REDS' GREATEST CLUTCH MOMENTS OF THE DECADE

70 TOP MOMENTS OF THE 1970'S

The Reds won 167 spring and summer games since Coaches Danley and Ervin started coaching in 1972 throughout the remainder of the 1970's, despite playing far fewer summer games than the Reds have in decades since. That included 86 league wins and 4 postseason wins, including 1 State Tournament win.

Some of these victories were by significant margins (for example, the Reds 10-runned 39 of their opponents) and the Reds' average score in victories was 10-4 throughout the decade. But many of the games were close (51 of the victories were within 2 runs, 34 of which were decided by a single run), especially late in the season when it mattered most. These games required late-inning heroics, including 24 games where the Reds had to come back from deficits in the last couple of innings to win. The Reds' season was at times down to its final strike, but the Reds came through to mount heroic victories.

Even a number of the games that ended in the Reds' favor by a comfortable margin were only decided after the Reds had "that one inning", where the Reds scored 5 to 12 runs to put away an otherwise tight ballgame. A number of comebacks and late-inning heroics in summer league games have been eliminated from below to showcase only the Reds' Top 70 clutch moments of the decade. Of the 70 games listed below, the Reds trailed 24 times (sometimes by as many as 5 to 10 runs), were tied late in the game another 27 times, and had to hold onto 1 or 2 runs leads in nearly all of the other games listed below.

Note: In spring games throughout the 1970's, the Reds played in a limited District Tournament with only the top 4 teams qualifying and had to win the District Semifinal game in order to be one of the 8 or 16 teams to qualify for State, and then played a single-elimination tournament from there. The Reds did not qualify for the State Tournament in the summer during this decade, but did finish in the top two teams in league to qualify for the double-elimination District Tournament in 1979. Below are the results from games that were in doubt late or that had the Reds trailing by many runs at any point. Scorebooks have not been preserved in seasons prior to 1972, and thus those game details are excluded from below.

Gm.	Date	Opponent	Game Type	Situation	Result
1	3/18/72	Lafayette	Non-League Game	Bot. of 4th Inning Tied Game	Tied in the 4th inning of the 2nd game of a season-opening doubleheader, with the Reds trying to win their first game under Coaches Danley and Ervin, **Steve Strong** led off with a single and then stole 2nd base and scored on a single from **Don Donahoo** that was misplayed and allowed **Donahoo** to score on the fielding and throwing errors. **Rick McClure** and **Jack Cazer** then both singled, and with two outs, **Mark Nelson** drew a walk, **Mike Eldridge** drew a bases-loaded walk, **Tim Kawakami** reached base and **Strong** hit a grand slam to cap off the inning as the Reds took an 8-0 lead. After two runs had scored, **Donahoo** then induced a bases-loaded flyout to rightfielder **Gary Takahashi** to end the scoring threat. In the bottom half of the inning, **Rick McClure** singled, **Jack Cazer** singled, **Marty Damrell** reached on a fielder's choice, **Nelson** singled, and **Eldridge** and **Kawakami** singled to increase the lead to 11-2. Then after the first two batters scored in the top of the 6th inning, **Donahoo** retired the next 3 batters in order to preserve the 11-4 lead. **Donahoo** then ended the game by retiring 3 of 4 batters in the top of the 7th inning.
2	4/1/72	Highland	League Game	Top of 5th Inning Tied Game	Tied 1-1 in the 5th inning, **Mark Nelson** led off the inning by drawing a walk, then **Tim Kawakami** singled, and **Steve Strong**, who had already hit 3 home runs in the first game victory in the doubleheader, singled to give the Reds a 2-1 lead. **Don Donahoo** then singled, and **Rick McClure** and **Mike Eldridge** hit RBI singles as the Reds took a 5-run lead. **Strong** then allowed a runner on base, but then after a fielder's choice led to an out at 2nd base, a line drive was caught by first baseman **Jack Cazer** who then raced to 1st base in time for the inning-ending double play. In the top of the 6th inning, **Strong** walked, stole 2nd and 3rd bases, and scored on a wild pitch to give the Reds a 7-1 lead. **Strong** then stranded two runners on base in a scoreless 6th inning, before **McClure** added a run in the top of the 7th inning after reaching 2nd base on an error and then scoring on a single from **Eldridge**. **Strong** then struck out the first batter in the bottom of the 7th inning, and then after a walk, caught a line drive that he turned for a game-ending double play.

#	Date	Opponent	Type	Situation	Description
3	4/8/72	Roosevelt	League Game	Top of 5th Inning Reds Lead by 2	With a 2-run lead, **Steve Strong** retired two straight batters to end the top of the 5th inning and strand a runner on 3rd base. **Strong** then picked off the leadoff hitter of the 6th inning at 2nd base with the tag applied by shortstop **Mark Nelson**. **Strong** then struck out the next batter and induced a flyout to leftfielder **Doug Schnorr** to end the top of the 6th inning. **Strong** then retired 3 of 4 batters in the 7th inning, ending the game with a strikeout.
4	4/18/72	Platte Valley	League Game	Bot. of 5th Inning Reds Trail by 3	Trailing by 3 runs with only 9 outs remaining, **Don Donahoo** led off the bottom of the 5th inning reaching base and scoring on a double steal as **Mike Eldridge** walked and took 2nd base, **Doug Stroberg** then singled and then with two outs, **Randy Vogel** walked, **Rick McClure** singled, **Tim Kawakami** reached base, and **Steve Strong** hit a home run as the Reds took a 4-run lead after stealing a remarkable total of 10 bases in the inning. After the first two batters in the top of the 6th inning reached base, **Steve Strong** induced a groundout to shortstop **Marty Damrell** and then catcher **Eldridge** threw out two consecutive runners trying to steal 3rd base to end the inning. **Eldridge** then singled and scored before **Jack Cazer** singled and scored on a single from **Damrell** who then scored on a 2-out single from **McClure** to take a commanding 12-5 lead. **Strong** then recorded a strikeout and fielded two groundouts himself to end the game.
