

Highlights of Eaton Baseball in 2011

January / February

- Reds start open gyms, with nearly 100 Reds' ballplayers ages 8-18 regularly working out each Saturday
- Alex Flores, Dante Foos, and Tyler Sieg sign full-ride scholarships, the Reds' only other senior, Seth Jackson, had already signed a top Division I scholarship back in November
- '09 graduate Bennett Pickar signs for the summer in the prestigious Cape Cod League with the Yarmouth-Dennis Red Sox
- '11 graduate Seth Jackson joins '10 graduate Adam Geisick, '09 graduate Tyler Wallace, and '08 graduate Bo McLavey in signing with the Greeley Grays semi-pro baseball team for the upcoming summer
- Kyle Ottoson earns his first NCAA victory leading top-10 ranked Arizona State to a win over New Mexico in ASU's 2nd game of the season
- The Reds other recent graduates start off their seasons with '06 graduates Jared Carlson (Covenant), Brent Payne (Mines), '07 graduate Drew Smith (Emporia State), '08 graduate Kyle Ottoson, '09 graduates Bennett Pickar (ORU), Tyler Wallace (South Mountain), Logan Hall and Bryce Ruff (Seward), and '10 graduate Adam Geisick all being starters on their teams or relievers out of the bullpen (Smith and Ruff)
- Reds start first official practice Feb. 28th

March

- Shane Dyer reports to minor league spring training for the Tampa Bay Rays Organization, leaves camp with promotion to Double-A, only two levels short of the Major Leagues
- Reds start season with scrimmage at 2010 Class 4A State Champion Mountain View
- Reds open regular season with non-league wins over Kent Denver, Holy Family (at Coors Field), and Berthoud
- Reds 14 year-olds win Roosevelt Invitational Tournament over Loveland, Mountain View, and Erie

April

- Reds roll through Bennett, Roosevelt, Jefferson Academy and Brush in non-league games, before earning lopsided victories in league against Estes Park, Highland, Platte Valley, Strasburg, Brush, Berthoud, Lyons and Mead to finish April still undefeated
- Senior Seth Jackson throws a no-hitter at Platte Valley in front of numerous Denver newspapers and video reporters as the Reds win their 700th spring game under Coach Danley
- Reds 14 year-olds win Lakewood tournament over Highlands Ranch, Broomfield, Arapahoe, Aurora and Grand Junction

May

- Reds defeat Valley and Weld Central in close battles, and finish regular season with win over University to improve record to 18-1
- Reds' JV Team completes successful season at 16-2 with undefeated league record

- Reds' C Team finishes 15-3, posting losses only against school's JV and varsity players, but undefeated against freshmen
- Reds win Regionals for 19th consecutive year, defeating Platte Canyon easily, before having to defeat Strasburg 2-0 late in a very close must-win game to advance to the Elite Eight
- Reds advance to Final Four for 19th straight year with wins over Florence and Lamar
- Reds' 10 year-olds win 18 consecutive tournament games, setting a new Eaton record in USSSA tournaments, earning 4 championships along the way

June

- The Reds defeat Rocky Mountain's Legion A team with 2011 graduate Tyler Sieg earning the win on the mound in an Invitational Tournament with many of the top teams in Colorado, the Reds then go on to defeat Pomona, Thompson Valley, and Omaha to win their side of the bracket and advance to the championship game against Cherokee Trail, Weston Hager is named Tournament MVP
- 2009 graduate Logan Hall, who went undefeated at Eaton with a 42-0 record as a starter for the Reds, leads Seward to the Junior College World Series in Grand Junction, carrying with him a undefeated record in all league and postseason games in college as well
- 2008 graduate Kyle Ottoson completes successful season at Arizona State University (ASU), getting the start in the decisive Game 3 of the Super Regionals against the University of Texas, Ottoson leaves the game with the lead in a position to earn a victory that would have sent ASU to the College World Series
- All 5 of the Reds' 10-14 year old teams qualify for their respective State Tournaments against much larger schools.

