

Why College is Important to Me

by Lexi Weihe

My wise grandfather once told me a simple, yet beautiful quote by George Bernard Shaw, a famous Irish playwright, "Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself."

Creating myself, that is exactly what I want to do throughout my college career, whether it be through the good or bad of academics, activities, friends and family. Creating yourself is comparable to the simile, life is like a staircase, which involves ups and downs. A staircase also comprises one to take steps in order to achieve a goal no matter what the outcome might be.

When we go off to our first day of school we take a step of faith onto the bus; when we go to middle school and high school we take a step into a new and unfamiliar building; and when we go to college we do the same. My life has been blessed with assistance in taking those necessary steps. Whether it be my parents, teachers, coaches or peers, they have all taught me many lessons that have guided me up my staircase. My dominant goal in life is to create the best person out of me, for myself and others around me. I want to be an influential leader that makes a difference and supports others to climb their own, personal staircase. But for me to be able to do this I must make my own, personal staircase first.

While I was building another step a ten year old boy that I coach in lacrosse once asked me, "Lexi, why are you going to college?" At that time I honestly did not know how to reply to his question, college was just the "thing" to do after high school to achieve the "American dream." But this quote by Shaw made me realize why I am going to college and why it is so important to me. I am going to the college of my dreams so I can create myself and in the long run, help others create themselves too.

By being a lacrosse captain, a member of NHS (National Honor Society), as well as teaching youth the sport of lacrosse, I have been blessed with the opportunity to have started helping others early on. I get to see my players and teammates develop and progress. I can also encourage those

younger than myself to partake in NHS because it is a boundless opportunity that will help them prepare for the future.

Although I have made a head start on supporting people hike their staircase, I know that there will be many more steps in my future to help me achieve my ultimate goals and I will be climbing that staircase to reach them. I believe that Shaw's quote should apply to everyone, we should all create ourselves and build our own staircase no matter how bumpy or jagged it may turn out to be. It is the only way to learn who you truly are in life.