



GAMEDAY INFO & NOTES

Game #87 | August 12, 2021 | Ron Tonkin Field | Hillsboro, OR

Eugene Emeralds (49-37) at Hillsboro Hops (41-44)

RHP Conner Nurse (2-7, 5.91 ERA) vs. RHP Kyler Stout (0-2, 3.48 ERA)

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LAST TIME OUT

Win #50 continues to elude the Emeralds as Eugene missed out on their fiftieth win of the season for the third consecutive game, falling to the Hops by a final of 10-6. For the second straight night, the Emeralds took an early 2-0 lead thanks to a two-run homer as Armani Smith torched his 6th homer of the season on the first pitch of his first at-bat, but the Hops leaned on two-out hitting and three long balls of their own to eventually erase the early deficit and keep the Emeralds offense at arm's length the rest of the way. Sean Roby continued to stay hot with his 4th homer of the month and he's now slashing .378/.452/.811 with a 1.263 OPS in the month of August (9 games). Eugene also missed out on a chance to gain ground on the first place Frogs as Everett fell to Vancouver last night, 10-4.

TODAY'S STORYLINES

Eugene sends slender right-hander Conner Nurse to the mound tonight who is fresh off of one of his best outings of the season (AUG 6 vs. TC) in which Nurse carried a no-hitter into the fifth and ultimately fired 6.0 innings of one-run ball with 9 strikeouts while allowing just 2 hits and 2 walks. Nurse, however, has struggled with surrendering the long ball this season as his 18 homers surrendered are tied for the 6th most in all of Minor League Baseball. He'll face off against fellow right-hander and 26-year-old Kyler Stout who is making just his 1st start of the season in what will be his 21st overall appearance. Stout struggled in his first outing against the Emeralds (June 18) surrendering 3 hits, 3 walks, and 5 runs (only 1 earned) in 1.0 inning of work, including a homer off the bat of since-promoted Diego Rincones. Since, though, Stout has fired two consecutive scoreless, one-inning outings against the Emeralds. Eugene will see recent addition Kwan Adkins make his High-A debut today after starting the season in the ACL.

QUICK HITS

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.

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.

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 5.89 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 31-5 with a 3.97 ERA and 499 K's in 385.1 innings pitched. No other team in the Minor Leagues has fewer than 9 bullpen losses (Tampa Tarpons, Charleston RiverDogs). Eugene's 498 bullpen K's rank 5th in all of High-A.

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-4th in runs (223), T-3rd in hits (331), 5th in HRs (58), 8th in OBP (.340), 6th in SLG (.470), and 6th in OPS (.810).

Strikeout Savants

Through 87 games, the Eugene pitching staff leads the High-A West in strikeouts (922). Their 922 collective strikeouts are 29 more than the next closest High-A West team (Everett - 893), and the Ems rank 4th in all of High-A, too. Across all of Minor League Baseball, Eugene's 922 K's rank 9th. 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 1,051 K's are 115 more than the next closest team (Somerset Patriots | AA Northeast | NYY).

The Clutch (Eu)Gene

Eugene has been one of the best teams hitting with two outs in all of High-A. Eugene ranks 2nd in AVG (.254), 3rd in runs (218), 2nd in hits (241), 2nd on OBP (.356), 3rd in SLG (.442) and 3rd in OPS (.799) when hitting with two outs. It doesn't stop there, though. Eugene has come up big in late/close situations (definition below). Eugene ranks 5th all of High-A in AVG (.260), 6th in runs scored (53), 2nd in OBP (.391), 3rd in SLG (.467), and 2nd in OPS (.858) in late/close situations. The pitching staff has been just as good, too. In late/close situations, the Eugene ranks 3rd in High-A in ERA (3.19) and 1st in opponent's average (.189).

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.

EMS BY THE NUMBERS

Overall	49-37
Home*	25-17
Road	24-20
Neutral	0-0
Day	3-2
Night	46-35
Runs Scored	493
Runs Against	460
Run Differential	+33
Team AVG	.248
Team ERA	4.91
HR for/against	108/87
Strikeouts (pitching)	922
Strikeouts (hitting)	877
Current Streak	L3
Longest W Streak	W8
Longest L Streak	L5
Extra Innings	4-1
Shutouts	4-1
1-Run Games	15-8
May	15-9
June	17-8
July	11-16
August	5-4
September	0-0
Scoring First	33-15
Opponent Scores First	16-22
Monday	0-2
Tuesday	10-4
Wednesday	9-6
Thursday	8-6
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	3-5
at Spokane	9-3
at Tri-City	4-2
at Vancouver	4-2

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 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.

