

A week of studying for semester exams has left this student's head exploding with information. Actually, an unidentified swimmer found a new use for his old swim cap at a recent swim meet.

Crisis in education:

District personnel evaluate standards

By Susan Mannina
Features Editor

"Spare the rod and spoil the child"
"Children should be seen and not heard"
"Reading, writing and arithmetic"

Education in the past operated on these principles: strict discipline, humorless curriculum. Extra-curricular activities were scarce, if even existent. The basics were what counted and were stressed. During the '60's and '70's people over reacted to this kind of thinking. Permissiveness became a watch word. In recent years, however, extra-curricular activities have become more important to the students and more time is being devoted to these events.

"A good teaching staff affects the students"



-Dr. Sarah Jerome

"We didn't ever abandon the basics," said associate principal Judy Kahla. Extra-curricular activities were added to a well-rounded curriculum. Educators believe that school is a place to learn, grow, make friends and have a good time in a working environment. However, that attitude has come under fire lately. Some interested observers, like H. Ross Perot, chairman of Texas' Select Committee on Education, appointed by Governor Mark White, feel that some of the fun is cutting into the quality of education. According to Perot, too much time is being spent on football, pep rallies and other activities. The select committee feels the United States is behind other countries academically. Educators are now trying to balance these to get the best of both worlds.

"For three or four years there has been a tremendous push to upgrade (education) standards in Texas," stated Kahla. Recently there has been constant discussion about this matter.

"I think we're going to see, state-wide, a change in course offerings," said Allen Labay, superintendent of the Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District. CFISD will not see as many changes as some districts, however, because of stiff graduation requirements and the broad selection of courses already in effect.

"I personally think we have an excellent program," said Kahla, but "we can always improve," added Labay. Educators blame certain outside activities for the lack of attention being paid to school work. Extra-curricular activities such as athletic events, pep rallies, assemblies and field trips cut into class time. Television viewing is also blamed for interfering with homework and studying.

"Time-on-task is directly related to the achievement," explained Labay. Activities that take students out of classes should be eliminated unless they offer a true educational value.

"I think field trips are appropriate," said Labay; however, these excursions should be carefully reviewed to insure that some worthwhile content is involved.

"I think pep rallies have an educational value," said Labay. There is a place for them in the school system. The entire student body has an opportunity to get together. The students can show some spirit which is also important in a school environment.

"We didn't ever abandon the basics"



-Judy Kahla

There needs to be an appropriate balance between academics and other activities, suggested Dr. Sarah Jerome, Director of Instruction at Cypress Creek. Dr. Jerome reviews teachers' lesson plans in order to insure a worthwhile goal is planned for each class period. She also observes in-class activity. A good teaching staff affects the students, she says.

Rights reviewed Question: rights or privileges

By Kimberly Kubiak
Staff Writer

Do students receive their constitutional rights? Many times there is a question as to what are rights and what are simply privileges. In recent years there has been a tendency toward looking at students as being responsible unlike the days of loco parentis. In the Cy-Fair school district, students receive a fair view of these rights.

Until the 1969 case of Tinker versus Des Moines, in which two students were found to have the right to protest in a non-violent and non-disruptive manner, schools were said to be the students acting parents, and schools were therefore allowed to give

students any form rights they deemed necessary. This doctrine was termed as loco parentis which is now thought of as outdated and unfair by many.

A common complaint made by students is of the dress-code. This subject has never been heard in a supreme court case and was termed as "not being a right" by Mr. Thorton, Deputy Superintendent of Cy-Fair I.S.D. Because it was never heard in a higher court one must rely on decisions made by the lower county courts. These results have been varied and are considered indecisive, so the school systems have no need to give us a great deal of freedom in our choice of clothing.

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"We feel we have done a good job to keep good teachers," with over 5000 applicants in the district each year "we (CFISD) are able to be selective," explained Labay.

In an effort to detect deficiencies in the school systems, representatives from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) reviewed CFISD schools. In an oral report, "They were very complimentary of almost all areas of our schools," said Labay. TEA was impressed by the well-rounded curriculum. This was the first time they have ever gone to a school district where they found no deficiencies, explained Principal, Joseph Shelton.

"Time on task is directly related to achievement"



-Allen Labay

"They did not point out a single deficiency," said Labay. "I think we have one, if not, the finest district in Texas and the nation," he elaborated. The TEA report certainly supports Mr. Labay's statement.

The downturn in the United States' economy, as well as, competition with other countries are main factors that brought around the strong concentration on education.

"We used to not have that competition," explained Labay.

Technology and academically the United States is second to other countries. This is where "education comes into play," said Labay. The "tracking system", which has been previously used in other countries, is being considered for our own school system.

"They have used the 'tracking system' in Europe for many years," explained Labay. This system consists of three tracks: the academic track, which consists of those students working above their grade level and who are considered 'college bound',

the general track consisting of student working on grade level and the vocational track which concentrates on teaching students a task or trade.