5	4/25/72	University	League Game	Top of 7th Inning Reds Trail by 1	Down by a run in the 7th inning, **Doug Stroberg** singled and then with two outs, **Tim Kawakami** walked on a full-count pitch, **Steve Strong** singled to tie the game, and **Kawakami** scored on a wild pitch before **Strong** scored on an error to give the Reds a two-run lead. **Strong** then retired 3 of 4 batters in the 7th inning, striking out the final two batters, to end the game.
6	7/16/72	Highland	Legion B League Game	Bot. of 3rd Inning Tied Game	With the game tied early in a key summer league game, after two outs were recorded, **Don Donahoo** and **Rick McClure** walked and advanced on a double steal and scored on a single from **Doug Stroberg**. **Jack Cazer** then pitched 4 straight scoreless innings, allowing just 3 hits as the Reds added an insurance run in the 4th inning and then 3 more runs in the 5th inning. **Cazer** struck out the side in order in the 7th inning after having stranded 2-3 runners on base in each of the 4th-6th innings, ending those innings with strikeouts.
7	7/24/72	Longmont Ideal	Legion B League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 4	The Reds rallied from a four-run deficit in the 6th inning to tie the game as **Steve Strong** led off with a double, before **Mike Eldridge** reached base. **Don Donahoo** then tripled and scored on an error on the throw to 3rd base to cut the deficit to 1 run. **Rick McClure** then walked and scored on singles from **Doug Stroberg** and **Mark Nelson** to tie the game. Then in the top of the 7th inning with the bases loaded and one out, third baseman **Rick Goering** jumped to snag a high hopper and step on 3rd base and then throw home to complete the inning-ending double play as catcher **Eldridge** applied the tag at the plate. Then after **Jack Cazer** pitched a scoreless top of the 8th inning and stranded runners on 2nd and 3rd base, and then retired the side in order in the 9th inning, **Bill Riegel** singled in the bottom half of the inning, before being out at 2nd base on a fielder's choice that put **Cazer** on first base. **Cazer** then stole 2nd and 3rd base, and scored the game-winning run as **Donahoo** singled up the middle to win the Reds' final game of the summer season.
8	3/27/73	Fort Lupton	Non-League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Red Trying to Complete No-Hitter	With the Reds holding a commanding 6-0 lead going into the bottom of the 7th inning, the game was not in doubt, but **Jack Cazer** was carrying with him a shot at throwing a rare no-hitter. After having lost a chance at a perfect game in the 5th inning after a 3-2 pitch was called a ball for the walk, **Cazer** then hit a batter in the 6th inning, but had otherwise been perfect. In the 7th inning, he induced a groundout that he fielded himself for the first out. He then induced a groundout to first baseman **Marty Damrell** for the second out. Then on a 1-2 pitch, **Cazer** struck out the next batter to complete the no-hitter.
9	3/31/73	Highland	League Game	Bot. of 3rd Inning Reds Lead by 1	While early in the 2nd game of a doubleheader, the Reds were trying to add to an early 1-0 lead after having just lost 10-0 in the first game of the doubleheader. **Doug Stroberg** led off the inning with a home run, followed by a home run by **Mike Eldridge** to put the Reds ahead 3-0. **Eldridge** then stranded runners on 1st and 3rd base in the top of the 4th inning after recording a strikeout for the 2nd out and then fielding a comebacker to end the inning. **Rick McClure** then led off the Reds' half of the inning with a single, **Stroberg** walked, and **Eldridge** hit a 3-run home run for his 2nd home run in as many innings. **Jack Cazer** then doubled and scored on a single from **Randy Vogel** to extend the lead to 7-0. **Eldridge** then retired the side in order in the 5th inning, and again in the top of the 6th inning. The Reds then ended the game via the 10-run rule as **Pat Wright** reached base and then with two outs, **Damrell** doubled, **McClure** reached on an error, and **Stroberg** hit a walk-off triple to end the game via the 10-run mercy rule.
10	4/21/73	Platte Valley	League Game	Top of 6th Inning Reds Lead by 2	After an 8-1 Reds' lead slipped to a slim 8-6 lead, **Mike Eldridge** took the mound in relief and recorded two straight outs to end the inning and strand the potential tying runs at 2nd and 3rd base. Then in the 7th inning, **Eldridge** retired the side in order to preserve the win.

11	4/24/73	Roosevelt	League Game	Top of 5th Inning Tied Game	**Rick McClure** led off the top of the 5th inning with a single, followed by singles from **Mike Eldridge** and **Jack Cazer** to put the Reds ahead by a run. **Eldridge** then retired the side in order in the 5th inning, and then stranded the bases loaded in the 6th inning with a strikeout to end the scoring threat. Then in the 7th inning, still holding onto just a 1-run lead, **Eldridge** recorded two outs, and then after runners reached 2nd and 3rd base, **Eldridge** induced a groundout to first baseman **Marty Damrell** to end the game.
12	6/15/73	Fort Morgan	Legion B League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Tied Game	In a tied game in the 6th inning, the Reds exploded for 11 runs to put the game away as **Rick Goering** knocked in 7 RBI in this inning alone, with a grand slam and bases-loaded triple. **Jack Cazer** then pitched a scoreless top of the 7th inning for the complete game win.
13	6/17/73	Highland	Legion B League Game	Top of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 1	After having come back from a 3-0 deficit to tie the game in the 4th inning led by a two-run double from **Randy Vogel**, the Reds trailed again by one run in the top of the 6th inning before **Vogel** delivered the game-winning single in the 6th inning. **Jack Cazer** took the mound in relief to earn the win.
