

Cougar Connection

Cypress Creek High School 9815 Grant Road Houston, TX 77070

Confessions of a chocoholic

By Heidi Baier
Contributing Writer

If Woody Allen is right (let us fervently pray), 21st Century science will show that wheat germ is bad for you and hot fudge heals. Actually, chocolate lovers have lived with that thought for years.

A love affair with chocolate is a life-long thing, probably instilled in the womb. I know I got suckered into joining the youngest branch of the Girl Scouts because they were seductively called...Brownies.

Americans eat nearly two million pounds of chocolate per year — a third more than any other type of candy.

neither chocolate nor any other food causes acne, have been told by parents to mind their own business.

If you still have doubts about chocolate, take a look at actress Katharine Hepburn. Now in her seventies, the celebrated chocoholic is said to eat half-a-pound a day-and she's as slender, clear-skinned and energetic as she was 50 years ago.

"It used to be that chocolates were so cheap that it was almost insulting to receive them," said chocolatiere Ruth Thornberg. "But when they got expensive, people realized you could give them as a gift."

Per capita consumption of chocolate in the U.S. last year was 9.1 lbs.; some \$3.4 billion was spent on chocolate

 "I got suckered into joining the youngest branch of the Girl Scouts because they were seductively called...Brownies." 

Chocolates have been blamed for bulging figures, blemished complexions and bad teeth. But in defense of the sweets, "Chocolate is still a high-energy, low sodium treat, and more nutritious than any other candy," nutritionist Kelli Thomas said.

Chocolate even contains a chemical called phenylethylamine, an amphetamine-like substance that is also produced in the brain when we are infatuated or in love. Some say the chocolate binges that may often follow the end of an affair are the body's way of replacing its lost supply of this chemical.

Surprisingly, a 1.5 ounce bar of milk chocolate contains at least four percent of the U.S. Recommended Daily Allowance of protein, six percent of the calcium, four percent of the riboflavin, (all of this is clutching at straws, I know, and two percent of the thiamine.)

Some of chocolate's other properties are even less well understood. One of its constituents appears to act as an irritant on the membranes of the parent who sees his child eating it. Dermatologists, who cite the latest evidence that

last year. In addition, there has emerged a new breed of chocolate eaters-better informed, more discriminating, but not necessarily heavier than in the past. They have come out of the closet, and they want the world to know that you don't have to be fat to love chocolate.

Across the countryside, Snickers are America's favorite according to the Candy and Snack Industry. Close contenders: Hershey's with almonds, Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, and M and M's (both plain and peanut).

However, many are fussy about the names of their chocolate, having ventured beyond the comforting familiarity of Hershey. While Moreau (France) and Neuhaus (Belgium) may be the cream of the crop at \$22-28 per lb., availability prompts many to seek an American favorite, Godiva milk chocolates from \$18.50 per lb.

An infamous chocoholic summed up her feelings towards chocolate.

"If I get to heaven, it will be paved with Toll House chips and smell of hot cocoa. And if it be hell, it will surely be vanilla." ☹️



Vince Calicchia (9), assisted by Damon Coalson, overtakes a Conroe player for a bi-district victory. (photo by Mac Atteberry)

Stacey Miller jumps over a McCullough player on the way to a bi-district win. The girls were undefeated in district play before losing to Longview in area playoffs. (photo by Julie Wisely)

calendar

March	7	Student Council Election
	11 & 12	Senior Showoff tryouts
	22	Cheerleader tryouts
April	1 - 5	Spring Break
	19,20	Silverado Spring Show
	22,23	Industrial Arts Fair

newsmakers

Cosmetology

The Cosmetology class will be inducting all juniors on February 13th. Cindy San Miguel was named the Cosmetology sweetheart of the year.

Academic Decathlon

The Academic Decathlon team, the only one this year from the Cy-Fair District, came in third out of nineteen schools at their competition on February 2nd.

The competition, which was held at Klein Oak High School, included six written tests, one essay, one interview, two speeches, and the "Superquiz", a team event in which the Cy-Creek team won third place. In addition to the Superquiz, team members won twenty-two individual medals.

Team members included seniors Derrick Aguren, Leslie Haugh, Linda Nguyen, and Lisa Toth, and junior Jaleh Dashtizadeh and Reed Voskuil. Seniors Tom Moore and Jennifer Paulson were alternates.

