



AKRON RUBBERDUCKS GAME NOTES

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Akron RubberDucks (2-3)
Cleveland Guardians Double-A
RHP Gavin Williams (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

vs.

Bowie Baysox (3-2)
Baltimore Orioles Double-A
RHP Houston Roth (0-0, 4.50 ERA)

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Thursday, April 13, 2023 • Prince George's Stadium • 6:35 p.m. EDT

Game 5, 1st Half Game 6, Road Game 3, Night Game 6, Divisional Game 6

Akron's News Talk 640 WHLO-AM • iHeartRadio (640 WHLO) • AkronRubberDucks.com • MiLB.TV

Broadcaster: Jim Clark • From the Audio-Technica Broadcast Booth

April 12: Baysox 2, RubberDucks 1: Julian Escobedo launched a solo home run in the eighth inning for Akron's lone run. Doug Nihzay tossed three scoreless in relief.

Bibee, Cantillo and Valera all earn postseason honors: Tanner Bibee was named Eastern League Pitcher of the Year and the right-handed starter on the 2022 Eastern League All-Star team. Bibee made 13 starts in Akron after being promoted on July 2. In those 13 starts, he went 6-1 with a 1.83 ERA and 81 strikeouts over 73.2 innings pitched. **Joey Cantillo** was the left-handed starter on the Eastern League All-Star team. Cantillo made 14 appearances (13 starts) for Akron, going 4-3 with a 1.93 ERA and 87 strikeouts in 60.2 innings. **George Valera** was named an outfielder on the Eastern League All-Star team. Valera played 90 games for the RubberDucks before being promoted to Triple-A. In his time in Akron, Valera hit .264 with 15 home runs and 59 RBI.

Tena back to defend hits lead: José Tena led the Eastern League with 136 hits in 2022, the most by a RubberDuck in a season since **Yandy Diaz** had 150 in 2015. Tena became the fifth Canton or Akron player to lead the Eastern League in hits, joining **Omar Ramirez** (162 in 1993), **Alex Ramirez** (169 in 1996), **Darren Stumberger** (164 in 1998) and **Jordan Brown** (161 in 2007). Tena's six triples are the most by any RubberDucks since **Todd Hankins** had seven in 2016.

Strikeout leaders: In 2022, RubberDucks pitchers had 1,408 strikeouts, most in Double-A and a new Eastern League record. The league record was also reset the last two seasons (1,271 by Reading in 2019 and 1,300 by Somerset in 2021). The Akron franchise record had been 1,190 (2021), and the RubberDucks have reset the club record in three straight seasons ('19, '21, '22). Akron led Double-A in strikeouts for the first time. The starting staff led the minor leagues with 742 strikeouts. Akron led the EL in saves (46, tying the franchise record set in 2003), was second in hits allowed (989) and average against (.222), and was third in runs allowed (584), home runs allowed (131), and ERA (3.92, the club's highest since 2017 – 4.43).

Tough to repeat: Akron was eliminated from 2022 playoff contention with a loss Sept. 16, but still finished with the second-best record of any team in franchise history that followed a title winner. Only the 2006 Akron Aeros (87-55, also lost in the Eastern League Championship Series) had a better record in a season after Akron won a league title. Akron has never won back-to-back titles and last made consecutive playoff appearances with five straight 2005-2009.

UPCOMING PROBABLE PITCHERS (ALL TIMES EASTERN) – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Friday, April 14	7:05 p.m.	RHP Ross Carver (0-0, 3.00 ERA)	at	Bowie RHP Connor Gillispie (0-0, 0.00 ERA)
Saturday, April 15	6:35 p.m.	RHP Hunter Stanley (0-0, 0.00 ERA)	at	Bowie LHP Cade Povich (0-0, 6.00 ERA)
Sunday, April 16	1:05 p.m.	LHP Joey Cantillo (0-0, 3.00 ERA)	at	Bowie RHP Garrett Stallings (0-0, 4.50 ERA)
Tuesday, April 18	6:35 p.m.	TBA	vs	Harrisburg TBA

Odor among the best: Managing Akron for the previous three seasons, **Rouglas Odor** has tallied 213 regular season wins. Only three-year managers **Brad Komminsk** (244), **Dave Wallace** (223) and **Joel Skinner** (221) have more wins for the franchise. No others have reached 200 wins. Returning for a fourth season, Odor becomes the longest-tenured manager in franchise history. He enters the season 32 wins away from passing Komminsk for winningest manager in franchise history.

RubberDucks travel to Baysox: Akron is playing the first of four scheduled series this season with Bowie, and the first of two in the first half of the season. In 2022, the RubberDucks were 11-13 against Bowie, including 3-8 at Prince George's Stadium. According to MLB.com, top prospects in this series include:

Guardians (MLB.com): #2 RHP **Gavin Williams**, #10 IF **Angel Martínez**, #17 OF **Petey Halpin**, #19 LHP **Joey Cantillo**, #22 RHP **Tanner Burns**, #24 IF **José Tena**, #30 LHP **Doug Nihzay**
Orioles (MLB.com): #5 OF **Heston Kjerstad**, #9 INF **Coby Mayo**, #12 LHP **Cade Povich**, #17 INF **Cesar Prieto**, #18 RHP **Chayce McDermott**, #20 OF **John Rhodes**

Top 10 team: The RubberDucks were named the 10th most talented team in Minor League Baseball by Baseball America. The RubberDucks feature seven of the Guardians top 30 prospects according to MLB.com and Baseball America including Gavin Williams, who is ranked as Cleveland's top prospect by Baseball America. The Somerset Patriots (#9) are the only other Eastern League team to make Baseball America's list. The Columbus Clippers (Guardians Triple-A affiliate) are ranked third on the list.

Former RubberDucks make MLB debuts: 13 players from Akron's 2021 or 2022 roster made their MLB debuts with Cleveland. So far in 2023 this trend of recent RubberDucks making MLB debuts has continued. **Carlos Vargas** (2022) made his MLB debut with the Arizona Diamondbacks on Mar. 30 against the Los Angeles Dodgers. Vargas struck out two while allowing one run over two-thirds of an inning. **Tim Herrin** (2021-2022) debuted for the Guardians on April 2 against the Seattle Mariners and struck out the first four batters he faced. Herrin became the first pitcher since 1893 to face at least four hitters and strike them all out in his MLB debut. On April 12, **Peyton Battenfield** (2021) became the third member of the 2021 or 2022 RubberDucks to make his debut when he started against the New York Yankees. Battenfield struck out three over 4.2 innings pitched allowing just one run.

RUBBERDUCKS STARTING PITCHER

#26 Gavin Williams...RHP, 6-6, 255, Age 23 (7/26/99), Resides: Fayetteville, NC

Acquired: Selected by Cleveland out of East Carolina University in the first round (23rd overall) of the July 2021 MLB Draft

Twitter: @16gavinwilliams

Instagram: @__gavinwilliams__

Throws: Fastball, Curveball, Slider, Changeup

- Entered 2023 ranked as No. 2 prospect in Cleveland system (*MLB.com*, *Baseball America*, *Baseball Prospectus*), No. 7 right-handed pitching prospect in baseball (*MLB.com*), No. 42 in MLB Pipeline Top 100.
- Named Best Curveball in Cleveland system by *Baseball America* for a second straight year.

2022:

- Entered the season ranked as the #7 prospect in Cleveland system according to *MLB.com*. Ascended to No. 3 in July re-rankings and No. 78 in the MLB Pipeline Top 100.
- Made nine starts with High-A Lake County, allowing multiple runs in only one game and striking out 10+ batters in two starts.
- At the time of his promotion to Akron June 6, he was second in the Midwest League in strikeouts (67) and ERA (1.40).
- Made his Double-A debut June 12 at Somerset - 5.2 IP, one hit (a home run) for the only run against him (no decision).
- Earned his first Double-A win on July 17 at Bowie (5.0 shutout IP, 1 H, 3 BB, 8 K).
- Pitched 6+ innings in five Double-A starts, including six no-hit innings in a win at Erie on Aug. 16 (0 BB, 4 K), and 10 strikeouts in six innings for a win at Altoona Sept. 2 (5 H, 4 R).
- Acron was 10-6 in his starts and won six of his final seven starts.
- Led all full season minor league pitchers in opponents' average (.173), ranked third in ERA (1.96), and ranked third in WHIP (0.95).

