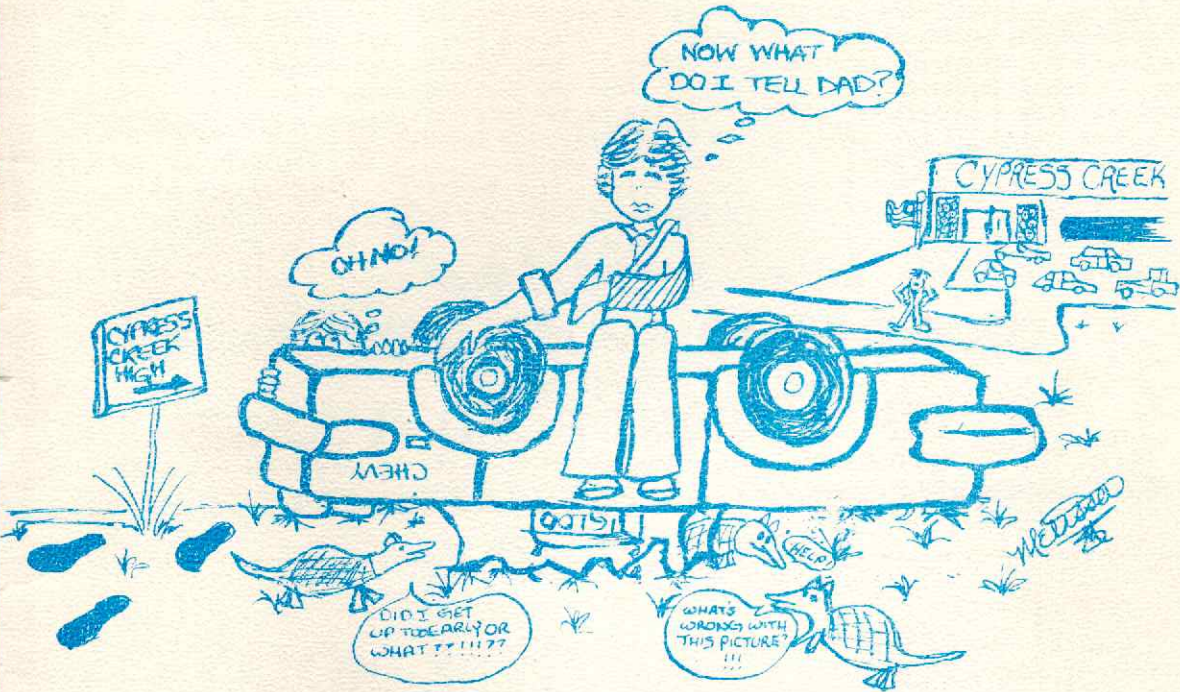


THE COUGAR CONNECTION

Cypress Creek High School

January 28, 1982

Volume V No. 6



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By Libby Averyt

A yearly disease has struck the halls of Cypress Creek. Its victims are seniors and it hits hard right after the first of the year. No, it's not the flu, hepatitis, or even mono. It's that contagious sickness known as . . . SENIORITIS.

Senioritis spreads quickly, leaving uncaring, mindless zombies behind. No one has discovered the cause of this dread disease; maybe it has something to do with the cafeteria food seniors have eaten for 12 long years. Who knows? But its results are deadly. It turns its victims into rebel-

lious students. Common symptoms are:

1. Failure to do homework
2. Inattention at class
3. Smart-alec remarks
4. Often counts days until graduation

Along with these symptoms senioritis patients are often heard saying, "I don't care," "Get me out of here," "This is so stupid," and "I'm not learning a thing." These people feel as if they are wasting time. They are ready to carry on with the future, and leave high-school life behind.

Administrators have fought this disease for many years,

but have been unsuccessful in their attempts. What's the cure? There is only one: Graduation. After May 29th, the seniors face the world they've waited so eagerly to confront. They experience problems they never dreamed possible, and they are finally out on their own. They discover the world of bills, money problems, and self-discipline. Hmmm . . . maybe being a senior isn't that bad.

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The Cougar Connection is a bimonthly production by Journalism III lab of Cypress Creek High School.