Mr. Randall Hankla and Miss Leslie Bluestein, both English teachers, coached the team, the first ever for Cy Creek.

Computer Math

Bill Shirley, Jimmy Delahanty, Howard Tsoi, and Mike Taggart recently competed in the University of Houston Computer Competition. This team programmed on computers for over two hours and placed in the top third overall.

Baby business cannot boom on Sunday

by Kimberly Kahlik
Editor

You are working in a discount store on a Sunday afternoon. Someone walks in and buys a three-ring loose-leaf binder, a can of floor wax, a stapler and staples, and a toy submarine. You are arrested and convicted on the basis of article 90D: THE BLUE LAW. This situation actually occurred under the Massachusetts version of these laws.

The Texas Blue Laws have been in effect since 1863 and have grown from prohibiting drinking, horse racing and other "heathen" practices, to the recent controversial version that makes it unlawful to buy baby bottles, but not beer, on Sunday.

The idea behind the Blue Law is giving employees a day of rest. But, as evidenced in a recent poll by Shipley and Associates, two-thirds of Texans don't want the day off.

A question behind the controversy is the purpose of the Blue Laws. Do they benefit the religious or the secular? The answer is both to those in support of the laws, and religion to those advocating the repeal. First, let's examine the case of those in favor of the blue laws. Officially, within the first amendment, "any legislation which does not make unlawful religious practice itself" is permissible.

Maurice Aresty, president of the Retail Merchants Association, said the blue laws offer a "benefit to the community" because it offers a "day of rest." Former Supreme Court Justice Fuller in the court case *Soon Hing vs. Crowley* said, "Laws setting aside Sunday as a day of rest are upheld, not from any right of the government to legislate for the promotion of religious observance, but from its right to protect all persons from the physical and moral debasement which comes from uninterrupted labor." Those who believe religion is the basis of the laws feel they are in violation of the separation of church and state.

Although the Blue Laws found their formation in religion, today religion has little to do with the actual observance. As it immediately noticeable to the shopper, the items outlawed on Sunday have very few similarities. The only connection is that only items sold by retailers who don't want to open on Sunday cannot be sold. The amount it would take the larger stores to be open on Sunday surpasses the money that would be made by the stores. The Texas Retailers Association (with five thousand members) now spends twenty percent of its lobbying time making sure the law isn't repealed. Those stores supporting the Blue Laws seem to be quite selfish, and afraid of the minor profit to be made by small business.

On a more individual level, a repeal would certainly ease some of the congestion at local shopping malls, if the stores would open on Sunday. In any case, the idea that Blue Laws are not repealed due to antiquated religious views should be shattered; the only thing blocking the purchase of baby bottles on Sunday are greedy businesses.

YOU'RE CHARGED WITH A 211: BUYING DIAPERS ON A SUNDAY



Sunday Shopping

Will repeal of laws make people blue?

by Ross Johnson
Sports Editor

This year's holiday season brought a considerable amount of discussion among retailers and their organizations. Many stores defiantly remained open on Sundays, breaking the Texas Blue Laws.

There were several hundred stores throughout Houston remaining open on Sundays, trying to generate business. Many people agree that this was the final opposition needed to have the 100-year-old blue laws repealed. However, the addition of Sunday, making a seven-day shopping week, will neither boost profits or survive if approved.

Sunday has long been reserved strictly for family events, picnics, and relaxation. Closing on Sundays gives both merchants and their employees a day off. Possibly this strong surge for the Blue Laws to be repealed stems from the increasing amount of merchants from the north and other states, where a seven-day shopping week is a reality. However, opening on Sunday doesn't appear to be financially sound.

The malls and stores are dead right now. The retailers could not afford to pay taxes and salaries for this extra shopping day and make a profit. In fact, these merchants could possibly lose some of their income.

People in opposition to the Blue Laws argue they are unable to shop in six days. If they cannot shop in one of those six days, how many will make it to the stores on Sunday? Many of the big retailers remain open to 9:30 and 10:00 p.m. on weekdays. Walk into a mall on a week night around 9:00 and there is not a person to be seen. Possibly, during peak season such as Christmas, retailers could be allowed to open legally on Sundays.

The system is working well, why change it? Many people hail the change of these laws as progress. Progress is not always something to be welcomed, especially if it destroys a well-established system with limited faults. Sundays are many people's only rest day. Take that away from them and they become frustrated and tired.

