

WOODPECKERS FIELD STAFF

29 Carlos Lugo



Carlos Lugo was named the fifth manager in Fayetteville Woodpeckers franchise history on February 10th, 2025 and will lead the Woodpeckers throughout their seventh season at Segra Stadium.

Lugo guided the team to its first winning season since 2019, finishing with the second-best overall record in the Carolina League during 2025 at 69-63. His staff also helped guide 16 Woodpeckers to a promotion to High-A Asheville.

The 36-year-old skipper joined the Astros in 2014 as a catching specialist with the Dominican Summer League Astros and went on to manage the club from 2016-2020. In 2021, Lugo managed alongside former Fayetteville skipper Ricky Rivera in the Florida Complex League, and remained in West Palm Beach, Florida over four summers helping develop some of the Astros youngest professional players and international signings. Lugo is a native of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Manager

14 Tanner Montgomery Dev. Coach



Tanner Montgomery rounds out the on-field staff in his first year as development coach. Montgomery is also a newcomer to the Astros organization after serving as an assistant coach at Radford University. He also worked as the Director of Baseball Operations at James Madison University for the 2024 season

As a player, Montgomery spent three seasons at Bridgewater College as a catcher, and also played at Youngstown State from 2017-2019.

31 Steve Serratore



Hitting Coach Steve Serratore joins the Woodpeckers as a new member of the Astros organization. Serratore is a Minnesota native that played college baseball at Kansas State and coached collegiately at the Air Force Academy and Bowling Green State before his transition to professional baseball.

Hitting Coach

Daniel Gonzalez

Athletic Trainer

Daniel Gonzalez will be the head athletic trainer after joining the Astros in February of 2024. He holds prior athletic training experience with the United States Tennis Association, College of Charleston, Middle Tennessee State and at the Marlins Dominican Academy.

15 James Wiseman



Pitching Coach James Wiseman begins his third season in the Astros organization and second with Fayetteville after overseeing one of the league's top pitching staffs a summer ago. Under Wiseman's coaching, Woodpeckers' arms led the league in ERA (3.66), opponent batting average (.216) and ranked third in strikeouts (1,202). He is an Orland, California native and pitched collegiately at Butte College and Salem University.

Pitching Coach

Aidan Meyers

Strength/Conditioning Coach

Strength Coach Aidan Meyers joins the staff for his first season in Fayetteville after serving as an assistant strength coach with the Florida Complex League Astros in 2025. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology and Exercise Science from Coastal Carolina University and Master's degree in Exercise Science from the University of South Carolina Upstate.

WOODPECKERS RECORD BOOK (SINCE 2017)

OFFENSE

Home Runs, Single Season			
Player	Year	HR	
1st J.J. Matijevic*	2018	19	
T-2nd Jake Adams	2019	15	
T-2nd Logan Cerny	2022	15	
T-4th Abraham Toro#	2018	14	
T-4th Chandler Taylor*	2019	14	

Hits, Single Season		
Player	Year	Hits
1st Osvaldo Duarte	2018	134
2nd Myles Straw	2017	129
3rd Cal Stevenson*	2019	120
4th Leosday Molina	2022	98
5th Corey Julks	2019	93

Batting Average, Single Season		
Player	Year	AVG
1st Cal Stevenson	2019	.298
T-2nd Randy Cesar	2017	.295
T-2nd Myles Straw	2017	.295
4th Osvaldo Duarte	2018	.276
5th Ryne Birk*	2017	.274

Runs Batted In, Single Season			
Player	Year	RBI	
1st Jake Adams	2019	66	
2nd J.J. Matijevic*	2018	57	
3rd Abraham Toro#	2018	56	
4th Jake Rogers	2017	55	
5th L.Cerny/T.Whitaker	2022	54	

Runs, Single Season		
Player	Year	Runs
1st Myles Straw	2017	81
2nd Osvaldo Duarte	2018	68
3rd Logan Cerny	2022	59
T-4th J.J. Matijevic*	2019	58
T-4th Michael Papierski#	2019	58

Stolen Bases, Single Season			
Player	Year	SB	
1st Jackson Loftin	2023	60	
2nd Esmil Valencia	2025	50	
3rd Myles Straw	2017	36	
4th Logan Cerny	2022	35	
5th Cesar Hernandez*	2024	34	

