



# GAME NOTES

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## FREDERICKSBURG NATIONALS (4-0) at HILL CITY HOWLERS (2-2)

Wednesday, April 8 | 6:30 p.m. | City Stadium | Game 5 of 132 | Broadcast: FredNats B.N./MiLB.tv/Bally Sports Live

### RHP Carson Fischer (Season debut) vs. LHP Nelson Keljo (Season debut)

#### UPCOMING GAMES AND PROBABLE STARTERS

DATE	OPPONENT	PROBABLE PITCHERS	FIRST PITCH (ET)
Thursday, April 9	at Hill City	RHP Leuris Portorreal vs RHP Joey Oakie	6:30 p.m.
Friday, April 10	at Hill City	LHP Nolan Hughes vs RHP Jacob Zibin	6:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 11	at Hill City	RHP Miguel Sime Jr. vs LHP Harrison Bodendorf	

**DO YOU REMEMBER?:** The sixth season of Fredericksburg Nationals baseball at Virginia Credit Union Stadium kicked off with a sweep over the Augusta GreenJackets. With Tuesday's win over Lynchburg, the FredNats have tied their best start to a season since game-by-game date was archived (at least 2005). The 2016 Potomac Nationals team also began 4-0, sweeping their now-affiliate Wilmington Blue Rocks in a three game series before taking the series opener against the Lynchburg Hillcats.

**(ALMOST) HISTORY:** In the series opener against Lynchburg, Ronny Cruz finished 3-5, with a double, triple, and home run. Cruz flirted with what could've been the second cycle in FredNats history, after Roismar Quintana was the first against Myrtle Beach in May of 2024.

**SEESAW SWEEPS:** After being swept last season by the Carolina Mudcats in their opener, the FredNats rebounded this year by sweeping their season opening series. The team is now 3-3 all time in season opening games.

**ABOUT LAST YEAR:** The FredNats finished last season at 65-64 overall under Manager Billy McMillon, following the championship in 2024 by winning the North division's second half title to advance to the playoffs for the second straight year. The FredNats season concluded with a two games to none loss to eventual Carolina League Champion Lynchburg in the Division Series.

**DO I KNOW YOU?:** The Hill City Howlers are one of three different Carolina League teams that rebranded or relocated this season. Previously known as the Lynchburg Hillcats since 1995, the Guardians' Single-A affiliate has become one of Fredericksburg's most common opponents, including a playoff meeting last season won two games to none by the eventual Carolina League Champion Hillcats.

**(NOT) BACK WHERE WE STARTED:** The FredNats' hot start to the season is a far-cry from how the franchise began its time in the Carolina League. After relocating from Woodbridge, Virginia, the FredNats opened their time in their current home with an 0-15 start to the 2021 season, beginning with a sweep at the hands of the Lynchburg Hillcats. Overall in 2021, the FredNats lost their first three series, starting 1-17, before picking up their first series win in team history against the Down East Wood Ducks.

**UP TO OUR ARMPITS IN PROSPECTS:** The Fredericksburg Opening Day roster is loaded with some of the top talent in the revamped Nationals organization, headlined by Washington's top prospect Eli Willits, the No. 1 overall pick in the 2025 MLB Draft. Willits is ranked as baseball's 9th-best prospect overall by MLB Pipeline. Overall, the FredNat roster has seven prospects ranked in MLB Pipeline's top 20 Nationals prospects.

**MACKENZIE'S GONE:** The FredNats opening day roster includes two of the five prospects dealt back to Washington from Texas as part of the trade for Nats' top end arm MacKenzie Gore. Last year's 12th overall pick Gavin Fien debuts as the fifth-best prospect in the Nationals organization, and is joined by former Rangers prospect Jeremy Cabrera (Nats No. 20) in the haul back from Texas. Both players bring Carolina League experience to FXBG after finishing last year with the Hickory Crawdads.

**THE STAFF:** Manager Chris O'Neill leads a coaching staff of seven newcomers to the Washington organization, and the average age of the coaching staff is 28.

**WE ARE GETTING YOUNGER:** The new staff in Fredericksburg follows a trend of young brainchildren charged with working in the Nationals organization this year, with other notable hires within the organization including President of Baseball Operations Paul Toboni (currently the youngest lead executive in MLB), General Manager Anirudh "Ani" Kilambi (aged 31), and Major League Manager Blake Butera (the youngest manager in MLB since 1972 at 33 years old).

**FREDNATS BASEBALL NETWORK IS BACK:** Once again, all 132 FredNat games this season will be broadcast live on the FredNats Baseball Network, with Luke West Poley beginning his first season as the lead voice of the team. Home games are broadcast on MiLB.tv and the Bally Sports Live App to go along with the audio-only stream at frednats.com/broadcast or the MiLB App. For road games, the radio broadcast is available at the same link. In addition, all FredNats games preceded by a 20 minute pregame show and postgame coverage following each night of action.

