

Grove High County Basketball Champs

TOURNAMENT ONE OF BEST IN HISTORY

Jennings High Second – Parochial Third

ALL GOOD GAMES

Work of Officials was Commendable

Putnam County Sentinel – March 3, 1944

For the first time in basketball history, Columbus Grove High won the Putnam County championship in the Class B Tournament which came to a close Saturday evening by defeating the Fort Jennings High team in the finals by the close margin of 38 to 35.

Columbus Grove played consistent ball in each of its three tournament games. It first won over Ottawa Public 29 to 28 and then defeated Leipsic in the semi-finals, 31 to 25.

Grove took a 13 to 7 lead in the first quarter in the championship tilt against Fort Jennings and lead 20 to 18 at the half. When the third period ended, Jennings was leading 28 to 27.

During this time, Fort Jennings was playing a well-organized game with the score tied nine times in the contest and the lead changing hands seven times.

During the semi-final contest, Ottawa Parochial won third place by defeating Fort Jennings on Saturday evening by a score of 46 to 31.

Jennings held a lead of 8 to 4 at the quarter, 17 to 14 at the half and 30 to 22 at the third quarter.

The Leipsic-Columbus Grove semi-final contest was a well-played game with the score staying within a four-five point range during practically all of the play.

Leipsic was trailing 8 to 6 at the quarter and 19 to 11 at the half. Leipsic made 12 points to 8

for the Grove in the third period which ended 27 to 23 in favor of the Grove. The game ended in Grove's favor 31-25. Leipsic was held to two points in the final quarter and Grove made only four.

Grove, as champions, Jennings as runners-up and Ottawa Parochial were each presented a trophy at the close of the tournament and each team is representing the county in the District Tournament which opened at Leipsic last evening, Wednesday.

This season's events may be listed among the best tournament games ever played in the county and it is estimated that the attendance set a new high school record. The crowds were orderly and there were very few differences of opinion from the side lines concerning the decisions the referees made during the entire program.

Another county tournament has come to a close. Many did not see their favorite team come though as champions, but, players and fans, were well pleased with the way the tournament was run.

C. Grove	13	7	7	11	38
Ft. Jennings	7	11	10	7	35