This ultimately limits the student's advancement once he or she is placed in a 'track'. There is no room for promotion or transferring from track to track. This system is being used in our own school district in a sense. 'K' classes are considered the academic 'track', 'L' courses are a part of the general 'track', and 'M' level and V.O.E. courses are a part of the vocational 'track'.

According to Mr. Shelton, some goals for the school year are to "improve spelling proficiencies, work on different ways to improve different achievement tests (through the English, math and science departments)."

"One area where students perform on lower standardized tests is vocabulary and spelling," explained Kahla. The administration is facing this with a new addition to the morning announcements; 'The word for the day.' A test will be given at the end of the year to see how students improve in this area.

"This was the first time TEA has ever gone to a school district where they found no deficiencies"



-Joseph Shelton

CFISD plans to try for improvement.

"I suspect early release will be severely cut back if not abolished (in the '84-'85 school year)," stated Kahla.

Graduation requirements will possibly be stiffened. The new requirements could very well include one extra year of both math and science. CFISD already meets a strong majority of the recommended course outline suggested by the TEA; therefore, the district will not face as many changes as other districts.

1984: Do you know where Big Brother is?

By Todd Savage

Editor "OK, let's see page..." Not another comparison of George Orwell's futuristic novel 1984 to the present time, where technology controls our lives and communism thrives!

You're right. This is not a perceptive and stimulating analysis of our lives in America today. This is a major expose and may be starting to the naive, the uninformed, the freshmen. It may be boring to those who are not the least familiar with Orwell's fantasy. But it will certainly blow the lid off Cypress Creek Senior High School.

THE INTRODUCTION If you haven't realized it by now, it is too late. It may be hard to comprehend, but 1984 was not written about Nazi oppression or Stalinistic despotism. It was a warning to future Cypress Creek students to beware of oppression at their own school. Scary, isn't it? Read on.

THE FACTS Once you really begin examining the simulation between Orwell's fantasy and a day-in-the-life-of-a-Creek-student, the facts become clear. That popular guy, that unsexed athlete, Big Brother is watching Cypress Creek. He may only have one

eye looking this way, but he's sure watching. He controls us in a variety of ways, one of which usually affects us on the first day of school.

Each class of students is divided into smaller units (called "homerooms" in the Orwellian language "Newpeak") in order to make housewarming more personal and more effective. Students receive a handbook detailing the party beliefs (heretofore known as rules) and are asked to divulge such sensitive information as their home phone number and their middle name. Even worse is having to repeat this process four times, so that each branch of the Party will have a record on you. This information can be used against you and your family very effectively if you do something deemed unacceptable by Big Brother. For instance, your address and phone number might be put on the mailing list and phone lists of the most annoying charitable organizations, who will call you every night while you are eating dinner and ask for the lady-of-the-house. Now do you understand the power Big Brother holds? If not...

MORE FACTS Another way Big Brother keeps an eye on you is through the Incapacitating Thought Police, who not only know what you're watching but also know what you're

opinion

thinking about him. Since at Cypress Creek there are only four, they must employ a variety of sophisticated devices and practices to monitor the opposition.

One of the most widely used devices in the P.A. system. At any moment, they can make their voices heard throughout the building. When this practice was in its heyday, home plate numbers of illegally parked vehicles were called out over the airwaves like baseball scores. Another application of P.A. system is its ability to eavesdrop on a given classroom. You never used to believe your elementary teacher when she said, "I have to go to the office for a second, so will have a record on you. This information can be used against you and your family very effectively if you do something deemed unacceptable by Big Brother. For instance, your address and phone number might be put on the mailing list and phone lists of the most annoying charitable organizations, who will call you every night while you are eating dinner and ask for the lady-of-the-house. Now do you understand the power Big Brother holds? If not...

THE SCARY FACTS Once the Thought Police do catch someone for insulting the cougar on the front of the school, their list of punishments is limitless. They love D-hall especially. Sometimes they have not yet realized that there is no longer a stigma attached to this activity, which has almost become a bonafide extra-curricular activity for some students. Another alternative is home suspension although in-school suspension seems to be in vogue these days. However,

the most horrible punishment went to a senior who went to D-hall on the wrong day. She was awarded 21 days of class-up day in the cafeteria. If that's not oppression, the I don't know what is!

THE PARTY LINE The only aspect of the Party and Big Brother remains the heart of Party policy. Three slogans that we must always remember. They have been by the overhead televisions in the commons so quickly that we do not even realize our subconscious minds are picking them up. Here they are for your first time ever in print:

SNACK BAR FOOD IS HEALTHY SCHOOL IS FUN AND EDUCATIONAL TEACHERS ARE PEOPLE, TOO

These are philosophy actually pursued by the Party. You know them all along but failed to recognize how you know them. You never really know how much of your school life Big Brother controlled. Now you do.