In conclusion, the Blue Laws are a well-established part of the Texas Constitution. This extra day would probably benefit no one, and hurt only a few individuals. Many families have only this one day to spend together. Take that away and you start to destroy people's family lives; all for one more day of shopping. Is it really worth it?

Choosing life

Mastering adolescence

by Bob Schneider
School Psychologist

I felt like I had returned to my youth the other evening. There was a meeting sponsored by S.A.D.D. (*Students Against Drunk Driving*) and I had been invited to share some thoughts with a group of parents. When I was a teenager in the '60's there were many causes I stood up for and devoted time and energy. I wrote letters to my congressmen and senators to express my dissatisfaction with prison conditions and to encourage legislation to prevent racial discrimination. It was a time of looking outside yourself and espousing the need for brotherhood.

Well, that feeling of community and shared mission is alive and well at Cypress Creek thanks to the efforts of the Students Against Drunk Driving. This is a noble cause. One of life and death. As Tom Wicker expressed in his book about the Attica prison revolt, "there is a time to die." This is not your time.

Do not challenge death by drinking and driving.

The years after adolescence bring many joys. Many of you will find a career to devote your creativity and talents. Many of you will find a partner to share life's pains and pleasures. Many of you will witness the miracle of creation when you bring children into the world and experience the high of watching them grow. Many of you will begin to understand and accept yourselves with greater charity and assurance which will enable you to reach out comfortably to others.

Do not challenge your future by drinking and driving.

What can you do now? *One thing.* Be strong enough to say no. Say no to being in a car with a driver who has been drinking. Say no to yourself before driving after drinking. Say yes to staying at your friend's house if you've had too much to drink. Say yes to calling your parents to come pick you up.

Do not challenge your humanness by drinking and driving.

The choice is clearly yours. Drunken driving is the number one killer of young Americans. The problem is clearly yours. It is your life and your friends' lives which are at stake. Only you can watch out for one another. The future is clearly yours. There is time to die—the time is not now. Choose life.

Letter to the editor — S.A.D.D.

Drunk driving is the least excusable offense of any crime. It is also the most preventable. The fundamental reason that we started S.A.D.D. is because we are tired of seeing our friends constantly challenging Death and occasionally lose. Drunk driving is the number one murderer of people between the ages of 16 and 24. If this information concerns you, maybe you should consider joining the almost 80 other Crekites in the fight to drive drunks off the road before they drive us to our grave.

Our S.A.D.D. chapter is affiliated with the National Chapter of S.A.D.D., and is in constant correspondence with the national chapter of M.A.D.D. Our organizational structure runs as follows:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS: David Morales, Tommy Lattin
VICE PRESIDENTS: FINANCIAL: Tom Moore
SPECIAL INTERESTS: Mark Gall
PROJECTS: JoAnne Sepulveda
PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP: Suzanne Sulphin

The reactions have been mixed about our new program. Some say it is ridiculous. We think it is nothing but "ridiculous" to ignore this problem and allow it to continue. We simply think that high school students everywhere can take a leadership role in the preventions of many deaths. We merely want to provide them with the information and the initiative. The question I am asked

Vacations: All in the family

by Jane Thatcher
Contributing Editor

"Come take a trip to a better land..."

There is probably nothing horrible enough to compare with cross-country traveling in an automobile. Especially if you are one in a family of many. Whether you are headed for South "Egypt" (anyplace over two thousand miles away) or Disneyland, these trips all begin the same way. Blind to the memorable experiences of past journeys, everyone excitedly packs the ol' family wagon full of traveling necessities, a camera, and of course, the dog. Finally, with mom and dad in the spacious front seats, and you, the dog, and loving siblings in the back seats, you are off on a trip that will soon seem to be endless. Maybe the following ideas will help pass the time "on the road". Avoid playing the common, boring traveling games such as hangman or tic-tac-toe. Make up your own games, and make them interesting!

"Blind to the memorable experiences of past journeys, everyone excitedly packs the ol' family wagon full of traveling necessities, a camera, and of course, the dog."

For instance:
1. Keep a list of how many times the dog shobbers on your drive.
2. Keep a list of the different species of winged animals seen vs. doggy you pass on the side of the road. Animals that obviously forgot they were not supposed to play in traffic.