2021:

- Spent the bulk of his 2021 senior season in the East Carolina rotation, finishing 10-1 with a 1.88 ERA (81.1IP, 57H, 18R/17ER, 3HR, 21BB, 130SO-second-most in a single season in ECU history) to win the American Athletic Conference pitching triple crown and Pitcher of the Year.
- Named to six different All-America teams (fourth to do so in school history), in addition to being a finalist for both the Dick Howser and Golden Spikes Awards.
- Finished among overall 2021 NCAA leaders in K's-per-9.0IP (5th, 14.39), ERA (11th), strikeouts (11th) and wins (11th).
- Started the season 10-0 before losing his final start in the Super Regional Game 1 against Vanderbilt. Williams struck out 13 batters in a season-high 7.1 IP, but his team lost, 2-0, as Commodores RHP Kumar Rocker (later the No. 10 overall pick by the Mets in July) pitched 7.2 scoreless innings to earn the win. Vanderbilt swept the series the next day, with RHP Jack Leiter (later the second overall pick by the Rangers in July) allowing one run in seven innings in a 4-1 Vanderbilt win to advance to the College World Series.
- Listed as the No. 30 prospect in the 2021 MLB First-Year Player Draft by *Baseball America* and No. 31 by MLB Pipeline.
- Became ECU's second-highest-ever draft pick, and the first college pitcher Cleveland has drafted in the first round since 2010 (LHP Drew Pomeranz, Mississippi).

Amateur

- Pitched in parts of four seasons for the East Carolina Pirates, going 11-5 with a 2.65 ERA across 53 collegiate games/17 starts (149.1IP, 108H, 47R/44ER, 7HR, 53BB, 200SO).
- For all four years, Williams was a teammate of RubberDucks catcher Seth Caddell.
- Eight-time ECU Director of Athletics Honor Roll on the way to a degree in criminal justice...Four-time American Athletic Conference All-Academic Team selection (2018-21).
- Selected by Tampa Bay in the 2017 June draft (30th round) out of Cape Fear High School in Fayetteville, NC. He had been the draft's No. 114 prospect according to *Baseball America*, and the No. 2 right-handed high school pitcher in the state of North Carolina by Perfect Game.
- During four-year career at Cape Fear High School, with 18-1 with two saves in 29 appearances and had a 1.06 ERA with 212 strikeouts to 74 walks in 132 high school innings.
- Hit 95 mph with his fastball as a high school senior and reached 100 mph as a college freshman.

Scouting Report (MLB.com, Preseason 2023)

Scouting grades: Fastball: 65 | Curveball: 55 | Slider: 55 | Changeup: 55 | Control: 50 | Overall: 55

"Williams still stands out most with his fastball, which can sit at 94-97 mph late into games and continues to reach triple digits. The biggest reason for his surge is that after years of struggling to spin the ball effectively, he has developed two solid breaking pitches, with his tighter mid-80s slider landing in the zone and missing bats more frequently than his upper-70s curveball with good shape and depth. He also has a solid mid-80s changeup with fade, though it can get too firm at times.

Besides upgrading his breaking stuff, Williams also has dramatically improved his control after battling the strike zone in his first three college seasons. He cleaned up his delivery and began repeating it better in 2021, and that carried over into pro ball. Once he gets more consistent with throwing his secondary pitches for strikes, he'll be a mid-rotation starter in Cleveland."

Gavin Williams - Pitching - Game Log - 2023 - Regular Season (RubberDucks Record in Starts: 0-1, Runs/Game: 0.00)

Date	GM #	Team	Opp	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	SO	WHIP	AVG	AB	WP	BK	GIDP	TBF	NP-S	AKR	Result
4/6/23		AKR	ERI	0	0	0.00	1	1	0	0	0	0	4.1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	9	0.69	.133	15	0	0	0	16	77 - 52	L, 0-5	
April		AKR		0	0	0.00	1	1	0	0	0	0	4.1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	9	0.69	.133	15	0	0	0	16	77 - 52		
Total		AKR	AA	0	0	0.00	1	1	0	0	0	0	4.1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	9	0.69	.133	15	0	0	0	16	77 - 52		

Gavin Williams - Pitching - Career - Regular Season

Season	League	Team	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	SO	WHIP	AVG	AB	WP	BK	GIDP	TBF	NP-S
2022	A+	LC	2	1	1.40	9	9	0	0	0	0	45.0	25	7	7	0	3	14	0	67	0.87	.167	150	2	2	4	168	707 - 451
2022	AA	AKR	3	3	2.31	16	16	0	0	0	0	70.0	44	21	18	9	4	26	0	82	1.00	.176	250	3	1	3	282	1180 - 755
2022	Minors	2 Teams	5	4	1.96	25	25	0	0	0	0	115.0	69	28	25	9	7	40	0	149	0.95	.173	400	5	3	7	450	1887 - 1206
2023	AA	AKR	0	0	0.00	1	1	0	0	0	0	4.1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	9	0.69	.133	15	0	0	0	16	77 - 52
Career	AA	AKR	3	3	2.18	17	17	0	0	0	0	74.1	46	21	18	9	4	27	0	91	0.98	.174	265	3	1	3	298	1257 - 807
Career	A+	LC	2	1	1.40	9	9	0	0	0	0	45.0	25	7	7	0	3	14	0	67	0.87	.167	150	2	2	4	168	707 - 451
Career	Minors	2 Teams	5	4	1.89	26	26	0	0	0	0	119.1	71	28	25	9	7	41	0	158	0.94	.171	415	5	3	7	466	1964 - 1258

Highs	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	SO	WP	BK	TBF	NP
Season	4.1 (4/6vERI)	2 (4/6vERI)	0	0	0	0	1 (4/6vERI)	0	9 (4/6vERI)	0	0	16 (4/6vERI)	77 (4/6vERI)
Career	6.2 (7/3/22)	5 (multiple)	4 (multiple)	4 (multiple)	3 (8/21/22)	1 (multiple)	3 (multiple)	0	11 (4/15/22)	1 (multiple)	1 (multiple)	25 (multiple)	97 (9/8/22)

2023 RUBBERDUCKS FIELD STAFF

#24 Rouglas Odor, *Manager (Fourth Season)* – Odor, 55, is in his 36th season with the Cleveland organization as a player, coach and manager. The 2023 season is Odor's fourth as RubberDucks manager, making him the longest-tenured Akron manager. Odor led Akron to a 79-59 record in 2022. He guided Akron to the Double-A Northeast championship and a 73-46 record in 2021, and was named Double-A Northeast Manager of the Year. Odor also led the RubberDucks to a 61-79 record in 2019. He is 213-184 as RubberDucks manager. Odor ranks fourth all-time in franchise managerial wins.

Odor was the first member of the Guardians organization to be a member of the Canton-Akron Indians, Akron Aeros and RubberDucks. He was an infielder for Canton-Akron for parts of the 1991, 1993 and 1994 seasons. Odor served as the Aeros hitting coach in 2012 and served as the RubberDucks hitting coach in 2014.

A native of Maracaibo, Venezuela, Odor was a 32nd round selection by Cleveland in the 1988 draft out of the University of New Orleans. The former shortstop played in the minor leagues for Cleveland from 1988-94 and for the Milwaukee Brewers organization in 1995. The 2019 season was Odor's first as a manager since 2008. He managed San Felipe in the Venezuelan Summer League (1999-2000), the Burlington Indians (2001-2004), the Mahoning Valley Scrappers (2005-2006), and Gulf Coast League Indians (2007-2008). In 2009, Odor began serving as hitting coach for the Kinston Indians (2009-2010), Double-A Akron Aeros (2011-2012), High-A Carolina Mudcats (2013), Double-A Akron RubberDucks (2014), and Triple-A Columbus Clippers (2015-2017).

Odor resides in Winter Haven, Florida, with his wife, Milagros. He has three sons and is the uncle of major league infielder Rougneh Odor.

#30 Brad Goldberg, *Pitching Coach (First Season)* — Brad Golberg, 33, enters his second season with the Guardians and first with the RubberDucks. In 2022, Goldberg served as a pitching development coach on the Arizona Complex staff.

A native of Beachwood, Ohio, Goldberg pitched at the Ohio State University before being a 10th round selection of the Chicago White Sox in the 2013 draft. He spent six years between the White Sox and Diamondbacks systems, appearing in 200 games. Goldberg made his Major League debut with the White Sox in 2017 with 11 relief outings.

#28 Mike Mergenthaler, *Hitting Coach (Third Season, First as Hitting Coach)* — Mergenthaler, 34, enters his seventh year with the Guardians organization and third season with Akron. Mergenthaler spent 2022 as Akron's assistant hitting coach after serving as the bench coach for the RubberDucks in 2021.

Prior to coming to Akron, Mergenthaler was the bench coach with Lynchburg in 2019. In 2017 and 2018, Mergenthaler worked as a hitting coach for the Cleveland and Milwaukee joint Dominican Summer League team. The Thiells, New York, native was a 32nd round pick of the San Francisco Giants in the 2011 draft out of the University of Richmond. In two professional seasons, he hit .252 in 102 games.

#1 Ian Forster, *Assistant Hitting Coach (First Season)* — Forster enters his fourth season in the Guardians organization and first season with the RubberDucks. Prior to coming to Akron, Forster spent 2022 as the hitting development coach on the Arizona Complex staff.

A graduate of North Olmsted High School, Forster played four years at Baldwin Wallace University in Berea, graduating in 2018.

