



SWAT to help with STAAR

Guadalupe Rodriguez
Layout Editor

School Wide Achievement Time or "SWAT" has been a new implementation at Lee for the 2014-2015 school year. The innovation in schedule calls for advocacy Tuesday through Thursday after second period and sends students to specific teachers that will give them extra time to get help in core classes.

It is aimed to help students who have repeatedly failed the STAAR test according to staff member Michael Kucek.

"SWAT was implemented because of the school's overall STAAR scores. Many of our students have taken and failed the STAAR numerous times," Kucek said.

After Principal Trinh evaluated Lee High School's STAAR scores, he and our staff decided that something new had to be done in order to help our students and raise our test scores.

"For seniors that haven't passed algebra, biology or English I yet, they could be on their 9th or 10th attempt," Kucek said. "Mr. Trinh decided that what we were doing in the past wasn't working and wanted to do something new."

Kucek who previously worked at Jones High School suggested the idea to the staff after they saw results from a similar program at a smaller scale.

"This was a program Ms. [Danielle] Williams and I helped implement when we were both teachers at Jones. It was at a much smaller scale, but we saw results," Kucek said. "We proposed it to the administration and they thought it was the best idea."

Because Lee cannot afford extra teachers to get extra help for our

students, it was decided that Lee would have to make the best of its resources.

"We cannot afford to hire intervention teachers," Kucek said. "So we have to rely on the teachers that we currently have. Accommodating almost 1600 students is impossible, but we did the best we could."

The program was specifically placed during advocacy so that school days could run smoothly and for there to be an easier transition from the different schedules every day.

"The reason we went with SWAT in advocacy was so that the schedule could be changed. If we made it a class then we would have to have it every day," Kucek said. "But say we have an assembly or something, we can make Wednesday run like a Monday without a problem. Changes are difficult, and adding essentially another class to an already long day is exhausting for everyone involved."

The student's that have passed their STAAR tests also have time to get work done and focus on specific projects in their SWAT classes.

"Some seniors are in special SWAT programs like newspaper and band," Kucek said. "The seniors are working on the college process through Naviance, sophomores are working on literature, and juniors are getting extra history practice."

School Wide Achievement Time serves as embedded tutorials for students that cannot come to after-school or Saturday tutorials. It is meant to give extra help to students that have failed their STAAR tests while offering a little recreational time or study lab for the students that have already passed.



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARIA RAMIREZ

Students meet in SWAT advocacy classes Tuesday to Thursday to get extra practice and extra help for the STAAR test. For those students who already passed, they get to work on college applications, specialty subjects, read, or use their time as a study hall.



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARIA RAMIREZ

Lee High School received 300 new students from Central America. Many of these students don't know English and must learn quickly to be able to keep up in their classes.

New students, new country

Melissa Garcia
Co Editor-In-Chief

This year Lee High School enrolled many students who are not only new to our school but also new to our country. One of the main reasons for this was because of the high number of children immigrants who fled from their home countries during the summer, mainly from Central America in order to escape the high crime rates and poverty. This is the case for many new students at Lee who are now starting to get familiarized with their new school and environment.

The crime rate in most of these countries is so high that people are no longer thinking twice about sending their children to the United States. Senior Franco Vazquez is one of the many new students this

year who moved to the U.S because of the number of crimes and violence in his home country.

"I moved here because of the number of crimes happening in Mexico," he said. "They kill anyone for no reason."

Moving into a new country isn't always easy, according to Vazquez.

"I feel bad sometimes because everyone speaks English and I can't really understand any of my teachers in class," he said. "I like the school because it is so big compared to the ones in Mexico."

Life outside school is also very different for some of the new students.

"It is very hot here in Houston. It is almost asphyxiating," Vazquez

said. "But, people are more social and they say hi to you even if they don't know you. And everyone seems to get along."

With a new country and the many opportunities it has, many students like Vazquez also have goals that they want to achieve.

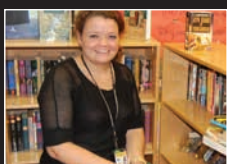
"First and foremost, one of the first things I want to do is learn to speak English," he said. "Then, I want to be able to join the Air Force or become a mechanic."

The Lee community is made up of students from all over the world. This is beneficial for the new students because of the welcoming environment and the various opportunities the school offers.

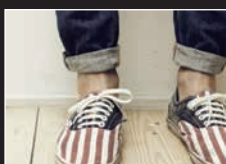
All quotes were translated from Spanish into English



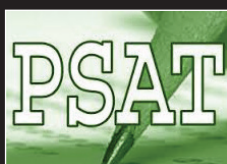
Check out some programs offered at Lee on page 3



Learn more about your teachers and admin on page 5



Make your uniform more unique to you with fashion tips on page 7



Practice for the PSAT by trying the crossword puzzle on page 9

Homecoming King and Queen revealed

After campaigning throughout spirit week, Lee High School students’ votes are in!

Elizabeth Aguilar and Guadalupe Rodriguez
News Writer

All hail the mighty king and queen of Lee homecoming court. On Friday Oct 3rd, Seniors Charles Forest and Elizabeth Aguilar became the 2014 reigning royalty.

After an intense week of campaigning both candidates were successful in winning the peoples’ votes.

“I gave people candy and cookies, but also printed hundreds of posters,” Aguilar said. “I also got my friend Dafne to make me some ‘Vote for Elizabeth’ shirts that my friends could wear to promote me.”

Students running for homecoming spent much of their week, attempting to gain votes and support from other students through various activities, such as posters, candy, pins, and anything else they could hand out to help make their names known.

“I had a lot of support from Elizabeth,

thanks to her help and my posters I got more votes from people,” Forest said.

At the end of the day their hard work paid off.

“I feel very happy that I won homecoming queen because I feel that I deserved it after everything I did to get peoples votes,” Aguilar said. “I worked really hard on my campaign.”

For Forest, winning the title of king was even more special because it was not only a homecoming game that he played in; it was also his birthday.

“I feel excited being named homecoming king. It was a great way to end my birthday,” Forest said.

According to many students, Spirit Week was crazy with all the campaigning, but Forest and Aguilar said they are very excited



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUM

to be Lee’s new King and Queen.

“I just want to thank everyone who voted for me,” Aguilar said. “I really appreciate it and also a special shout out to Isa, Kim, Karina, Kassandra, Raquel, Brenda, and Ronnie. Thank you so much for all of y’all’s

help, couldn’t have done it without y’all.”

“I just want to say thank you to everyone who voted for me.” Forest said.

Forest and Aguilar are grateful to be the 2014’s football homecoming King and Queen.

Southern Maid Donuts, serving breakfast to hungry Lee High School students daily

Maria Ramirez
News Writer



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARIA RAMIREZ

Does your sweet tooth crave something sugary for breakfast in the morning? Well, you are not alone.

Lee High School students fill the Southern Maid Donuts shop on Richmond Avenue every morning, hoping to get a bite of their frosted, glazed, or sugared delights.

Rady Kath and his wife have been running the shop of Southern Maid Donuts for five years. The shop is a franchise business originally from Louisiana and is currently all throughout the south. Kath and his wife are the only employees that run the shop.

“Lee students always come to the shop, especially when school starts back up,” Kath said.

Every morning, Southern Maid is crowded with Lee students.

“Because of Lee students, we’d say that a quarter of our profits are from them,” Kath said. “It’s not half, but it’s quite beneficial.”

Lee’s school day starts at 7:45, so students who know about the shop, rush to get there before the bell rings.

“Lee is the reason why we call our mornings here, ‘Rush Hour,’” Kath said. “You can see that we have many customers.”

Kath likes to let all his customers know that if they go to the donut shop, they can receive special offers.

“If you buy nine dozen donuts here, you can get the tenth one free,” Kath said. “Customers that come often, get special discounts.”

The donut shop offers croissants, breakfast tacos, hot coffee, and kolaches as well.

“I think the donut shop is a cool place to go,” Sophomore Natalya Nunez said. “Because if you don’t like the breakfast food given at the school, you can just go to the donut shop to get your breakfast there.”

Nunez has been going to Southern Maid Donuts shop since her freshman year at Lee.

“It’s closer than any other breakfast place, and it’s open when we all go to school,” Nunez said.

As Southern Maid Donuts continues to be around the corner from Lee High School, many students will continue to go there.

If you haven’t gone to the donut shop then, it is well recommended as many students from Lee enjoy it.

The shop is open from 6:30am-2:00pm.