PITCHING

Wins, Single Season			
Player	Year	Wins	
1st Jojanse Torres	2019	9	
T-2nd Carson LaRue	2018	8	
T-2nd Abdiel Saldana	2018	8	
T-2nd Edinson Batista	2022	8	
T-5th Joan Ogando	2025	7	
T-5th Anthony Cruz	2025	7	

ERA, Single Season		
Player	Year	ERA
1st Jojanse Torres	2019	1.94
2nd Brett Conine	2019	2.42
3rd Brandon Bailey	2018	2.49
4th Brett Adcock*	2018	2.54
5th Framber Valdez*	2017	2.79

Strikeouts, Single Season		
Player	Year	SO
1st Trey Dombroski*	2023	148
2nd Jose Fleury	2023	139
3rd Shawn Dubin	2019	132
4th Andrew Taylor	2023	126
5th Miguel Ullola	2022	120

MISCELLANEOUS

No-Hitters		
Player	Date	Opponent
Schroeder/Jaquez/Macuare	5/14/21	vs. KAN
Salgado/Gillis/R. Garcia/Blubaugh/Mathews/Temple	9/7/22	vs. LYN

Hitting for the Cycle		
Player	Date	Opponent

League Honors		
Player/Coach	Year	Award

*Left-Handed Hitter

#Switch Hitter

*Left-Handed Pitcher

WOODPECKERS POSITION PLAYERS

10 Kevin ALVAREZ OF L/L 6'3, 184 lbs. Age: 18

2026 Season: ----> Enters the season as the Astros #1 overall prospect, according to MLB.com ----> Hit first Single-A HR on 4/25/26 vs. MB...also had a walk-off single in same game.

Career Notes & Factoids: ----> 2025: Spent the full summer in the Dominican Summer League...slashed .301/.419/.455 with 12 doubles, two HR, 33 RBI, 23 BB and just 19 K's in 192 plate appearances.

----> Scouting grades: Hit: 60 | Power: 55 | Run: 50 | Arm: 45 | Field: 50 | Overall: 50

----> He already makes advanced swing decisions for his age and has an innate feel for contact.

----> Left-handed swing has natural loft, setup and path has been compared to Kyle Tucker by scouts

----> From Colon, Cuba, but departed Cuba with his father in December 2021 and moved to the Dominican Republic, where he blossomed into one of the best all-around talents in the 2025 international class...signed for \$2 million.

----> Astros Manager Joe Espada on Alvarez: "I've been very surprised by how quickly his development has come. I've been very impressed by how he goes about his at-bats, how he goes about his defense, his work ethic. So he looks like a pretty good player to keep an eye on."

6 Camilo DIAZ INF R/R 6'3, 208 lbs. Age: 20

2026 Season:

Career Notes & Factoids: ----> 2025: Missed the entire season due to injury

----> 2024: Played in 43 games for the FCL Astros...only batted .188 with 69 strikeouts in 138 at bats

- Played in three games with Fayetteville...went 1-for-8 at the dish.

- Ranked as the #28 prospect in Houston's farm system at the beginning of the 2024 season

----> 2023: Broke into pro ball by hitting .209/.374/.353 with a 33 percent strikeout rate in the Dominican Summer League

----> With some of the best all-around tools on the 2023 international market, Diaz landed a \$2.25 million bonus, the highest in the Astros' class. It also ranks as the third-highest international bonus in franchise history and the most Houston ever paid an infielder from that talent pool.

99 Arturo FLORES C R/R 6'2, 205 lbs. Age: 20

2026 Season:

Career Notes & Factoids: -2025: Made pro debut on 5/3 with the FCL Astros...Slashed .306/.409/.472 with 2 doubles, 2 triples and 8 RBI over 13 games with FCL Astros...Promoted to Fayetteville on 7/28...Batted .190 with 3 doubles, 1 HR, 9 BB and 30 K in 19 games and 63 at bats.

- Signed by the Astros as an UDFA on 9/29/24

- Signed following the conclusion of the FCL season.