But not really. We wanted to tell you more. We wanted to use names and specifically tell you who Big Brother is but...

Were seniors' rights infringed upon?

Dear Editor,

As I am sure you know, the senior class favorites supposedly represent the favorite song, motto, flower, and color of the senior class. Traditionally, the members of the senior class nominate their favorites, and then vote for the selections with the most nominations. What emerges is known as the senior class favorites. Unfortunately, this tradition seems to have faded, at least at Cypress Creek it has.

In the recent nominations and voting of the senior class favorites, the rights of the seniors were infringed upon by the teachers in charge of going through the nominations. Those in charge actually took it upon themselves to consider the most popular motto nominated by the senior class. Of course, the teachers have to have some power of censorship over the nominations to guard against obscenity, but the motto that was censored had no obscenity and was only in a vague sense suggestive.

The motto (that was censored by the majority, yet was voted by one or two individuals, was, "If it isn't good, do it."

There are not any gross words in the saying, the motto is not obscene, and it by no means cuts down any organization or ethnic group. We believe it is just some good sound advice—go with your gut feelings, don't wait around for second thoughts. Now look at the motto elected. It is just a bunch of mish mash, goofy, deep stuff saying that the class of '84 is the best.

The "censorship squad" has had nominations before. Just last year a large number of people nominated Journey's "Escape" as senior song. The song failed to make the final list because the censorship squad did not feel the song title would look good years from now. If they had looked at the lyrics of the song, they would have probably felt really embarrassed. The song is about a person running away because people are pushing more and more rules

and laws on him and infringing on his free will. Are the people who censored this song trying to give the impression that the students thought school and Cypress Creek were the greatest things since sliced bread, that we were all just one big happy clan of idiots loving all the rules, rules, and insane education (Health, P.E.) showed down our throats? To actually believe that every single person loves school is a fallacy. I hate for this letter to be the one that tells them this grim fact, but not everyone is head over heels in love with school. Some people actually want to leave. The organization that is sponsoring this letter happens to enjoy school. We are not a group of malcontents trying to cause trouble, but we have not deluded ourselves into believing that everyone else likes school just as much as we do. Unfortunately, we do not like some of the things done to us by the administration. We enjoy having rights, and we do not like them infringed upon.

What the actions of censorship have basically done is to lower the integrity of the senior favorites. Now the favorites are what those in charge like best and not the students' choice. This year a song made it onto the final list that could be considered suggestive—"All Night Long" by Lionel Richie. But Lionel Richie is mellow, cool, and he is played on the teachers' radio stations. What would happen if "Let's Spend the Night Together" by the Rolling Stones was nominated. Although the title can be considered suggestive, the committee would probably never consider a Stones song because The Stones are trash, gross, and wild.

The students at Cypress Creek have had their rights violated, and the senior class of '84 has had the precious right of voting taken from them. It is up to the future senior classes to protect their rights better than we did and to always speak up when they feel their human and constitutional rights have been violated.

Name withheld by request

Sponsor views motto unacceptable

Dear Senator,

Since this letter has been written to me, I will try to answer to your satisfaction even though I doubt that can be done. There must be some censorship when an activity such as this is done. Unfortunately, some nominations do get put aside for various reasons. Your intentions may have been aboveboard, but if it is the least bit suggestive, then it is eliminated and that is final. As far as the motto that was elected was concerned, there were many, many more that said basically the same thing that were nominated than was your choice. Obviously, the majority has prevailed.

Your paragraph about last year's song is history and, therefore, is irrelevant. If you feel your rights have been infringed upon, I'm sorry, but you must learn to work within the framework of what is acceptable.

I had to depend on trustworthy students to tell me what was acceptable as far as the songs were concerned. I was not familiar with any of them, nor do I listen to Lionel Richie.

All of us must learn to accept and go along with certain guidelines. We frequently have to go along with second thoughts. We must learn to consider others and other things besides ourselves and our pleasure. Life consists of give and take, not just take.

Carol Kehlberg
Senior Sponsor

staff box

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news Newsmakers

Student rights (Continued from p. 1)

"Under a great suspicion they are the administration has the right to search lockers," said senior Heather Johnson. According to Mr. Thornton the court case of *Zemore v. Pomery* stated that their must students locker. He said, "Reasonable cause would have to include reports from a teacher or more responsible students."

In order to have a strip search there must be a great deal of probable cause and must be done in a manner that will be of the least embarrassment to the student. Using sniff lockers or on students if forbidden by the federal court case *Jones v. Lopez I.S.D.* Searches are only used when school officials feel definite in their accusations and searches are rare.

When it becomes a major punishment for an action a student has committed, one has the right to due process of the law. This entails a trial with lawyers. One may only request this procedure if a suspension of over ten days is in question.

