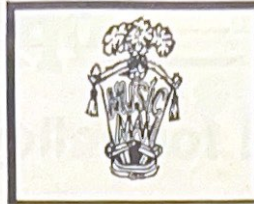
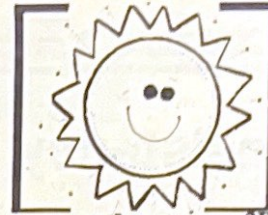


Senior tribute - see p. 4B



Drama made music - see p. 8B



Summer fun - see p. 3B

Cypress Creek High School
Houston, Texas

cougar Connection

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1960 shows changes through the years

Long time residents of the area reflect on the 'good ol' days'

By Susan Mannina
Features Editor

Change changing places

Root yourself to the ground...

Rapidly changing, the Northwest area is one of the fastest growing in Houston. In fact, the 1960 area was not even considered a part of Houston too long ago.

"This was not Houston: it was the 'boonies,'" explained Senior Jim Delahanty. Delahanty lives in Champions West and has been a resident of the area for 14 years.

Looking at 1960 now, once a farm-to-market road, it is hard to believe that years ago, many of the places and conveniences taken for granted now didn't even exist. "The nearest supermarket was at I-45 and FM 1960," Delahanty of the area when he arrived. "There were no houses, just a lot of trees and 1960 was a two lane road all the way to I-45."

Senior, Michael Cox, has lived in Prestonwood Forest for 10 years and has witnessed the growth of the area. "There was nothing but trees, where these shopping malls now stand," he explained.

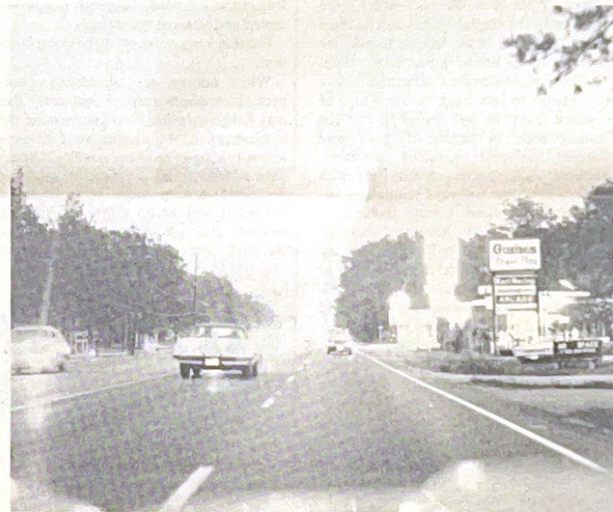
"I remember when cows used to run out at the fields where Willowbrook and North Oaks Malls are now," explained Joel Adam, senior, and 18 year resident of Tall Pines.

"I thought it was a little country road."

Sue Schreiber

"1960 was like a farm road. It wasn't even called 1960. It was known as Jackrabbit road, then," explained Jan Fawcett, senior and 17 year resident of Champions.

"I thought it was little country road," remembered Sue Schreiber, senior and 10 year resident of the area. Well, the road has changed and with that change came the traffic. The traffic situation in Houston has moved to the now congested 1960 area. In 1973 the area of FM 1960 at 149 reported traffic counts of 35,950. This number increased to 81,600 FM 1960 at Stuebner Airline reported 37,815. This number more



The 1960 area has certainly grown, developed, and established itself throughout the past years. The area is well known and respected in the Houston area for its many cultural and recreational sites.

than tripled to 130,379 in 1981. Of course, the traffic isn't increasing on its own. The population review for the census tract 538 in 1980 was 94,897 people. Census tract 538 includes the areas around FM 1960, 149 and Stuebner Airline Drive.

The growing area has many recreational, educational, emergency and cultural centers to offer its residents. "We didn't go out much; there was no place to go. The high point of our week was going to get groceries with my mom," reflected Schreiber. "I used to go to the creek and catch snakes with my brother," she continued. The nearest malls to the area were Memorial City and Town and Country. Now the area offers a variety of recreational activities, as well as two malls, Willowbrook and North Oaks. Recreational opportunities include the Champions Golf Club. Professionals Jimmy Demart and Jackie Burke founded the club which was the site of the Houston Open for a number of years. The area also

offers the exclusive golf and tennis club, Raveneaux. Also offered in the area are several parks including Bear Creek, Spring Creek, Cypress Creek Parkway and Klein Parks. There are also dozens of casual pools for the swimmers in the area. "The only places to swim were Cypress Creek, Bleyl, or the Cy-Fair YMCA pools. There wasn't a Regency 10 years ago," said Gretchen Spitzer, senior and 15 year resident of Tower Oaks Plaza.

Schools in the area are numerous and of excellent standing in the community. They have kept pace with the rapid growth of the area through the addition of several schools. The school districts in the Northwest area alone are numerous. They include Cy-Fair, Klein, Spring and Aldine. Each district's schools are highly regarded and several students have won local, state, and national acclaim. Also in the area are North Harris County and Houston Community College campuses. With outstanding programs and

facilities, all educational needs can easily be satisfied.

Although it may be nice to think that nothing bad will ever happen to you, the community offers several emergency agencies. There are several community sponsored volunteer fire fighters in the area which are rated by Harris County as effective as Houston's own fire department. The Cypress Creek Elementary Ambulance Service is also community sponsored consisting of several trained personnel. Years ago residents of the area didn't have quick access to any type of hospital facility. Now there are two hospitals available in area: Northwest Medical Center at FM 1960 near I-45 and Cypress Fairbanks Hospital at Highway 6 near Jones Road. The Harris County Sheriff's Department, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Harris County Constables provide police protection to the area. The courthouse is located on Cypresswood Drive.

"1960 was like a farm road. It was known as Jackrabbit road, then."

Jan Fawcett

Houston Northwest is also a very active cultural community. Community theatre, art galleries and local symphonies are a major part of the community. The Cypress Creek Christian Community Center across from the courthouse on Cypresswood Drive houses several entertaining events throughout the year.

All of this culture didn't just happen. The area has grown from a small, wooded community of several hundred to the large community of several hundred thousand, and with these changes developed a residential, business, recreational, and cultural environment on the outskirts of the true Houston city limits. "You can't stop progress; that's what my mom says!" said Delahanty.

