



GAMEDAY INFO & NOTES

Game #80 | August 4, 2021 | PK Park | Eugene, OR

Eugene Emeralds (45-34) at Tri-City Dust Devils (31-48)

RHP Kai-Wei Teng (3-4, 5.68 ERA) vs. RHP Luis Alvarado (3-1, 5.15 ERA)

Watch live on MiLB.tv | Listen live on 95.3FM The Score or on the MiLB Gameday app



LAST TIME OUT

Murphy was magical in his debut outing with the Emeralds. After posting double-digit strikeouts in every July start with the Low-A San Jose Giants, Murphy scattered 8 K's over 5.1 IP of work while allowing just three hits, two walks, and three runs (all of which were unearned). A pair of former Oregon Ducks made took the diamond for the Dust Devils last night as Kenyon Yovan went 0-for-4 with a HBP and a run scored while Kyle Kasser went 2-for-4. Eugene got homers from three different players - Brett Auerbach, Heath Quinn, and Sean Roby - the last of which was a towering grand slam off the bat of Roby. All told, it was a convincing 11-4 win for the Emeralds, a game that they never trailed. Coupled with Everett's loss to Spokane, the Emeralds moved to 6.5 games behind the first place Frogs.

TODAY'S STORYLINES

Eugene officially added the top prospect in the San Francisco Giants system to their active roster on Wednesday as SS Marco Luciano was officially promoted to High-A Eugene from Low-A San Jose (see notes below). Luciano joins an Emeralds offense that has been humming since the start of July (again, see notes below) and he arrives in Eugene as one of the top ten ranked prospects in all of baseball, per both Baseball America and MLB.com. Eugene will send Kai-Wei Teng to the mound tonight who is fresh off a stellar last outing that saw him spin 5.0 IP with 2 hits, 3 walks and 5 strikeouts in what was eventually a 2-0 win for the Emeralds over the AquaSox. That outing for Teng snapped a streak of four consecutive starts with at least 3 ER allowed. On the other side, Eugene will take on right-hander Luis Alvarado who is making just his second start this season but his twenty-third appearance overall.

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.

Just Hitting Our Stride

Since the start of July, the Emeralds offense ranks in the top ten in all of High-A in numerous offensive categories including home runs (47 | 5th), runs scored (176 | 7th), slugging (.454 | 9th), and OPS (.789 | 9th).

Ems On The Move

With the trade deadline coming and going on Friday, both the Emeralds and AquaSox saw 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 Genovesi, C Robert Emery, INF/OF Brett Auerbach, and RHP

Austin Reich.

Yovan, Kasser Come Home To PK Park

The boys are back in town. A pair of all-time Oregon Baseball greats - Kenyon Yovan and Kyle Kasser - will be back in PK Park this week playing for the Tri-City Dust Devils, the High-A Affiliate of the Los Angeles Angels. Yovan, who signed with the Angels earlier this summer after a storied career with the Oregon Ducks, made his pro debut just this past week in Hillsboro where he batted .365 (5-for-13) with two doubles and a homer. A native of nearby Beaverton, Yovan coincidentally made his debut in a series that saw fellow Westview High School alum Carson Kelly suit up for the Hops on a rehab assignment from the Arizona Diamondbacks. Yovan's incredible career with the Ducks culminated with him slashing .309/.407/.608 this past collegiate season while serving as one of the anchors in the heart of an Oregon lineup that helped the Ducks return to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2015. Kasser, a 30th round selection in the 2018 MLB Draft, is currently in his third official pro season. Kasser has continued to do as a pro what he did throughout his collegiate career: hit. The Brea, California native is a career .302 hitter as a pro and has been a regular in the Dust Devils lineup since being signed by the Angels despite dealing with an injury earlier in the season. While with Oregon, Kasser was a four-year letterman and departed Eugene ranked 5th all time in Oregon history in hits (178). When his collegiate career came to a close, Kasser also ranked 5th all-time at Oregon in multi-hit games, 5th in walks, 6th in at-bats, 7th in runs scored, 8th in games started, and 10th in multi-RBI games.