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We reserve the right to withhold any material that may be libelous or harmful to any individual or organization.

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AS THE CREEK CHURNS

by Libby Averyt

A continuing saga of the trials and tribulations of the average Creeker

Recovering from the holiday season, Suzy finds she has extra time on her hands and decides to join the newspaper staff. Eager to make a good impression, Suzy researches and works hard on her first article. She turns her finished copy into Mrs. Denver and is surprised to hear her say, "I'm sorry, Suzy, but we can't print this. Words such as S-E-X, D-R-U-G-S, and A-L-C-O-H-O-L are not allowed. You'll have to write something less severe."

A discouraged Suzy returns to her typewriter to try again. After trying to come up with a half-way decent article Suzy hands in her second attempt.

"Nope," says Mrs. Denver, "Words such as P-R-O-B-L-E-M-S C-H-A-N-G-E-S, and A-D-M-I-N-I-S-T-R-A-T-I-O-N can't be used. Never portray anything as negative or unfavorable. We must only show the good side of the news. If we print bad things we might get too many phone calls from parents,

and we wouldn't want that would we?"

"But," says Suzy, "the 1st amendment says . . ."

"It doesn't matter what the 1st amendment says," said Mrs. Denver. "We have strict instructions to only use words such as F-A-N-T-A-S-T-I-C, F-A-B-U-L-O-U-S, and F-O-O-T-B-A-L-L. We must be certain not to offend anyone."

Walking back to her typewriter Suzy muttered, "I guess that means we must be certain not to help anyone, either."

JACK FROST BITES HOUSTON

As the temperatures dropped drastically in mid-January an unusual sight was seen by native Houstonians. Some people weren't even sure what it was, but after listening to their trusty weatherman they discovered, "Yes, it snowed in Houston."

When this miraculous event occurred, it's effects

were very interesting. Many credit cards were broken while trying to scrape ice off of windshields, while the Yankees with their super-duper ice-scrapers looked on, unsympathetically. There was plenty of slipping and sliding while unexperienced drivers tackled the icy roads. Even words such as "storm" and "blizzard" were

used to describe the oversized sleet.

Kids made snowballs of half snow-half grass, while mothers made hot chocolate and hot soup. It may be another ten years before it snows in Houston again but January 13 will long be remembered as the mercury rises back up into the 80's.

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ALIEN ATTACK?

By Salley Coleman

People madly dashing about in odd costumes yelling "Here they come! Quick, get ready! Turn off the lights!" Marked the last day of school before Christmas vacation. A bizarre suprise party? A raid of glow-in-the-dark aliens? Hardly. No, it was just the arrival of the judges in the room and door decoration competition.

The rooms and doors were amazing this year. The variety craftsmanship and originality was far better than ever before. Among the rooms, there was a Devo Christmas, Christmas in the Sky, a disco Christmas; an outstanding display of Christmas then and now which reflected the spirit of Christmas and how it has changed throughout the years, and children on lab tables on the "Night Before Christmas." There were many "location" Christmas such as Christmas in Texas, a Camelot Christmas and a Grecian Christmas. Trees, snowhills, foil-wrapped desks and Snoopy (Joe Cool) were in abundance.

The winners of the room and door contest are as follows:

- BEST SUBJECT
B206 Latin Schreve
- BEST OVERALL
B210 Study Skills McCrady
- BEST THEME
B100 Freshman English Kruger
- BEST DOOR
B213 Math Arisco
- MOST ORIGINAL
Cosmetology
- MOST TOYS
McCrady

The judges consisted of Mrs. Coopers' first period Art III and IV class.

The winners of the Best Overall and the judges were later treated to a donut party by the Student Council.

Sakowitz Provides Clothes

SPRING FASHION PREVIEW

By Melissa Daniels

Are you freezing cold, huddled up by the fireplace, dreaming of a nice hot beach to lay on? Do you anxiously await spring? Are you sick of school, sleet, and semester exams? If this is you, come to the auditorium 2nd period February 4th to watch the Home-making classes put on a spring fashion show.