*Capitalize on this good fortune...
Changes!*

Consistency needed for policy implementation

By Todd Savage
Editor

The unprecedented success of Cyprus Creek in both academic and athletic realms during the 1983-84 school year is certainly worthy of praise.
Yet something is wrong there.
After seven years, the same Cyprus Creek is one of those schools that no student need be ashamed of. Students at this school accomplish great feats, gaining state and national recognition for their achievements. With all of this glory, it seems logical that the attitude of success would trickle down and infect the student body as a whole.
Instead, everyone is complaining. The environment is tainted with hostility. Each new policy or administrative declara-

tion is met with resistance. Students are finding it difficult to function in a setting made unstable not only from the external noise of Kinn Fossil and her advocacy of a stronger education for Texas' students, but also from within their own school.
It often seems that Cyprus students are unsuspecting guests on an unending episode of the Twilight Zone. Policies appear as a steady clip and threaten some subliminally. But mysteriously, they often fade away and low impact until another time when they reappear on another episode and surprise students who seemed to think that the particular policy had simply entered a new dimension. Another dimension of time and space.
Students need and desire a clear set of rules in order to know just how far they can

go. A student handbook was composed to remedy this problem yet the effectiveness of many of the included rules seems to fade as quickly as a hard-earned tan.
If a situation is recognized as a growing problem and requires a new policy, then the administration is perfectly justified in its actions. It is the job of the administrator, who are entrusted by the elected school board members, to set guidelines as they deem necessary. Very often students do question new rules; however, what they are really reacting to is the manner in which these changes are thrust upon them. Adapting to change is a delicate process in any phase of life. It is difficult to accept interruptions in the daily routine that in the past never had to be dealt with. In the fall, students had a hard time coming to terms with the new exemption policy because they felt that the original system had been effective and rewarding. It was then baffling to see a stricter policy enacted, but eventually, after a few weeks of heated discussion the frustration subsided. Students finally accepted and adapted accordingly.
But they were never offered any explanation.

When policies are introduced unexpectedly, students realize that every day may hold a surprise. Who knows when the administration will decide to formulate another ruling or reinforce a policy that has been allowed to lay dormant for much of the year? Actions such as these breed instability and set up a face-off between students and administrators. Instead of students and administrators working

together, they find themselves constantly at odds with each other.
With over 2500 students at Cyprus Creek, someone is always going to disagree with a particular rule. Rules are important to keep the school in some state of order, and occasionally, new ones must be developed mid-year to combat a previously non-existent situation. But once a rule is agreed upon, an explanation as to the reasoning behind the ruling would help many students understand and adapt. Understanding a problem is usually more efficient in the long run than simply adapting to it. The same can be applied to the academic arena of math and science. If one likely to be successful in applying his knowledge.
Secondly, students need to know what the rules are. Consistency is needed in rules governing the dress code, only one area rather than a host of other policies which seem expected to follow the rules when they don't know which are still firm because of a lack of enforcement!
With changes already planned for the future in educational systems, students can prepare themselves. They at least know why a stronger system is needed. Unfortunately, why made students lay awake nights wondering under scrutiny. Although an explanation has been offered that "ankle hair" is a class discussion about the rule is more distracting than the ankle hair.

Take a stand!

"Are you excited about graduation?"
"What are you going to college?" If I hear these two probing questions one more time I think I'm going to have a pamphlet printed up outlining my immediate college plans as well as my long-term career objectives and pass it out to all interested parties. Maybe I should have sent them out with my graduation invitations. Oh well, let's forget the trivial introductions and get on with the professions that is expected in an editor's end-of-year good-bye column. (Actually, I only wrote this in case we need to fill a space, so if we didn't have room, you won't ever see the outstanding advice that is to follow).
It is truly hard to believe that I am going to be leaving this school and moving onto another stage in my life. As negative as some of my editorial introductions appear, they really were not intended to be. Instead, they were meant to give students a voice.
To not question something that you think is wrong is to surrender your beliefs and dispose of everything you stand for. Through this newspaper, you have had the opportunity to express yourself. At a few times during the year, several students have

stepped forward and made their feelings known. While they did not always voice points with the administrators and teachers they did stimulate those officials to evaluate their reasoning behind a particular ruling.
As editor of the Cyprus Connection, I have also sought to encourage the same type of reaction from the administration and the student body. A variety of issues were covered this year, including education, students' rights, prayer, cheating, the dress code, and the always popular administrative policies (truly, exemption, dress-up days, etc.). Although many of these stories will not affect the way the school is run, they will act as a barometer of student opinion. It is my wish that the administration use the newspaper as such and when a good point is made, it is studied further and improvements are made.
Although future editors may not hold the same curiosity I do, I hope you, the readers will continue to question and do not let your ethics be trampled upon. Be fair in your accusations. I also wish the same for my fellow classmates as they progress in their many paths. Always be you and do not let anyone tell you otherwise!

Yes, this is the last Cyprus Connection of the 1983-84 school year. And we also believe it is one of the best we have ever done. With each issue we produced, we learned more and hope that this special issue encompasses all that we have worked so hard for this year. Be proud that you have a good newspaper at your school. Few schools can boast the same.

<p>staff box</p> <p>Editor-in-Chief: Todd Savage Business Manager: Jan Favore Sports Editor: Jane Truesher Features Editor: Susan Manning Copy Editor: Cary Kinsinger Photo Editor: Gretchen Spitzer Staff Writers: Alex White, Tom Grodzicki, Angie Hummer Staff Photographers: Brad Brown, Kimberly Katsikis Staff Artist: K.C. Capello Advisor: Kathy Harvey</p> <p>All material contained in the Cyprus Creek Cyprus Connection is written entirely by high school students. Opinions expressed in columns and editorials are those of the student reporters and not necessarily those of the Cyprus Creek faculty, administration, or the student body.</p> <p>The Cyprus Connection is a member of the Texas High School Association and the International League Press Conference. Prospective advertisers should contact the Business Manager of the Connection at the number or address given below.</p> <p>9813 Greer Road Houston, TX 77070 408-5900 Ext. 344</p>	<p>calendar</p> <p>17 Last day for seniors Spring band concert</p> <p>18 Prom</p> <p>21 Senior breakfast</p> <p>23 Underclassmen finals (1,2,3)</p> <p>24 Underclassmen finals (2,4,6)</p> <p>26 Graduation</p>	<p>preview</p> <p>Final Issue</p> <p>This issue could never have been possible without the talents of a group of aspiring Journalism I students, many of whom will be new additions to the newspaper and yearbook staffs next year. They were responsible for all phases of newspaper production, including writing stories, setting ads and putting up the actual paper. The newspaper staff would like to congratulate them for a remarkable job and thank them for their hard work. These journalistic mavericks are Robby Gay, Dorren Gerwall, Chelsea Grevin, Laurie Nimbarger, Jennifer Lambert, Jennifer Langston, Michelle Millington, Greg Pettit, Kevin Shreman, David Russell.</p>
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Newsmakers



Kevin Bryan, Kirk Hartman and Keith Bell pose for a photo of judges during the 'Mr. Physique' contest.

