

# REFLECTIONS

January, 1978

Vol. VIII

Issue 5

Skyline Center

Dallas, Texas

.25

**Basketball: booming  
at Skyline!!**



**Inside:**

**Joyce & Rejoyce**

*My Fair Lady*

**Cluster builds**

**\$50,000 home**

**Score on Sports**

# REFLECTIONS

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## Letter to the Editor

# Continue drive against homosexuality

Dear Brian,

After reading the last issue of *Reflections*, I felt that even though you did handle your letters to the editor tastefully, you could use a little back up evidence on your views. There will always be people who misread the *Bible*. Some won't read the *Bible* at all, others think religions are silly, and some say we stuff crap down their throat.

As for me and all my friends, we're behind you, Brian. I think if God would have wanted it C.W.'s way, he would have never made two sexes. As for C.W.'s comments on the *Bible*, I think he should actually try reading it. If he wants to catch up on some reading, relay these Scriptures to him: "Homosexuality is absolutely forbidden, for it is an enormous sin." Lev. 18:22; "The penalty for

homosexual acts is death to both parties, they have brought it upon themselves." Lev. 20:13. And how about 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; 1 Timothy 1:8-10; and Romans 1:18-32?

If this is not enough for him, tell him to read how a whole city was destroyed by God because the community had turned to homosexuality.

# opinion

C.W. also said something about Anita Bryant's "hate mongers" who were against everybody that wasn't exactly like them. This is ridiculous. Many of my good friends are members of every minority known.

As for D.F.'s comment, I never heard you say you were appointed by God to put gays on the road to straight and narrow. I think D.F. should understand we don't want to put people out of jobs, we are simply trying to say: Homosexuality is definitely wrong and it needs to be stopped one way or the other.

One last note, Brian. I'm not saying go out and kill gays, but homosexuality is wrong and needs to be remedied.

Anita and Brian, we're with you!

Eric Dagley

## Poor report gives drivers ed bad name

Today's teenager gets more freedom and privileges than any other teenager in previous generations in the past. But will it stay that way?

One privilege for teenagers who are 16 and 17 years old that is threatened is the right to drive a car after completing a driver education course.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety recently completed a study that said at least 2,000 fatal crashes each year wouldn't occur if states stopped licensing 16 and 17-year-olds who have had driver education. The report also said that driver education had adverse effects. The report added that if the age of licensure was raised to age 18, the bad effects of driver education would be removed.

The institute failed to show how things found in driver education such as learning about a car, driving conditions, and emergency procedures can be a disadvantage to the student. They also failed to show how 2,000 lives would be saved if 16 and 17-year-olds were not licensed.

It is hard to believe the accusations made in the report and it is these types of reports which raise insurance rates and cause other unnecessary problems.



## Joyce and Rejoyce It's time to plan for next year

It is already time for juniors, sophomores, and freshmen to start planning their class schedules for next year. Many people will take advantage of the many clusters Skyline has to offer. In case you're not familiar with some of the clusters, this article should make you much more aware of the courses offered here.

Let's start with the photographic arts cluster. The first quarter begins with each student assigned a day to bring the family photo album to show to the class. During the second quarter, they make sure the pictures are straight and secure in the album. They wind up the year by looking at pictures in magazines and newspapers. It is highly recommended for students who love to be bored. (Just kidding, Mr. Spann.)

How about the environmental control cluster? The first year students learn what a thermostat is and the second year students learn to read a thermostat. This cluster is for anyone who loves numbers.

The television arts cluster is prob-

ably the most exciting cluster. The morning cluster gets to watch the games shows and the afternoon cluster watches the soap operas. Unfortunately, the "Gong Show" is on television during the lunch break.

The architecture cluster is for the person who loves precision. They have just completed designing football fields and now they will start on baseball diamonds. It is remarkable how many people have copied them.

The fashion cluster operates its own shop where they sell the merchandise that they make. Some of the clothes are irregular which makes your selection of clothes wider if you had three arms.

The child care cluster offers an exciting challenge for students who like to match their intellect with pre-schoolers. Three textbooks per quarter are issued, all written by Dr. Seuss.

There are many other clusters to consider other than the ones mentioned. But who knows? We might not have any clusters next year considering the way they've taken them from Skyline in the past.

## Project People plans spring activities

Project People is not over!

Tentative plans for spring projects include the March of Dimes Superwalk and the annual Red Cross Easter project.