14	7/15/73	Weld Central	Legion B League Game	Top of 7th Inning Tied Game	In a tied game in the 7th inning, **Marty Damrell** delivered the game-winning RBI in the top of the 7th inning before **Steve Donahoo** retired the side in the bottom half of the inning to earn the complete game victory.
15	3/30/74	Highland	League Game	Top of 5th Inning Reds Trail by 5	After trailing by 5 runs, the Reds quickly rallied to take the lead in the 5th inning, as **Pat Wright** and **Marty Damrell** reached on errors, **Rick McClure** singled, **Rick Goering** walked, **Doug Stroberg** singled and **Jack Cazer** tripled and scored on a groundout by **Gary Hoffner** to have the Reds' first 6 batters of the inning all score to take a 1-run lead. **Steve Donahoo** then retired 3 of 4 batters in the 5th inning. **Marty Damrell** then hit a solo home run for an insurance run in the top of the 6th inning, before **Donahoo** retired 3 of 4 batters to end the bottom half of the inning. Then in the 7th inning, **Donahoo** recorded a leadoff out, and then after a double, second baseman **Hoffner** caught a line drive and threw to shortstop **Dan Knight** in time for the game-ending double play.
16	4/2/74	Erie	Non-League Game	Top of 5th Inning Reds Lead by 1	In a rainstorm that threatened to end the game early, **Pat Wright** led off with a single and stole 2nd base before **Gregg Schneider** singled and **Rick McClure** singled to increase the Reds' lead to 2 runs, before **Marty Damrell** and **Jack Cazer** singled to increase the lead to 4 runs. **Schneider** then retired 3 of 4 batters in the bottom of the 5th inning at which point the game was called due to the rain.
17	4/9/74	Weld Central	Non-League Game	Extra Innings Tied Game	In the only game in Eaton history in which the Reds were initially ruled to have lost, before their protest was upheld with the game replayed from that point, the Reds were in the top of the 10th inning with one out and runners on 2nd and 3rd base when shortstop **Dan Knight** was interfered with while fielding a groundball. That runner heading to 3rd base was correctly ruled out, but the runner from 3rd base was originally allowed to score the go-ahead run. Coach Danley argued the call and then officially protested it, before the Reds went on to be retired in the bottom of the 10th inning for the apparent loss. However, the league commissioner correctly upheld the protest and had the game completed days later at a neutral site. This time, with the go-ahead run taken off the scoreboard and moved back to 3rd base, **Jack Cazer** took the mound and induced a flyout to end the top of the 10th inning in a tie. Then in the 11th inning, **Bob Beets** relieved and retired the side in order. In the bottom of the 11th inning, **Rick Goering** led off with a single, and then advanced to 2nd base on a bunt from **Doug Stroberg**. **Beets** then walked, and then with two outs, **Knight** hit a groundball to the second baseman that was misplayed to knock in the game-winning run.
18	4/24/74	Windsor	League Game	Top of 7th Inning Reds Trail by 2	**Doug Stroberg** led off the top of the 7th inning with a single, then **Craig Collins** singled, **Bob Beets** walked, **Pat Wright** singled to tie the game, **Rick McClure** walked, **Marty Damrell** singled to give the Reds the lead, **Rick Goering** walked, **Jack Cazer** and **Dan Knight** reached on fielder's choices, **Stroberg** reached base, and **Collins** doubled to increase the Reds' lead to 6 runs. **Beets** then retired then stranded two runners on base with consecutive groundouts to end the game.
19	6/5/74	Estes Park	Legion B Non-League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Reds Trail by 2	With the game on the line, **Gregg Schneider** led off with a full-count walk, then **Randy Kurtz** walked, **Larry Dillon** then put down a sacrifice bunt to move both runners into scoring position and **Gary Hoffner** doubled to tie the game on the first pitch of the at-bat. **Craig Collins** then singled on the next pitch for the game-winning hit.
20	6/8/74	Roosevelt	Legion B Non-League Game	Top of 7th Inning Reds Lead by 1	With the Reds leading by a run in the 7th inning, after recording a leadoff out, the next 3 batters reached base to load the bases. With the infield playing in, **Gregg Schneider** then induced a groundball to third baseman **Bob Beets** who threw home for the 2nd out of the inning and then catcher **Craig Collins** threw to first base in time to complete the game-ending double play.

21	6/21/74	University	Legion B League Game	Top of 7th Inning Tied Game	With the game tied in the 7th inning, **Dan Knight** drew a one-out walk, **Jeff Markley** reached on an error, and then **Gregg Schneider** knocked in the go-ahead run with two outs. **Bob Beets** then entered in relief in the 7th inning with the tying run on 2nd base and one out. After the next batter walked and both runners moved up to 2nd and 3rd base, **Beets** then recorded the next two outs to strand the runners and end the game.
22	6/28/74	Highland	Legion B League Game	Top of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 2	Down by two runs with two outs in the 6th inning, **Dan Knight** drew a full-count walk, **Craig Collins** singled, **Gary Hoffner** singled, **Mark Hudson** walked, and **Steve Donahoo** doubled to score two runs and give the Reds the lead. **Gregg Schneider** then retired the side in order in the 6th inning after a double play was turned by shortstop **Knight** and second baseman **Hoffner**. In the 7th inning, **Schneider** struck out the leadoff batter, and then after the bases were loaded, **Schneider** struck out the next batter and then induced a comeback grounder that he fielded himself and flipped home to catcher **Collins** for the game's final out.