Class donates landscaping

"Our school looks like a Turkish prison," said one senior. Finally, after seven years our school is going to get a new look.
The Class of 1983 is donating landscaping for the new football stadium. The class is donating 35 new plants, 35 new trees and flowers that will last year round. Extra dirt for the landscaping will come from the renovation of the football stadium.
The district won't take care of the new landscaping, so in August, when planting is completed, Mrs. Shraake wants to get the Math Honor Society and Student Council to earn service points by donating, fertilizing, and trimming the beds. The flowers and shrubs would remain year round and possibly the complaints from the parents and students about the appearance of the school.
"The school could really look like a college campus. In two years, it could really look good," Mrs. Shraake said.

Members of the National Art Honor Society began painting three murals in Cyprus Creek on Monday, April 30.
The murals are located across from the assistant principal's office, near the drill team area, and by the art room.
Recently the new Silverado officers were selected. The 1984-85 Silverado officers are Sheree Knight, colored; Steve Hancock, II, colored; and major Teresa Gilbert, Denise Nelson, Lisa Oates, Dana Podolsnik, and Christi Reysmann. These girls will lead the drill team next year.
At a recent Employer-Employee Banquet, several DECA students were awarded for their achievements. Lynn Moore was named Outstanding DE student, Rhonda Rhee received the scholastic award for highest grade point average, and Ken Zanella received a Perfect Attendance Award.

On May 3 the choir went to Dallas for state competition. At UIL, Choral made superior rating in stage and recitation rating in sight reading. The Second Men's Choir made superior rating in sight reading and excellent in rating in stage. Top awards at the Choir Banquet on April 28 went to Robert Tappan winning who who and most valuable. Also Bill Lowery got Best and Liz Bailey got Sweetheart.
On Wednesday, April 11, Cyprus Creek hosted the Annual District Art Show, and did very well in the competition. In art, Kays Fortman received three awards, Arisa Alabi, Reed Vankill, Stephen Deffert, Scott Stauder, and Stefanie Springer received two awards, and Diana Browner, Alan Ray, Ben Everett, Jay Kinsell, Akida Thompson, Holly Beck, Rick Shaw, Susan Chastagner, Andy Sylvester and Kelly Davis all received one award. For photography, John Kadie received two awards, Larry Latham, Arisa Alabi, Amy Rader, Peggy Radol, and Jenny Marshall received one award.

The National Honor Society fund raising our week was held to raise money for scholarships, summer camp, induction expenses and service projects.
The new officers are President Angela Orie, Vice President Pat Eaton, Secretary Ann Marie White, and Treasurer Scott Langston. There are approximately 80 members this year and 73 Juniors and 10 graduating seniors were inducted in March. The NHS has monthly meetings, a fall and spring service project and spring induction ceremony.

In regional competition, Bill Lowery and Todd Savage both advanced to the state level in prose and feature writing, respectively, with their second place finishes. At the state UIL Academic and Literary meet on April 28-29, Lowery placed eighth and Savage finished fifth.

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Suicide: A preventable tragedy for America's teenagers

by Laurie Numburger and Doreen Gervasi Staff Writers

Hotline Numbers-
488-7222 Crisis Helpline
228-1505 Crisis Hotline
452-5929 Lifeline Hotline

Beth refused to go to school this morning. Sitting alone in a dark corner, for what seemed hours, she feels that everyone hates her. Beth's mother finally left for work, leaving Beth with the house to herself. Her grades were slipping. Her boyfriend of a year and a half had just dumped her for a freshman, and to top it all off, her best friend had moved to Tulsa-eight hundred miles away. Now Beth can let her feelings go. She thinks she has found the answer to her problems. Suicide.

Beth is not alone. At least 500,000 youths attempt suicide per year, a number that has tripled in the last twenty years. The school psychologist, Dr. Bob Schilder, sees about 50 students a month. He feels that only 2 or 3 are suicidal. Suicide is now the second leading cause of death among teens and is a major social and medical problem of society today.

"There are a lot of pressures here at the Creek, academically and socially," according to Dr. Schilder. Studies show that 95 percent of teens that attempt suicide do not really want to die and 80 percent of teens have suicidal thoughts at one time or another. For every

successful attempt at suicide, there are 50-150 unsuccessful ones.

Dr. Schilder says, "Most students are eager to talk and especially to be listened to," and help can be easily attained. Crisis

monthly, of which 12 percent are from children up to 17 years of age. The majority of the problems are relationship with parents, boy/girl friends or teachers. Suicidal teens believe "loved ones, life in-

"If you need somebody and nobody's there, you feel that God has made you different, wrong."

Helpline of Houston answers 120 monthly calls from teens, about 10 percent of that monthly total average of 1,400 calls. Troubled teens can talk to professionally trained people when they call. "The amount of suicide calls has really picked up in the last month," said Mary, a professional at Crisis Helpline. Another Houston professional helpline, Crisis Hotline, answers up to 3,000 calls

general would be better off without them," according to Nora Barrera, a professional at the Helpline.

"Teenagers are struggling with the issues of significance (what are they), competence (what can I do well) and control (what can I influence or have control of in this crazy, out of control world)," Dr. Schilder said.

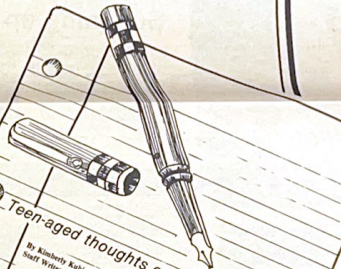
There are a number of reasons why teens commit suicide. Bad grades, parental problems, peer pressure, loneliness, moving, broken relationships, death of a close person, divorce and alcoholism are all common.