- 2024: Signed by the Saraperos de Saltillo and later scouted at Francisco I. Madero Stadium by Houston Astros scout Miguel Pintor, who impressed him with his talent and physical characteristics.

- Played his high school baseball at Cimarron-Memorial HS in home town of Las Vegas

- Began playing baseball at the age of four thanks to his father, brother, and uncle, who shared their love of baseball

2 Brandon FORRESTER INF S/R 5'9, 171 lbs. Age: 22

2026 Season:

Career Notes & Factoids: 2025: Slashed .177/.239/.210 in 17 games with 11 hits, 9 RBI, 4 BB and 14 K

- Signed an undrafted free agent contract with Houston immediately following the 2025 draft

- Slashed .323/.416/.419 with 2 HR, 23 RBI, 70 H, 9 2B, 51 R, 34 BB to 39 K, and 16 SB in 53 games (52 starts) as a Redshirt Sophomore at New Mexico State

- Named first-team All-Conference USA

- Tied for the team lead in multi-hit games (20) and reached base in a stretch of 22 consecutive games

- Transferred to New Mexico State in 2025 after spending two years at Oregon State

- Was teammates with his brother, Garret

- Third person in his family to play Minor League Baseball

- Father, Gary, spent three seasons in the Los Angeles Dodgers and California Angels organizations from 1989-1991

- Brother, Garret, was selected in the third round of the 2023 MLB Draft by the Pittsburgh Pirates and currently plays in the Miami Marlins organization

12 Anthony HUEZO OF R/R 6'0, 185 Age: 20

2026 Season: Ranks as the #19 prospect in the Astros farm system according to MLB.com

Career Notes & Factoids: ----> Played in the Australian Baseball League this past offseason for the Sydney Blue Sox...slashed an impressive .340/.443/.588 with 33 hits, six doubles, 6 HR, 22 RBI and 20 runs in 30 games.

----> 2025: Slashed .231/.371/.485 with 6 HR and 26 RBI with FCL Astros...Played in two games for Triple-A Sugar Land, connecting for a single in his lone at bat...Added to Fayetteville roster on 7/28...put together back-to-back three-hit performances in his first two games in Fayetteville...batted .301 with 25 hits in 22 games...missed the final two weeks of the season due to injury.

----> 2024: Split year between FCL, Asheville (7 games) and Corpus Christi (1 game)

----> Started pro career with 12 games in the FCL during the 2023 season

----> Drafted in the 12th round of the 2023 draft out of Etiwanda HS in Etiwanda, CA

