

Cypress Creek High School
Houston, Texas

cougar Connection

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'Hick' stereotype dispelled by Cy-Fair visit



Students join together for the traditional singing of the school song at Cypress Creek, above, and

Cy-Fair, below. Photo by Greichen Spitzer. Cy-Fair photo courtesy of Cy-Fair Reporter.

Shelton, Watkins speak against violent rivalry

Rivalries are common between high schools, especially schools that are near to each other and have something in common. It often takes years for a rivalry to develop and further intensify.

Cypress Creek and Cy-Fair share such a relationship, which started when Cy Creek opened in 1977. It happened because of friends and members of the same families were split between the two schools when Cy Creek was built. Each wanted to impress the other whenever they met in competition. Parents suddenly found themselves torn between two schools. "It did cause a family split in a way," Principal Joseph Shelton said, who was the associate principal at Cy-Fair for six years before taking over as principal at Cy Creek in 1981.

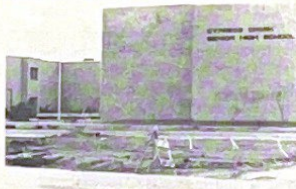
Students from both schools also come in contact through church and other community organizations. "These students can do something to make it a homogenous relationship," Shelton said. He said they should not make it a grudge match, which has been the case over the past few years. Both schools have suffered from graffiti and other vandalism. Harsh words, as well as punches, have been exchanged on several occasions when the two schools have competed against each other.

"People choose to carry the rivalry too far, which causes hostility," Shelton said. "It's not proving anything to fight."

Cy-Fair's Principal Carlos Watkins agreed. "I think it (the rivalry) is oriented on too much vandalism and violence when we get together," he said. "I'd like to see a good rivalry on a little more friendly basis." Watkins has been at Cy-Fair for 31 years, the past 16 as principal.

Watkins is especially concerned with basketball games between his school and Cy Creek because of the closeness of the

opposing fans. This allows them to shout across the gym floor at each other. He is



Cypress Creek High School

also concerned about trouble that often occurs at night the week before a football game between the two schools. "There is always someone who carries out some action that doesn't represent their school," Watkins said.

"We do have round-the-clock security officers," Shelton said. "It costs a lot of money to take care of damage done to schools and (the guilty) students will have to pay for it," he explained.

According to Watkins, he and Mr. Shelton both talk about ways to maintain a friendly rivalry. "I want the relationship to stabilize," Watkins said. The two principals hope that each school's students councils and Good Sportsmanship Leagues can work out a way to improve the relationship. Although Shelton believes the rivalry is dying down, he does believe one exists. "I would like to keep it going," he said. He would rather prefer to see a comradery-type of rivalry develop.

"Creek is a very formidable opponent," Watkins said. "We like to compete with them and want to beat the Creek doing anything. We hope that after a game we can both go home peacefully."

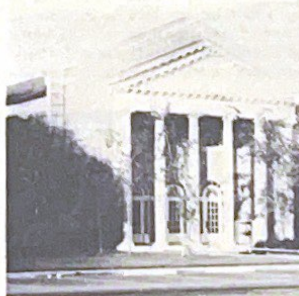
By Todd Savage
Editor

Should I wear overalls? And do I need a piece of straw between my teeth? Those were my first thoughts when I found out that I was going to be visiting Cypress Creek's fiercest rival, the school where "Bobcat fight never dies," Cy-Fair High School. I wanted to find out what it would be like to attend the other school and see if there was any truth to the rumor that anyone who goes to Cy-Fair is a "hick."