**A LASTING LEGACY:** The Fredericksburg Nationals adopt the franchise history of their predecessors in the Carolina League dating back to 1978...the Alexandria Dukes (1978, 1980-83) and Alexandria Mariners (1979) played at Four Mile Run Park in Alexandria, Virginia... the Prince William Pirates (1984-1986), Prince William Yankees (1987-1988), Prince William Cannons (1989-1998), Potomac Cannons (1999-2004) and Potomac Nationals (2005-2019) played at G. Richard Pfitzner Stadium in Woodbridge, Virginia...the franchise has won six Carolina League championships, as the Dukes in 1982, as the Yankees in 1989, and as the Potomac Nationals in 2008, 2010 and 2014. The franchise won its first league title as the Fredericksburg Nationals in 2024, defeating the Kannapolis Cannon Ballers and winning the title at Virginia Credit Union Stadium. The franchise has appeared in the Carolina League playoffs in three out of the last four seasons.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

Overall.....	4-0
Home.....	3-0
Road.....	1-0
vs. Hill City.....	1-0
Last 10 games.....	4-0
Record in series.....	1-0
Series openers.....	2-0
Series finales.....	1-0
Doubleheaders.....	0-0
April.....	4-0
May.....	0-0
June.....	0-0
July.....	0-0
August.....	0-0
September.....	0-0
Day games.....	2-0
Night games.....	2-0
vs. North.....	1-0
vs. South.....	3-0
vs. LH starter.....	0-0
vs. RH starter.....	4-0
Scoring first.....	2-0
Scoring last.....	2-0
Up after 7/8.....	3-0/3-0
Extra innings.....	1-0
1-run games.....	1-0
Shutouts.....	0-0
Walk-offs.....	1-0
+/-.....	+10 (30-20)
Most over .500.....	4 (4-0)
Most under .500.....	(0-0)
Longest W stk.....	(4)
Longest L stk.....	(--)
White jerseys.....	1-0
Gray jerseys.....	1-0
Navy jerseys.....	0-0
Red jerseys.....	0-0
Military jerseys.....	1-0
'Burg jerseys.....	1-0
Frog jerseys.....	0-0

Carson Fischer - RHP

#18

Height: 6-5

Weight: 225

B/T: R/R

Age: 23 (10/18/2002 in Grand Rapids, MI)

Acquired: Free Agent, 2025

2026: 0-0, 0.00 ERA

CAREER: 0-0, 0.00 ERA

REPERTOIRE: 4S, SK, CT, SW, CH

**A NEW ROLE:** Fischer, picked up by the Nationals as a free agent last summer, comes from the University of Miami, where he finished his collegiate career after three seasons at Davenport University at the division 2 level. He's set to make his first start since the summer of 2024 prior to his senior year of college, where he started six games for the Traverse City Pit Spitters of the Northwoods League. Fischer played every summer in college for Traverse City in the north part of Michigan.

**RUBBER ARM:** Made an immediate impact upon transferring to the Hurricanes, leading U of Miami in appearances with 30 as a senior in the spring of 2025.

**GOING DEEP:** Prior to being switched to a reliever, Fischer had ability to pitch deep into games, leading Davenport U in innings pitched as a junior, and pitching four complete games.

Recent Appearances

DATE	OPP.	DECISION	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	HR

Career Highs:	IP:	SO:	NP:	Dec.	IP	H	R	ER	K	BB	HR	ERA
APRIL TOTALS (Career)	0-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
MAY TOTALS (Career)	0-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
JUNE TOTALS (Career)	0-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
JULY TOTALS (Career)	0-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
AUG. TOTALS (Career)	0-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
SEPT. TOTALS (Career)	0-0	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	0.00
HOME GAMES (Career)	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	0.00
AWAY GAMES (Career)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
DAY GAMES (Career)	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	0.00
NIGHT GAMES (Career)	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	0.00
VS LEFT (Career)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	--
VS RIGHT (Career)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	--

NEXT GAME'S STARTER: RHP Leuris Portorreal

Makes his second FredNat start after serving as opening day starter



# Chris O'Neill - MANAGER

#4

1st Season | Previously: Hitting Coach/Recruiting Coordinator, Virginia Commonwealth University

O'Neill, 36, joins the Nationals organization after two seasons (2024-25) as a hitting coach/recruiting coordinator at Virginia Commonwealth University. Prior to that, he served as an assistant coach and assistant recruiting coordinator at George Washington from 2022-24.

O'Neill is credited with helping fuel major offensive surges at both VCU and George Washington, as both schools set offensive records and contended for Atlantic 10 championships under his watch. O'Neill spent the 2021 season as the director of operations at Duke University and prior to that, he served as an assistant coach at Bucknell University (2020), Marshall University (2018-19) and the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore (2017).

This season will be O'Neill's first time managing since he led the Grand Lake Mariners (Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League) in the summers of 2016 and 2017. A Pennsylvania native, he received his Bachelor's degree in Education from King's College in 2012. O'Neill and his wife Kate have two boys, Easton and Callum.



## Luke Dziados - PITCHING COACH

#39

1st Season | Previously: Pitching Trainer - Driveline Baseball (Tampa, Fla.)

Dziados (D-Zay-Dis), 27, comes to the Nationals organization after spending the last two years as a pitching trainer at Driveline Baseball in Tampa, Fla. He capped his college pitching career at Villanova University in 2023 after pitching at Binghamton University from 2018-20. Dziados earned his Bachelor's degree from Binghamton in 2021 and also earned a Graduate Certificate in Leadership from Villanova in 2023.



## Jake Scheiner - HITTING COACH

#51

1st Season | Previously: INF/OF - Hiroshima Toyo Carp (Nippon Professional Baseball)

Scheiner, 30, played seven seasons (2017-23) in the Phillies and Mariners organizations. He appeared in 658 Minor League games before signing in 2024 with Hiroshima Toyo Carp of Nippon Professional Baseball in Japan. A native of San Mateo, Calif., Scheiner was drafted in the fourth round of the 2017 First-Year Player Draft by the Phillies out of the University of Houston.



## Luis Villanueva - ASSISTANT PITCHING COACH

#36

1st Season | Previously: Performance Coach - LAVR Performance

Villanueva, 24, was a performance coach at LAVR Performance where he designed and led throwing programs to improve overall pitching performance for more than 50 athletes prior to joining Washington's coaching ranks. Villanueva attended and played baseball for both Kansas Wesleyan University and MidAmerica Nazarene University.



