

GIRLS REACH STATE FINALS

Ashley's dream of playing in the state finals became a reality on December 13, 1980. The Jenison Field House found over 500 screaming Ashley fans, full of cheer and support in its presence.

The Ashley team came out on to the court ready to go and believing they could win. Ashley was the first to score but then Leland quickly took the lead 14-8 by the end of the first quarter, and 34-19 by halftime. The Bears weren't about to give up or let their heads hang, they didn't know the word quit, and came back with a strong third quarter, cutting the lead to 11 points. At this point Ashley's shooting went cold, as they could only score 5 points in the final 10 minutes of action. The Bears were defeated 65-36, but only by the score. Through the tremendous support, determination and pride, the lady Bears came out as winners in every sense of the word. Although Ashley was defeated in the championship game, the team and the community will never forget the journey to state.