"In America, only winners are accepted as success. The media promotes an idealized view of people. Some parents use children as status symbols," according to Dr. Schilder. "Alcohol and drug abuse are slow suicide which usually masks depression or hopelessness," said Dr. Schilder.

A Toronto psychiatrist studied 500 adolescents who had attempted suicide and adolescents who had attempted suicide at a time of great change, crisis and pressure with a tendency for overreaction to stressful situations that can occur during this period of their life. Parents also feel that their children will grow out of it.

"We feel it is a mystery because most of us are uncomfortable with the subject and keep our heads buried in the sand," says Dr. Schilder.

The National Suicide Prevention Week was May 6-12. With the theme "A Preventable Tragedy."



Teen-aged thoughts on suicide and dying

By Kimberly Kuslik Staff Writer

Eighty percent of all teens have suicidal thoughts at one time or another. Each month the school psychologist, Dr. Bob Schilder, sees about 50 students at the Creek. Of the 500 students at Creek, he says a small number, but that number is growing. He thinks would often many people feel that depression was a necessary part of suicide attempt with a necessary bit of chance.

"The best of chances," he says, "is acceptance and had a great prognosis with death. I still feel that I am of little use to people. I see a

...I don't feel alone in my feelings...
...I feel that I am not the only one...
...I know I'll die by the time I'm...
...I still feel alone..."

Signs of Suicide

- 1. giving away possessions
- 2. withdrawal & depressed
- 3. behavioral changes
- 4. "no one" syndrome
- 5. loss of appetite
- 6. insomnia/early awakenings
- 7. grades drop
- 8. no future plans
- 9. pre-occupations with death



Test your knowledge

Suicide Knowledge Test

- Your understanding of suicide is your first line of defense against it. Check yourself out by answering true or false against these twenty questions.
- F 1. Suicide accounts for very few deaths annually among the young.
 - T 2. Suicide in adolescence has doubled over the past ten years.
 - T 3. A leading cause of death among the young is hopelessness about the future.
 - T 4. About half of suicidal youngsters are involved in some form of drug or alcohol abuse shortly before their suicidal death.
 - F 5. Children never commit suicide.
 - F 6. Approximately 10 percent of the suicidal youth feel that their families do not understand them.
 - T 7. Death by Pirarama is the most common method used by both sexes.
 - F 8. Repeated statements such as "I would be better off dead" from a young person should never be taken seriously.
 - F 9. Suicide is inherited and "runs in families."
 - F 10. The chances of suicide can be reduced by avoiding the subject.
 - F 11. Once a child or adolescent is suicidal, he or she is always suicidal.
 - T 12. A person with a history of suicide committed by a close family member is a higher suicide risk.
 - F 13. Improvement of a suicidal person means the danger is over.

You've Got Style



entertainment

Chill out on hot fashions

"In the summer during the day, I like to wear a bathing suit, shorts, sleeveless shirts and swim cap," says freshman Julie Kincaid. Her favorite summer wardrobe sounds like many other students. While most of us dig through the closet for "summer's class," some Creokers may prefer to be well-dressed and fashionable in the Houston summer heat.

Tan, tanned, wrinkled and old-looking clothes seem to be the latest fashion rage. Jungle outfits with animal prints are also popular. T-shirting clothes (t-shirts, etc.) is another way of dramatizing an outfit.

When wearing their ragged and down-to-earth colored clothes, and natural or much dyed headbands or wrap belts. Creative shell or wood jewelry such as the popular animal shapes or bold, clean, geometric shapes add creativity to an outfit.

"If you access a dress with accessories, you can spend less on the dress," says Judy, a fashion expert on "Hour Magazine".

Some clothes anyone could use for their spring or summer wardrobe are linen trousers, a simple chemise, soft suits and a cool skirt. Lightweight linen and cotton

knit sweaters are the trend of this season replacing the traditional blouse. They can be worn under suits, belted on the outside, over pants or with cropped pants.

Bright purple, orange and green by now everyone knows about Egypt clothes and they probably own some for their own wardrobe. They are trendy, colorful and can be easily mixed and matched along with the many Egypt accessories to create an exciting outfit.

The new colors for this season are pale green and teal. All of the usual bright colors are in the line-up. Reds accented black and white looks nice. White is another common summer color that is very flexible.

Hats for the Creokers who really dress up when they dress up. There are many different styles of hats and they can be worn with many different kinds of outfits.

"Belts are very big this season," according to Judy. She says that big belts worn low on the hips or around the waist are "in" this season. Judy also adds "don't over do them (accessories)."

Summing up the soaps

Summertime is a catch-up time for friends, family, and most of all, soaps. This summer many students will be spending their afternoons watching their favorite daytime dramas. To help you understand your soaps, here is a brief run down of the four most popular soap operas.

ALL MY CHILDREN
Adam Chandler is plotting to build a gambling mall, but disagrees it as a nursing home. During his stay in Port Charles, he marries Erica Kane. Palmer Cortlandt, employee of Adam Chandler, marries

rows money from a loan shark to pay for his share in the Stamp.

THE GUIDING LIGHT
Mandy married Philip because of her pregnancy, and also to get back at Beth. Rick and Mandy are beginning to have serious feelings for each other. Mandy's cousin, Robert Scorpio is being "harassed" by some female cops. He'll be on their side.

YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS
Victoria asks Nikki to marry him after he realizes that Nikki knows that Victoria is his child. Nikki and Julia convince Victor to

undergoing therapy. Mike's real mother is living in town by Mike knows but only as a friend. Jimmy Lee's mother is also in town making sure he will get his fair share of the Quartermaine fortune. Monica's cousin comes to town and opens a health spa. Robert Scorpio is being "harassed" by some female cops. He'll be on their side.

