

Tri-umph

The 1999-2000 boys varsity basketball season was a season in which many memories were made and dreams were realized. The team finished with a sparkling 19-4 record, one of the school's best records in recent years. The team also won a district championship, something that hasn't happened in 10 years at Ashley. "The win over Vestaburg in the district championship was one of the high points of the season because we knew we could win it," commented **Josh Adams**. **Kalep Harris** remarked, "The district final game was our best game because it meant so much. We knew that, so we wanted to play extra hard."

The new team accomplished all of this under a new head coach, **Todd Walden**, who seemed to be popular with the players. "I liked having Mr. Walden for a coach because he was so easy to respect. He is a great coach, so it is easy to respect him," said **Tim Bates**. **Steve Lowell** replied, "Mr. Walden is a great motivator and an outstanding coach."

Though the team did not have many bumps throughout the season, there

were some. For example, the team endured a two-game losing streak which included a loss which could have secured a sole conference championship. "Losing the game at Vestaburg really hurt because it would have meant a conference championship all to ourselves," commented Bates. However, the team did still clinch a share of the conference title.

The Bears' trip to regionals was fun and exciting, but the loss was hard to take. They lost 55-53 to a tough North Branch Wesleyan team. "I didn't like losing in regionals, but it can't take away what we accomplished. Just being part of this special team was great for me," remarked Lowell.

-Patrick Yelsik

MONEY! Josh Saylor shoots over a Webberville defender as Tim Bates gets into rebounding position. The Bears beat Webberville, 67-41.



C. Worden



Geskus Photography

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL Front row: Patrick Yelsik, James Polash, Kevin Fabus, Aaron Grollimund.

Back row: Steve Lowell, Jesse Diffin, Josh Adams, Tim Bates, Kalep Harris. Missing: Josh Saylor.



**VARSITY BOYS
BASKETBALL**