

LEARN

LESSONS

from then & now

There is a place in time where the past meets the future and guess what... that place is Ashley High School. Well, at least as far as the social studies and tech classes are concerned.

Social Studies concerns itself mostly with history, and Mrs. Martinez enjoys having students explore the past through projects like skits. This year's Michigan History class, for example, re-enacted events dealing with the French and Indian War. The students created makeshift costumes and props and got right into it. "Aaron Grollimund and Eric Fabus both put a lot of expression and effort into their role-playing," commented Mrs. Martinez. "Sometimes the kids got so

involved that downstairs under us in the superintendent's office, they sent someone up to see what the heck was going on!" Another favorite project was appointing members of the Government class as members of the House of Representatives, who then had to write laws and get them passed. "This year the issue was gun control and there was a lot of heavy debates," Martinez said.

Walk to the other end of the school building, however, and the focus changes fast. In Mr. Todd Starry's tech. classes, the emphasis is on preparing for the future. "I try to teach them to be independent. What they learn, they should be able to

they learn, they should be able to apply to everything else they do," said Starry.

One project a class did was to create a CO₂ vehicle. "We had specific dimensions and a specific wheel base; we also had to win a race with it," explained Josh Mason. "I lost really bad."

Mr. Starry believes that a little frustration can be a good thing. "I like to make the activities loose, so they have to try to do them and when they fail, to try again. They don't realize how this helps them, not only in school but in work and family life, too."

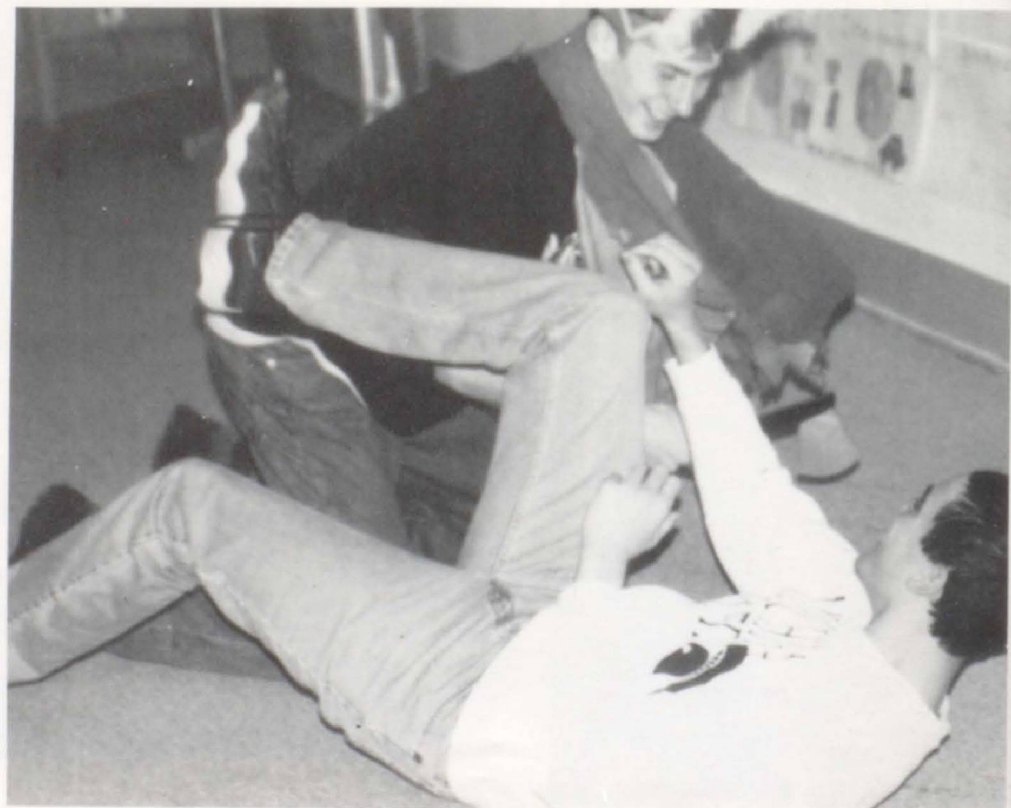
Jessica McMann



K. Mepham

HOW! Is it Pocahantas? Naw, just Corrine Felton role-playing for Michigan History.

SAY "UNCLE!" PALEFACE Josh Adams enjoys his role in his class skit, "I'm an Indian man, beating Joe Shaw's butt!" he boasted.



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