

Cougar Connection

Volume 8 Issue 6

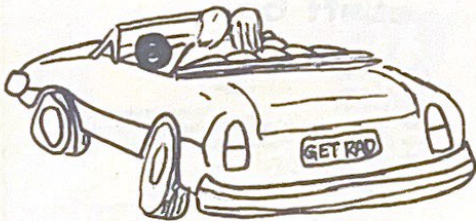
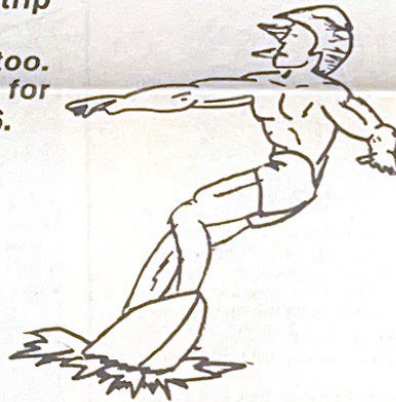
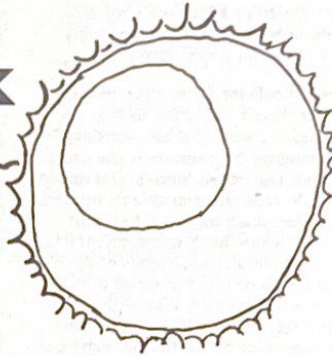
Cypress Creek High School 9815 Grant Road Houston, TX 77070

Spring break

Spring break! In less than four hours, Creek students will be hitting the beach, sliding down the slopes, or just lying around, doin' nothing for an entire week. Spring break plans are made well in advance, but even "the best laid plans of mice and men..." can go wrong.

The Cougar Connection explores three vacations that weren't such a trip on page 4,5.

Colorado is great in the summer, too. A Connection writer gives some tips for the beginning backpacker on page 6.



calendar

APRIL

- 1-5 Spring Break
- 5 Track Team at Dyer Stadium — Reagan Relays
- 8 Pink Floyd in concert
Sign up for Powder Puff Football
- 9 Golf Tournament with Memorial at Waterwood
- 10 Eric Clampton in concert
- 11 Diana Ross in concert
- 15 Golf District at Green Meadows
- 17 Track District at Langham Creek
- 19 End of 5th 6 weeks
Silverado Spring Show 7 P.M.
- 20 Silverado Spring Show 7 P.M.
- 23 Choir Pop Show 2:30-10:00
- 29 Golf Regional play at Del Lago

5 MAY

Eddie Murphy in concert

news makers

The cosmetology department has a list of services you can find at most beauty salons, but for inexpensive rates. Their hours are from 7:30 to 2:30, as any school day; however, they may stay after school if requests are made.

The department averages a take-in of about \$125-150 a week, which is used for club activities and supplies.

A student who works in the department goes through an eight week training period before they are allowed to start services. Most of the students volunteer to cut hair, but every student in the club cuts at one time, according to sponsor Mrs. Wynne.

The club encourages student customers.

Sophomore Horizons English students are getting a special treat this year. College professor and ex-music critic Tom Cobb comes and talks to the students about poetry every two weeks.

"He helps them expand their creative abilities and makes them think in unconventional ways," Mrs. Lawrence, horizons teachers, said.

The students enjoy listening to Cobb. They argue and disagree with him on certain aspects of poetry.

Cobb likes listening to the students and their ideas and suggestions.

"He's open to different points of view because there is no right or wrong in poetry," Lawrence said.

Pandora's box opens in 1973

By Ross Johnson
Sports Editor

In 1973, the United States Supreme Court opened up a Pandora's box with the legalization of abortion. Twelve million lives have been lost senselessly because of this law. This number continues to expand systematically.

Abortion is wrong. It should be considered in only the direst circumstances (1) rape, (2) incest, (3) when the mother's life is in danger. Any child aborted for reasons not pertaining to the above mentioned is a scapegoat for something that was preventable. The most common argument for abortion is that the baby is not fully developed until birth, that it is not entirely human. This can be clarified, at conception the child is genetically complete, and its heart beats within 25 days. Forty-three days after conception, brain waves can be recorded, so the argument that a child isn't human until birth holds no validity. If it does, it then justifies killing these children until one-and-a-half years of age. These children are not fully developed until post-natal life. Separation of the arms of the heart into left and right chambers occurs gradually after birth. The central nervous system is not fully developed for one year. If this reason for abortion is accepted, will we begin to see the legislation of abortion up to eighteen months of age?