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARIA RAMIREZ

Lee students show they’ve got talent

Bryan Eriza
News Writer

Come one, come all! The Fine Arts Department presents the annual Lee student talent show on October 29th.

“I’m excited because I will get to see the show and what kind of talent there will be,” Lights and Sound Technician Michelle Belmarez said.

Last year’s performances consisted of a variety of talent and many showed up in support.

“I think it will have a great outcome because last year’s performances were really interesting,” Participant Maria Ramirez said.

Ramirez participated in the talent show as a singer during the school year of 2013-2014.

“I’m slightly nervous because I always get nervous when I think about the crowd,” she said.

Taylor Mann was also a participant in the 2013-2014 talent show.

“This year I am not nervous, I was last year, but I’ve calmed down,” Mann said.

The participants and crew said they hope everyone comes out to support the 2014-2015 talent show!

CIS helps students stay in high school

Maria Ramirez
News Writer

CIS otherwise known as Communities in Schools has been working with Lee High School for 35 years. It has served at-risk students in the Greater Houston Area since 1979.

CIS is a campus-based, nonprofit organization providing direct services and resources to under-served children and teens with unmet needs. By surrounding them with a community of support, CIS’s mission is to empower students to stay in school and achieve in life.

“We do what it takes to keep kids in school. We know that there are many reasons and barriers that keep kids from coming to school and make them feel like dropping out,” Projects Manager of CIS at Lee Jessica Smith said. “Whether students are working, having kids, apartment problems, no stability, parents can’t work or speak the language, we are here to bridge the gap and help kids get past to those barriers.”

Working alongside the Aldine, Alief, Houston and Spring school districts, CIS is able to touch the lives of 30,000 students and their families annually. To maximize resources and prevent duplication, CIS partners with nearly 300 agencies – bringing community expertise directly to the school

campus. “We provide things like having a mentor, counseling whether it be for you and your family or just yourself, it varies really,” she said. “It starts with elementary kids, and we help them with basic skills like reading, writing and provide them with tutors.”

Natalie Avilez, a senior at Lee High school, has been a part of CIS for her whole four years at Lee and has benefited from the program very much.

“I think CIS is very helpful, it is more helpful than you think, it not only helps you in advice or counseling, but also if you have other needs,” she said. “The staff is very nice and always tries to make time to help you.”

Avilez believes that being a part of CIS is worth it, and getting your application signed is worth it as well.

“Even if you think you don’t need it, it could help you out,” Avilez said.

According to many students, CIS helps them daily, whether it is in the emotional, mental, or physical needs. It continues to be the place to go when students don’t have anywhere else to go.

If you haven’t checked it out, or if you are dealing with any problems, you must go!

Club offers hands-on police experience

Cristian Moralez
News Writer



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY CRISTIAN MORALES

With the mission to promote and orientate young adults in law enforcement, the Police Explorers Program opens doors to students interested in the law enforcement field.

Sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America and law enforcement officers, the Police Explorers Program enhances hands on training with HISD Police Officers, HPD, Sheriffs and Constables.

It also enhances the experience of students in the law enforcement Field from an early age of adolescence.

“It’s in my understanding that nationally, there are over 33,000 Explorers and 8,425 adult volunteers participating in Law Enforcement Exploring- most of which are from non HISD Police departments,” HISD Police Officer Hector González said.

González is an HISD police officer and in charge of the Lee High School program.

“In HISD we have two posts, which are Lee High School and High School of Law Enforcement,” González said.

Police Explorers combines classroom training with pistol shooting, community policing and much more. The program is open to anyone between the ages of 14 to 21 and requires many individual characteristics including good character and ethics.

“Here at POST 007 we also check discipline and criminal records,” González said. “We make sure the students are in good standards

with the school and are not affiliated or members of any gangs.”

The message of Police Explorers is to help young adults choose a career path within law enforcement and to become responsible citizens of their communities and nation.

“The Explorer Program allows students to train and learn the basic training we receive at the Police Academy,” González said. “Students develop leadership skills, respect for police officers and explorers.”

Senior Diana Alas said she enjoys the opportunity to be involved in the program.

“The police explorers program has given me strength both mentally and physically. It has shown me, how to be leader and to have support towards my team. It has taught me how to be a good citizen and given me my knowledge of criminal justice,” Alas said.

Junior Guadalupe Bonilla said she has gained a different perspective towards Police officers.

“Police Explorers program helped me gain self-confidence and different perspective towards Police Officers, I thought Police Officers to be bad role models with all their shootings on the news, but today I admire their job and look forward to learn more about their career in this program,” Bonilla said.

As the program continues, new students enroll and expand their knowledge in the law enforcement career field.

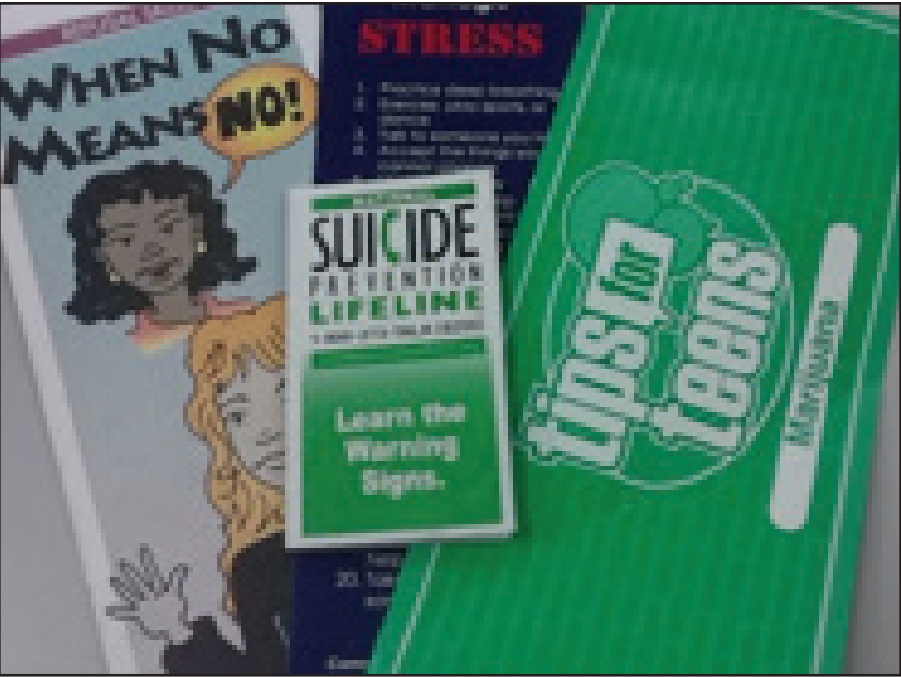


PHOTO PROVIDED BY MARIA RAMIREZ

College Center provides help

Alex Dillman
News Writer

With an estimated \$46 billion in grants and scholarship money awarded by the US Department of Education each year, it might seem crazy that not every single student at Lee isn’t utilizing the College Center to its fullest potential.

Nearly every single school in America has some type of program to help their high school students prepare and get into the college of their choice, and with Lee High School having the largest College Center in HISD it is a shock that not every junior and senior has made it a priority to come and utilize this tool.

Only a small portion of people actually go to the college center on their own will, according to College Center Counselor Keisha Smith- Davis.

“About 20 percent of the graduating class takes advantage of the College Center on their own,” Smith-Davis said.

As director of the College Center, Smith-

Davis tries to make sure that every student has a chance to come down to the College Center.

“As the coordinator, I try to make sure that other students have to come with an English teacher or a History teacher,” Smith-

Davis said. “I try to tell those students the deadlines through morning and afternoon announcements.”

In the last year alone Smith-Davis has helped 30-50 students get into a four-year university or college and has also gotten a good amount of students into a two-year college.

Each year Smith-Davis organizes a college fair for her students to help them become aware of all the colleges out there and how to get into contact with these schools. With nearly 40 colleges from all around the United States, including Ivy League schools such as Harvard, she has made it into a huge success for students that are hoping to get into college.

“About 20 percent of the graduating class takes advantage of the College Center on their own”
-Keisha Smith-Davis



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARIA RAMIREZ

The College Center is located on the first floor of Lee High School. It is open every school day and available to all students who are interested.

Students give back in Interact Club

Cindy Wakiyama
Co Editor-In-Chief

Students of Lee High School are able to provide community service, learn leadership skills, and work with students from all over the globe by joining the Interact Club.