The March of Dimes Superwalk collects money to help prevent birth defects. The annual Red Cross Easter project helps needy families.

Reflecting on Project People's

Christmas Stocking Project sponsor Leta Roach said, "The students here are excellent about helping out if it's for a good cause."

Ms. Roach said three-fourths of the student body participated in the Christmas Stocking Project, filling 200 stockings with goods that were given to needy children.



Steve McBreen shows off unusual car.

## McBreen rides high in Cadillac hearse

That was a hearse you saw in the north parking lot; you're not hallucinating.

A hearse? At school?

A student drives it.

Steve McBreen actually drives a hearse, complete with curtains.

No, there's no coffin, but there is a mattress and pillows in its place.

There are reasons why a hearse could be more desirable than a standard car. Steve named off three in quick succession -- space, ride, speed.

Space? Steve says it seats (or fits or whatever) 12 or 15 people, but he's never tried to accommodate that many people.

Ride? It rides like a big car, very nice. That seems logical, considering that it is standard hearse length and weighs over three tons.

Speed? No surprise, with a 500 cubic inch engine. It can hit 120 m.p.h.

Can you picture a '63 Cadillac hearse going 120?

It's not even hard to get parts. A service station close to Steve's home services hearses.

It's not hard to find a parking space, either. Store owners don't even object when Steve parks his hearse in front of stores.

He doesn't get rude remarks from passers-by...just long looks and stares.

His family thinks it's fine and his friends like the hearse.

There is only one disadvantage --it only gets eight miles to the gallon.

To Steve, driving a hearse doesn't seem morbid but he wouldn't urge someone to buy a hearse unless they really wanted it.

Steve's hearse does have one distinguishing feature—an eight track, AM-FM stereo sound system. He also plans to finish carpeting the hearse. It's carpeted in dark blue crushed velvet everywhere but under the mattress...that's where the coffin was.

## Cast chosen for My Fair Lady

*My Fair Lady* will be presented by the Skyline Choir Department on May 4, 5, and 6 in the school auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

*My Fair Lady*, which appeared on Broadway for over 10 years, is the story of the transformation of a common flower girl, Eliza Doolittle, into a "proper lady."

Henry Higgins, a professor of phonetics, takes Eliza as a student on a challenge from his good friend, Col. Pickering. Higgins is convinced that he can transform Eliza, an unsophisticated Cockney girl, into a lady of grace and charm. The comedy picks up through the conflicts that arise between Eliza and her tutor.

The major roles of the musical will be played by: Shelly Miller, Eliza Doolittle; Craig Fryer, Henry Higgins; Tom Brashear, Freddy Eynsford; Linda Hicks, Mrs. Pearce; Carla Garza, Mrs. Hopkins; and Jenny Jenkins, Col. Pickering.

Dance auditions will take place in mid-January.

# update

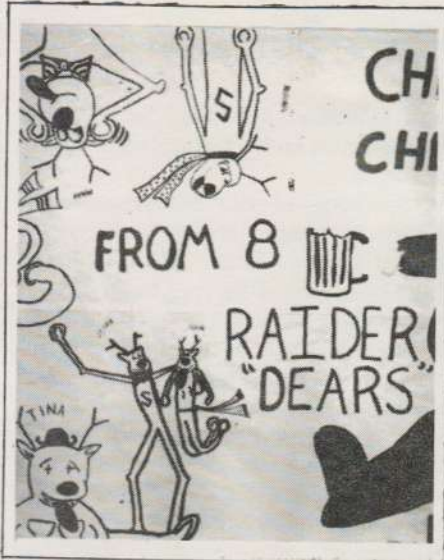
## Historian Society elects officers

Skyline's chapter of the Junior Historian Society recently elected officers and settled its constitution.

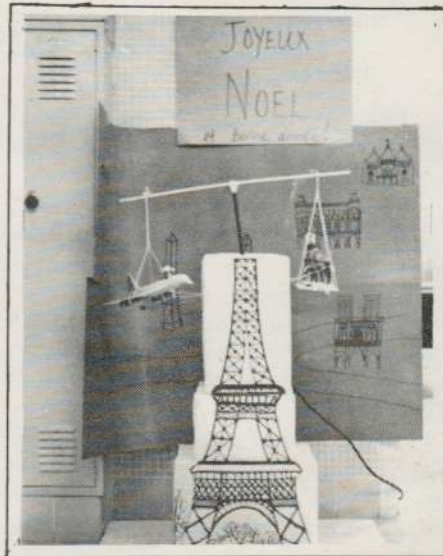
The officers are: Michelle Thacker, president; Laura Grimes, vice-president; and Karla Todd, secretary/treasurer.

