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Writing Seminar

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### Leader In Me

In my life, there's been very few times where I've actually had to step up to become a leader. I've never been the type of person to run away from becoming someone greater, but I also know that I tend to do the bare minimum at times. I believe that being a leader is one of the most respectful positions anyone can have, because not only do they have to prove to themselves that they're capable of leading others, but they have to get the respect from others that'll listen to them.

I believe that there's one time in my life where I truly had to step up. It was senior year of high school, and I was a lacrosse player. Now before becoming a senior I was never the captain, for there were always upper grades men that were captains. now, since I was a senior, though this meant that there was a captain position to be filled, and I was selected for it. I had the most experience on the team, but still, I didn't consider myself the best player just because not that I was humble , it's just I know I can be quite lazy at times. It was easy being the captain, for everyone looked up to me for like plays, and what position they had to be, or if I saw that they needed some motivation I'll speak to them in our huddles.

As the captain, my responsibility was to lead the team. That's from my coach's perspective, just because he thought that I was the heart of the team. There's one game that truly stands out to me. This game was very important for all of us, for it was a home game. Meaning

we had our fans there to support us. One of the worst feelings is having people go out and support you and you bring back a loss. This game, though, was very important for most of us since it was a home game. We had our fans, and it was also the decision if we would make playoffs or not.

Fast forwarding, it was the fourth quarter of the game and two of my teammates who are part of my attack got into an altercation with each other, which resulted in the team falling apart. This was embarrassing because they made a scene but also because we had a game to finish and the score was tied. I saw it all go down so it has a quick reaction. I called a time out. I let the team come to a huddle and told one of my other captains to speak with the whole team while I spoke with my two attack players who had it out for each other.

While speaking with them, I basically told them that I saw them as more than just teammates. I saw them not as friends either, more as a family and that's why I hated to see them argue during the game, especially one of the most important games of our season. They are both very talented and they need to work together as a team. I basically explain to them that they shouldn't be arguing and that we need to come back together not just as a team but as a family this is one of the hardest things that I've had to do personally in my life just because I had to stand up to my friends and tell them that they can't be doing this anymore especially during the most stressful time because of how close of game it is. At that moment I thought of my parents for they always tell me this quote by John Maxwell that states, "The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails." -John Maxwell. As the leader of the team, I had to adjust the sails and bring our family back together and so by the time it was time to break all of us came together as a family to break it down.

As a result our team became a full functioning family rather than just teammates with about a minute left in the game we were stronger than ever. For I gave them the motivation the team needed to go out and finish the game. For the last play of the game. My leader, who is my coach, told me to run the ball through me to get the game done and so I listened in with the final minute of the game I was able to score and we were headed to the playoffs.

A good leader isn't someone who just leads but someone who also listens and this connects back to the scientific attitude qualities that were discussed in the book. As a captain I had to listen to my teammates and make sure we were functioning as a family. I didn't just lead them with my own actions and thoughts but I had to listen to everyone on the team for everyone had a say especially when it came down to what play to run. I learned from this experience that I have to have a leader mindset but always take a step back and listen to what others around me are saying and as well as doing.

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## Bibliography

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