

Cypress Creek High School
9815 Grant Road
Houston, TX 77070

cougar Connection

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What's wrong with this picture?



It begins like any other friendship. You meet and greet each other whenever you come in contact. You're not best friends, but you do things together. Soon you are doing everything together, and you find that you are the center of each other's lives. But your friend is the third largest killer in our nation, the number-one killer of people under thirty, and it is causing deaths right now as you read this article. What is it? Alcohol.

Ten percent of the U.S. population and 14% of all American teenagers are alcoholics. Alcoholism affects teenagers more than any other age group.

continued on p. 4

A day in the life...



By Jane Thatcher
Managing Editor

"Wake up, get out of bed
Dragged at the clock, realized I was late..." Paul McCartney
We have all experienced them. Days when everything seems to go wrong, and your get-up-and-go jinks as a negative number. They usually begin when you stumble out of bed, trip over the cat, and have ten minutes to get ready for school. School, six classes and the equivalent of seven hours long, has the power to make any "bad" day its worst. You end up realising it would have been better to stay home and hide from the noisy trying situations that prevent themselves during the average school day.
It is first hour, and the person sitting next to you has a problem. He is carving the words VAN HALEN into the desk top while spastically smacking wild watermelon chewing gum. It is green in color, and revolting to look at, smell, and listen to. It would be personally satisfying to knock him out of his seat onto the floor, but hey...you're a man.
Lunch finally arrives and you are starving because there was no time for breakfast. You stand in the end of a lunch line that wraps completely around the building. When you get your food (12 minutes later there is no place to sit and enjoy your delicious meal...hmm, looks like you will have to stand up and eat today. Enjoy yourself.
Well, the day is half over, thank heaven, right? Wrong. You spend the next few classes copying assignments, notes, and making off uncounted overheads. Hope you're in the mood for a migraine headache.
It is 12:30 and you push your way through the halls and remember you parked in Egypt (also known as the student parking lot). At the end of your journey, if you reach your car, consider yourself lucky. Dodging speeding vehicles that dart from every direction is very difficult as well as life-threatening.
Well, school is finally over and everything else will be done bill. Believe what you will, but little do you know... you forgot your house key and your favorite evening television show has been cancelled for the Presidential debate.
How does the song go? Tomorrow, tomorrow, I love ya, tomorrow. You're only a day away (just hurry up and get here!)

Trashy subject: Clean-up campaign kicks off

"Bless this mess!"
Students seem to see this as all that can be done to help the halls. It's not. "Save Our School" (S.O.S.) is the clean up campaign recently begun by the Student Council to provide an incentive to clean up the campus. This program is designed to use positive action to get the student body to clean up after themselves.
One method involves a competition to fill color-coded trash cans for each class. Many actions are being taken, but it seems that pride in our school should be enough to make students want to take care of it.
Aren't we sick of seeing the outcasts RAKE the floor? What about the mounds of papers on the stairs? If we clean up, just think, no more stumpling over piles of garbage so you miss them for freshmen.
We must begin to care. The administration and Student Council are offering positive incentives, take part and show your Cougar Pride!
CUGLAR COMMENTS
"I think we need to give special privileges to students for cleaning up." — Julie Peterson, senior
"There's nothing we can do. Much of it is just resentment toward the system because of the new tardy and exemption policies. I mean, who cares? School isn't fun anymore." — Mary Ann Kerr, senior

Mastering adolescence

Bob Schneider
School Psychologist
I'd like to devote my first article to the important topic of stress. What is stress? Stress is your body's reaction to events that frighten, excite, confuse, or irritate you. All emotions, love as well as hate, for example, involve stress. And so does physical exertion: swimming, jogging, or just a brisk walk. This type of stress is good for us.
What causes stress? From my experience of listening to teenagers, there are numerous causes of stress.
School stress is apparent when students have major exams, research projects, or lots of homework. Changing schools (especially from junior high to senior high) and trying to balance a job with schoolwork can also be stressful.
Home stress comes about because of the changing relationship with parents. There are times when parents are expected to act like adults but are treated like children. If your parents have divorced this can cause major stress as you attempt to adjust to new living arrangements and try to work through your feelings toward both parents.
Other major stresses during this time of your life are the dramatic changes your life is undergoing, the pressure from peers both to try new experiences and to conform, confusion about future job possibilities, and the prospect of graduating and going out on your own.
Handled well, stress is a friend that strengthens us for the next encounter. Next month I'll offer suggestions on how to ease stress and make it your friend.