The organization is designed to promote interest among high school students in the history of the surrounding area.

The club will begin to plan projects and field trips during the upcoming meetings. All meetings are held on staff development days under the supervision of Mr. Hillard Sullivan. The membership has doubled since the first meeting, bringing the new total to 28. Anyone interested in history is encouraged to contact Mr. Sullivan or one of the officers.



Cheerleaders win with artistic endeavor.



French Club takes prize in decorating contest.



Science cluster wins again.

## Construction Cluster builds \$50,000 home

The Construction Cluster, under the supervision of Cyril Stephens, is now in the process of building a \$50,000 home located at 4307 Osborn Road. The home will have three bedrooms, two and a half baths, dining area, kitchen, and den and living area combined.

The construction work is being done by the first and second year students in the construction cluster. Every division in the cluster takes art in the building of the homes. These divisions are: the brick layers, electricians, carpenters, mill and cabinet workers, plumbers, and carpet layers (night class students).

Before any construction work can be done, the DISD must first buy a lot from the city for the cluster. Housing plans must then be laid according to the city

code and the requirement plans drawn up by the Architecture Department. All plans must be approved by the Dallas School Board.

After the home is completed, which takes approximately two years, it again goes before the school board for approval. When approval is met by the board, bids are taken from several realtors. The lowest bidding price starts at \$39,995; highest bidder receives the claim on the home. The highest bidding realtor then sells the home at the company's desired price.

Money earned from the home by the construction cluster is used to purchase more construction material and also used for the upgrading of the construction cluster.

## Plans made for cafeteria improvement

To whom should Skyline students submit their complaints, suggestions, or questions regarding the cafeteria? There is an organization that takes these criticisms and ideas, and works toward improving or changing the cafeteria.

The Food Service Committee, formed by the Principal's Advisory Committee, will take student concerns, ideas and grievances about the lunchroom and present them to the administration.

The Food Service Committee has succeeded in having additional lunch lines added and having radio stations broadcast during lunch periods. They are currently working toward balancing C lunch and investigating reports of cold food and leftovers being served.

Mike Biddler, cafeteria manager, said, "The committee helps us by informing us of student recommendations, complaints, and questions. The committee helps the students to get to know what's happening in the cafeteria."

Another group, D.I.S.D.'s Food Service Committee, has one representative and alternate from each high school who sample food products to give ratings and recommendations, and who influence menus and products the school district purchases. Skyline's D.I.S.D. committee representative is senior, Darren Hendricks, and alternate is senior, Leslie McKee.



## Skyline begins recruiting campaign

Skyline climaxes its recruiting campaign with the Career Development Center (CDC) open house on Jan. 26 at 7:30 in the student center. Cluster representatives will be on hand to answer students' and parents' questions concerning the cluster curriculum, and tours will be given.

The CDC open house is the second portion of Skyline's recruiting campaign for this year. The recruiting program opened with the formation of four "information teams" and the actual recruiting began on Jan. 9 and will last through Jan. 23. Each information team consists of a group of students, teachers, and counselors who visit each D.I.S.D. middle school and various high schools. The goal of these teams is to inform every eighth and ninth grade student in the D.I.S.D. of the opportunities and advantages available through the Career Development program.

These Skyline representatives presented a slide and tape program and later went to eighth and ninth grade English classes in order to give a more in-depth view of career study and to answer any questions.

Participating students were chosen by the counseling staff from clusters and tour classes.

## Food Service opens for business

Skyline CDC Food Services opened its doors Wednesday, Jan. 4. This service is open to teachers and staff every Monday through Thursday from 11:30 to 12:30 in F-17.

With 47 students enrolled, they prepare a full-course, a la carte dinner, with choices of two meats, four vegetables, desserts and salads. Meal prices range from \$1.00 to \$1.25.

Most students enrolled are interested in food-management, cashier, waitress, and dietician job openings.

Having catered a fashion show and buffet earlier this year, this service is also open for catering club parties and banquets. Food Services teacher Norma Carlson schedules these activities.

## Maddox Meets Man

"You bet hundreds of thousands of dollars on one game, and you have one chance to win."

Dallas Congressman, Jim Mattox, compared an election to gambling in his remarks to the Man and his Environment cluster Dec. 13.

Mattox answered questions from cluster students on topics ranging from the American Nazi party to the Concord Jet.

