



# GAMEDAY INFO & NOTES

Game #88 | August 13, 2021 | Ron Tonkin Field | Hillsboro, OR  
Eugene Emeralds (50-37) at Hillsboro Hops (41-45)  
LHP Jake Dahlberg (1-1, 5.79 ERA) vs. RHP Brandon Pfaadt (4-4, 2.82 ERA)  
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## LAST TIME OUT

Fourth time is the charm... That's how the saying goes, right? After trying-and-failing in three straight games to earn their fiftieth win of the season, the Emeralds finally notched win #50 of the season, but it wasn't easy nor uneventful. Eugene overcame five of their own errors (two of which came in the bottom of the ninth leading to Hillsboro tying the game at 6-6) to ultimately pull out a dramatic 11-6 win in ten innings. Eugene offensive outburst in extras came due to a go-ahead RBI single by Robert Emery that was then followed two batters later by a Tyler Fitzgerald grand slam, one of two homers that Fitzgerald hit on Thursday. Outfielder Kwan Adkins made his debut for the Emeralds after being promoted from the ACL the day prior, and Adkins homered in his very first at-bat as an Emerald. John Russell, Ryan Walker, and Chris Wright combined to fire 6.0 innings of no-hit ball out of the bullpen while allowing one unearned run, no walks and netting eight strikeouts. With Everett's 13-12 loss to Vancouver last night, the Emeralds are now 4.0 games out of first entering Friday.

## TODAY'S STORYLINES

Dahlberg vs. Pfaadt, each previous winners of High-A West POTW... Ems looking to even series...

It's a primetime pitching matchup as reigning High-A West Pitcher of the Week Jake Dahlberg takes the mound for Eugene against workhorse right-hander Brandon Pfaadt. Dahlberg earned the weekly honor after firing 6.0 innings of scoreless ball with 9 K's while allowing just 2 hits and no walks. Pfaadt, meanwhile, has previously won High-A West Pitcher of the Week (July 12-18) and he enters Friday fresh off a pair of back-to-back seven-inning outings. In two starts in the month of August, Pfaadt is 2-0 with a 0.64 ERA, 18 K's, 4 BB, and just 4 hits allowed. Hillsboro will be celebrating PRIDE Night at Ron Tonkin Field. Of note, the Emeralds were the first-ever affiliated MiLB franchise to wear customized PRIDE jerseys in-game, doing so back in 2019. The Emeralds did so again this year (June 25), as did Eugene's Major League affiliate the San Francisco Giants who on June 5 became the first Major League club to wear PRIDE jerseys in-game.

## QUICK HITS

### Emeralds Sweep High-A West Weekly Honors

Emeralds pitcher Jake Dahlberg has been named the High-A West's Pitcher of the Week while Emeralds outfielder Ismael Munguia has been named the High-A West's Player of the Week. Winning weekly awards is nothing new to the Emeralds this season, and this particular week marks the second time this season that the Ems have swept both the pitcher and player of the week honors (Caleb Kilian and Diego Rincones | May 4 - 9). Dahlberg, who made his PK Park debut on Saturday after being signed from the Chicago Dogs of the American Association on July 24, was simply sensational in six scoreless innings of work. The southpaw enjoyed a stretch that saw him set down sixteen consecutive Dust Devils batters en route to finishing the night with 6.0 innings pitched, two hits, no runs, no walks and nine strikeouts. Munguia, meanwhile, led the team in batting average, hits, doubles, runs, stolen bases, slugging and OPS during last week's series. The Nicaragua native went 14-for-24 (.583) at the dish with five doubles, one triple, one HR, ten runs scored, and five RBIs while going 3-for-3 in stolen bases and posting a 1.000 slugging percentage and a 1.583 OPS. The pair become the sixth and seventh Emeralds to receive a High-A West weekly honor this season, joining OF Heath Quinn, INF Tyler Fitzgerald, OF Franklin Labour, OF Diego Rincones, and RHP Caleb Kilian (2).

