



SENIOR PLAYERS:

Mark Miller (top left) and his constant hustle and hard work brushed off on the other players. Kevin Palmatier (top right) and his defense made it hard for the opponents to score. Jim Stehlik (bottom left) and his outside shot helped carry the team on offense. Brian Gavenda (bottom right) the team's best penetrator, broke down defenses in the paint. Charlie Howes (center) was the general on the court. His knowledge of the game was a big key in their success.

Experienced Bears Overcome Problems Slide Through Districts But Slip In Regionals

The Ashley Bears' varsity basketball team finally demonstrated their potential during the district and regional tournaments. The Bears defeated the Vestaburg Wolverines in the first game of the district tournament, 90-72. The Wolverines put up a battle but couldn't withstand the Bears' arsenal. The second game against the Fowler Eagles was a different story. The Bears fell behind early, only to be down seven at the half. The referees put a damper on their spirits when they called the game, due to moisture on the court. The boys went back the next morning to finish the game, four minutes left to play, with Ashley up by nine. At the buzzer, the Eagles had gone down in defeat and the Ashley Bears had won their first district championship since 1973. The team then had to travel to Flint Notthern to play the Kingston Cardinals in the first round of regional action. As a result of poor shooting and a lack of rebounding, the Bears fell to the Cardinals, 65, 75.

"We did our best. We had the crowd support and the momentum throughout the tournaments. It just wasn't meant to be," commented senior captain, Charlie Howes.



IT WASN'T ALL HARD WORK AND AGONY IN THE GYM. There was time to have fun, so the cheerleaders put on a pep assembly and made the varsity basketball team the main attraction in their lingerie model show. Jeremy Cartwright was named King/Queen of the show.