

CONNECTION

Cypress Creek High School

9815 Grant Road

Houston, Texas 77070

February 1989

Vol. XII No. 4

The Inaugural Gala

by Jennifer Brooks

Once in a lifetime, a dream comes true. That dream came when my parents and I were invited by Phil Gramm to attend the inauguration of George Bush. Well, this was my chance to see "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous" and, needless to say, I jumped at it.

Never having been to an inauguration, I had no idea what to expect but I had high hopes, and I was in no way disappointed. I left Houston on a plane crowded with judges, lawyers, cowboy hats, and ball gowns.

Inauguration Day dawned bright and cold, so my parents had the bright idea to go early in order to beat the crowds. We reached our destination in front of the Capitol Building about two hours before the actual ceremony. To our surprise, however, we were not the only people with the idea of arriving early; approximately 300,000 other people had beaten us to it.

In the middle of the President's speech, a cold front came through and we were not prepared. Due to the temperature, we decided to go back to watch the parade on television, rather

than freeze on a curb with 500,000 other spectators. I have no reason to regret this because I have heard that some of the watchers had to be checked for frostbite. There is something to be said for making a sacrifice, but a parade is not worth the effort.

That night, we went to one of the 12 inaugural balls taking place throughout Washington. Since I am a "people-watcher," I spent much of the night admir-

ing all the beautiful ball gowns that passed through the doors. I could only imagine the collective value of all those silks, sequins, and satins.

Friday night's ball paled in comparison to Saturday's extravaganza. Saturday night was the "biggie" — the Texas Black Tie and Boots Ball, presented

by the exclusive Texas State Society. The \$50 tickets were the hottest ones in town, and people would pay or do just about anything for them. I heard the scalpers were selling them for \$1000, but I wouldn't have traded mine for the world.

When we first entered the Washington Hilton, we were totally overwhelmed, and that's an understatement. The ballroom was packed with people and no one had enough space to

arrive, so everyone moved a little closer to those doors. I was lucky enough (or pushy enough) to get right up in front.

Sure enough, at 9:30, President Bush showed up with his escort of six secret service men. You can always tell who they are because they had little flesh-colored coils in their ears with wires running inside their suits and their eyes continually scanned the crowd. They were also the first ones who jumped if you said, "Let's get a shot of the President," even if you were only holding a camera.

After a brief introduction, President Bush led the crowd in a stirring rendition of "Texas Our Texas." I had no idea the man could sing and I was pleasantly surprised. Bush concluded by thanking the crowd for their support and assuring them that Texas would never be forgotten. Amid a flurry of waves, shouts, and camera flashes, he and his entourage left.

I left for home Sunday drained but satisfied. I had gotten the chance to see our President being inaugurated and it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I'll never forget.

Admit One

\$50.00 per person

BLACK TIE & BOOTS INAUGURAL BALL

Saturday evening, January 21, 1989
eight o'clock

Washington Hilton Hotel, International Ball Room
Washington, D.C.



move around. Once we had squeezed our way further into the crowd, we found some breathing space.

The whole room was decorated with a "Texas" flavor, from the country music to the delicious barbecue. At 9:00 p.m., rumors were circulating that the President would soon

Silverados salute President Bush

by Tini Tran

Despite the cold weather, 16 Silverados dressed in patriotic red, white, and blue uniforms marched in the Washington parade for President Bush.

"It was really cold when we marched, but it was a lot of fun," senior Amy Hill said.

They were the only Houston drill team chosen to participate in the parade by Dancin' USA, a national drill team organization. The Silverados performed basic hand routines and marched alongside 210 other units. The following girls went to Washington: Leslie Arnold, Joy Bay, Kerin Blair, Lynda

Eland, Lisa Graiff, Gina Griffith, Amy Hill, Donna Kassing, Lisa McKeon, Kim Morris, Candice Ourso, Michelle Pendergraft, Christina Proctor, Lisa Roloff, and Carmen Young.

"It was a wonderful trip for the girls. It gave them the opportunity to perform for the President and heightened their awareness of the country's heritage," dance instructor Sonja Clay said.

Ms. Clay and Principal Joe Shelton accompanied the girls on their trip to Washington. The Silverados were joined by other girls from across Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas.



Silverados Candice Ourso, Donna Kassing, Lisa Graiff, Carmen Young, Lisa Roloff, and Joy Bay pose for a picture during their tour of Washington. Photo by Amy Hill

NEWS

DECA students learn from experience

by Drew Jenkins

It could be because of its location, "way over there in the H-Wing," or it may be because it is a vocational class and mistaken as a "blow-off." Whatever the reason, Cypress Creek's Marketing Education program is one of the most overlooked and underrated organizations in the school, and it is definitely not a "blow-off."

"Marketing Education is also referred to as Cooperative Education, or Co-Op, because local business cooperate with the public school system to provide a practical laboratory for students' learning experience," Marketing Education Coordinator Mr. Jim Kirk said. The program consists of three main parts: classroom instruction, on-the-job training, and DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America).

In the classroom instruction, there are five major units of study. They cover communication, basic math skills, social skills and human relations, economic concepts, and basic marketing concepts.