First, it must be noted that Cy-Fair and Cy Creek are strikingly different structures. The Creek is a modern school, only going into its seventh year. It is very organized. All of the classrooms have basically the same appearance. Cy-Fair seems inconsistent. The oldest part of the existing building was constructed during World War II. 1984 will mark the fiftieth year students have graduated from Cy-Fair. The facade of the school is impressive and appears much the way a high school is expected to look. It is obvious that several additions have been made over the years. Most of Cy-Fair is one story, stretching a quarter mile from one end of school to the other and continuing half a million square feet. Students are permitted eight minutes to travel through the wide corridors from class to class. The classrooms themselves are all closed. The older rooms are small and rectangular-shaped.

The students are really not any different than those at Cypress Creek. The ones I spoke with were friendly and eager to know about Cy Creek. Everyone at Cy-Fair does not wear cowboy boots nor do they all boast strong Texas accents. They did not come across as "hicks" at all.

I went to Cy-Fair on a Friday and attended a pep rally, which was held between second and third period. Cy-Fair's pep rallies



Cy-Fair High School

are held in a gym probably half the size of our gym; therefore, the entire student body is not able to participate. The students who are able to find themselves a place to stand inside the gym did a good job of making up for the students not present.

A large number of students wore their school colors and displayed an enthusiasm

not to be expected from a school whose football team had not won a game (at the time). Class pride was prevalent during the entire pep rally. As has been the case at Cy-Creek, a few derogatory chants toward the freshman class could be heard.

The Bobcat Brigade officers, Cy-Fair's equivalent to the Silverados, performed a dance, the band played and the coach issued encouraging words about that night's game. The students stood the entire time and started many of the cheers themselves. It did seem much less organized than Cy Creek's standard pep rally; however, the students left full of excitement and pumped up for the game.

Cy-Fair really is not the school people want to imagine it is. Everyone is not a farmer although there probably are a few. The same can be said for Cy Creek, where the small number of people accused of being "snobs," give everyone an unwanted label. It is primarily these two stereotypes that give the rivalry much of its bitterness. The violence of the past can only be prevented from continuing when students realize that these stereotypes are only that—stereotypes.

Before:

'A Bunch of Snobs'

Ed. note: In order to learn more about each other's schools, members of the publication staffs of Cy-Fair and Cy-Creek visited each other's schools for a day. Before Cy-Fair staffers visited Cy-Creek they revealed their impressions of Cy Creek's students. However, after they attended Cy Creek, their opinions changed.

"Personally, I honestly think Creek has a lot of stuck-up people. Many of the students are spoiled and obnoxious. I know every school has its group of kids that give it a bad name, but Cy-Creek seems to have an overabundance of these students. Many of the girls are pretty and dress beautifully. Many of the girls know they are pretty and are wearing gorgeous clothes that their mommies and daddies bought for them." *Laura Lassus, Cy-Fair Reporter, editor.*

After:

'Not snobs at all'

"People were so nice to me. No one was rude to me at all. They are not snobs at all. I like Creek a lot. I defend Cy Creek when anyone says anything about them at all. Your school is neat, and I like it a lot." *Laura Lassus, Cy-Fair Reporter, editor.*

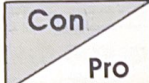
The dress code: Should it change with the times?

Every year, new fads hit Cypress Creek. At one walk the halls of our school, one can see the California-type miniskirts, miniskirts, Vans, and spandex baggy pants...

with their shoes. That rule is hard to understand for some people. Are they trying to say that it's distracting to show a boy's ankle? One argument is that it looks sloppy. Many boys couldn't care less about how their ankles looked...

Let's be your job? Of course not! Then, why do some students consider the dress code so awful? It simply provides the students with guidelines to help them choose acceptable clothing that is in good taste for school.

Did you know that even teachers are required to follow a dress code? They must wear clothes that present a professional image. Dresses are not allowed for women, however, slacks and neck blouses or skirts are allowed. Male teachers are required to wear ties.



The student body argues constantly that the dress code is "too strict" or is "doesn't change with the times." What is so strict about the dress code, anyway? The code simply requires that hair be kept neat, skirts be of an appropriate length, pants not be "skin tight" and the toughest rule of all, "exercise common sense."