## Anthony Ray - DEFENSIVE COACH

#6

1st Season | Previously: Hitting/Outfield Coach - Rocky Mountain Vibes (Pioneer League)

Ray, 30, joins Washington after spending the 2025 season as a hitting and outfield coach with the Rocky Mountain Vibes of the independent Pioneer League. He transitioned to the coaching role after 487 professional games across 10 seasons between the St. Louis Cardinals system and independent leagues.



## Isaac Kim - HITTING COACH

#35

1st Season | Previously: Player Development Assistant, California State University, Northridge

Kim, 23, comes to the Nationals organization from California State University, Northridge, where he spent the fall of 2025 as a Player Development Assistant, with a focus on video. As a player, Kim was a First Team All-American and SCIAAC Player of the Year in 2024 at Division 3 Pomona College before transferring to finish his playing career at UC Santa Barbara in the spring of 2025.

## FULL ROSTER

- 2 Eli Willits INF
- 3 Rafael Ramirez Jr. INF
- 4 Chris O'Neill MGR
- 5 Ronny Cruz INF
- 6 Anthony Ray DC
- 7 Coy James INF
- 8 Christian Fagnant C
- 9 Jeremy Cabrera OF
- 10 Luke Dickerson INF/OF
- 11 Gavin Fien INF/OF
- 12 Nick Hollifield C
- 14 Sir Jamison Jones C
- 15 Landon Harmon RHP
- 16 Cesar Rojas RHP
- 17 Jack Moroknek OF
- 18 Carson Fischer RHP
- 19 Grant Manning RHP
- 20 Bryant Olson LHP
- 21 Luke Johnson RHP
- 22 Leuris Portorreal RHP
- 23 Jacob Walsh INF
- 24 Juan Cruz INF
- 25 Nick Peoples OF
- 26 Isaac Lyon RHP
- 27 Ryan Minckler RHP
- 28 Owen Puk RHP
- 29 Jonah Conradt RHP
- 30 Nolan Hughes LHP
- 32 Johan Otanez RHP
- 33 Miguel Sime Jr. RHP
- 35 Isaac Kim Coach
- 36 Luis Villanueva APC
- 37 Alexander Meckley RHP
- 38 Jared Beck LHP
- 39 Luke Dziados PC
- 51 Jake Scheiner HC

**JARED BECK - LHP**
**#38**

Height: 7-0 Weight: 225 B/T: L/L Age: 25 (7/01/00 in Davenport, IA) Acquired: Free Agent, 2026  
 2 G: 0-0, 4.50 ERA (2.0 IP, 1 ER) 4 K, 6 BB, 0-0 SV Repertoire: 4S, 2S, SW, CH, CV, SL vs. Left: .000 vs. Right: .250

- Jared Christopher Beck...acquired via free agent signing on February 22nd after spending 2022-2025 in the Baltimore Orioles organization. 13th round pick by Baltimore in the 2022 MLB Draft from St. Leo University (D2, Fla.)
- Spent time collegiately at Heartland Community College, Eastern Iowa Community College and Illinois State University before final two seasons at St. Leo.
- #4 ranked LHP in Iowa out of high school (Perfect Game)
- Led Lions in strikeouts (105), 3rd in conference, opponents hit .217 against Beck in final season at St. Leo in 2022.
- Began with Single-A Delmarva in 2022, split time between Delmarva and High-A Aberdeen each season from 2023-2025.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/4 vs AUG		1.0+	2	1	0	2	1	0
4/8 vs HC		2.0	1	1	1	4	3	0

**JONAH CONRADT - RHP**
**#29**

Height: 6-2 Weight: 185 B/T: R/R Age: 21 (11/02/04 in Appleton, WI) Acquired: Free Agent, 2026  
 0 G: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (0.0 IP, 0 ER) 0 K, 0 BB, 0-0 SV Repertoire: vs. Left: .000 vs. Right: .000

- Jonah Conradt...makes full season professional debut after spending part of 2025 in the New York Mets organization. Signed in July of 2025 by Mets out of McLennan Community College (TX), assigned to FCL in August, did not appear.
- Committed to Oregon prior to signing with Mets last summer.
- Spent two seasons at McLennan where the Highlanders were the NJCAA Division 1 No. 1 ranked team in the country, appearing 26 times and starting 6 games, 6.86 ERA as a sophomore in 2025.
- Threw three scoreless bullpen outings (2.1 IP) for State College in the MLB Draft League last summer prior to signing with the Mets.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
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**CARSON FISCHER - RHP**
**#18**

Height: 6-5 Weight: 225 B/T: R/R Age: 23 (10/18/2002 in Grand Rapids, MI) Acquired: Free Agent, 2025  
 0 G: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (0.0 IP, 0 ER) 0 K, 0 BB, 0-0 SV Repertoire: SK, CT, SW, CH, 4S vs. Left: .000 vs. Right: .000

- Carson Glen Fischer...returns after two appearances (2 IP, 0 R, 3 K) with the FredNats last season. Signed by Washington in August of 2025 to a minor league contract.
- Began career with three seasons at Davenport University (D2, Mich.), All-GLIAC selection. Finished collegiate career in 2025 at Miami (FL), 5.40 ERA in 30 relief appearances, which led the Hurricanes, posting a 5-1 record.
- Undefeated (13-0) at Hudsonville High School (Hudsonville, Mich.), All-State selection.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
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**LUKE JOHNSON - RHP**
**#21**

Height: 6-1 Weight: 195 B/T: R/R Age: 23 (4/15/2002 in Silver Spring, MD) Acquired: Round 10, 2024  
 1 G: 1-0, 15.00 ERA (3.0 IP, 5 ER) 2 K, 2 BB, 0-0 SV Repertoire: 4S, CT, SL, CH vs. Left: .400 vs. Right: .500

