



POSTGAME NOTES
PORTLAND SEA DOGS (0-1) @ SOMERSET PATRIOTS (1-0)
FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026



	R	H	E	LOB	SERIES
PORTLAND	2	3	2	4	0
READING	18	22	0	9	1

STARTING TIME: 6:36 p.m.

GAME-TIME TEMPERATURE: 68 degrees

WINNING PITCHER: Ben Hess (1-0)

LOSING PITCHER: Blake Wehunt (0-1)

SAVE: -

TIME OF GAME: 2:36

ATTENDANCE: 5,076

PITCH COUNTS (Total Pitches/Strikes):

Patriots: Ben Hess (78/47)

Sea Dogs: Blake Wehunt (21/11)

HOME RUNS (2025 TOTAL / INNING / RUNNERS ON BASE / OUTS / COUNT / PITCHER / SCORE AFTER HR)

SOMERSET

George Lombard Jr. (#1 / 1st / 0 on / 0 out / 2-1 / Wehunt / SOM 1 – POR 0)
 Garrett Martin (#1 / 1st / 0 on / 1 out / 2-2 / Wehunt / SOM 2 – POR 0)
 Tyler Hardman (#1 / 1st / 2 on / 1 out / 1-2 / Adams / SOM 5 – POR 0)
 Coby Morales (#1 / 3rd / 0 on / 0 out / 0-1 / Halligan / SOM 12 – POR 1)
 Coby Morales (#2 / 8th / 3 on / 2 out / 0-0 / Carlson / SOM 18 – POR 2)

READING

Max Ferguson (#1 / 4th / 0 on / 2 out / 1-0 / Hess / SOM 12 – POR 2)

SOMERSET PATRIOTS NOTES

- The Somerset Patriots defeated the Portland Sea Dogs by a score of 18-2 on Opening Night of the 2026 season at TD Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater, NJ on Friday night.
- The 18 runs were the second-most in Somerset Double-A franchise history, trailing only the 22 runs scored on 8/18/23 @REA.
- The 22 hits were the second-most in Somerset Double-A franchise history, trailing only the 23 hits on 8/18/23.
 - The 22 hits were tied for the most in Double-A Opening Day history dating back to 2005 (Arkansas, 22 hits on 4/3/05).
- The 16-run margin of victory was Somerset’s second-largest in Double-A franchise history, trailing only their 19-run margin of victory on 8/18/23.
- The Patriots clubbed five home runs in the game, signaling their most in a game since 4/29/25 @RIC.
- Somerset’s pitching staff struck out 13 batters in the game, including four hitless innings to end the game by the bullpen trio of Bailey Dees, Eric Reyzelman and Geoff Gilbert.
- **RHP Ben Hess** (5.0 IP, 3 H, 2 ER, 3 BB, 9 K, 1 HR) earned the win in his season debut.
 - Hess struck out the first seven batters he faced in the game, signaling the most consecutive batters struck out to start a game in Somerset Double-A franchise history.
 - The seven consecutive strikeouts were one shy of a Somerset Double-A franchise record (Sean Boyle, 5/4/22).
 - Hess tied his career-high of nine strikeouts for the fifth time in his career and first time since 8/23/25 vs. HFD.
 - Dating back to last season, Hess is 4-0 in his last six Double-A starts with a 1.93 ERA, 0.92 WHIP, .155 BAA, 44 K and 13 BB in 32.2 IP.
- **SS George Lombard Jr.** (5-for-6, 1 RBI, 3 R, HR, 2B, SB) started the game by going 5-for-5, setting a Somerset Patriots Double-A single-game record by recording the five hits in the game.
 - Lombard Jr. smashed his first home run of the season in his first at-bat of the season to lead off the game in the first inning.
 - The first inning leadoff home run on Opening Day was Somerset’s second in Double-A franchise history and the first since Ben Rice on Opening Day of the 2024 season.
 - Lombard Jr.’s first inning leadoff home run was Somerset’s first in any game since 7/13/25 (Brendan Jones vs. NH).

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- **RF Garrett Martin** (2-for-5, RBI, 3 R, HR) hit his first home run of the season in his first at-bat of the game to give the Patriots a 2-0 lead in the first inning.
- **2B Marco Luciano** (4-for-5, RBI, 5 R, 2B, BB, SB) made his Yankees organizational debut by tying for the second-most hits on the team.
 - Luciano's five runs scored were a career-high, coming in his 501st career minor league game.
 - Luciano's four hits tied his career high for the fifth time (first time since: 5/24/25 @OKC).
- **1B Coby Morales** (2-for-4, 6 RBI, 3 R, 2 HR, BB) led the way offensively with his second career two-home run game (first since: 7/20/24 vs. BRD)
 - Morales' 6 RBI led the team and tied a career-high mark (first since: 5/5/24 @DUN).
 - The 6 RBI were the most in a game by a Patriot since Tyler Hardman on 5/29/25 vs. AKR.
 - His 3 R scored tied a career-high mark for the fifth time (first since 5/22/25 @WS).
 - Morales' two home runs marked the Patriots' first multi-homer game by a player since Roc Riggio on 6/8/25 @BNG.
 - Morales extended Somerset's lead to 18-2 in the eighth inning with his second career grand slam, which was also the Patriots' first grand slam since 8/13/24 @HFD (Jesus Rodriguez).
- **3B Tyler Hardman** (4-for-5, 4 RBI, R, HR, 2B, BB) extended Somerset's first inning lead to 5-0 with a three-run home run.
 - Hardman extended his Somerset Double-A franchise records in HR (55) and RBI (159).
 - The performance marked Hardman's 11th career 4 RBI game.
 - Hardman reached base safely five times in the game, which was a career-high mark.
- **DH Nick Torres** (3-for-5, 2 RBI, SB) started the game by going 3-for-3 in his Yankees organizational debut.