Students permitted fewer dress-up days

long. Cy-Fair Principal Carlos Watkins said. He believes dress-up days provide a positive environment for students. "Students must have a basically happy atmosphere (in which to learn)," he said. Watkins thinks students should be permitted a chance to relax.

Students were enthusiastic during most of the day and a few distractions may have occurred because of the seniors' concern. But how long could this have really disrupted classwork? Long enough for a few laughs perhaps. Teachers still expect their students to do work, Watkins stressed.

Back to Creek. We do have dress-up days but not to the extent and number of those at Cy-Fair. We'll have "Western Day" and "Warm-up Suit Day" but there are only consolation prizes for the bigger, more involved dress-up days that we once had. Remember back when we had "Nerd Day?" Students pulled out the clothes once proudly worn by their parents in the 60's and 70's that have been labeled tacky by today's standards.

Dear Editor, My friends and I would like to know why the senior class cannot have its prom at the Warwick (as planned). We exceeded our goal of \$55,000 and we do not understand why we don't have the choice anymore to choose where we (the seniors) would like our prom.

staff box november preview

- 1-4 Freshman class selling ornaments
4 Senior class sponsors dance after game
5 SAT-Cy Creek auditorium
7 Open house
16 Football Banquet
18 Faculty volleyball
19 Play by the drama "The Diviners"
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24-25 Thanksgiving holiday
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All material contained in the Cypress Creek Cougar Connection is written entirely by high school students. Opinions expressed in columns and editorial are those of the student reporters and not necessarily those of the Cypress Creek faculty, administration, or the student body.

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In the November issue of the Cougar Connection, the recent concern over the issues of educational policies, extra-curricular activities and tougher graduation requirements are explored.

9811 Grant Road Houston, TX 77077 409-5900 ext 344

Class of '84 raises big bucks

Nearly everyone in school has been asked at least once in the past month, "Would you like to buy a magazine from the senior class?" The seniors have been pushing magazines to raise money for their prom and it has definitely paid off. The class of '84 has raised approximately \$60,000.

During the selling period, several prizes were offered to the students to urge them to sell magazines. Both Baker was named top seller, and she received a double cassette stereo for selling \$100 worth of magazines. On the first day of selling, Bill Lowry sold \$421 worth of magazines and received a miniature TV set. Other winners include Tracy Saffer, who was drawn out of the senior class to become "Principal for a Day."



Seniors view the dollar bills before he takes the big jump. Photo by Catherine Lightner

News-makers

The Booster Babes, a new spirit club at Cypress Creek, is primarily a spirit organization which works very close to the Athletic Booster Club. The club's sponsors are Naki Trues and Andrea Lantry both members of the Athletic Booster Club. Mrs. Bill Agnew is the club's faculty sponsor.

The Medical Careers Club elected officers at their first meeting. The president is Michael Cox. The vice president is Paul Cantelani, secretary is Margaret Lee. The plans for the blood drive were also made during the meeting.

Members of the American Field Service (AFS) are busy finishing their homcoming float. It will have a Japanese theme in honor of Manito Kani, AFS' only foreign exchange student this year.

The Drama Club increased by about thirty-five students this year and will present "The Diviners" and "1984," this year according to Mrs. Miller, the club sponsor. The club attends contests in March and thirteen tournaments this year. They plan to perform for children this Christmas, and again in the spring.

Students will take a close-up look at government

Sophomores, juniors and seniors will have a chance to travel to Washington, D.C. with the Close Up Foundation Government Student Program.

include seminars, tours, and social activities. The students will have a chance to appear on national television. The cost is \$740 which includes transportation, food and housing.

Dear Editor, Mrs. Kellinger, senior class sponsor said, "It's the cost to have the prom at the Warwick was beyond the \$55,000 that we raised." She said that the Warwick was visited last year as a possible prom location but was just too expensive. The prom was not ever planned to be held at the Warwick.