The on-the-job training is part of the total Marketing Education curriculum. The students are evaluated each six weeks grading period by both Mr. Kirk and the students' managers. The evaluation covers the students' attitude, interest, adaptability, ability to learn, punctuality, attendance, appearance, dependability, initiative, and judgment. The teacher-employer evaluation counts as one-third of the students' grade. In order to be in Marketing Education, all students must have a job. Also, all Marketing Education students have early release. They are dismissed after fourth period in order to have more time to work. The students can work in many different areas. Various retail outlets, insurance companies, banks, real estate companies, advertising services, restaurants, department stores, and travel agencies were some of the fields mentioned by Mr. Kirk.

DECA is the official youth organization of the Marketing Education program. Its purpose is to provide leadership training and professional activities for its members in support of Marketing Education. Competitive events related directly to classroom instruction, activities that carry out public relations, civic involvement, and practice in good citizenship.

"The competitions are one of my favorite parts about DECA," DeCA President, senior Doug Lutz said. Here at Cypress Creek, all 50 Marketing Education students are in DECA, which has proved to be an outstanding program because Cypress Creek DECA members have competed on the national level for the past four years.

This year's national competition will be held in April in Orlando, Florida. There, students from not only the 50 states, but the District of Columbia, Mariana Islands, Canada, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands compete against each other as well. To get that far, however, one must first make it through the area and state competitions.

Many students enrolled in the Marketing Education program plan to go on to college and major in fields such as Marketing, Management, Finance, Hotel-Restaurant Management, Advertising, or others. Mr. Kirk feels that this would be beneficial to his students.

"Marketing is the broadest of all career fields," Mr. Kirk said. "Nationally, one of every three workers is in some phase of marketing. Every community, regardless of its size, has marketing activity and enterprise."

The students involved with Marketing Education and DECA feel that it will be beneficial to them in the near future. "I think that all of the things we learn and experience in class and with DECA will help us with our future plans," senior Terri Laxister said.

Students work hospital routine

by Tim Tran



Brett Swift leads a newborn baby while training in the nursing section. Photo by Tim Tran

Unlike the glamorous hospital life portrayed by afternoon soaps, the thirteen students in Health Occupations have discovered the medical field to be far more down-to-earth and practical.

Three times a week, they board the bus for the half-hour drive to Tomball Hospital, where they get hands-on experience in dealing with medical equipment as well as patients.

Rotating through 17 different lab stations including pharmacy, nursing, pediatrics, sports medicine, intensive care, laboratory, and radiology, the students spend approximately two weeks at each area.

"It gives you a taste of everything. If you're interested in the medical field, it helps you specify your choices," senior Angela Douglas said.

On Mondays and Fridays, they work on medical terminology on an independent study basis because they study in correlation with what they are doing that week.

"The kids get to work one to one with a professional. This course helps them direct and specify their goals," Health Occupations and Health Care Science teacher Mrs. Lois Thompson said.

All of the students in the program show an interest in becoming involved in medicine. "I'd like to be an R.N. (registered nurse) because they're the ones that deal with the patients. This course helps me know what to expect," senior Yvonne Methvin said.

Health Occupations is a two-hour course because the ratio and from Tomball Hospital takes one hour leaving the students one hour of work.

"This is the best class, but it depends on how much you put into it. It's very practical because it lets you see what you're headed for," senior John Haag said.

However, to provide such conditions for their tenants, zoos need proper funding. Though most zoos meet this problem through admissions fees and minimal outside help, some still rely exclusively on public donations and city funding. Until recently, the Houston Zoo was one of the few remaining free zoos in the country.

However, as of January 3, 1989, the zoo began charging fees of \$2.50 for those 1-64, \$2.00 for those over 65, and \$0.50 for children from ages 3-12. These funds will help pay for the renovating and redecorating of the zoo.

By charging admission fees, they make a better place, but at the same time, they're taking away a free public attraction," junior Paul Cook said.

The zoo recently received a \$400,000 face-lift, which was unveiled on January 2. The funding was provided by the Houston Zoological Society. By making the zoo a more attractive place to go to, the admission charges seem only minimal. The funding also made it possible to renovate the reptile house, add modern signage and graphics, redecorate the water food pond, add landscaping and provide new concession stands and information centers.

"The renovations at the zoo give the animals an extra chance to live comfortably in an adaptive, but protected environment," senior Jason Scott said.

Some new attractions that recently opened are the Chinese aquarium and the three California sea lions. The zoo is now home to more than 2,500 animals, representing over 600 different species.

Seeing animals in picture books or plastered on a wall is one thing, but to see and touch them for yourself is quite another. Only \$2.50 seems a small fee to pay for having the opportunity to see those animals that might not survive in the future.

Houston zoo exhibits endangered species

by Juli Komar

Replicas rather than live specimens will be the state of our wildlife in the year 2000. Harsh statistics show that 800 animals are presently on the endangered species list, which continues to grow annually.

Although this may be the case, zoos are helping to preserve animal species through breeding programs and by providing suitable living environments. By breeding like species, zoos raise their animal population and, at the same time, participate in animal conservation.

However, to provide such conditions for their tenants, zoos need proper funding. Though most zoos meet this problem through admissions fees and minimal outside help, some still rely exclusively on public donations and city funding. Until recently, the Houston Zoo was one of the few remaining free zoos in the country.

However, as of January 3, 1989, the zoo began charging fees of \$2.50 for those 1-64, \$2.00 for those over 65, and \$0.50 for children from ages 3-12. These funds will help pay for the renovating and redecorating of the zoo.