Tale Of Two Pitching Staffs

Collectively, Eugene starting pitchers are 15-30 with a 6.25 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 FOUR 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)

Meanwhile, Eugene's bullpen has gone an absurd 30-4 with a 3.97 ERA and 461 K's in 360.2 innings pitched. No other team in the Minor Leagues has fewer than 6 bullpen losses (Tampa Tarpons). Eugene's 365 bullpen K's rank T-3rd in all of High-A.

Strikeout Savants

Through 79 games, the Eugene pitching staff leads the High-A West in strikeouts (841). Their 841 collective strikeouts are 7 more than the next closest High-A West team (Everett - 834), and the Ems rank 5th in all of High-A, too. Across all of Minor League Baseball, Eugene's 841 K's rank 9th. Coincidentally, the San Jose Giants (San Francisco - Low A) lead all of Minor League Baseball with 976 K's. Entering today, San Jose's 976 K's are 103 more than the next closest team (Modesto Nuts | SEA | Low-A West).

EMS BY THE NUMBERS

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Overall | 45-34 |
| Home* | 21-16 |
| Road | 24-18 |
| Neutral | 0-0 |
| Day | 3-2 |
| Night | 42-32 |
| Runs Scored | 446 |
| Runs Against | 435 |
| Run Differential | +9 |
| Team AVG | .244 |
| Team ERA | 5.06 |
| HR for/against | 97/80 |
| Strikeouts (pitching) | 841 |
| Strikeouts (hitting) | 805 |
| Current Streak | W1 |
| Longest W Streak | W8 |
| Longest L Streak | L5 |
| Extra Innings | 4-1 |
| Shutouts | 3-1 |
| 1-Run Games | 15-7 |
| May | 15-9 |
| June | 17-8 |
| July | 11-16 |
| August | 1-1 |
| September | 0-0 |
| Scoring First | 29-13 |
| Opponent Scores First | 16-21 |
| Monday | 0-2 |
| Tuesday | 10-3 |
| Wednesday | 8-5 |
| Thursday | 7-6 |
| Friday | 7-6 |
| Saturday | 5-8 |
| Sunday | 8-4 |
| vs. Everett | 1-5 |
| vs. Hillsboro* | 12-6 |
| vs. Spokane | 3-3 |
| vs. Tri-City | 1-0 |
| vs. Vancouver | 4-2 |
| at Everett | 4-8 |
| at Hillsboro | 3-3 |
| at Spokane | 9-3 |
| at Tri-City | 4-2 |
| at Vancouver | 4-2 |
| Series Openers | 11-2 |
| Series Finales | 8-5 |

The Clutch (Eu)Gene

Eugene has been one of the best teams hitting with two outs in all of High-A. Eugene ranks 3rd in AVG (.252), 3rd in runs (196), 2nd in hits (219), 2nd on OB% (.352), 4th in SLG (.430) and 3rd in OPS (.782) when hitting with two outs. It doesn't stop there, though. Eugene has come up big in late/close situations (definition below). Eugene ranks 6th all of High-A in AVG (.262), 5th in runs scored (51), 2nd in OB% (.392), 3rd in SLG (.477), and 2nd in OPS (.869) in late/close situations. The pitching staff has been just as good, too. In late/close situations, the Eugene ranks 1st in High-A in ERA (2.95) and 1st in opponent's average (.180).

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.

SF Giants Prospect Watch

Per MLB.com's preseason prospect rankings, the Emeralds boast 4 of San Francisco's top 30 prospects:

- #1 SS Marco Luciano
- #5 LHP Seth Corry (Developmental List)
- #18 RHP Kai-Wei Teng
- #28 C Ricardo Genoves

Los Angeles Angels Prospect Watch

The Dust Devils boast 4 of the Los Angeles Angels' top 30 prospects per MLB.com's preseason rankings:

- #3 OF Jordyn Adams
- #9 LHP Hector Yan
- #12 SS Livian Soto
- #15 RHP Robinson Pina

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 15-7 in one-run games this season, with every game last week between the Emeralds and Hillsboro Hops being decided by just one run.