- Luke Emmanuel Johnson...returns after splitting first professional season between the FredNats and FCL Nationals. 10th round pick, 290th overall, by Washington in 2024 MLB Draft from University of Maryland-Baltimore County.
- 22 appearances, 10 starts across both levels last season, 8 appearances all starts in Fredericksburg. 5.67 ERA in 33.1 IP, 8 BB/24 K for FredNats last season. 1.23 ERA in FCL in 14 appearances, 12 out of the bullpen.
- 52/54 appearances were starts in four seasons at UMBC, back to back America East Pitcher of the Year, First Team All-Conference in last two collegiate seasons. Two-way to begin career, switch almost exclusively to pitching for final two seasons.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/5 vs AUG	W	3.0	7	5	5	2	2	1

**ISAAC LYON - RHP**
**#26**

Height: 6-5 Weight: 225 B/T: R/R Age: 23 (10/18/2002 in Grand Rapids, MI) Acquired: Trade with Seattle, 2025  
 1 G: 1-0, 3.00 ERA (3.0 IP, 1 ER) 4 K, 0 BB, 0-0 SV Repertoire: SK, CT, SW, CH, 4S vs. Left: .222 vs. Right: .000

- Isaac Lyon...acquired in a trade with Seattle in December. 10th round pick from Grand Canyon University in 2025.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/8 vs HC	W	3.0	2	1	1	0	4	1

**GRANT MANNING - RHP**
**#19**

Height: 6-6 Weight: 225 B/T: R/R Age: 25 (2/02/2001 in Berkeley, CA) Acquired: Free Agent, 2026  
 1 G: 0-0, 5.40 ERA (1.2 IP, 1 ER) 0 K, 2 BB, 0-0 SV Repertoire: vs. Left: .000 vs. Right: .286

- Grant Thomas Yarbrough Manning...signed by Washington in February of 2026 to a minor league contract following graduation from Virginia Tech.
- Spent six seasons playing across two schools collegiately, including the first four at D3 powerhouse Chapman. Posted a 3.58 ERA in final year at CU in 2023 in 13 appearances (12 starts), before transferring to Virginia Tech for final two collegiate seasons.
- 7-3, 5.92 ERA across two seasons at VT, appearing mostly in relief. Struck out 114 hitters in 86.2 IP across both seasons for the Hokies.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/3 vs AUG		1.2	2	2	1	2	0	0

**ALEXANDER MECKLEY - RHP**
**#37**

Height: 6-2 Weight: 240 B/T: R/R Age: 22 (7/12/2003 in Gettysburg, PA) Acquired: Round 12, 2024  
 1 G: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (5.0 IP, 0 ER) 6 K, 1 BB, 0-0 SV Repertoire: 4S, SK, SL, CV, CH vs. Left: .000 vs. Right: .091

- Alexander Meckley...returning for his third year in Fredericksburg after spending part of the 2024 season with the FredNats and splitting time with High-A Wilmington last year. 12th round pick, 350th overall by Washington in the 2024 MLB Draft from Coastal Carolina University.
- 6-6, 3.78 ERA as a FredNat in 19 starts last season. 4 appearances, including his only bullpen cameo, with High-A Wilmington in 2025. 5.94 ERA in 16.2 IP, 19 K/10 BB.
- Appeared three times for Fredericksburg in 2024 post-draft, pitching 5.2 innings and allowing no runs.
- Began his career at the junior college level at West Virginia-Potomac State College, pitching two seasons, leading the staff in strikeouts and making the NJCAA Division 1 All-Region Team as a sophomore. 7.52 ERA in 21 appearances (9 starts) for CCU in 2024, striking out 57 in 52.2 IP.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/4 vs AUG		5.0	1	0	0	1	6	0

**RYAN MINCKLER - RHP**
**#27**

Height: 6-2    Weight: 180    B/T: R/R    Age: 23 (10/01/2002 in Bangkok, Thailand)    Acquired: Round 19, 2024  
 1 G: 0-0, 13.50 ERA (1.1 IP, 2 ER) 2 K, 2 BB, 0-0 SV    Repertoire: 4S, FK, SW, C-CH    vs. Left: .333    vs. Right: .333

- Ryan Woraphan Minckler...returning FredNat who commonly appeared out of the bullpen last season. 19th round pick, 560th overall, by Washington in 2024 MLB Draft from Niagara University.
- 39 bullpen appearances last season were 2nd most on staff, 4-6 record, 4.74 ERA. Finished 12 games for FredNats, pitching 49.1 innings, walking 52 and striking out 56.
- Born and raised in Thailand, attended high school in New Hampshire. Brother, Matthew, is a two-way player at Delaware, previously at Virginia Tech, and hit for the Cycle against Maryland-Eastern Shore in 2025.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/5 vs AUG		1.1	2	2	2	2	2	0

**BRYANT OLSON - LHP**
**#20**

Height: 6-4    Weight: 190    B/T: L/L    Age: 23 (12/19/2002 in Snellville, GA)    Acquired: Round 13, 2024  
 2 G: 1-0, 0.00 ERA (2.2 IP, 0 ER) 5 K, 4 BB, 0-0 SV    Repertoire: FB, SW, CT    vs. Left: .000    vs. Right: .000