MOST POPULAR SOAP OPERA
ALL MY CHILDREN

MOST POPULAR ACTRESS
ERIKA KANE (AMC)

MOST POPULAR ACTOR
GREG GORMAN (AMC)

GENERAL HOSPITAL
Blackie is still in jail for Lou's accidental death. Josh quickly move in to take his place in the band. Frisco, the lead singer of Blackie's band, got fed up with the whole thing and quit. His ex-producer wants some people to beat him up and they cause him to lose his voice. He is currently

marry Nikki while he's still in the hospital before he finds out he might be impotent. Ashley goes out with Marc. Dina brings Eric to see Ashley and Marc. Julia is very upset because she chose Marc, to be the father of her baby. As a result, Eric and Julia get together. Ashley apologizes to Eric and they make up.

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sports

Female Football players frolic

By Brad Brown
Staff Writer

During the day they paint their nails and brush their hair, but on this night they become football players.

These people are actually high school girls enjoying a game of flag football. This is the annual powder puff football game where the girls become the players and the boys the coaches. The game was refereed by coach John Warren, Nate Gordon and Tom Macklin, while the players and head coaches were Todd Hays for the Party Animals and Brett Thomas for the Eliminators.

"The first will be colors coming from the jungle look-rich greens and purple for eyes, bright pink and lilac blues for lips, ochers and very rich yellow for skin tones. All will complement the sporty fun clothes that are evolving as a firm part of the fashion scene," she said in an article in a Houston Chronicle.

This will help some but many will be wearing the same shorts, t-shirts and worn tennis shoes that will turn green from mowing the lawn so much during the summer.

Cougar star with bright future

By Brad Brown
Staff Writer

Cross-country running is a sport which requires more than physical abilities. Cross country requires mental readiness and being able to push oneself for over three miles.

Senior Noel Manning certainly does not come up short on the mental aspect of running. Manning would like to attend Rice University.

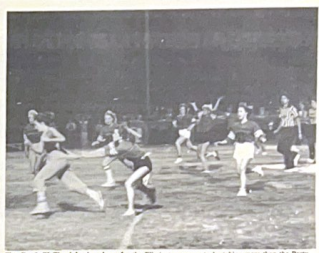
During the track season Manning runs the 800- and 1600-meter races, the metric equivalent of the mile and half-mile. Even during the summer months Manning, as well as the other track and cross country members, keep in touch with Coach Orlan and team practices are held throughout the summer.

Manning started in junior high as a sprinter and as he got older he moved up to longer events.

Manning sets high goals for himself, but with the practice and determination of his he may reach his ultimate goal of becoming a world class runner.

7

Football jocks jazz it up



Flag Football? The Party Animals seems to be taking more than the Party Animals' flag. Photo by Chris Beale

Football players in tight and a tux?

By Robyn Gay
Staff Writer

Football players in tight and a tux? Tackles, 250 pound linemen and "Swan Lake"?

Images of football players taking dance classes "erotic" "erotic" and "erotic" thoughts, yet several athletes are taking "agility" and jazz classes at nearby Cypress Drive Academy.

The idea for football studs taking the agility class came from junior Staci Harrison, according to junior Kirk Harrison. Staci got in touch with the instructor, Sharon Isaacks, who skyped the idea and provided the first lesson free.

Football players, Kirk Harrison, John Mock, Mike Penny and Chris Noy are all involved, with hopes of getting Greg Manning, Scott Woods and Ty Harrison, with many others, actively participating.

"The purpose for the athletes taking the class is to increase their speed and loosen up their muscles. Some advantages that the athletes might benefit from are gracefulness and, according to Isaacks, "they will become more aware of their capabilities and make fewer mistakes."

John Mock jokingly adds that during a football game they can "leap across the laws."

Isaacks finds that dancing is the hardest sport and is a "difficult to get your body in something totally alien."

"Dancing is very disciplined, much like football, that is, if it's done correctly," explained Isaacks, both involve much self discipline.

After the Tuesday classes, Kirk Harrison admits his legs were very sore and he "walked funny for three days."

Harrison says, some things are different than he expected. "It's not as feminine and there are some difficult positions... some embarrassing."

As for the lights and tux, they are not the required dress, but Isaacks remarks, "Kirk is crazy enough." The average dress is shorts and cut-off t-shirt, and Harrison even included shades as a special touch.

"Now, guys don't say anything like no treating. They think it's interesting and fun," Kirk Harrison says about other students' reactions.

Girls want to get into the class, Isaacks says, and, according to the guys, the girls say, "it's weird."

The football players started the class near the beginning of April, and will continue until football or other commitments make it impossible to participate.

Good Luck

Seniors '84

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The year in sports

The girls' soccer team finished fourth in district this season, however, many players received honors for their play. Forward Kim Daley made first team all-district, with fullback Michelle Gross who also was voted most valuable defensive player in the district. Halfback Kim King and forward Sandy Zensen were named second team all district and Pam Denton received honorable mention as a fullback.

The boys' soccer team finished third in district. They were led by Stephen Andre who made first team all-district, John Ragland made second team all-district and Todd Hensley, who received an honorable mention.



Under the leadership of first year coach, Debbie Jaehne, the 83-84 volleyball season came to an impressive close.

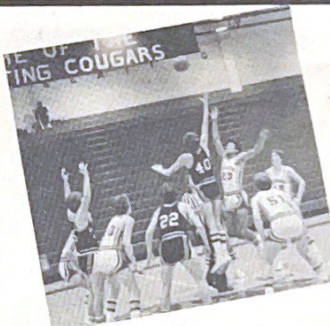
The varsity Cougars finished as co-champions with a 9-1 district record. The girls then captured the Bi-District title by defeating the Westfield Mustangs.

Although the Cougars were defeated, a lot of pride and excitement followed the girls to the battle for the area title against Roundrock.

So, after this year's successful season and a younger varsity team on the way, Coach Jaehne has begun what should prove to be a strong volleyball program for Cy Creek in the years to come.



This year's football team completed a three year turnaround from a winless season to a 9-3 season in which they earned the title of bi-district champions. The turnaround started with the arrival of Coach Les Koenning who has in three years taken an 0-10-1 team and turned it into a playoff team. The Coogs made it past highly ranked Conroe 7-5 for the bi-district championship before losing to Temple in regionals. Alan Champagne received a full scholarship to the University of Texas for his outstanding play.



The basketball team finished second in district behind Klein. In bi-district playoffs the Coogs were beat by Conroe 82-66 and finished the year with an 18-12 record. The team was inexperienced with only one returning letterman, Louis Garza. Garza made first team all district along with Bobby Klope. Coach Pasche has led his teams to district championships in three of the last five years and second the other two.