Wearing spring clothes from Sakowitz, Steve Perry, Jimmy Foster, and Mike Hamilton will be a few of the six male models, with the rest of them and the six female models undecided as of yet. Twenty to 25 outfits will be displayed, and the show will be emceed by Forrest Thompson and Randy Melton. A slide show about what goes on in Home Ec. will also be going on between fashions.

All this is in honor of National Vocational Education Week, which is February 8th through the 13th. The students participating in the show are all in different Home Ec. classes. Anyone who wants to be a model, and is in a Home Ec. class should see Mrs. Knight about working in the show.

DON'T MISS NEXT ISSUE

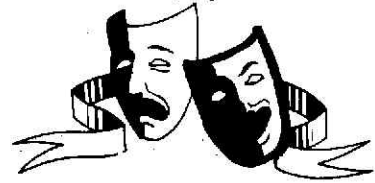
TOM GARRITY TALKS TRIVIA



"THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER"

Cypress Creek's Drama Department presented this year's first play on December 10th and 11th. The comedy "The Man Who Came to Dinner" was directed by Cynthia Potter.

Carl Siebert played the leading roll in the play. Seniors Brenda Tharp and Scarlett Huntman played the leading female rolls. Those involved in the production of "The Man Who Came to Dinner" would like to extend their appreciation to all who supported them and attended the play.



Students Succeed In

BAND DISTRICT TRY-OUTS

December 12, 1981 was a very important date for several band students. It was the date of District Band Auditions. Several students were successful. Students making District Band include: Betsy Schauer-flute; Katey Lent-oboe; John Knight-alto sax; Mike Forsythe tenor sax; Rick Stout-trombone; Karen Klien-baritone. Students who were ranked high enough to accomplish Region were: Betsy Schauer, Rick Stout, and Karen Klien. They participated in a concert Jan. 9 following 2 days of clinic. Betsy and Karen were cliniced in the Concert Band, and Rick with the Symphonic. Due to his extremely high placement, Rick will be eligible for Area Try-outs on Jan. 17. This contest is also to qualify for All-State Band.

Exemption policy in effect for this semester

With semester finals over, most students are looking forward to still another grueling series of exams in May, except of course, for those Seniors gaining exemptions.

Established as an incentive for Seniors to attend school during the last semester this district allows Seniors, who are exempt, to miss school during exam days or only spend partial days at school. Even though a more complete explanation of this policy will be distributed to all Seniors, during their English or Government classes, a brief description is as follows.

Going into effect Monday,

January 18, 1982, the Senior exemption policy entails that eligibility be independently established for each course. Exemptions are directly related to the number of absences vs. grade averages. For example, a person with an A average is allowed no more than eight absences during the second semester, B average no more than six, C average no more than four and D average no more than two. Students who are failing will be required to take exams. Furthermore, grade averages will be based upon grade averages for the fifth six weeks and accumulative grades prior to exams.

By Carol Montgomery

Only official school field trips will not be counted as absences. However, absences due to a student's hospitalization, with a note from a doctor, will be taken into consideration by the Principal. It must also be emphasized that three tardys are equal to one absence.

Other conditions for exemption are that only students qualified for participation in graduation may be exempt and final approval by the Principal. Although, any students may take an exam even if they do have an exemption.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BLUES

By Melissa Daniels

So, it's that time again. Wednesday night and nothing to do. Hill Street Blues won't be on until tomorrow night, and your homework is too boring to look at. What will you do? Wait--there is hope! Wednesday night, February 17th, the Cy-Fair School District will hold its annual Science Fair here at Cypress Creek.

It will be a show not to miss for all you future engineers and scientists. All the

secondary schools in the Cy-Fair District are invited, and your attendance will be welcome. After all, you can't party on a Wednesday night, because you have to go to school Thursday morning.

Entries who place in the districts' Science Fair will be invited to compete in the Houston Science and Engineering Fair at the Astrodome in March. There, students have a chance to win money, scholar-

ships, and special awards.

So, if you've decided to enter, or just want to attend, we have good news--it's free! But, all projects are due for screening February 3rd, since Cy-Creek is not having its usual school Science Fair. The District Science Fair is an event not to miss--it's educational, it's on a Wednesday night, and it's free! Don't miss it!

