

Bears play close and hard, earn title of

The Cardiac Kids

Every Ashley sports fan would agree that the last couple of boys' basketball seasons have been disappointing. In '86 they finished the season with a 14-7 overall record, and 8-2 in league action. In '87 they wound up 2-19, and 2-8 in the league. This year, however, the picture was different. They improved and were much more competitive, ending with a 8-13 season record and 5-5 in league play, which left them tied for second in the league, along with Webberville and Morrice.

When asked what one word would describe this year's team, Coach Gary Schestag replied, "The Cardiac Kids." They were dubbed this because of the many close games they played throughout the season. For example, in the Ashley vs. Genesee game, Ashley won by 2. At the end of the first quarter they were tied 16-16, because of low scoring by both teams. Ashley was behind by one at the half. After resting, both teams played hard and had yet another tie, 31-31, going in to the final quarter. The Bears did not give up and added 12 more to win the game.

The Ashley vs. Vestaburg game proved to be another close one. Each team claimed two quarters apiece. Vestaburg claimed the first quarter, leading 17-14. But the Bears battled back and took the lead, going into the locker room at halftime with a 6 point lead, 33-27. After regrouping, Vestaburg came out and scored 22 more, handing them the lead by 4

at the end of the third quarter, 49-45. The Bears, however, didn't give up and outscored Vestaburg 23-17, to give them a 2 point lead and the win. This 68-66 win spruced up the win column.

The game that stood out from all the rest was the Ashley vs. Dansville game. The boys really showed their potential throughout the game. Charlie Howes and Brian Gavenda were hot during the first half. Charlie scored 12 of the 31 points and Brian scored 15. Together they made 27 points of the 31 before halftime. Nine of Brian's 15 points came during the second quarter when he got hot from the three-point line. The guys began to settle down, however, during the third quarter and didn't play with the intensity they had the first half. When the final quarter came, it was back and forth; neither team really dominated. They were patient and worked for good shots. With approximately one minute left, Dansville took a 3 point lead. Things looked down for Ashley, but Jimmy Stehlik took a three-point shot then stole the ball and went down and scored two more on a layup. Ashley was ahead by 2. Dansville's ball; they came down the court and put up a shot, but it missed. They then got their long rebound and put it up and made it. In overtime, Ashley got the tip. Jim Skaryd took the lead and they never gave up, finally beating Dansville in overtime, 53-47.

OUTSIZED BY WEBBERVILLE'S player, Aaron Burk, 34, fails in his attempt to capture the rebound. The Bears, however, did capture the win, prevailing over the Spartans.

RECEIVING A PASS, Tom Lamey goes up for 2 of the 17 points he scored during the Webberville matchup. Tom was high scorer for the game.