### Fitzzy Getting Frisky

Tyler Fitzgerald has been on an absolute tear to start the month of August. Through 10 games played so far this month, Fitzgerald is slashing .442/.489/.837 with a 1.327 OPS, 6 doubles, 1 triple, 3 HRs, 11 RBIs and 11 runs scored. Fitzzy has tallied multi-hit games in 7-of-10 games played so far this month, highlighted by a 5-for-6 performance on August 6 against Tri-City that saw the former Louisville Cardinal hit for the cycle... in the first five innings of the game. Among all High-A players in the month of August, Fitzgerald ranks 2nd in AVG (.442), 1st in total bases (36), T-6th in RBI (11), 3rd in SLG (.837), and 3rd in OPS (1.327).

### Marco Moves Up To High-A

On Wednesday, the Emeralds added one of baseball's top prospects to the active roster, SS Marco Luciano. Luciano, a 19-year-old phenom that is widely considered one of the top prospects in all of baseball, gets the call up to High-A Eugene after setting the Low-A West ablaze through the first two-thirds of the season. The Dominican Republic native exits San Jose as the Low-A West home run leader (18) while also ranking second in total bases (148), third in extra-base hits (35), third in RBIs (57), fourth in slugging (.544), and sixth in OPS (.930). With numbers like that, Luciano has been a key reason why the San Jose Giants have been one of the best offensive powers in all of Low-A since the start of the season as they currently rank second in all of Low-A in team batting average (.271), second in home runs (101), third in slugging (.457), third in OPS (.805), and sixth in runs scored (464). Per Baseball America's recently updated midseason prospect rankings, Luciano checks in as the seventh-ranked prospect in all of baseball.

### Hitting Our Stride

Since the start of July, the Emeralds offense has been one of the most potent in all of

High-A ball, ranking T-3rd in runs (234), T-3rd in hits (345), 5th in HRs (62), 6th in OBP% (.343), 5th in SLG (.476), and 5th in OPS (.819).

### Strikeout Savants

Through 87 games, the Eugene pitching staff leads the High-A West in strikeouts (933). Their 933 collective strikeouts are 30 more than the next closest High-A West team (Everett - 903), and the Ems rank 5th in all of High-A, too. Across all of Minor League Baseball, Eugene's 933 K's rank T-8th. Coincidentally, the San Jose Giants (San Francisco - Low A) lead all of Minor League Baseball with 1,051 K's. Entering today, San Jose's 1,060 K's are 103 more than the next closest team (Somerset Patriots | AA Northeast | NYY).

### The Clutch (E)Gene

Eugene has been one of the best teams hitting with two outs in all of High-A. Eugene ranks 2nd in AVG (.255), 3rd in runs (223), 2nd in hits (245), 2nd in OBP% (.357), 3rd in SLG (.445) and 3rd in OPS (.802) when hitting with two outs. It doesn't stop there, though. Eugene has come up big in late/close situations (definition below). Eugene ranks 3rd all of High-A in AVG (.267), 3rd in runs scored (59), 2nd in OBP% (.395), 2nd in SLG (.486), and 2nd in OPS (.880) in late/close situations. The pitching staff has been just as good, too. In late/close situations, the Eugene ranks T-3rd in High-A in ERA (3.19) and 1st in opponent's average (.181).

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

### Living On The Edge

After falling in extra innings to the Dust Devils, 7-6, on May 20, the Emeralds had won 11 straight games decided by one run before falling to the Hillsboro Hops on July 21, 3-2, with the final out being made at home plate. The Emeralds are 15-8 in one-run games this season, with each of the last seven contests between the Ems and Hops having been decided by just one run.