- Bryant Malcom Olson...returns to Fredericksburg after spending part of his rookie season with the FredNats in 2025. 13th round pick, 380th overall, by Washington in 2024 MLB Draft from Mercer University.
- Split time between the FCL Nationals and FredNats last year, 10 apps in Single-A, all in relief, 4.35 ERA, 10.1 IP, 16 BB/14 K. 3.72 ERA in 17 relief appearances, 33 strikeouts in 19.1 IP in the FCL.
- Began career at Gordon State College (JuCo, Ga.), before spending 2024 at Mercer. 6.41 ERA in 23 relief outings, 8 saves (led SoCon), 39 K in 26.2 IP.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/3 vs AUG	W	1.1	0	0	0	2	2	0
4/5 vs AUG		1.1	0	0	0	2	3	0

**JOHAN OTANEZ - RHP**
**#32**

Height: 6-1    Weight: 168    B/T: R/R    Age: 24 (2/19/2002 in Cotui, DOM)    Acquired: International Free Agent, 2018  
 2 G: 0-0, 10.13 ERA (2.2 IP, 3 ER) 3 K, 0 BB, 0-0 SV    Repertoire: FB, SL, CH    vs. Left: .250    vs. Right: .500

- Johan Manuel Otanez...returns for his fourth season in Fredericksburg. Signed in September of 2018 by Washington from the Dominican Republic.
- Spent 2019 in the Dominican Summer League, predominantly starting, before moving to the FCL and transitioning into a mostly bullpen role in 2021 and 2022.
- Splitting time between the FCL and Fredericksburg each of the last three seasons, coming out of the bullpen in all but 1 outing during that span.
- 3.45 ERA across two levels in 2024, including a .9 ERA in 9 appearances for the FCL Nationals.
- Coming off his best season of his career, pitching to a 5-2 record and 2.61 ERA across 3 levels last year, also reaching High-A Wilmington for the first time (1.69 ERA in 6 appearances)
- 5-1, 2.67 ERA in 25 outings for the FredNats, finishing 12 games last season. In 33.2 innings, struck out 39 while only walking 15 and allowing just 3 home runs.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/4 vs AUG		1.2	5	3	3	0	1	1
4/8 vs HC		1.0	0	0	0	0	2	0

**OWEN PUK - RHP**
**#28**

Height: 6-5    Weight: 230    B/T: R/R    Age: 23 (10/27/2002 in Cedar Rapids, IA)    Acquired: Round 18, 2025  
 2 G: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (1.0 IP, 0 ER) 1 K, 0 BB, 0-0 SV    Repertoire: 4S, SK, CT, SL, SW, CH    vs. Left: .500    vs. Right: .000

- Owen Thomas Puk...returning FredNat who appeared 5 times out of the bullpen in 2025, pitching to a 5.68 ERA. Selected in the 18th round, 531st overall, by Washington in the 2025 MLB Draft from Florida International University.
- Spent four seasons at FIU, missing his sophomore year due to injury. Almost exclusively started in college, with a 4.91 ERA his final season. Began throwing regularly out of the bullpen last summer for West Virginia in the MLB Draft League and for Fredericksburg.
- Brother, AJ, was picked 6th overall by Oakland in 2016, and has played for the A's, Marlins and Diamondbacks in MLB since 2019.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/4 vs AUG		0.1	0	0	0	0	1	0
4/7 vs HC		0.2	2	0	0	0	0	0

**JACOB ROBERTS - RHP**
**#34**

Height: 6-1    Weight: 220    B/T: R/R    Age: 24 (11/27/2001 in Omaha, NE)    Acquired: Free Agent, 2026  
 2 G: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (3.0 IP, 0 ER) 6 K, 2 BB, 2-2 SV    Repertoire: FB, SL, CT, CH    vs. Left: .000    vs. Right: .167

- Jacob Roberts...signed in February by Washington after playing first professional season in his hometown for the independent Lincoln Saltdogs of the American Association. Played one collegiate season at Palm Beach State Junior College.
- During junior college season, started 9 games and threw 3 complete games.
- 6.10 ERA in 37 appearances all out of the bullpen for Lincoln last season, finishing games in nearly half of his appearances.

**RECENT APPEARANCES**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/3 vs AUG	SV	2.0	0	0	0	2	3	0
4/5 vs AUG	SV	1.0	1	0	0	0	3	0

**CESAR ROJAS - RHP**
**#16**

Height: 6-3    Weight: 162    B/T: R/R    Age: 23 (5/12/2002 in San Cristobal, DOM)    Acquired: Rule 5 Draft, 2025  
 1 G: 1-0, 0.00 ERA (1.0 IP, 0 ER) 1 K, 0 BB, 0-0 SV    Repertoire: FB, SL    vs. Left: .000    vs. Right: .000

- Cesar Smerlin Rojas...acquired by Washington via the final selection of the AAA phase in the 2025 Rule 5 Draft from Tampa Bay. Signed by the Rays in 2023 after midseason release by the Astros, who signed Rojas at age 18 in March of 2021.
- Spent part of all of 2022-2025 in the DSL with three different organizations, last season first time in FCL (10 appearances, 2 starts, 0.63 ERA), and Single-A (3 appearances for Charleston, 2.1 IP, 7 ER)

**RECENT APPEARANCES (AS RP)**

DATE	DEC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
4/4 vs AUG	W	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	0

**CHRISTIAN FAGNANT - C**
**#8**

Height: 5-10    Weight: 195    B/T: L/R    Age: 24 (6/20/01 in Hartford, CT)    Acquired: Free Agent, 2024  
 2026 Average: .000    2026 OPS: .000    Streak (long): 0g (0g)    Last Series (N/A): .000 (0-0), 0 RBI, 0 BB, 0 SB    Home Runs: 0

- Christian Joseph Fagnant...signed by Washington in 2024 out of Amherst College (D3, MA)
- 39th round pick by Baltimore in the 2019 MLB Draft out of high school, but did not sign.
- 9 games as a FredNat last season, going 2-12.