DECA will be presenting a float in this year's homcoming parade with the theme "Prom out the Eagles."

Advertisement for Grant Road Auto Supply Machine Shop. Features: \$1.00 OFF WITH THIS AD, Competitive Prices, Great Service, Order Now for Homecoming! Includes address: 10630 Grant Road, Houston, TX 77072, Phone: 890-2732.

Advertisement for Shipley's Famous Do-Nuts, Candy and Ice Cream. Features: Do-Nuts, Candy and Ice Cream, Shipley's Famous Do-Nuts, Our Own "Cream & Butter" Fudge, Chocolates & Other Candy, Gourmet Ice Cream. Includes address: 6184 Highway 6 North (Kroger Center), Houston, TX.

homecoming queen nominees

Angie Albers



Baylor University is Angie's destination after graduation. She is deciding between studio art and education for her major. A member of the volleyball team for two years, Angie then was a star girl for the girls basketball team for two years. She has attended Young Life regularly for three years and loves it. She is a participant in the Mt. Alpha Beta Club and the industrial arts club. Angie enjoys tennis, water skiing and art.

Jenan Hijazi



Jenan is planning to attend the University of Texas at Austin. Elementary Education is going to be her major. She has been a cheerleader for three years and was a Student Council representative for one year. During her freshman year, she played volleyball. Couillon and Young Life are some of Jenan's activities outside of school. She has also been packed for Who's Who Among American High School Students. Jenan enjoys working and working out.

Photos by Catherine Spitzer

Karin Alt



Karin has chosen to attend the University of Texas at Austin and major in elementary education. She has been involved in cheerleading for three years and a four-year representative of Student Council. She has been in Young Life and Couillon for one year. Karin has been chosen for Who's Who Among American High School Students. Karin loves to go water-skiing as well as snow skiing.

Libby Layton



Libby plans to attend the college of Texas Christian University. There she will be majoring in radio-TV-film and drama as a double major. Libby has been a cheerleader and has been the President of the Class of '84 for three years. She has been active in both yearbook and student government for two years. Libby is a member of the National Honor Society and has been recognized in Who's Who Among American High School Students. Some of Libby's outside activities are Young Life. She was also a member of Couillon for one year. She received the Best Newcomer award during her first year in Drama Club. Acting and dancing are two of Libby's favorite hobbies.

Helen Heldring



Helen has decided to change blue and silver for burnt orange when she attends the University of Texas at Austin. Business Finance is going to be her major. Helen has participated in volleyball for two years, cheerleading for one year, and a student council representative for one year. She has also been the basketball star girl for three years. She is a member of Young Life and Campfire, a take-off from Young Life. Helen's hobbies are tennis, skiing, and shopping.

Andrea Randolph



Andrea is planning to go to Stephen F. Austin University. Her major will be fashion merchandising. Andrea has been a member of the drill team for three years and this year she is president of the drill team. She attends Young Life and was a member of Couillon for one year. She is a member of Young Life and Campfire, a take-off from Young Life. Andrea's hobbies are snow skiing, skiing, and sailing.

Homecoming provides busy week for students

Monday, October 24

Mainly the League sets. During the luncheon, a class officer from each grade will represent his class in a voter paper wrap. Each officer chooses a Student from his class to wrap him in the most original and unusual way.

Tuesday, October 25

This day will be called "Cool Cougar Day." The students will participate by wearing shades and headbands.

Lunch—"Hot the Birds" Auction

Both boy and girl students will be auctioned off in lunch today. They will have to make lunch for their buyer to eat on Thursday, October 27. The class which has the girl or boy with highest bought bid box will receive points for her/his class.

Wednesday, October 26

Savenger Hunt. During all three lunches, two people will represent each class in this event. The participants must be a member of one of these organizations:

Band, Booster Babe, Choir, Drama, Debate, FFA, Honor Society, Swimming, and Volleyball.

