

Highlights of Eaton Baseball in 2013

January / February

- Reds start open gyms, with nearly 100 Reds' ballplayers ages 8-18 regularly working out each Saturday
- Senior Britten Abbott officially signs major scholarship at Northeastern (NJC)
- Reds start first official practice Feb. 25
- EatonBaseball.com highlights the other few programs in baseball history that have ever won over 82% of their games under one head coach, including 5 other high schools and 3 junior college teams
- EatonBaseball.com highlights the winningest programs this century, with the Reds as one of only 10 teams that have won 7 state titles (no one has won more going into season), and as the only one of these teams to win 90%+ of games

March

- Shane Dyer, Bennett Pickar, and Kyle Ottoson report to minor league spring training
- Bennett Pickar called up to Major League Spring Training, catches AL MVP and Cy Young Award Winner Justin Verlander in bullpen prior to Major League spring training game
- Reds start season with scrimmage against 2010 Class 4A State Champion Mountain View, who would go on to win the 2013 Class 4A State Championship again
- Reds open regular season for 2nd straight season with a 10-0 win, this time over St. Mary's, the Reds then rattle off 10-run wins over Mead and Denver North

April

- Reds win the first ever Northern Colorado Classic Tournament, 10-running Kent Denver, then scoring 14 unanswered runs against Manitou Springs to come back from an early 4-0 deficit, and finally defeating 2012 Class 2A State Champion Resurrection Christian 10-3 to claim the championship
- Reds' 13 year-olds win opening USSSA tournament of the season going undefeated in Greeley
- Reds announce they will be adding a 4th high-school level team to Legion baseball this summer, moving up to a newly created Legion A varsity league, and moving their JV team into Legion B, with Legion C and D teams as well
- Reds mercy-rule Lyons and then defeat Class 5A Prairie View 14-2 in a heated environment
- Reds sweep Sterling 8-0 and 10-3 to open league season, and then win easily over Valley, Brush, Platte Valley and Highland to take command of the Patriot League standings

May

- Reds defeat Estes Park (earning 750th spring win since Coach Danley started coaching in 1972) and Strasburg to wrap up the Reds' 33rd league championship since 1979 (the two years the Reds' finished in 2nd place in league, they still advanced to the State Championship Game, winning it in 2008)
- Reds' 14 year-olds win Triple Crown Division II tournament in Windsor/Johnstown with championship game victory over Chatfield, to end spring season winning 9 of final 12 tournament games before starting Legion summer baseball
- Reds' 13 year-olds win 2nd straight USSSA tournament in Greeley, again going undefeated
- Reds' 9 year-olds win 4 straight games to win USSSA tournament championship in Broomfield, having to win 3 straight games late into the evening to earn the title

-Reds come back in 6th inning to defeat Faith Christian 6-2, and then blank University 10-0 to end the regular season with an undefeated record

-Reds' JV team wraps up 11-1 season, while C Team wraps up undefeated season at 10-0, following the cancellation of numerous sub-varsity games due to snow and rain

-Reds sweep through Regionals with a 15-0 win over Bruce Randolph and a 14-3 win over Machebeuf, marking the Reds' 21st consecutive Regional Championship

-Reds win first game of Elite Eight over Kent Denver 18-3, and then after falling behind 8-0 to La Junta, mount one of their top comebacks of all-time to win 14-10 to earn the Reds' their 100th State Tournament victory in spring games

-Reds defeat Faith Christian 12-10 to advance to their 21st consecutive Final Four, and to be guaranteed a spot (as the only remaining undefeated team) in their 17th State Championship Game within the past 21 years

-Seniors graduate with 92 wins in spring careers, including 21 State Tournament wins

-Reds end 2013 season 25 games ahead of Lansing Kee HS (Iowa) for highest winning percentage in baseball in the nation over past 25 years, and a 5 game lead over Lansing Kee for highest active career winning percentage by a coach

-Reds start off summer season with 2-0 win over Class 4A State Champion Mountain View, and then sweep Colorado Twins 12-2 and then 1-0, in the Reds' first-ever game to go into the 9th inning scoreless before the Reds earned what would become their first of many walk-off wins this summer

June

-Reds' 13 year-olds win 3rd straight USSSA tournament in Greeley, finishing spring season with record of 13-1-1, before moving into Legion C and Legion D

-Reds' Legion A comes back in one of most improbable wins in history after trailing going into the bottom of the 7th inning and then trailing by 4 runs going into the bottom of the 9th inning, to come back to defeat 2013 Class 4A State Champion Mountain View

-Reds' 2009 graduate Bennett Pickar is featured on www.milb.com with interview in which Pickar answers question of "what's an interesting fact about you?", Pickar states "our Eaton High School team won 60 consecutive games and I was fortunate enough to walk away with a couple State Championship rings" (note: Pickar was being modest, he won 3 rings)

-All 5 of the Reds' 9-14 year old teams qualify for their respective State Tournaments against much larger schools and all-star teams

-Reds' Legion D sweeps doubleheaders from previous one-loss teams Colorado Wild and Fort Morgan

-Reds' Legion A comes back from trailing 5-0 in 4th inning at Class 5A Mountain Range to remain undefeated after scoring 12 straight unanswered runs to put the game away

-Reds' Legion A sweeps Class 5A Greeley West in 3-game series, before dismantling them 16-1 later in season to sweep season series

July

-Matt Burkart named by CBS Sports' MaxPreps a 2013 First-Team All-American Freshmen as an infielder

-Reds' 9 year-olds win USSSA State Championship, going undefeated against Summit, Wheat Ridge, Colorado Springs, Northern Colorado, and Fort Morgan to earn title

-Reds' 9 year-olds are announced between games at a Legion A doubleheader, taking their first infield in full uniform on the Reds' varsity field before the applause of the current Legion A high school players