WOODPECKERS POSITION PLAYERS

8	Nick MONISTERE	INF	R/R	6'0 192 lbs.	Age: 22	
2026 Season:						
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: 2025 Pro: Slashed .168/.254/.248 with 17 H, 2 HR, 16 RBI, 28 K in 26 games (101 AB's) -Selected in the fourth round of the 2025 MLB Draft out of Southern Mississippi - 2025 College: Slashed .323/.410/.623 with 21 HR, 72 RBI, 83 H, 12 2B, 59 R, 27 BB to 53 K in 63 games (all starts) - Received All-Sun Belt First Team and Sun Belt All-Tournament Team honors - Named Sun Belt Player of the Year - First Southern Mississippi to receive that honor, first to win Conference Player of the Year since 2018 (Luke Reynolds, Conference USA) - Chosen as a Second Team All-South Region pick by ABCA/Rawlings - Named an All-American by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA) (First Team), D1Baseball.com (Second Team), and Baseball America (Third Team) - Picked as a semifinalist for the Dick Howser Trophy and Finalist for the Ferriss Trophy (top player in Miss.) - Earned the NCBWA National Player of the Month Award for April - Helped the Golden Eagles reach the Sun Belt Tournament Finals - Led team to the Hattiesburg Regional Finals at the NCAA Tournament - Made the Sun Belt All-Tournament Team in 2024 - First Golden Eagle to start at five different positions in a single season since 2012 - Utilized as a two-way player as a freshman in 2023 - Named to the NCAA Auburn All-Regional Team - Hit a home run in the NCAA Hattiesburg Super Regional against Tennessee - Won SBLive National Player of the Year in 2022 at Northwest Rankin HS - Helped Cougars win the 2022 Mississippi 6A State Championship</p>						
16	DJ NEWMAN	OF	R/R	6'0, 190 lbs.	Age: 22	Last Game:
2026 Season: -Added to the Fayetteville roster on 5/2/26						
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: Drafted in the 15th round of the 2025 MLB Draft out of Bowling Green State. ---> 2025: Appeared at the plate in 25 games, starting all 25 before having season cut short due to injury ---> Made four appearances on the mound, all starts ---> Posted a team-best and career-high .419 batting average, ranking fourth all-time among players with 50-100 at-bats in a season ---> 2024 Second-Team All-MAC (DH) ---> 2023 Collegiate Baseball Freshman All-American ---> Prepped at Archbold High School... Named First-Team All-State and First-Team All-League as a junior...As a junior maintained a batting average of .509 with 15 doubles, three triples and three home runs with 30 RBI and nine stolen bases....Tossed over 67 innings on the mound for Archbold High School, logging a 1.96 ERA and 96 strikeouts.... Named 2021 Football Offensive Player of the Year for the Northwest Ohio Athletic League...also played basketball.</p>						
9	Xavier NEYENS	INF	L/R	6'3, 210 lbs.	Age: 19	
2026 Season : ---> Enters the season as the #2 overall prospect in the Astros system according to MLB.com						
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: ---> Drafted in the 1st round (21st overall) in the 2025 MLB Draft out of Mount Vernon HS in Washington state...signed for \$4.12 million and did not play after draft, more than any Astros selection since Kyle Tucker. ---> Was originally committed to play college baseball at Oregon State ---> The 6-foot-4 left-handed infielder has a 65 grade on his power on the 20-80 scouting scale. Already 210 pounds, he projects as a power hitter in the Majors, which is why many scouts see him moving to third base.Has compared himself to Corey Seagar. ---> He posted a .689 on-base percentage as a senior, buoyed by a single and four intentional walks in the Washington 3-A state title game, which he won for Mount Vernon HS by working the final four innings on the mound. ---> Is also a barber on the side and has a barber Instagram account: x_blendz_9 ---> Astros farm director Sam Niedorf on Neyens: " He's still very young, and we're mindful of that, but the excitement is grounded in what we've seen internally from the time we drafted him," Astros farm director Sam Niedorf said. "The combination of power, bat speed and competitive makeup gives him a really strong starting point. Even without affiliated games last season, the quality of his work and the way he's handled the environment have been impressive."</p>						
27	Nehomar OCHOA JR.	OF	R/R	6'4, 210	Age: 20	
2026 Season :						
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: -2025: Participated in 2025 Spring Breakout...Added to Fayetteville roster on 5/19...batted just .162 over 23 games with 26 K's...was the #23 prospect in HOU farm system, but has since dropped outside of Top 30. - 2024: Slashed .222/.317/.359 with 10 HR, 44 RBI, 15 2B, and 17 SB in 103 games in Fayetteville - Spent six games with the FCL Astros before getting called up to the Woodpeckers this season - Spent the 2023 offseason with Perth Heat of the Australian Baseball League, hitting .238, 1 HR, 12 RBI - Drafted in the 11th round of the 2023 MLB Draft out of Galena Park High School (TX), originally committed to Houston - Born in Higuerote, Venezuela and moved to Galena Park, Texas when he was 10 years old - Father Nehomar Ochoa Sr. spent three years in the Montreal Expos/Washington Nationals organization (2003-05)</p>						