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Calendar

December

- 1 SAT Testing (not at Creek)
- 6 Student Council candy cane sale
- 8 ACT Testing at Creek
- 9, 10 "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" performance at 3 p.m.
- 12 Seniors Spaghetti Dinner 7:30-9:30 p.m.
- 13 Band Christmas Concert 5:30-9:30 p.m.
- 17 Choir Christmas Concert 7:30 p.m.
- 18 Home Economics fashion show 6-9 p.m.
- 20 Early release for Christmas vacation

Preview

Coming up in the December issue, the Connection will feature an investigation into the legitimacy of modeling agencies. Teen violence and its causes and effects will also be explored.
Look for an unusual gift for an unusual friend! The Connection staff goes shopping for you.

Best teacher in Texas Easterly earns teaching honor in physics

By Kevin Sherman
Staff Writer
The best physics teacher in the state of Texas, Mrs. Nancy Easterly, teaches right here.
"She's always willing to help, whether it's before or after school, during lunch, or during her break," senior Courtney Robertson said.
"It is a wonderful honor...I am thrilled about it," Easterly said.
Easterly hopes her students will leave physics knowing how to think better and learn to be good problem solvers. She sometimes learns from those "students who take a back door approach to problem solving."
"I would hope that some of the techniques we apply to problem analysis can be used in every day life. A good physicist is usually a good problem analyzer and can offer several solutions," Easterly said.
"She has a gadget to demonstrate everything and she'll laugh with the students," Robertson said.
Easterly attended Ohio Wesleyan University and obtained an undergraduate degree. Afterwards, she went to Texas A&M

University to earn her masters of education. She also worked toward and gained her masters in physics.
Easterly attributes part of her success to her students.
"I had good students to begin with. They showed interest beyond the classroom," Easterly said.
Some of these students include Gene and Steven Spears who under the direction of Easterly, won several science fair awards. Also, a team of ten students placed fifth in a national contest, just two points out of third.
Other activities which helped sway the judges decision were her work for the district and her "innovative classroom activities." Easterly has done curriculum work for the district, and, has greatly developed the physics program at Cy-Creek. Also, activities such as her yearly take-home exam and brainstormers for her students a couple of times a week, helped her to win her award.
"I don't know that I can say one (characteristic) was more important," Easterly concluded.
The head of the science department, Mrs. Jones, nominated Easterly for this award in early October. She found out she had won on Tuesday, October 16.
"I couldn't believe it. I thought the (Mrs. Jones) was joking at first. Everyone always wants to be the most outstanding teacher, but I never thought I would be," Easterly said.



Good Grief! Drama department brings Peanuts to life on Dec. 10th and 11th

By Michelle Millington
Staff Writer
After the success of the drama, "Our Town", the drama department plans to raise the curtain on another performance.
"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" premieres December 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m.
"We chose Charlie Brown primarily because it has a small cast. We've generated large cast shows but these weren't...drama sponsor, Mrs. Marjorie Miller said.
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Some well-known songs from the musical will be, "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown", and "Happiness Is..."
Few people truly understand how much time and effort goes into the making of a musical. Before anything happens, auditions must be held. A cast member must be able to act, sing, dance and work independently, according to Miller.
After auditions, several separate rehearsals have to take place. "Read-through" rehearsals, blocking rehearsals, run-through rehearsals, and technical rehearsals all have to take place before the final performance. Rehearsals are held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., usually from 2:45 'til 4:45.
"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" is a delightful show for both children and adults," Miller said. "It ran for several years on Broadway to packed houses and has remained a favorite for high school and college theater groups."

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Alcohol Making a choice you can live with

With friends like this, Who needs enemies?

continued p.1

Father James Harman, the executive director of St. Ignace Center in Houston, counsels alcoholic teenagers. Fr. Harman attributes the high number of teenage drinking problems to their inability to cope with problems. Physical age also works against teenagers and their are affected more by alcohol than older people are. "Teens don't know how to handle it," he said.