Have contests:
1. Who has the most dog hair on their shirt, pants, socks, etc.
2. How many cups of coffee do your parents have daily in order to maintain their average driving skills? Who will win, mom or dad? Keep score!
3. Who can dominate the entire seat the longest? (The dog will most likely always win this one.)

However, it really does not matter how hard you try, crosscountry traveling by auto will always be boring, and always make you irritable. So, if you have to travel, do it by plane, bus, train, or boat, and go alone. If for some reason that is impossible, you may be better off walking.

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It's all in your

MIND

By Greg Pettit
Staff Writer

Imagine two different people living inside you. They have opposite ideas and preferences, but together, they are an unbeatable team — an Odd Couple in your head. Although Felix and Oscar aren't actually living in you, very similar counterparts are found in the left and right hemispheres of your brain.

The hemispheres are noticeably different from one another. The left brain, which controls the right half of your body, is very analytical. It is responsible for time, order, mathematics, and speech: a clean-cut Felix Unger.

The right side, however, controls the left side of the body and is more creative. It handles games, art and music appreciation, and emotions: the free-flowing Oscar Madison of your mind.

Though different in thought and behavior patterns, the two brains are not independent. Most people have one dominant side, but no one has only one half controlling their behavior. Contrary to popular belief, right- and left-handedness does not always determine the dominant brain. Just because a person is left-handed does not necessarily mean he is more creative that a right-handed person. The best way to discover dominance is simply by personality traits and preferences. The descriptions accompanying this article can help point out your dominant side.

Mind Beggars

Left-brained people:
—Have a good inner sense of time
—Like to set goals
—Prefer to speak rather than listen
—Are well disciplined
—Like to make lists
—Are organized
—Believe in tradition
—Prefer planned activity to spontaneity

Right-brained people:
—Rely on hunches
—Remember faces well
—Visualize directions, picturing the places in their minds
—Learn by doing
—Are emotional
—Prefer to listen rather than speak
—Are impulsive
—Can turn things around visually in their minds (for example, picturing how a room would look with the furniture in different places)

Pressing for success

Do the colors you wear bring out the real you?

By Michler Millington
Staff Writer

Imagine a world without color: dull and lifeless. Colors affect our moods, emotions, and even how we look. According to several color analyses, the right colors can make anyone look exciting and beautiful. Everyone is in a color category depending on skin, eye, and hair coloring. These categories are Winter, Autumn, Spring, and Summer. Although they are named after seasons, the categories actually have nothing to do with the seasons.

Winter-type people have fair skin with possible pink undertones, black or white hair, and deep colored eyes. Winter's best colors are navy, black, white, grey, or red. Winter should wear sharp, vivid or icy colors. Well-known Winters are Elizabeth Taylor and Cher.

Ivory or peach tone skin denote Autumn coloring. They have red, golden brown, or coppery hair and golden, amber, or green eyes. Autumn's best colors are dark browns, moss green, camel, gold or beige. Autumn should wear golden undertones or muted, clear tones. Well-known Autumns are Vanessa Redgrave and Carol Burnett.

Spring has beige or freckled skin, blond, strawberry blond or Auburn hair, and blue, green or aqua eyes. Springs best colors are peachy pink, soft blue, golden yellow or clear. Springs should stick to clear, warm, soft colors. Well-known Springs are Marilyn Monroe and Sally Struthers.

Summers have beige, or tan skin, brown or ash blond hair, and blue eyes. Summer colors are soft blue, lavender rose pink, or plum. Summers should wear soft neutrals. Well-known Summers include Princess Grace and Cheryl Tiegs.

Summer and Winters should stick to cool blue-based colors while Autumns and Springs should wear warm yellow-based colors. A person's colors also affect the type of make-up they wear.

Summer and Winters should want to know more? These consultants will chart the individual's colors, the type of make-up the person should buy and even the type of clothes they should wear. Consultants usually charge about 40 to 50 dollars per visit. The book "Color Me Beautiful" is also available for people interested in charting their own colors.

Mental workout

If you are a dominantly left-brained person, you need to build your right brain power:

Reverse the adjective. If your objection to write one pair, that for writing 100 instead. If you're trying to improve your grades, think of ways to decrease your grades. Playing these games will develop right-brain, imaginative skills. "The right brain thinks that lies," said an expert. "It's like a game. The right brain loves puzzles. It likes to be intrigued."