When asked about the decriminalization of marijuana, Mattox pointed out that he authored the bill in the Texas Legislature to reduce the status of possession of marijuana from a felony to a misdemeanor. Mattox added, "I'm really a prohibitionist, I'd just as soon we didn't have alcohol in the community, quite frankly."

Referring to the Russian threat, Mattox said, "They're no match for us by any stretch of the imagination in nuclear armaments." The problem, Mattox said, was that the Defense Department

was planning for war in Europe, although first strike power is the important thing.

Speaking of the importance of a politician's image, Mattox said of his political leanings in the 1960 election, "I didn't like Richard Nixon because, frankly, I thought he was gay." He voted for Kennedy because of his hero, football player-type image. Mattox acknowledged that the farmer was in a tough position, but stated, "I don't think it's the responsibility of the government to assure the farmer a profit." Mattox scathed wheat farmers by saying, "(When farmers received profits from wheat) you didn't see them trying to give that money back."

Mattox also said that the press has been unfair to President Carter, and the idea of a bad President-Congress relationship is a myth.

Mattox cited several frustrations of his first term in Congress, including unfamiliarity with rules of Congress.

## Fashion cluster presents Christmas show

Inspired with the background of snow scenery, the Skyline Fashion Merchandising Cluster presented their annual Christmas-Fall-Winter style show.

The show was staged in the Three Seasons dining room. Modeled in the Fashion show were selections from the cluster's wool collection.

Commentary was provided by Sharon Tremble and Daisy Torres. First and second year student were the designers.

Such guests as Mr. Siegel (Director the Dallas Apparel Mart) and Fashion Critic, Sue Darling, stated that these student designers showed promise.

The students presented five shows.

The cast of models admitted that the show was not easy work. Cynthia Kirven said that each model had to change outfits 12 times.

The guests were served buffet style lunch during the fashion show. Skyline's T.V. Arts Cluster taped the show.

"It took alot of work," said Dorothy Evans, cluster teacher. Other cluster teachers responsible for the show are Sonia Myers and Meta Richards.



*Skyline student displays winter fashions.*

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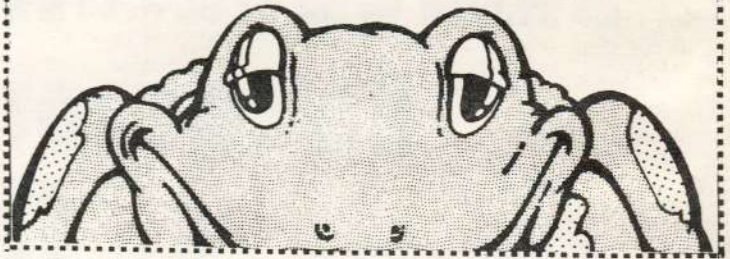
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# Skateboarding: dangerous fad or precision sport?



Every year has its fads, this year's is skateboarding. Skateboards have progressed from 2 x 4's on roller skates to a national recreational pastime.

The sport, which started in California, "is not a fad", according to Al Coker, manager of a local skateboarding shop. "I'm pretty sure it will stay around."

Why the sudden popularity? Skyline skateboard enthusiast, Lane Lucas, explained, that reasons for this popularity are the changes that have recently been made on the boards. Skateboards now not only have wood bases but also are made of plastic, aluminum and fiberglass materials. However, the most important change is in the wheels. Unlike the old wheels (trucks) the new wheels have sealed ball bearings. The sealed bearing trucks add advantages of greater speed, precision and safety.

"The new wheels add an extra dimension to skateboarding," Lane commented.

**"Skateboarders are the biggest hams in the world."**

The new skateboard attracted a wide range of inspired beginners. After mastering the basic skills these participants began inventing and specializing in daring stunts.

The stunts now range from the comparatively simple "360", a full turn-around on two wheels to the more strenuous "aerial". This involves skating up and on the side wall of a pool-like pit and then continuing back down the adjacent side of the pit.





**Left to right:**

*Skateboarder demonstrates handstand with a slight variation due to a broken arm incurred in a skateboard accident.*

*Rider gains speed for free-style stunts.*

*Skateboarder in full regalia, safety equipment and fashion accessories.*

*Student appears to launch into flight as he shows off for cameraman.*

**Below right:**

*Rider warms up in one of the shallower bowls.*

The overall growth of this sport led to the development of skateboard parks. The parks are specially designed so that various skateboard maneuvers can be practiced. They have such features as tunnels, pools and freestyle areas.