23	7/11/74	Valley	Legion B League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Reds Lead by 3 No-Hitter at Stake	Despite letting one run score on a walk and a couple of errors, **Gregg Schneider** carried a no-hitter through six innings with the Reds holding onto a 4-1 lead against Valley. In the bottom of the 6th inning the Reds added to the lead to put the game away as **Schneider** led off with a triple, then **Randy Kurtz** singled, **Craig Collins** reached base, **Gary Hoffner** doubled, **Steve Donahoo** tripled, and then with two outs, **Bob Beets** singled, **Dan Knight** singled, and **Tom Heardt** singled to increase the Reds' lead to 10-1. While the game was no longer at risk, **Schneider** still carried a no-hitter into the 7th inning against a top rival in Valley. **Schneider** induced a groundout to **Knight** for the first out, and then after a walk, induced a groundout to first baseman **Donahoo** and then another groundout to third baseman **Mark Hudson** to end the game and record the rare no-hitter against Valley.
24	7/23/74	Fort Morgan	Legion B League Game	Top of 6th Inning Tied Game	Tied in the top of the 6th inning of a key league game, **Craig Collins** drew a one-out walk, and then stole 2nd base and scored the go-ahead run as **Gary Hoffner** doubled. **Bob Beets** then retired the side in order in the bottom of the 6th inning. **Steve Donahoo** then led off the top of the 7th inning with a single and **Tom Heardt** bunted him to 2nd base before **Donahoo** stole 3rd base and then scored on a single from **Beets** to give the Reds a 2-run lead. **Beets** then retired 3 of 4 batters in the bottom of the 7th inning to end the game.
25	4/5/75	Windsor	League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Reds Trail by 2	Trailing 6-4 going into the bottom of the 7th inning, **Jeff Markley** led off with a walk, then **Randy Kurtz** singled and **Craig Collins** singled to bring the Reds within a run. **Russell Bauer** then singled to tie the game, before **Dan Knight** tripled for the game-winning RBI.
26	4/12/75	Berthoud	League Game (Game 1 of DH)	Bot. of 5th Inning Reds Trail by 2	**Bob Beets** led off with a single, then **Brett Holcomb** singled, **Brett Weber** singled and **Steve Donahoo** hit a sacrifice fly to bring the Reds within a run. **Gary Hoffner** then reached base, stole 2nd base, and scored on a passed ball as the Reds took a one-run lead. Berthoud then threatened to tie the game with a leadoff double in the top of the 6th inning before centerfielder **Hoffner** gunned down the runner trying to stretch it into a triple. **Donahoo** then retired the next two batters in order. In the bottom of the 6th inning, **Dan Knight** walked and scored on a two-out double from **Holcomb** to give the Reds an insurance run. **Donahoo** wouldn't need it though, as he retired the side in order on just 8 pitches to end the game.
27	4/12/75	Berthoud	League Game (Game 2 of DH)	Bot. of 5th Inning Tied Game	With the 2nd game of the doubleheader tied in the 5th inning, **Steve Donahoo** led off with a home run to give the Reds the lead. **Mark Bopp** then took a hit-by-pitch, **Gary Hoffner** doubled and after a throwing error by the catcher, **Brett Holcomb** put down a bunt to score **Hoffner** as the Reds took a 3-run lead. **Gregg Schneider** then retired the side in order in the top of the 6th inning. Then after the first two batters reached base in the top of the 7th inning, second baseman **Brett Weber** drew a runner's interference call on a groundball for the first out of the inning. **Schneider** then fielded a comeback grounder for the 2nd out, before striking out the cleanup hitter to end the game.
28	4/17/75	Platte Valley	Non-League Game	Bot. of 4th Inning Reds Lead by 2	With severely cold weather playing a major factor, and threatening to end the game once it was official after 5 innings, the Reds rallied to put the game out of reach in the bottom of the 4th inning. **Rick Vogel** reached base on an error with one out, then **Craig Collins** singled, **Dan Knight** singled, **Brett Weber** singled, **Steve Donahoo** hit a sacrifice fly, and then with two outs, **Bob Beets** singled, **Mark Bopp** doubled, **Gary Hoffner** reached on an error, and **Brett Holcomb** doubled to give the Reds a commanding 9-0 lead. **Weber** then worked quickly to throw strikes and end the game before it was called due to the worsening field conditions, and retired 3 of 4 batters to end the game.
29	4/19/75	University	League Game	Top of 7th Inning Reds Trail by 1	With the game on the line, **Craig Collins** drew a leadoff walk, then **Brett Weber** reached on an error, **Steve Donahoo** reached on a fielder's choice, and then with two outs, **Mark Bopp** doubled to tie the game. Then after a wild pitch and a walk drawn by **Gary Hoffner**, the Reds induced a balk on a double-steal to score **Bopp** for an insurance run. **Collins** then retired the side in order to end the game in the bottom of the 7th inning.

30	6/12/75	Fort Collins	Legion B Non-League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Reds Lead by 1	Leading by a run in the bottom of the 6th inning, **Kirk Kindsfater** hit a two-out solo home run for an insurance run that would be needed in the top of the 7th inning. After **Craig Collins** recorded two quick outs, **Collins** allowed a single but then struck out the next batter, however the ball bounced away as the runner reached base. Then after back-to-back singles brought the score within a run with the bases loaded, **Collins** induced a groundout to second baseman **Brett Weber** for the game-ending play.
31	6/19/75	Fort Collins	Legion B Non-League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Reds Lead by 1	Clinging to a one-run lead, **Gregg Schneider** retired the first two batter on just 4 pitches, and then after allowing a single to bring the potential game-winning run to the plate, **Schneider** induced a flyout to centerfielder **Dan Knight** to end the game.
32	6/26/75	Valley	Legion B League Game	Top of 6th Inning Reds Lead by 1	With only a one run lead against Valley, **Randy Kurtz** reached on an error, **Brett Holcomb** drew a walk, **Dan Knight** singled, **Mark Bopp** singled, and then with two outs, **Larry Lawhead** singled to increase the Reds' lead to 5 runs. **Gregg Schneider** then took the mound in the 6th inning and stranded the bases loaded with a strikeout to end the scoring threat. **Schneider** then reached base in the top of the 7th inning and scored on a double from **Holcomb**. In the bottom of the 7th inning, after the first two batters reached base, **Schneider** struck out the next 3 batters in order to end the game.