WOODPECKERS POSITION PLAYERS

3	German RAMIREZ	INF	R/R	6'0, 179 lbs.	Age: 19
2026 Season: -Appeared in 8 Astros Spring Training games...went 2-for-7 at the plate					
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: -2025: Slashed .245/.340/.417 with 3 HR and 29 RBI over 48 games with the FCL Astros... Added to the Fayetteville roster on 7/28...Batted .143 with 28 K in 21 games.</p> <p>- 2024: Played in three games with Fayetteville between September 6-9...went a combined 0-for-9 at the plate. -Played in 48 games for FCL Astros during 2024 summer...batted .226 with four doubles, one HR and 18 RBI.</p> <p>- Debuted in the Dominican Summer League in 2023...slashed .257/.324/.328 with DSL Astros</p> <p>- Signed as an international free agent on 1/15/23 at 17 years old out of San Pedro de Macoris, D.R.</p>					
28	Juan SIERRA	OF	R/R	6'2, 208	Age: 20
2026 Season:					
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: ---> 2025: Played in 31 games for the FCL Astros...slashed .289/.402/.402 with 2 HR, 18 RBI and 19 BB</p> <p>---> Played two seasons in the Dominican Summer League in 2023 & 2024...batted .270 over 51 games in 2024 with 9 HR and 33 RBI</p> <p>-Signed as an International Free Agent with Houston on 1/15/23 out of Yaguatae, D.R.</p>					
4	Yosweld VASQUEZ	C	R/R	5'9, 176 lbs.	Age: 21
2026 Season:					
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: -2025: Added to Fayetteville roster on 8/25 and played in 8 games...Spent 2025 summer playing for the FCL Astros (36 games, .248 AVG, 3 2B, 4 HR, 14 RBI)...Went 1-for-4 with a double in his Single-A debut on 8/28/25</p> <p>-2024: Played full season in the Dominican Summer League...slashed .267/.382/.407 with 9 doubles, 1 HR and 9 RBI</p> <p>-2023: Spent full summer in the DSL...batted .188 in 23 games</p> <p>-Signed an International Free Agent contract with Houston on 4/17/23 out of Maracay, Venezuela</p>					
1	Josh WAKEFIELD	OF	L/L	6'0, 180 lbs.	Age: 21
2026 Season: Making his pro debut in 2026					
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: - Selected in the 14th round of the 2025 MLB Draft out of Grand Canyon University...did not play following draft.</p> <p>---> As a junior at Grand Canyon was one of the Lopes' leading offensive contributors and everyday right fielder in first season with program...Led GCU with 68 hits and 18 stolen bases while ranking second in batting average (.349).</p> <p>---> Started his college career with two seasons at Iowa Western CC...In his two seasons, hit a combine .415 with a .520 OBP and 41 stolen bases..also pitched with an ERA of 3.86 and 12.54 strikeouts per nine innings.</p> <p>---> Prepped at Mountain Ridge HS in Peoria, AZ... Was Mountain Ridge's Pitcher of the Year as a senior in 2022. Went 6-0 with one save and a 0.86 ERA. Opponents batted just .135 against him over 13 appearances with 41 strikeouts in 32 1/3 innings</p> <p>- Grandfather, Daryl Grenier, played basketball at Wisconsin in 1955-56</p>					