#4 Daniel Robertson, *Bench Coach (First Season)* – Robertson, 37, enters his second season in the Guardians organization and first season in Akron. Prior to joining the RubberDucks, Robertson spent 2022 as the bench coach for Single-A Lynchburg.

A native of West Covina, California, Robertson was a 33rd round pick in the 2008 draft by the San Diego Padres out of Oregon State University. Robertson played 12 professional seasons including 148 Major League games. He appeared in 32 games as an outfielder for Cleveland in 2017.

Jacob Legan, *Athletic Trainer (Third Season)* — Legan is in his 10th season in the Cleveland organization and third season in Akron. Prior to coming to Akron, Legan served as the athletic trainer for Lynchburg in 2019. He earned his bachelor's degree in Athletic Training from East Carolina, his master's degree in Exercise Physiology from the University of Akron and his Doctor of Athletic Training from Temple University.

Mo Cuevas, *Strength and Conditioning Coach (First Season)* – Cuevas enters his eighth season with the Guardians organization and first season in Akron. Prior to joining the RubberDucks, Cuevas served as the rehab strength and conditioning coach in 2022.

Zach Block, *Baseball Technology Fellow (Second Season)* – Block returns to Akron after serving in the same role in 2021. Since graduating with a bachelor's degree from the University of Miami in 2015, Block has worked in the Cincinnati Reds, Toronto Blue Jays, Los Angeles Angels and Washington Nationals organizations. He earned his master's degree in sports analytics and management in 2022.

We Are the RubberDucks

On October 29, 2013, team owner **Ken Babby** stood before a capacity audience at the Akron Civic Theater and announced that the team would be known henceforth as the **Akron RubberDucks**. In addition to being symbolic of the fun, family-friendly brand of entertainment offered by minor league baseball, the name also honors Akron's long history as the "**Rubber Capital of the World.**" Brandiose Marketing of San Diego, California designed the team logo, colors, and various marks and insignias. Please note that for print coverage, *RubberDucks* is spelled as one word with a capital "D." In broadcast coverage, referring to the team as "*the 'Ducks*" is an acceptable variation of the team's nickname.

#2 MIKE AMDITIS C, R/R University of Miami
Twitter: @Mamditis IG: @m_amditis2 2019 (21st round)
Last (4/11@BOW) 2-4, r, hr, 3bi **Streak** +1 (2-4, r, hr, 3bi)
Series 2-4, r, hr, 3bi **'23 Long Hit** 1 - active
H-Stand 0-2, r, bi, 2bb, k **'23 Long OBS** 2 - active
'23/Career High: 2/4 H, 1/2 R, 0/2 2B, 0/1 3B, 1/1 HR, 3/3 RBI, 0/1 SB
3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 130 g, .208, 7 hr, 57 rbi, 1 sb, .650 ops
2022 Highlights:

- Played 56 games for High-A Lake County, had career-high 26 RBI, hitting .184 with 8 doubles, 2 HR, 29 BB, .303 OBP, .573 OPS.
- **2021:** Played 34 games for High-A Lake County (.192, 7 doubles, 4 HR, 14 RBI, .675 OPS)...Missed nearly two months with injury, played 4 rehab games with ACL affiliate...Played in the Arizona Fall League.
- **2019:** Made pro debut with 36 games for AZL affiliate (.252, HR, 15 RBI, .748 OPS).
- **College:** Drafted following his redshirt sophomore season at Miami...Was slated as team's starting catcher as a true freshman in 2017 before a broken bone in his leg ended his season...Served as a team captain in 2019...In three seasons, totaled 81 games, .263, 7 HR, 41 RBI, .738 OPS.
- **High School:** Attended Boca Raton High School...Won gold medal with Team USA at 2015 World Baseball Softball Confederation 18U World Cup in Japan...One of the top high school catchers in the 2016 class (*Baseball America* No. 200 draft-eligible player) before he tore the labrum in his throwing shoulder and missed his senior season...Drafted by Cleveland in the 37th round but did not sign...In high school, he lost both his uncle and grandfather due to tragic accidents...His father, Michael, who had been sick with diabetes, died at age 57 in June 2016, shortly after Mike was first drafted.

#2 MICHAEL BERGLUND C, L/R Texas Tech, Cisco JC
Twitter: IG: @Mikebergg4 2022 Rule 5 (TB)
Last (4/12@BOW) 0-2, bb, 2k **Streak** -2 (0-6, bb, 5k)
Series 0-2, bb, 2k **'23 Long Hit** 0
H-Stand 0-4, 3k **'23 Long OBS** 1 - active
'23/Career High: 0/3 H, 0/2 R, 0/2 2B, 0/1 3B, 0/1 HR, 0/3 RBI, 0/1 SB
3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 156 g, .226, 5 hr, 59 rbi, 7 sb, .679 ops
2022 Highlights:

- Originally drafted by Tampa Bay in the eighth round of the 2018 Draft.
- Began the season with 20 games for Single-A Charleston (.254, 4 RBI, .753 OPS)
- Joined Double-A Montgomery for 2 games (1-for-4, 2K) before going to High-A.
- For High-A Bowling Green, played 47 games (.224, 4 HR, 12 RBI, .724 OPS).
- **2021:** After missing 2019 (injury) and 2020 (COVID), played 50 games for Single-A Charleston (.196, HR, 26 RBI, .581 OPS)...Hit first career home run July 10 at Columbia.
- **2018:** Made pro debut with 34 games for GCL Rays (.257, 14 RBI, .722 OPS)...played 1 game for Princeton (rookie) (1-for-4, R, BB)...Played 2 games for short-season Hudson Valley (1-for-5, 2 R, 2 RBI, 4 BB).
- **College:** Played freshman season at Texas Tech and was an All-Big 12 Freshman (50 G, .307, 2 HR, 27 RBI, .760 OPS)...Transferred to Cisco (TX) College for his sophomore year (58 G, .387, 11 HR, 61 RBI, 1.146 OPS)...Had planned transfer to Arizona for junior year before signing with Tampa Bay.
- **High School:** Attended Mary Carroll High School in Corpus Christi, TX.

#45 AARON BRACHO IF, S/R El Tigre, VZ
Twitter: IG: @aaronbracho3 2017 FA
Last (4/12@BOW) 0-4, 2k **Streak** -2 (0-8, 5k)
Series 0-8, 5k **'23 Long Hit** 1 (4/7)
H-Stand 1-2, r, hr, 2bi, 2bb, k **'23 Long OBS** 1 (4/7)
'23/Career High: 1/3 H, 1/2 R, 0/2 2B, 0/1 3B, 1/1 HR, 2/5 RBI, 0/1 SB
3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 188 g, .201, 23 hr, 94 rbi, 6 sb, .670 ops
2022 Highlights:

- With High-A Lake County, posted career highs in games (80), hits (48), doubles (13), and RBI (45), while hitting .184 with 8 HR, .605 OPS.
- **2021:** Ranked Cleveland's No. 15 prospect (MLB.com)...Played 70 games for High-A Lake County (.174, 9 doubles, 7 HR, 27 RBI, .568 OPS).
- **2020:** Ranked Cleveland's No. 9 prospect (MLB.com)...Was Cleveland's youngest player (19) participating in the Alternate Training Site at Lake County.
- **2019:** Played 30 games in pro debut with AZL affiliate (.296, 6 HR, 29 RBI, .593 SLG, 1.009 OPS)...Missed a month with an oblique injury...played 8 games with short-season Mahoning Valley (6-for-27, 2 HR, 4 RBI, .825 OPS).
- **2018:** Fractured his right arm in May that postponed his professional debut.
- **2017:** Ranked among top 30 international prospects (MLB.com)...Reportedly received the largest signing bonus in Cleveland's international class (\$1.5 million).

#15 RAYNEL DELGADO IF, L/R Calvary Christian Acad. (FL)
Twitter: @RayDelgado15 IG: @raydelgado15 2018 (6th round)
Last (4/12@BOW) 1-3, d, bb, k **Streak** +2 (2-6, d, 2bb, 2k)
Series 1-3, d, bb, k **'23 Long Hit** 2 - active
H-Stand 1-7, bb, 4k, sb **'23 Long OBS** 2 - active
'23/Career High: 1/3 H, 0/3 R, 1/2 2B, 0/1 3B, 0/1 HR, 0/4 RBI, 1/2 SB
4-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 320 g, .242, 16 hr, 122 rbi, 46 sb, .671 ops

- **2022:** Played 39 games with High-A Lake County (.263, 2 HR, 14 RBI, .754 OPS)...Joined Akron on June 14 and played 65 games (.229, 3 HR, 29 RBI, .664 OPS).
- **2021:** Played 100 games with High-A Lake County, .208, 8 HR, 35 RBI, .609 OPS.
- **2019:** Ranked as Cleveland's No. 15 prospect by MLB Pipeline...Played 53 games with short season Mahoning Valley (.240, 2 HR, 17 RBI, .653 OPS) and 17 games with Single-A Lake County (.250, 0 HR, 6 RBI, .582 OPS)
- **2018:** T-3rd in AZL in walks (30), T-5th in OBP (.409), 6th in runs (34), T-7th in hits (53), also tied for team lead in doubles (10).
- **Amateur:** Played at Calvary Christian Academy in Fort Lauderdale, FL...Born in Havana, Cuba, and moved to the United States when he was seven years old.