**NICK HOLLIFIELD - C**
**#12**

Height: 5-10    Weight: 190    B/T: R/R    Age: 22 (7/25/2003 in Dacula, GA)    Acquired: Round 14, 2025  
 2026 Average: .429    2026 OPS: 1.238    Streak (long): 3g (3g)    Last Series (vs AUG): .500 (2-4), 0 RBI, 3 BB, 0 SB    Home Runs: 0

- Nicholas Shea Hollifield...a returning FredNat, played in 18 games post-draft last year after a 14th round selection from the University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB).
- In those 18 games, hit .242 (16-for-66), with a .628 OPS...had 14 walks and 14 strikeouts and was a clutch hitter, hitting .348 with runners in scoring position and driving in the tying or go-ahead run in four of his 18 games...also threw out six base runners.
- Started 51 games for UAB in 2025 as a junior, including all 27 conference games behind the plate...hit .266 with five home runs and 30 RBI...added a career-high 33 walks...was named to the 2023 Conference USA All-Freshman team

**SIR JAMISON JONES - C**
**#14**

Height: 6-2    Weight: 225    B/T: R/R    Age: 19 (5/19/2006 in Harvey, IL)    Acquired: Round 5, 2024  
 2026 Average: .000    2026 OPS: .000    Streak (long): 0g (0g)    Last Series (vs AUG): .000 (0-2), 1 RBI, 0 BB, 0 SB    Home Runs: 0

- Sir Jamison Jones...makes his full-season MiLB debut after being drafted in the 15th round of the 2024 MLB Draft out of St. Rita of Cascia HS in Chicago
- Played 40 games in the FCL last year...hit .233 with a .762 OPS, including four homers and six doubles, drew 26 walks and drove in 25 runs
- Formerly in the MLB Pipeline Nationals Top-30 prospects...Baseball America lists Jones as a "prospect to watch" in 2026, scouts say he's a power bat with a plus arm behind the plate

**JUAN CRUZ- INF**
**#24**

Height: 6-5    Weight: 240    B/T: R/R    Age: 21 (9/09/2004 in San German, Puerto Rico)    Acquired: Round 20, 2025  
 2026 Average: .500    2026 OPS: 1.250    Streak (long): 1g (1g)    Last Series (vs AUG): .500 (2-4), 3 RBI, 0 BB, 1 SB    Home Runs: 0

- Juan Luis Cruz...makes his professional debut after being drafted in the 20th round last year out of Alabama State
- Named the SWAC Hitter of the Year, First-Team All-SWAC, First-Team All-Region and a Third-Team All-American last Spring after slashing .420/.481/.690/1.171 with 14 home runs and 23 doubles for the Hornets
- In two years at Alabama St., hit .407 with 1.113 OPS, slugged 60 XBH (25 HR) and had 130 RBI
- Born in Puerto Rico put prepped at Apopka HS in Florida...played for Coach Bobby Brewer and hit .434 in his HS career

**RONNY CRUZ - INF**
**#5**

Height: 6-2    Weight: 170    B/T: R/R    Age: 19 (8/24/2006 in Santo Domingo, DOM)    Acquired: Trade with Chicago (NL), 2025  
 2026 Average: .313    2026 OPS: 1.359    Streak (long): 3g (3g)    Last Series (vs AUG): .182 (2-11), 1 RBI, 3 BB, 2 SB    Home Runs: 2

- Ronny Cruz...Acquired by Washington in a trade with Chicago (NL) at the 2025 deadline for RHP Michael Soroka...OF Christian Franklin was the other prospect Washington received...ranked as the 26th-best Nationals prospect by MLB Pipeline in its 2026 preseason rankings
- Hit .270 with a .748 OPS in 48 Complex games with the Cubs before the trade...originally selected by Chicago in the 3rd round of the 2024 draft (90th overall) at age 17 and signed for \$620,000 to lure him away from a Miami commitment
- Moved to the US for his final two years of HS at Miami Christian HS...MLB Pipeline says his exit velocities up to 110 MPH at the 2024 Draft Combine is what vaulted him into the top 100 players

**COY JAMES - INF**
**#7**

Height: 6-0    Weight: 185    B/T: R/R    Age: 19 (2/16/2007 in Winston Salem, NC)    Acquired: Round 5, 2025  
 2026 Average: .167    2026 OPS: .579    Streak (long): 0g (2g)    Last Series (vs AUG): .222 (2-9), 2 RBI, 3 BB, 2 SB    Home Runs: 0

- Coy James...selected in the 5th round, 142nd overall by Washington from Davie County HS (NC). Enters the year ranked as the #17 prospect in the organization by MLB Pipeline.
- Gatorade Player of the Year in North Carolina, signed by Washington for \$2.5 million (2nd highest among 2025 Nats draftees). Previously committed to the University of Mississippi.

**RAFAEL RAMIREZ JR. - INF**
**#3**

Height: 6-0    Weight: 159    B/T: L/R    Age: 20 (7/22/2005 in Paterson, NJ)    Acquired: Trade with Cleveland, 2024  
 2026 Average: .000    2026 OPS: .000    Streak (long): 0g (0g)    Last Series (N/A): .000 (0-0), 0 RBI, 0 BB, 0 SB    Home Runs: 0

- Rafael Ilayah Ramirez Jr...acquired in a trade with Cleveland in 2024, packaged with two others for current Royals Major Leaguer Lane Thomas. Signed by Cleveland in 2022, spending the year in the DSL.
- Spent 2023 in the ACL with the Guardians, slashing .250/.453/.426, before reaching Single-A with Lynchburg in 2024. Hit .183 in 71 games between Lynchburg and Fredericksburg.
- Limited to 20 games last season, split evenly between the FredNats and FCL Nats. Hit .171, with an 11 BB/13 K ratio.
- Son of Rafael Ramirez, who spent 13 years in the Major Leagues with Atlanta and Houston, finishing 16th in MVP voting in 1983 and earning an All Star nod in 1984.