The constitutionality article notes that there is a right to free press, and school districts generally allow this, but in the case of *Nebeker v. Board of Education* it was found that school administrators have the right to approve all articles. Courts generally allow all articles to be printed, but in the case of a controversial article there is sometimes a question as to if the article is necessary to inform.

Corporate punishment: what rights do we have? This method of discipline has become less common in recent days, but is constitutional. The court case of *Ingraham versus Wright* questioned the legality of corporal punishment fighting it as being "outraged and unusual punishment." The court found it to be legal and said that no safeguards per se were necessary. "We don't have to notify parents, but we usually do," said Mr. Thornton.

One feature that Cypress Creek has recently added to the student court is a certification project for Mrs. Parker. Because it seemed to help in other schools the decision was made to begin one here. When asked why this program would be useful Mrs. Parker said, "To provide an alternative, students would be responsible to students. Also students work in a real court situation."

In order for the student court to be used it is necessary for teachers to report repetitive classroom infractions and then the student will be put on trial.

Cypress-Fairbanks I.S.D. took an overview of all student rights and accumulated them in the School Law Review. This gave the rights on the lock thereof and the explanation of why they are allowed.

With such new features as the student court and its already fair School Law Review Cypress-Fairbanks I.S.D. attains a high level of fairness in giving students their constitutional rights.

The Company, Cy Creek's drama department will begin try-outs and workshops leading towards assembling a mime troupe on January 10 after school. One week after semester finals, auditions for the UIL one act play, "Tom Jones" will be held.

On January 7, new Cypress students participated in area band tryouts in Austin. See Jackson placed 14th out of 50 districts, and Mike Johnson placed eighth out of 11 troupes.

"It's very proud of them," said head band director John Siburn, although Jackson and Johnson did not make all-star band, their achievements have proven their excellent musical abilities.

The school store will be selling pre-announced posters this year, printed by DECA. Members of DECA held an open house December 21 in the DE room and would like to give a special thanks for all in attendance. January 22 DECA will sponsor a how-to-how to raise money for the Spina Bifida Association of Texas. An attendance will be: Tony Harrison chairman Joe Nisko.

On January 5, the Medical Careers Club and the Biology II classes went to observe open heart surgery performed by Dr. Doherty and Dr. Conroy. Unfortunately, they were unable to see a cadaver, as was previously planned.

Five Cypress Creek students were recently named National Merit Semifinalists. They are Matt Duggan, Jim Flears, John Knight, Stephen Spiers, and Steve Tappert. Students commended for their outstanding PSAT scores included Tom Campbell, Donna Carpenter, David Clay, Jim Doherty, Edward Kasper, Margaret Lee, Diane Osborn, Becky Swain, and Jill Valberding.

The cosmology students have been working hard and the work showed at recent contests. Both the teams of Kristine Tate, senior, and Kristin Erickson, senior, and Laurie Wardrop, junior, and Carol Harris, senior, placed at the district contest held at Cy-Fair. The Tate-Erickson team placed 1st, and the Wardrop-Harris team placed 4th. The students also participated in a field trip to the Deepchild Faith Home. Hair cuts, facials, and manicures were offered to the students and residents of the home.

Cosmology students stay after school the third Wednesday of each month in order to provide services for the students and public. A hair cut and style is only \$5.

Correction

It is noted in our report on the student court that the other sentence principle for any suspension I might have caused in my response to a student's letter in the November issue of the Connection ("Student suggests change in dress code"). One again we are sure that it is against school rules to wear shorts in school as designated in the student handbook. Minutes are kept, provided that the time is a length of only three (3) inches above the knee at the most. With the weather turning warmer, now, the temptation to violate the dress code will probably come again become a debatable issue. And again I suggest you check with an assistant principal before wearing a questionable piece of clothing.

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Bill Lowry: Active on campus and off

By Susan Manning
Features Editor

"Over the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth every time. Give the world the best you have anyway." is a philosophy Bill Lowry obviously lives by, giving his all in numerous school and community activities.

Bill is a senior at Cypress Creek and certainly one of the school's most active students. He has been involved in student council for four years, holding offices of president his junior year and parliamentarian his senior year. He was class representative both his freshman and sophomore year. He was chosen both his sophomore and junior years to attend the Student Council summer camp at Stephen F. Austin State University. Bill was also chosen his junior and senior years for the Mid-Winter Advanced Leadership Training for Student Council. As a member of student council, Bill feels he holds a responsibility to the other students.

"I was chosen to represent the people, and that's my job," Bill explained. Bill was awarded a medal for outstanding student council member and he was recognized by the national list of outstanding student council members. Obviously he must be doing his job well.

Bill's interests also include theatre, which he participates actively in and out of



Bill Lowry was awarded the Century III Leaders Scholarship on January 17. He will also compete in Williamsburg, Virginia March 2-5.