The opinions expressed in these articles are those of the reporter, and do not reflect the opinions of the staff, the administration of CyCreek High School or the Cypress Fairbanks School District.

Another very common argument is a woman controls her own body and has specific rights. This is a correct statement until it infringes upon another individual within the woman's body. Abortion claims control over another individual's body.

How can we even consider it's best for the child to die? In this action are we not trying to replicate our creator and playing God in some of our business. Who are we to decide the child's life will be filled with unpleasantness? Just because we have already predetermined our goals for the child and feel there is no way he will be able to experience our plans can you use this as an excuse for murder?

Possibly the child will hold his own visions and dreams to chase after. At least he is alive and has a chance, in control of his own life. How many of us would have wanted to be eliminated because it was in our best interests? If abortion is a statement declaring we have no value for human life, particularly the weakest, then we have no bigger reason to protect any life.

There is another philosophy towards abortion, pro-choice. It should be pro-choice to kill in its entirety. The ideology behind this view is: "I think it's wrong to have an abortion, but it is okay for you to have one." A hypocritical view. Many people feel abortion is the right choice, because if the child is born they will be mistreated.

There is strong evidence that children from wanted births suffer more abuse than those of unwanted pregnancy.

There are viable alternatives to abortion. Many organizations such as Right-To-Life, and Birth-right provide medical care, counseling, compassion and friendship to pregnant women. In a study compiled by Dr. Deaver author of Illinois Clinical Suggestions and Chief of Obstetrics at Roosevelt Hospital in New York concluded, "We have analyzed 231 pregnancies in patients aged 15-to-16 and found no statistically significant increase in complications. I'm not saying that these young patients pose no greater problems than older patients, but if they can be encouraged to participate in a prenatal program, they fare as well and possibly better, statistically, than the general obstetrics population."

In conclusion, has abortion not become a giant safe-guard, a form of birth control, when it is not? We have played upon the concept of God deciding to exterminate a child's life for no valid reason except personal benefit. This child continues to grow and with it the selfish people who deny these newborn humans the right to life they were once given. Very soon we must fully realize what abortion is and what its consequences are before it's too late.

Abortion: personal choice

By Angie Hostetter
News Editor

Abortion is one issue that won't just go away. It's a question of religious and moral issues and a life that has not yet begun.

The mother should have rights because she is affected the most. She has to go through the pregnancy, she should make the decision about abortion. There are several reasons abortion shouldn't be outlawed. Perhaps the mother can't handle the baby financially. Then how would the baby be brought up? The mother might be unwell. That can cause many psychological problems for the child later. It might be a case of rape or incest. The baby may then be a mental burden on the mother and cause problems that both the mother and child could do without.

In order to make a clear judgement, we should look at the entire picture. Because of the consequences and the dangers that could affect the mother and child, abortion is often necessary. If the mother is young, there is a greater chance of birth defects. A woman under the age of eighteen usually is not physically developed enough to handle a pregnancy. This causes danger to the mother as well as the child.

Even if abortions were outlawed, people would find ways to obtain them. There are at least as many mothers who need abortion for some life-threatening reason, as those who want one for no reason. In the future, if abortions were outlawed, many would resort to having abortions in illegal clinics and back alleys. This practice was common before 1973, the year abortions were made legal, when unscrupulous doctors or uneducated people out to make a buck, took advantage of the fragile emotions of a woman facing financial problems. Can we let this begin again?

To force a mother to have a child that she doesn't want is like burdening a backpacker with extra pounds on a long hike, as the trail gets longer, the burden gets heavier. Similarly, as an unwanted child gets older, the responsibility for his care becomes a heavier burden on the mother, who may have limited emotional and financial resources.

Religious issues are also a strong factor in the abortion controversy. Many religions believe the soul enters the body at conception, therefore abortion is seen as murder. There is no proof, however, that an embryo is an individual personality.

The "Right-to-Life" groups argue that this is a moral issue. But who's moral will be used to run our country, since individual morality varies so widely?

staff box

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All material contained in the Cypress Creek Cougar Connection is written entirely by high school students. Opinions expressed in columns and editorials are those of the student reporters and not necessarily those of the Cypress Creek faculty, administration, or the student body.

