



## Jean Logan: “Always Believe in Yourself.”

Jean Logan first came to Lincoln College Normal in 1994 to obtain her associate’s degree, a goal she attained in 1997, graduating with honors. Since that time, illness, the death of her mom, and a car accident kept her from continuing with her education for several years. In May, however, with many a life and academic struggle behind her, Jean will graduate once again with honors, this time with a bachelor’s degree in General Studies.

In pursuing her academic goals, Jean struggled with several serious life issues, one of them being her own confidence in her ability to succeed. She comments, “Anyone can take a *hand-out*; what I needed was a *hand up*, and I found one in Kathy Mountjoy who was the dean at LCN when I first started here. Any time I felt I couldn’t continue, I would talk to her. She always encouraged me to stay in

college. She believed in me.”

Winning the 2000 Bloomington-Normal Soroptimist Club Women’s Opportunity Award also bolstered Jean’s confidence. Her status as the primary provider for her three children – Stephen, Stephanie, and Chelsie – and her enrollment at LCN granted her eligibility for the award. Her outstanding college record to date made her a winner.

Jean also attributes her success in college to visiting the Learning Resource Center, a practice she strongly recommends to her fellow students: “You have to make time for your studies daily, not right before the test.” Tutor Anne McCowen can attest to the time Jean spends in the LRC: “Jean spends hours each week, reading and working problems to understand the concepts in statistics, and her questions are well-thought out. With her smile and her get-down-to-work attitude, Jean is a pleasure to tutor.”

In addition to statistics, when asked which other classes proved especially challenging, Jean replied “all of them” but, most noteworthy, this semester’s art class with Melanie Scott-Dockery provided students with numerous opportunities for critical thinking: “I know nothing about art, but I try to remain open to it. One thing I like about the class is that the instructor really makes us think. She asks for our reactions to various works and to think about why we have those reactions.”

Jean also enjoys the challenge of Mrs. Mary Adams’ Professional Writing Class: “Mrs. Adams told us she didn’t want us to be perfect, but she did want our writing to be perfect. She’s not a pushover, and I enjoy her style of teaching – down-to-earth but professional.”

In addition to her dedication to her academics, Jean attends Judah International Ministries in Mackinaw and volunteers at MECA, a private academy for students in preschool through eighth grade. She also loves to cook and loves to read.

Jean’s future dreams include everything from a Master’s degree in divinity or counseling to opening a facility for women coming out of prison to starting a restaurant. Wherever she ends up and whatever she ends up doing, she keeps this sentiment in mind: “Speak positive. Think positive. And always believe in yourself.”

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