The Lee Interact Club will soon be recruiting members who will receive invitations, but if you are interested and do not receive an invitation, the club meets after school on Thursdays in room 125, so stop by and talk to Interact Club President Balqees Naseem.

Aside from offering community service hours, which looks good on college applications, the club offers a way for students to connect with people they may not have gotten the chance to connect with otherwise.

“[It’s] also a way of interacting with friends, and many other people from this organization in other schools,” Interact Club Vice-President David Cruz said. “But more than anything else, the Lee Interact Club offers you a family in which you can find support in the hardest moments of your life.”

Selflessness is a necessary trait for a member, since most of the time spent with the club is dedicated to helping others.

“We currently live in what many call the ‘Me Generation,’ where one thinks solely of himself or herself,” Lee High School Alumni and Galleria Rotaract Club Secretary Roberto Martinez said. “The biggest and most essential quality is an attitude where one thinks about his and her fellow man before putting himself as a priority ... Which is one of the reasons that interact follows the motto of ‘service above self.’”

Members are required to complete two projects plus an international project per year.

Last year, the Lee chapter raised \$1,000 in the Cultural Shock Charity Show to benefit the charity Plan Bee.

“Whatever money we raised through the shirts and tickets went to the Asian women who lost everything in the flood and they used the money [to raise] honey bees and earn a living,” Naseem said. “Our students participated in the show and performed in



PHOTO TAKEN BY CINDY WAKIYAMA

Students are invited to join Interact Club by their chapters at their school. Through Interact Club, students give back to their communities by engaging in service projects and could receive awards for their efforts.

front of hundreds of people. The show was successful as well as the project.”

Outstanding members of the club are invited to the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards during their 11th grade year to award them for their work with the program.

“It’s a two night and three day camp, where you are taught how to be a leader and [to be] confident,” Naseem said. “To be honest I was the shyest among all the Interactors but after this camp, I’ve given so many motivational speeches in front of around 500

to 1,000 students based on this experience.”

The Interact Club searches for the most dedicated, responsible, and productive students who are interested in becoming responsible citizens who care for their community, Cruz said.

Freshmen acclimate to life at Lee

Jennifer Coyoy
News Writer

Every year middle school graduates think that high school is like a horror movie. But once they get here it’s a whole other story.

“Lee is fun, we do a lot of fun stuff,” Freshman Lea Cimpaye said. “It’s like I never expected it to be.”

Lee High School offers many learning initiatives. This year they have a new program called Linked Learning. This program brings students academics, support services,

and work-based learning, which helps get students ready for the future.

“I can’t say enough we have our goal to have 150 students in Linked Learning. We get to know the students personally...” GIS Teacher Jettie Greene said.

Through Linked Learning, students focus on a career opportunity.

“I think Linked Learning is a cool idea for the freshmen because it gives them a

system,” Speech Teacher Alyssa Loza said. “I wish that more freshmen were able to be involved in the same way.”

Students are encouraged in every class to set goals, and most of them say they want to just pass the class. Students set goals for themselves whether it’s for life or for school.

“I want to go to college; I want to go to Rice University because they have fun things over there,” Cimpaye said.

Students might have goals for themselves

but teachers at lee also have goals for them.

“My goals for the freshmen are to give them the keys to be successful once they graduate from my class or once they leave my class. It will keep them going all the way through high school and then once they graduate, there are skills they will still be able to use,” Loza said.

Lee will always try to help the students have a better future. So, students and teachers should be proud to be GENERALS!



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARIA RAMIREZ



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARIA RAMIREZ

Lee High School CATE teacher shares about her experiences working as a parole officer

Bryan Herrera
News Writer

Have you ever wondered what your teacher’s life was like before coming to Lee High School? Before Lee High School Geographic Information System (GIS) teacher Jettie Greene was a parole officer.

“Immediately before I was a parole officer, I was working in the prison system,” Greene said. “I was working with the school part of it.”

According to Greene, people who have an education have a better chance of not being in prison. A common problem for criminals is recidivism, which is the tendency to relapse into previous behaviors.

“So education reduces recidivism,” Greene said. “The largest populations affected by this are black and Hispanic males between the ages of 16-36. So, I was trying to help, and I was job searching and things to try to help the men get employed. But part of parole is leaving the men inside the prison to go into their homes, making sure they are doing the right things.”

Although education and employment help reduce recidivism, Greene still saw some inmates fail to move on with their lives.

“They would come back high on drugs the day after they got out of prison,” Greene said.

“So, after a while, I decided that maybe I need to start at a lower level like high school.”

Her role as a parole officer inspired her to become a high school teacher, to give back to the community.

“I felt like I could give back to the community and reduce recidivism with the younger population,” Greene said. “And if we could get them educated with a quality education, then it’s less likely that those young men will go to prison. So I wanted to go into teaching for black and Hispanic males- the minority males- especially. And so I hope if I can touch those students and help them get an education and graduate from high school, then they won’t have to see or experience those bad things that I’ve seen in the Texas prisons system.”

Greene said she grew up in Houston and went to a school in HISD, which inspired her to find a job in that district, and she ended up accepting a position as a GIS teacher for Lee High School.

“I hope I’m giving back as much as I would expect a teacher to give to my own child,” Greene said. “I want to get my students certified in GIS and I want to be certified in GIS geographic information systems.”



PHOTO TAKEN BY KIMBERLY BENITEZ

As a teacher, Greene said she plans to retire after five years.

“I taught here five years in 1999 to 2004 and I left,” Greene said. “And I then came back January 2013 and I love Lee. This is where I started teaching. I learned how to teach here and I love the population. I will continue here and I hope to retire eventually.”

Mr. Mata puts Lee High School first; creates goals to lead to student success



PHOTO TAKEN BY ELIZABETH BISHOP

Dejanee Cherry
News Writer

This year you’ll probably see a lot of new faces around the Lee High School community. One of those is the new 9th and 11th grade AP Joseph Mata.

“The goal this year is to have a better attendance rate than we had last year,” Mata said, “to have far less drop outs than we’ve had before, to improve the instruction so that not only are we able to do better, but we can offer college readiness courses, and, of course, show people what Lee is really all about.”

Mata has a lot of experience working with high school students.

“I taught at Pershing Middle School for ten years, and before that I taught in Austin for two years and then I taught in San Antonio for four years,” Mata said.

Although this is his first year as an administrator at Lee, he wants the community to know that he cares about the students’ well being.

“I wanted to become an administrator because I can help teachers and they can help students,” Mata said. “So, it’s just like being in the classroom, except I’m helping more students than there are just in one classroom.”

Mata also has some advice for the students of Lee High School.

“Behave. Do well. Go to class. Don’t be absent. And, be the best you can be because it’s easy to be your worst, but to be your best takes work,” Mata said.

Besides having a large school community to help care for, Mata said he also has a big family.

“I come from a big family,” Mata said. “I just celebrated my parents’ 60th wedding anniversary and I’m from a big family of eight. But we’re all different. You wouldn’t believe that one of my brothers sings country western. I have a brother that sings in a gospel choir and is an artist, another one that is a computer tech guy, and another one that is an electrical engineer. So we’re all very different.”

Being a sports fan is also one of Mata’s favorite things.

“My hobbies used to be trying to do sporting events, art and cultural events in Houston but I don’t have that much time anymore, so I just do whatever I can.”

Usually being an AP at Lee means working about six days out of the week to make sure the school runs successfully and the students receive the best education possible.

“It’s all about Lee High School and whatever you guys need,” Mata said.

Inside look at the life of Ms. Shannon Forssman

Noor Al Yacoub
News Writer

She is a first generation South African. Her family immigrated to New Jersey before apartheid ended in 1994. She moved to Texas when she was in middle school and attended Texas A&M University for college. And now, she is a Lee High School English teacher.

“I love Lee High School so far,” English IV Teacher Shannon Forssman said. “I love the students. I have been extremely pleased and the experience has been amazing.”

Forssman started teaching in 2008 at North Forest High School, after getting her degree in English Literature with a minor in history.

“Literature builds experience,” Forssman said. “It provides a language model for those who hear and read it. Also, literature improves reading ability and attitudes.”

According to Forssman, she has always aimed to be the best she can be. When a student in her class gets a high grade, she keeps that student motivated and pushes them to be better by setting goals.

“I get so excited when there is success,” Forssman said. “My personal best memory was when I made a five on my AP biology exam. I was excited about that. People didn’t accept me scoring high and I like proving them wrong. Success is an enticed pride.”