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Seniors plan for events

As the end of school draws near, seniors find their calendars getting even more full. As the big day approaches, seniors begin to worry about caps and gowns, invitations, and even about graduation itself. The caps and gowns will be handed out at the annual Senior Breakfast on April 29. Graduation invitations will be sent to the school and should be passed out in May. Graduation itself will be at Spring Branch Coliseum with Cypress Creek going second at 1:00 p.m.

Seniors who wish to apply for the Cy-Fair Educational Scholarship must turn in their entries by April 10.

The annual Senior Showoffs will be Friday and Saturday, May 10th and 11th featuring the very talented class of '85. This year's prom will be held at the

Adam's Mark Hotel Saturday, May 23 from 9:00-1:00 a.m. No decision has been reached yet determining whether or not seniors may take their exams early.

"As the end grows closer, people realize they will miss the class of '85."

"I will miss them all. It has been fun watching everyone grow and change," senior counselor Bobby Warner said.

"Each class has its own character, its strengths and weaknesses. This class is no different. I have enjoyed working with my class officers—the angels and Bobby, too. I will miss them. These months have gone by fast with everlasting memories. Some sad and some wonderful. The class of '85 had held up well in light of all the changes. And as we go our separate ways, I hope our friendship will last forever," senior sponsor Mike Hermsdorf said.



New American citizens, seven coach Donald Oltner received a Texas flag from State Representative Barry Connel. The student council sponsored the patriotic rally, which also featured the band and choir. (photo by Kefey Kimbel)

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Foursome frolics in sun and sand

by Doreen Gervad

Capp Editor
When it's warmer weather, it's time for the beach. You've planned all week for the trip, and now that Friday is here, you're ready! Saturday morning, you wake early and pack your car with the necessities: beach towel, sun box, shades, and suntan oil. Once you're ready and organized, you leave the house to pick up Lisa.

Upon your arrival to Lisa's house, you see her waiting by the curb, already straddled out on a lawnchair to catch the early rays. In less than a minute, she has herself and her belongings in the car. Is she ready to go, or what?

Tom's ready, too. As any typical teenage boy, he's got the food! Enough for twenty people. You can tell the foursome going won't be starved.

"I'm in charge of the food and the cooler!" Sound familiar? Tom's also chairman of the entertainment department, which includes frolics, beach ball, and lacy sac.

Is Debbie ever ready for anything? Not usually, and to the beach is no different. First, you look positively three times. Then, you lay on the horns and after about five minutes, Debbie sticks her head out the door long enough to yell, "Just a second, I gotta get my stuff!" When the family does appear, you see her running to the car with designer bathing suit, jellies, and hair still in hot rollers, holding a bag with God knows what's inside. To top it all off, she looms everything out of her bag from the front door to the car.

After collecting everything, you, Lisa, Tom, and Debbie are off to the beach. It's gonna be a great day. On the way there, you listen to the radio and fight over the station with the best music. Excitement increases as you leave the city, and the radio is soon forgotten.

Finally, you're over the bridge and on the island. Galveston. When you and your party reach the beach and pay three bucks for parking your car in sand, you unload all your belongings. But as usual, it seems half the state of Texas has beaten you to the best

spots. Don't worry, if you walk around enough, you'll find a nice place to dump your stuff. Ah, there it is — an open space. So, you and the troop walk just a little faster, but not fast enough. "You!" spot has just been claimed, so off you go, searching for another. You find one none too soon, because the agony of listening to Debbie complain about slipping in her jellies is enough to make the rest of you scream.

Now it's time to spread out the beach towels, plant the jam box, and catch some rays. As you begin to get settled, you notice one of the foursome is missing — Debbie. Oh great! But as you glance around, you easily spot her, talking to a lifeguard. Just her type with a gorgeous physique, white teeth, tanned skin, golden hair, and wearing the proper lifeguard attire: shorts, shades, and whistle. No doubt, she's probably telling him a little white lie.

"Maybe you'd better keep your eye on me, I can't swim." With Debbie's smile and charm, he'd probably be happy to do so.

Even though she's your girlfriend, you're not bothered by this because you know soon it will be time for you and Tom to get into the car, pull back the top, and cruise. Admit it. Why did you come to the beach? Certainly not to get a tan. Only girls go to the beach for tans. You go to see the girl with the tans.