### Tale Of Two Pitching Staffs

Collectively, Eugene starting pitchers are 18-32 with a 5.93 ERA, the second-worst ERA by a starting pitching staff in High-A (Asheville Tourists). Eugene has only gotten 6.0 innings out of a starting pitcher SIX times this season:

- Caleb Kilian: May 22 at TC (7.0 IP)
- Kai-Wei Teng: June 22 vs. VAN (6.0 IP)
- Conner Nurse: June 26 vs. VAN (6.1 IP)
- Aaron Phillips: July 1 at HIL (7.0 IP)
- Conner Nurse: August 6 vs. TRI (6.0 IP)
- Jake Dahlberg: August 7 vs. TRI (6.0 IP)

Meanwhile, Eugene's bullpen has gone an absurd 32-5 with a 3.91 ERA and 506 K's in 391.1 innings pitched. No other team in the Minor Leagues has fewer than 9 bullpen losses (Tampa Tarpons, Charleston RiverDogs, Portland Sea Dogs). Eugene's 506 bullpen K's rank 4th in all of High-A.

## EMS BY THE NUMBERS

Overall	50-37
Home*	25-17
Road	25-20
Neutral	0-0
Day	3-2
Night	47-35
Runs Scored	504
Runs Against	466
Run Differential	+38
Team AVG	.249
Team ERA	4.89
HR for/against	112/89
Strikeouts (pitching)	922
Strikeouts (hitting)	886
Current Streak	W1
Longest W Streak	W8
Longest L Streak	L5
Extra Innings	5-1
Shutouts	4-1
1-Run Games	15-8
May	15-9
June	17-8
July	11-16
August	6-4
September	0-0
Scoring First	34-15
Opponent Scores First	16-22
Monday	0-2
Tuesday	10-4
Wednesday	9-6
Thursday	9-6
Friday	8-6
Saturday	6-8
Sunday	8-5
vs. Everett	1-5
vs. Hillsboro	12-6
vs. Spokane	3-3
vs. Tri-City	5-1
vs. Vancouver	4-2
at Everett	4-8
at Hillsboro	4-5
at Spokane	9-3
at Tri-City	4-2
at Vancouver	4-2

**Ems On The Move**

With the trade deadline coming and going on at the end of July, the Emeralds saw two players from their 2021 team on the move to other organizations.

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

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

**Ems Add Minor League Strikeout Leader**

Right-hander Ryan Murphy was promoted from the Low-A San Jose Giants to the High-A Eugene Emeralds on Thursday. Murphy, a 5th rounder (114th overall) in the 2020 draft out of Le Moyne (NY), ranked 1st in all of the Minor Leagues in strikeouts (116) at the time of his promotion. He joins the Ems after going 4-2 in 15 starts with Low-A San Jose with a 2.96 ERA and an astounding 116 strikeouts in 76.0 innings of work. The Poughkeepsie, New York native had been simply sensational in the month of July for San Jose, going 3-1 with a 1.74 ERA in five July starts while posting double-digit

strikeouts in all five outings. He departs San Jose as the Low-A West leader in ERA (2.96), strikeouts (116) and innings pitched (76.0). Overall, San Jose has seen seven other players promoted to Eugene this season: OF Tyler Flores, LHP Chris Wright, OF Armani Smith, C Ricardo Genoves, C Robert Emery, INF/OF Brett Auerbach, and RHP Austin Reich.

**SF Giants Prospect Watch**

Per Baseball America's recently updated midseason prospect rankings, the Emeralds boast 4 of San Francisco's Top 30 prospects:

- #1 SS Marco Luciano
- #15 C Ricardo Genoves
- #22 RHP Ryan Murphy
- #27 1B Logan Wyatt

**Olympic Ems**

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

- Herrera (Columbia): 1 APP (vs. Venezuela) | 2.0 IP, 1 H, 1 BB, 0 R, 0 K
- Munguia (Nicaragua): 3 games | 6-for-12 (.500), 1 2B, 2 R.
- Rincones (Venezuela): 5 games | 4-for-19 (.211), 1 2B, 1 HR, 2 R | Hit walk-off HR vs. Columbia in bottom of 9th.