33	3/27/76	Highland	League Game	Top of 6th Inning Tied Game	Tied 3-3 in the top of the 6th inning, **Kirk Kindsfater** drew a one-out walk and then advanced on an errant pickoff throw, and then after a groundout advanced him to 3rd base, **Kindsfater** scored on a passed ball to give the Reds the lead. **Craig Collins** then retired the side in order in the bottom of the 6th inning on just 5 pitches, and then after inducing a groundout to lead off the bottom of the 7th inning, **Collins** struck out the next two batters in order to end the game.
34	3/30/76	Erie	Non-League Game	Top of 7th Inning Tied Game	Tied 2-2 in the top of the 7th inning, **Brett Weber** drew a two-out, full-count walk. Pinch runner **Dale Trowbridge** then stole 2nd base and scored the go-ahead run on a single from **Kirk Kindsfater**. **Craig Collins** then retired the side in order in the bottom of the 7th inning, striking out the final two batters to end the game.
35	4/6/76	Roosevelt	Non-League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Tied Game	With a 4-4 tie in the 7th inning, **Dan Knight** led off the inning with a walk, then **Craig Collins** walked, and **Guillermo Morin** singled to score the game-winning run.
36	4/13/76	Platte Valley	Non-League Game	Top of 6th Inning Tied Game	Tied in the top of the 6th inning, **Dave Snyder** hit a leadoff triple but was thrown out trying to stretch it into an inside-the-park home run, but then **Brett Holcomb** singled, pinch hitter **Guillermo Morin** singled, **Kirk Kindsfater** walked, **Randy Kurtz** singled, and **Dan Knight** reached on a fielder's choice as the Reds took a 3-run lead. **Craig Collins** then struck out the side in order in the bottom half of the 6th inning. **Larry Lawhead** led off the top of the 7th inning by reaching on an error and then scored after **Brett Weber** singled and **Ken Love** delivered a two-out single. **Collins** then retired the first batter of the bottom of the 7th inning, and after two straight singles, first baseman **Brett Holcomb** fielded a groundball, stepped on 1st base and threw to third baseman **Lawhead** to apply the tag in time for the game-ending double-play.
37	4/20/76	Weld Central	Non-League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Reds Trail by 2	With the game on the line, pinch hitter **Dale Trowbridge** drew a walk, then **Rod Alt** reached on an error, **Brett Weber** walked and **Randy Kurtz** hit a sacrifice fly to score **Trowbridge** and cut the deficit to one run, but with two outs. **Dan Knight** then delivered a single to tie the game and send it into extra innings. After the leadoff batter in the 8th inning reached on a walk and advanced to 3rd base with one out, **Knight** struck out the next two batters on full counts to preserve the tie. In the bottom half of the 8th inning, **Dave Snyder** reached on a two-out error and stole 2nd base. **Ken Love** then singled to bring in the game-winning run.
38	4/24/76	University	League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 1	After a less-than-memorable start to the season that had the Reds win only one of their first six games, the Reds now had a chance to win and tie Highland for the league title and force a one-game playoff. But trailing by a run in the bottom of the 6th inning to University, the Reds had to mount a comeback to earn their first league title of the decade. **Larry Lawhead** led off the inning with a single, then **Brett Holcomb** walked, and **Dave Snyder** reached on an error that tied the game. Then after **Ken Love** walked, **Dan Knight** delivered a two-out single to put the Reds ahead 6-4. After the first batter in the top of the 7th inning reached base, **Brett Weber** induced a groundout to second baseman **Randy Kurtz** who threw to first baseman **Brett Holcomb** for the out before **Holcomb** then fired to third baseman **Larry Lawhead** to catch the runner trying to move up to third base for the double play. **Weber** then induced a groundout to shortstop **Kirk Kindsfater** to end the game and put the Reds in a tie for first place.

39	4/29/76	Highland	League Championship – 1-Game Playoff	Top of 5th Inning Reds Lead by 3	With the Reds looking to secure their first league championship of the decade in a one-game playoff against Highland, **Brett Weber** reached on an error, **Randy Kurtz** reached base on a bunt that wasn't fielded cleanly, and then with two outs, **Craig Collins** singled and **Kirk Kindsfater** doubled to increase the lead to 6-0. **Collins** then retired 3 of 4 batters in the bottom of the 6th inning. In the bottom of the 7th inning, **Collins** induced a groundout and then struck out the next two batters to end the game and earn the Reds the league championship.
40	5/1/76	Weld Central	District Semifinals	Bot. of 5th Inning Tied Game	With the Reds looking to advance to the spring State Tournament for the first time in over a decade, and only the 2nd time in Eaton history, the Reds broke a 3-3 tie in the 5th inning as **Dan Knight** reached with two outs, then **Craig Collins** tripled to give the Reds the lead and **Kirk Kindsfater** singled to make it a 2-run lead. **Brett Weber** then retired the side in order in the top of the 6th inning, before the Reds scored two more runs in the bottom of the inning as **Brett Holcomb** led off with a double, **Ken Love** reached base, **Weber** walked, and **Dan Knight** reached on an error that gave the Reds a 7-3 lead. **Weber** then pitched a scoreless top of the 7th inning with a strikeout and two groundouts to earn the Reds a berth to the State Tournament.