It's getting late, so you all decide to start off for home. You gather and take everything with you, including part of the beach. Sand is everywhere in your car, and you know that even weeks from now, you'll still find it in the secret places of your car.

When you do get back in your own neighborhood, and drop off all your friends, you go home to take a shower and get cleaned up. So far, you haven't realized how much "color" the sun gave you. But as soon as you hit the shower, the pain hits you.

When you get out and look in the mirror, you see red. Not because you're mad, but because you've been burned. But come Monday morning, plans for the beach are made again.

'Rio', the yellow dog and a headache

by Laura Nisberger

Staff Writer

Day 1: Three and a half hours on a School Bus

Those famous school trips. You and your best friend planned to go together but at the last minute, she got the measles. OK — now the trip will be horrible because you really don't know anyone else going, you really don't want to go. Mom and Dad said you have to because they already paid their non-refundable, hard-earned money. Hey, can it be that bad? Yes!

On the Yellow Dog

First you are assigned to sit next to Bobby Bodysoul on the big yellow dog. The two hour trip takes three and a half hours because the bus can't go over 25 mph. Luckily, there were rest stops every 15 minutes for which you desperately begged the teacher to stop.

Halfway there, the bus stopped at a Stop-A-Go so everyone could buy snacks. Most bought a candy bar and a coke, but Bobby bought a giant bag of tortilla chips, a liter of root beer and a can of picante sauce with extra jalapenos, in which you are deathly allergic. When Bobby was full he asks you to put down the window so he can throw the can out.

First, you almost faint from the smell that wafts from the seat when he lifts his arm up.

At the hotel with "Rio"

Finally the hotel is just ahead but the reservation got mixed up. There has to be eight girls in a room; you and seven freshmen "Durrants." Luckily, your perclassroom got the beds.

"Her name is Rio..."

By midnight, you could recite the words to "Rio" like the pledge of allegiance. You also know the color of Simon LeBlon's underwear, John Taylor's statistics and even Nick Rhodes many shades of eyeliner. This is all important info for anyone who plans to survive in society.

Day 2: Rise and Shine

Finally around 2:00 a.m., everyone does off (thank you up above). At 5:00 a.m. the alarm goes off — it is a jolt!

"Her name is Rio..." and the morning make-up routines begin. Yes, go ahead — pull the covers over your head. At 8:30 the bus pulls away for a day of excitement. Yes, Bobby must have missed the shower. Again.

The day was so boring. Monument, bus, museum, bus, cafeteria, bag, monument. Who is the fine looking dude across the parking lot? What a babe. No, it can't be — Bobby's brother!

"Will you roll down the window I'm warm," Bobby yawns.

Faint. His breath is actually warm.

Just Another Night

After dinner and 100 more renditions of "Rio", the balcony, and a pillow and two cotton balls yet to look better and better every minute.

As you lie casually on the balcony, across the way you see the guy's rooms. Oh, they are curtains to open — Bobby's. What is he doing? Not Bobby and his roommate are waiting together!! Did they see me? You wave and they run and shut the curtain. How can sleep after that one? Somehow you manage.

You can't believe it's finally time to go. It's been the longest weekend of your life.

"Hello Bobby!" I wonder why his face is all red? He — he took a shower! He used deodorant! What a duf!

"What that you watching us last night?" Bobby mumbled.

"Oh, forget it."

No, he didn't brush his teeth or use mouthwash yet but hey, he did make contact with the shirt.

Where are we? Hey, I'm home! Back to decent civility. Mom, Dad, Junior. Who is that fine looking dude across the parking lot? What a babe. No, it can't be — Bobby's brother!

"O-o-o-h Bobby dear..."

Maybe this trip was a TOTAL loss.

Family invades Washington

by Greg Pettit

Staff Writer

I wrote this diary not merely to relate what has happened to me, but also to warn against what could happen to you.

Day 1

We've finally begun the quest. After four hours of packing, repacking, and stacking the family wagon to the top, we are on our way. It began the same at every other vacation. We woke up at a quarter to six, ate a high-protein granola mixed-fruit-drink breakfast, and left to spend two weeks in driving torments. My dad had decided that it was time to take my little brother to D.C.