Only one person from each organization. A list of ten items will be given out to those people. The class who has found the most will win the lunch.

RULES:
1. All students must stay in their area.
2. Only people allowed to walk around the area are the participants.
3. Only the two people may find the objects and bring them in to the front.
4. Fifteen minutes will be allowed for the hunt.

Thursday, October 27

This day will officially be called "Warm-Up the Cougars Day." The students will participate by wearing warm-up pants and warm-up tops.

During lunch, the bid boxes will be given to the people who purchased them. The maker of the bid boxes will be required to eat with the purchaser.

Commons Hall Decorating

A wall will be assigned to each class. The class sponsor must be with each class until the wall is finished. All students participating must be out of school by 9:00 p.m.

Two Cheers

Each class will attempt to put as many as possible students into a rubber bicycle tire. The class with the most students wins the competition, receiving points toward the most spirited class.

Class Yell

Each class needs to make a class yell to say at the pep rally of Friday.

Thursday Night

The Flashlight Pep Rally. On this evening, after the Junior Varsity football game, we will hold an outdoor flashlight pep rally. All students should be encouraged to attend and bring with them a flashlight. These flashlights will serve as our light for the rally. This pep rally shall be like any other. We will get the spirit going! The Silverstars will perform and the cheerleaders will do a number of cheers and yells.

Friday, October 28

"Cougar Victory"—Everything We Try! All students will participate by wearing our school colors, blue and silver.

Today's activity shall be our traditional Homecoming Parade. The parade will begin at 8:30 a.m. in front of Blevy Jr. High School. Judging of floats will take place from 8:30-9:00. At approximately 9:00 we will begin the parade. The parade consists of all organizations entering a float, class officers, cheerleaders, Silverstars, band members, and anyone else who may be directly in the parade. This year we would like to circle our parade around Blevy and Marike and then once we reach CYPRESS CREEK COUGAR COUNTRY, have our students lining Grant and Perry roads awaiting the parade. (The streets will be blocked off by DIPS). Once the parade passes the students, they will begin following in behind the parade and continue on to the outdoor pep rally (if weather permits) and take their seats in the stands.

Point System

Flats
Spirit Link Sale
Spirit stick winner
4 points for winner
Tire contest
Class yell
Commons Decoration

3 points for winner
Highest sold Bird lunch
Mummying in lunch

Four awards will be given.
A. Best Class
B. Best Overall
C. Most Original
D. Most Spirited

Saturday, October 29

At the game on Saturday, the Student Council will sell blue and silver helium balloons. These will be let off at the beginning of the game.

Homecoming Dance

After the game, a dance will take place in the Commons at school. A photographer will be taking pictures for those who would like them.

Homecoming changes with years of tradition

By Susan Mantua
Features Editor

Cy-Creek's brief history forced many alterations of a high school's customary events, like homecoming. When the school opened its doors to students in 1977, there was no senior class. There were no alumni to come home either. Therefore, Cypress Creek's first homecoming differed from the traditional homecoming celebrated today.

Because a previous graduate class did not exist, a true homecoming could not take place.

"There were no returning students, so it had to be more of a 'special game' than a true homecoming," said former Cy-Creek student, Julie Fuertness Sando.

Since the students could not consider the game a homecoming game, a homecoming queen was not elected. Instead, Shannon Goldman was elected Cy-Creek's first and only "Football Queen."

The first year Cy-Creek was open "the administration emphasized the creation of our own traditions," explained Sando.

"Tradition in the making" was the motto on buttons. Some of the traditions which were created by the first class are still alive today. The girls continue wearing mums to celebrate this occasion and buttons are still sold to the students. This year's homecoming theme is "Cougar Victory in everything we try!"

Students at Cy-Creek will find several traditions remain intact, some traditions altered, or some dropped altogether. The spirit link sale will begin October 24 and will conclude at 2:30 October 28. Spirit buttons will be sold during lunch the entire week. The traditional "mummying" contest will take place October 24 but will contain a few alterations from previous years.