WOODPECKERS PITCHERS

44 Jagger BECK	RHP	6'6, 205 lbs.	4SFB, SNK, CIR CH, SWP, CRV	Age: 19	Recent Apps:	IP	H	R(E)	BB	K	HR
2026 Season:											
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: - 2025: Pitched for the Sydney Blue Sox in the Australian Baseball League during the winter...went 2-4 with a 3.16 ERA and 36 strikeouts in 37.0 total innings.</p> <p>---> Made pro debut last summer in the FCL...made three appearances and struck out 14 in 10.0 total innings.</p> <p>- Signed as a free agent following the 2024 draft out of Sutter Union High School in Sutter, CA at 17 years old</p> <p>---> Was committed to pitching at Hawaii before signing pro</p> <p>---> Pitched in three games for the Victoria HarbourCats in the West Coast League during the 2024 summer</p> <p>---> Played baseball, basketball and football in high school</p>											
18 Jesus CARRERA	RHP	5'11, 160 lbs.	Age: 21	4SFB, CRV, SL, CH, CUT	Recent Apps:	IP	H	R(E)	BB	K	HR
2026 Season:											
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: ---> 2025: Went 2-0 with a 0.98 ERA, 33 strikeouts, 0.76 WHIP, 16.2 K/9, and 11.0 K/BB ratio in seven appearances (three starts) over 18.1 innings with the FCL Astros...Added to the Fayetteville roster on 8/4...Earned his first Single-A save in his Woodpeckers debut...Made his first Single-A start at Fredericksburg (8/20)</p> <p>---> 2024: Spent the entire year with the FCL Astros, going 1-2 with a 3.76 ERA, 30 strikeouts, 1.06 WHIP, and 10.3 K/9 in 10 appearances (three starts) spanning 26.1 innings</p> <p>---> Posted a 2-0 record with a 3.32 ERA and 27 strikeouts in six appearances (three starts) in his first professional season with DSL Astros Blue at 18 years old in 2023</p> <p>---> Signed as an international free agent on 4/18/23 at 18 years old out of Ciudad Obregon, Mexico</p>											
0 Brandon CASSEDY	RHP	5'11, 185	FB, CUT, SL, CRV, SPL	Age: 21	Recent Apps:	IP	H	R(E)	BB	K	HR
2026 Season: Will make his pro debut in 2026											
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: ---> Signed an Undrafted Free Agent contract with Houston in 2025 out of George Mason University</p> <p>---> 2025 at George Mason: Pitched 84.0 total innings and struck out 78...went 8-2 with a 3.32 ERA in 16 games.</p> <p>---> Prior to George Mason: Attended Christopher Newport University... 2024 Virginia Sports Information Directors (VaSID) All-State First Team Starting Pitcher</p> <p>---> Attended Colgan High School... Named Virginia State Player of the Year, District Player of the Year and Region Player of the Year as a senior... Finished his high school career with a .331 batting average... On the mound, had a 13-1 record with a 0.54 ERA and 124 strikeouts with the Sharks.</p>											
48 Ryan FORCUCCI	RHP	6'3, 205	Age: 23		Recent Apps:	IP	H	R(E)	BB	K	HR
2026 Season: ---> Made his pro debut on 4/10 vs. CHS ---> Ranks as the #9 overall prospect and #3 pitching prospect in the Astros farm system according to MLB.com											
<p>Career Notes & Factoids:---> Astros made him the highest-drafted pitcher in Tritons history and paying him an over-slot \$997,500 bonus in the third round.</p> <p>---> Blew out his elbow in March 2024 and had Tommy John surgery a month before the Draft...recovery has gone slower than expected.</p> <p>---> Became UC San Diego's top starter by the end of his freshman season in 2022 and looked like a first-round pick when he dominated in early 2024</p> <p>---> Selected in the 12th round of the 2024 MLB Draft out of California State University, Bakersfield</p> <p>---> Became UC San Diego's top starter by the end of his freshman season in 2022 and looked like a first-round pick when he dominated in early 2024</p> <p>---> Graduated in 2021 from San Marcos HS ... 2021 Perfect Game Preseason California Region Honorable Mention ... High school career ERA of 0.99 ... As a senior: 1.71 ERA, 16.1 IP, 25 K, 5 BB ... As a junior: 0.00 ERA, 12 IP, 18 K, 7 BB.</p>											
35 Kellan OAKES	RHP	6'2, 201	Scoreless Streak (Long): 0.0 (0.0)	Age: 21	Recent Apps:	IP	H	R(E)	BB	K	HR
2026 Season: Will make his pro debut in 2026											
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: ---> Drafted in the 9th round of the 2025 MLB Draft out of Oregon State</p> <p>---> 2025 at Oregon State: Pitched in 20 games, making four starts. Finished with a 5-1 record and 3.68 ERA. Struck out 47 in 36 2/3 innings, recorded one save and held opponents to a .232 batting average</p> <p>---> 2024 at Oregon State: Appeared in 18 games, all in relief. Posted a 3-1 record and 4.43 ERA. Struck out 17 in 22 1/3 innings and held opponents to a .234 batting average.</p> <p>---> Started college career at Linn-Benton Community College...played one season for the junior college under Andy Peterson, a former Oregon State infielder.</p>											