**JACOB WALSH - INF**
**#23**

Height: 6-4    Weight: 225    B/T: L/L    Age: 23 (3/11/2003 in Henderson, NV)    Acquired: Round 15, 2025  
 2026 Average: .200    2026 OPS: .673    Streak (long): 1g (1g)    Last Series (vs AUG): .143 (1-7), 1 RBI, 0 BB, 0 SB    Home Runs: 0

- Jacob Grant Walsh...returns after a cameo in Fredericksburg at the end of last season. 15th round pick, 441st overall, by Washington in the 2025 MLB Draft from the University of Oregon.
- Spent four years at Oregon, with notable honors including Freshman All American (Collegiate Baseball), Pac-12 All Defensive Team and Pac-12 Honorable Mention, First Team All Big Ten, and Third Team All American (NCBWA).
- 23 GP in Fredericksburg last season, slashing .128/.258/.192

**ELI WILLITS - INF**
**#2**

Height: 6-1	Weight: 180	B/T: S/R	Age: 18 (12/09/2007 in Lawton, OK)	Acquired: Round 1, 2025
2026 Average: .250	2026 OPS: .743	Streak (long): 0g (3g)	Last Series (vs AUG): .286 (4-14), 2 RBI, 0 BB, 3 SB	Home Runs: 0

- Eli Willits...returns after 15 GP in Fredericksburg last season, hitting .333. Selected with the first overall pick by Washington in the 2025 MLB Draft from Fort Cobb-Braxton HS (Fort Cobb, OK), becoming the third youngest #1 pick in history, and the youngest since Ken Griffey Jr. in 1987.
- Switch hitter who is stronger left handed at the plate, reclassified from the '26 class to finish HS a year early.
- Was a participant in the Spring Breakout game, also playing 2 games in Spring Training and drawing a walk.
- Ranks as the Nationals' top prospect by MLB Pipeline, and enters the year ranked as the #9 prospect in baseball.
- Father Reggie spent six years in MLB with Los Angeles (AL), coached for the Yankees and currently serves as Associate Head Coach at Oklahoma, brother Jaxon is in his senior year at Oklahoma, serving as the Sooners' starting shortstop.

**LUKE DICKERSON - INF/OF**
**#10**

Height: 5-11	Weight: 197	B/T: R/R	Age: 20 (8/09/2005 in Morristown, NJ)	Acquired: Round 2, 2024
2026 Average: .267	2026 OPS: .856	Streak (long): 1g (2g)	Last Series (vs AUG): .182 (2-11), 2 RBI, 3 BB, 1 SB	Home Runs: 0

- Luke Dickerson...returning FredNat who spent 84 games in NoVa last season, hitting .204. Selected in the 2nd round, 44th overall by Washington in the 2024 MLB Draft from Morris Knolls HS (Rockaway, NJ).
- Utility who can play both infield and outfield, presents above average speed and strength. Appeared in 2 games for the Nationals during 2026 Spring Training.
- Ranked as the #8 prospect in the organization by MLB Pipeline entering the 2026 season.

**GAVIN FIEN -INF/OF**
**#11**

Height: 6-3	Weight: 200	B/T: R/R	Age: 19 (3/08/2007 in Temecula, CA)	Acquired: Trade with Texas, 2026
2026 Average: .118	2026 OPS: .387	Streak (long): 2g (2g)	Last Series (vs AUG): .083 (1-12), 2 RBI, 2 BB, 1 SB	Home Runs: 0

- Gavin Michael Fien...acquired via trade by Washington as part of five prospect package, which sent Nats ace MacKenzie Gore to Texas. Drafted in the 1st round, 12th overall by the Rangers in the 2025 MLB Draft from Great Oak HS (Temecula, Calif.)
- Played in 10 Carolina League games for Hickory last season, hitting .220.
- Ranked as the #5 prospect in the organization by MLB Pipeline, and the 2nd best infield prospect.
- Brother, Dylan, drafted in the 7th round by Oakland in 2024.

**YEREMY CABRERA - OF**
**#9**

Height: 5-11	Weight: 155	B/T: L/L	Age: 20 (7/02/2005 in Bani, DOM)	Acquired: Trade with Texas, 2026
2026 Average: .100	2026 OPS: .457	Streak (long): 0g (1g)	Last Series (vs AUG): .143 (1-7), 0 RBI, 1 BB, 0 SB	Home Runs: 0

- Yeremy Augusto Cabrera...acquired via trade by Washington with Texas along with four other prospects in exchange for LHP MacKenzie Gore this offseason. Signed in January of 2022 at age 16 by Texas.
- Last season was Cabrera's first full year of professional baseball after part or all of previous three seasons were spent in the Dominican and Arizona complexes. Played in 102 Carolina League games for Hickory, slashing .256/.364/.366. Stole a career high 43 bases on 47 attempts last season.
- Enters the year ranked as the #20 prospect in the organization by MLB Pipeline. Known for his defense in center field as well as his speed, Cabrera also ranks as the top true left-handed batting prospect in the organization.

**JACK MOROKNEK - OF**
**#17**

Height: 6-3	Weight: 205	B/T: L/R	Age: 22 (6/29/2003 in Carmel, IN)	Acquired: Round 11, 2025
2026 Average: .167	2026 OPS: .453	Streak (long): 1g (1g)	Last Series (vs AUG): .167 (1-6), 0 RBI, 1 BB, 1 SB	Home Runs: 0

- Jack Moroknek...makes his professional debut this season. Selected in the 11th round, 321st overall, by Washington in the 2025 MLB Draft from Butler University.
- Spent three seasons with the Bulldogs, redshirting his freshman year. As a junior in 2025, Moroknek slashed .372/.443/.702, with a 1.115 OPS, homering 18 times and driving in 54 games. Ranked 2nd in the Big East in HR and TB.