July

- Hosting one of the four NCBL Tournament sites, the Reds defeat Class 5A Broomfield, mount late comeback to defeat Class 5A Loveland, and Class 4A Silver Creek to advance to the NCBL Semifinals
- The Reds win the NCBL Semifinal game with a late comeback victory over Cheyenne sparked by going-to-be-8th grader Matt Burkart and going-to-be sophomore Colton Lind to advance to the NCBL Championship, which due to rainstorms had to be postponed until after the Legion B District Tournament
- The Reds win their first two games of the Legion B District Tournament over University and Thompson Valley to qualify for the Legion B State Tournament for the 12th consecutive year
- The Reds' Legion D team soundly defeats Class 4A Woodland Park, Class 5A Boulder, and Class 5A Arapahoe to advance to the Legion D State Championship Game, where the Reds went on to defeat Arapahoe again to win the Reds' first ever Legion D State Championship following one of the most impressive postseason performances in Eaton history by incoming freshman Ryan Koehler earning Koehler Most Valuable Pitcher honors, while Brady Tedesco earned Tournament Most Valuable Player honors and Ethan Kapperman earned the State Championship Game victory; Reds' 2011 graduate Tyler Sieg coached the Reds
- The Legion D State Championship win is the 30th victory of the summer for the Legion D team, as the Reds post a 15-0 Legion D league and postseason record; most of the players for the Legion D team played on the 14 year-old team in the spring and won a total of 56 games in 2011, in addition to some players earning victories at the Legion C and Legion B level as well

-Reds' 8th graders Tim Been and Ryan Koehler and 7th grader Matt Burkart join the Reds' varsity team the following day in the NCBL Championship Game and for the Legion B State Tournament

-The Reds score 10 runs in the top of the first inning to put away Thompson Valley to win the Reds' 2nd consecutive NCBL Varsity Championship

-The Reds defeat Class 5A Littleton in the State Tournament for the 40th win of the summer season, marking the 5th time in 6 years the Reds won at least 40 games, and then defeat Class 5A Fairview to finish in the Top 3 in State for the 9th time in the past 10 years

-After learning confirmation that ASU would be banned from postseason play in 2012 due to NCAA sanctions, 2008 graduate is allowed to transfer to another top-notch program in Oklahoma State University (OSU) for his senior season; Oklahoma State is the place where Coach Jim Danley first saw the knuckle curve being thrown a quarter century earlier

August

-The Reds order two more banners to fill their outfield walls with the 2011 NCBL Championship and the 2011 Legion D State Championship. The banners arrive before the Reds' first fall baseball game the next month

-Reds' seniors Tyler Batt, Cory Dyer, Weston Hager, Keenan Hall, and Brandon Koehler are selected to play on a fall all-star team sponsored by the Atlanta Braves

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

-Reds' 2011 graduates Alex Flores, Dante Foos, Seth Jackson, and Tyler Sieg leave for college on scholarship

September

-Shane Dyer completes impressive AA season for Tampa Bay Rays Organization and is invited to the prestigious Arizona Fall League, facing numerous AAA opponents including some with Major League Baseball experience

-Reds' Legion D team receives their first State Championship Rings only a month into their high school careers for most, with a handful of players still in only 8th grade

-Reds are featured in national American Legion Newsletter for victory in Legion D State Tournament

October

-Shane Dyer finishes strong showing in Arizona Fall League allowing more than two runs only once throughout season

-Reds' seniors Tyler Batt, Brandon Koehler, Weston Hager, Cory Dyer and Keenan Hall excel in Phoenix for WYCO Braves at the Arizona Fall Classic in front of more than 50 scouts at each game

-Reds complete fall season with doubleheader sweep over combined Greeley all-star team

-Reds' 2012 graduates Brandon Koehler, Weston Hager, and Cory Dyer commit to top scholarships at Colby Community College, which was one of only 16 Division I Junior College teams in the nation in 2011 to win 40+ games

November / December

-Reds' 2010 graduate Adam Geisick signs during NCAA early signing period to major scholarship at Newman University

-Reds' 2011 graduate Alex Flores transfers on full scholarship to Otero Junior College, which won 39 games in 2011