Taking risks. Consider taking greater risks in four categories:

- 1. Physically (try non-motorcycle riding, non-mountain climbing, stock market)
- 2. Financially (go ahead, bet on the OK to be friends with someone radically different from yourself)
- 3. Interpersonally (work together you would walk around like a long doorman. And though Felix and Oscar split apart several times on their TV show, be thankful that your brain doesn't do the same.
- 4. Intellectually (write something to offer after all)

Relative intuitive flashes. Was it in the shower? Driving to school? Be aware of where and how you experienced that flash of inspiration. The more attention you pay to it, the better the chance of having other flashes.

Appreciate the right brain. If you have a dream, talk about it. If you have a hunch, focus on it. "Fill yourself that it's valuable. In our left-brained society, we have to constantly give credit to the things we get from the right brain in order to reinforce it," according to an expert.

If you are a dominantly right-brained person, you need to work on your left-brain power:

Setting goals. If you meet 12 people, set a goal to remember half of their names. When you go to a class, watch the other students; what do they have in common? How are they different?

Information courtesy of *Homesite Chronicle*

Green with envy?

by Laurie Nisberger
Staff Writer

Ever been in a blue mood? Been really mad and seen red? How about being green with envy or tacked pink? We often use colors to express our emotions and psychologists and researchers say those sayings may be more than colorful language.

Some of the effects color have on us are establishing and altering moods; going deep and shallow; representing symbols, ideas and personal emotions and speeding up heart and brain activity. It also makes visual communication more effective.

Red gives a warning effect. It is also vibrant color that attracts attention. Red is the favorite color of most women, besides blue. The wave banding stimulate chemicals in marking color. Some football teams have been known to enter a red physiological body also a color signifying the royal treatment, as in Alexander "rolling out the carpet."

Green triggers different reactions; some people feel the color is soothing while others feel the shade is an irritant. Black gives an aggressive tendency and actually reduce physical strength. They were able to lower the number of guards needed on duty.

Purple and royalty red seem to go hand-in-hand. Purple is known as a color of respect. Better restaurants use black gives an appearance of weight. It is making food more known for mystery, palatable, gloom, drama and sadness. American uniform effect within a Western European tradition, says Walsh.

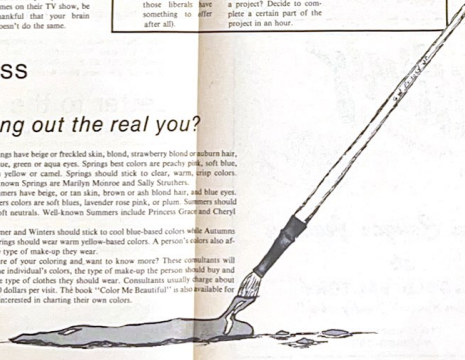
White gives a feeling of a color marking of lightness and open space. A paint company ran a test with their workers, using a light weight black box and a heavier white box. The workers had more trouble with the black box than the white even though they were also of equal size.

President Reagan prefers white jellybeans over any other. He says he is opposed to those who choose that color. "ambitious, seeking popularity and attempting to display a feeling of authority. He fired more than 1,400 quality rejects outside hospitals and correctional institutions in the United States use pink brown; school desks are brown. We think of brown as utilitarian."

The dining room is a color that attracts attention. Red is the favorite color of most women, besides blue. The wave banding stimulate chemicals in marking color. Some football teams have been known to enter a red physiological body also a color signifying the royal treatment, as in Alexander "rolling out the carpet."

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Handicapped students: "Once they're accepted as people, they've got it made."

By Lisa Turk
Staff Writer

They sit in a circle around the teacher, intently listening to the story and giggling whenever they hear a funny line. They were cute and curious little people: a typical kindergarten class. But something about them was not so typical. One little boy's head was wrapped in a brace, and several of them were sitting in manual chairs. But all were intently listening to the teacher, perhaps with more joy than most other 5 and 6-year-olds.

The place was Carlton Center, the CRESO school for low functioning and severely handicapped children. The school has about 80 students, from ages 4 to 22, and is located between C-Park High School and Arnold Junior High. Carlton Center is not only an academic school, but a pre-vocational training center and a place where the students develop social skills needed for day-to-day living.

"It's a real good school," Katie Thompson, principal at Carlton, said. "We're real proud of it."