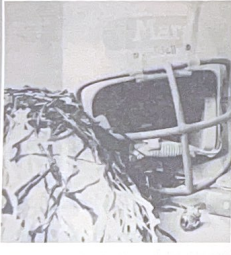
According to Fr. Harman, the availability of alcohol along with the common usage of it by others puts pressure on teenagers to use it themselves.

"The need for acceptance is a common reason that teenagers drink, although they usually don't admit that. Instead they say, 'I like to drink, it's fun.'"
Fr. Harman said that alcohol often leads directly to other problems.

It can harm your health, and it also gives you a false sense of security, which is dangerous when you drive." — Deirdra Mills, senior

"A drug is a drug. Alcoholism is a terminal disease. It doesn't kill right away but it causes a slow death," said Fr. Harman. Alcohol not only affects the body, but it depresses the mind and causes judgment errors. "Alcohol drives a wedge in between a person and his family and schoolwork," said Randy Brazzell, a counselor at Spring Shadows Glen, an alcohol/drug rehabilitation center in northwest Houston.

"It not only changes behavior," he said, "but it changes the way a person thinks." Brazzell gave the example of someone suggesting to a friend that they go on a fishing trip and "maybe pick up a six pack on the way." If he has a real drinking problem, however, he would probably say, "Let's get drinks this weekend. Maybe we can go fishing, too." According to Brazzell, the characteristic of an alcoholic is the fact that he centers his life around alcohol.



"There is a fine line between social and problem drinking," said Brazzell. "It may begin because of peer pressure and 'my friends are all doing it,' but it can quickly and easily develop into alcoholism. The person begins to revolve around it. He drinks to get drunk. This is where there is a problem."
Brazzell said that most of the time alcoholics are blinded from the truth. They are not able to see any problem other than "everybody is on my case." They think that if only people would leave me alone about their drinking, there would be no problem at all. Their attitude is that of "You is control" and they can't see the problem.

Alcohol changes your self-esteem." John Shafer, junior

Fr. Harman agrees that there is an "invisible line" which is crossed before a drinker has a critical problem. He explained that when one first begins to drink, it is for psychological reasons such as becoming part of a group, wanting to have fun, or needing to cope with problems. "It is when one crosses the invisible line from a psychological drinker to a physiologically addicted drinker that alcoholism is present." At this point, there is no turning back, he said. Fr. Harman compared the development of alcoholism to the cucumber which goes through the pickling process. Once it is a pickle there is no way it can go back to being a cucumber. "Like the pickle, a person can never be a 'social drinker' again after being addicted to alcohol."

Brazzell said that it is possible for an alcoholic to overcome the obstacles. However, he also said, "Until [the alcoholic] makes a decision to try, nothing can be done." Admitting the problem is the first step, but according to Brazzell, one can't get over alcoholism right away. "It's a continual process that is not over with when [our patients] leave. They have to go on from there. It's only the beginning."
Brazzell defined the teen alcoholic's point of view. "The teenage alcoholic sees that alcohol is fun. He uses it as a crutch to help him loosen up. He thinks that without it he cannot dance or talk with people, but it is really all in the mind."
"I don't need to drink" is a cop-out that many teenagers use, according to Brazzell, and one that makes him want to ask, "Then why do you?"

A lot of people think it can solve all their problems, but in the long run, it just causes more." Cheri Dillard, junior

Similarly, Fr. Harman said, "The first question I would ask is, 'What do you want alcohol to do for you?' If nothing, why do you drink?" He suggests that you should ask yourself that question if you are doubtful as to whether or not you have a problem. The purpose is to become aware of the effects which alcohol will have on you.

Fr. Harman admitted that "the situation [of teenage alcoholism] is not getting better...prohibition is not working. Some teens drink because they're told not to."
Brazzell pointed out that the problem exists "When a person begins to have a personal relationship with alcohol. Alcohol becomes a friend, and it is hard to give up a friendship when you always could rely on it. Giving up alcohol is like saying 'good-bye' to an old friend, and it actually is. You have to give up your lifestyle and many of your friends."