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RECKLESS DRIVING



Automobile accidents occur frequently among young drivers. They are a big problem not only in the nation and in the Houston area, but in the Cypress Creek area, also. Many students from our high school drive cars that can accelerate far beyond the speed limit. These cars combined with circumstances such as bad weather or driving under the influence of alcohol can have deadly results.

EX-STUDENT

LUCKY TO BE ALIVE

Car wrecks can happen to anyone, as 1980 Cy-Creek graduate, Jimmy Marsh, found out. At 2:30 a.m. on a very foggy December 22 morning, Jimmy flipped his new 280Z while coming around a curve on Mills Road at the rate of nearly 90 m.p.h. The car began to hydroplane as Jimmy lost control. The car flipped end over end. Jimmy's fiancée was following and took him to the hospital. The car was totaled, but a very lucky Jimmy Marsh walked away with a few cuts, a slight concussion, and slight kidney damage.

"I attribute the entire thing to the grace of God," stated Jimmy. "Many people in my graduating class died from much less."

Although Jimmy was driving very fast, he had not been drinking, as many high school students do. If he had, the results might not have been so good. Jimmy is very cautious while driving now and said, "I would hope that everyone reading this would have more self-esteem and self-worth than I seem to have, and they wouldn't risk everything for some kind of macho-power trip."

In high school Jimmy was a good student who added to the school with his music and with his abilities as editor of the newspaper. A talented Jimmy Marsh can now pursue his career in music, realizing how quick a person can lose everything. Jimmy was one of the fortunate. You might not be so lucky.

RAILROAD CROSSING

WATCH OUT FOR TRAINS

"Metal can be fixed but you can't," says Greg Robinson's father. That's the way most of Cy-Creek's students felt after hearing of Greg's wreck Wednesday, January 20.

While going north on FM 1960 past Willowbrook Mall at 4:30, Greg was listening to his car stereo, nearing the railroad tracks which run across the road. Cars were crossing in front of him, and Greg thought nothing of it as he followed behind. Traveling the speed 11-



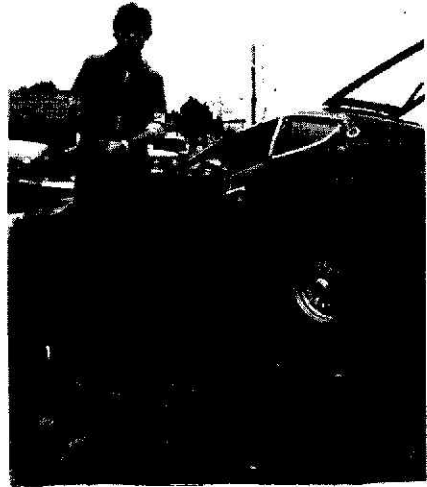
Pictured here is ex-student Jimmy Marsh with what was left of his 280Z. Traffic accidents take a number of lives. Don't let them take yours.

HITS CLOSE TO HOME

mit, 45 miles per hour, Robinson glanced to the left down the tracks, and saw there was no way to avoid colliding with an oncoming train. In a reflex reaction, Robinson slammed on his brakes and began sliding sideways across the tracks into the train. In shock, Greg watched as the speeding engine slammed into the front of his truck and 20 train cars followed suit. Sure either he was dead or his truck was totaled, Greg opened the door and walked out, unhurt, after the train had stopped. Engineers ran down the track and businessmen crowded around to help, but luckily there was only body damage to the truck, and Greg wasn't scratched.

Within minutes, the tow trucks circled around like vultures to take away Greg's truck. One described his truck as totaled, which it was not, and wanted to tow it to his body shop where, as Greg found out, they would have roughed it up more for the insurance company and charged Greg extra.

Finally, Greg saw it towed to Monty Haskins Chevrolet where they will fix it for him and have it back in two weeks, in better shape than before. "Seeing that truck being towed away was the worst moment of my life," Greg said. Thank goodness it was only the truck that had body damage.