Photo by Mike Henderson

school. Bill has been involved in drama for six years. He has held five lead roles in Cypress Creek High School productions including *A Company of Men*, *The Drovers* and *Cyrano de Bergerac*. He is on the executive council of the Theta Chi club, a member of the International Theta Chi Society, and has earned a Theta Chi letter jacket. He qualified for state in drama acting with his counterpart Jeff Danish, senior. "That's more of an honor than anything else," Bill

commented. Bill has participated in many Forensic competitions and has won numerous 1st, 2nd and 3rd place rankings. He was a member of the all star cast in a one-act U.L.L. play and was chosen best actor during the '82-'83 school year. Bill also partook in community musical theatre.

Bill also participates in community activities. He is an active member to the Northwest Association for Retarded Citizens and participated as a counselor at camp for retarded children. He has been chosen for two consecutive years to speak with area junior high students about drug abuse and persuade them against the use of drugs. Only selected students from area high schools participated. "To hear from a high school student has much more meaning than to read from a textbook," Bill explained.

Bill recently represented Cy Creek in the Century III Leaders Scholarship contest. The contest involved writing an essay on a problem the individual thinks the United States will face in it's third century of existence. Bill's topic was on the decline of patriotism. Out of 840 contestants, Bill was named one of ten finalists.

Like so many people, Bill wants to leave a good impression behind when he is gone. With his constant involvement in numerous activities at Cy Creek and his many accomplishments and awards, Bill Lowry will be remembered as Cy Creek for many years to come. "I hope I'm someone that Cypress Creek can be proud of," Bill concluded.

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Cheating to make the grade?

You can fool yourself
You can cheat until you're blind
"It Can Happen" by Yes

By Todd Savage
Editor

A two-hour episode of the A-Team was on last night, and he just could not tear himself away from the excitement to study during his English test. He tried to study during commercial breaks, but could not concentrate for periods of longer than two minutes at a time.

The next day he is in a panic. He did not study last night and is now attempting to gather as much information about the test

as possible. He believes this will help him to make a good grade. He does not usually cheat on his schoolwork and feels apprehensive as he glances down at the prepared answers during the test. The teacher's eyes constantly scan the classroom. Does she see him? He is uncertain and does not know if cheating is really worth the anxiety it creates.

Everyday at Cypress Creek and many other high schools, students are faced with this conflict. Should they cheat and make a good grade or honestly accept the fact that they are unprepared? The pressure to do well seems almost overwhelming. "This is a very achievement-oriented area," said Bob Schindler, school psychologist. "Students feel a lot of pressure to succeed."

Recently an extreme example of cheating occurred at Cypress Creek. Copies of the senior I. English test were stolen by several students. After the test was administered, the teachers learned of the theft and wrote a new exam to substitute for the original grade. One senior English teacher believes

that "more cheating goes on than should be." "Teachers need to be more careful," the teacher said.

The results of a survey by the Connection of Cypress Creek students revealed that cheating has been practiced by almost all students at one time. Ninety-seven percent of the students surveyed have ever cheated and 87 percent consider themselves "occasional" cheaters. Most students (83%) think cheating is wrong but only 18 percent feel guilty after committing such an action. English is the subject in which most students (66%) cheat while cheating on homework assignments is an activity practiced by over half the students (55%). Only 30 percent have ever used cheat sheets for assistance. Seventy percent of the students view copying someone else's homework as dishonest, but only 18 percent think giving

a fellow student a description of a test is wrong. Most students would not mind a friend cheating from them (88%), but a stranger would only be a welcome cheater to a few (24%). Seventy-seven percent of the students surveyed believe teachers do not catch very many cheaters, only mention that all cheaters have ever been detected by their teachers.

Cheating is not a recent occurrence. Although it has long been a problem in schools, the attitude toward it has changed. Such ethics as "wearing isn't everything, it's the only thing" contribute to the acceptance of cheating in today's society, according to the school psychologist Schindler. "Getting ahead" is another widely-held

Do you feel guilty after cheating?

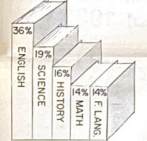


Yes



No

In which subject do you cheat the most?



from students who have already been in English. The thought he receives does not boost his confidence much, so he makes a

"The pressure is so great to make a good grade," one senior said. "The emphasis is on good grades and not on learning." Schindler suggested that teachers "talk frankly about the effects of cheating."

"Teachers should emphasize learning rather than grades," he said. "A teacher who communicates acceptance of his or her students and who is interested in the individual will usually have less cheating."

Schindler also believes the solution to preventing cheating lies with the student. "Students should be aware of what they're learning now," he said, rather than looking ahead to college. He tells students to know that their actions will have consequences which are consistently applied.

"The responsibility for cheating is the student's," Schindler said. "Students own their own behavior."