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

HIGH-A WEST STANDINGS

| | W | L | PCT. | GB | RF | RA |
|-----------|----|----|------|------|-----|-----|
| Everett | 51 | 27 | .654 | - | 549 | 355 |
| Eugene | 45 | 34 | .570 | 6.5 | 446 | 435 |
| Spokane | 38 | 41 | .481 | 13.5 | 411 | 407 |
| Hillsboro | 36 | 43 | .456 | 15.5 | 395 | 439 |
| Vancouver | 35 | 43 | .449 | 16.0 | 337 | 377 |
| Tri-City | 31 | 48 | .392 | 20.5 | 313 | 438 |

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.

TODAY'S PROBABLE STARTERS

#40 Kai-Wei Teng (RHP)

Height: 6'4 Weight: 260 lbs Acquired: Trade w/ MINN (2019)

Hometown: Taichung, Taiwan School: N/A

Born: December 1, 1998 (22)

Berroa. Teng originally signed in 2017 for \$500,000, the largest bonus given to a Taiwanese prospect in his international class. He dominated low Class A at age 20, going 7-0 with a 1.58 ERA and a .510 opponent OPS, but did not come to the United States amid the coronavirus pandemic in 2020. Teng works with four mostly average pitches, starting with a four-seam fastball that ranges from 90-94 with rising action up in the strike zone. Some scouts believe his fading changeup is his best secondary offering, while others point to his low-90s slider. He also mixes in an upper-70s curveball. Teng's repertoire plays better than the sum of its parts because he possesses tremendous feel for his craft. He has a knack for reading swings and sequencing his pitches, keeping hitters off balance while locating his offerings with precision. He already carries 260 pounds on his 6-foot-4 frame, so he'll have to keep his body in check to reach his ceiling as a back-of-the-rotation workhorse." Per FanGraphs, "Teng was one of two players, along with Junior Severino, who the Twins signed after voiding amateur shortstop Jelfy Marte's \$3 million deal due to vision issues. It didn't take long for them to flip Teng to San Francisco as part of the package that netted Sam Dyson. He has a thick lower half and is a middling athlete, but he's very well balanced over his blocking leg and otherwise has a smooth delivery that should not only enable him to throw enough strikes to remain a starter, but perhaps develop plus command, as well. There's already strong breaking ball utility here, the ability to vary shape based on location, and competitive, arm-side changeup feel, too. Teng's frame is maxed out, so he probably won't add velo, but that's still a No. 4/5 skillset."

PITCHES: 4-Seam Fastball, 2-Seam Fastball, Cutter, Slider, Curveball, Split-Changeup

BIO: Ranked as the #18 prospect in the San Francisco Giants system, per MLB.com. Acquired from the Minnesota Twins along with Jaylin Davis and Prelander Berroa in exchange for Sam Dyson. Signed in 2017 for \$500,000, the largest bonus given to a Taiwanese prospect in his international class. Went undefeated over 14 appearances in 2019 despite being traded mid-season, going 7-0 between Augusta (SAL) and Cedar Rapids (MWL) with a 1.58 ERA and 88 K's in 79.2 IP. Per MLB.com: "When they traded Sam Dyson to the Twins in July 2019, the Giants received three potentially useful pieces in Teng, slugger Jaylin Davis and live-armed righty Prelander

| W | L | ERA | G | GS | CG | SHO | SV | SVO | IP | H | R | ER | HR | HB | BB | IBB | K | AVG | WP |
|---|---|------|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|------|----|
| 3 | 4 | 5.68 | 13 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 52.1 | 45 | 34 | 33 | 8 | 7 | 35 | 0 | 74 | .234 | 7 |

#11 Luis Alvarado (RHP)