By charging admission fees, they make a better place, but at the same time, they're taking away a free public attraction," junior Paul Cook said.

The zoo recently received a \$400,000 face-lift, which was unveiled on January 2. The funding was provided by the Houston Zoological Society. By making the zoo a more attractive place to go to, the admission charges seem only minimal. The funding also made it possible to renovate the reptile house, add modern signage and graphics, redecorate the water food pond, add landscaping and provide new concession stands and information centers.

"The renovations at the zoo give the animals an extra chance to live comfortably in an adaptive, but protected environment," senior Jason Scott said.

Some new attractions that recently opened are the Chinese aquarium and the three California sea lions. The zoo is now home to more than 2,500 animals, representing over 600 different species.

Seeing animals in picture books or plastered on a wall is one thing, but to see and touch them for yourself is quite another. Only \$2.50 seems a small fee to pay for having the opportunity to see those animals that might not survive in the future.

NEWS

Class offers many benefits

by Kathy O'Mara

"Good benefits," "hard work," and "valuable experience," are many of the phrases used by students to describe DECA, one of Cypress Creek's vocational programs currently in its twelfth year. DECA, which stands for Distributive Education Clubs of America, offers students not only a chance to learn about the business world through participating in class work, but an opportunity to receive important on-the-job experience as part of the program.

Senior Dwayne Blanchard, a first year DECA student, said he joined DECA so he could earn some extra money although he admits he also wanted to get out of school early. However, he dismisses the assumption people make that DECA is a "blow-off" class.

"DECA is really great, but if you don't believe me, ask the people you're supposed to, you'll fail," he said.

Early dismissal is one of the many benefits students in DECA enjoy, as well as competitions, participating in the DECA club, and working in the school store. Several students said that having DECA sponsor Mr. James Kirk as their teacher is an added benefit to the program.

"Mr. Kirk puts things in a realistic matter," said senior Gayland Bowling. "He doesn't criticize you, he just points out the areas where you need to improve."

Students must earn a total of 540 hours on the job by the end of the year, and many work up to eight hours a day. None of the students interviewed believed that this interfered with their regular school work. Instead, the DECA motto "Members, members, make money, money, make money" taken seriously by students, Gayland has already surpassed the required amount of hours and expects to accumulate over 700 by the end of the year.

"I work at a car dealership as an executive assistant, and I tell laborers what to do, put protection seals on cars and check the cars in," Gayland said. "I like my job because it has good benefits and pays well."



DECA student Dwayne Blanchard sells candy to a customer while Dwayne Owens looks on.

Other students work at retail shops in the mall, at real estate firms, at grocery stores and fast food restaurants. Some employer benefits are included, and students feel they are grateful. They are quick to point out that DECA has come a long way from the vocational programs their parents know, and it has a lot more to offer.

"DECA has given me a better perspective of the business world, and it's not just a money-making machine," senior Mike Duffy said.

Senior Melody Richardson agrees. "I enjoy the fact that my job and my membership in DECA will look good on a resume. The experience I've gained is much more than the experience my friends who aren't in DECA have," she said. "I can't think of anything I'd change."

"I like my job because it has good benefits and pays well."

"I can't think of anything I'd change."

"I like my job because it has good benefits and pays well."

CONNECTION

Feb. 1989

Feb. 1989

CONNECTION

Page 5

You are cordially invited to
Panache
 Prom Preview 1989
 Saturday, February 11
 Panache Fashion and Hair Salon
 5472 A F.M. 1960 West
 First showing-1:00 p.m.
 Second showing-3:00 p.m.
 580-0066 Door Prizes
 10% discount on orders
 before the style show

\$25,200 PAYS FOR A LOT OF COLLEGE.



Montgomery GI Bill Plus the Army College Fund could be a big help in making your plans. Talk it over with your local Army Recruiter.

Willowbrook Recruiting Station
 17776 FM 149, Suite 30
 Houston, Texas 77064-1003
 (713) 955-7903

ARMY. BE ALL YOU CAN BE.

SPECIAL STUDENT RATE!

\$3.00 session

Super high intensity-20 min.
 regular intensity-30 min.

We want you to look G-O-O-D!



11410 Louetta
 Houston, TX 77055
 (713) 378-8202

Page 4

FEATURES



Pregnant teens find hope in alternatives

by Diana Davis

Theullen girl sat waiting in the cool linoleum, sterile, room. She shed no tears, she had cried one too many times already. She was pregnant and she had to decide what to do.

There are three basic options she is faced with: adoption, abortion, or parenting the child herself.

Adoption agencies can be reached through Planned Parenthood, New Life Children's Services, or the Alternative Education Center at Dean Jun-

ior High.

If you choose to carry your baby to full term there is no need to drop out of school.

"A girl may remain in the school she is already attending, but many choose to continue off campus," district program coordinator Mr. LaCorte said.

The district program is a division of the Special Education department and provides the off-campus continuing education. The days are from 9:30 to 1:30 and teach the four basic subjects: English, math, history and science.

"The number of girls from the Cy-Fair district varies, but presently there are about seven or eight," Mr. LaCorte said.

The girls in this program are in close contact with a school nurse and professional counselor within the district.

