

Ottawa and Vaughnsville

Who Won the Girls' Basketball Game?

Putnam County Sentinel – March 3, 1922

On a Saturday evening, February 18, 1922, the Ottawa and Vaughnsville girls played a basketball game at Vaughnsville with a strange and inconclusive ending. The following is a quote from the Putnam County Sentinel concerning Ottawa's point of view.

“The Ottawa girls played the Vaughnsville girls Saturday night on the latter's floor. One of the Vaughnsville girls was disqualified because of unnecessary roughness. The Vaughnsville coach did not see fit to abide by the decision of the referee and the rules of the game, so the game ended 7-3 in favor of Ottawa.”

A week later, the Vaughnsville principal sent a letter to the editor of the Putnam County Sentinel.

‘VAUGHNSVILLE OBJECTS’

“Dear Editor: We ask that you correct the error in last week's paper concerning the basket ball game between Ottawa girls and Vaughnsville girls. Ottawa left the floor, therefore, forfeiting the game making the score 2-0 in favor of Vaughnsville, according to the rules. It was officially declared so on the floor. Thanking you, Mrs. Nellie Turner, Principal.”

At the conclusion of the season, the Putnam County Sentinel, features the Ottawa girls' team as the best girls' team in North West Ohio. All the games are listed with the final record as being 15-0. The Vaughnsville game is not listed. It is not claimed as a victory or a loss. Imagine such an ending today!