Students organize SADD program

By Debra Gervais
Crescent Editor

Everyone is peacefully asleep at the Harper's home, until a phone call at 12:30 a.m. awakens them.

"Mrs. Harper! This is Memorial Hospital Emergency. Your son was in an accident involving alcohol..." the nurse says at the other end. A call like this is every parent's nightmare.

Students at Creek are trying to put a stop to these calls. They are in the process of developing SADD, Students Against Driving Drunk.

Although the MADD program, Mother's Against Drunk

Driving, has had a strong effect on the subject, many people feel it is important to involve teens because they drink too much.

According to a SADD chapter handbook, injuries from alcohol-caused crashes are "number one health problem. About 9,000 teens are killed each year in alcohol-related deaths."

Educating teens about the dangers of drinking and driving is SADD's main goal. Perhaps education like this may decrease the number of alcohol-related deaths for teens.

Because of peer pressure, teens may inspire others not to drink and drive. In fact, the SADD program are to help eliminate the drunk driver and save lives, alert high school students to dangers of drunk-driving, conduct community alcohol awareness programs, and to organize peer counseling programs to help students who may have concerns about alcohol.

The activities of SADD have been in progress for the last three years at some schools, and it is now time to introduce our student body to this program.

Christy Edwards, Tracy Hammond, David Morales,

and Tommy Lattin are working hard towards the beginning of a chapter. They are also receiving help from administrators Carol Bryant, Jim Wells, Joe Shotton, and student council sponsor Kay Schaff, as well as the coach.

"I think it's very important to promote the idea that drinking and driving can kill," said one student. Students have arranged a presentation on the SADD program to be held at Creek later this month. The founder and executive director, Robert Amata, will show a video on the effects of alcohol and explain how the student body may become involved in this chapter.

By Robyn Gay
Staff Writer

The harmless, clear and odorless liquid is not only used in beverages, but also medicines, lotions, tonics, colognes, antiseptics, and rocket fuel. 59% of American teenagers admit to drinking it, according to a nation-wide Gallup poll. That figure may be even higher at Cy Creek, according to sociology teacher Mrs. Agatha Hladupich. This widespread consumption of alcohol has led to a nation-wide problem.

"Alcohol always affects one's driving; many times the driver doesn't realize it. The driver gets a false feeling of security and may do things he wouldn't normally do," driver's education instructor Mrs. Beverly Whitehead said.

On the weekend, almost 20% of all persons stopped for suspected driving while intoxicated are teenagers, according to Harris County Police Captain Burbers.

If the teenager is eighteen or older, he may receive jail time, and a fine, or loss of his driver's license if he is convicted of DWI. A juvenile would lose his license and might be recommended as a child in need of supervision.

A person who has had three to four drinks may experience slower judgement, addictions, and may notice that his coordination is a bit off. Then, after five or six drinks one may experience blurry vision, fuzzy speech, and a slower reaction time.

Since six out of ten teenagers drink, it brings up the special problems of alcohol concerning youth. First, alcohol can kill a teen's view, tender cells, or marinating cells.

Then, too, if a teen begins to drink at an early age, he has a greater risk of becoming a chronic alcoholic.

Also, anyone who drinks while on the job or in order to perform his duties has a problem. A problem drinker comes into conflict with the law as a consequence of alcohol, or drives while he's been drinking.

A final characteristic of the problem drinker is someone who does something he would not do if he was not under the influence of alcohol.

One out of 15 people who drink become alcoholics, 27% of the adult population drinks.

"Most students have the attitude that they can handle anything and reject the idea of teenage alcoholism," Hladupich said.

Students do not take seriously enough the fact that they could be arrested, according to Whitehead. "They always assume you are talking about something that will never happen to them!"

However, a person can be charged with drunkenness, disorderly conduct, driving while intoxicated, or many liquor-law violations.

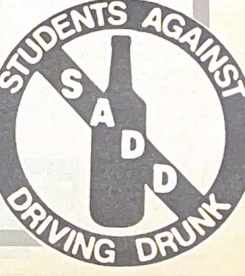
In order to be legally drunk, a person must have a blood alcohol concentration of at least .10%. For the majority of people, this state would occur after three to five drinks.