"I have enjoyed and feel better about my decision knowing that I picked out the adoptive family, that I am able to spend time with the baby in the hospital, I am able to name the baby, even though the adoptive fam-

ily may change the name, and that I am able to put together a photo album, and make a blanket for the baby." From a letter written by Kelly, age 15, who gave up her baby through New Life Children's Services.

New Life Children's Services also offers education through the twelfth grade. They provide a service the district does not offer: the girls who have no place to go to a place to live.

Abortion services are available at Planned Parenthood and they feel that most of the pregnant, unwed mothers they see

do end up receiving abortions.

Planned Parenthood offers counseling on adoption and information on agencies. They can also put you in touch with services for classes on parenting your child.

Parenting the child is the final option and the one least likely opted for. New Life Children's Services offers the classes for teen mothers on parenting the child yourself.

The only service these organizations do not provide is the decision of what is the best alternative for you.

by Danny Nevres

"Mom, I'm pregnant."

Three small words that mean so much. For Mary, these words were hard to find at age 16.

"I told her (her mother) when I was one and a half months pregnant. She was real understanding and asked what I wanted," Mary recalls. "After a couple of weeks, she was excited. She got over the shock."

Other people weren't so kind in their reactions to Mary's teen pregnancy, and although some of her friends were supportive, Mary found that other adults thought her situation was disgusting.

"I ignored the older people 'cause I knew what was right, and I knew I could handle it. I just kept to myself and ignored everyone," she said.

It was a hard time for Mary, filled with hard decisions.

"I don't believe in abortion, and I couldn't make myself give up my baby," Mary said, explaining her reason for keeping her baby. "So I decided to get married."

Mary also found that times were full of sacrifice.

"I stayed home more by myself because I lost a lot of my friends," she said. "I also lived at home (with her mother) until

my last month so we could save money."

Before, Mary "partied all the time." She even used to pay her mom \$25 a week to let Mary go out when and for how long she wanted to.

"I stayed out all night with my boyfriend, and that's how I got in trouble," she remembers, laughing a little at the thought of her old lifestyle. "But there was no more partyin'. I had less money and more responsibility."

Finally, after taking a leave of absence from Jersey Village, Mary gave birth to her son, now 15 months old.

"My thoughts when I first held my baby were, 'You're so beautiful, and I love you,'" she said.

"I had to mature faster, but it's fun (having kids). I had my party days, but it's over now."

Determined to finish her education, Mary returned to high school the following summer and graduated from Cy-Creek last year.

At the end of her senior year, however, Mary found that once again she was pregnant.

"I could do it over again. I would definitely wait to have children," she said, a little upset by the fact that she could not further her education.

"My husband helps a lot," she explained, but Mary found that with two children at home, she could not continue at school.

"I had started business school," she began, "but with a three week old daughter and a 19 month son, I was making C's in classes I should've been making A's in."

"I'm gonna stay home 'til my baby starts school. I'd want to go to college and really finish my education," she added.

Meanwhile, Mary plans to take a class or two at a community college if she can find the time.

Her new daughter, though, seems to be keeping Mary busy.

"I find her a great pleasure, and I don't know what I'd do without her," she said.

But what would Mary do if her daughter got pregnant as a teenager?

"I'd be real understanding, and I'd support her no matter what she wanted to do. I'd tell her what I'd wish she would do," Mary finished dramatically, her voice suggesting that having a child, even at such a young age, has its rewards.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All names have been changed to protect the identities of the subjects.

Baby brings rebirth to teen's goals

by Danny Nevres

Jane's an outgoing girl. Her burnt, blushed cheeks and model-like features show you immediately that there is something—well, unique about her. She sits Indian style on the floor, quietly smoking a cigarette as her 15 month old daughter climbs in a beanbag in the corner. A thin smile spreads across Jane's face as her child persistently tries to wiggle out of the beanbag. It is an amazingly happy picture of a girl who never seemed to know what happiness was before.

During her early teenage years, Jane was the "partying" type. There were times when Jane was so wasted that she didn't even seem to realize what she was doing—like the time, at age 15, when Jane had sex and got pregnant. From the moment she found out, Jane knew that she had to get an abortion.

"I had no feelings at all about the abortion," Jane recalls, citing drugs as the reason for not really caring. "I never even thought twice about it."

Rehabilitation and relapse soon followed, and before she knew it Jane was back to her old ways. The drugs started again, as did staying out until sunrise. She and her parents could no longer get along, and Jane moved out of the house

and in with the family of a friend. Amid all her troubles, Jane also found it necessary to drop out of Cy-Creek with only four months remaining in her senior year. At the young age of 17, she had left behind her family and her education only to find that she was pregnant again.

"I wrote the father a note, and he wouldn't respond that night when he read it," she said. "We never brought it up or talked about it after that. His mom brought it up, and maybe that's why he rejected it so much."

Virtually alone, Jane decided to go ahead with the pregnancy and have the child.

"I would've had another abortion had I had the money," Jane explained, "but I was living with a friend who had a baby, and seeing how close she was to her child, I kind of dreamed that's how it would be."

Jane soon realized, however, that it wasn't all just a world of pretense as she prepared for the birth of her baby.

"I had to go to the high risk clinic because I had a lot of problems with my blood because of the abortion," she said. "I also had to quit doing drugs and drinking."

Jane, determined to have her baby, also found that dealing

with people's reactions to her pregnancy wasn't always easy. Perhaps more importantly though, Jane's pregnancy marked the beginning of a slow healing process with her parents.