Watching her students grow and improve is only one of her favorite things about teaching.

“I think it’s amazing I can talk to at least 150 people a day,” Forssman said. “I get to know them better. It’s interesting and challenging.”

Besides teaching, Forssman said she loves spending time with her friends and her dog.

“In my free time, I go run, watch Texas A&M football, grade papers, or hang out with friends,” Forssman said. “I have a dog. His name is Piolt. It’s a name from a book because I’m a nerd.”

Forssman is currently not married, but said she really cherishes her friendships. She also said her mother is very ill, and she has to help her a lot.

“I depend on my friends in my worst times,” Forssman said. “I’m not married, but one day hopefully. My mom’s illness has been very hard. She’s not the same person anymore and I miss my old mom.”

Even when Forssman is feeling sad about her mother’s illness, she still said wishes for her mother to live longer and be happy for the rest of her life.

Life isn’t always easy, but Forssman said she is not a quitter; she decided she will never give up. And she said she tries to share this motivated attitude with the school and her students.

“Learning is way more important than teaching,” Forssman said. “Teaching is useless if learning is not happening.”



PHOTO TAKEN BY ELIZABETH BISHOP

October movies to thrill all

Rosaria Casia
Entertainment Writer



Annabelle

John Form has found the perfect gift for his expectant wife Mia. He got her a beautiful, rare vintage doll in a pure white wedding dress. But Mia’s delight with Annabelle doesn’t last long. On one horrific night, their home is invaded by members of a satanic cult. Who violently attack the couple. Spilled blood and terror are not all they leave behind.

OUt Oct. 3, 2014.

“Annabelle looks interesting,” a junior student said. “I will definitely be seeing it in theaters.”



The Devil’s Hand

The Devil’s Hand is about six girls born on the sixth day and month from different mothers. On their 18th birthday one of the six girls will become the devil’s hand. One by one they begin to disappear. The remaining come together to figure out who or what is behind it.

Out Oct. 10, 2014.

“I am looking forward to seeing The Devil’s Hand,” a senior football player said. “It looks intense and I am excited to find out what happens.”



Ouija

A girl is mysteriously killed after recording herself playing with an ancient Ouija Board. This leads to a close group of friends to investigate this board. They use the board to make contact with their classmate who passed away, which awakens a dark terrifying presence. They later find out that some things aren’t meant to be played with. Especially the other side of a dark world.

Out Oct. 24, 2014.

“I am so excited to go see Ouija on Oct. 24,” an ROTC student said. “Just in time for Halloween.”



Alexander and The Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

11-year-old Alexander experiences the most terrible and horrible day of his young life-a day that begins with gum stuck in his hair, followed by one calamity after another. But when Alexander tells his upbeat family about the misadventures of his disastrous day, he begins to wonder if bad things only happen to him. He soon learns that he’s not alone when his brother, sister, mom and dad all find themselves living through their own terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. Out Oct. 10, 2014.

Apple releases the iPhone 6, iPhone 6 plus

Guadalupe Bonola
Entertainment Writer

Apple’s iPhone 6 was released in September and immediately gained widespread popularity.

It has new features, according to sources, including being the slimmest iPhone yet, as compared to previous versions.

The iPhone 6 delivers a bigger screen, while remaining easy to handle with plenty of features to satisfy anyone -- and there is the promise of Apple Pay on the horizon to potentially sweeten the deal even further.

The phone has a bigger, crisper display, improved LTE and Wi-Fi speeds, better camera autofocus, bumped-up storage capacities to 128GB at the top end, and NFC Apple Pay mobile wallet features on the horizon.

But do people actually like it?

“I think it’s a bigger iPhone. I own it and ordered it the first day!” Math Teacher

Michael Kucek said. “The Apple ecosystem and the hardware is the best. I switched from a Galaxy S5 to the iPhone 6.”

Others were more critical of the new technology.

“It’s expensive, ugly and too big,” Senior Paola Dembe said.

The cost of the new iPhone 6 is \$849 without a phone plan.

“I would not pay that much. It’s a waste of money!” Dembe said

According to Kucek, that price is comparative with other high tech phones.

“It’s the same price as many other phones,” Kucek said. “And it’s still good. It’s not overpriced. You are paying for what you are getting.”

According to a Wall Street Journal article, Apple has asked its suppliers to build between 70 and 80 million iPhone 6’s by the

end of the year, which is higher than in the past. Only 50 to 60 million were planned for and created for last year’s iPhone 5c and 5s.

This of course leads to speculation that Apple could sell a substantial amount more iPhones (17% to 60% based on the percentage increases) than a year ago.

Despite the popularity of iPhones, there are also many supporters of other brands of phones as well. Some people say the new iPhone 6 is an imitation of the new Galaxy phone.

“Even though Apple just copied the Galaxy, I still prefer the Apple brand,” Dembe said.

Despite which brand people like, a survey shows that most users are in favor of larger screened phones.

“I love big screens and big phones they are so cute!” Junior Jennifer Guzman said.



Stories by Sabrina presents ‘Mixed Hearts’

Sabrina Miller
Fictional Story Writer

Prince

I’ve never in my life met a girl so devastatingly creepy. I go to a prestigious High School called St. John’s Academy. It used to be an all-boys school until this year. My name is Prince Sinclair and I’m a sophomore this year. Prince isn’t a title it’s literally my first name. Oh and that girl I was talking about is the daughter of our school’s new principal and her name is Jewel Dawn.

Jewel’s mother Principal Dawn is the reason our school became co-ed. I personally don’t mind. Most girls are beautiful except Jewel. She’s so creepy she even scares the girls that try to be her friends. Not even the guys like her.

Before school started Jewel and her mother came over to my house. When I first laid my eyes on her I thought she was the most beautiful girl I’ve ever seen. She has long black hair, brown eyes, and her petite figure in her black frilly dress made her look extravagant.

When she came to school Today (Monday) she had her hair pulled back. She wore a t-shirt that showed a girl running from zombies with one leg cut off to make one half look like shorts.

Jewel avoids everyone, even the gothic kids. Her mother expects me to become friends with her. If I don’t she’s going to kick me out of the school.

Everyone at school has to wear the school uniform but Jewel is excused because of her mother. The school uniform is a black jacket with a cross logo, white button up shirt, and black slacks for guys (skirts for girls).

Jewel

My mother became the principal at St. John’s academy. My great great great grandfather founded this school. He named it John because that was supposed to be his son’s name, but he died after he was born. No one knows how. Just that the baby didn’t make it.

The reason my mom became the principal was because her father retired to become an artist. Her brother (my uncle) was still in college and he refused to take on the academy.

St. John’s academy was originally an all-boys school but my mother wanted me to go to

school here. So it’s now a co-ed school but is still mainly boys. At first I refused to go but my mother said I could wear what I wanted. The school I went to my freshmen year was an all girls school and it was mandatory to wear dresses. My name is Jewel Dawn. My mother thought I was more beautiful than any jewel in the world.

Before school started I met a guy named Prince and for some reason my mom put me in all the same classes as him.

1. Honors English II
2. Honors United States History
3. Study Hall
4. Honors Chemistry
5. Photography
6. Honors Algebra II
7. French II
8. Personal Fitness

I don’t mind my classes because I would have taken them any ways. It’s strange to have all my classes with him. I think most of the girls have noticed but I don’t care as long as they don’t talk to me. Id talk to them if they would stop giving me dirty looks. Some girls tried talking to me, thinking if they did, Prince would notice them. I ignored them and they finally noticed they weren’t going to get anything from me.

It’s only my first day and I’d rather go back to my old school.

The intercom goes off in my last class and it’s my mother calling both Prince and I to her office.

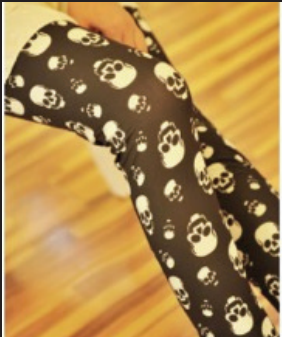
To be continued...