SCOTT OVERTURNS TRUCK

Senior, Kevin Scott can also attest to the consequences of reckless driving. On a very cold morning about 9:30 A.M., Kevin was finally arriving at school. After pulling into the grass field next to the parking lot, Kevin began the common practice of doing donuts. "It all happened so fast," Kevin said, "The next thing I knew my truck was upsidedown!" Then Kevin kicked out a window and crawled out of his truck, unhurt except for a bruised arm. He feels lucky that he was not severely hurt. Kevin's accident did not go unnoticed by the school. He will be unable to drive to school for the rest of the year and received four days of D-Hall for truancy. Kevin said that he will probably be more careful from now on and that his accident was pretty scary.



All these stories are only a minute portion of the thousands of wrecks that occur each year. Cy-Creek has their share of accidents, but with the use of your own common sense, we can lower that number.

☆☆ MOVIES MOVIES MOVIES ☆☆

ABSENCE OF MALICE (PG) starring Paul Newman and Sally Fields. With stars like that, only the best can be expected, and once again, the best is given. Fields portrays an ambitious reporter and Newman is a liquor wholesaler who receives bad publicity. As expected, the two become involved, and this interesting story draws to a humorous, but serious end. One of the best movies this season. A definite Academy nominee.

RAGTIME (PG) This adaption of E.L. Doctorow's book of the same title is a controversial script concerning racial discrimination in the 1920's. A seemingly minor, although offensive, "practical joke" leads a relatively affluent black man to fight for his rights. The overall impact of the film is awesome and the acting is above reproach. The film gets a definite five star rating!

NEIGHBORS (R) starring John Belushi and Dan Akroyd. A good laugh is an occasional event in this movie. This movie was unsuccessful not because of the acting but because of the script. Belushi is an average man who is descended upon by some very strange "neighbors." This movie goes on and on--very redundant. But if you are a true Belushi and Akroyd fan-see "Neighbors" and enjoy the few funny one-liners.

GHOST STORY (R) - Definitely not the ordinary horror film. Ghost story does not rely on guts and gore to entertain the audience. It is a very well blended story which sets an eerie mood. This one may not scare you until you try and get to sleep at night.

YOU KNOW THERE'S NOT GOING TO BE A SECOND DATE WHEN...

By Mark, Melissa, and Allyson, with a little help from Phil

she says she can't go out Friday night because her hamster is teething.

as soon as you identify yourself over the phone she bursts into hysterical laughter.

you go to pick her up Saturday night and her family has moved.

he mistakes the dog for you and kisses it goodnight.

the first date is to a strip joint where he claims you should feel "right at home."

he doesn't slow down the car when he takes you home--just opens the door.

he goes out for popcorn during the movie and never comes back.

you call her for a second date and she says her curfew has been changed to 7:30.

the birthday present he gives you he says is "something you really needed" and it's a toothbrush and a bottle of Scope.

he takes you to his house when his parents are out of town, and all you do is watch T.V.



SHAKE IT UP

By Allyson Brass

After the tremendous success of their first album, The Cars have been getting by with the releases of their second and third albums, Candy-O and Panorama. Neither album was as good as the first and seemed to be getting progressively worse until the release of their newest album, Shake It Up. This album follows the basic Cars sound and, like all their music, is easily identified. The only real change is the synthesized new wave sound this album takes on. All of the songs are good but some of the best include, "A Dream Away," "Shake It Up," "Think It Over," and "Victim of Love." This album brings the Cars back to the level they achieved with their first album.

CREEKER RESOLUTIONS '82

by Salley Coleman

Resolutions are a New Year's tradition. Every year around the first of January thousands of articles are printed about what resolutions are, which ones to make, how to make them, and, most common, how to keep them. SO you're tired of resolutions--but keep reading. This set of resolutions is quite unique as it pertains only to:

"The '82 Creekers Resolutions for the rest of the year."

Creekers are a diverse group with a familiar goal-to graduate as soon as humanly possible. So, for resolution number one we have:

1. Achieve passing grades.
For the average female Creeker we suggest:
 1. Fitting into tighter jeans. (This year a size ONE.)
 2. Getting Daddy to buy more Polo shirts than anybody else has.
 3. Learning how to skillfully apply just a few more pounds of pancake makeup to achieve the "natural" look.
 4. Finding a wealthy and (preferably) much older boyfriend.
 5. Looking even more like everybody else in this school.