#8 JULIAN ESCOBEDO OF, L/L San Diego State
Twitter: @JulianEsco1 IG: @julian.esco 2019 (17th round)
Last (4/12@BOW) 2-4, r, d, hr, bi, k **Streak** +2 (5-8, 4r, 3d, hr, bi, k)
Series 5-8, 4r, 3d, hr, bi, k **'23 Long Hit** 2 - active
H-Stand 0-2, r, 2bb, k, sb **'23 Long OBS** 3 - active
'23/Career High: 3/4 H, 3/3 R, 2/2 2B, 0/1 3B, 1/2 HR, 1/4 RBI, 1/2 SB
3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 232 g, .226, 15 hr, 97 rbi, 34 sb, .660 ops

- **2022:** Played in 115 games batting .215 with 7 HR and 40 RBI.
- **2021 Highlights:** Began the season with Lynchburg (Single-A) but went on the injured list after six games...Played eight rehab games with AZ Complex affiliate (rookie)...Returned to Lynchburg for 12 games, promoted to High-A Lake County Aug. 3...Hit .254, 3 HR, 12 RBI, .748 OPS in 18 total games with Lynchburg...In 38 games with Lake County, hit .206, 1 HR, 12 RBI, .598 OPS.
- **2019:** Made pro debut with 28 games in AZL (rookie), .327, 2 HR, 16 RBI, .919 OPS...Played 22 games for Mahoning Valley (SS-A) .129, 0 HR, 8 RBI, .389 OPS.
- **College:** Played 159 games (139 starts) in three seasons...Hit .274, 7 HR, 63 RBI, .742 OPS...As a sophomore (2018), hit .316 with an .848 OPS.
- Was a four-time varsity team MVP at Eastlake High School in Chula Vista, CA.
- Favorite athlete is Tony Gwynn.

#11 PETEY HALPIN OF, L/R Mira Costa (CA) HS
Twitter: @peteyhalpin IG: @peteyhalpin 2020 (3rd round)
Last (4/12@BOW) 1-4, 2k **Streak** +2 (2-8, 2r, t, bb, 3k)
Series 2-8, 2r, t, bb, 3k **'23 Long Hit** 2 (multiple) - active
H-Stand 3-12, r, d, bb, 4k, hp, sb **'23 Long OBS** 5 - active
'23/Career High: 2/4 H, 2/4 R, 1/2 2B, 1/1 3B, 0/1 HR, 0/3 RBI, 1/2 SB
2-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 159 g, .274, 7 hr, 54 rbi, 27 sb, .753 ops

- Ranked as Cleveland's No. 17 prospect (MLB.com).
- Played in six Guardians Spring Training games (2-for-10, double, 2 R, 3 RBI, 3 BB).
- **2022 Highlights:**
- Played 105 games with High-A Lake County...hit .262 with 6 HR, 36 RBI, .346 OBP, .385 SLG...Led team with four triples, tied for team lead with 100 hits, 21 doubles...Scored 68 runs (7-6th in MWL).
- One of the youngest regulars in the Midwest League (turned 20 in May).
- Reached base in 30 straight games June 24-Aug. 10, second-longest in the league.
- Played 60 straight errorless games April 14-July 4
- **2021:** Made pro debut with 54 games for Single-A Lynchburg...Hit .294 with 1 HR, 18 RBI, 34 runs, 14 doubles, six triples (T-4th in Low-A East), .363 OBP, .425 SLG.
- **2020:** Signed with Cleveland...had been committed to Texas for college.
- **High School:** Attended Mira Costa High School (Manhattan Beach, CA)...Played in the inaugural Prospect Development Pipeline League in 2019, leading the showcase with eight runs and six steals in nine games...Competed in the inaugural High School MLB All-Star Game in Cleveland in 2019...Native of San Mateo, CA.

#9 CONNOR KOKX OF, R/R Long Beach State
Twitter: @connorkokx IG: @connorkokx 2021 (12th round)
Last (4/12@BOW) 0-4 **Streak** -1 (0-4)
Series 0-4 **'23 Long Hit** 1 (4/8)
H-Stand 1-5, bi, bb, 3k, hp **'23 Long OBS** 2 (4/6-8)
'23/Career High: 1/4 H, 0/3 R, 0/1 2B, 0/1 3B, 0/1 HR, 1/3 RBI, 0/2 SB
2-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 103 g, .235, 8 hr, 32 rbi, 17 sb, .729 ops

- Played in eight Guardians Spring Training games (3-for-10, double, 4 R, RBI, BB).
- **2022 Highlights:**
- Played 88 games with High-A Lake County...hit .234 with 7 HR, 28 RBI, 50 runs, 11 doubles, two triples, .350 OBP, .366 SLG...1 error all season, no errors in last 65 G.
- Played for Peoria in the Arizona Fall League (18 G, .283, 3 doubles, 0 HR, 6 RBI).
- **2021:** Pro debut with ACL affiliate (15 G, .238, HR, 4 RBI, .429 OBP)...Drafted after his third-year redshirt freshman season at Long Beach State (injury-shortened 2019, COVID-shortened 2020)...Collegiate Baseball Freshman All-American who led team in average (.366, program's highest since 2010), OBP (.481, program's highest since 2008), runs (37), hits (59), BB (24), HBP (16) and SB (14), T-1st in total bases (92)... Named a 2021 All-Big West First Team member.
- **High School:** Attended Aliso Niguel High School...Started 120 games over four years, starting at seven positions in high school (all except P & 1B)...Set school records for HBP (20) and SB (23) as a senior.

#27 BRYAN LAVASTIDA C, R/R Hillsborough (FL) CC

Twitter: @Lavastida IG: @lavastida 2018 (15th round)

Last (4/12@BOW) 1-4, k, sb Streak +2 (2-9, bi, 2k)
 Series 2-9, bi, 2k, sb '23 Long Hit 2 - active
 H-Stand 0-10, 3bb, 5k, hp '23 Long OBS 4 - active
 '23/Career High: 1/3 H, 0/4 R, 0/2 2B, 0/1 3B, 0/2 HR, 1/4 RBI, 1/2 SB

4-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 260 g, .272, 21 hr, 139 rbi, 31 sb, .774 ops

- 2022: Made Cleveland's Opening Day roster and played six games (1-for-12, 3 BB). Optioned to Columbus (Triple-A) on April 25, played 33 games (.225, 3 HR, 11 RBI, .692 OPS) before going on the IL June 19 with a right hamstring strain. Activated from the IL July 7 and transferred to Akron. Hit .195, 5 HR, 14 RBI in 45 games.
- 2021: Played 48 games with Lake County (High-A), hit .303/.399/.467, 5 HR, 31 RBI...Joined Akron July 30...In 29 Double-A regular season games, he hit .291, 3 HR, 17 RBI, .839 OPS...Played seven games with Columbus (Triple-A) Sept. 1-12 (3-for-19, HR, 3 RBI)...Returned to Akron Sept. 14...6-for-12, HR, 4 RBI in Championship Series.
- 2019: Was second in the organization in batting average (.335)...Finished in fourth in the New York-Penn League in batting average (.335) and second in OPS (.892) and doubles (19) ...NYPL All-Star as a DH...Played one game for Lake County (1-3, R, BB).
- 2018: Played 33 games in AZL (rookie), .292, 1 HR, .782 OPS, 4 doubles, 1 triple.
- Amateur: Was a SS and 3B in high school, transitioned to catcher at Hillsborough Community College...In 2018 for Hillsborough CC, he played 57 games (.384/.465/.539, 1,004 OPS, 21 doubles, 2 triples, 3 HR, 35 RBI, 26 BB, 20 K, 30-36 SB)...Teammate Aldrich De Jongh is in the Dodgers system...Among 13 players from Hillsborough CC to go pro since 2010...Planned to transfer to Alabama before being drafted.