41	5/15/76	Denver Lutheran	State Quarterfinals	Top of 6th Inning Reds Lead by 4	With the Reds looking to win their first State Tournament game in 13 years, and only their 2nd State Tournament win in history, **Craig Collins** held a 4-run lead in the top of the 6th inning, but faced a scoring threat with two runners on base and only one out. **Collins** though induced flyouts to **Ken Love** and **Dave Snyder** to maintain the 4-run lead. Then in the 7th inning with two runners on board from errors, **Collins** fielded a comeback grounder himself for the first out and then struck out the cleanup batter on 3 pitches, before inducing a groundout to **Brett Weber** to end the game and send the Reds to the State Semifinals for the 2nd time in Eaton history.
42	6/8/76	Fort Collins	Legion B Non-League Game	Top of 7th Inning Reds Lead by 1	With a 10-9 lead in the 7th inning, **Dave Snyder** hit a solo home run to give the Reds an insurance run. Reliever **Randy Kurtz** then retired the side in a scoreless bottom of the 7th inning to end the game.
43	6/26/76	Valley	Legion B League Game	Top of 7th Inning Tied Game	The Reds loaded up the bases with two outs in the top of the 7th inning and **Rod Alt** sprinted home on a wild pitch to score the go-ahead run at Valley. **Brett Weber** then retired the side in the bottom of the inning to give the Reds the win.
44	7/6/76	Valley	Legion B League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 1	**Dale Trowbridge** walked, advanced to second base on a fielder's choice, took third base on a passed ball, and then scored on a double steal to tie the game. **Brett Weber** then pitched a scoreless top of the 7th inning, before the Reds won the game as **Jeff Markley** delivered a two-strike, two-out single to score **Larry Lawhead** for the win.
45	7/16/76	Greeley Central	Legion B Non-League Game	Top of 6th Inning Tied Game	**Ted Carlson** delivered a two-out single in the 6th inning, then **Bryan Hoffner** singled and **Randy Kurtz** walked to load the bases. **Carlson** then drew a throw from the catcher as he led off 3rd base, and scored after the throw went into leftfield as the Reds took a one-run lead that would prove to be the game-winner as Reds' pitchers threw two scoreless innings to end the game.
46	7/20/76	Sterling	Legion B League Game	Bot. of 5th Inning Tied Game	Down by 2 runs in the 5th inning, **Dale Trowbridge** hit a game-tying two-run double. **Brett Weber** then pitched a scoreless top of the 6th inning, before **Larry Lawhead** hit an RBI triple to score **Randy Kurtz** and **Kirk Kindsfater** with the go-ahead runs in the bottom of the 6th inning. **Weber** then retired the side in the top of the 7th inning to earn the complete-game win.
47	7/22/76	Fort Lupton	Legion B Non-League Game	Extra Innings Tied Game	Tied in the bottom of the 8th inning, pinch runner **Jeff Markley** stole 2nd base and then scored the game-winning run on a single from **Randy Kurtz**.
48	4/5/77	Erie	Non-League Game	Bot. of 5th Inning Reds Lead by 1	**Bryan Hoffner** drew a one-out walk and then scored after **Randy Kurtz** singled and induced a balk on a double steal, before **Kirk Kindsfater** drove **Kurtz** home with a two-out single to increase the Reds' lead to 3 runs. Then with two runners on base and no outs in the 6th inning, **Brett Weber** entered in relief and struck out the first batter, then catcher **Dave Snyder** threw out the runner attempting to steal 3rd base, before **Weber** struck out the next batter to end the scoring threat. Then in the top of the 7th inning, **Weber** retired 3 of 4 batters with two strikeouts to end the game.

49	4/16/77	Windsor	League Game	Top of 5th Inning Reds Trail by 5	Down by 5 runs with only 9 outs remaining, **Bryan Hoffner** reached on an error, **Brett Weber** singled, **Kirk Kindsfater** drew a walk and stole 2nd and 3rd base after wild pitches had scored **Hoffner** and **Weber**, and **Dave Snyder** delivered a two-out single to cut the deficit to only 2 runs. **Randy Kurtz** then struck out two batters and induced a flyout to strand two runners on base to end the 5th inning. **Ted Carlson** then doubled to lead off the 6th inning and came around to score on a ball hit by **Hoffner** to bring the Reds within a run. Then after **Kurtz** retired the side in order in the bottom of the 6th inning, **Kurtz** drew a leadoff walk in the top of the 7th inning, stole 2nd base, and scored on a single from **Larry Lawhead** to tie the game. **Kurtz** then retired the side in order in the bottom of the 7th inning with two strikeouts to send the game into extra innings. In the top of the 8th inning, **Brett Holcomb** singled, stole 2nd base and scored on a triple from **Carlson** to give the Reds their first lead of the game. Then after allowing a leadoff single in the bottom of the 8th inning, **Kurtz** induced a groundout to shortstop **Weber** who touched second base and threw to first base for the double play. Then after a two-out triple threatened to tie the game again, **Kurtz** struck out the next batter to end the game and finish the 8-inning complete-game win.
50	4/23/77	Berthoud	League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Reds Trail by 2	With the game on the line in the bottom of the 7th inning, **Ted Carlson** reached on an error and **Bryan Hoffner** walked before **Rod Alt** bunted them into scoring position. Then after a wild pitch cut the deficit to one run, **Brett Weber** laid down a squeeze bunt to tie the game and send it into extra innings. In the top of the 8th inning, **Larry Lawhead** retired the side in order. Then with two outs in the bottom of the 8th inning, **Brett Holcomb** drew a full-count walk, and then stole 2nd base, before **Ted Carlson** drew a full-count walk, and then **Hoffner** doubled to score **Holcomb** for the game-winning run.
51	5/3/77	Fort Lupton	Non-League Game	Top of 6th Inning Tied Game	**Brett Weber** led off the top of the 6th inning with a double, then **Randy Kurtz** walked, before **Kirk Kindsfater** doubled to give the Reds a one-run lead. **Weber** then retired 3 of 4 batters in the bottom of the 6th inning, and did so again in the 7th inning to end the game with the potential tying run at first base by inducing a flyout to centerfielder **Brett Holcomb**.