Fun ways to ‘fashionize’ your uniform

Jackie Correa and Jaqueline Martinez
Entertainment Writers

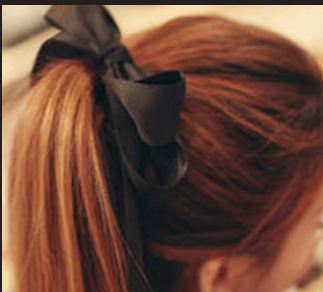
I know we’re all tired of having to wear our school uniforms and the hassle of having to get new T-shirts for every grade we advance to, so why not make the best of it by making our plain uniforms have our own little look to it?
First off, Lee High School does allow us girls to wear skirts, Khaki colored skirts! Strangely enough, not a lot of people actually wear skirts, but those who have the courage and want to change up their wardrobe from just regular khaki pants this is your chance!
These skirts can flatter your legs. If you’re a shy person who doesn’t want to show too much skin, you can always wear some cute leggings too. You can choose from a variety of different patterned leggings and decide what kind of look you want- anything from a rocker chick to a cute and innocent look.
The cool thing about these leggings is that they are incredibly cheap! If you want some with some sort of cute character, you can order them online for about \$6 + shipping.

Now we all know that we aren’t allowed to wear our comfortable sweaters, unless they have buttons on them, so here are a few selections on sweaters that are comfortable and can go very well with our school uniform. Sweaters, jackets, and cardigans are always in for fall. They keep you warm and comfortable during these cold months and make you feel like you’re still in bed all warmed up.



All of these outfits, sweaters, and shoes can be bought online, but some can also be found in stores in the Galleria (ex. H&M, Urban Outfitters, JC Penny).
And don’t forget about accessories! These are always essential. So, if you feel like your hair needs something to make it stylish here are some good ways to style it up.

Guys, Boys, Men! Fashion isn’t just for girls, sagging is out of style, so here are a few selections of clothes that you can wear during free dress day and when going out with your date.
Fashion for guys isn’t just big shirts and sagging jeans. Mix things up a bit and you can have your own style! The hipster look can contain polka dot shirts, floral shirts, patterned shirts, or shirts that express your feelings. Sometimes the neat look is the best. The neat look would entail long-sleeved shirts with some sort of pattern and a pair of pants that stop above your ankle. A nice pair of Vans or other shoes would go very well with it.



How to make school more fun

Michelle Belmarez
Entertainment Writer

Do you enjoy coming to school? Do you think school is fun? Well if you need to jazz up your academics, then here are some ways you can change your experience in school!

“TOP 10 WAYS TO MAKE SCHOOL FUN”

1. Set a goal for yourself
2. Enjoy your friendships and make new friends
3. Join after school clubs (sports, theater, dance, band etc.)
4. Get to know your teachers
5. Listen to music as you complete all your homework
6. Make plans during the week, so have things to look forward to
7. Have a positive attitude- find the good in everything
8. Be competitive against yourself- try and beat the last grade you got by doing better
9. Be competitive against the class- always try to have the best quality work
10. Make yourself comfortable- dress up your uniform with an accessory that makes you happy



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUM

Juniors Camelita Garcia and Kendale Martin run for homecoming princesses at the football game Oct. 3rd.



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARIA RAMIREZ

Senior shows her enjoyment for learning by reading and checking out books in the College Center.



PHOTO TAKEN BY YOHANES NYAMA

Cheerleaders practice for the homecoming game.

Coaches reveal Athletes of the Month

Ashley Perez
Sports Writer



Coach Daryl Hobbs said that every football player scored the touchdown of making it as the Male Athlete of the Month!

The other coaches also agree with coach Hobbs decision to nominate the entire team.

“It was the right decision because all of our athletes work hard each day to get better,” Coach Michael Todd said.

Football players said they are proud to take on this title.

“It feels good after the whole team has been elected as the athlete of the month because I know we have all tried our hardest and we’ve also put our heart onto the field,” Captain of the football team Vincent North said.

Some of the players even feel surprised because they never thought they would have made it.

“I feel good and surprised at the same time because I was out for two weeks for an injury and I never thought he would choose me anyways,” Player number 56 Jaelyn Turner said.

There were some highlights of the team

this season.

“One highlight was after we ran a kickoff back for a touchdown against Travis,” Coach Todd said. “Another highlight was when our defense stopped Davis three times on our goal line.”

All the players are hoping for a more successful football season, to make their coach proud.

“My goal number one is to make it to the playoffs and to make coach Hobbs proud,” Player number 30 Tazion Hayward said.

To show their dedication and hard work, the football players practiced for this season the entire summer.

“It helped them understand the new offensive and defensive techniques, and any new plays we were running this year,” Coach Todd said. “It also allowed them to get stronger and faster.”

The coaches agreed that the players have done an excellent job so far this year and need to continue to be the role models of the school both on and off the field.

Ronnie Mason
Sports Writer



In the sports category, a star is named every month. This month’s “STARS” or Female Athletes of the Month are Bria Davis and Sandra Emokhor, nominated by Lady Generals’ Volleyball Coach Bridgette Davis.

“Well, I mean, they always had leadership quality in them, but I think since they were two of three returners that we had on the team, they took more of that leadership role this year,” Coach Davis said. “They were looked to as leaders on the team, even though they didn’t feel that way. The other people look to them as leaders because they were here last year. Sandra is a senior and Bria is a junior and their style of play on the court-their hustle and work ethic- made them the go-to people on the team.”

Senior Sandra Emokhor said she is very excited about being female athlete of the month.

“I feel very happy about this, it feels good

to be recognized by the school,” Emokhor said.

Junior Bria Davis said she is also proud and happy about being female athlete of the month.

“I am very happy, I feel like I’m on cloud 9,” Davis said. “It’s an honor to represent Lee High School as an athlete.”

To be an athlete on the court or field you have to pass your classes and be a role model to other students.

“Grades have always been the number one thing for me,” Emokhor said. “I feel like if you’re an athlete, your grades shouldn’t be a problem in the first place. I don’t care if you have A’s and B’s, just don’t go below a C. If you love playing sports, your grades should be on point.”

Teamwork means that everyone on a team is important, so if one girl leaves than it can affect the whole team.

“I am wishing we had everyone,” Davis said. “We are missing two setters. And it hurts me because we need them. But, I love my team.”

The volleyball team is also leading awareness of Breast Cancer during the month of October. They are selling pink t-shirts for Breast Cancer Awareness month to raise money to donate to research.

“I’m excited about Breast Cancer Awareness month because it’s dear to my heart,” Coach Davis said. “My mother is a breast cancer survivor.”

Shirts will be sold for \$10 and students can wear them on Fridays.

Basketball season starts

Yesly Espinal
Sports Writer

Although students may be down in the gym shooting some hoops, Lee High School Basketball doesn’t start until early November this year.

Both the boys’ and the girls’ coaches said they are expecting improvements from all of their players.

“I don’t want them to feel there’s nothing to get better at,” Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach Alyssa Loza said. “Either learning to improve on the court as players or off the court as people.”

Senior Varsity Player Paola Dembe said she hopes to win all the games by having the teamwork together.

“[To accomplish my goals I will,] work hard, always have a positive attitude, and encourage the teammates,” Dembe said.

Elizabeth Aguilar also hopes for this season to win more games than last year.

“Coach Loza encourages me to not give up and to keep going and after practicing it, it’s going to pay off in the end,” Aguilar said.

JV Boys’ Basketball Coach Trint Conrod said he wants the team to go to District and advance as far as possible.

“I would like to have support from all of the faculty and students to support our home and away games,” Conrod said.

According to Conrod the players from JV have to get dressed up on game days to encourage professionalism and team spirit.

“Dress code on game day includes shirts and ties,” Conrod said.

Boys’ Varsity Coach Daryl Hobbs said he would like to qualify for the play offs this year.

Coach Loza said tryouts for girls’ basketball will be held on October 23, 24, and 26.



PHOTOS TAKEN BY ALYSSA LOZA



PHOTOS TAKEN BY ALYSSA LOZA



PHOTOS TAKEN BY ALYSSA LOZA



PHOTOS TAKEN BY ALYSSA LOZA

Lady Generals’ Basketball welcomes a new coach

Paola Dembe
Sports Writer

A new girls’ basketball coach is hitting the courts of Lee High School.

Coach Jennisha Thomas was the girls’ basketball coach for three years. But, in 2013, she was accepted to Yates High School as a teacher, and could no longer coach for Lee.

Later, she announced that she wasn’t going to Yates anymore, she would stay at Lee. However, she decided that she would pass on the girls’ basketball program to a new coach.

Coach Alyssa Loza is this year’s girls’ basketball coach, and brings a new energy and strategy to the team.

“I have played basketball for a long time,” Loza said. “I played in high school, which made me love the sport.”

Coach Loza is also a speech and communications teacher at Lee High School and she has been teaching here for two years now.

