



GAMEDAY INFO & NOTES

Game #77 | July 31, 2021 | Funko Field | Everett, WA
Eugene Emeralds (44-32) at Everett AquaSox (49-26)
RHP Conner Nurse (1-6, 6.14 ERA) vs. RHP Reid Morgan (0-0, 2.08 ERA)
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LAST TIME OUT

This bears repeating: In this season's first series between these two teams, Everett outscored the Eugene 35-19 over six games (Everett won 4 of 5). The last time these two met, that margin ballooned up to 54-23 (Everett won 5 of 6). So far in this series, though, the scoring has tilted ever-so-slightly in favor of the Ems who have outscored the Frogs, 33-32, while earning three wins through five games so far. Eugene moved to 15-5 in one-run games last night behind a 10-9 victory in which the Emeralds never trailed. For the second straight day, Eugene's offense got four homers from four different players - Sean Roby, Franklin Labour, Tyler Flores and Brett Auerbach - to help fuel another double-digit offensive output. The Emeralds have gotten 7 homers from 8 different players over the last two games, with OF Franklin Labour the only Emerald that has double-dipped in that category. Eugene's bullpen earned its 30th collective win of the season as Travis Perry tallied his league-leading 8th win (8-1, 2.57 ERA).

TONIGHT'S STORYLINES

Eugene's starting pitcher RHP Conner Nurse celebrates his 22nd birthday today as he'll look to give the Emeralds their first series win over the Frogs this season. Nurse will be facing the AquaSox for the second time this season and has taken losses in each of his previous two outings against the Frogs while allowing at least 5 ER in both starts. Nurse will be facing off against RHP Reid Morgan who will be making his second start with the AquaSox this season. Morgan has gone back-and-forth between High-A Everett and Double-A Arkansas. While with Arkansas, Morgan has made 18 APPs (all out of the bullpen) going 3-3 with a 5.40 ERA and 28 K's in 31.2 IP (6 HRs surrendered). In his only previous appearance with the AquaSox, Morgan fired 4.1 IP with 4 H, 1 R, 1 ER, 3 BB and 5 K against Tri-City on July 17. Everett has not lost a series since the very beginning of June when they dropped 3 of 5 against the Hops in Hillsboro, and they've only lost two series all season. Similarly, the Emeralds have also only lost two series all season... both at the hands of the AquaSox. The Emeralds will look to close a sub-.500 month of July on a high note having gone 11-15 so far this month.

QUICK HITS

Ems And AquaSox On The Move

With the trade deadline coming and going on Friday, both the Emeralds and AquaSox saw players from their 2021 team on the move to other organizations.

EMERALDS:

- RHP Caleb Kilian: the High-A West Pitcher of the Month is on his way to the Windy City as part of the package in return for Kris Bryant. Kilian and San Jose OF Alexander Canario will head to the Cubs. In four starts as an Emerald, Kilian went 3-0 with a 1.25 ERA and 33 K's before being promoted to Double-A Richmond where he has gone 3-2 with a 2.43 ERA in 11 starts.

- RHP Jose Marte: the flame-throwing right-hander was the first member of this year's Emerald squad to be promoted to Double-A Richmond after going 3-for-3 in save opportunities with 14 K's in just 6.1 IP. Marte, RHP Ivan Armstrong, and LHP Sam Selman head to the Angels in exchange for LHP Tony Watson. While in Richmond, Marte went 2-0 in 19 relief appearances with one save and 36 K's in 22.2 IP.

AQUASOX:

- C Carter Bins: Bins was dealt to Pittsburgh along with RHP Joaquin Tejada in exchange for former Oregon Duck LHP Tyler Anderson. In 42 games with Everett, Bins batted .284 with 10 doubles, 7 HRs and 31 RBIs with an OPS of .915.

- 3B Austin Shenton: A native of nearby Bellingham, Shenton was shipped to Tampa Bay along with RHP J.T. Chargois in exchange for RHP Diego Castillo. In 57 games with the Frogs this season, Shenton batted .297 with 24 doubles, 11 HRs and 54 RBIs while posting a .394 OPS.