"Students are poor in time management skills," he said. "Cheating becomes a habit because it's an easy way to get decent grades and it's a bad habit to break."

When cheating develops into a habit, students use it as a crutch. They probably would do fine but do not believe that they

that "more cheating goes on than should be." "Teachers need to be more careful," the teacher said.

The results of a survey by the Connection of Cypress Creek students revealed that cheating has been practiced by almost all students at one time. Ninety-seven percent of the students surveyed have ever cheated and 87 percent consider themselves "occasional" cheaters. Most students (83%) think cheating is wrong but only 18 percent feel guilty after committing such an action. English is the subject in which most students (66%) cheat while cheating on homework assignments is an activity practiced by over half the students (55%). Only 30 percent have ever used cheat sheets for assistance. Seventy percent of the students view copying someone else's homework as dishonest, but only 18 percent think giving

philosophy that encourages students to cheat. "All these ethics prey upon people," he said. "Stares is determined upon how well you do in society." The amount of money a person makes seems to be increasingly important today.

"Self-made men are admired, regardless of how they got there," Schindler said. Schindler believes ways to reduce cheating are available. Grades based on involvement and group work take the pressure off students. He thinks students should not only be evaluated on tests, which are very conducive to cheating. According to Schindler, religion can also offer help. Society is not providing the ethics that serve as a guide, but religion has a firm set of ideas on which a person can base his values and beliefs.

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In the Mood? Mom and dad's music may become yours, too

By Alice Wake Staff Writer

"History repeats itself" is a phrase that proves itself true in the '80s. Though it's nearly impossible to predict the trends and fads of the future, we may be able to discern trends of the '80s. Last year some of the biggest trends in fashion and music came from fads of the 1970s.

Teenagers are primarily the people who set the trends of music and fashion. In school, people are wearing denim jackets with the collars turned up, saddle shoes and penny loafers. In the mall, one can see full skirts, high-heeled pumps, and flunky jewelry for sale. Girls and guys both are wearing their hair shorter and "slicked-back", a style made popular in the early '50s. Although students today do not really have a local mall shop, they still have places to call their "mall," such as the mall, pizza parlors, and video arcade. However, one needs transportation to these places.



Like teenagers of the past, our generation has a passion for cars. Although sleeker, futuristic cars seem to be the most popular, some people still covet the look of enormous tailfins on the back of one's car. "You can have your Camaro or Firebird, but a '57 Cadillac is real class," said senior Kevin Hackett. "Cruising" in a convertible, with their favorite music cranked up was what many of our parents did when they were our age. How many times have your parents said to you, "How can you stand that music?" To our parents, much of today's music is

relatively unknown band from New York. Now they're one of the hottest bands around with popular singles like the "Stacy Cat Stret" and "Sexy and 17". Artists who have already established a distinct sound, such as Billy Joel and Herby Lovins and the News, have recently been experimenting in sounds of 30 years ago. Herby Lovins' newest album, Sports, has a few songs that are reminiscent of once popular "doo-wop" songs. However, Billy Joel's An Innocent Man is an album of completely old-fashioned sounds. The hit singles "Updown City" and "Tell Her About It" reveal the style of the album. Not only will music styles change this decade, but ways of dress and even attitudes will be different. In the '80s, people wear hats and gloves when they went out on the street. They danced to Glenn Miller songs at parties, at which they wore semi-formal evening clothes. This is quite a contrast to what people wear and listen to today. But some people believe that maybe the '40s trends will

return. The Kinks, a '60s rock group released a single, as well as a video focused on those '40s sounds, "Come Dancin'." "They've been around a long time...not much, but they've stayed around. Sooner or later it's gonna grow on people," said freshman Angela Carrington. "I think it (the '40s era) probably will trend, because a lot of people are wearing hats and suits," said sophomore Valerie Johnson. In the mall, next to the '50s clothes, one notices rhinestone jewelry, hats, gloves, and dressier evening clothes. Maybe we won't be breaking up on our bedroom dancing on weekends like they may have in the '40s, but teenagers of every generation share a passion for the same thing: music. Forty years ago, teenagers had the same problems we do now. Their parents scoffed at the "Glenn Miller sound", which they said would never last. They quit scoffing when the "Big Band" era flourished until the '50s, when rock 'n' roll took over. However, musical artists of the '80s have taken ideas from the '40s and used them in their music. In fact, both Lisa Knott and Joe Jackson have released albums containing remakes of the '40s. Jackson's Jumpin' Jive, released three years ago, was not as popular as Knott's What's New, which is currently ranked third on the Rolling Stone album chart. In future music, look for the use of more horns by various artists, and the rise of more male/female vocal groups.

Survey says... 100 students pick the best and the worst of 1983

Recently, a survey was conducted of one hundred Cy-Creek students about some of their favorite things of 1983. The following things are the results of the questions asked to 25 freshmen, 25 sophomores, 25 juniors and 25 seniors.