"Surprisingly, they (her parents) were really supportive," she said, lighting another cigarette. "Most of my friends were unsure of whether I'd be able to do it, but they also acted like they were supportive."

Finally, on October 19, 1987, Jane had her child, a healthy eight pound baby girl. Although she thought the worst was over, Jane had no idea of the responsibility that lay ahead.

"The biggest change in my life was having to miss out on everything. You can't go anywhere because it's such a major responsibility," Jane said, pausing to light yet another cigarette. "Instead of going out and buying beer, you have to buy diapers," she continued. "You don't have any money anymore either because you have to pay doctor bills. Babies are always getting sick their first year."

However rough the road has been though, Jane finally appears to be happy with her life. Although she does admit to since resenting her child for interrupting her life, Jane seems

more than enthusiastic when describing her relationship with her daughter now.

"We have a very close, good relationship now," Jane explains, emphasizing the extreme importance she feels in those words. "I still get frustrated though if I'm tired or something and she's got her toys everywhere."

"It is very hard being a single parent though, and I wouldn't recommend it for anybody," Jane continues, hesitantly adding that the father still has never seen his daughter. "You need your parents. Without them, you'll never survive mentally."

All in all though, Jane realizes that she is "very glad now."

The past 15 months have been an enormous growing experience for both Jane and her daughter. Jane has since received her GED from high school and is determined to turn her life around. This month she will begin classes at a travel academy to train to be a reservations agent.

Suddenly, Jane puts out her cigarette and goes to play with her child.

"Baby, give mama kisses," she says.

And her daughter does.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All names have been changed to protect the identities of the subjects.

FEATURES

Down the road of marriage at age 16

by Danny Nevres

"Mom, I'm pregnant."

Three small words that mean so much. For Mary, these words were hard to find at age 16.

"I told her (her mother) when I was one and a half months pregnant. She was real understanding and asked what I wanted," Mary recalls. "After a couple of weeks, she was excited. She got over the shock."

Other people weren't so kind in their reactions to Mary's teen pregnancy, and although some of her friends were supportive, Mary found that other adults thought her situation was disgusting.

"I ignored the older people 'cause I knew what was right, and I knew I could handle it. I just kept to myself and ignored everyone," she said.

It was a hard time for Mary, filled with hard decisions.

"I don't believe in abortion, and I couldn't make myself give up my baby," Mary said, explaining her reason for keeping her baby. "So I decided to get married."

Mary also found that times were full of sacrifice.

"I stayed home more by myself because I lost a lot of my friends," she said. "I also lived at home (with her mother) until

my last month so we could save money."

Before, Mary "partied all the time." She even used to pay her mom \$25 a week to let Mary go out when and for how long she wanted to.

"I stayed out all night with my boyfriend, and that's how I got in trouble," she remembers, laughing a little at the thought of her old lifestyle. "But there was no more partyin'. I had less money and more responsibility."

Finally, after taking a leave of absence from Jersey Village, Mary gave birth to her son, now 15 months old.

"My thoughts when I first held my baby were, 'You're so beautiful, and I love you,'" she said.

"I had to mature faster, but it's fun (having kids). I had my party days, but it's over now."

Determined to finish her education, Mary returned to high school the following summer and graduated from Cy-Creek last year.

At the end of her senior year, however, Mary found that once again she was pregnant.

"I could do it over again. I would definitely wait to have children," she said, a little upset by the fact that she could not further her education.

"My husband helps a lot," she explained, but Mary found that with two children at home, she could not continue at school.

"I had started business school," she began, "but with a three week old daughter and a 19 month son, I was making C's in classes I should've been making A's in."

"I'm gonna stay home 'til my baby starts school. I'd want to go to college and really finish my education," she added.

Meanwhile, Mary plans to take a class or two at a community college if she can find the time.

Her new daughter, though, seems to be keeping Mary busy.

"I find her a great pleasure, and I don't know what I'd do without her," she said.

But what would Mary do if her daughter got pregnant as a teenager?

"I'd be real understanding, and I'd support her no matter what she wanted to do. I'd tell her what I'd wish she would do," Mary finished dramatically, her voice suggesting that having a child, even at such a young age, has its rewards.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All names have been changed to protect the identities of the subjects.

PREGNANT?
Need Counseling with a Heart?
Call 955-1001

New Life
Children's Services

Photo by Jason Francois

ENTERTAINMENT

The best and the worst

A look at the year in rock

By Rick Sweeney

Looking back, 1988 was a good year in music, for both new bands, old bands, and the mainstays, like Van Halen, Huey Lewis and the News, and George Michael. The year also saw Michael Jackson, U2, Bon Jovi follow up their previous smashes with new offerings, and Jackson also took his music on the road in his first, and presumably, his last, solo tour. Five heavy metal bands got together to form the "Monsters of Rock," as they waged destruction across the states. Sting, Bruce Springsteen, Tracy Chapman, and Peter Gabriel played limited dates on their Human Rights Now tour. Journey, Kiss, Fleetwood Mac, REM, ZZ Top, and Dire Straits all put out great hits. Several new bands popped onto the scene last year. Among