Ems Add Minor League Strikeout Leader

Right-hander Ryan Murphy was promoted from the Low-A San Jose Giants to the High-A Eugene Emeralds on Thursday. Murphy, a 5th rounder (114th overall) in the 2020 draft out of Le Moyne (NY), ranked 1st in all of the Minor Leagues in strikeouts (116) at the time of his promotion. He joins the Ems after going 4-2 in 15 starts with Low-A San Jose with a 2.96 ERA and an astounding 116 strikeouts in 76.0 innings of work. The Poughkeepsie, New York native had been simply sensational in the month of July for San Jose, going 3-1 with a 1.74 ERA in five July starts while posting double-digit strikeouts in all five outings. He departs San Jose as the Low-A West leader in ERA (2.96), strikeouts (116) and innings pitched (76.0). Overall, San Jose has seen seven other players promoted to Eugene this season: OF Tyler Flores, LHP Chris Wright, OF Armani Smith, C Ricardo Genoves, C Robert Emery, INF/OF Brett Auerbach, and RHP Austin Reich.

Dahlberg Debuts For Eugene

Left-hander Jake Dahlberg will make his debut for the Emeralds, and the San Francisco Giants system as a whole, when he takes the mound today against Everett. The southpaw was signed last week from the Chicago Dogs of the American Association and was previously a 21st round selection by the St. Louis Cardinals in 2017. While with Chicago, went 6-2 with a 3.05 ERA and 76 K's with 11 BB over 62.0 IP in 15 APPs (9 starts). His 3.04 ERA ranked 3rd in the American Association upon his signing.

Tale Of Two Pitching Staffs

Collectively, Eugene starting pitchers are 14-28 with a 6.21 ERA, the second-worst ERA by a starting pitching staff in High-A (Asheville Tourists). Eugene has only gotten 6.0 innings out of a starting pitcher FOUR times this season:

- Caleb Kilian: May 22 at TC (7.0 IP)
- Kai-Wei Teng: June 22 vs. VAN (6.0 IP)
- Conner Nurse: June 26 vs. VAN (6.1 IP)
- Aaron Phillips: July 1 at HIL (7.0 IP)

Meanwhile, Eugene's bullpen has gone an absurd 30-4 with a 4.08 ERA and 451 K's in 353.1 innings pitched. No other team in the Minor Leagues has fewer than 6 bullpen losses (Tampa Tarpons). Eugene's 451 bullpen K's rank 3rd in all of High-A.

Strikeout Savants

Through 76 games, the Eugene pitching staff leads the High-A West in strikeouts (809). Their 809 collective strikeouts are 6 more than the next closest High-A West team (Everett - 803), and the Ems rank 5th in all of High-A, too. Across all of Minor League Baseball, Eugene's 809 K's rank 11th. Coincidentally, the San Jose Giants (San Francisco - Low A) lead all of Minor League Baseball with 946 K's. Entering today, San Jose's 946 K's are 99 more than the next closest team (Modesto Nuts | SEA | Low-A West).

The Clutch (E)Gene

Eugene has been one of the best teams hitting with two outs in all of High-A. Eugene ranks 2nd in AVG (.251), 3rd in runs (189), 2nd in hits (209), 2nd on OBP (.354), 4th in SLG (.424) and 3rd in OPS (.779) when hitting with two outs. It doesn't stop there, though. Eugene has come up big in late/close situations (definition below). Eugene ranks 6th all of High-A in AVG (.264), 4th in runs scored (51), and 1st in OBP (.395), 2nd in SLG (.481), and 1st in OPS (.877) in late/close situations. The pitching staff has been just as good, too. In late/close situations, the Eugene ranks 2nd in High-A in ERA (2.95) and 1st in opponent's average (.180).

On the other side of the coin, in terms of two out hitting, Everett ranks 6th in average (.245), 1st in runs (223), 4th in hits (204), 1st in OBP (.375), 1st in SLG (.476), and 1st in OPS (.854).

Late/close definition per MLB.com: Late-inning pressure situations are defined as any at-bat in the seventh inning or later where the batter's team trails by three runs or fewer, is tied or is ahead by only one run. If the bases are loaded and the batting team trails by four runs, this also counts as a late-inning pressure situation.

