

The 1965 Palmer High School Baseball State Champions

The Terrors won the state AAA title by defeating Greeley and Denver Thomas Jefferson by identical 3-2 scores in Greeley. Coach Jerry Hughes called his team at the time the best in state history. Palmer racked up an 19-1-1 season record on the way to winning the crown. Catcher Larry Williams was the team captain and the squad boasted two of the state's best pitchers in lefty Tom Medicott (9-1) and curveballing righthander Phil Johnson (8-0). In the showdown game for the state title against TJ, Alex Gonzales slammed a one-out, extra-inning double to score Roger Green from first base with the winning run. Johnson went the distance on the mound for the Terrors, giving up just six hits and striking out seven. Medicott pushed the Terrors into the title game with a sparkling effort against Greeley Central the day before, striking out eleven, including five of the last six batters he faced, and allowing just three hits. Rich Grapp's 365-foot homer in the fourth inning was the game winner for the Terrors. Johnson, who also played in the outfield and hit .400, went on to play professionally, was named All-State, as were Medicott, Grapp, shortstop Ollie West, and utility infielder Ken Rose.