the more popular were Guns-N-Roses, whose *Appetite for Destruction* album was actually released in 1987. They gained notoriety this year with such chart-toppers as *Welcome to the Jungle* and *Over Child O' Mine*. Terence Trent D'Arby received critical praise for his debut album *Introducing the Hardline According to Terence Trent D'Arby*. Tracy Chapman and Winger also found success, Chapman topping off the year with six Grammy nominations. Most importantly, the year saw three long-awaited follow-up albums from three of the top artists of the eighties. Michael Jackson followed up the biggest selling album of all time, *Thriller*, with *Bad*, a critical and financial success. U2's part live part tribute album *Rattle and Hum*, brought the group back into the limelight again, and Bon Jovi released *New Jersey*, the follow-up to their very successful *Slippery When Wet*. But now it's time to focus on the individual songs that made up 1988, the best and the worst, according to yours truly. We start with the worst, and when you talk about worst, you talk about George Michael. If the

guy released a song last year, I hated it. To name a few, *Monter, Faith, and Father Figure*. *Fair Car* - Tracy Chapman - a lame and boring offering and after seeing the video, makes me ask the musical question, male or female? *Bad* - Michael Jackson - how many times can you stick the word "bad" into one song? *Don't Be Worry, Be Happy* - Bobby McFerrin - an amazing talent wasted on a lame song. *Never Tear Apart* - INXS - would a "Worst" list be complete without this looser? *Funk #1* by *U2 Starred* - Van Halen - sounds like a Bobby McFerrin song - was this one a mistake that accidentally slipped onto the album? *Love Rites* - Def Leppard - without hesitation, the borriest song of all time. *Naughty Girls* - Samantha Fox - great, another song weighed down with synthesizers to the point of repulsion. *Beth* - Kiss (with Eric Carr) - Peter Cowie's version was much better. Carr's high pitched voice just won't cut it. *Kokomo* - Beach Boys - I wish the oldies would stay that way - old. *Paradise Don't Understand* - DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince - is it me, or does every single rap song sound



like? So much for the negatives. Now let's accentuate the positives with my best of 1988. *Perfect World* - Huey Lewis and the News - these guys never fail to release at least one good song off of every album. The usual sound of the band is enhanced with a great horn section, giving the song a R&B sound. *Source of Infection* - Van Halen - it's Eddie's riddim'ed lone act of with no less than three guitar solos. *Four Some Sugar on Me* - Def Leppard - OK, you're back of it, but remember back to the first time you heard it. *Waiting My Time* - Jimmy Page - Page returns, but he doesn't sing. Come to think of it, neither

Photo by Jason Francisco
does Robert Plant, but it's still a great song. *Mannequin* - AC/DC - I never really liked this group until I heard this song, but I can't guarantee this mellow song will stay you. *Powerful Stuff* - Fabulous Thunderbirds - the most underrated group in the music world. *Rhythm of Love* - The Scorpions - the best group at the Monsters of Rock put out one of the best songs of the year as well. *Serendipity* - *Madonnina* - Winger - the best new group of 1988, despite the fact that they sound like Dokken. And finally - *Man in the Mirror* - Michael Jackson - of all the songs that have a message (ex. *Fair Car*, *Lata*) this is the best.

ENTERTAINMENT

Shows to catch your fancy

By Kevin Dowling

Now that the TV season is off to a semi-regular start, it's time to rate which shows are the best on right now.

The Wonder Years - (Wednesday, 8:00, ABC) This show is told from the view of a now-adult Kevin Arnold, and reflects his ascent into adolescence in 1968. The show has something everyone can identify with: adults would like it because they can relate to the time, while high school kids sympathize with Kevin's junior-high experiences. For example, one of the best episodes is when Kevin ponders whether or not to call a girl he likes at school, and in one scene, he imagines calling her while the news is at her house, recording the whole conversation. The show is, quite simply, one of the best on television right now.

WiseGuy - (Wednesday,

9:00, CBS) This show deals with a government agent, Vinnie Terranova, whose job is to infiltrate various organized crime units, like the mafia, and uncover enough evidence about them to send their big leaders to jail. Far from being a standard cop show, "WiseGuy" plots take weeks to unfold, and not over the course of one episode or a two-part special. One of the great things about this show is that all the characters are believable; the villains are not cold, gray characters and the cops are not the pure, holier-than-thou type. Instead, the villains are given believable motives and are almost made sympathetic. The only real problem is that "WiseGuy" makes it difficult for viewers to just watch it when they're in the mood, in order to keep track of what's going on, every episode needs to be watched.

Cheers - (Thursday, 8:00,

NBC) After nearly seven years on the air, "Cheers" is still going strong. There really is no theme to this show, however: basically, it's about the occurrences in a bar called Cheers in Boston. Every episode has one good, funny joke in it, and many times, each episode beats the previous one. The show also focuses on relationships more often than plot, and is very careful to keep everyone in character, and not just forget everything that happened in previous episodes. Recently, a new woman (Kirstie Alley) joined the cast to replace Shelley Long, who left to pursue a movie career. If you gave up on it after she left, try to watch it now; Kirstie Alley makes a good replacement for Diane, playing a whiny and unconfident Rebecca Howe. Word has it, though, that "Cheers" may be approaching its final seasons, so enjoy it while you can.



'TV 101' projects mixed feelings

By Kevin Dowling

"TV 101" is a very confusing show. At times, it can be utterly predictable and unbelievable, but, just when you're about ready to give up on it, it goes and pulls a charming moment on you.