#13 ANGEL MARTÍNEZ IF, S/R Santo Domingo, DR

Twitter: IG: @Martinez03 2018 FA

Last (4/12@BOW) 0-3, bb, k Streak -1 (0-3, bb, k)
 Series 3-8, r, hr, 2bi, bb, k '22 Long Hit 2 (4/6-7)
 H-Stand 3-12, 2bi, 2bb, 5k '22 Long OBS 5 - active
 '23/Career High: 3/4 H, 1/4 R, 0/2 2B, 0/2 3B, 1/2 HR, 2/4 RBI, 0/3 SB

3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 254 g, .270, 21 hr, 117 rbi, 36 sb, .787 ops

- Ranked the No. 10 Guardians prospect by MLB Pipeline.
- 2022: Played 77 games for High-A Lake County (.288, 10 HR, 27 RBI, .861 OPS). Transferred to Akron on Aug. 20 and hit .244 with 3 HR, 17 RBI, .808 OPS in 24 games.
- 2021: Played 97 games for Single-A Lynchburg (.241, 7 HR, 46 RBI, .701 OPS, 13 SB)...Finished tied for fourth in the Low-A East in triples (6)...One of just nine teenagers playing every day in the Low-A East in 2021.
- 2019: Made his professional debut in the Dominican Summer League (56 games, .306, 1 HR, 27 RBI, .830 OPS)...Completed his high school diploma through Cleveland's Dominican Academy after the season and was part of the Academy's inaugural graduating class in January 2020.
- 2018: Signed with Cleveland as an international amateur free agent at age 16.
- Personal: Son of former MLB catcher Sandy Martinez (1995-2004 with the Blue Jays, Cubs, Marlins, Expos, Indians and Red Sox).

#12 JOE NARANJO 1B, L/L Sen. Ruben S. Ayala (CA) HS

Twitter: @joenaranjo IG: @joe.naranjo 2019 (3rd round)

Last (4/12@BOW) 0-3, bb Streak -2 (0-8, bb, k)
 Series 0-8, bb, k '23 Long Hit 2 (4/7-8)
 H-Stand 1-9, r, 2bb, 3k '23 Long OBS 3 (4/6-8)
 '23/Career High: 1/5 H, 1/4 R, 0/2 2B, 0/1 3B, 0/2 HR, 0/6 RBI, 0/1 SB

3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 276 g, .241, 25 hr, 130 rbi, 14 sb, .711 ops

- Played in seven Guardians Spring Training games (2-for-11, double, RBI, BB, SB).
- 2022 Highlights:**
- Earned the MiLB Rawlings Gold Glove Award® for first base...114 games, 750 total chances, 689 putouts, 54 assists, 7 errors, .991 fielding pct.
 - Led High-A Midwest League in walks (82, T-2nd in Guardians organization), 4th in runs (72), T-6th in total bases (176), T-8th in HR (18, T-6th in organization)
 - Played his second full season with Lake County, also posting career highs in games (119), hits (100, T-1st on the club), doubles (16), triples (3), RBI (59), OBP (.364, 8th in organization), and OPS (.778, 9th in organization).
 - 2021: Played 109 games for Lake County (.235, 6 HR, 50 RBI, 13 doubles, .648 OPS)...Began the year as the youngest position player in the league (turned 20 in May).
 - 2019: Made pro debut with AZL affiliate (.266, 1 HR, 21 RBI, 5 doubles, .678 OPS).
 - High School: Played at Senator Ruben S. Ayala High School in Chino Hills, CA.
 - Played for USA National Team (12U and 15U)...was on the 12U National Team that won the 12U Baseball World Cup in 2013 (Naranjo homered and caught the final out of the Gold Medal Game against Chinese Taipei).

#35 GABRIEL RODRÍGUEZ IF, R/R El Tejero, Monagas, VZ

Twitter: @Eldetejero IG: @gabrielrodriguez_oficial 2018 FA

Last (4/11@BOW) 1-4, k Streak +3 (3-11, 3r, bb, 3k)
 Series 1-4, k '23 Long Hit 3 - active
 H-Stand 2-9, 3r, 3bb, 3k, sb '23 Long OBS 4 - active
 '23/Career High: 1/4 H, 2/4 R, 0/2 2B, 0/1 3B, 0/1 HR, 0/4 RBI, 1/2 SB

3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 247 g, .248, 15 hr, 111 rbi, 11 sb, .677 ops

2022 Highlights:

- Entered season ranked as Cleveland's No. 21/30 prospect (*Baseball America*/MLB.com)
- In 94 games for High-A Lake County, had career highs in average (.272, fifth in Midwest League), HR (9), SLG (.416, second on team), runs (45), and OPS (.759)...had 15 doubles, 2 triples, 38 RBI, .343 OBP.
- Did not play after Aug. 27 (shoulder surgery for a torn right labrum).
- 2021: Ranked Cleveland's No. 15 prospect (MLB.com)...Played 97 games for Single-A Lynchburg (.236, 3 HR, 34 RBI, 18 doubles, .602 OPS).
- 2019: Ranked Cleveland's No. 10 prospect (MLB.com & *Baseball America*)...Played 56 games for rookie affiliates (38 G in DSL, 18 G in AZL), totaling .231 average, 3 HR, 39 RBI, .682 OPS.
- 2018: Signed with Cleveland as a 16-year-old in July, reportedly for franchise-record bonus for an international position player (\$2.1 million).

#10 JOHNATHAN RODRÍGUEZ OF, R/R C. Beltran Baseball Acad

Twitter: @jjrodz55 IG: @johnny_245 2017 (3rd round)

Last (4/11@BOW) 1-5, 2k Streak +1 (1-5, 2k)
 Series 1-5, 2k '23 Long Hit 1 (multiple) - active
 H-Stand 1-14, 7k '22 Long OBS 1 (multiple) - active
 '23/Career High: 1/4 H, 0/5 R, 0/2 2B, 0/2 3B, 0/2 HR, 0/4 RBI, 0/1 SB

5-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 334 g, .272, 40 hr, 178 rbi, 19 sb, .791 ops

- 2022: Played 79 games with Lake County (High-A) before joining Akron Aug. 16. At the time of his promotion, he led the Midwest League with a career-high 21 home runs and was third in slugging (.573), fourth in OPS (.919), tied for fourth in RBI (59), tied for fifth in extra-base hits (39), and sixth in batting average (.292) and total bases (169). Appeared in 28 games after promotion, batting .206 with 5 HR and 15 RBI.
- Named Best Outfield Arm in Cleveland system by *Baseball America* for fifth straight year (2018-22).
- 2021: Played 59 games with Single-A Lynchburg (.314, 5 HR, 33 RBI, .813 OPS) and 24 games with High-A Lake County (.215, 2 HR, 11 RBI)...After the season, played 21 games for Gigantes de Carolina in the Puerto Rican Winter League (.242, 1 HR, 7 RBI).
- 2020: After the canceled minor league season, played 15 games with Atenienses de Manati in the Puerto Rican Winter League (.220, 0 HR, 2 RBI, .582 OPS).
- 2019: Played 66 games with short season Mahoning Valley (.247, 6 HR, 27 RBI, .742 OPS)...Finished fifth in the New York-Penn League in extra-base hits (25), 9th in total bases (98) and tied for 9th in runs (36).
- 2018: Led AZL Blue club in runs scored (36) and stolen bases (8).

#7 JOSÉ TENA IF, L/R San Cristobal, DR

Twitter: IG: 2019 (3rd round)

Last (4/6@VERI) 0-3, bb, 2k Streak -1 (0-3, bb, 2k)
 Series 0-3, bb, 2k '23 Long Hit 0 - active
 H-Stand 0-3, bb, 2k '23 Long OBS 1 - active
 '23/Career High: 0/3 H, 0/4 R, 0/2 2B, 0/1 3B, 0/2 HR, 0/4 RBI, 0/1 SB

4-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 334 g, .286, 32 hr, 167 rbi, 34 sb, .765 ops

- Ranked as Cleveland's No. 24 prospect by MLB.com
- 2022: Played in 127 games batting .264 with an Eastern League leading 136 hits. Launched 13 HR and drove in 66 runs while swiping eight bases and carrying a .710 OPS. Promoted to Triple-A Columbus and appeared in five games batting .368 with one homer and two RBI.
- 2021 Highlights: Won the Rawlings Gold Glove Award for Minor League Baseball shortstops. Played the regular season with High-A Lake County, 107 games, .281 (6th in High-A Central), 16 HR (T-9th), 58 RBI, .798 OPS, 116 hits (T-2nd), 25 doubles (T-3rd), 43 extra-base hits (5th), 193 total bases (4th)...Joined Akron for the playoffs Sept. 21.
- Played 17 games in the Arizona Fall League and led the circuit with a .387 average. He also had a .467 OBP and .516 SLG to be ranked the No. 12 prospect in the league.
- Graduated from Cleveland's high school diploma program in December...Completed four months' equivalent of coursework in 10 days, according to Cleveland Education & Language Coordinator Anna Bolton.
- 2019: Finished 5th in the Arizona Rookie League in hits (62), tied for 7th in triples (6) and 10th in batting average (.325).
- 2018: Named Dominican Summer League Mid-Season All-Star.
- Nephew of 16-year major leaguer Juan Uribe.