## “I’ve seen some bad accidents; I’m lucky.”

One major advantage the skateboard parks have, are the safety regulations enforced there. All the parks require the use of head gear, gloves, and knee and elbow pads. In addition to this, all boards used in the skating area must be approved by a park representative.

Another advantage they have is the special surfacing. The parks are surfaced with gunite, the same material used in swimming pools.

Since 1975, 28 people have died in skateboard accidents. All 28 of these were caused either through lack of protective gear or because the person was skating in the streets. Many deaths could have been avoided if the riders had been wearing protective equipment.

“Of all the equipment, the most important is the helmet. For a skateboarder, it is as important or more so than it is for a motorcycle rider,” Lane said.

Those learning how to ride the boards will learn that falling the right way is the most important technique to know when riding. Lane advised “that beginners learn how to fall first.”

On the same point, the Consumer Product Safety Commission urged that skateboarders study the techniques of falling in order to minimize any injury that might occur.

Despite the dangers of the sport, skateboarding continues to grow in popularity. An estimated \$300 million worth of skateboards and related equipment were sold in 1976. Estimations for sales in 1977 ranged from \$400 to \$500 million.

The average skateboard can cost anything from \$10 to \$130 depending on the quality of the board.

The more popular the sport gets, the more gimmicks one can find offered. For example, ads in skateboard magazines offer equipment ranging from skyhooks to carrying cases. Skyhooks are straps used to secure one's feet to the board thus enabling one according to the ad to jump higher. The variety of cases is immense, ranging from suede carrying cases to a single strap attached to both ends of the board.

For the fashion conscious, skateboard shops offer the latest in skateboard attire, including special shoes, shirts and shorts.

In addition to purchasing equipment and clothing, one can also join clubs, enter competitions and practice or take lessons at skateboard parks.

**Steve Hicks  
Teresa Fallwell**



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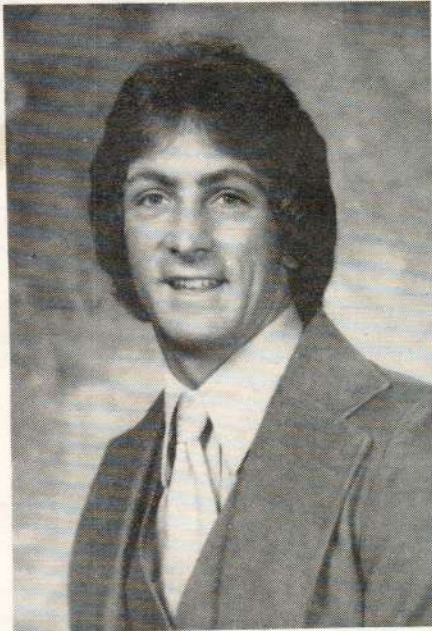


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## State meet just routine

# Larry Johnson crosses country

For the first time in the short history of Skyline, a student has won the right to participate in the state track meet in two consecutive years.

Last year, as a junior, Larry Johnson went to the state meet held in Austin and competed in the 880 run.

This year Johnson went to state and take part in the state cross country meet. He finished 46th in the state. Later this year Johnson will again attempt to go to state in the 880.

Making the state meet is a feat in itself. Although there are only two basic steps, both are very competitive.

After placing third in the city meet Larry advanced to the regional meet in Arlington. In each the city and regional meets, the top ten runners and the top three teams proceed to the next highest meet.

At regional, Johnson again finished in the top ten. Larry placed seventh and moved one step higher. The state meet was his final destination.

Larry also ran on the cross country team last year. He was disappointed the whole team did not make it to state last year. Larry felt he had a pretty good chance this year and was not surprised by his fine performance.

"We were a young team this year," Johnson explained. "I feel we did well." Although he preferred not to predict, Johnson said he hoped to return to state this spring in the 880.

Because of his small size, Larry quit playing football after seventh grade. To keep in shape for the track season, Larry ran cross country. He pointed out that cross country running is tough and builds stamina.

Each day Larry runs at least 10 miles, works on hillside exercises, and keeps on a daily weight lifting program. The only break Larry takes is for two weeks immediately after the cross country season.

Winning doesn't mean everything to Larry as long as he puts out to his

fullest.

"If I hustle and get beat, I'm not as upset as I would be if I lost and didn't hustle."

The most notable occurrence about the recent state meet was how Johnson led the pack of runners for the first two-thirds of a mile in the two mile race. If it had been the 880 run, Larry would have taken first place.