Basically, the show centers on high school journalism from a new perspective: with cameras and then put together in a TV news-style fashion, then shown during homeroom class each morning at school. The idea is novel, to be sure, but almost every episode deals with the element of censorship. Even a high school journalist would get sick of the number of times this issue is brought up, and I should know. Another problem is with the characters. Every single high-school cliché is represented in the class: the president, the student council president, the dumb jock, the rebel, and the determined young journalist who always comes up with the controversial story. Most of the other characters are just people who show up briefly and make a couple of bad jokes. Basically, the show

revolves around the nerd, the rebel, and the teacher himself, a young divorcee who is always caught between going with the rules or going with what's right. Most episodes involve two plots: the Controversial Censorship plot and the Personal Problem. Usually, it's the Personal Problem that is worth following, though occasionally, the Censorship issue provides interest. One of the show's "moments" is when some of the reporters get caught in the middle of a food fight and record the whole thing on camera. One of the better Personal Problem episodes is when the nerd takes off from school to do an on-the-road documentary-type story. While it is unbelievable, you can't help but get the suspicion that it's spoofing itself, which makes it all the more amusing. "TV 101" also features at least one good song at the end of each episode when all the problems are being resolved, by artists like U2 or 10,000 Maniacs. Basically, it's the kind of show you'd want to record and watch later at your own convenience. If it ever manages to figure out which way it's going, the show has real potential.

Which reminds you of the SAT?

With a little help from us... **THE PRINCETON REVIEW**

It's a piece of cake.

March 11 SAT Course begins on 28.
March 11 SAT Five Class Meets 18.

Call 688-5500.

Courtesy Driving School

Grand Opening Special

Flexible Class Schedule

\$199.00

Close to Cy-Creek High School

16 day completion

Call for more information 469-2606

Free ride home (after third day) Norchester Center

Offer expires March 31, 1989 Corner of Grant and Balcrest

SPORTS

Ike stands above the rest

by Stefan Goodford

There are 15 point-scoring seconds left, the boys junior varsity basketball team has a secure 8 point lead. A Klein Forest guard attempts a mean ingits three-pointer. To his dismay and to the delight of the fans present a 6'5", sixth-grade Cougar leaps out of nowhere to cap off his usual 15 point, 11 rebound performance. He chucks down the swatted ball, dribbles down the court and delivers an eye-popping, game-ending slam.

You have probably seen him in the halls between classes. At 6 feet 8 inches, freshman Ike Nwankwo towers over seniors, his alone his fellow classmates. One would assume, a violent with Ike's physical attributes would be involved in some sort of athletic — like basketball. Well, he is and then some. Ike is currently averaging 15 points and 11 rebounds per game. His high point game is 31 and his high rebound game is 17.

Unlike the typical freshman basketball player, past and present, Ike has skipped his years playing on the freshman

and sophomore team and is starting on the JV team. This, along with his natural talent and incredible size, shows how good he is and how good he can be.

He not only plays against older and more experienced players, he plays better.

"He potentially is maybe one of the best players to ever come through Cy-Creek," varsity Coach Ray Murphree said.

In addition to his free throw percentage, his only current draw back is his lack of experience, and even that hardly shows.

Ever since he picked up a basketball for the first time at age six, in Columbus, Ohio he has been in love with basketball.

"I fell in love with the sport and the height just came along with it," Ike said.

When he moved to Houston in the seventh grade, he continued to play as his body continued to grow. At Campbell Junior High he began to show his abilities to area high school coaches. Junior varsity coach, Jim Draudt was impressed.

"He was a big kid who showed unlimited potential,

but most of it was still untapped," Coach Draudt said. Ike was mildly surprised by the difference between high school ball and junior high ball.

"In junior high ball, I just turned and shot the ball, with really no pressure from the defense," he said. "Now there is a lot of pressure underneath and if you miss a rebound or free throw the coach turns purple."

In high school the emphasis on winning is considerably different than that in junior high.

"You can't start thinking you're a great player, you have to work as hard as you can in practice to make yourself better," he said. "I like the coaches on me because when they push me into gear, it prevents me from getting lazy."

He can not afford to be lazy if he's going to accomplish his long term goal of playing basketball for a major college. Ike's physician has told him that he probably will grow at least six more inches. That would make him the same height as the NBA legend, Kareem Abdul Jabbar, at seven feet, two inches. He occasionally



Freshman Ike Nwankwo shoots the J. V. basketball from against Klein with 10 seconds in the previous game against Ryan as he scored a season high of 31 points. Photo by Jason Francisco.

"Sometimes, although the coach really doesn't care for it, I depend on the basic fundamentals to help improve his game. Jordan, but I mostly try to move like Akem (Olajuwon)."

Girls basketball leaps at another district title

by Cheryl Ramsey

Ranked number one in the city at the start of the preseason, the Lady Cougars are presently ranked third.

Playing in such a competitive district Coach Betty Maaskant is very pleased with the team's efforts.

"We have had a very successful season," Coach Maaskant said "and I am happy with the team so far."

With an evenly matched offense and defense, the team's expectations are high.

"Our hopes are to win the district title, and go into the state finals being competitive

as we can," Coach Maaskant said.

The team's highest scorers seniors Christine Keenan and Marla "Mape" Saghino are averaging in double figures per game.