Thompson, who has been principal for several years, is enthusiastic about the Center.

To attend Carlton, a student must have had dif-

ficulties in coping with everyday living: mentally, physically or emotionally. The instruction is very individualized. There are usually three aides and two teachers for every 11 to 12 student class.

"The teachers put a lot into it," said Thompson. "We have a good program."

The students take regular classes as at any other school: reading, math, and language; they are also taught sign language (whether they are deaf or not), special physical education, home management, and self-care. In these classes they learn the skills that most children their age know.

They are taught basic physical education and have the opportunity to participate in Special Olympics sports like bowling, basketball, soccer, track, gymnastics, and swimming. The younger students take classes in home management and self-care. There is a kitchen, a bathroom, a bathroom, and a living room at school for the children to practice making beds and cleaning house. Emphasis is put on grooming and taking care of themselves.

The younger students participate in pre-vocational classes. Here they put their skills to work and make products which are actually sold. Every year the

students put together Christmas manger sets, print napkins for district occasions like the spaghetti dinner in December, and do various other projects which earn money for the facility.

The students who attend Carlton will always need some help and supervision. When they turn twenty-one, the school gets in touch with the Texas Vocational Rehabilitation Committee which places them in jobs, and Mental Health and Mental Retardation which finds group living centers for when they go out on their own. Carlton's main purpose is to help the student reach a level of competence in living, not just in academics. The custodian who works at Carlton was a student himself, and is now 25.

According to Thompson, a handicapped student has four barriers to overcome in order to be successful in the world.

They must accept their handicaps, and then realize that it is hard for other people to do so. They must overcome the lack of vocational opportunity, and then tackle the problem of independent living.

The students must be able to say, "I'm a person."

"Once they're accepted as people, they've got it made," Thompson said.

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Moran dedicates to soccer

By Angie Hasler
News Editor

Kick that checkered white and black ball! Be rough and get that goal! Double that ball down the field! This is what soccer player Kelly Moran has heard since she was 8 years old. Moran practices 2 hours a day at school and then on the weekends for fun.

"I wasn't even into this summer because of being on the team. My entire summer revolved around my soccer. Thank God I had my parents' support!" Moran said.

Moran not only likes to

team, and traveled to such places as San Antonio and Austin.

"I continued my soccer into high school and got on the high school team, and I love it!" Moran said.

Finally, last year Moran made the South Texas State team. My entire summer revolved around my soccer. Thank God I had my parents' support!" Moran said.

Moran not only likes to

work. So my grades suffer quite a bit during soccer season," Moran says.

In addition to the games, Moran also enjoys the state tournaments. The tension of each team, the hatred between the teams and the arguing of the coaches is what makes these tournaments fun, according to Moran.

As for Moran's future plans, she plans to go to Texas Tech and major in mass communication.

Moran also dreams of going

"I continued my soccer into high school and got on the high school team; and I love it!"

Even though Moran's sport means everything in her life, soccer at Cypress Creek doesn't get the recognition that the dreams of "We work as hard and need to be in shape just like the football players. So why don't we get the recognition?" Moran asked.

Moran "started" playing soccer with Timberline, a local soccer association. Later, she made the "Blue" Select Team, a great honor for her.

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AT CHAMPIONS NO. 1 ENTRANCE

Boys look to next year

The men's varsity basketball team faced a trying season in which draws have outnumbered the ups. Their record of 1 and 12 has proved disappointing for everyone, but has been hardest on the players.

Going in the season, hopes for a 500-year were high.

The Coogs lack of varsity experience prove to be a contributing factor to their downfall. Only two seniors from the graduating class of '83 made it through to varsity level. With these young players and their inexperience, it took longer to develop as a smoothly operating team capable to respond in varsity fashion.

"This has been a hard year and the

players have maintained good attitudes and responded better than I have," Pascher said.

A main contribution to the Coogs' struggle has been their low shooting 37 percent from the field. To be considered, a higher percentage must be maintained. Pascher's outlook is a coach's response to a losing season.

"Let my players know they have done a good job, and they are good players, otherwise, they wouldn't be on varsity. And that they are no different from our previous teams. I'm proud of them," he said.

The Coogs wound up their season against their rival, a shaky CV Fair team which has also seen difficulty this year.

Longview eliminates girls

"We have such a well-balanced group and we're playing such good team ball," Varsity Coach Betty Maaskant said.