#38 TREY BENTON Twitter: @TreyBenton12 IG: @treybenton
 RHP: FB,SL,SW,CB vs. 1st Batter (EL): 0-2 (.000), k Inherited Runners-Scored: 0-0 (-%)
2-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 57/0 g/gs, 3-5, 3.58 ERA, 13/18 sv, 60.1 ip, 76 k, .192, 1.59 whip
 2022: Split the season between Lynchburg and Lake County appearing in 39 combined games with a 2.08 ERA, 12/17 saves, 26 BB, 52 K, .185 avg and 1.27 WHIP over 43.1 IP.
 2021: Appeared in 18 games for Lynchburg going 0-2 with a 7.41 ERA, 1/1 saves, 29BB, 24 K over 17 innings pitched.
 2019: Drafted by Cleveland in the 15th round out of East Carolina.
 Amateur: Pitched 49 games (26 starts) at East Carolina (2017-19)...Was 11-9 with a 3.72 ERA and 170 strikeouts over 164.2 innings pitched. Teammate with Gavin Williams at East Carolina and in summer of 2018 for the Bourne Braves in the Cape Cod League...Had reconstructive surgery on right elbow during junior season...Attended West Columbus (NC) High School.

Recent EL Outings (1 scoreless of 2 overall)
 0 straight scoreless outings (0.0 innings)

Date	Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR	IR-Sc
4/6	ERI	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0-0
4/8	ERI	1.0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0-0

#47 BRETT DANIELS Twitter: @IBrettDaniels IG: @ibrettdaniels
 RHP: FB,CH,SL,CB,CT vs. 1st Batter: 0-2 (.000), k Inherited Runners-Scored: 2-0 (0%)
4-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 97/37 g/gs, 22-18, 3.93, 5/7 sv, 297.1 ip, 330 k, .232, 1.33 whip
 2022: Selected by Cleveland from Houston in the Triple-A phase of the Rule 5 Draft Dec. 8, 2021...Pitched 11 relief outings with Triple-A Columbus (16.1 IP, 2-2, 7.16, 8 BB, 15 K, .284 AVG, 1.65 WHIP)...Joined Akron May 24...Posted eight scoreless appearances in August (12.1 IP). Finished season going 4-1 with a 2.98 ERA, 3/3 saves, 27 BB, 50 K, .254 avg, 1.52 WHIP over 45.1 IP (28 games/2 starts).
 2021: Pitched 22 games (18 starts) with Astros Double-A affiliate Corpus Christi, working 90.1 IP, 5-8, 6.58 ERA, 48 BB, 112 K, .273 AVG, 1.59 WHIP.
 2019: Was named a Class-A Midwest League Midseason All-Star...Pitched 21 games (15 starts) for Single-A Quad Cities, 102.2 IP, 7-6, 2.10 ERA, 2/2 saves, 44 BB, 105 K, .208 AVG, 1.17 WHIP...Pitched three relief outings in April for Double-A Corpus Christi (8 IP, 1-0, 6.75 ERA, 6 BB, 10 K).
 2018: Drafted in the 17th round by Houston out of the University of North Carolina...Made his pro debut with Short Season-A Tri-City (33.1 IP, 3-0, 1.62 ERA, 7 BB, 36 K, .175 AVG, 0.84 WHIP)
 Amateur: Pitched four seasons at the University of North Carolina...Was a two-year teammate of 2021-22 RubberDuck Ike Freeman (two years behind Daniels)...Made 94 appearances (3 starts) in four years, going 13-2, 2.61 ERA, two saves, .241 AVG, 147 K in 148 IP...Attended Fuquay-Varina (NC) High School.

Recent EL Outings (1 scoreless of 2 overall)
 1 straight scoreless outings (1.2 innings)

Date	Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR	IR-Sc
4/6	ERI	L 0.2	0	1	1	3	0	0	2-0
4/11	@BOW	W 1.2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0-0

#34 BRADLEY HANNER Twitter: IG:
 RHP: vs. 1st Batter (EL): 1-2 (.500) Inherited Runners-Scored: 3-1 (33.3%)
3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 76/2 g/gs, 11-8, 5.39 ERA, 5/8 sv, 127.0 ip, 144 k, .231, 1.42 whip
 Acquired by Cleveland during the Triple-A Phase of the Rule 5 Draft on 12/7/22...Appeared in 3 games during MLB Spring Training tossing 3.1 IP with a 5.40 ERA and 4 K.
 2022: Pitched for Cedar Rapids (High-A)...Went 7-4 with a 4.60 ERA, 2/2 saves, 27 BB, 65 K, .216 avg, 1.24 WHIP in 39 games (1 start).
 2021: Pitched 26 games (1 start) going 2-1 with a 7.13 ERA 2/4 saves, 34 BB, 49 K, .278 avg, 1.90 WHIP over 41.2 IP for Fort Myers in Single-A.
 2019: Drafted by Minnesota in the 21st round out of Patrick Henry CC...11 games (26.2 IP) in GCL (rookie), 2-3, 1 save, 4.39 ERA, 27 BB, 30 K.
 Amateur: Pitched two seasons for Patrick Henry CC...Went 9-6 with a 3.53 ERA, 73 BB, 176 K in 27 games (24 starts) over 140.1 IP...Attended Orange County (VA) High School.

Recent EL Outings (0 scoreless of 2 overall)
 0 straight scoreless outings (0.0 innings)

Date	Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR	IR-Sc
4/6	ERI	1.1	0	3	3	2	1	0	3-1
4/8	ERI	L 1.0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0-0

#44 MASON HICKMAN Twitter: @HickmanMason IG: @masonhickman
 RHP: FB,CB,SL,CH vs. 1st Batter 0-1 (.000), bb, k Inherited Runners-Scored: 3-3 (100%)
2-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 49/30 g/gs, 11-14, 4.55 ERA, 6/6 sv, 170.0 ip, 213 k, .233, 1.32 whip
 2022: Pitched 19 games (10 starts) for 59.1 IP, 2-5, 2/2 saves, 4.40 ERA, 28 BB, 87 K, .235 avg, 1.37 WHIP for High-A Lake County...Transferred to Akron Aug. 16. Pitched 10 games for 13.0 IP, 1-1, 4/4 saves, 2.77 ERA, 9 BB, 16 K, .196 avg, 1.38 WHIP
 2021: Made 20 starts for High-A Lake County...Finished T-2nd in the High-A Central in wins (8), fifth in opponents' avg (.237), eighth in IP (97.2), WHIP (1.29) and strikeouts (110)...Ranked fifth among qualifying Cleveland minor leaguers in ERA (4.88).
 2020: Drafted by Cleveland in the fifth and final round of the 2020 MLB Draft.
 College: Career record of 19-2 with a 3.13 ERA at Vanderbilt over 29 starts and 189.2 innings (221 SO, 10.5 SO/9.0IP, 2.9 BB/9.0IP)...Went 9-0 with a 2.05 ERA in 20 games (13 starts) as a sophomore in 2019 earned the College World Series-clinching victory over Michigan (6 IP, 1 R, 10 K)...In pandemic-shortened 2020 season, he was 2-0 with a 0.48 ERA in 3 starts (1ER/18.2IP), posting a 26-to-3 strikeout-to-walk ratio...First Team Preseason All-America by Collegiate Baseball.
 High School: Attended Pope John Paul II High School (Hendersonville, TN)...2017 Tennessee Mr. Baseball finalist...Also lettered two years in basketball.
 Personal: Born in Salt Lake City, UT...Hometown is Hendersonville, TN.

Recent EL Outings (0 scoreless of 2 overall)
 0 straight scoreless outings (0.0 innings)

Date	Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR	IR-Sc
4/6	ERI	1.2	1	1	1	3	3	0	3-3
4/11	@BOW	H 1.2	3	1	1	0	2	1	0-0

#36 JORDAN JONES Twitter: @JJ1s_9 IG: @jj1s_9
 RHP: FB, CT, CH, CB, SL vs. 1st Batter 0-2 (.000), k Inherited Runners-Scored: 0-0 (-%)
3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 65/24 g/gs, 11-12, 4.35 ERA, 4/8 sv, 180.0 ip, 179 k, .254, 1.40 whip
 2022: Pitched 28 games (one start) for 47 IP, 3-2, 4/6 saves, 5.55 ERA, 25 BB, 46 K, .250 avg, 1.47 WHIP for High-A Lake County...Transferred to Akron Aug. 13 and appeared in 3 games going 2-0 with a 4.26 ERA, 4 BB, 6 K, .182 avg, 1.26 WHIP before transferred back to Lake County to finish the season.
 2021: Made 20 starts for Single-A Lynchburg (89.1 IP, 3-10, 4.63 ERA, 43 BB, 82 K, .272 avg, 1.52 WHIP)...Finished eighth in the Low-A East in innings pitched (89.1).
 2019: Drafted by Cleveland in the 16th round from the University of Washington...Made professional debut with AZL (rookie) affiliate, working 14 games (three starts) for 37.1 IP, 3-0, 2.17 ERA, 0/2 saves, 9 BB, 45 K, .227 avg, 1.04 WHIP.
 College: Pitched three seasons at Washington (2017-19)...52 games (43 starts) for 268.1 IP, 15-18, 4.39 ERA, 75 BB, 209 K...Finished his junior year (2019) ranked among UW's all-time career leaders in: strikeouts (6th - 209, innings (7th - 268.1) and starts (16th - 43)...is the seventh player in UW history with 200 IP/200 K...As a sophomore in 2018, tied Tim Lincecum (2004) for the UW single-season record of 18 starts on the mound.
 High School: Graduated Kentwood (WA) High School in 2016...Was All-USA Today Washington Player of the Year as a senior in 2016...Lettered all four years and was 28-2 as a pitcher, including 19-0 over his final two seasons and 11-0, 1.12 ERA, 101 strikeouts in 68.2 IP as a senior...Helped Kentwood reach the state championship game...Played in 2015 Area Code Games with the Kansas City Royals.
 Personal: Older brother (by four years) Taylor was drafted by the Houston Astros in 2016 (19th round) out of Gonzaga and is playing first base, third base and outfield for Triple-A Sugar Land Space Cowboys in 2022. Taylor also has appeared in the major leagues for Houston in 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Recent EL Outings (2 scoreless of 2 overall)
 2 straight scoreless outings (3.0 innings)