"Warm up day" will be October 27 and all students may participate by wearing warm-up suits. Also, each class may decorate a wall in the commons for the "commons wall decorating contest".

Some new additions to the homecoming celebration are "Cougar Cool Day", a scavenger hunt, a class yell and a fire staffing contest. The administration has excluded the traditional slave day from the homecoming calendar.

The traditional homecoming parade will be held October 28. All classes and clubs may participate by making an original float. Students may observe the parade by lining up on Grant and Perry roads. Students will also wear Cypress Creek's school colors on this day. After the game, the seventh annual homecoming dance will take place in the commons. A photographer will be taking pictures for those who would like them.

Dine Cougar Style at class restaurants

Selecting a restaurant for your homecoming date can be a problem. So to solve this, here is a list of nice and affordable places to go to in and around the FM 1960 area.

B.J.'s Phone: 376-3710
Main foods: Seafood and steak
Average price per couple: \$27.00
No need for reservations unless you are coming with a large group
Location: 17207 Kuykendahl
Phone: 893-8760
Main foods: Mexican style foods
Average price per couple: \$18.00
No reservations requested
Location: 6013 FM 1960 across from Champtions golf course
Ninfa's Phone: 444-1442
Main foods: Original Mexican foods
Average price per couple: \$18.00
Reservations requested
Location: One block South of FM 1960 on the feeder road of I-45

Benigan's Phone: 893-7011
Main foods: Steaks, fried foods, and hamburgers
Average price per couple: \$15.00
No reservations requested
Location: 4050 FM 1960 in front of North Oaks
Buttrazzis' Phone: 537-5396
Main foods: Fish, pastas, and veal
Average price per couple: \$18.00
Reservations requested
Location: 3311 FM 1960 in the Champtions III shopping center
Stone Crab Phone: 537-5394
Main foods: Seafood and steak
Average price per couple: \$20.00
Reservations are not requested but it might be a good idea to make them.
Location: 3755 FM 1960 between Kuykendahl and Slusher
Dinner usually starts around 5:30 p.m. and ends around 11:00 n.m.



6 reviews

Cy-Creek Connection, October 1983

Making it in a big country

By Alko Walker
Staff Writer

Say that you're driving down the road and you switch on your radio. Suddenly the car is filled with the sound of a pop singer nearly unrecognizable words in a high voice. The only thing you can catch is something about living in a big country. You've been listening to "In a Big Country" by the group Big Country.

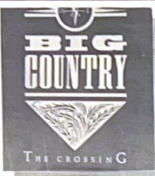


Photo by Bethany Ward

There's also country

By Susan Manning
Features Editor

Since new wave and hard rock have hit the radio projecting a sometimes negative attitude on life and love, it was a refreshing change to listen to Don Williams' new album *Yellow Moon*. This album, like the majority of Williams' songs, projects an optimistic viewpoint on living. *Yellow Moon* includes such hit singles as "Our Love is on a Roll," "Nobody But You," and "Pressure Makes Diamonds." Don Williams is not your typical stereotypical country musician. He doesn't sing about his drunk grandfather who gets hit by a train. He is a musician with a message to give to his listeners and his talent gets the message across without any difficulty.

Dancing is dangerous?

"We can dance? we can dance? everyone look at your hands," is part of the chorus of a new song called "The Safety Dance." The album is *Rhythm of Fear*, and the group is Miss Wicked Hair. This is a relatively new group out of Canada and they have a unique, upbeat, new wave beat. Anyone who watches MTV has probably seen the *Neutron* video for "The Safety Dance." This song reflects the same album's style: it is weird. Even the names of the songs are freaky—"Anastasia," "Cocoon," and "Idea for Walls" are a few examples. If you enjoy dancing to new wave, this album is great for practice.