Maaskant commented on "whole team improvements and contributions," citing Dawn Longwell and Kim Klope as strong players. Longwell, a point guard, is an "outstanding floor leader" and Klope has "developed as a strong cut."

The team had to play McCullough for bi-district. Maaskant said they were optimistic but if they played "team ball," they would have a good chance at the bi-district title.

The Coogs obviously played team ball, rolling over the Highlanders, 51-41. Longwell led the team to victory and enabled them to go on to area playoffs. Most of the game was pretty close, but at no point did the lady hoopers lose the lead. In the last quarter of the game, a series of fouls gave many players several chances to widen

the lead through free throws.

Though the coaches are unsure of who their opponent will be in the upcoming games, one strategy holds true.

"We are team oriented and we don't depend on one person to come through. I think the varsity team is a great group of kids. They have a good attitude, they work hard, and they aren't afraid to go out and play. That's one of the reasons I admire them," assistant coach Sara Hackerott said.

"It's been a joy to coach this team. They're extremely hard working and coachable girls. They never said I wish on good competition, which is making them look optimistically towards playoffs. If we can continue to play the kind of team ball we have been, anything can happen," concluded Maaskant.

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Swimmers capture district — to regionals

During the five years that swim coach John Webb has been at Creek, his Cougars have dominated the area swim competition. Unfortunately, the desire of any team and coach—a state championship—has eluded them. However, this may be the year they reach their ultimate goal.

"The girls' team has a great chance to win state. The medley relay will be defending their title of state champs along with many others who had previously competed last year," Webb said.

Webb feels the girls' team is solid in the butterfly events with Christine

Gramling and Mary Taylor; the spring freestyle events are strong with Darci Springer and Pam Terhune, according to Webb.

"This year is the best chance we have had to win a state team championship since I came to Cypress Creek. We fell five points short (in 3rd place) in 1981.

Our main block right now is the regional Meet. Cypress Creek is in the toughest region in the state. If we can get our swimmers out of the regional meet, we should have an excellent chance to go for a state championship," Webb said.

"Probably the biggest weakness we have on the boys' team is our lack of experience," says Webb. Junior Drew Anderson, however, is no stranger to top-flight competition. He

is one of the top state sprinters this year, with

Junior Jason West who is strong in the breast-stroke events. As mentioned, many of the boys have not competed in regional or state meets. Freshman Jeff Thibault will soon be put to the test at the regional meet.

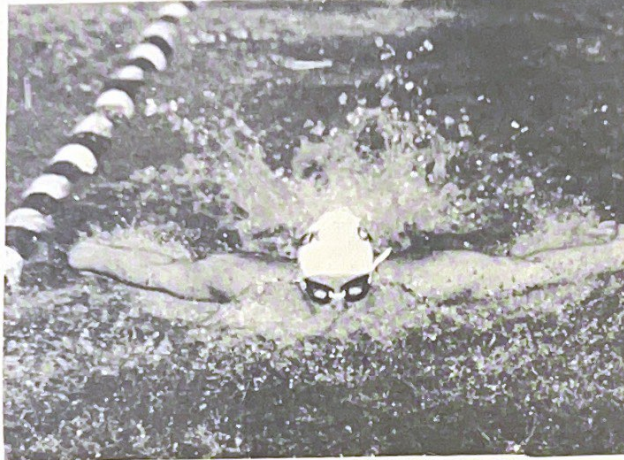
"The talent in the state is more spread out this year than I have seen in a long time. The quality of the swimmers is good," Webb

stated.

"In order for us to have a good chance at winning the

state meet, we must get both of our relays to qualify for the state. We have one of the top freestyle relays in the state with Ted Watson, Jeff Thibault, Jason West and Drew Anderson," says Webb.

The team handily won their district meet.



Freshman Christine Gramling powers to a victory in the 100 yd. butterfly. Creek swimteam won both the boys' and girls' district championship.

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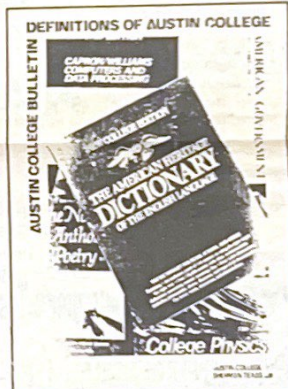
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