52	6/13/77	Fort Lupton	Legion B Non-League Game	Top of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 3	Down by 3 runs in the 6th inning, **Larry Lawhead** delivered a two-run double and then scored the tying run on a double by **Bryan Hoffner**, before the Reds added another 3 runs to take the lead. Then after pitching a scoreless bottom of the 6th inning, **Lawhead** put the game out of reach in the top of the 7th inning with a 3-run home run. **Lawhead** then retired the side in a scoreless bottom of the 7th inning to complete the win.
53	6/22/77	Fort Morgan	Legion B League Game	Top of 7th Inning Tied Game	Tied in the 7th inning, **Bryan Hoffner** and **Ted Carlson** drew walks and advanced on a wild pitch before scoring on a single from **Rod Alt** to take a 2-run lead. **Larry Lawhead** then ended a scoring threat in the bottom of the 7th inning to earn the win.
54	4/4/78	Roosevelt	Non-League Game	Top of 5th Inning Reds Lead by 1	After allowing a two-out double, **Larry Lawhead** induced a flyout to rightfielder **Dick Lawhead** to end the scoring threat and preserve the Reds' 2-1 lead. **Lawhead** then retired 3 of 4 batters in the 6th inning, and retired the side in order in the 7th inning to hold on for the 1-run win.
55	4/29/78	Highland	League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Tied Game	With the game tied and two runners on base, **Larry Lawhead** entered in relief and struck out the next batter to end the inning. **Kirk Kindsfater** then drew a two-out walk in the top of the 7th inning, before **Lawhead** walked, **Bryan Hoffner** walked, and Jeff Nelson drew a full-count, bases-loaded walk to score the go-ahead run. Then after allowing a leadoff single in the bottom of the 7th inning, **Lawhead** induced two infield popouts and then struck out the next batter to end the game.
56	7/5/78	Fort Collins	Legion B Non-League Game	Extra Innings Tied Game	Tied 6-6 in the bottom of the 11th inning, **Stan Bauer** led off with a double, then **Tim Croissant** reached on a fielder's choice before **Steve Stencel** walked and then with two outs, **Jeff Nelson** walked to load the bases, and then **Bob Brooks** singled for the game-winner. The game featured great defense by the Reds, including turning a triple play, and two diving plays from **Mark Anderson** and **Bauer** that saved runs late in the game.
57	7/17/78	Greeley Central	Legion B League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Reds Lead by 1	With only a one-run lead in the bottom of the 6th inning, **Jeff Nelson** and **Steve Stencel** delivered RBI singles to increase the Reds' lead to 3 runs. **Stencel** then retired the side in a scoreless top of the 7th inning to earn the complete-game win.

58	3/24/79	Valley	Non-League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Reds Trail by 2	Competing against a team that the Reds hadn't beaten in spring games throughout the entire decade, the Reds trailed by 2 runs to Valley in the bottom of the 7th inning. With one out, **Troy Hause** reached on an error before **Mike Galloway** singled and **Stan Bauer** reached on a fielder's choice. With two outs, **Steve Stencel** reached on an error and **Mark Anderson** knocked in the tying run to send the game into extra innings. After Valley loaded the bases with one out in the top of the 8th inning, **Stencel** struck out the next batter and then fielded a comeback grounder to end the scoring threat. In the bottom of the 8th inning, **Kirk Kindsfater** and **Joe Intermill** reached base but both were put out on fielder's choices that followed. However **Dick Lawhead** singled and then after **Troy Hause** walked and **Mike Galloway** reached base, **Bauer** drew a two-out bases-loaded walk to win the game. Valley would go on to win 42 straight games after this game, and that streak would have presumably been longer if not for this win, as Valley had won State the previous season. This figured in importantly 20 years later when the Reds surpassed this win streak and extended it to a state record 45 game win streak.
59	4/7/79	Berthoud	Non-League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Reds Lead by 1	With a one-run lead in the 6th inning, **Mark Anderson** drew a one-out walk, **Jeff Nelson** walked, **Kirk Kindsfater** walked, and **Bob Brooks** singled and advanced on an error that cleared the bases to increase the Reds' lead to 4 runs. Then in the top of the 7th inning, after one run had scored, **Steve Stencel** struck out 3 of the next 4 batters to end the game.
60	4/14/79	Windsor	League Game	Top of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 1	Down by a run in the 6th inning, **Bryan Hoffner** drew a full-count walk and stole 2nd and 3rd base before scoring on a single from **Steve Stencel**. **Stencel** then moved into scoring position on a balk and **Jeff Nelson** delivered a two-out single to put the Reds ahead by a run. After the game was tied in the bottom of the 6th inning, with the bases loaded and one out, **Stencel** fielded a comeback groundball and threw home to catcher **Kirk Kindsfater** who then threw to first baseman **Nelson** for the inning-ending double play. Then in the bottom of the 7th inning, **Stencel** retired the side in order to send the game into extra innings. In the top of the 8th inning, **Stan Bauer** led off with a single, then **Stencel** drew a walk, **Mark Anderson** bunted both runners into scoring position, before **Jeff Nelson** drove in the go-ahead run on a groundball to second base that couldn't be relayed home until after **Bauer** had scored, and as the throw got away from the catcher, **Stencel** also came around to score on the play. **Stencel** then retired 3 of 4 batters in the bottom of the 8th inning to complete the win.
61	4/18/79	Weld Central	Non-League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Tied Game	With the game on the line in the bottom of the 7th inning, **Steve Stencel** stranded two runners on base by striking out the next batter to send the game into extra innings. In the top of the 8th inning, **Dick Lawhead** hit a two-out single, before **Mike Galloway** singled, **Bryan Hoffner** reached on a full-count walk, and then **Stan Bauer** knocked in **Lawhead** with the go-ahead run. In the bottom of the 8th inning, **Stencel** retired the final 3 batters to strand the potential tying run on 2nd base to end the game.