Should Larry return to state again, it would be his third time. It would be the first time that any runner from Dallas went to state three times. It would also mean that for the fourth time in the last two years, Skyline runners competed in the coveted state meet.

Steve Hicks

## sports

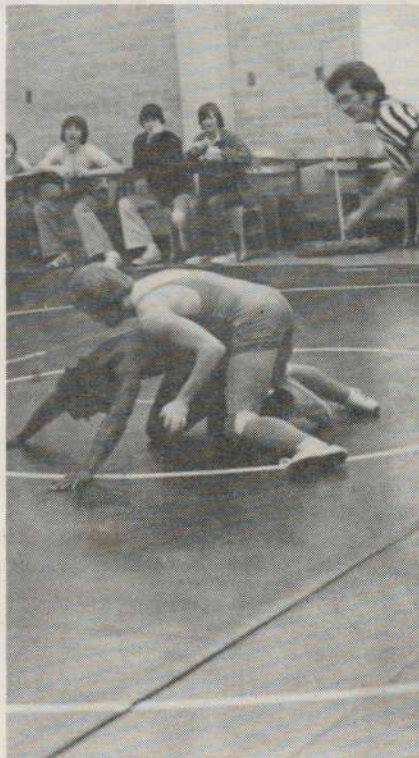
## Raider Wrestlers hit the mats

The Skyline Wrestling Team concluded its holiday workouts by electing captains. They are Kyle Byrd and John York. They hope to lead the wrestling team to a district championship on Saturday, Jan. 28 at the district tournament.

The team record now stands at one win and three losses. Skyline defeated Madison, but lost the three other meets to Vines, St. Mark, and Jesuit High Schools. "The losses were to much more experienced wrestling teams." Coach Larry Karl said.

The Skyline schedule does not get easier. In January before the district tournament, Coach Karl has scheduled nine dual meets and one tournament. All the competition will most likely be first class and tough. "I can judge our progress against tougher opponents much easier than watching our boys go out and pin a weakling. That I expect, but against good wrestlers, I can see in what areas each kid needs to improve," Coach Karl explained.

Risa Anderson



## Girls' basketball starts slow

In four preseason games, the girls basketball team is 1-3. The team has lost to North Mesquite twice and to Berkner and defeated Thomas Jefferson. "Although the team's record is poor, the girls have hustled and are steadily improving," said Coach Jettie Sams.

"We are starting three freshman, who have a lot of potential, but the lack of experience hurts," replied Sams. Freshman Elissia Fountain leads the team in scoring, averaging 18 points per game.

The Raiders have also been in three major tournaments: In the Bishop Lynch Tournament, the Raiders were knocked out early, losing their first two games.

In the Ennis-St. Johns tournament, the Raiders once again were eliminated early. After winning the first game against Ennis, the Raiders then lost to Plano and St. Johns.

In the Dr Pepper Tournament, the Raiders improved by winning two games and losing one.

"This year we have a very strong chance to win the district title, since we are improving game by game," said Sams.

## Raiders win district opener

Just prior to the winter break, the Raiders traveled to Wichita Falls to take part in the Midwestern University High School Tournament.

Skyline lost their first game 40-38 to Wichita Falls. After the loss the Raiders regrouped and went on to defeat Midland 65-57, and Plano 51-48 to win the consolation championship. Gregory Jeter was named to the all-tournament team.

Between the two tourneys, Skyline played Lakeview. The game was played well defensively as the aggressive Raiders held Lakeview scoreless in the opening quarter. Lakeview stalled but Skyline managed to hang on and win 34-27.

The Lakeview game was a warm up for the Dr Pepper Tournament. Dr Pepper hosts the tournament which is the largest high school competition in the United States. Skyline easily won their first two games against Jesuit and Spruce. In both contests the Raiders led by 20 or more points at the end of the first quarter.

District rival Bryan Adams was the quarter final opponent for Skyline. It looked like a heavy beating for the Cougars as Skyline led by 14 points entering the last period. Bryan Adams took control of the game and owned a one point lead with 28 seconds remaining.

Gregory Jeter slipped behind the B.A. defense and scored on a slam dunk to give Skyline the lead once more. The Cougars wouldn't give up, though. Twice the Cougars missed short shots which rolled off the rim. The last shot taken at the foul line kept all fans frozen as they waited to see if the shot would fall. The ball bounced high off the iron rim and to the floor harmlessly. The Raiders managed to win 59-58 despite their second half letdown. The victory was the fifth in a row for Skyline, who increased their overall record to 15-4.