Date	Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR	IR-Sc
4/7	ERI	1.0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0-0
4/12	@BOW	2.0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0-0

RUBBERDUCKS RELIEVERS

#17 RANDY LABAUT Twitter: @randylabaut IG: @randylabaut

LHP: FB, CB, SL, CH vs. 1st Batter (EL): 0-1 (.000), k Inherited Runners-Scored: 3-0 (0%)

3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 71/3 g/gs, 18-4, 2.92 ERA, 3/9 sv, 145.0 ip, 186 k, .179, 1.09 whip
2022: Pitched 18 relief outings for High-A Lake County (35.1 IP, 6-1, 2/4 saves, 1.53 ERA, 9 BB, 47 K, .146 avg, 0.76 WHIP)...Transferred to Akron June 26 and pitched in 18 games (32.1 IP, 4-1, 0/1 saves, 5.01 ERA, 24 BB, 37 K, .162 avg, 1.30 WHIP).
2021: Pitched 22 games (3 starts) for Single-A Lynchburg (43.2 IP, 3-2, 3.09 ERA, 23 BB, 58 K, .182 avg, 1.19 WHIP).
2019: Drafted by Cleveland in the 35th round from the University of Arizona...Made professional debut with AZL (rookie) affiliate, working 11 games in relief (31 IP, 4-0, 1.74, 1/2 saves, 5 BB, 39 K, .209 avg, 0.94 WHIP).
College: Pitched three seasons at Arizona (2016-18) after a redshirt season...41 games (23 starts) for 150.1 IP, 11-6, 4.25 ERA, 58 BB, 123 K...As a sophomore in 2018, he had emergency surgery on his left leg for compartment syndrome (a condition that occurs when pressure builds within muscles to excessive levels).
High School: Graduated Downey (CA) High School in 2015...Finished high school career with 19 wins, 2.05 ERA and 209 strikeouts in 180.2 innings...Named a 2015 Perfect Game All-American Honorable Mention and California Region Honorable Mention...Drafted in the 27th round by Toronto but went to college instead.
Personal: Born in Havana, Cuba, lived in Alquizar...At age 11, he entered a baseball academy (practiced 5-6 hours daily and went to school for two hours)...Escaped Cuba with parents, Raul and Ernestina, in 2010 at age 13, which included a 40-day journey through Peru, Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Mexico, where they were detained for three weeks (Randy was held separately from his parents). They were fined and released. They settled near Los Angeles with cousins. ([Arizona Daily Star](#)).

Recent EL Outings (1 scoreless of 1 overall) 1 straight scoreless outings (2.1 innings)										
Date	Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR	IR-Sc	
4/7	ERI	W	2.1	0	0	0	1	4	0	3-0

#37 SHANE MCCARTHY Twitter: @SJM_29 IG: @shanemccarthy

RHP: FB, SL, CH vs. First Batter: 0-0 (-) Inherited Runners-Scored: 0-0 (-%)

3-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 37/26 g/gs, 7-6, 2.94, 1/2 sv, 131.2 ip, 140 k, .206, 1.05 whip
2021: Made seven starts for Akron going 0-2 with a 5.02 ERA, 28 SO, 13 BB, .208 avg, 1.22 WHIP over 28.2 IP...Underwent season ending reconstructive elbow surgery
2019: Made 4 starts for AZL going 0-0 with a 0.00 ERA, 15 SO, 4 BB, .105 avg, 0.67 WHIP in 12 IP...Transferred to Lake County (Single-A) making 11 starts going 4-3 with a 4.14 ERA, 61 SO, 18BB, .223 avg, 1.20 WHIP over 50.0 IP
2018: Drafted in the 18th round by Cleveland out of Seton Hall...Appeared in nine games for AZL going 2-0 with a 1.35 ERA, 1/2 sv, 20 SO, 2 BB, .240 avg, 1.00 WHIP...Transferred to Mahoning Valley (Short-A) appearing in 6 games (4 starts) going 1-1, 0.43 ERA, 16 SO, 2 BB, .178 avg, 0.71 WHIP over 21 IP
Amateur: Attended Seton Hall...Finished career ranked second in Seton Hall history in career starts, fourth in innings pitched and eighth in strikeouts...Named 2018 All-Big East second team after going 3-4 with a 4.14 ERA and 52 SO with just 16 BB over 74.0 IP...Drafted by St. Louis in 18th round of the 2017 MLB draft after going 3-7 with a 5.13 ERA, 46 SO and 21 BB in 59.2 IP (13 games/12 starts)...Earned All-Big East First Team in 2016 and led Big East with 2.38 ERA, 102.0 IP and 84 SO...Named Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American going 4-4 with 2.19 ERA (led Big East) over 65.2 IP (led team)...Attended Rumson-Fair Haven (NJ) High School.
Personal: Works with Vs. Cancer to assist in research and treatment of brain cancers ([News-Herald](#)) Donated money for each strikeout during 2021 season ([Akron Beacon Journal](#))

Recent EL Outings (0 scoreless of 0 overall) 0 straight scoreless outings (0.0 innings)										
Date	Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR	IR-Sc	

#29 DOUG NIKHAZY Twitter: @Dougnikhazy IG: @dougnikhazy

LHP: FB, CB, SL, CH vs. First Batter: 0-2 (.000) Inherited Runners-Scored: 0-0 (-%)

1-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 24/24 g/gs, 4-6, 3.96, 0/0 sv, 102.1 ip, 128 k, .201, 1.49 whip
2022: Made 21 starts (93.0 IP) for Lake County going 4-4 with a 3.19 ERA, 68 bb, 118 k, .182 avg, 1.37 WHIP...Promoted to Akron Aug. 30...Made 3 starts (9.1 IP) for Akron going 0-2 with a 11.57 ERA, 11 bb, 10 k, .359 avg, 2.68 WHIP.
2021: Drafted in the 2nd round by Cleveland out of Ole Miss.
Amateur: Attended Ole Miss...Three-year career with 24-6 record 2.81 ERA in 40 games/33 starts (204.2 P, 149H, 64ER, 73BB, 259SO)...Went 12-2 with a 2.45 ERA in 16 games/15 starts at Ole Miss in 2021 (92.0IP, 62H, 25ER, 31BB, 142SO)...Earned First Team All-American honors from ABCA/Rawlings, Baseball America, Collegiate Baseball, NCBWA and D1 Baseball...Set an Ole Miss record for single-season wins (12) and finished second in program history for single-season strikeouts (142, fifth in NCAA) behind Lance Lynn's 146 in 2007...Set an Ole Miss freshman record with 86 SO in 89.2 innings, earning Freshman All-American honors in 2019...attended West Orange (FL) High School.

Recent EL Outings (1 scoreless of 2 overall) 1 straight scoreless outings (3.0 innings)										
Date	Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR	IR-Sc	
4/7	ERI		1.2	2	2	0	4	3	0	0-0
4/12	@BOW		3.0	1	0	0	2	3	0	0-0

#48 DAVIS SHARPE Twitter: @Dsharpe3 IG: @Davissharpe

RHP: vs. First Batter: 0-1 (.000) Inherited Runners-Scored: 0-0 (-%)

1-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 38/0 g/gs, 8-3, 2.02, 4/6 sv, 71.1 ip, 87 k, .208, 0.91 whip
2022: Made 38 appearances going 8-3 with a 2.02 ERA, 4/6 saves, 71.1 IP, 87 K, .208 avg, 0.91 WHIP
2021: Drafted in the 13th round by Cleveland out of Clemson.
Amateur: Attended Clemson as a two-way player...Two-time ACC Academic Honor Roll member...In three seasons appeared in 29 games (24 starts) on the mound going 12-6 with a 3.89 ERA, .232 avg, 54 BB, 152 K...At the plate he appeared in 74 games (66 starts) with .256/.424/.369, 12 doubles, 10 HR, 40 RBI, 44 runs, 35 BB...Eighth in Clemson history in career strikeouts per nine innings pitched (9.87)...John Olerud Two-Way Player-of-the-Year award finalist as a freshman...Drafted in the 34th round by Pittsburgh out of high school...attended Mill Creek (TX) High School.