Among the many problems of alcohol are those of the problem drinker and the alcoholic. The main difference is the problem drinker has a bad reaction after having alcohol, while the alcoholic simply cannot control his drinking.

A characteristic of the problem drinker is that he has been noticeably drunk by himself or someone else on more than four times a year.

On the weekend, 20% of people stopped for suspected DWI are teenagers

Who's gonna drive ya home?'



Haas isn't just dancing in the dark

By Angie Horster
News Editor

True dedication is a rare thing. Most people become interested in some activity which involves a great deal of time, however, it's another matter to stay dedicated to that interest for eight years. Sophomore Davida Haas renews her dedication to ballet every day. "I started my dancing career in Italy. It was by choice to get signed up for classes," Haas says.

Haas "knew working at a job until I think I've got it right." "I believe if you want something bad enough you'll work hard enough for it," Haas said. Occasionally, injuries are another reality.

Haas must face and conquer. Even the most minor of injuries may affect a dancer's routine. "Last year I had an ankle injury that kept me out for a month and then I got blood poisoning from a blister," Haas said.

Haas has accomplished many things during her eight years of dancing; as a result, she has been noticed by many major ballet companies. Haas has starred in many ballets, including *Yvonne* (about a motorcycle gang) and *the Nutcracker*.



Haas plans to star in this year's *Nutcracker*, featured by the City Ballet of Houston (formerly known as the Greater Houston Civic Ballet). Haas will take on such roles as the Snowqueen, Dew Drop Fairy, and a Harlequin. The *Nutcracker* will be featured at the Kinkaid School's Balfour Auditorium on November 17 at 2:30 P.M. and 8:00 P.M., November 18 at 2:30 P.M. and 8:00 P.M., and November 22 at 2:30 P.M. Adult tickets are \$8.00, and student tickets are \$5.00.

Throughout many of Haas' performances, she does experience some stage fright. "I do get nervous and nervous at times, but I try to relax and nervous at times, for my own enjoyment. It's a wonderful feeling after weeks and weeks of practice to be able to show off all that hard work," Haas said. As for the future, Haas would like to be a widely known and dance for a large international-known dance company. "On the day I enter from dancing, I will have hoped to discover a great deal about life and myself. Then I would like to carry this knowledge onto other young ballerinas," Haas said.

Haas started her dancing with two classes a week in Italy. Her basic training involved mostly Russian ballet, a classical, strict form of ballet. After a short time in Italy, Haas moved to Houston, went on with her interest in ballet, and began taking classes at Margy March's School of Ballet and Studio of Dance.

Haas' day begins like any other Cougar's, with classes and homework. After completing her assignments, Haas travels 45 minutes to dancing class and begins another day.

"Once I'm at class, I get in for an hour or hour and a half preparation class, where I usually warm up for my rehearsal following. During classes I will usually only get a 15 minute break," Haas said. Rehearsals usually last two to three hours.

Despite the difficult schedule and long hours, Haas still is determined to continue dance.

"There have been more just down and many times when I've come home depressed. But dancing is what I love and want," Haas explains.

Haas' mother recognized her daughter's determination very early.

"We knew she was determined and dedicated to her sport when she was in sixth grade and skipped many parties to go to practice. Even now she really doesn't have a normal social life," Mrs. Haas says. Haas' devotion to dancing extends to her family as well.

"Davida's dancing revolves around all of us in the family. At times we feel like a sad cab. It also requires some money for classes, summer workshops, and she shows that usually cost \$20-\$25 a piece," Mrs. Haas said.

A dancer's life is often discouraging, but

New video views

Wham! On the Go-Go; Petty 'Accents' exciting

By David Morales
Staff Writer

Always in the past, anyone could turn the TV on and catch the latest videos on M-TV. Right? Right! How come things change everything! The latest news buzzing about the music business is the start-up of the latest network venture in video music programming. As a result of M-TV's overwhelming success, other programs of note went into circulation. NBC has their version and various local stations prompted their own shows.

Actually, this is great for new acts coming into the music scene. There are more opportunities for exposure and a better chance of success with the industry on the comeback.

Nonetheless, M-TV had conquered as the only network programming video music.

The big news is the release of Ted Turner's Video Music Channel out of

Atlanta. This is definitely going to be something to take note of. It will be arriving on the Houston market soon — check it out!