Day 2

Well, Dad's done it again. At present, "The Family" has driven for over a day and now stop. "The Family" is what I call this pitiful band of tourists. It consists of myself, my time-table conscious father, my often-snooring mother, my sister Betty and, of course, my little brother Joey.

The continuous driving hasn't affected most of us. Dad has a black behind the wheel of wear. My mom is equally in company with her large, clear plastic wind-up bag with "I Love D.C." stamped on it. I have got to get home.

Day 3

We're in Washington, D.C. and it is almost as boring as I expected it to be. One highlight of the trip was losing Joey in the Smithsonian, but it didn't last long. One thing I must point out is my dad's insatiable talent for looking like a novice, and not some foolish tourist. He is equipped with a nice knit shirt, Bermuda shorts, black dress socks and dress shoes, and, of course, a camera with more lenses than he knows what to do with. My mom is equally in company with her large, clear plastic wind-up bag with "I Love D.C." stamped on it. I have got to get home.

Day 4

After days of monotonous tours and countless souvenirs, such as a Lincoln Memorial bank, a Capitol Hill pencil sharpener, and a flag that was actually flown above the White House (for about two minutes), we are finally showing off for home. I'm glad to be leaving, but I am also afraid of being trapped in the metal dashboard with wheels for four more days.

Day 5

According to Dad's schedule, we should be in the Nation's capital. Unfortunately, he underestimated the number of historical markers (for Joey — educationally, craft and antique stores (for Mom — expense), and bathrooms (you guessed it).

The historical markers were really enlightening. I had never realized how many had actually occurred on our great land, each with its own marker and steel plaque. Luckily, my mother knows how to read, and prevents it by clearly and loudly telling everyone what the sign says. Let's see, there was the Battle of Lexington, the Battle of the Gray Battlement, the Battle of the Blue Mountain, etc. With the markers, we also visited more than enough monuments and cemeteries. I want to go home.

Day 6

We're in Washington, D.C. and it is almost as boring as I expected it to be. One highlight of the trip was losing Joey in the Smithsonian, but it didn't last long. One thing I must point out is my dad's insatiable talent for looking like a novice, and not some foolish tourist. He is equipped with a nice knit shirt, Bermuda shorts, black dress socks and dress shoes, and, of course, a camera with more lenses than he knows what to do with. My mom is equally in company with her large, clear plastic wind-up bag with "I Love D.C." stamped on it. I have got to get home.

Day 7

After days of monotonous tours and countless souvenirs, such as a Lincoln Memorial bank, a Capitol Hill pencil sharpener, and a flag that was actually flown above the White House (for about two minutes), we are finally showing off for home. I'm glad to be leaving, but I am also afraid of being trapped in the metal dashboard with wheels for four more days.

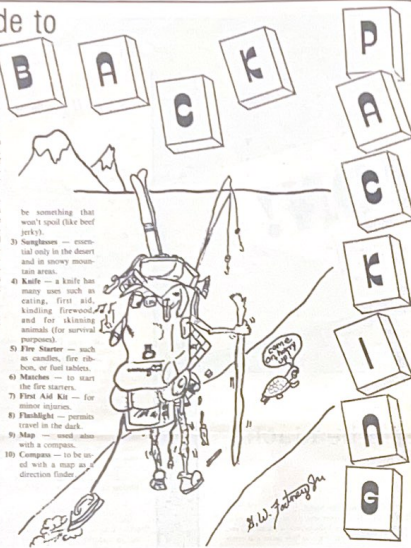
Day 8

At last, entertainment! Mr. Straight, the living time schedule, my father, has just received a spotting ticket! It was great! The flashing lights and sirens woke Mom and caused Joey to lose his last interglacial bus trip. Even Betty showed a glimmer of life for the first time since the trip began. "Get off, I don't think I was going that fast," he says. What a joke! 75 m.p.h. in a 45 m.p.h. road. This one takes the cake!

Day 9

Home! Home at last! After two weeks on the road, it's hard to believe we made it back home. "The Family" stagger in, drops the baggage, and hits the couches. Less than 30 seconds of relaxation pass before a shocking aroma hits our nostrils. Almost in unison, we stare into the hallway to see our cat welcoming us home. The cat that had been left inside for the past two weeks and had left us little reminders of this fact all through the house. Now we're truly home again. I have got to get away.