Recent EL Outings (1 scoreless of 1 overall) 1 straight scoreless outings (1.0 innings)										
Date	Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR	IR-Sc	
4/8	ERI		1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0-0

#39 CADE SMITH Twitter: IG:

RHP: FB, SL, SPL vs. 1st Batter (EL): 0-0 (.000), bb, hp Inherited Runners-Scored: 2-0 (0%)

2-yr MiLB Totals thru '22: 77/0 g/gs, 6-5, 3.36, 18/22 sv, 104.1 ip, 167 k, .173, 1.15 whip
2022: Pitched in two games (one IP) for Team Canada in the World Baseball Classic allowing two runs on three hits with a strikeout.
2022: Pitched 20 games (24 IP) with High-A Lake County, 2-1, 5/6 saves, 3.00 ERA, 14 BB, 44 K, 1.21 WHIP. Pitched in 20 games (37.1 IP) with Akron 2-1, 8/9 saves, 2.89 ERA, 55 K, 1.18 WHIP.
2021: Pitched 30 G (40 IP, 2-3, 4.28 ERA, 4/6 saves) for Low-A Lynchburg and 3 G (3 IP, 0 R, 1/1 save) for High-A Lake County.
2020: Signed by Cleveland to a minor league contract after the shortened five-round MLB Draft.
College: Played three years at the University of Hawaii (34 G, 15 GS, 4-4, 1 save, 4.54 ERA, 117 IP, 45 BB, 113 K)...Earned 2020 Jenny Matsuda award for the top GPA among male student-athletes at Hawaii...Majored in biology.
Amateur: Born and raised in British Columbia...Attended Mennonite Educational Institute for high school...Pitched for the Canadian U18 Junior National Team and in 2017 pitched against minor league teams in Florida and the Dominican Republic from the Astros, Rays, Phillies Tigers, Brewers, Dodgers and Australia...Drafted out of high school in 2017 by the Minnesota Twins (16th round) but did not sign...also lettered three seasons in volleyball and basketball, lettered one season of track and field.

Recent EL Outings (2 scoreless of 2 overall) 2 straight scoreless outings (2.1 innings)										
Date	Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR	IR-Sc	
4/7	ERI	S	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0
4/11	@BOW	S	1.1	2	0	0	1	3	0	2-0

RUBBERDUCKS HITTERS

Hitters	Pinch Hitting	Multi-Hit Games					Multi-RBI Games					Home Runs													
		T	2	3	4	5	Last	T	2	3	4	5	6	Last	T	Solo	2R	3R	GS	Leadoff	Tying	Go-ahead	Walk-off	Last	
Amditis		1	1				4/11 @BOW (2)	1		1				4/11 @BOW (3)	1		1				1				4/11 @BOW
Berglund																									
Bracho								1	1					4/7vERI (2)	1		1				1				4/7vERI
Delgado																									
Escobedo		2	1	1			4/12 @BOW (2)								1	1									4/12 @BOW
Halpin		1	1				4/7vERI (2)																		
Kokx																									
Lavastida																									
Martinez		2	1	1			4/11 @BOW (3)	2	2					4/11 @BOW (2)	1		1					1			4/11 @BOW
Naranjo																									
Rodriguez, G.																									
Rodriguez, J.																									
Tena																									
Total		6	4	2			4/12 @BOW	4	3	1				4/11 @BOW (2)	4	1	3			2	1			4/12 @BOW	

RUBBERDUCKS 2023 TRANSACTIONS 13 PLAYERS USED (0 REHABS) 16 PITCHERS USED (0 REHAB, 0 POS.)

2023 Opening Day Roster (* returning RubberDuck, *Injured List*, Cleveland Guardians 40-man roster)

P (15): RH Trey Benton, RH Tanner Burns*, **LH Joey Cantillo***, RH Ross Carver, RH Brett Daniels*, RH Bradley Hanner, RH Mason Hickman*, RH Jordan Jones*, LH Randy Labaut*, RH Jack Leftwich, LH Doug Nikhazy*, RH Davis Sharpe, RH Cade Smith*, RH Hunter Stanley, RH Gavin Williams*

C (3): Mike Amditis, Michael Berglund, **Bryan Lavastida***

IF (6): Aaron Bracho, Raynel Delgado*, **Angel Martínez***, Joe Naranjo, Gabriel Rodríguez, **José Tena***

OF (4): Julian Escobedo*, Petey Halpin, Connor Kokx, Johnathan Rodríguez*

#	DATE	PLAYER	POS.	FROM	TO	#	DATE	PLAYER	POS.	FROM
1	4/11	José Tena	INF	Akron	Temporary Inactive List					
2	4/11	Shane McCarthy	RHP	Columbus (AAA)	Akron					

RUBBERDUCKS 2023 FIRST HALF DAY-BY-DAY

Record: Sunday (0-0), Monday (0-0), Tuesday (1-0), Wednesday (0-1), Thursday (0-1), Friday (1-0), Saturday (0-1) **Doubleheaders:** 0-0-0 **Home Sellouts:** 0

Series: **First Half: 0-1-0 Home, 0-0-0 Road, 0-1-0 Overall** **Second Half: 0-0-0 Home, 0-0-0 Road, 0-0-0 Overall** **Home Dates Lost:** 0

#	Date	Opp.	Score	W/L	Record	Place	GB/A	Winner	Loser	Save	Time	Att.	Opening / Total (Avg)
1	4/6	ERI	0-5	L	0-1	T-3rd	-1.0	Gipson-Long (1-0)	Daniels (0-1)	-	2:47	3,858	#1 / 3,858 (3,858)
2	4/7	ERI	6-4	W	1-1	T-2nd	-1.0	Labaut (1-0)	Chentouf (0-1)	Smith (1)	3:03	1,831	#2 / 5,689 (2,845)
3	4/8	ERI	2-3 (11)	L	1-2	T-4th	-2.0	Bergner (1-0)	Hanner (0-1)	-	3:05	1,898	#3 / 7,587 (2,529)
4	4/11	@BOW	7-4	W	2-2	T-2nd	-2.0	Daniels (1-1)	Velez (0-1)	Smith (1)	2:31	3,504	
5	4/12	@BOW	1-2	L	2-3	T-3rd	-2.0	McDermott (1-0)	Leftwich (0-1)	-	2:04	1,144	
6	4/13	@BOW											
7	4/14	@BOW											
8	4/15	@BOW											
9	4/16	@BOW											
10	4/18	HBG											
11	4/19	HBG											
12	4/20	HBG											
13	4/21	HBG											
14	4/22	HBG											
15	4/23	HBG											
16	4/25	@BNG											
17	4/26	@BNG											
18	4/27	@BNG											
19	4/28	@BNG											
20	4/29	@BNG											
21	4/30	@BNG											
22	5/2	POR											
23	5/3	POR											
24	5/4	POR											
25	5/5	POR											
26	5/6	POR											
27	5/7	POR											
28	5/9	@ALT											
29	5/10	@ALT											
30	5/11	@ALT											
31	5/12	@ALT											
32	5/13	@ALT											
33	5/14	@ALT											
34	5/16	@RIC											
35	5/17	@RIC											
36	5/18	@RIC											
37	5/19	@RIC											
38	5/20	@RIC											
39	5/21	@RIC											
40	5/23	BOW											
41	5/24	BOW											
42	5/25	BOW											
43	5/26	BOW											
44	5/27	BOW											
45	5/28	BOW											
46	5/30	HFD											
47	5/31	HFD											
48	6/1	HFD											
49	6/2	HFD											
50	6/3	HFD											
51	6/4	HFD											
52	6/6	@POR											
53	6/7	@POR											
54	6/8	@POR											
55	6/9	@POR											
56	6/10	@POR											
57	6/11	@POR											
58	6/13	@NH											
59	6/14	@NH											
60	6/15	@NH											
61	6/16	@NH											
62	6/17	@NH											
63	6/18	@NH											
64	6/20	BNG											
65	6/21	BNG											
66	6/22	BNG											
67	6/23	BNG											
68	6/24	BNG											
69	6/25	BNG											

Akron Baseball: A Winning Tradition

This is the 33rd season of Double-A baseball in Northeast Ohio, and the 25th in downtown Akron. The franchise began as the **Canton-Akron Indians** in 1989, and then moved to **Canal Park** in Akron as the **Aeros** in 1997, later becoming the **RubberDucks** before the 2014 season. The club has made the Eastern League playoffs 18 times overall, and 12 of the last 19 seasons. The team has captured **six league titles**—2003, 2005, 2009, 2012, 2016 and 2021. Notable alumni of the franchise include Víctor Martínez, CC Sabathia, Grady Sizemore, Charles Nagy, Cliff Lee, Jhonny Peralta, Jaret Wright, Francisco Lindor, José Ramírez, and Shane Bieber.