

# Edgewood Stops OG Championship Bid in 1979

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“Too many hits with eyes,” said Ottawa-Glandorf Coach Dale Bruskotter, in what was an accurate assessment of Ottawa-Glandorf’s first State Tournament baseball game in history. Trenton Edgewood scored seven runs on an assortment of singles, grounders, bouncers, infield dribblers and just plain luck shots fired through any available hole in the OG defense.

On the offensive side the Titans had trouble making good contact with Scott Elam’s pitches as they chipped them over the backstop, popped them into foul territory and occasionally missed them all together ending the ball game with only five hits and one run, and dropped out of contention 7-1.

It as a hot, humid day in Columbus and the air was as thick as the tension when Edgewood took the plate in the top of the first. Tim Pressler singled to start things rolling and stole second. Dave Phipot, second in the lineup, smacked a single that didn’t make it out of the infield, but the hit gave Pressler a chance to take third. Pressler took advantage of OG’s first inning nerves to score on a pass ball. With one out Ron Small took hold of a double scoring Edgewoods’s second run.

The Titans came on strong in the bottom of the inning. Tom Weber reached first on an error, took second on a pass ball and scored when Dan Selhorst fired a single right down the middle. With the score 2-1 Titan fans were not worried. OG had trailed in every tournament game but one this year and always managed to come back for the win. “I thought we were going to come back,” said Bruskotter. “We’d been behind before so we knew what we had to do.”

Edgewood squeezed in a run in the second when Philpot hit another single followed by a double by Dan Dickerson and two walks. OG’s pitcher Dan Selhorst regained control and ended the inning for Edgewood with three men stranded on base.

OG threatened in the second by loading bases with only one out but Elam stopped them, fanning Jaymie Kersh and getting Weber to pop out.

Neither team scored in the third but Edgewood managed one run in the fourth on a triple by Dickerson. Somewhere around this point the heavy tournament atmosphere of Columbus began working for Edgewood as OG began to wonder, “Hey, maybe these guys really are better.” Still a comeback appeared likely as the Titans

held Edgewood down to one run an inning and continued to put men on base.

The idea of a comeback went from a probability to a long shot in the bottom of the sixth when OG was shut out with men on base and forced to leave the field because of a shower which threatened to end the game prematurely. The ground crew had not even finished rolling out the plastic when the rain stopped and the game was resumed.

OG loyalists returned from the parking lot and came out from under the bleachers to watch the last inning on their feet. The Titans took bases but failed to score and the comeback died in infancy as Edgewood walked off with a 7-1 victory.

Edgewood batters hit far or hard, just often, taking a total of 15 hits off Senior Dan Selhorst. Every Trenton started except one got at least one hit. Dickerson scored the fourth inning run with a triple. Philpot forced a run in the fifth with his third single of the game. Ron Parrish belted a teammate home the sixth and Tim Woodrey singled in run number seven in the last inning.

Kersh, Selhorst, Ron Schmiedebusch and Keith Wolke got one hit each for the Titans. The Titans were apparently rattled by the tough Edgewood offense as they committed a total of five errors, their highest game total this season.

Elam fanned eight Titan hitters and walked two while Selhorst went two and two for OG. OG left eight runners on base and Edgewood stranded 14. “I give them a lot of credit,” Bruskotter said of Trenton. “They’re a good ball club and they made good contact with the ball.” This was only the second loss for Titan pitcher Dan Selhorst who finished the season 7-2-1. Elam stands at 9-3 after losing on the following day to Columbus DeSales 7-4 in the finals.

The Titans end their most successful season in history 13-6-1. As freshmen this same team went 0-9, never winning a game. Four years later they have gone to Columbus to compete as one of the top four schools in the state. “I hope,” said Coach Bruskotter, “that this gives them the incentive for next year.”

Trenton	210	111	1	7	15	2
OG	100	000	0	1	5	5

Scot Elam and Don Dickerson; Dan Selhorst and Ron Schmiedebusch.