New releases by Eurhythmics, Tom Petty and his new LP, Southern Accents. Note the latest from Culture Club, *Making Up My Mind*. A perfect 10! I wonder what Boy George wore on Halloween?

Other news: New tape by Sade Council

soon, Sting's first solo album in late '84 or early '85 produced by William Orbit, Louis Meyer, and Grant Gilbert of "Torch Song."

Has videos on heavy rotation: "Two Tribes" by Frankie Goes To Hollywood, WHAM's "Wake Me Up," plus new material from a new act out of Dallas called A.3.1. Their latest is "Animal" off their new LP *Which Way It Go*.

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Coogs clash with Klein; roll over Forest, 17-7

By Russ Johnson
Sports Editor

The Cougars' championship hopes have dwindled immensely. Playoff games do not seem to be their destiny. Their season peaked with the Klein showdown.

The Coogs faced the biggest venue at Klein's packed stadium on a hot humid Saturday night.

Both teams participated in brutalizing football, the hard hits could be heard throughout the stadium.

Klein rallied early on when QB Max Moss directed his pass towards the endzone. However, the counteracted arm of Todd Baxter deflected the ball and delayed a touchdown. The next play, Klein capitulated on a sweep to the left for the TD, for an early 7-0 lead, with 6:43 left in the first quarter.

Cougar fans may have expected a long evening until Creek Todd Moore struck back with his screen to running back Troy Trent. Trent then sprinted down the sideline for the 80 yard TD.

The Klein team was silent and the stands silent, listening to the exhalations of the Creek fans.

Klein then assembled a drive downfield. QB Max Moss took the option and ran to the left with the ball, he was hit by a Creek defender. Max then turned and pitched to his running back who ran into the endzone for the TD.

First play of the second half Klein is stopped and penalized. QB Max Moss ran on a keeper when Todd Riddle finally pulled him out of bounds at Creek 16 yard line. Several plays later Klein ran into the endzone for a TD. Creek's Todd Riddle, intercepted the ball on Klein's goal line, which was the beginning of a Creek drive. Creek

converted with several first downs. Scott Woods ran up the middle hurling his legs and knocking over defenders. He was stopped at the one yard line. Next play, Woods went up the middle for the TD. This pulled the Coogs closer to Klein's 21 to 14 lead. With 7:59 in the fourth quarter, the game was over for the Coogs, when a halfback pass was intercepted by Klein defender. Klein's QB, Max Moss sat up the clock, with runs and first down completions. Creek was to receive the ball one more time but nothing could be produced.

Although the Coogs lost, they put up a respectable showing, scoring 14 points against a team who had only 3 total points scored on them all year. The Coogs played good football. "I'm proud of the team, I asked them for their best, and they gave it," Coach Len Koenig said.

Moving into the previously played games, the Coogs defeated the Jersey Valley Falcons. J.V. struck early with a pass and long run for the TD. The Coogs retaliated with a Krenk field goal. But after second half, J.V. came back rejuvenated, which was broken by the Coogs defense. Fourth and goal, J.V. went for it, as the QB dropped back for a pass, found the receiver who let the ball slip through his hands. From then on the Coogs dominated the rest of the game. They went on to win with Todd Riddle running out the clock.

The Coogs also added Katy to their list of victories. Throughout the course of the game, the Coogs made the plays needed to win. They sacked the QB, stopped the running backs, and generated the defense. The only really exciting play came from the Coogs when QB Moore threw a long pass to Bobby Horwell, who scrambled by defenders for the TD to put the Coogs on top.

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Klein state contenders? Houston area tough job

By Russ Johnson
Sports Editor

The Klein Bearkats have remained undefeated with their most recent victory over the Coogs. The Klein team received a state ranking of fourth and have maintained this throughout the season. Klein has definitely compiled a good football season, one able to solidly execute their offense and defense, but they're not good enough to be ranked fourth in state. The Bearkats cannot compete with Yates, or Houston Madison.

Compared to these teams, Klein lacks depth, speed, size, and quality of execution. It is virtually impossible to get out of the Houston area in 5-A football with worthy state contenders Yates. The Lions play on a higher level than any other high school I have seen in the past several years.