Halloween brings fear of superstition

By Angie Hostler
Staff Writer

Do you throw salt over your shoulder after you have spilled it? Do you carry four leaf clovers or horseshoes for luck? You are not alone. Almost everyone is superstitious in some way or another. Since Halloween is around the corner, superstition arises even more. Such things as black cats and witches on brooms are on everyone's mind.

"The number thirteen on a tent is my superstition. I have always missed the number thirteen on a tent," said one boy. The number thirteen has achieved such a bad reputation that plane flights and buildings omit the number completely. This superstition goes back to pre-Christian days. They say at Christ's last supper there



were thirteen people; twelve Apostles and Christ himself.

Carrying a lucky charm dates back to the days when primitive men believed their wares too many bad spirits and not enough good ones. Therefore he invented charms in order to ward away bad luck.

Among smokers, it's bad luck to light three cigarettes from one match. This legend originated during World War I when one match provided enough light to guide an enemy attack.

Four leaf clovers and horseshoes bring a luck. Walking under ladders, breaking a mirror, and waking up on the wrong side of the bed bring misfortune. If there are among your superstitions, you are not alone because many people believe in them. Do you avoid opening umbrellas indoors, afraid you will have bad luck? When umbrellas were much bigger, opening an indoors might be fatal. Do you wonder why rabbits' feet are lucky? Rabbits' feet (although not very lucky for the rabbits) are considered good luck because the animal's hind legs move quicker than its.

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7 Spike, Set, Win

By Jane Thatcher
Sports Editor

The Cy-Creek Girls Volleyball team seems to surprise any and every opposing team that might threaten the undefeated district record the Cougars have begun. Their first district victory was over Klein on September 15. The Cougars quickly won the first game, 15-2, and drove ace serves in a row by junior Robin Serafin during the second game helped bring the girls to a 15-7 overall win.

Then September 20, on home courts, the Cougars found the Cy-Fair Bobcats in a tough, competitive battle. The Bobcats won the first game, 4-15, which put some pressure on the girls. But with good serving from Debbie Zajac and some outstanding hitting by Jayne Coleman, the girls won the second game, 15-2. The third game wasn't actually going the Cougars' way until the very end when some good blocking by Holly Evans and an ace serve by Robin Serafin put the game back into the Cougars' favor. In the end the girls' teamwork gave them a

15-3 game win and a match victory over the Bobcats.

The Cougars then played Jersey Village on September 22. During the first game the girls played well but lost, 13-15. The Cougars came back and defeated Jersey Village in the next two games, 15-6 and 15-12.

Against Klein Forest on September 27, it was another two game victory for the girls. The girls won the first game, 15-7, and Holly Evans and Robin Serafin again played well which helped the Cougars to the second game victory, 15-4.

The Cougars next faced Klein Oak on September 29. Debbie Zajac and Shari Smith played very well as the Cougars defeated Klein Oak in two games, 15-3 and 15-11.

The Cougars are now awaiting the second half of the district games, and are working hard on their defense. "We have always had a good attack, we just need to defend it," said a confident Holly Evans.



Jane Thatcher bumps the ball into play as Jayne Coleman and Cindy Bartholomew prepare for a possible spike. Photo by Laura Jensen

After narrow victory Football enters district play

By Brad Wyrom
Staff Writer

The varsity football team has finished warming up for district play, with a dramatic 16-14 upset victory over the Houston area's number 11 ranked Aldine Mustangs.

By playing football far above any previous season, the Cougars have become the main contender for district title honor against the Klein Bobcats. However, it is still a long way to the Klein game and there are many other teams who will be looking for their share of the 15-5A district championship.

Cougar have made the most of mistakes by other teams, while limiting their own errors. This type of play was exemplified

against Aldine on September 30. Two mistakes by the Mustangs led to Cougar scores including the game-winning field goal by David Krenk. The kick resulted from a fumble recovery by Brad Fruit on the Aldine 37 with 3:39 left to play. The Cougars then moved the ball to the 13, where with four seconds left, Krenk put the Cougars ahead for good.

