

## This Week in Eden History

### February 23 | Springtime athletics at Eden



The early twentieth century seminary experience at Eden was intense. After hours of lectures and studying, there was little time for other activities. Of course, there were campus organizations like student government, mission circles, literary clubs, etc. that gave students a change of pace from Greek exegesis and theology papers. The seminary also provided opportunities for students to get involved in theater productions, singing groups, and even a ukulele band. There were not many physical activities available to burn off the energy of the young, all male student body, however, so they arranged their own basketball, baseball, and soccer games.

Information from the mostly anonymous “Book of the Chronicles,” an informal diary of activities at “New Eden” 1924–1930, gives us an idea of the athletic activities arranged by students (and some faculty members) in the spring of 1925:

Feb. 2—Basketball team lost to St. Agnes, 24–20

Feb. 9—Basketball team lost to Young Men’s Hebrew Assoc., 25–16

Feb. 16—Basketball team beat Jr. Chamber of Commerce, 51–7

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March 6–7—Baseball team split “indoor” double–header with Xenia, 10–0 and 13–10  
Apr. 8 —Baseball team beat Yeatman H.S., 11–6  
Apr. 14—Baseball team beat Webster H.S., 7–2  
Apr. 18—Baseball team beat Western Military Academy, 4–3  
Apr. 25—Baseball team beat McKendric, 10–7  
May 2 —Baseball team beat Concordia, 7–6  
May 16—Baseball team beat Caroline Mission, 28–4  
May 21—Baseball team lost to Concordia, 8–6  
May 29—Middlers vs. Juniors (Middlers won 9–6)

And then this excerpt from the Chronicles:

*May 20—The ancient feud between Prof. Baur’s Junior Kirchengeschichte [church history] class and Prof. Schneider’s Church History class took the form of a bitterly fought 7-inning baseball game. Score: 13–11, favor of Church History. The deciding factor of the game was Prof. Schneider’s open bribery of Umpire Prof. Wehrli with a bottle of pop at a critical stage of the game. The Kirchengeschichte sympathizers rooted in German, alas for the German. “Schlage einen Heim-lauf!” [Hit a home run!].*

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