-Reds' Legion A, B, C and D teams all qualify for State Tournament

-Reds' Legion B team, for the first time in history filled with JV players rather than varsity players, completes 28-9 season, finishing behind only a handful of varsity-level teams, and finishing ahead of Class 5A league JV opponents Rocky Mountain, Thompson Valley, Greeley West, and Fossil Ridge

-Reds' Legion C team finishes 2nd place in league at 10-2 and goes 15-6 on the summer (including playing up in the NCBL JV tournament) with almost entirely going-to-be freshmen and going-to-be 8th graders, and qualifies for State Tournament but doesn't attend due to CALB mid-season rule changes regarding rosters that ended dual-rostering for the first time in decades and that prevented the Reds from fielding competitive teams in Legion C and D at State

-Reds' Legion D team, playing with nearly all incoming 8th and 7th graders versus other teams incoming 9th graders, finishes in 3rd place in 13-team league, sweeping both of the teams that finished ahead of them to qualify for the State Tournament, though the Reds did not attend due to CALB's mid-season roster rule changes

-Reds' Legion A team completes undefeated regular season

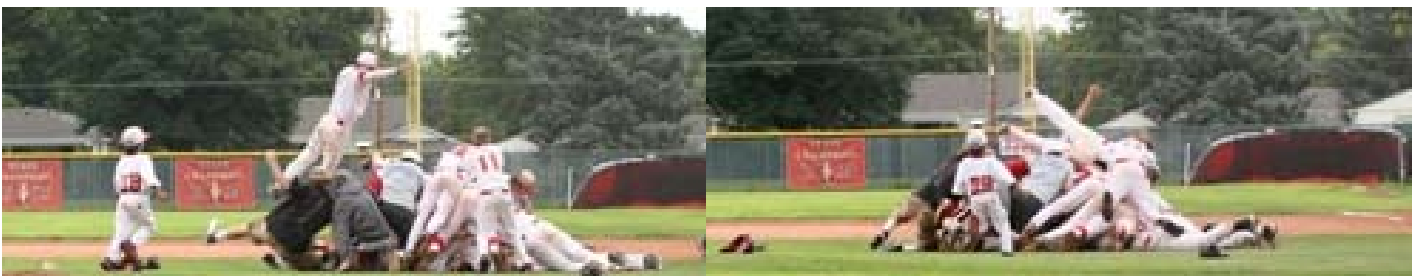
-Reds' Legion A, B, C, and D teams finish summer with 33-0 record in varsity vs. varsity, JV vs. JV, and C team vs. C team games against top local opponents: Greeley West (9-0), Roosevelt (8-0), Greeley Central (6-0), Valley (4-0), University (4-0), and Northridge (2-0)

-Reds' Legion A wins NCBL Varsity Championship for 3rd time in 4 years with decisive wins over Roosevelt, Niwot, Holy Family, Thompson Valley and Greeley Central, outscoring these tournament opponents 47-3

-Reds' Legion A defeats Class 5A Boulder 15-3 in opening round of Legion A Varsity State Tournament with Jake Nelson pitching in front of college scout that would go on to sign him from University of New Mexico

-Reds' Legion A sweeps Class 5A Mountain Range 9-2 and 11-5 to win Legion A Varsity State Championship and complete Reds' first-ever undefeated summer season at 42-0; Reds are led on the mound by Nelson, Koehler and Greiman and at the plate by Joe Mondragon and Koehler; pileup is only Reds' 2nd-ever on Eaton's home field, after rain in Boulder

-Reds' Legion A, B, C & D teams win 102 games in 2013 summer, with 48 wins over 5A teams and 38 wins over 4A teams



August

-Reds' seniors Colton Lind, Jake Mondragon, Jake Nelson, and sophomore Matt Burkart are selected to play on a fall all-star team sponsored by the Atlanta Braves; Reds' senior Caleb Johnson and juniors Lane Greiman, Ethan Kapperman, Ryan Koehler, and Brady Tedesco are selected to play on WYCO Select all-star team in Cheyenne

-Reds' senior Jake Nelson commits to major scholarship at Division I University of New Mexico

-The Reds hold tryouts for the youth tournament teams for the following year, with more than 75 players trying out

-Reds' 2009 graduate Bennett Pickar selected to play in Instructional League for Detroit Tigers

September

-Reds place 21st and 22nd championship banner on outfield walls (10 spring state titles, 8 Legion A Varsity/Legion B state titles, 3 NCBL varsity titles, 1 Legion D state title)

-Reds defeat Class 5A Pomona 10-5 and 12-7 with comeback wins to open fall season

-Reds sweep Cheyenne and Roosevelt in fall doubleheaders

October

-Reds defeat Rocky Mountain and Colorado Springs all-star team in fall ball

-Reds complete undefeated (9-0) fall season with win over Roosevelt, ending 2013 with overall record of 74-2 at varsity level, winning all 51 games of the summer and fall seasons against varsity-level competition with 50 of those 51 wins against Class 5A and 4A programs

November / December

-Legion A Varsity State Championship Rings are delivered to Reds' players, this is the seniors' 4th State Title Ring earned



-Reds' senior Jake Mondragon commits to major scholarship at NJC (Northeastern)

-Reds' senior Jake Nelson officially signs at the University of New Mexico during NCAA early signing period

-Reds announce changes to the summer 2014 schedules so as to ensure that each of the top 20 players in the program are all getting significant playing time as both pitchers and as position players against varsity level opponents

-Thanks to numerous generous donations, the Reds add 4 inches of top-quality dirt to the infield to return the playing conditions to being first-class

-Reds mark 10th anniversary of www.EatonBaseball.com by updating layout and incorporating 7 new headers highlighting the championship pileups and the players who led their teams to earn these State Championships