A beginner's guide to



by Peter Fox
Contributing Writer

Tired of going to grandma's house and Disney World everywhere you have a vacation? Looking for adventure and a chance to get away from your parents? Try backpacking, a relatively cheap and fun sport.

Why backpack? For one thing, people backpack to get away from other people and the noise of the city.

A good place for backpacking within driving distance of Houston would be Pedernales Falls State Park.

Pedernales Falls State Park is a 4,800-acre backpacking area, located west of Austin in Central Texas. Seven miles of scenic backpacking trails wind through the batties, grasslands, and mountains along the Pedernales River. The trail has easy-to-moderate grades and is heavily used.

Pedernales State Park is just one of the wilderness-distance places available in Texas.

Others are Lost Maples in Johnson City, which is 90 miles north of San Antonio, Big Bend National Park, Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Davy Crockett, San Houston, Anglin, and Sabine National Forests. To name a few.

Pedernales Falls State Park and Lost Maples in Johnson City are recommended by outdoorsman Wayne Hower.

"The most common mistake of beginner backpackers is that they do not bring the right kind of clothes. They bring the wrong type of rain gear and improper socks, which cause blisters," Hower said.

Among all the equipment, the most important is the backpack. There are two types of packs, the soft pack (internal frame) and the external frame pack, used mainly for hiking and excursions into the mountains. External frame packs are more durable and cost less.

Next, the sleeping bag. When choosing a sleeping bag, consider the type of weather and location of the trip. Obviously, a mummy bag in the desert or just a blanket in the Arctic might be uncomfortable.

The shoe also has an important use in backpacking. When looking for shoes, the backpacker must look for shoes that are compact and lightweight (11-12 pounds).

There are ten essentials for a backpacker:

- 1) Extra clothing — such as sunglasses, wool sweater, and an emergency storm shelter.
- 2) Extra food — used only in an emergency; this food should

be something that won't spoil (like beef jerky).

- 3) Sunglasses — essential only in the desert and in snowy mountain areas.
- 4) Knife — a knife has many uses such as cutting, first aid, kindling (firewood) and for skinning animals (for survival purposes).
- 5) Fire Starter — such as candles, fire ribbon, or fuel tablets.
- 6) Matches — to start the fire starters.
- 7) First Aid Kit — for minor injuries.
- 8) Flashlight — permits travel in the dark.
- 9) Map — used along with a compass.
- 10) Compass — to be used with a map or direction finder.

"Voice of the Wilderness was founded in 1973 as a non-profit, non-denominational Christian organization. Its objective is to utilize the vast wilderness areas of our nation as a natural classroom to communicate, discover and fulfill various goals: spiritual, educational, and physical," Hower said.

"A beginning packer shouldn't go alone. Instead, arrange a group trip.

"Voice of the Wilderness supplies backpack, food (for both weekend and week-long trips), shelter, and first aid materials. The group also has an excellent safety record.

"The worst injury we have ever had on all our trips is a broken arm, which was caused by the kid's own foolishness," Hower ex-

plained.

Among all the equipment, the most important is the backpack. There are two types of packs, the soft pack (internal frame) and the external frame pack, used mainly for hiking and excursions into the mountains. External frame packs are more durable and cost less.

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Thibault and Gramling swim to success

By Angie Housler
News Editor

Freshmen are a rare breed on the swim team. This year two unusual freshmen made the team, with three others. These two freshmen, Jeff Thibault and Christine Gramling, have shown this year's swim team what extraordinary abilities and pluck freshmen have.

"It's a privilege to be on the swim team; not many freshmen make it," Gramling said.

Swimming has become an important event in Gramling and Thibault's life.

"It is the one thing I look forward to and swimming is my main goal in life," Gramling said.

Gramling and Thibault agree that if their sport was taken away from them, they would feel lost and confused.

"If I couldn't swim, I would probably find another sport to play. The only difference would be the motivation," Thibault said.

The pair spends five hours swimming each day. Four of those hours are spent training and the other hour is spent lifting weights and stretching.

"Lifting weights helps our physical and aerobic endurance. So when we're swimming that last lap, we will have extra endurance to win the race," Gramling said.

Grades at first troubled Gramling because of swimming. But Thibault's

grades were different. His grades were never affected by swimming. He worked his homework around his swim schedule.

