

**Chillicothe Mudcats bring back Peterson for 2nd straight season as manager**

**Sports**

Posted by : Tom

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The Chillicothe Mudcats have announced the return of Eric Peterson to the head coaching position for the college-level, wood-bat MINK League squad, that plays its home games at W.L. "June" Shaffer Memorial Park in Chillicothe.

Under Peterson's guidance in 2012, the Mudcats finished with a 33-21 mark, setting a record for victories in a season for Chillicothe. Peterson is currently in his first year as director of baseball operations for the University of Kansas baseball program in Lawrence.

The Mudcats do not expect any returning players from 2012 to make up the 2013 roster, but Peterson has similar ideas for constructing this year's squad, noting that a "pitching and defense first" philosophy works well in Shaffer Park's spacious outfield.

Peterson is expected to fill the Mudcats roster with Division One players, but has also indicated a willingness to search Division Two schools in Missouri and the Midwest for players, perhaps including Central Missouri left-handed pitcher Zach Davis, a former Carrollton Trojan.

Chillicothe's opening night is scheduled for May 31st, against a yet-to-be-determined, non-league opponent. The team will begin MINK League play on June 1st, hosting the Sedalia Bombers.