800-9944

Klein is faced with a big trial. They have played well, however, the Kats must play perfect ball to advance to the playoffs. The team cannot afford to play less than perfectly. Klein has a battle just getting out of the Houston area.

My prediction? Sixth-ranked Yates to play top ranked Odessa Permian for the final confrontation in 5A football for 1984.

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Shaan Revere races for the ball in an early water polo game.

Coach Herchek gives advice to Travis Kelly and other football players at a varsity game.

Tracy Kiest has a look of anticipation as she carefully watches the ball.

The agony of defeat is apparent on Adrian Waller's face.



Volleyballers' determination helps turn players into team

Not many people understand the trouble with a female athlete. Few fans, little recognition, long hours, and not much time for recreation. These problems are well understood by three senior volleyball players Tracy Kiest, Shary Smith, and Robin Serafin.

They have been playing together for several years, and have had Coach Jaehne for the past five.

"It's good having her this long," Serafin said, "we both know what to expect from each other."

However, for those continuing to play in the future, they'll have a new coach with new techniques.

"It will be really different, but I think it's good to have a change," Kiest said.

One of the major problems of the players is the time involved in practice. They all agree that being a female athlete requires a great deal of dedication and discipline. They really miss not having fans or recognition.

"We work our butts off four-and-a-half hours a day, six days a week, and no one even goes to the games," Serafin said.

Although she constantly refers to herself as just a "girl jock," Serafin was nominated for Homecoming Queen. She was very surprised, but glad that someone different from a cheerleader or Silvarado was nominated.

The senior players feel that this year's team gets along pretty well.

"When we play hard, we do it for each other," Smith said.

"Tracy Kiest has a special relationship with one of the players, her sister, Merideth.

"She's real good, and we both understand what the other is going through," Tracy said.

They all think that the younger players have a lot of potential for the future.

"If they don't make it to state in the next two years, it will be a shame, because they're very good," remarked Kiest.

Now that the season is over, the players still have to keep in shape. They lift weights, practice a little, and play other games, like badminton.



Girls basketball preview

Shooting to win district

By Laurie Nimberger
Staff Writer

The Girls Varsity Basketball team is preparing for another successful season, after last year's record.

"I expect more this year. There is more talent," says Coach Betty Maaskant.

These girls are going to be ready for the season, according to Maaskant. Presently, they are developing a new transition game. The team is also preparing for the season by scrimmaging Conroe, a likely play-off contender October 10.

"We have an extremely tough district schedule," Maaskant said. Some of the more prominent games will be against Jersey Village, Klein Oak, Cy-Fair and Katy Taylor, a new tough team from division 4A.

"There will be a fight for every game. There are no weak teams," Maaskant stated.

The returning varsity lettermen are Dawn Longwell, "a well-rounded point," Melissa Cannon, "a very good shooter, very quick," and Nancy Toborg, "extremely good shooter, intelligent," Maaskant said about the three. One of the younger members of the team is sophomore Stacy Miller, a strong post.

As for the fans, Maaskant says it helps the players somewhat, but do not expect a losing season without them.

"I hope we have it (fan support). I hope it will be better than it was in the past."

"There is no limit to the potential of this team," Maaskant firmly said.

Boys' Basketball

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
Nov. 20	Eisenhower	There	7:30
Nov. 23	Aldine	There	7:30
Nov. 27	MacArthur	There	7:30
Nov. 29-30-1	Clear Creek Clear Lake Classic	There	T.B.A.
Dec. 4	Alief Elsik	There	7:30
Dec. 6-7-8	Belton Tournament	There	T.B.A.
Dec. 11	McCullough	There	7:30
Dec. 13-14-15	Cy-Fair I.S.D. Tournament	There	T.B.A.
Dec. 18	Dullies	Home	7:30
Dec. 20	Westfield	Home	7:30
Dec. 29	Humble	Home	7:30

Girls' Basketball

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
11/19	Clear Creek	Away	7:30
11/20	Forestbrook	Home	7:30
11/26	Open		
11/29-12/1	Conroe Varsity Tournament		
12/3	Forestbrook	Home	7:30
12/6	Smiley	Home	7:00