

## "Work Ethic"

"It isn't whether you win or lose ..."

Suppose ... just suppose, the Michigan School Athletic Association decided to disregard all win and loss records. Teams would be judged on how hard they work and the attitudes they maintain throughout the season. Put in a situation such as this, Ashley High Boys' basketball team would surely be on the brink of a state championship. The year was not outstanding if you looked at our record, but although this team may not have gone as far as another, they went farther together.

Spirit and support by the fans was undying, but equally as strong was the spirit of the players. Onlookers may have found the year discouraging, but the boys dug deep inside themselves and made their season a learning experience. They created for themselves a "work ethic" and soon found that if they gave their all 100% of the time, they would always be winners, no matter what the final score. Coach Gary Schestag stated during the season that this team was the hardest working group of guys he had ever coached. Coming from a man with as many years of coaching under his belt as Coach Schestag has, this statement alone puts the 1987

Bears in a league all by themselves.

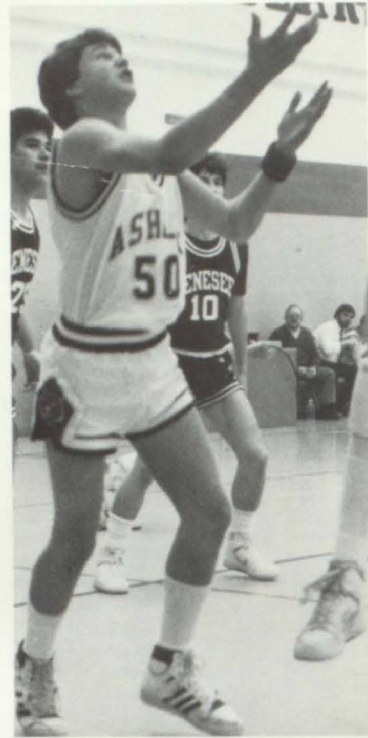
The Bears never quit, regardless of the odds, as anyone who watched them play their district game against Fowler would testify. Out named and outsized, the boys gave a terrific show of encourage and gave the Fowler Eagles everything that they could handle. Nothing anyone could hand them would they take as discouragement. Often the most challenging situation fired them up more. For this reason, many of the guys will look back on this season after they have graduated, and remain eternal optimists in everything they do.

Although a 2 and 19 season may not seem too outstanding, to the Ashley Bears, the students and their fans, in 1987, "It wasn't whether we won or lost ..."

Coach Schestag keeps a close eye on all aspects of the game. He praised the Bears for their hard work and fine attitudes. ▲

Randy Ordway, Steve Hardman, Eric Cook, Pat Cordray, Todd Anderson, Jim Skaryd, Mike Turner, Chuck Howes, Steve Mills, Mike Morris, Rick Saylor, Aaron Burk ▲

Freshman Charlie Howes moved up to the varsity midway through the season. Not only did he provide strong inside support, as shown here, but he was also a big offensive threat. ▲



TURN  
IT UP