- Best Movie: 1. Return of the Jedi 2. Risky Business 3. Vacation
Worst Movie: 1. Jew 3-D 2. A Star is Born 3. Nightmares 4. Superman III
Best Album: 1. Synchronicity-The Police 2. Thriller-Michael Jackson 3. Pyromania-Del Leppard
Best Artist: 1. Richard Gere 2. Eddie Murphy 3. Burt Reynolds
Worst Artist: 1. Mr. T 2. John Travolta 3. Ben Kingsley
Best Live Concert: 1. The Police 2. Journey 3. Rush
Worst Live Concert: 1. Story Cats 2. Queen's Rich-A-Quit 3. Joan Jet

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15-5A heads for closest finish ever

By Brad Bryson Staff Writer

The beginning of the new season of boys basketball brought with it a sense of confusion. Confusion about who would and would not be strong in district 15-A. An inexperienced Cougar team was expected by many to defend their district crown. The Bearcats of Klein, however, were picked by the coaches to win district. These two teams were to link, but Klein Forest, Cy-Fair and Jersey Village were to stay close. Close enough, in fact, to have a shot at the district title.

Now that we are nearing the start of district play, the picture should be more clear and there should be dominant teams. Nevertheless, this is not the situation. Instead of possibly five teams involved there are now six. Klein Oak has forgotten the fact that their team is comprised of all non-senior members. "Parity" is the word Coach Norman Pasche uses to describe the situation. "Never have I seen a more tighter district than this one."

The key for the Cougs to take advantage of the situation is consistency. "For us to contend for district play we have to be consistent for the entire season."

Swimmers set pace for season

Well into the heart of their season, the swimmers are continuing the winning tradition that they have established at Cypress Creek. On January 12, the boys and girls defeated Waukegan, the boys in a fairly close 95-74 victory while the girls swamped the helpless Mustangs 115-54. Sophomore Jason West led the boys with a first place finish in the 200-yard individual medley (IM) and a close second in the 100 breaststroke. For the girls' team, senior Jennifer James won the breaststroke and the 200 free while freshman Jackie Dodge also recorded two outstanding first place swims in the 200 IM and the 100 free. Other victims of their success have included Bay City, Katy, Galveston Park and their toughest opponent as yet, Clear Creek. However, Clear Creek did not turn out to be as close of a race as Coach Webb expected. The girls' team averaged last year's loss with a 92-77 victory. Freshmen Dodge and Susanne Taylor led the girls with strong swims. Dodge won the 300 free, placed second in the 200 free, and was member of the winning free relay, while Taylor was a winner in the 200 IM and in an

consistency—we've lacked that so far," said Pasche. Pasche went on to say that the majority of the time the team had played up to his expectations, but individuals had not been consistent to what was expected of them. Ray Kim and Louis Garza, although they have not been dominating, have been playing very well, as expected. On the other hand, Bobby Kloppe, Jon Courville and Lance Rolsch played well at times but are expected to play with more consistency. When the season started Jay Kringsel who was not supposed to be a starter, now starts regularly. Carl Johnson and Chris Krueger have played well off the bench.

Definitely the Cougs have played very well. They have little experience, but their attitude and desire to learn and do things right, have made up for this. They are still learning how to play on the varsity level and with the pressures of playing varsity," said Pasche.

This team is learning and getting better with each game. One thing for sure is that they have got to be ready for district because any losses could be fatal to their district title hopes.

Marquitta Love: extra for fans

By Jane Thatcher Sports Editor "Awesome" is all a fan observing a Cy-Creek girl's basketball game can say when senior Marquitta Love rebounds, scores, or just walks out onto the court. Although Love has been playing basketball for five years, she says Cy-Creek's head basketball Coach Betty Mauskant has helped her the most as far as technique is concerned. "She seems to know what she is talking about, when she tells you to do something, she will also tell you why you should do it. None of my other coaches really did that." Love says. One varsity team-mate who has been



Keat on scoring the winning point in a 51-50 Cougar victory over Klein Oak, senior Bobby Kloppe even the bucket. The Cougs are still in contention for a district title. Photo by J.R. Sanchez

Cougars prepare for second half

By Jane Thatcher Sports Editor According to head basketball coach Betty Mauskant, only two 15-5A district teams are an anticipated threat to the Cy-Creek girls basketball team's undefeated record. Jersey Village and, of course, Cy-Fair. "Cy-Fair does not know how to be a loser," says Coach Mauskant about the approaching game. Hard work has brought the Cougars improvements with their team defense and rebounding. Led by senior Holly Evans, while more consistent scoring is needed out of the point, Coach Mauskant believes the players are "growing into themselves." "It's all developing," she said. Through the first half of district play, improvements have been seen both offensively and defensively. Outstanding players are sophomores Kim Kloppe who leads team in scoring, Freshman Stacy Miller and sophomore Michelle Morrison both lead the team in rebounding. Watch for all the Lady Cougars as the second half of district play begins.

