students had the chance to learn the sports and meet the coaching staff.

During the school year, LTAC students will be able to compete in actual team sports such as tennis, volleyball, flag football, swimming, cross country, and basketball. The LTAC sports program will be completely separated from ninth through 12th graders and compete against other academic centers at Taft and Whitney Young.

Not only does the program promote a future of great Lane athletes, it also gives LTAC students the opportunity to play sports they have never played before.

"It should be fun. There were not a lot of sports at my old school so I am very excited," Hannah Barlow, Div. 750, said. She is planning on participating in volleyball and tennis.

Another student, Lakiya Powell, Div. 751, said he is very committed to playing sports from his time as a seventh grader up until his senior year.

"I hope that playing sports for a long time will make me good enough to get me scholarships to college," Powell said. He wants to play football and basketball.

With the thrill of playing sports, LTAC extracurricular program also brings pressure onto the future athletes.

"Because we are being coached by high school coaches, I am sure we will be expected to, 'bring it,'" Delyna Hadgu, Div. 751, said. Hadgu wants to play tennis during her high school years.

Training physically and mentally at the young age of thirteen for high school sports is a great opportunity. LTAC students have a lot to live up to since Lane is the school of champions and all.

First day jitters don't last long



By Sophie Swenson

I can remember my first day of high school like it was yesterday. The sky was clear and the sun was shining as I stepped out of the car and walked toward Lane, my first steps toward "growing up". Right outside of "O", security guards yelled for freshman to enter the auditorium, while what seemed to be an endless sea of upperclassmen were waiting to see the fresh meat.

"FRESHMAN!" was spurted, snickered, and sympathetically murmured that morning as I nervously shuffled along. Maybe it's just because those kinds of social situations scare me out of my mind, but walking alone that morning was probably one of the most terrifying experiences of my life.

If I knew what I know now, I wouldn't have expected myself to instantly become mature or responsible the second I entered high school; I now know that neither I, nor any other student here has reached their full potential, because they have so much more to learn and live through.

Ever since that first day, my time at Lane has been one big blur. A stressful, surreal, blur. When people say time in high school goes by in the blink of an eye, they really mean it. And even though it seems like a blink ago, the

change I see in myself from the timid freshman walking to her first day of high school is tremendous. But "growing up" didn't just magically happen as I walked through the doors of Lane. It happened slowly, subtly, and with some trouble.

As I got deeper into my freshman year, I thought I had the world in my hands. I felt a sort of teenage power never felt before, and I wanted more. But with that power came (not responsibility,) a feeling of superiority that needed to be humbled. I soon realized that I didn't know everything, that I still had more to learn. I If

I hadn't gotten lost that first day and wandered down the empty hall long after the bell had rung, when would I have learned that there are two fourth floors? If I hadn't gone out that night, instead of studying for the biology test, which I would scare into managing my time better? If I hadn't said and done the things I did throughout my years at Lane, and if kindness was never taught to me by others, what kind of person would I be today?

Through mapping out my classes the night before my first day, making time for studying during the weekend, and understanding that I have just as many flaws as the person next to me, I will never forget the morals that molded me into who I am, and who I will never be again.

Making friends, making time for work, and making mistakes is what happens in your four years, and it's that experience that will set you up for what kind of person you choose to be in the long run.

Because of the choices and mistakes I made, and the ones you are going to make during your years at Lane, the person who walks across that stage will be significantly different from the one who is reading the words right off this page.

Lane football sweats it out over summer for upcoming season

By Madeline Savoie

The weather conditions were treacherous. The sweltering hot sun beat down on their helmets and sweat dripped down their faces. Add in some slow-mo running shots and the Lane Tech Varsity Football practice could have been in a Nike commercial. Lane's football teams practiced rigorously all summer long in order to shape up for this season, and not even the summer heat slowed them down.

"If you're out in that weather everyday like we were, the heat becomes normal," one Varsity Captain, Alexander Mueller, Div. 273, said. "Believe it or not, the heat actually helped us and made us a stronger, more focused team."

Though many of Lane's fall sports teams begin practicing in August, only a few teams can reach the collected number of hours put in by Lane's football players throughout the year. From off-season lifting and conditioning, to summer football camp in June and July, to five hour long practices five days a week starting in August after a short two week break, these boys put in the time to prepare themselves for the season.

"Every team at this school pushes to be the best," another Varsity Captain, Daniel Murray, Div. 267, said. "I wouldn't say we work significantly harder, but we do put in an enormous amount of hours."

With so many fans doubting the team's ability to succeed this year, the team is working much harder to prove themselves to the school as the champions they know they are.

"Those people who criticize us aren't with us everyday and aren't a part of [our team]," Mueller said. "We may not be the biggest or fastest, but this team definitely has the most heart. Other schools may or may not have put in as much time as us this summer, but I know we worked the hardest."

With an entirely new coaching staff, offense, and defense put in within the last two years, there was a lot of learning for the players and the team to accomplish.

"The football team has gone through so much to try and return to where we are expected to be at the School of Champions," Murray said. "After a whole year under our belt of running one of the most complex offenses, a new defensive scheme, and many new special team plays, our team is light years ahead



A player helps another off the ground after a play at practice in Lane Stadium.

of last year."

The team's recent losses in their first two games against two tough suburban and Catholic League teams, Glen Brook North and De La Salle, motivated the team to overpower the Bogan Bengals, 28-6, in their third game of the year.

All three captains and the rest of the team expect to carry that motivation with them to Homecoming and dominate against Whitney Young at the big game.

Though the two first losses had the team members' heads hung low, Kevin

Yoo, Div. 273, says that he and his fellow captains make sure the team keeps their heads up no matter what.

"We will have a great season, because I believe in this team, the coaches, and the unity that we have," Yoo said.