**NICK PEOPLES - OF**
**#25**

Height: 6-5	Weight: 205	B/T: S/R	Age: 21 (7/24/2004 in Camp Pendleton, CA)	Acquired: Round 11, 2022
2026 Average: .400	2026 OPS: 1.500	Streak (long): 3g (3g)	Last Series (vs AUG): .500 (3-6), 1 RBI, 1 BB, 0 SB	Home Runs: 1

- Nicholas Sandow Peoples...returns for his third season in Fredericksburg. Drafted in the 12th round, 351st overall, by Washington in the 2022 MLB Draft from Northview HS (Covina, Calif.)
- After spending all of 2023 and part of 2024 in the FCL, debuted with Fredericksburg in 2024, playing in 48 games and hitting .188.
- Played in a career high 105 games last season in Fredericksburg, hitting .201/.295/.328.



Date	Opp.	Score	W/L	Rcd.	Pos.	GA/GB	Att.	Winner/Loser/Save
<b>APRIL (4-0)</b> Batting: .240/.381/.448/.829, 3 HR Pitching: 3.89 ERA, 1.51 WHIP, .226 BAA								
3	AUG.	5-3	W	1-0	2nd	5	4,230	Olson/Heppler/Roberts
4	AUG.	6-3 (10)	W	2-0	1st	1	3,760	Rojas/Sifontes
5	AUG.	10-8	W	3-0	1st	1	2,351	Johnson/Richard/Roberts
6	OFF DAY							
7	at HC	9-4	W	4-0	1st	1	2,033	Lyon/McCausland
8	at HC							
9	at HC							
10	at HC							
11	at HC							
12	at HC							
13	OFF DAY							
14	DEL							
15	DEL							
16	DEL							
17	DEL							
18	DEL							
19	DEL							
20	OFF DAY							
21	at SAL							
22	at SAL							
23	at SAL							
24	at SAL							
25	at SAL							
26	at SAL							
27	OFF DAY							
28	HIC							
29	HIC							
30	HIC							
<b>MAY (0-0)</b> Batting: .000/.000/.000/.000 Pitching: 0.00 ERA, 0.00 WHIP, .000 BAA								
1	HIC							
2	HIC							
3	HIC							
4	OFF DAY							
5	at HC							
6	at HC							
7	at HC							
8	at HC							
9	at HC							
10	at HC							
11	OFF DAY							
12	SAL							
13	SAL							
14	SAL							
15	SAL							
16	SAL							
17	SAL							
18	OFF DAY							
19	at FAY							
20	at FAY							
21	at FAY							
22	at FAY							
23	at FAY							
24	at FAY							
25	OFF DAY							
26	at DEL							
27	at DEL							
28	at DEL							
29	at DEL							
30	at DEL							
31	at DEL							
<b>JUNE (0-0)</b> Batting: .000/.000/.000/.000 Pitching: 0.00 ERA, 0.00 WHIP, .000 BAA								
1	OFF DAY							
2	HC							
3	HC							
4	HC							
5	HC							
6	HC							
7	HC							
8	OFF DAY							
9	at KAN							
10	at KAN							
11	at KAN							
12	at KAN							
13	at KAN							
14	at KAN							
15	OFF DAY							
16	SAL							
17	SAL							
18	SAL							
19	SAL							
20	SAL							
21	SAL							
22	OFF DAY							
23	WIL							

24	WIL							
25	WIL							
26	WIL							
27	WIL							
28	WIL							
29	OFF DAY							
30	at COL							
<b>JULY (0-0)</b> Batting: .000/.000/.000/.000 Pitching: 0.00 ERA, 0.00 WHIP, .000 BAA								
1	at COL							
2	at COL							
3	at COL							
4	at COL							
5	at COL							
6	OFF DAY							
7	at MB							
8	at MB							
9	at MB							
10	at MB							
11	at MB							
12	at MB							
13	ALL STAR BREAK							
14	ALL STAR BREAK							
15	ALL STAR BREAK							
16	ALL STAR BREAK							
17	vs HC							
18	vs HC							
19	vs HC							
20	OFF DAY							
21	FAY							
22	FAY							
23	FAY							
24	FAY							
25	FAY							
26	FAY							
27	OFF DAY							
28	at WIL							
29	at WIL							
30	at WIL							
31	at WIL							
<b>AUGUST (0-0)</b> Batting: .000/.000/.000/.000 Pitching: 0.00 ERA, 0.00 WHIP, .000 BAA								
1	at WIL							
2	at WIL							
3	OFF DAY							
4	DEL							
5	DEL							
6	DEL							
7	DEL							
8	DEL							
9	DEL							
10	OFF DAY							
11	at FAY							
12	at FAY							
13	at FAY							
14	at FAY							
15	at FAY							
16	at FAY							
17	OFF DAY							
18	KAN							
19	KAN							
20	KAN							
21	KAN							
22	KAN							
23	KAN							
24	OFF DAY							
25	DEL							
26	DEL							
27	DEL							
28	DEL							
29	DEL							
30	DEL							
31	OFF DAY							
<b>SEPTEMBER (0-0)</b> Batting: .000/.000/.000/.000 Pitching: 0.00 ERA, 0.00 WHIP, .000 BAA								
1	WIL							
2	WIL							
3	WIL							
4	WIL							
5	WIL							
6	WIL							