“I love being the coach at Lee High School and I’m also excited for the upcoming season,” Loza said.

She has big goals for her team this year.

“I want the team to give me 100% all the time,” Loza said. “Their hard work will pay off.”

Postitive attitudes, hard work, dedication, and team cooperation and encouragement are all important to doing well, according to Loza.

“I want to change the mentality to be positive and help these girls become even more passionate for this game,” Loza said.

Texans lose to Cowboys

The rivalry continues into overtime in a close game between the two Texas NFL teams

Adrian Castillo
Sports Writer

On Sunday October 5th, the Texans were defeated 20-17 by the Dallas Cowboys.

The Texans started off the game with an impulse of the need to win. After the first quarter, however, the score remained 0-0.

With a field goal made in favor of the Cowboys in the second quarter, both teams left for the locker room at halftime with a less than exciting performance to brag about.

Assuming there was an inspiring and motivating speech by head coach, Bill O’Brien, the teams were ready to begin the exciting second half of the game.

Trailing by three, the Texans kicked off the ball to the Cowboys, who would drive for only 15 yards before punting their possession away. With their first possession of the second half underway, the Texans battled their way down the field for 71 yards, ultimately resulting in a Texan touchdown, courtesy of running back Arian Foster.

The score was now 7-3 in favor of the Texans, the Cowboys began their rebuttal drive. Roughly 3 minutes later, and 78 yards further, the Cowboys managed to complete a 43-yard pass to Terrance Williams. Positioned at 7-10, no Texans fan was able to take their eyes off the television.

As the 3rd quarter came to a close, the Texans had one more quarter to try to take the win. After a failed attempt in their first



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY THESPORTSCOL.COM

The Houston Texans and the Dallas Cowboys faced off on Sunday, Oct. 5 in the AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, an excitingly close game. The two teams were neck and neck until the game went into overtime.

possession, the cowboys managed to score another touchdown with nearly 9 minutes and 50 seconds left in the game. With the score now at 7-17, Cowboys, Texans fans scooted closer as the Texans received the kick-off.

After a 7 minute long drive the Texans managed kick a successful 29-yard field goal to bring the new score to 10-17; trailing only by a touchdown. Time was not on their side as the cowboys attempted another possession before punting to the Texans just as the referees called for the 2 minute warning.

It was now or never as the Texans began their, most likely, last drive of the game.

In four plays the Texans watched as Arian Foster, again, crossed the finish line. Score, 17-17.

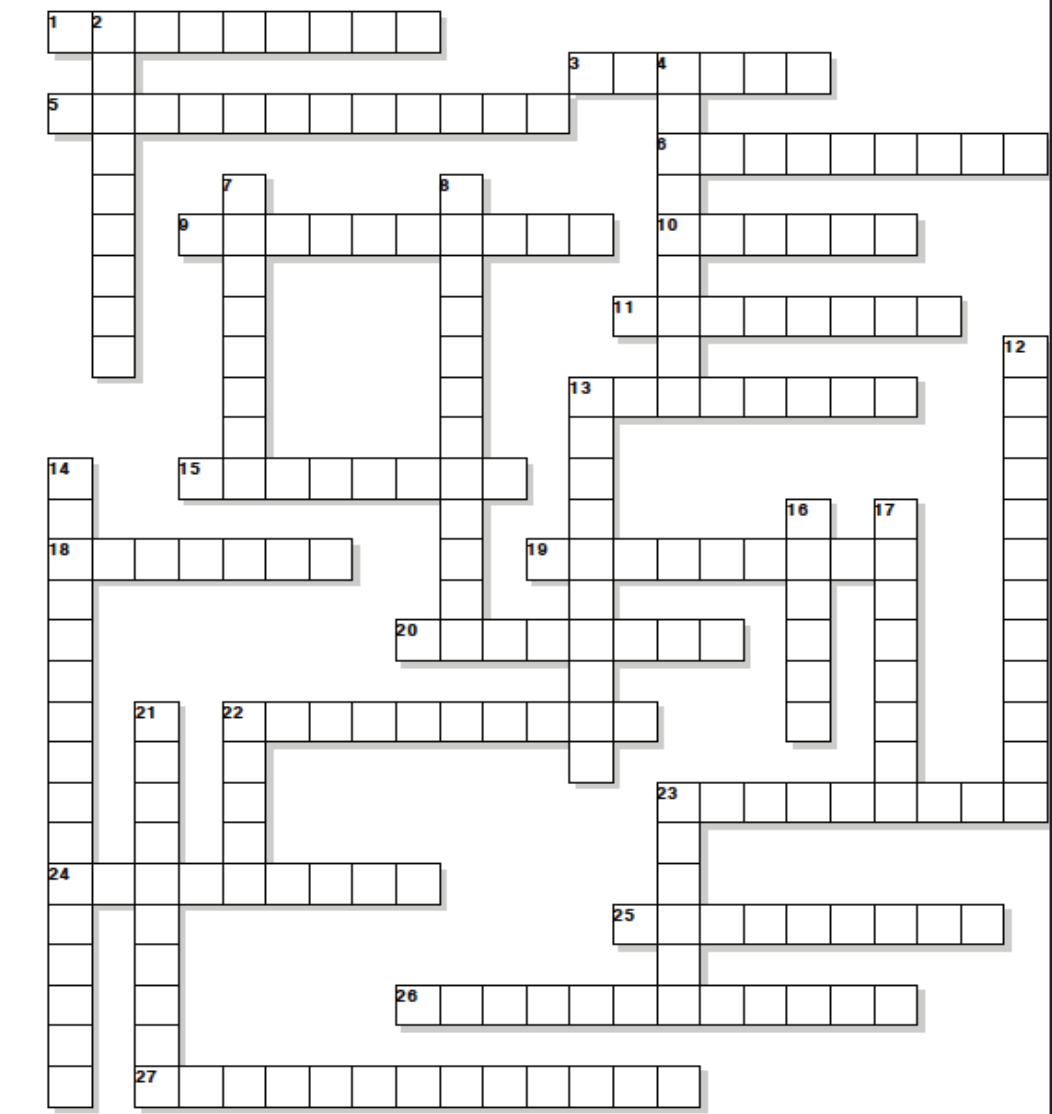
Just as the Cowboy fans were packing up and high fiving, the Texans fought back to take the game into overtime. Winning first possession, the Texans were in good position to take the game. After an unsuccessful drive however, they were forced to punt away their possession to the cowboys who began their drive.

Nearly five minutes later, the Cowboys were lining up their special teams to attempt a 49-yard field goal; which if made would

win the game for the Cowboys, and if missed, the Texans would have another chance to take the win. Moments later, as the ball accelerated towards the end zone, with all eyes watching; some hoping success, others praying for failure, the ball sailed through the yellow goal posts to finish the game, 17-20, Cowboys win.

A humbling defeat for Houston, yet in every failure lies a learning lesson, that if remembered offers an opportunity to be even more successful in the future. Here’s to hoping for a great Texans’ season, playoffs, here we come.

PSAT Vocabulary Crossword Puzzle 1



Are you ready for the PSAT?
Practice your vocabulary skills with this crossword!

Across

- 1 preferring isolation
- 3 known or understood by few
- 5 appeasing; soothing
- 6 plausible but misleading beliefs
- 9 to retire from; abandon
- 10 officially charge with wrongdoing
- 11 biased in favor of a party, group, or cause
- 13 believable
- 15 truthfulness
- 18 to issue official blame
- 19 to free from blame
- 20 to condemn openly
- 22 concerned
- 23 moral uprightness
- 24 reject the validity of
- 25 prone to engage in lawsuits
- 26 draw a circle around, restrict
- 27 feigning piety or righteousness

Down

- 2 free from blame
- 4 to harshly criticize
- 7 to give up (ie, a title) by formal announcement
- 8 verify
- 12 marked by harshly abusive condemnation
- 13 having a common boundary or edge
- 14 indisputable
- 16 equality
- 17 reserved
- 21 principled
- 22 serious
- 23 negligent

Possible Answers:

arcane, castigate, censure, circumscribe, conciliatory, contiguous, credible, denounce, exonerate, incontrovertible, indict, litigious, parity, partisan, reclusive, rectitude, relinquish, remiss, renounce, repudiate, reticent, sanctimonious, scrupulous, solicitous, sophistry, staid, substantiate, veracity, vindicate, vituperative

Generals...always!