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Stephane Andre

European talent at Creek

By Jane Thatcher
Sports Editor

Changing schools is difficult, but moving to a different country with a different language would make the transition even tougher. But for Stephane and William Andre the adjustment was made less difficult by a special skill they obtained in their French homeland—soccer.

Becoming acquainted with the trends, attitudes, and activities of teenagers in the United States are not all the Andre brothers had to do. They also had to, well...speak English. Both Stephane and William considered this their largest obstacle after moving to the United States two years ago.

"We played soccer all the time just like Americans play football," says varsity Cougar Stephane Andre, who has played soccer since he was about seven years old. Unlike his younger brother William, he was reluctant to come to the U.S. because of fre-

quent past relocations. Born in France, Stephane has lived in countries like Germany, Holland, London, and now the United States. Living on two continents has helped Stephane decide upon a college major of international relations. Living in the States has provided a larger future in soccer for the varsity Cougar.

"We played soccer more as a hobby in France. It is a bigger deal here at a high school level," explains Stephane.

"I want to play in college and if I can, I'll go further," said sophomore William, a member of the junior varsity team. He exists as a promising varsity athlete during his remaining years at Cypress Creek.

"What makes them good is that they are both very aggressive and have a lot of hustle," says head soccer coach Dimitri Oltean.

For some impressive European talent, watch for the Andre brothers as the 83-84 soccer season kicks off.



Coach Oltean consults with a player between play. Photo by J.R. Sanchez

Romanian national coach brings experience to Creek soccer

One year ago, district 15-5A and Cypress Creek kicked off the first season of high school soccer. There was a lengthy job ahead of officials in organizing soccer teams. Players had to be found, but the more difficult task of finding adequate coaching also was ahead.

When Cy-Creek hired Coach Dimitri Oltean they knew they were getting a very experienced coach. He had been coaching soccer at different levels for 22 years, including

13 years as the Romanian national coach. Cypress Creek had the coach to do the job, but it was still unknown whether the Cougars could play soccer well enough to be in playoff contention. The answer came quickly in the form of a district championship for the varsity team.

Oltean lived in Romania all his life until coming to the U.S. in 1979. On most early mornings before school you could find him coaching cross country. But in his spare

time things are different. "I like to go hunting," Oltean went on to say, "I also like to read very much."

Oltean also enjoys most music but above all he enjoys opera. "I don't like rock and roll much, I guess that's for younger people."

"We lost nine players from last year's team. We have good skills but not much experience," Oltean says, looking into the future.

He feels they will have to work harder to make the playoffs, especially since neither Klein Forest or Kingwood lost players from last year's playoff contending teams.

Daley practice makes a winner

Any sport requires great athletic ability on the part of the player. Some sports require stamina, some quickness, strength and coordination. Soccer, however, requires all of these.

This is why junior Kim Daley has worked hard to achieve all of these skills. Her hard work has paid off with a starting center forward position on the girls varsity soccer team.

Born in New York, Kim lived there until the fourth grade when she then moved to Ohio. A Houstonian since the seventh grade, Kim is starting for the second year on the girls varsity, however, this is her eighth year playing soccer.

"I practice about three hours a day, soccer takes a lot of hard work and endurance," Daley says. During the off-season she plays cross country and track. Cross-country builds great endurance and strength, while track builds speed, quickness, with endurance and strength.

"She contributes a lot to our front line. In her position she has to out-dribble her opponents and be able to pass and shoot," said teammate Kathy Moran of Daley. During the summer Daley made the south Texas select team which traveled to North Carolina to play other teams from around the country. She was selected by state coach James Carter after a series of tryouts.

"Kim has no weaknesses. She is an excellent ball handler, a good shooter and passer," said Coach Connie Smith.

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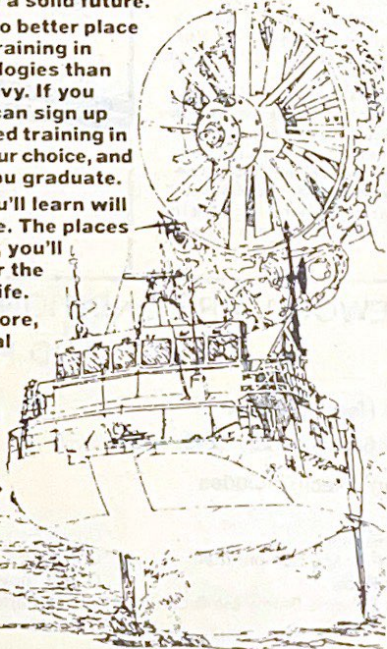
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