The Rough Stuff

Leipsic Free Press - February 22, 1917

Without the doubt more unreasonable and ungentlemanly bunch of basketball players and rooters that ever visited our little city were here on Friday night. Coming from Defiance and if such tactics and manners as was displayed by them are accepted by the faculty and school board of said Defiance, we suggest that they add a course of etiquette to their school curriculum. Not only in the basketball hall was such bad behavior displayed but on the streets and in the hotel and dressing rooms. Defiance can boast of a basketball team of three players who not only understand the game, but are above the average as ball tossers. The above mentioned three does not include their big center or guard. The first mentioned, in the eye of the average fan is not of basketball caliber in any sense of the word. He probably could with much practice make the foot ball squad – hardly the team. As to the guard, his forte would be jui jutsu or a sport akin to the French mode of boxing.

It was only through the courtesy of Referee Tarleton for a visiting team that the aforesaid center and guard were allowed on the floor two minutes after the game right from the begun. as beginning they displayed such tactics as were not only a disgrace to their team but to the school they represent. If there was one rule in basketball that was not broken by either one or the other, we cannot think of it at this time.

Leipsic High goes to Defiance tomorrow night and we can say right now that they will conduct them selves like gentlemen – win or lose and neither the management or captain would think for one minutes of allowing them to act half so bad as did Defiance on the trip to Leipsic.

But for all of the underhand methods displayed, the home boys were able to nose out a victory of 30 to 26.