With six returning varsity members, the Cy-Creek girls basketball team set out to take the district by storm.

After a long, successful season, the Cougars ended up in a play-off game against the Cy-Fair Bobcats. The girls emerged district champions for another year.

Once the season was over, the six returning varsity became the six departing varsity, and the preparation for another title-holding team began.

"I have a quicker team coming up," says head basketball coach Betty Maaskant. Voted the district's 15-5A "Coach of the Year", Maaskant says next year's team will also be more aggressive in defense.

"I plan to develop our transition game," finished Coach Maaskant.

Next year, be watching as the quick and aggressive Cougar team will, once again, try and capture the district title.



The swimming and diving team continued its dominance in the 15-5A by holding the district title for another year and also claiming the regional title again. At the state UIL meet, the boys finished fourth, only three points out of third, and the girls placed sixth. Pam Terhune, Suzy James, Darci Springer, and Susanne Taylor became the swim team's first state champions in the medley relay while the boys' medley relay of Steve Taggart, Jason West, David Sutton, and David Matl were the runners-up in their event. The boys' free relay of Schmitt Sutton, Matl and Drew Anderson finished third. Taggart and Schmitt were All-State in their respective individual events. Schmitt also competed in the Junior Olympics at the University of Arkansas after the state meet and finished an outstanding thirteenth in the 50-yard freestyle. In diving, Tammlé Thomas and Brad Russell were named both All-Region

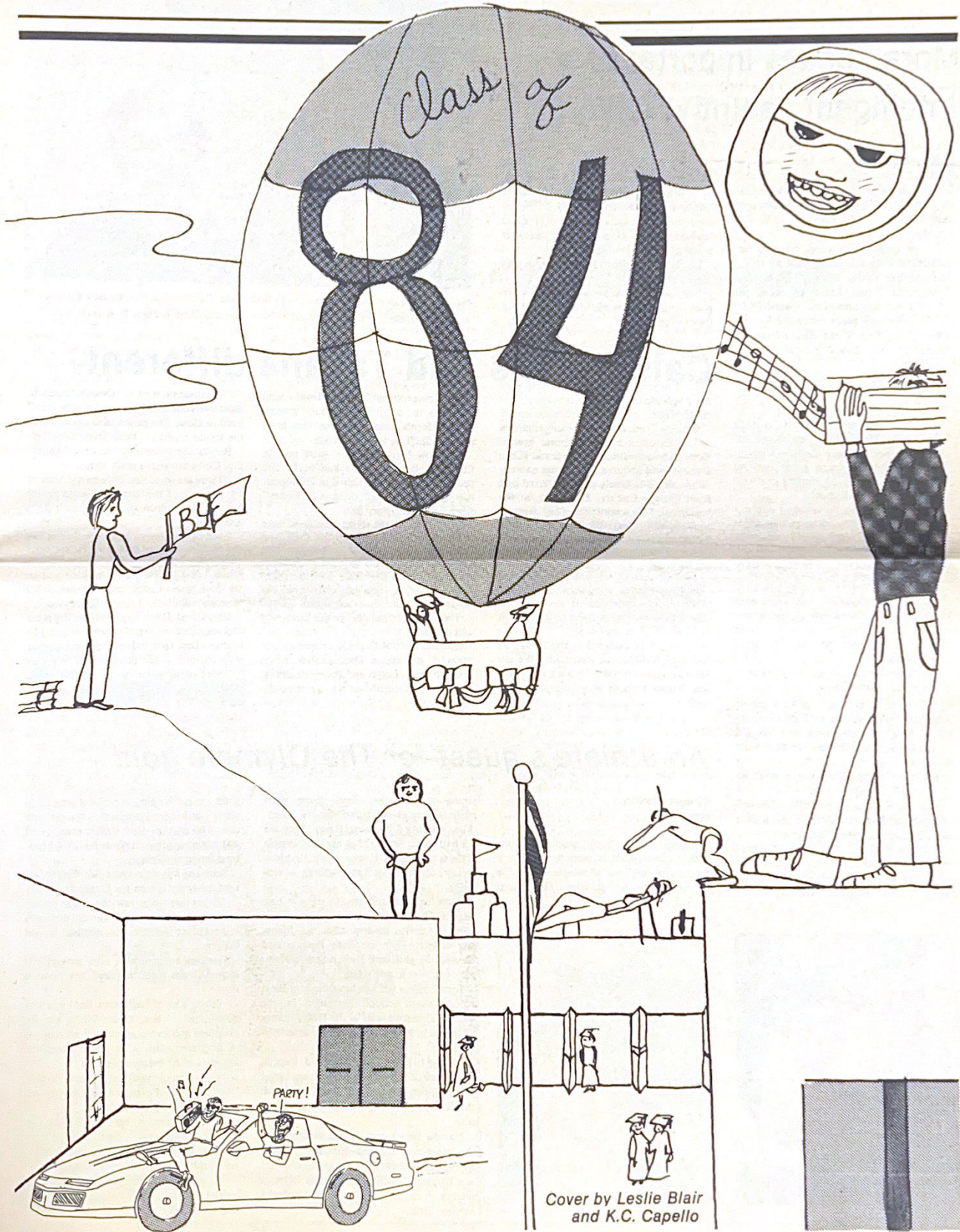


Cypress Creek High School
Houston, Texas

cougar Connection

Special Feature Section

May 1984



Cover by Leslie Blair
and K.C. Capello

Moral issues important for intelligent, 'saintly' junior

By Richard Kabbah
"Her's just about a saint," said Mrs. Linda...

Californians find Texans different

By Anne Henderson

Cypress Creek is home to many students, but to an outsider it may appear boring...

An athlete's quest for The Olympic gold

By Jane Thurston

As athletic ability, some people are born with it...



Peter and Mary Doney found adjustment to Texas culture 'difficult' at first, but have gradually become accustomed to Creek. They still maintain their individuality. Photo by Barbara Ward

Life's a BEACH!

Galveston is a great place to crash this summer

By Mike Wolfe
By Mike Wolfe
Look out, students. Summer's nearly here...

Summer sporting at the beach

Most high school students spend their summer vacation at the beach...

Schools' end brings vacations

Another kind of school year, and people are already trying to decide where to go...

The San Antonio River. They also go boating, fishing, and swimming...

