Big Green Need 2nd Half Rally to Beat Continental

Putnam County Sentinel – January 14, 1966

Ottoville received a real scare at Continental Friday night before storming back in the second half for a 62-54 league victory over the Pirates. Ottoville extended its season record to 12-1 with four of the victories coming in league play.

Continental, obviously a much stronger team than their record might indicate, dropped their eighth loss compared with six victories. The Pirates who have yet to win in league play, have been involved in a number of close games this season usually coming out on the short end of the score.

The Big Green, the state's number one ranked Class A team in the first Associated press poll of the season last week, took a 14-8 first quarter lead, but Continental bombed in 19 points in the second period while holding Ottoville to only eight to take a 27-22 halftime lead. The lead was shot lived, however, as Ottoville had an 18-9 advantage in the third quarter to take a 40-36 lead at that point and then lengthened it to the biggest spread of the night with a 22-18 edge in the final eight minutes.

Steve Turnwald once again led the attack for Dick Kortokrax's five with 19 points on nine field goals and a free throw. Tom Hilvers and Tom Brinkman chipped in with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Ron Slattman's 14 points led Continental, while Larry Combs, who had been burning the nets at a 26 point per game clip in his last six outings, was held to 11 points.

Ottoville's reserve team inflicted a 40-35 defeat on the Continental reserves in the preliminary game.

 Ottoville
 21 20 62

 Odenweller 1-3-5.
 Brinkman 4-2-10.

 Hilvers 3-5-11.
 Heitmeyer 1-0-2.

 Zolman 1-5-7.
 Turnwald 9-1-19.

 Hoersten 2-4-8.

Continental 20 14 54
Spencer 3-2-8. Grant 3-3-9. Comb 5-1-11. Coleman 1-0-2. McKibben 0-1-1. Jones 3-3-9. Slattman 5-4-14.

Ottoville 14 8 18 22 62 Continental 8 19 9 18 54

This was Coach Kortokrax's 100th win during his 7th season of coaching and 5th at Ottoville. Ottoville was 21-4 in 1966, losing to Celina Immaculate Conception in the Districts. Dick was also named PCL Coach of the Year in 1966. He won his first league championship and first Coach of the Year in 1964.