- For the average male creeker:
1. Figuring out at least six more stories about alcoholic tolerance and how good yours is.
 2. Becoming even more inhuman and obnoxious as only a Creek guy can.
 3. Actually keeping a girlfriend for longer than three days.

4. Getting the "old man" to buy a new car or - at least a really loud car stereo.

For the average Silverado resolutions are easy to make, although a very common problem seems to be "but I just keep forgetting them!" So, here you are, girls:

1. Become a Nobel-Prize winner for successfully relating yourself to a leaking helium balloon.
2. Becoming a double Nobel-Prize winner for discovering the first oral-surgery technique for permanently fixing a smile upon someone's face.

Then we have the infamous Cy-Creek jock, whose complaint is mysteriously similar to the Silverados'..... But, not to worry, boys, we have these simple goals for you:

1. Learn to read before graduation.
2. Learn to write before graduation.
3. Learn to count to ten before graduation.

And then we have the Band resolutions:

1. The drummers to learn that they are part of the band and are not as fabulous as their inflated egos lead them to believe.
2. Our twirler to grow a few inches.
3. Perform more than two different shows during the whole of football season.
4. Devise more ways to cleverly disguise your horn so that no one knows what it is. (As a Lunch-Box, for example)



Just When You Thought You Were Safe...

Yearbook photographers are TWITS!!!

Golfers are better swingers! Love ya Bert!

Flying high with Ozzy O.

ZZ Top RULES!!!

To normal people: Rocky Horror RULES!!

Hey KK! How's Uncle Mickey with big ears?

Whatever happened to Robin and DF?

Hello Marty! I love you!

M.R. loves KC!

MORE MISCLASSIFIEDS

Barb, you're a drag...

Where ya gonna hide it, Allyson?

Renee, you've been BIFFED by the cut-off test

Mike Bohrer is a preppie-L.B.

Can you say Bert? I knew you could!

Hey Defender Man... Watch those baiters!!

Hey Tony, Bert, Laura, and Jerry!

Happy Birthday Beth!!!!

You'd better stick to our deal, Mary!

Girls lead first round of district

Off to their best seasons ever, the girls basketball teams are currently in the lead in district action.

The varsity team has an 11-9 overall record and went 5-3 for the first round of district. The Cougars district losses were to rivals Cy-Fair, Jersey Village and Westfield. Against Westfield, the Cougars played an excellent defensive game, but were defeated by free throws for a final score of 63-54. Leading scorers included Dana Revelle with 12, Susan Serafin 10, Liz Grant 9, Anne Benson and Lenore Gilliam 8, and Devra White 7.

The JV squad is 15-7 for the season, and 6-2 in district. Against Westfield the Cougars were defeated 55-43 with Holly Jones netting 19 pts., Patti Janek 6, and Jenny Ferrara 6.

The freshman won the first round of district with a perfect 6-0 record, and are 16-4 for the season!

SWIMMERS EMBARRASS AREA TEAMS

Keeping themselves known as one of the top teams in the state are the swimmers. Before the Christmas holidays, they competed in the icy watered Holiday TISCA meet with Brad Trotter and Kim Laubach leading the way with outstanding performances.

Clear Creek found out that wading in Cypress "Creek" was too much to handle. The swimmer girls swamped their foes 165-100, as did the boys 171-97. Both boys and girls stand with a 6-1 record.

Cypress Creek took 18 first places out of a possible 22. Winning individual events were David Haynes, Mary Taylor, Phillip Bacon, Raul Sepulveda, Shelli Bohn, David Matl, Sandra Goeking, Mark Eichelberger, Brad Trotter and Beth Landry. Outstanding performances were posted by Charles Blanchard and Shelli Bohn.

All home meets are held at Campbell Jr. High with the last two home meets being against Westfield (Jan. 28) and Westchester (Feb. 10).

Allen and Woops Lead Fish

With combined efforts from freshman Bryan Allen and Scott Woops the Cy-Creek freshman basketball team has compiled a respectable 8-8 record.