Melanie Hauser
Vice President

Close your eyes for a minute and imagine the auditorium packed – we’re talking shoulder-to-shoulder students and faculty with people standing in the aisles – and the band is in overdrive. The walls are papered from the floor to the ceiling with posters and the cheerleaders are spinning and flipping and jumping across the stage.

And, when you least expect it, two of the most popular teachers in the school walk onto the stage in costume and do a hysterical skit. Or a half-dozen football players dressed like cheerleaders build a pyramid. Or, one year when Lamar stole Lee’s mascot, a student dressed like a general – brandishing a sword – rolled out onto the stage on a skateboard.

Welcome to Generals’ spirit, back in the day.

If it was October, Halloween wasn’t on your mind. The Lamar game was. No season was complete without a win over our then arch-rival. The game almost always coincided with Halloween weekend and it usually alternated as homecoming for either Lee or Lamar.

The Lamar pep rallies were the best of the year. And on the night before the big game, students from both schools gathered on Tanglewood Boulevard for another “unofficial” rally of sorts where there was a lot of bragging from both sides.

You didn’t miss the Lamar game and, well, back in the 60s and 70s, Lee almost always won. The spirit committee painted tons of posters –

including a huge one the players ran through – and made unique paper tags for players to wear and baked cupcakes and handed them out to the team at lunch. The cheerleaders sold spirit ribbons and, as part of the tradition, the seniors wore theirs upside down. And the Traveler put out the “Beat the L out of Lamar” issue.

Students, parents, and faculty packed the Lee side every game, but everything was taken up a notch during Lamar week or playoff games with “Beat Lamar (or whoever)” signs taped to all the lockers in the building, spirit signs taped to the walls and students filling grey and gold balloons with helium for the game.

You came early to the game and stayed late. And you always lost your voice.

Why Lamar? When Lee was opened in 1962, it drew from Lamar and a natural rivalry began. When Lamar sputtered, Sharpstown, then Memorial stepped up as the big rivals.

No matter who the team was playing, Lee spirit was contagious. You had it even before you walked the halls as a student because your brother or sister or neighbors were already there. Only two juniors were tabbed to be on the Spirit Committee and their job the following year was to lead the group to take spirit up yet another notch. How do I know? I was one of those juniors and then Spirit Committee Chairman in 1970-71. And yes, I still have those spirit ribbons.

Generals always !!

Melanie Hauser, ‘71



Lee lunches served fresh, or are they?

Nisa Adnani and Brenda Zuniga

Opinion Writers

Substitute teacher, Ms. Cameron, has eaten the lunch catered at Lee High School. She has stated that it seems like students are not appreciative of the food provided here. She has also stated that it seems that kids who do get the lunch, don’t touch a bit of it.

Are the students ungrateful? Or are the school lunches themselves to blame? In an interview Cameron told The Traveler, “It isn’t the staff who decide what you guys eat, it’s the School Board who decides what you kids get for Breakfast and Lunch.”

Cameron has stated that the school lunch comes prepackaged and frozen. The Lee cafeteria staff do not add anything to the food. She said that the district makes about 22-24,000 lunches a day to send to the schools.

“They do a pretty hard job for the students to have at least something to eat,” Cameron said.

Apart from what Cameron has said, there

is a lack of variety and other concerns about the lunch that the students are served. Here at Lee High School, lunches are as follows:

The first line serves nachos with ground beef only, served with a side of jalapenos or hot pepper sauce.

The second line provides chicken, or hamburgers only, and that line is almost always the one that is the longest.

The third and final line is the only one that adds some sort of variety to the school lunch; grilled teriyaki, nacho bowls, pizza and quesadillas are some of the options that this line provides.

All of the lines provide the students with their choice of milk, orange juice, water, one vegetable tray and one fruit. The students are required to take at least 5 items of the lines and one of the items must be a vegetable tray.

The students get the same food every day,

but they choose which line to wait in.

Ms. Wilson, head of the breakfast and lunch served here at Lee High School, has stated that “the food is fresh” and that the cafeteria workers do prepare “only some” of the food.

The school breakfast and lunches are not produced here, and they are not made here. They are brought here.

“The food comes from the production facility located in Bennington,” Wilson said. “We cook some [food] and we heat up some.”

Which foods are cooked and which foods are heated?

“We cook the vegetables, and we heat up meats...well only some meats,” Wilson said but did not specify which meats.

None of the vegetables are actually cut up on a cutting board to later be put into a pot to cook- “some are frozen and some are

canned.”

“The milk comes from Oak Farms, the juice comes from the warehouse,” Wilson said.

Wilson persisted that “everything is fresh. All items have expirations dates.”

And the leftover food?

Looking around and humming Wilson replied, “we do [have left over food]...but we throw it away.”

None of the food that is left over is donated, it is “not part of the state guidelines” and “we can’t do that,” according to Wilson.

We understand that in a school with more than one thousand hungry students, our school lunches were not meant to be five star cuisines, and we are all grateful to at least have a free lunch and breakfast program.

Whether we love the food or hate it, Lee High School students will not go hungry Monday through Friday.

Uniforms bring respect to Lee

Oscar Renteria

Opinion Writer

Should a school have uniforms? For some time now, people have asked that same question and it has become quite the controversy.

Lee High School Generals use uniforms, but not everyone is approving of such a decision. Uniforms were introduced to Lee High School to stop all of the gang manifestations in the school’s vicinity. The fact is that there has been an improvement in juvenile delinquents’ behavior.

Teachers feel the uniforms are a great benefit for the school.

Substitute Ms. Cameron sees a lot of different schools. She said that these uniforms help distinguish student grade levels and where they belong.

CATE Teacher Gaylyn Smith said they cut down or diminish peer pressure in the school.

Some LHS students also think these uniforms are helpful.

Some sophomores agreed that uniforms can determine what school you are from.

Another sophomore said that these uniforms set a sense of order for the school. I asked the sophomores if they thought their behavior was affected by these uniforms and one said that they may get aggravated at the

fact that they need to buy a shirt every year and the other said their behavior improves because these uniforms remind them of their school rules.

Students agreed to the school uniforms but they want more to it.

I interviewed several students of all grade levels, as well as teachers, about the uniform colors. They all came up with a very similar idea that these colors were dull and were not very aesthetically pleasing. They also agreed that there should be a variety of colors for each grade level rather than just one.

Despite the complaints about wearing uniforms, they really can make a difference in the behavior and organization of Lee High School.

A couple of other news writers and I interviewed freshmen and sophomores on whether these uniforms should be kept or removed.

All of these students said they should be kept because they helped maintain a sense of order.

The uniforms demonstrate respect for Lee High School, save money from buying multiple complete outfits, and without these uniforms, the students will break the rules.

How to take advantage of SWAT

Ixchel Perez

Opinion Writer

Study hall, tutorials, leisure time, and extracurricular activities are the benefits that SWAT has to offer.

Since Lee High School doesn’t offer study hall, SWAT has been able to help those students who don’t have a lot of time to complete their homework.

Many students are busy after school with a side job, sports, or extracurricular activities.

As an AP student, intern at the Houston Chronicle, captain of the JV volleyball team, captain of the varsity wrestling team, member of many clubs such as: yearbook, UIL, newspaper, broadcast journalism, and a side job, SWAT is beneficial to make up for all the things that are hard to get done in a very tight schedule.

Many students also take advantage of this opportunity as well. Junior Jordan Jones said he believes that SWAT is very helpful because this will help students pass the STAAR test.

“SWAT gives me the time to learn more about history. This is helping me a lot for the upcoming social studies STAAR test,” He said. “If we would have had SWAT my freshman year I would have never failed my

writing STAAR test.”

Junior Chris Bonilla also agrees with the idea of having extra time during school to learn more.

“I like SWAT because I get to learn more about social studies,” he said

On the other hand some students believe SWAT is a waste of time and that it is just consuming time that could be used in other important courses.

Senior Chris LeBlanc thinks SWAT is a pointless system.

“This is a waste of our time because seniors are not taking the STAAR test this year,” he said. “I don’t do anything in there, it’s boring.”

Others say that this is messing up their schedules. Sophomore Azzam Wachaa says he disagrees because this system is very confusing.

“SWAT is really confusing and is really wasting our time because every week you don’t know where we have SWAT or what lunch you have because it changes up every day,” Wachaa said.