Induced quite a few years ago, the Hacky Sack has become a popular sport...

Summer vacation saturated with sizzling performances

It's not very often that you find a concert who is not interested in the Stones, the Beatles, or some other rock group...



Camille Wright



Jean Pezzina

Ca mille Wright, a physical education teacher at Moore Elementary, competed in the 100-meter fly, 200-meter, and 400-meter medley relays at the 1978 National Olympic Games...

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Carl Johnson points the valedictorian group research paper. Photo by J.R. Seabolt.

This is Your Life!
Joseph Shelton
Principal

"The senior class is probably as much a close-knit group as I've seen in the kids. They like to be a part of anything happening about their school. They like to be supportive of each other. There's a sense of unity on certain issues, which is good, but they have to make sure they don't lose sight of the individual. They always make known the individuals. As a whole, I like this senior class. They are a real good group of kids. They'll be special to me for many years. As far as a valedictorian, this year, they'll be special to me for many years. As in the past. . . .

Larry Jackson
Senior counselor

"More than anything else the positive aspect of the class is what I remember. I can relate to it because it's in that type of person. I remember the very close to these kids. I'll miss my children. Mike Hermendorf Government teacher They're very personable. They have outgoing, fun-type personalities. They seem to be very close as a class. I think there are a lot of people who will remember Senior Spokesperson, they'll do well in college. College is not all academics. It's also getting along with other people—romances and teachers.



Senior Spokesperson, Elizabeth Dyer, reading the McQuinn's valedictorian. Photo by Steve Spence.



After a hard day of school, Steve Spence, Steve Spence, Steve Tappert and Joe Parrino, head of the 1984 Senior Prom, are seen in the photo. Photo by Steve Spence.

- Important Dates**
- Thursday, May 17 Last day of classes
 - Friday, May 18 Senior Banquet (1,2,3) Prom
 - Monday, May 21 Senior Banquet (2,4,6)
 - Wednesday, May 23 Senior Breakfast
 - Saturday, May 26 Graduation

Class of 1984 leaves new tradition

A new tradition is being initiated by the graduating class of 1984. . . . The first senior emcee, Libby Layton and senior class sponsor, Carol Kehliger, use all seniors to participate in this first ever senior class time capsule!



Steven Spears

"Being a senior feels much better than being a freshman (of course I can't draw any distinction). The names of '84 or '85 or '87. The names may change but the events remain the same. Nothing makes me sicker than seeing someone place class rank before education. I want to be a valedictorian only in a sense that it would show that I have attained a good education."

Four seniors — what does the future hold for them?

Mark Masterson
"I think the senior class is a lot closer this year. We have made a lot of things for the most fun. I have not met the most fun. I do appreciate what our student council has been able to do for us. It feels great to say good-bye to the future. We are not the most responsible people in the world right now.

Martina Malague

"The class of '84 was said to be the class with the most falling grades, the worst attendance, and the least fun. We've been through all the hassles and had a great time doing it. In ten years, when we look back it won't be the education we look on it will be our friends and the good times we had."

Brian Gray

"I feel that the senior class has definitely not been one of the best. I have not met the most fun. I do appreciate what our student council has been able to do for us. It feels great to say good-bye to the school, even though it's hard to say good-bye to our friends.

Cindy Butlum

"The senior class was not very close. I heard everyone had a lot of fun. I was not one of the most fun. I do appreciate what our student council has been able to do for us. It feels great to say good-bye to the school, even though it's hard to say good-bye to our friends.



Candidates for valedictorian: Steven Spears, Edward Kasper, and Pearl Chu.

Edward Kasper

"I'm looking forward to it (graduation). It's going to be nice. It will be a great event culminating the educational career of the class of 1984. My basic philosophy is to work as hard as I can and if in the process, I happen to be valedictorian, that's great. I don't want to be valedictorian with that intention in mind."

Pearl Chu

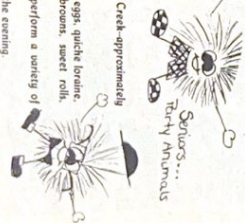
"I am glad to be finally getting out of high school. It's been four years and I'm ready to get out. I don't mind going to college and seeing if it will be so massively difficult, as all teachers tell their students. I am sure I will enjoy the greater freedom and independence. I had fun this year even though I still worked academically. One thing I liked about the school was participating in Senior Showoffs. It was a highlight of my senior year."

Seniors reach their shining star

Sam Colebach
By Tom Wheeler
As the 1983-84 school year comes to a close seniors begin to prepare for prom. The prom promises to be the highest day of light.
"Prom is the end of an old life and the beginning of a new life," said senior Ann that everyone should enjoy a special occasion this year.
Senior Edward Kasper thinks prom is about \$60,000 too much. "seriously, prom is a time of partying in which seniors celebrate the completion of twelve years of school."
"Proms, elaborate parties, romances," said senior drummer Scott Van Noy, "is a time when you have the most fun with the most in common with."
"We just date is someone I know well, who would enjoy the evening activities (dinner, dances, etc.), and enjoy the company until the last possible minute. If we don't procrastinate and earn money and if they had all sold their three coats last year, we would most likely be having prom at the Point Oak Woods. But when the pressure was put on, we always pulled through! This applies not only to earning money (imagine that) but to showoffs, the homecoming float and everything else. I was seriously having my doubts about showoffs, but everyone pulled through under pressure and did great! I think the Class of '84 thrives on pressure."

The 1984 Senior Prom

When: Friday, May 18 to 1 AM
Where: Shamrock Hilton
Activities:
Announcement of Mr. and Miss Cypress Creek—approximately 11:15 pm.
Midnight Buffet Breakfast 11:30 pm
Food—fruit juices, fresh fruit, scrambled eggs, quiche lozanne, bacon and sausage, fruit, scrambled eggs, quiche lozanne, baked breads and coffee.
The bands Escape and Capitan will perform a variety of songs.
A coke bar will be open throughout the evening.





Deer Kaye Martin



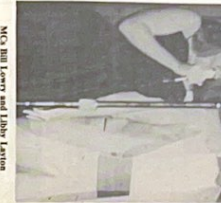
Thibodeaux



Worley, Vanhook, Slocum

"The Science Olympiad was great," seemed to be the popular response to the April 13 and 14 display of student projects. "I was very worried and nervous before the show because most of the material did not go well. After it was over, I was excited and proud of my team." The students who showed seemed well pleased and prepared and the participants and audience seemed to thoroughly enjoy the evening.