Both swimmers are involved with local United States Swimming (USS) teams.

Gramling with the Cy Fair Swim Club and Thibault with the Woodland's Swim Team. This includes practice from 5:30 to 8:00 a.m. with Creek's team, then traveling back to the water after school for the

U.S.S. teams. Also, Gramling has contributed to many state records including 400 meter and 400 yard relays for her USS club. Thibault set a boys' school record for the 500 free.

To Thibault and Gramling the swim team is a close, easy-going group.

"The girls' team has little and big sisters and poster parties before meets," Gramling said.

Thibault agrees with this.

"We are a very close group and also we always cheer on the rest of the team," Thibault.

Future plans for Thibault and Gramling lie along the same line. Thibault wants to become the swim captain, get a scholarship and go to the Olympics.

"I want to fulfill my personal goals, go to college and continue my swimming," Gramling said.

"I want to go as far as I can with my swimming, always!" Gramling said.

This year in state, both Gramling and Thibault qualified for two events. Gramling qualified for 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard medley. Thibault qualified for the 200 and 500 freestyle and the freestyle relay.

Thibault and Gramling are definitely the leading freshmen swimmers on the team and the team is thankful for having them," Swimming Coach Webb said.



Freshman swimmers Christine Gramling and Jeff Thibault contributed to the swim team's success this year. Thibault specialized in the 200 and 500 yard freestyle events. Gramling swam the 200 in individual medley, the 100-yard freestyle and hourly team. (photo by Mike Henderson)

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Coogs bring solid record to district play

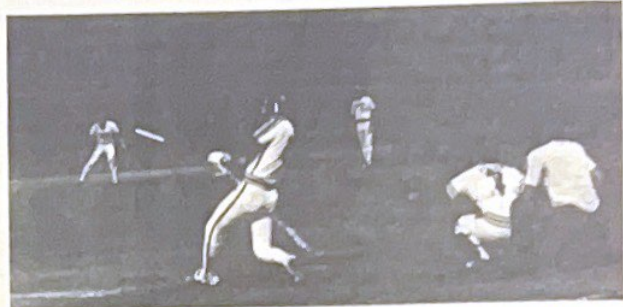
The varsity baseball team kicked off their season defeating Tomball, Aldine and Northbrook, while losing to Eisenhower. The Coogs moved into regular season play and were again defeated by Eisenhower, 8-2. They were unable to compete in the Cy-Fair tournament due to a cancellation because of rain. The Coogs next defeat was handed down by Spring in which they lost a see-saw battle of 7-6.

The Coogs embarked on a journey to Austin to participate in the Austin Tournament. Their first victim was Austin Lanier who they defeated 4-3. Moving up to the next ladder, they defeated Johnston 9-2. Then came Roundrock, who was easily defeated by the margin of 17 to 7. The Coogs faced Austin Westlake for the Championship, but were defeated in a close contest 4-3. The Cougars: Jason Goodrich, Lance Leffingwell, and Chris Longfellow, were voted all-tournament players for their outstanding efforts.

This year, the Coogs begin the season with 12 returning Varsity players, ten of which are seniors. The Coogs are an experienced team and play well together. Creek's starting pitchers are: Jason Goodrich, John Kinyo, John Brimberry, and Greg Lumms. Their relievers are Jeff Kinyo and Greg Walls. The Coogs face their first district game against Cy-Fair March 19.

When senior pitcher, Jason Goodrich and Coach Labarbera were asked about their feelings about this year's program, they replied, "We have a good team and a lot of talent. If we continue to work hard, we have a good shot at district. Coach Labarbera has really had a lot of enthusiasm this year, as we have prepared for the district race."

The Cougars district rivals are likely to be Klein and Klein Oak, who both fielded strong teams.



12 returning lettermen, including 10 seniors, lead the Cougars into district play. Senior Lance Leffingwell, a three-year letterman, captains the team. (photo by Arista Alanis)

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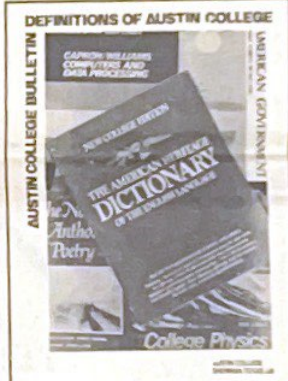
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