SF Giants Prospect Watch

Per MLB.com, the Emeralds boast 3 of the organization's top 30 prospects:

- #5 LHP Seth Corry
- #18 RHP Kai-Wei Teng
- #28 C Ricardo Genoves

EMS BY THE NUMBERS

Overall	44-32
Home*	20-16
Road	24-16
Neutral	0-0
Day	3-1
Night	41-31
Runs Scored	425
Runs Against	419
Run Differential	+6
Team AVG	.242
Team ERA	5.09
HR for/against	92/75
Strikeouts (pitching)	809
Strikeouts (hitting)	767
Current Streak	W2
Longest W Streak	W8
Longest L Streak	L5
Extra Innings	4-1
Shutouts	3-1
1-Run Games	15-5
May	15-9
June	17-8
July	11-15
August	0-0
September	0-0
Scoring First	28-12
Opponent Scores First	16-20
Monday	0-2
Tuesday	9-3
Wednesday	8-5
Thursday	7-6
Friday	7-6
Saturday	5-7
Sunday	8-3
vs. Everett	1-5
vs. Hillsboro*	12-6
vs. Spokane	3-3
vs. Tri-City	0-0
vs. Vancouver	4-2
at Everett	4-6
at Hillsboro	3-3
at Spokane	9-3
at Tri-City	4-2
at Vancouver	4-2
Series Openers	10-2
Series Finales	8-4

Seattle Mariners Prospect Watch

The AquaSox boast 9 of the Seattle Mariners' top 30 prospects:

- #3 RHP Emerson Hancock
- #4 RHP George Kirby
- #7 RHP Juan Then
- #10 RHP Isaiah Campbell
- #12 RHP Levi Stoudt
- #23 RHP Tim Elliott
- #25 3B Tyler Keenan
- #29 OF Cade Marlowe
- #30 RHP Taylor Dollard

Living On The Edge

After falling in extra innings to the Dust Devils, 7-6, on May 20, the Emeralds had won 11 straight games decided by one run before falling to the Hillsboro Hops on July 21, 3-2, with the final out being made at home plate. The Emeralds are 15-5 in one-run games this season, with every game last week between the Emeralds and Hillsboro Hops being decided by just one run.

Olympic Ems

Diego Rincones, Jasier Herrera and Ismael Munguia each competed in the Olympic Qualifying Tournament held in Florida:

- Herrera (Columbia): 1 APP (vs. Venezuela) | 2.0 IP, 1 H, 1 BB, 0 R, 0 K
- Munguia (Nicaragua): 3 games | 6-for-12 (.500), 1 2B, 2 R.

- Rincones (Venezuela): 5 games | 4-for-19 (.211), 1 2B, 1 HR, 2 R | Hit walk-off HR vs. Columbia in bottom of 9th.

Rincones later suited up for the Venezuelan National Team during the WSBC Final Qualifier held in Mexico. The barrel-chested outfielder made his mark in both stints with the Venezuelan National Team, including a walk-off homer against Columbia in Florida and later a three-run homer against the Dominican Republic in the championship game of the Final Qualifier, a game that Venezuela would go on to lose, 8-5, to just miss out on qualifying for the Tokyo Olympics.

Olympic News and Notes

The Opening Round of the Olympics kicked off this week with the following matchups (all times PST):

- 7/28: Dominican Republic vs. Japan (8pm)
- 7/29: Israel vs. South Korea (3am)
- 7/30: Mexico vs. Dominican Republic (8pm)
- 7/30: USA vs. Israel (3am)
- 7/31: Japan vs. Mexico (8pm)
- 7/31: USA vs. South Korea (3am)

Outfielder Julio Rodriguez, who played for the Everett AquaSox earlier this season, will be suiting up for the Dominican Republic. Fellow former AquaSox outfielder Patrick Kivlehan (2012) will be playing for Team USA, as will former

HIGH-A WEST STANDINGS

	W	L	PCT.	GB	RF	RA
Everett	49	26	.653	-	536	336
Eugene	44	32	.579	5.5	425	419
Spokane	36	40	.474	13.5	395	400
Hillsboro	34	41	.453	15.0	324	363
Vancouver	34	42	.447	15.5	384	430
Tri-City	30	46	.395	19.5	300	416

Oregon Duck pitcher Scott McGough, who, coincidentally is married to former Emeralds intern Lauren McGough (formerly Thompson).