Probably the best performing and exhibiting team was the "Something to Remember" team. Accompanied by Michael Jackson's "I'm a Slave 4 U", Daniel Dixon, Rory Tarbert, Roger Reeves, Jimmy Cameron, and Jeff Smith.



McA Hill, Leary, and Luby Larive

Former Creek students excel at Rice

by Robert Cox
Staff Writer

It's been four years since the first graduating class left school and began the hunt for a college. Now, the former students of the former Creek school are making their mark in the world of higher education. Both Susan Eicher and Jeff Halverson are graduate ing from Rice this year.

Halverson plans to move to San Francisco to work for a major corporation. Eicher plans to attend Stanford University, while Eicher plans to attend Baylor College of Medicine.

"You're responsible for everything. The professors don't take care of you and they don't care if you don't learn it," Halverson said.

"My freshman year was very stressful. I had to learn a lot of things in a short amount of time. You go from just a few really smart people to 1,000 smart people. You have to learn to work hard."

Halverson said about the difficult transition at college.

Since Rice is only about 45 minutes away, homesickness is no problem, both Halverson and Eicher agree. However, Halverson said that the transition from one of the best schools in the state to one of the best in the country was a challenge.

"You learn responsibility your freshman year; there is no one there to say if you're right or wrong. You have to be confident in your own abilities."

"High school stresses the technical aspect of writing and format, the technical aspect of writing and format, the technical aspect of writing and format. At Rice, you are a writer and are at ease in college, and are highly recommended taking advanced placement exams."

"You could save a lot of time, instead of taking full course loads," Halverson said. Rice's competitive reputation, forced Halverson to work harder.

Similarly, Eicher finds that her involvement in swimming has helped her. "I work out every day. Science courses will help you know exactly how much time I have to study and practice."

Halverson and Eicher disagree on the value of each high school course as preparation for college. "Students should plan ahead, keep options open and don't take high school as a total joke."

Halverson said, "Science courses will help you know exactly how much time I have to study and practice."

"High school stresses the technical aspect of writing and format, the technical aspect of writing and format, the technical aspect of writing and format. At Rice, you are a writer and are at ease in college, and are highly recommended taking advanced placement exams."

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The Congrat Connection is looking for a few good men (women, too) to fill positions on the staff. We need staff writers, advisors, inspectors, and editors for next year. Interested writers bring a sample of your writing.

Senior Show-offs

Family defines fun with aquatic skill

by Greg Hill
Staff Writer

If you look in the Random House Dictionary of the English Language, you will find "water-ski" defined as, "to glide on water on water skis or a water sled by grasping a towing rope pulled by a speedboat."

Jeff and Jill McClanahan, III have a "X-cops" you're in reading "The... "Satisfaction," and "Good form of recreation" are just some of the things that enter their minds when they think of water-skiing.

Being a sophomore, and Jeff, a senior, have been skiing for about nine years. They were introduced to the sport by their parents, who, says Jeff, "really don't ski much."

Jeff's parents borrowed a neighbor's boat and he and Jill went to the San Jacinto River and he and Jill "really don't ski much."

The three events water-skiers compete in are slalom, jumping, and trick skiing. All around a certain number of floating buoys in a specific time. The more buoys he passes, the better he scores. In their rounds, the boys are moved farther apart.

"No matter how you define 'water skier,' so place to go but up there!"

Faculty volleyball team wants revenge

by Ken Shifren
Staff Writer

What do teachers do after school? Grade papers, think ways to improve their students, or do they simply disappear? A lot of them are busy doing something else. For example, believe it or not, lots of teachers are busy playing volleyball.

Faculty members started playing volleyball every week for the wellness program. The wellness program is a fitness and health program for school district employees.

From other schools, other activities in the wellness program are intramural softball, dance and exercise classes, workshops and lectures on health and fitness, and physical activities such as tennis, badminton, and aerobics.

So far, their record is 3-0. They will play ten to eleven total games. "We numbered Campbell, Walker, and Dean," Mr. Wells said. "We can win it because we have a team with consistently good players."

Schauer said, "I thought against this year's team will probably be transportation, who won the tournament last year. The transportation team is considered 'outlaw.' They don't know how to play, and don't consider volleyball a sport."

Schauer said and carries to be illegal. Schauer said and carries to be illegal. Schauer said and carries to be illegal.

Johnson rides across country

Summer. The sound of that word makes most of us think of sleeping late, sun, fun, and the beach. However, for Mr. "J," Johnson, a fitness-oriented teacher, this summer is a challenge.

Starting in Seattle, Washington, Johnson and his three companions will travel through the western states before reaching the Rocky Mountains, the source of the miles of country.

"I've always wanted to make a trip like this," replied Johnson. "I'm going to take a trip to the Rocky Mountains, the source of the miles of country."

His companions include a retired computer engineer and a nurse, both from Frisco, Texas, and another woman from Frisco, Texas.

"I met the man organizing the trip through a computer company. The trip ranges as a 'nice challenge' and felt he will finish the journey because 'once you've started, there's no turning back.'"

Johnson said, "I'm going to take a trip to the Rocky Mountains, the source of the miles of country."

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The making of a musical

By Kimberly Kubiak
Staff Writer

Lights, Camera, Action...

As the date for the production of the **Music Man** drew near, all involved worried about the performance. With only six weeks to pull the musical together, everyone had to put in long hours of concentrated work.

"All elements of the show are difficult: music, sets, costumes. Getting all the little parts perfect and getting them to mesh has been the hard thing," Margaret Mathis, choral director explained. "It's also been hard finding time for everyone to be at rehearsal."

Many year end events had been occurring, taking away from the short rehearsal time.

"Just the regular end of the year activities cause students to have less time," Marilyn Miller, dramatic director said.

In order to produce the show in the short amount of time, many efforts were made in order to trim excess work.

"Short cuts were taken in the set, the dance numbers were shortened or eliminated. Students had to memorize (their lines) quickly," Miller continued.

With all the problems encountered in staging a major musical in six weeks, was **Music Man** a success?

"Yes, I think so!" Miller exclaimed.