In less dramatic action the Cougars defeated Waltrip 25-0, and destroyed Spring Branch 31-12. The man responsible for bringing this Cougar team from fantasy to a top 20 ranking is Coach Les Koenning.

"We played a very physical ball game against Waltrip, they are capable of playing good football," stated Coach Koenning, who also said the Spring Branch is not as good a football team as Waltrip and needs improvement.



Cy-Creek offense begins a play against Aldine. The Cougars upset Aldine 16-14. Photo by Mike Henderson

Sharon Everett's
HAIR TRENDS

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H₂O: Steve Taggart's formula for success

By Jane Thatcher
Sports Editor

To most, swimming does not actually seem like a sport—more of a pastime laying around the pool on a blistering hot weekend. However, swimming is a sport and a rather difficult one at that. It takes devotion, speed and tremendous strength to excel in competitive swimming. Only when these qualities are put together and bonded with determination can an athlete such as Steve Taggart arise.

The summer preceding his senior year he traveled with the Cy-Fair Swim Club to Los Angeles, California, where he competed in the National Junior Olympics in the 200-meter individual medley.

"I did as well as I expected to do, but I should have done better," said Steve modestly when asked of the results of his venture. Although making the Junior Olympics has been the highlight of Steve

Taggart's career as a swimmer, his impressive record continues.

Born in Ohio, Steve moved to Salt Lake

City, Utah, where he later attended Skyline High School and made the varsity swim team his sophomore year. He then moved



Steve Taggart leads the swimming and water polo team as captain this year.

to Houston and was a member of Cy-Creek's All-American 400-medley and the 400-freestyle relays. This year as a senior Steve was elected captain of the Cougar varsity swim team by his teammates.

Steve also enjoys water polo and has been playing the game since the fifth grade. This experience payed off when, as a sophomore at Skyline, he was named to the third-team All-American water polo squad. His position is the hole man, who coordinates and directs the offense. Strength and excellent ball handling are required to play this position.

"When I was nine or ten I dreamed about the Olympics but pretty soon I became realistic," said Steve when asked about his future plans. In "reality" Steve would like to attend the University of Texas and major in chemical engineering.

His main goal concerning swimming though, is to make the NCAA swimming championship finals his junior or senior year in college.

sports shorts

Cross Country

The 1983-83 boys cross country team begins this season with new hopes and high expectations. This is the first year for the Cougars to have teams competing at freshmen, JV, and varsity levels.

Rebuilding of the cross country team will be coach Oltean's main goal this year, especially since state champion John Warren has left the team.

"Our goal for the varsity team is to qualify for regionals," said Coach Oltean. He feels the team has a very good chance at this.

The hope for the future, however, rests with the freshmen. The freshmen team has already proved it will be a contender. In

three scrimmages so far, the freshmen have placed second in all of them. The Cougars finished behind a tough McCoullough team each time.

The standout for the freshmen team has been Mike Cook. He finished fourth in the McCoullough invitational, second at Klein Forest and third at Rice University.

The varsity team has faced tough competition in all three scrimmages. Their best finish was at the Klein Forest invitational in which the team finished fourth.

Noel Manning led the team with a sixth place finish, Stuart Angast finished eleventh and John Cuddy finished seventeenth.

Tennis

The varsity tennis team defeated Cy-Fair in a match last week leading them to a 2-0 victory. This match marks the beginning of the tennis season.

District meets start in the spring of the 1984 year. "We have a very good chance to win district this year," says Coach Donna Pasche.

Lately Pasche has been having the team run laps and then sprints for workouts. Soon she is going to work on drills to strengthen the team's weaknesses.

The junior varsity has afternoon practices Monday and Wednesday and varsity practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



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