Rincones later suited up for the Venezuelan National Team during the WSBC Final Qualifier held in Mexico. The barrel-chested outfielder made his mark

**HIGH-A WEST STANDINGS**

	W	L	PCT.	GB	RF	RA
Everett	53	32	.624	-	595	414
Eugene	50	37	.575	4.0	504	466
Spokane	42	44	.488	11.5	453	446
Hillsboro	41	45	.477	12.5	377	409
Vancouver	39	48	.448	15.0	437	487
Tri-City	34	53	.391	20.0	345	489

in both stints with the Venezuelan National Team, including a walk-off homer against Columbia in Florida and later a three-run homer against the Dominican Republic in the championship game of the Final Qualifier, a game that Venezuela would go on to lose, 8-5, to just miss out on qualifying for the Tokyo Olympics.

**TODAY'S PROBABLE STARTERS**

**#8 Jake Dahlberg (LHP)**

Height: 6'0 Weight: 205 lbs Acquired: Free Agent (7/24/21)  
 Hometown: Vancouver, WA School: Illinois-Chicago  
 Born: December 1, 1993 (27)

by the St. Louis Cardinals in the 21st round of the 2017 MLB Draft out of Illinois-Chicago. Went 7-5 with a 3.12 ERA in 35 career appearances (15 starts) over two seasons in affiliated ball. Was released on March 28 of 2019 despite going a combined 5-5 with a 2.50 ERA in 16 APPs (15 starts) during his final season in 2018, splitting time between the State College Spikes (Short-Season A | New York Penn League) and the Peoria Chiefs (Low-A | Midwest League). Prides himself on attacking the strike zone, as evidenced by his 11 walks issued in 62.0 innings of work this season with Chicago. American Association Pitcher of the Week on July 6 after firing a complete game shutout on June 30 vs. the Milwaukee Milkmen, then backing that up with a 6.0 inning shutout performance against the SouthShore RailCats, a team that Dahlberg's current pitching coach for the Emeralds, Alain Quijano, coincidentally previously worked for in the same capacity. Dahlberg started the season as a bullpen arm for the Dogs but succeeded as transitioned back to a starter. A University of Illinois Chicago alum, he is the only pitcher to earn two Horizon League Pitcher of the Year awards. UIC is the alma mater of Curtis Granderson.

**PITCHES:** 4-Seam Fastball, Sinker, Slider, Changeup

**BIO:** Signed on July 23 of this year from the Chicago Dogs of the American Association. While with Chicago, went 6-2 with a 3.05 ERA and 76 K's with 11 BB over 62.0 IP in 15 APPs (9 starts). His 3.04 ERA ranked 3rd in the American Association upon his signing. Posted a 0.98 WHIP and help opposing hitters to a .214 average. Fifth member of the Chicago Dogs to have their contract purchased by a Major League club this season.

Spend three seasons with Chicago (2019-21) where he went 19-12 with a 4.36 ERA, 221 K's and 58 BB in 231.0 IP over 47 APPs (37 starts). Drafted in 2019 despite going a combined 5-5 with a 2.50 ERA in 16 APPs (15 starts) during his final season in 2018, splitting time between the State College Spikes (Short-Season A | New York Penn League) and the Peoria Chiefs (Low-A | Midwest League). Prides himself on attacking the strike zone, as evidenced by his 11 walks issued in 62.0 innings of work this season with Chicago. American Association Pitcher of the Week on July 6 after firing a complete game shutout on June 30 vs. the Milwaukee Milkmen, then backing that up with a 6.0 inning shutout performance against the SouthShore RailCats, a team that Dahlberg's current pitching coach for the Emeralds, Alain Quijano, coincidentally previously worked for in the same capacity. Dahlberg started the season as a bullpen arm for the Dogs but succeeded as transitioned back to a starter. A University of Illinois Chicago alum, he is the only pitcher to earn two Horizon League Pitcher of the Year awards. UIC is the alma mater of Curtis Granderson.