Nyla Jacobs Passes off Against Deer Park

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After a slow 3-4 start the Cougars rebounded after capturing first place in the Sam Rayburn tournament. "We worked hard for that tournament" Allen said "We won four straight games."

COOGS RANK 6TH IN HOUSTON

By Mike Gibson

Coach Pasche's Cougars are starting another brilliant season as they are ranked 6th among greater Houston schools and 18th in the state polls.

Starting off the season, the Cougars won the Klein Forest Tournament. Dee Clinch was voted most valuable player and Steve Baker was placed on the All Tournament Team. The Cougars placed third in the Clear Lake Tournament and third in

the Cy-Fair Tournament. Steve Franks and Gary McGuire made the All Tournament Team.

With a 17-4 record the Cougars hosted Westfield to win 76-68 in double overtime. Top scorers were Steve Baker with 22 points, Alex Harris 14 and Craig Britton netted 10.

After a win over Klein last Tuesday, Cypress Creek's tally now stands at 19-4 and 5-0 in first half district play.

SOPH'S SHOW GREAT POTENTIAL

By Phil McDivitt

The upcoming years for Cypress Creek in basketball are very exciting ones. The Sophomore Cougars, 13-1 on the season, are showing great promise for district play this year and for future years..

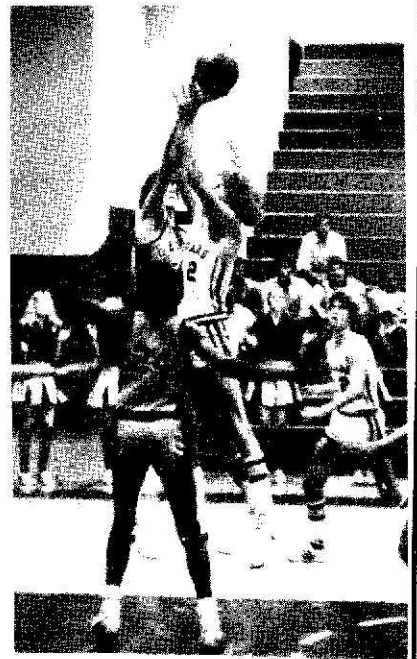
The Cougars, 4-0 in district, are in first place. The outlook for district play is good; the Soph's are a well disciplined team who play hard, tough defense and a deliberate offense. Other than their one

point, double-overtime loss to Dulles, all their other games which they have played, they have won by at least eight points. Most of their wins are by twenty or thirty points.

The strength of the Sophomore Cougars is their good team play and their excellent coaching. Behind Coach Cluley and with the help of Coach Pache and Coach Gordon, the team looks strong. The Sophomores' are well organized on the floor, and seem to know the game plan; a characteristic which some teams of this caliber don't seem to have.

The Cougars, which score sixty to seventy points a game are led by high point men Ray Kim, Jeff Dunbar, and Jay Kregal. One strength of the Cougars is their height, though they need a little more muscle. If they hit the weights and work hard in the off season, they should even be stronger next year. Another advantage of the team is their depth in the back court; the team gets good consistent guard play because of this depth.

Though the team lost two big men from last years freshman team, The Cougs show no weaknesses. The future for Cypress Creek in the upcoming years in round ball, lies in



Gary McGuire Soars Over an Eagle Defender. PHOTO BY ROB BURLEY
the underclassmen; if they perform as well as they are this year, future basketball at Cypress Creek looks good.

JV Takes Second in CyFair Tourney

With the basketball season only a few weeks old, the JV Coogs have gotten off to a great start. Nathan Gordon, 1981-82 coach has helped the Coogs lock up a bunch in the "W" column.

In the Cypress Fairbanks Junior Varsity Basketball tournament before Christmas, the Cougars blew out all opponents and advanced to the championship game only to lose to McCullough. The Coogs have an overall record of 10-6 and a district record of 3-1. This year, great things are expected of the JV as they should finish as the of the top teams in the district.

Next years' team should be even better with returning varsity players Kendall Allen, Gary McGuire and Craig Britton.



Steve Franks Shoots For Two.
PHOTO BY ROB BURLEY



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