TODAY'S PROBABLE STARTERS

#35 Conner Nurse (RHP)

Height: 6'6 Weight: 210 lbs Acquired: Round 24, 1026th (2017)
 Hometown: Winter Garden, FL School: Ridge HS (FL)
 Born: July 21, 1999 (22)

shows balance and ability to repeat, leading to lots of strikes. Medium arm stroke through the back, work to a near over-the-top release point, does a nice job of working on top of the ball to generate nice angle on fastball. Topped out at 90 mph, mostly true in life, tough pitch to elevate due to plane. Curveball shows hammer depth at 79 mph from similar release point, present strikeout pitch and will manipulate shape/ velocity to pitch early in count. Has confidence and feel in his changeup, occasional hard fading life at 74 mph, projects with additional arm speed. Nice feel for a full arsenal and throws off speed pitches for strikes regularly. Right-handed hitter, wide base in the box with a short and inside swing path. Looks to lift and pull the ball, can turn on inner half pitch and flashes pop off the barrel. Named to World Showcase Top Prospect List. Good student. Committed to Seminole State College of Florida."

PITCHES: 4-Seam Fastball, 2-Seam Fastball, Cutter, Slider, Splitter

BIO: Signed for \$250,000, \$125,000 over slot. Did not pitch during the 2017 season due to a right rotator cuff strain. Just 21-years old, Nurse is pitching in his first full season of pro ball after spending 2018 in Rookie-ball down in Arizona, then splitting time between Arizona and the short-season Northwest league in 2019. Per Perfect Game coming out of high school: "Extra-large, athletic frame with broad shoulders and long limbs, leaner build with room to fill but also has present strength throughout. Primary righthanded pitcher, steady tempo to delivery throughout, does a nice job of working on top of the ball to generate nice angle on fastball. Topped out at 90 mph, mostly true in life, tough pitch to elevate due to plane. Curveball shows hammer depth at 79 mph from similar release point, present strikeout pitch and will manipulate shape/ velocity to pitch early in count. Has confidence and feel in his changeup, occasional hard fading life at 74 mph, projects with additional arm speed. Nice feel for a full arsenal and throws off speed pitches for strikes regularly. Right-handed hitter, wide base in the box with a short and inside swing path. Looks to lift and pull the ball, can turn on inner half pitch and flashes pop off the barrel. Named to World Showcase Top Prospect List. Good student. Committed to Seminole State College of Florida."

W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	K	AVG	WP
1	6	6.14	14	14	0	0	0	0	66.0	76	49	45	14	3	33	0	58	.288	2

#30 Reid Morgan (RHP)

Height: 6'0 Weight: 187 lbs Acquired: Round 13, 396 (2019)
 Hometown: Texarkana, TX School: South Carolina
 Born: March 24, 2997 (24)

PITCHES: Fastball, Slider, Curveball, Changeup

Notes: Daniel Reid Morgan...graduated from Foster (TX) High School in 2016...missed senior season of high school after having Tommy John surgery...spent 2017 season at Oklahoma State University and the 2018 season at Mt. San Jacinto Junior College...spent the 2019 season with the University of South Carolina...2019: Split first professional season between Short-A Everett (6/12-7/2, 7/11-13 & 8/13-end of the season), High-A Modesto (7/3-10) and A West Virginia (7/14-8/12)...2020: Did not play due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	K	AVG	WP
3	3	5.40	18	0	0	0	0	0	31.2	32	20	19	6	2	7	0	28	.262	0

UPCOMING SCHEDULE & PROBABLE PITCHING MATCHUPS

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	EMERALDS STARTER	OPPONENT STARTER
Sunday, August 1	4:05pm PST	@ Everett AquaSox	LHP Jake Dahlberg	RHP Taylor Dollard
Tuesday, August 3	7:05pm PST	Tri-City Dust Devils	TBD	TBD
Wednesday, August 4	7:05pm PST	Tri-City Dust Devils	TBD	TBD
Thursday, August 5	7:05pm PST	Tri-City Dust Devils	TBD	TBD
Friday, August 6	7:05pm PST	Tri-City Dust Devils	TBD	TBD
Saturday, August 7	7:05pm PST	Tri-City Dust Devils	TBD	TBD