Kilian Killed It

RHP Caleb Kilian was promoted to Double-A Richmond on at the end of May after dominating the High-A West in his four starts as an Emerald. The highlight came in his final outing as an Emerald when Kilian fired 6.2 perfect innings against the Dust Devils before allowing the first base runner of the day on a two-out double. Unphased, Kilian retired the next batter to cap a career-high 7.0 inning performance while tallying a career-high ten strikeouts in the process. After his near-perfect start, Kilian left the Northwest currently ranked at-or-near the top of virtually every notable statistical category in the High-A West:

- Wins: 3 (1st)
- ERA: 1.25 (3rd)
- K: 32 (1st)
- OPP AVG: .122 (1st)
- WHIP: 0.46 (1st)

Holy Jose

Marte was one of a number of notable departures from the Emeralds, and his numbers in Eugene certainly speak for themselves. Upon his departure to join Double-A Richmond, Marte found himself tied for the league lead in saves (3) after working himself in-and-out of a jam by striking out the side last Thursday. The starter-turned-reliever has excelled in his newfound role coming out of the bullpen, starting the season with five straight scoreless outings with 14 K's scattered over 6.1 innings of work. The right-hander has yet to allow a walk this

HIGH-A WEST STANDINGS

	W	L	PCT.	GB	RF	RA
Everett	53	31	.631	-	579	391
Eugene	49	37	.570	5.0	487	450
Spokane	42	43	.494	11.5	442	435
Hillsboro	41	44	.482	12.5	361	392
Vancouver	38	48	.442	16.0	414	471
Tri-City	33	53	.384	21.0	334	478

season and has only seen three hits come against him.

Can't Touch Dabo

RJ Dabovich allowed a HR in each of his first two outings of the season (5/4 & 5/7 at SPD). He did not allow a hit in any of his remaining outings as an Emerald. Yes, you read that correctly. In 8 APPs as an Emerald before being promoted, Dabovich fired 10.2 scoreless, hitless innings while allowing just 5 BB, notching 23 K's, and going 4-for-4 in save opportunities.

TODAY'S PROBABLE STARTERS

#35 Conner Nurse (RHP)

Height: 6'6 Weight: 210 lbs Acquired: Round 34 (2017)
 Hometown: Winter Garden, FL School: Ridge HS (FL)
 Born: July 31, 1999 (22)

league in 2019. Per Perfect Game coming out of high school: "Extra-large, athletic frame with broad shoulders and long limbs, leaner build with room to fill but also has present strength throughout. Primary righthanded pitcher, steady tempo to delivery throughout, shows balance and ability to repeat, leading to lots of strikes. Medium arm stroke through the back, work to a near over-the-top release point, does a nice job of working on top of the ball to generate nice angle on fastball. Topped out at 90 mph, mostly true in life, tough pitch to elevate due to plane. Curveball shows hammer depth at 79 mph from similar release point, present strikeout pitch and will manipulate shape/ velocity to pitch early in count. Has confidence and feel in his changeup, occasional hard fading life at 74 mph, projects with additional arm speed. Nice feel for a full arsenal and throws off speed pitches for strikes regularly. Righthanded hitter, wide base in the box with a short and inside swing path. Looks to lift and pull the ball, can turn on inner half pitch and flashes pop off the barrel. Named to World Showcase Top Prospect List. Good student. Committed to Seminole State College of Florida."

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

BIO: Signed for \$250,000, \$125,000 over slot. Did not pitch during the 2017 season due to a right rotator cuff strain. Did not pitch during the 2017 season due to a right rotator cuff strain. Just 21-years old, Nurse is pitching in his first full season of pro ball after spending 2018 in Rookie-ball down in Arizona, then splitting time between Arizona and the short-season Northwest

W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	K	AVG	WP
2	7	5.91	16	16	0	0	0	0	77.2	82	55	51	18	3	38	0	73	.269	2

#26 Kyler Stout (RHP)

Height: 6'0 Weight: 204 lbs Acquired: Round 18 (2018)
 Hometown: Broken Arrow, OK School: Oral Roberts
 Born: October 13, 1994 (26)

(OK): 25g (all relief), 2-2, 2.60, 14sv (12th in nation), 27.2 ip, 16h, 11bb, 47k, 1hr. Relieved his entire career at ORU and was full-time closer his final 2 yrs: 88g (all relief), he left as ORU's career saves leader with 28. Healthy his last 2 years of college: after both the 2015 and 2016 seasons were cut short by injury. Major at ORU: sports management. Pitches: four-seam fastball, cutter, curve... fastball 91-94

PITCHES: Fastball, Cutter, Curveball

Notes: 2019 full season with High-A Visalia of California Lg: 27g (all relief), 3-1, 4.06, 37.2ip, 27h, 29bb, 54k, 3hr, 1hb, 6wp. 2018 split time between Hillsboro (8g, his first pro stop) and Kane County (15g): combined 23g, 3-2, 2.23, 32.1ip, 22h, 17bb, 53k; with the Hops 1-0, 0.79, 11.1ip, 5h, 8bb, 22k. 2018 as a redshirt senior at Oral Roberts University (Tulsa,

W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	K	AVG	WP
0	2	3.48	20	1	0	0	0	1	20.2	20	13	8	3	2	16	0	27	.253	5

UPCOMING SCHEDULE & PROBABLE PITCHING MATCHUPS

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	EMERALDS STARTER	OPPONENT STARTER
Friday, August 13	7:05pm PST	@ Hillsboro Hops	LHP Jake Dahlberg	RHP Brandon Pfaadt
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