The loss of seniors Sheila Morgan and Julie Lowe to knee injuries is going to affect the lineup.

"Sheila's loss is going to bring more athletes off the bench, and other members of the team could show up to be real winners," Coach Maaskant said.

Compared to last years record they are doing better, but

the season isn't over and there are more games to go.

"We're doing also better this year," senior Marla Saghino said, "and hopefully we will win district."

Senior Sheila Morgan was one of the leading players according to Coach Maaskant, but because of a knee injury she will not be playing for the rest of the season.

"We could improve our game if we could become a better offensive team," Coach Maaskant said.

With high hopes for district and state, the Lady Cougars continue to rip the nets!

**Seven Years Ago,
We Vowed To Be
The Place
You Would Turn
To For Help.**

**We Keep
Our Promises.**

**Laurelwood
HOSPITAL**

The Woodlands, Texas
367-4422

Laurelwood Hospital is owned and operated by The Woodlands Foundation of America (TFA), part of the NME Specialty Hospital Group.

SPORTS

Golf aims for high goals

by Renee Renfrow

The girls golf team has an impressive history of state appearances to try to match this year.

In 1987 sophomore Sandy Hamby won first place and set a state girls golf record with her score of 69-71 for a 36 hole total of 140 to run away with the state tournament. In 1988 junior Tina Trumble won the state girls championship almost matching Sandy Hamby's record. The girls golf team has made four appearances at state and hopes to make a fifth appearance in 1989. In 1985 the team won the state championship which is a feat the boys team has yet to accomplish. The girls golf team also placed third at state twice.

"I look to win district and go to regionals," Coach Debbie Justice said. "If we play really well, we should go for state."

The players seem positive that they will have a good season if they practice hard.

Four other lettermen will

"I feel it will be tough. But if we all try hard we can make it to state. Maybe this time we will win," senior Sandy Hamby said.

The girls schedule consists of eight tournaments on championship courses such as Champions, Woodlands, Kingwood, and Northgate Forest.

The boys golf team is led this season by senior letterman Jean-Paul Hebert and Alan Burney.

"Both players are coming off very successful summer junior tournament schedules," Coach Butch Blume said.

Jean-Paul was named to the 1988 Smith Corona Scholastic Junior All-American team along with five other young golfers in the United States. He was also selected by Rolex, Golf Magazine and the American Junior Golf Association as one of their ten 1988 Rolex Junior All-Americans.

"I feel honored because I worked hard for it," Jean-Paul said.

Four other lettermen will

also be playing this season. Junior Neil King, tied for the district medalist honors last year. Juniors Roland Rubio and Craig Schulte will be returning to the team along with sophomore Jason Hebert.

Coach Blume seems confident that they will have a good season as long as the team practices hard.

"If our squad pushes themselves, practices the long hours needed to achieve consistency—no matter what conditions exist and acquire the mental toughness to go along with the physical, then I think we can have that championship season," Coach Blume said.

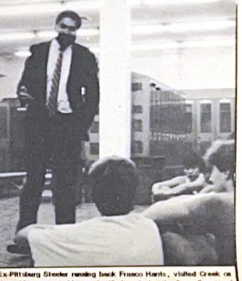
The players seem confident about the season also.

"I fell good about this year because we are all playing well at the present time," Jean-Paul said.

"We have a strong varsity team, and if we keep our grades up, we should win district."

The boys schedule also consists of eight tournaments on championship courses.

Ex-great visits Creek



Ex-NFL player Steve Groner, wearing back Francis Hartle, visited Creek in June '88 to promote his new football product, the Super Guard and Super Run. He planned to visit "C" again but was delayed. Instead, he spoke to the sophomore football team. Photo by David Whitehead.



SENIORS IT'S NOT TOO LATE . . .
To create portraits as special as your senior year!

Between C. C. H. S. and the mall At 18405 F. M. 149 Suite 469-7021

FEATURES



All photos by Jason Francis.



F.M. 1960 renovations cause problems

by Gretchen Holt

Disappearing roads, unavoidable obstacles, and irritated drivers are everpresent in the seemingly never-ending renovation of FM 1960. Although drivers may say it has been years, construction has only just begun. It started January 2, 1988 and will not be completed until sometime in 1991.

Anyway, during all the chaos the street has caused, they (the construction workers) have made some progress. Phases one and two have been completed. These consisted of beginning preparations and sewage. Now phase three, paving, is underway. To top that off the south side has already been completed.

FM 1960 is "aggravating and dangerous," junior Chris Wiggins said.

"I have to learn to drive 1960, and that could be hazardous," sophomore Rosie Owen said.

Also, what about those ce-

ment "things" along the side of the road? "I'm afraid I'm either going to run into the one of those barrels or the car next to me," junior Julie Jacks said.

Other students also have barrel horror stories. "My boyfriend ran into one of those, and knocked the panel off his car door," sophomore Angie Owen said.

Besides the trouble FM 1960 gives to drivers, it also affects many businesses.

"It has killed business in the dining room, not as many people come anymore" Pizza Hut chief supervisor Tony McGuire said.

"It's really hard to predict," Ignacio's hostess Kim Rodriguez said. "One day business is good, and the next, nobody comes."

So even with all the trouble at the moment, in approximately two years, when the sophomores have graduated, FM 1960 will be as good as new. Maybe even better.