Only 4 undefeated teams remained in the competition. In the semi-finals the Raiders were matched against the defending state champs, the South Oak Cliff (S.O.C.) Golden Bears. The game wasn't too close throughout as the Bears did everything right. S.O.C. controlled the boards and tempo during most of the game as they embarrassed Skyline 88-58.

Playing for third place, Skyline tested Roosevelt. Actually it was the other way around as the Mustangs won

96-61. Tony Macalik played an outstanding game for Skyline, scoring 26 points.

In their last game before district play, Skyline lost to Plano 52-50. The Raiders played poorly in the third stanza and the clock seemed advantageous to Plano as it ticked off seconds after time had been called.

Skyline got back on the winning track as the Raiders clipped Hillcrest

62-56. Good play from the bench led the Raiders to victory as both Macalik and Jeter sat out the third quarter while in foul trouble.

With the district season under way, Coach Mayo evaluated his team and their chances of winning district. "We've got a shot at it, if we play consistently."

Steve Hicks



## Soccer team evens record

In a surprising season, the girls' soccer team is currently in third place, behind the powerful W.T. White Longhorns and the Hillcrest Panthers. The Raiders district record is 2-2 while the Longhorns and Panthers are undefeated with 4-0 records.

Co-captain Sara Norvill leads the team on offense scoring all the Raiders points, while co-captain, Rhonda Roberson leads the defense. Goalkeeper Allison Horton has also been outstanding; giving up only 9 goals.

In the district opener, they defeated Woodrow Wilson 1 to 0. The only score of the game came in the last 15 seconds when Norvill scored on a hard 20 yard shot.

Playing a strong district contender, Skyline pulled out another surprise, beating Thomas Jefferson 2 to 1. After being behind early 1 to 0, Skyline fought back just before halftime to tie the game

on another Norville score. In the last half, the Raiders defense shut out the Patriots, while Norvill made her second score of the game.

In the most crucial game of the season the Raiders were matched against W.T. White. The winner would be the first place team. Playing inconsistent the Raiders lost 3 to 1. The only Skyline score was by Norvill once again. The Longhorns scored all three scores in the last half, two within a 5 minute period.

The next week Skyline faced Hillcrest in a must-win situation. Dominating the entire game, the Panthers shut the Raiders out 3 to 0.

"We still have an outside chance for the 11-AAAA district title, since White and Hillcrest play each other, and we play three easier teams," explained Coach Gary Newsome.

Roger Campbell



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In review

## Wilder flick fires fans' fancy

Gene Wilder, popular for his performances in comedy after comedy, has done it again with his new movie, *The World's Greatest Lover*. This movie is all his—he wrote, directed, produced and starred in it. Even the theme song, "Ain't It Kinda Wonderful", was written by Wilder.

This movie, set in the Roaring 20's, is the story of a bakery assistant who dreams of portraying the world's greatest lover in a movie. The movie is a publicity stunt created by a crazed producer (convincingly played by Dom DeLuise), who is trying to save his small movie company from an early death after losing the public to Paramount Studios and Rudolph Valentino. In comes our hero, Rudy Valentine, who has picked his bags and brought his bride of three months to Hollywood. And here the fun begins. As in most of his movies, Wilder depends on mistakes and misunderstandings to carry out the story.

*World's Greatest Lover* is a funny movie. True to Wilder tradition, puns and slapstick are used extensively. (An overflowing bathtub which forms a swimming pool in a sunken living room is a good example of this.) And, also true to Wilder tradition, these methods are used to achieve as many laughs as possible. One feels that sometimes the script goes just a little too far to bring about the desired laughs.

All in all, this is a good movie. The actors and actresses do an excellent job. The role of the hero's wife seems to be made for Carol Kane, and Ronny Graham is particularly funny in the role of a high-strung director.

Marci Brader

arts



## 'Semi-Tough' proves 'Semi-Sorry'

With all the hullabaloo surrounding the filming and subsequent premiere of *Semi-Tough*, one would expect more than an ordinary film. If one did, one would be greatly disappointed.

The film starring Burt Reynolds, Kris Kristofferson, and Jill Clayburgh, is a shallow exploration of the lives of two professional football players, Billy Clyde Puckett and Shake Tiller, portrayed by Reynolds and Kristofferson, respectively. Shallow in that even though the film is about football, there is very little material actually dealing with the game itself. Of course, this point is set up early in the film in a scene with Reynolds gleefully admitting that he doesn't "give a damn" about football. And so goes the rest of the movie.