W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	K	AVG	WP
1	1	5.79	3	3	0	0	0	0	14.0	15	9	9	3	1	1	0	22	.268	0

**#20 Brandon Pfaadt (RHP)**

Height: 6'4 Weight: 220 lbs Acquired: Round 5 (2020)  
 Hometown: Louisville, KY School: Bellarmine  
 Born: October 15, 1998 (22)

the Cape Cod league in the summer of the 2019; pitching for the Wareham Gatemen, 9g (2 starts), 2-1, 2.81, 32ip, 19k, 8bb, 34k; Dusty Baker's son Darren also on that team. Brandon was a college teammate of his brother Brady, who was a senior catcher at Bellarmine in 2018 when Brandon was a freshman; the two were batterymates. Another brother, Brett, is entering his third year at Bellarmine as a sophomore middle infielder. Dad Brian: played soccer at Bellarmine. Grandfather Robert a history teacher at Bellarmine U: Brandon's brother Brady said, "he led the whole family to Bellarmine University; he's a history teacher here, and he also teaches the history of sports"; Brandon said his grandfather was always teaching them baseball. Prior to the 2020 draft: Perfect Game called him one of the top 30 D2 prospects. Trinity HS in St. Matthews, KY (part of Louisville metro area): has a big rivalry with St. Xavier HS; their annual football meeting is said to be the most well-attended high school game in the county, with more than 30,000 fans in attendance; the baseball rivalry games are played at Jim Patterson Field at the U of Louisville in front of thousands; Brandon said that taught him to tune the crowd out at an early age—"it's just you, the catcher and the batter" "Pfaadt" origin: a German name. Does everything left-handed: except play sports. Also from Trinity HS: Seahawks player and radio announcer Steve Raible. Fastball 92-96.

**PITCHES:** Fastball, Slider, Curveball, Circle-Changeup

**Notes:** Joined Hops on June 21st: came from Low-A Visalia. In Low-A Visalia rotation from Opening Day to June 20th: 7 starts, 2-2, 3.12, 40.1ip, 29h, 7bb, 57k, 5hr, 1hb, 0wp, 0.89 WHIP. 2020 as JR at then-D2 Bellarmine University in Louisville, KY: 5 starts in shortened season, 3-1, 1.38, 26ip, 18h, 4bb, 27k. 2019 last full college season as SO at Bellarmine: 23g (2 starts), 3-3, 4.03, 38ip, 38h, 14bb, 50k. Bellarmine U was D2 when Pfaadt pitched there 2018-20... in the Great Lakes Valley Conf; but in summer 2020 transitioned to D1 Southern Conference. Elevated his draft status in 2020 as he was a top 30 D2 prospect. Trinity HS in St. Matthews, KY (part of Louisville metro area): has a big rivalry with St. Xavier HS; their annual football meeting is said to be the most well-attended high school game in the county, with more than 30,000 fans in attendance; the baseball rivalry games are played at Jim Patterson Field at the U of Louisville in front of thousands; Brandon said that taught him to tune the crowd out at an early age—"it's just you, the catcher and the batter" "Pfaadt" origin: a German name. Does everything left-handed: except play sports. Also from Trinity HS: Seahawks player and radio announcer Steve Raible. Fastball 92-96.

W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	K	AVG	WP
4	4	2.82	8	8	1	1	0	0	51.0	36	19	16	5	3	14	0	61	.193	5

**UPCOMING SCHEDULE & PROBABLE PITCHING MATCHUPS**

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	EMERALDS STARTER	OPPONENT STARTER
Saturday, August 14	7:05pm PST	@ Hillsboro Hops	RHP Ryan Murphy	RHP Justin Vernia
Sunday, August 15	1:05pm PST	@ Hillsboro Hops	RHP Kai-Wei Teng	RHP Shumpei Yoshikawa
Tuesday, August 17	7:05pm PST	Everett AquaSox	RHP Aaron Phillips	TBD
Wednesday, August 18	7:05pm PST	Everett AquaSox	RHP Conner Nurse	TBD
Thursday, August 19	7:05pm PST	Everett AquaSox	LHP Jake Dahlberg	TBD
Friday, August 20	7:05pm PST	Everett AquaSox	RHP Ryan Murphy	TBD