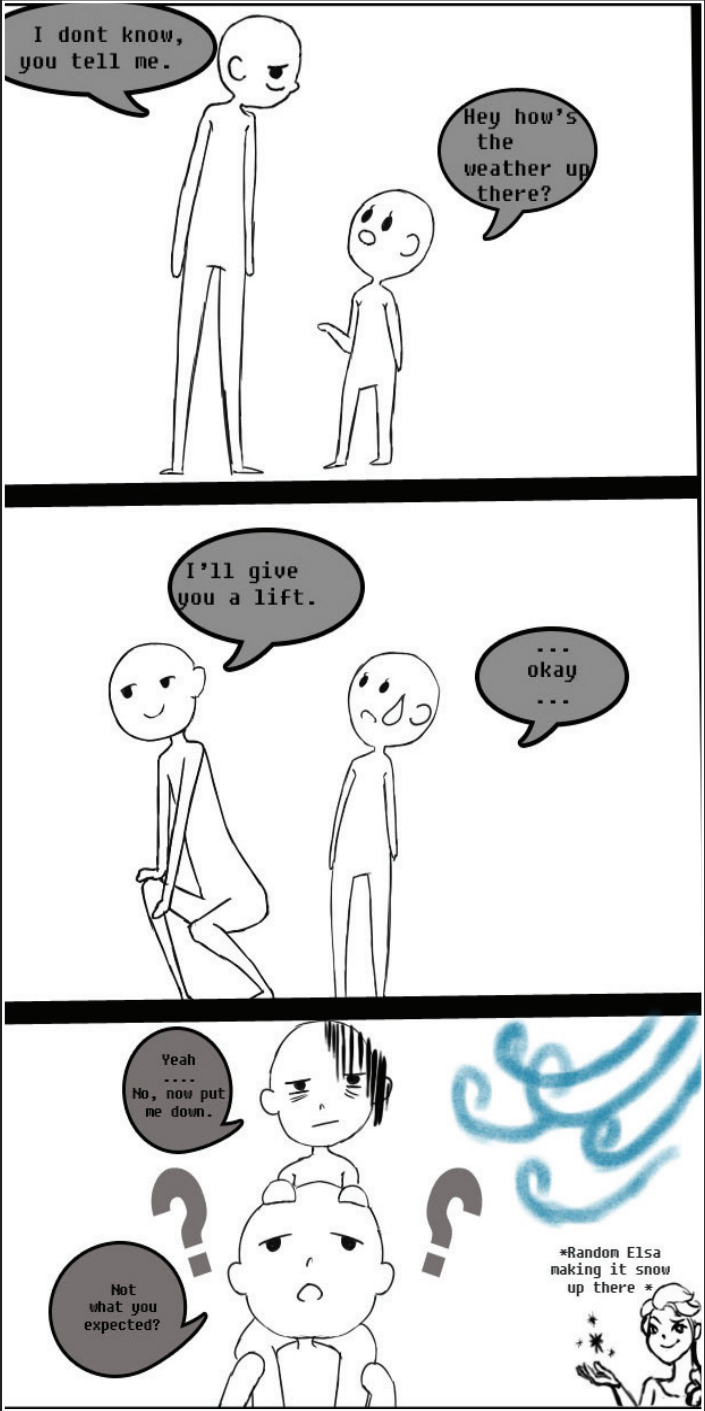
How productive students are in SWAT all depends on how each individual takes advantage of this useful time.

Fun Facts

Ixchel Perez
Opinion Writer

- 1.Coca Cola was originally green.
- 2.40% of McDonald’s profits come from the sales of Happy Meals.
- 3.Every person has a unique tongue print.
- 4.The most common name in the world is Mohammed.
- 5.More people are killed annually by donkeys than die in air crashes.
- 6.Certain frogs can be frozen solid, then thawed, and survive.
- 7.Cat’s urine glows under a black light.
- 8.A shark can detect one part of blood in 100 million parts of water.
- 9.A rat can last longer without water than a camel.
- 10.The cruise liner Queen Elizabeth II, moves only six inches for each gallon of fuel that it burns.
- 11.A Saudi Arabian woman can get a divorce if her husband doesn’t give her coffee.
- 12.The dot over the letter ‘i’ is called a tittle.
- 13.The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.
- 14.Your stomach has to produce a new layer of mucus every two weeks otherwise it will digest itself
- 15.Humans are the only primates that don’t have pigment in the palms of their hands.
- 16.Most lipstick contains fish scales.
- 17.Donald Duck comics were banned from Finland because he doesn’t wear trousers.
- 18.It’s possible to lead a cow upstairs...but not downstairs.
- 19.Dogs have four toes on their hind feet, and five on their front feet.
- 20.A cockroach will live nine days without it’s head, before it starves to death.
- 21.The ant can lift 50 times its own weight, can pull 30 times its own weight and always falls over on its right side when intoxicated.
- 22.Butterflies taste with their feet.
- 23.The longest recorded flight of a chicken is thirteen seconds.
- 24.Elephants are the only mammals that can’t jump.
- 25.A duck’s quack doesn’t echo, and no one knows why.
- 26.Starfish don’t have brains.
- 27.The only 15 letter word that can be spelled without repeating a letter is “uncopyrightable”
- 28.Polar bears are left handed.
- 29.No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, and purple.
- 30.“I am” is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.

Comic



Comic Created by Jackie Correa

Halloween Costume



Comic Created by Jordyn Lewis



PHOTOS TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUN

Juniors run for homecoming court at the big Lee High School football game against Sharpstown High School October 3, 2014. Both female candidates ran for princess.

Meet the Staff of *The Traveler*



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PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUM

The Lee High School cheerleaders show their spirit and lead others to be spirited as well at the football pep rallies. Go Generals Go!



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCLIN KAMDOUM

Sophomores Cesar Diaz and Paloma Mendez won the homecoming vote for their class at the football game against Sharpstown High School.



PHOTO TAKEN BY KIMBERLY BENITEZ

Ms. Marla Morrow wears her Texans jersey to show her school spirit on Texans v. Cowboys day.



PHOTO TAKEN BY KIMBERLY BENITEZ

Ms. Tamika Hubbard spreads the school spirit to her students as she celebrates Lee's spirit week.



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUM

Seniors gather at the annual college fair to scout colleges and show their support for the homecoming candidates during Lee's spirit week.



PHOTO TAKEN BY ELIZABETH BISHOP

Ms. Shannon Forssman and her students dress up and show their pride by wearing Texans gear on the Monday of spirit week.

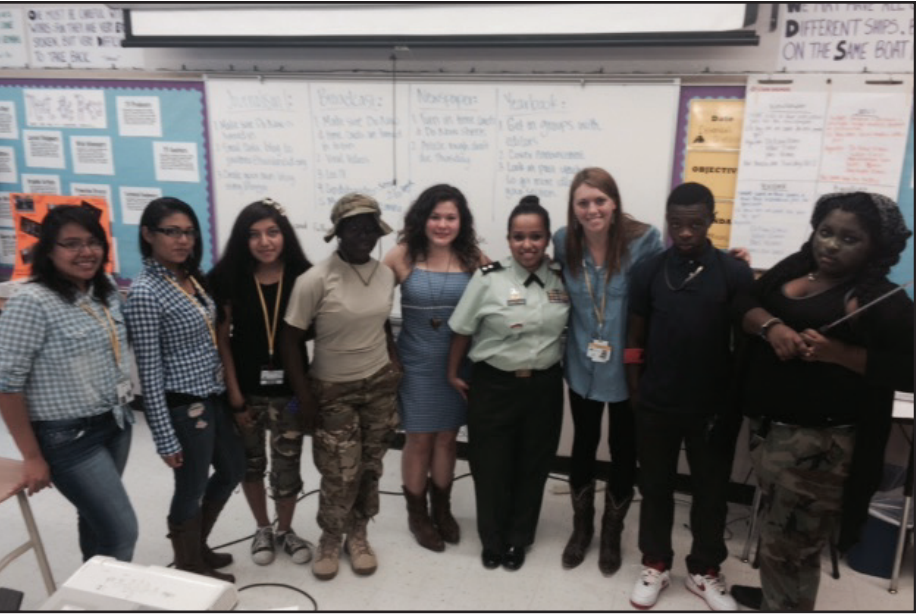


PHOTO TAKEN BY GUSTAVO MACOCO

Ms. Jenni Wiener and her broadcasting class show their Lee spirit by dressing up for the western v. camo theme on Tuesday of spirit week.



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUM

Juniors Journey Waddell and Andrea Beranza Herrera run for homecoming prince and princess.



PHOTO TAKEN BY KIMBERLY BENITEZ

Students show their excitement for the homecoming football game by dressing up to show their support.