Between games and women, Reynolds chases Clayburgh who chases Kristofferson who in turn just chases himself. Reynolds portrays his stock-in-trade Southern bad boy, while Kristofferson displays his penchant for portraying sensitive emotional and mental wrecks. In this film, it's not the bottle and Barbra Streisand that Kris is battling, instead he's trying to balance his

career, Clayburgh and a course in "increased awareness". Clayburgh gives a truly forgettable performance as Barbara Jane Bookman, the multi-divorced dingy daughter of the team owner as well as the roommate of Reynolds and Kristofferson.

This film does not deserve the publicity that it has thus far gotten. It's strictly grade-B material. It's two endearing qualities, if that is what they could be called, are the beefcake shots of Reynolds and Kristofferson in the shower and the fact that it is funny. Crudely funny, but funny. It is not as good as Reynolds' other football movie, *The Longest Yard*, in terms of sensitivity in portrayal, performance, and storyline. Still the film is worth seeing for laughs, though it's not at all the memorable experience that its stars and producers had hoped.

Alice Hawk

# Aerosmith fails to "Draw the Line"

Aerosmith is one band that has consistently put out good albums since inception several years back. This way they have established themselves as one of America's top heavy metal rock bands, as well as one of the most musically talented. While Aerosmith peaked album-wise somewhere between '75's *Toys In The Attic* and '76's *Rocks*, they are probably just now peaking popularity-wise as far as having a world-wide following. This is enough to insure that the release of a new Aerosmith album is still an event. However, the fact remains that the just released *Draw The Line* is inferior to other Aerosmith albums.

The title track opens side one. This song is to the album what "Back In The Saddle" was to *Rocks*; a moody introduction to the LP. Yet this song does not come close to "Back In The Saddle" in terms of power. For that matter, there's not a song on "Draw The Line" with the power of "Sweet Emotion", "Back In The Saddle", "Rats In The Cellar", or even "Dream On". There is not a song with the hook of "Walk This Way" and what is probably most important to Aerosmith, a song with as much commercial radio potential. It is really difficult to imagine any of these songs played on AM radio.

"Wanna Know Why" follows and is

probably one of the most pop-flavored tunes that Aerosmith has ever done. It actually sounds like latter day Guess Who in places. There's a tasty guitar intro and the piano is a plus. Yet it's still filler. "Critical Mass", a Steve Tyler/Tom Hamilton composition, is a good enough song, but it still sounds like all the rest of the songs on the album; fading guitars, monotone vocals and all. "Get It Up" is side one's standout tune. This song, like "Walk This Way", shows the Smith at what they do best—swaggering. If any song from *Draw That Line* were to have any success as a single, it would probably be "Get It Up". It's catchy and the lyrics are cute enough to sing along. That is, if they were more intelligible. The last song on side one, "Bright Light Fright", features guitarist Joe Perry as vocalist. Skip it.

"Kings and Queens", the opening song on side two, should've been called "Aerosmith's Ode To Royalty, Nobility, and other Pretentious Stuff." This is Aerosmith's attempt to satisfy its "Dream On" fans. The song is about kings, queens, lords, ladies and the like. Yet this song does not work like "Dream On" does. First, there's not much of a melody and second, it's a second-rate song. It's not even as pretty as "Dream On." "The Hand That Feeds" follows.

This song proves that Aerosmith has not lost the sense of humor that prompted them to record "Big Ten Inch Record" from *Toys*. If the title sounds like something that Ted Nugent might record, then surprise! The song does too. It's just about as menacing. The last two songs are "Sight For Sore Eyes" and "Milk Cow Blues". Smith saved the best for last. "Sight For Sore Eyes" is a direct Jeff Beck Boogie cop. It also contains some of the best guitar work on the album. The vocals are also much better on this track than on the other ones. "Milk Cow Blues" is blues/rock in the grand old of the Yardbirds/Rolling Stones tradition, harmonica breaks and all. These songs are the best if merely because Aerosmith is just being Aerosmith.

Still, *Draw The Line* with all its faults is an album that is at first only tolerated, but eventually begins to grow on the listener. It is not a polished Aerosmith or Aerosmith at their best, yet the "Saviors of Third Generation Rock" haven't yet lost their crown. It's just tarnished.

Alice Hawk



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