Height: 6'4 Weight: 210 lbs Acquired: Round 17, 551st (2018)

Hometown: Salinas, Puerto Rico School: Nebraska

Born: January 5, 1997 (24)

senior ion 2018 he led the 2018 Husker pitching staff in strikeouts (65), opposing batting average (.256), innings pitched (70.0) and games started (14), spending most of the season as the team's Friday night starter. As a junior in 2017 he led the Huskers with 10 saves, which tied for the seventh-most single-season saves in school history. Earned his bachelor's degree as a hospitality, restaurant and tourism management major in December of 2018. Ranked as the No. 3 high school player in Puerto Rico and the No. 165 high school recruit overall by Perfect Game - Attended Montverde Academy in Florida in 2013, before returning to Puerto Rico for his senior season Angels 2002 World Series Connection: Angel legend Darin Erstad was the head coach for the University of Nebraska so Alvarado got to know more about the Angels franchise than most prospects in the Angels minor league system. Under Erstad's tutelage Alvarado was converted from a position player to a pitcher, a role he filled his final two years in Lincoln, Nebraska. Alvarado credits Erstad a lot for his development in college. "It gave me a definite advantage for when I was drafted and came here as to what to expect and how things work in professional baseball. When I called him to tell him I got drafted by the Angels he was so happy, his whole family was. I was very close to the Erstad's while at Nebraska and I'm proud to be playing in the same organization that he did." An even further Angel connection for Alvarado, who was an early mentor to him was former Angel infielder Sandy Alomar Sr, who played for the Angels from 1969 to 1974. Alvarado said that Alomar and his sons Roberto and Sandy Alomar Jr do a lot for kids in the Dominican Republic teaching them about baseball. "The Alomar's come from my city and I grew up knowing that they came from there which is a big reason why I got into baseball as a kid" Alvarado said. "I met Sandy Alomar the father first because he actually still lives there. He is a good guy."

PITCHES: Fastball, Slider, Changeup

Notes: Per Baseball America Draft Profile: "Alvarado was a 33rd-round pick of the Red Sox out of the Puerto Rico Baseball Academy in 2014 as a rangy shortstop, although many scouts liked him better as a pitcher. His bat has struggled to live up to expectations at Nebraska—he's failed to top .400 in slugging as a sophomore or junior as a third baseman/outfielder. But he made one pitching appearance in the Cape Cod League that immediately reminded scouts that his best pro spot is on the mound. The 6-foot-3 righthander has sat 91-92 mph and touched 94 this spring while also showing a usable breaking ball. He's athletic and there's hope for more to come since he's relatively new to pitching." As a

| W | L | ERA | G | GS | CG | SHO | SV | SVO | IP | H | R | ER | HR | HB | BB | IBB | K | AVG | WP |
|---|---|------|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|------|----|
| 3 | 1 | 5.15 | 22 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 36.2 | 33 | 22 | 21 | 2 | 7 | 18 | 0 | 42 | .241 | 4 |

UPCOMING SCHEDULE & PROBABLE PITCHING MATCHUPS

| DATE | TIME | OPPONENT | EMERALDS STARTER | OPPONENT STARTER |
|----------------------|------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Thursday, August 5 | 7:05pm PST | Tri-City Dust Devils | RHP Aaron Phillips | LHP Hector Yan |
| Friday, August 6 | 7:05pm PST | Tri-City Dust Devils | RHP Conner Nurse | LHP Jack Dashwood |
| Saturday, August 7 | 7:05pm PST | Tri-City Dust Devils | LHP Jake Dahlberg | RHP Robinson Pine |
| Sunday, August 8 | 5:05pm PST | Tri-City Dust Devils | RHP Ryan Murphy | RHP Taylor Ahearn |
| Tuesday, August 10 | 7:05pm PST | Tri-City Dust Devils | RHP Kai-Wei Teng | TBD |
| Wednesday, August 11 | 7:05pm PST | @ Hillsboro Hops | RHP Aaron Phillips | TBD |