62	4/21/79	Highland	League Game (Game 1 of DH)	Bot. of 5th Inning Reds Trail by 1	**Kirk Kindsfater** drew a one-out walk and scored on a triple from **Dick Lawhead** to tie the game. **Mike Galloway** then singled in the go-ahead run and reached second base on an errant pickoff throw before scoring on a single from **Bryan Hoffner**. **Steve Stencel** then retired the side in order in the top of the 6th inning, and then retired the side in order again in the 7th inning to earn the complete-game win.
63	4/21/79	Highland	League Game (Game 2 of DH)	Bot. of 3rd Inning Tied Game	With the league title hanging in the balance, and with Highland saving back their ace for the 2nd game of the doubleheader to try to earn a split, the Reds took a commanding lead in the 3rd inning as **Steve Stencel** reached on an error, **Mark Anderson** walked, **Jeff Nelson** reached on an error, **Kirk Kindsfater** and **Dick Lawhead** walked, and **Mike Galloway** took a hit-by-pitch before **Bryan Hoffner** drew a walk to make the score 4-0. **Stencel** then retired the side in order in the 4th inning, struck out two more batters in the 5th inning to strand runners on 1st and 3rd base, and then stranded two more runners on base to end the 6th inning with the Reds' still leading 4-0. In the top of the 7th inning, **Stencel** struck out the first two batters, and then after a full-count walk, **Stencel** induced a flyout to end the game and effectively wrap up the league title for the Reds.
64	5/5/79	Roosevelt	District Semifinals	Bot. of 3rd Inning Tied Game	With a State Tournament berth on the line, the Reds broke a tie and took a commanding lead in the bottom of the 3rd inning as **Bob Brooks** drew a walk, and then with two outs, **Mike Galloway** singled, **Bryan Hoffner** walked, **Stan Bauer** drew a full-count walk, **Steve Stencel** singled and **Mark Anderson** doubled as the Reds took a 4-run lead. **Stencel** then retired the side in order in the 4th inning, allowed one run in the 5th inning but stranded a runner at 3rd base to end the scoring threat, and then retired the side in order in the 6th inning. After allowing a leadoff triple in the top of the 7th inning, **Stencel** induced consecutive groundouts and an infield popout to end the game and send the Reds to the State Tournament for the 3rd time in Eaton history.

65	6/6/79	Greeley Central	Legion B Non-League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 1	Trailing by a run, **Joe Intermill** led off the bottom of the 6th inning with a single, then **Mike Galloway** sacrificed him to 2nd base, before **Mark Anderson** hit a two-out double to tie the game. **Dick Lawhead** then lined a full-count pitch into rightfield for a single that scored **Anderson** for the go-ahead run. **Steve Stencel** then pitched a scoreless top of the 7th inning to earn the win.
66	6/14/79	University	Legion B Non-League Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 10	At risk of losing via the 10-run rule, the Reds exploded for 10 runs to tie the game in the 6th inning, capped off with a 2-run triple from **Dick Lawhead** that scored **Stan Bauer** and **Mark Anderson** to tie the game at 14-14. Then after a scoreless 7th inning, **Mike Galloway** took the mound and allowed only one run after the bases were loaded with no outs. Then in the bottom of the 8th inning with the Reds trailing 15-14, the Reds loaded the bases before **Galloway** singled to tie the game. A wild pitch then brought in **Anderson** for the game-winning run.
67	6/21/79	Fort Morgan	Legion B League Game	Top of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 1	The Reds entered the 6th inning of this key summer league game down by a run, but after tying the score, **Steve Stencel** scored the go-ahead run on a single from **Stan Bauer**. **Mark Anderson** then hit a sacrifice fly to deep centerfield that scored **Joe Intermill** to give the Reds a two-run lead. **Stencel** then allowed one run in the bottom of the 7th inning before closing out the 5-4 win.
68	6/26/79	Niwot	Legion B Non-League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Reds Lead by 1	With the Reds ahead by a run with runners on 2nd and 3rd base in the bottom of the 7th inning, shortstop **Steve Stencel** dove up the middle to rob the potential game-winning hit and threw out the runner by a half-step to give the Reds the win.
69	7/23/79	Fort Morgan	Legion B League Game	Bot. of 7th Inning Tied Game	In a must-win game for the Reds to have a chance to advance to the Legion District Tournament, **Steve Stencel** singled with one out and moved to 2nd base on a bunt from **Mike Galloway**. **Stan Bauer** then delivered a two-out single to win the game and put the Reds in a tie with Fort Morgan for 2nd place in league, thus forcing a one-game playoff for the final seed into the District Tournament. Despite the fact that the Reds were 2-0 against Fort Morgan on the season, and also that Fort Morgan was guaranteed a spot in the State Tournament via being the host, the Reds were still forced to play a one-game playoff the next day against Fort Morgan.
70	7/24/79	Fort Morgan	Legion B District Tournament Play-In Game	Bot. of 6th Inning Reds Trail by 1	In a must-win game with a District Tournament berth on the line, the Reds were down by a run in the 6th inning when **Mark Anderson** and **Dick Lawhead** delivered two-out singles before the Reds tied the game and then took the lead with a walk, a hit-by-pitch, and then two more walks and a wild pitch to take a two-run lead. Then after Fort Morgan scored a run in the top of the 7th inning and threatened to score with two runners on base and two outs, **Steve Stencel** struck out the final batter to end the game and send the Reds on to the District Tournament, for the Reds' first summer postseason appearance in over 15 years. This was the Reds' third one-run win over Fort Morgan on the season.