WOODPECKERS PITCHERS

22 Javier PEREZ	RHP 6'1, 220 lbs.	Scoreless Streak (Long): 0.2 (4.0)	Age: 21	Recent Apps:	IP	H	R(E)	BB	K	HR
2026 Season:										
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: ---> Went 6-0 with a 1.69 ERA, 48 strikeouts, 0.98 WHIP, 10.1 K/9, and 6.0 K/BB ratio in 13 appearances (five starts) across 42.2 innings with the FCL Astros...Added to the Fayetteville roster on 8/4... Threw five innings of one-run ball with seven strikeouts in his Single-A debut at Delmarva (8/9)</p> <p>---> 2024: Went 0-1 with a 1.31 ERA, 23 strikeouts, 0.68 WHIP, and 10.0 K/9 in nine appearances (eight starts) over 20.2 innings with DSL Astros Blue</p> <p>---> Signed as an international free agent on 3/19/24 at 20 years old out of Guasave, Mexico</p>										
19 Nick POTTER	RHP 6'4, 195 lbs.	Scoreless Streak (Long): 2.1 (2.1)	Age: 22	Recent Apps:	IP	H	R(E)	BB	K	HR
2026 Season: Will make pro debut in 2026										
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: ----> Selected in the fifth round of the 2025 MLB Draft out of Wichita State...signed for a below-slot \$336,600</p> <p>----> As a junior made 23 relief appearances and compiled a 3.34 ERA, three saves and 33 strikeouts in 29.2 IP.</p> <p>----> Established himself as one of the harder throwers in NCAA Division I... used his fastball three-quarters of his time with the Shockers, operating at 95-97 mph and reaching 100 with impressive carry</p> <p>----> Works exclusively out of the stretch, with a big leg kick and a long arm action that help him generate power but hurt his ability to find the zone</p> <p>----> Spent two seasons with the Crowder College Roughriders, appearing in 10 total games covering 8.2 innings</p> <p>----> Three-year starter for head coach Jay Meyer at Lee's Summit West High School in Lees Summit, Missouri</p>										
26 Leomar ROSARIO	RHP 6'6, 217 lbs.	Age: 22	4SFB, 2SFB, Slider, Curveball	Recent Apps:	IP	H	R(E)	BB	K	HR
2026 Season: Added to Fayetteville roster on 5/24...Appeared in 17 games (1 start) and went 2-2 with a 4.71 ERA...struck out 56 and walked 33 in 42.0 total innings pitched.										
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: ----> 2025: Added to Fayetteville roster on 5/24...Appeared in 17 games (1 start) and went 2-2 with a 4.71 ERA...struck out 56 and walked 33 in 42.0 total innings pitched.</p> <p>----> 2024: Did not pitch due to injury</p> <p>----> Made six appearances (one start) with 16 K in 15.2 innings in 2023 as a member of the FCL Astros</p> <p>----> Spent the 2022 campaign with the DSL Astros Blue</p> <p>----> Fanned 29 batters in 28.2 innings across 11 appearances (five starts)</p> <p>----> Signed as an international free agent on 10/18/21 at 17 years old out of San Cristobal, D.R.</p>										
36 Jose SERRANO	RHP 6'2, 212 lbs.	Age: 22		Recent Apps:	IP	H	R(E)	BB	K	HR
2026 Season:										
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: ----> 2025: Made 10 relief appearances with the FCL Astros, compiled a 3.86 ERA with 14 strikeouts in 11.2 innings pitched...made one spot appearance with High-A Asheville and surrendered one earned run in 1.2 innings of work.</p> <p>----> 2024: Had a breakout summer in the Dominican Summer League, making 13 appearances (12 starts) and pitching to a 2.63 ERA with 46 strikeouts in 48.0 total innings.</p> <p>----> Made professional debut in the DSL in 2022. Made 10 total relief appearances across the '22 and '23 seasons</p> <p>- Signed as an international free agent with the Astros on 6/10/22 at 19 years old out of Bonao, Dominican Republic</p>										
47 Aubrey SMITH	RHP 6'3, 205 lbs.	SNK, 4SFB, CUT, SLD, SPL	Age: 22	Recent Apps:	IP	H	R(E)	BB	K	HR
2026 Season: Will make professional debut in 2026										
<p>Career Notes & Factoids: ----> Selected in the 13th round of the 2025 MLB draft out of UNC Wilmington</p> <p>----> One of five total UNC Wilmington Seahawks drafted in 2025</p> <p>----> As a Redshirt Sophomore at UNC Wilmington: Made 23 appearances, including 21 in relief...struck out a career-high 44 batters and walked 11 in 52.1 innings. His ERA was 3.10.</p> <p>----> Did not pitch in 2024</p> <p>----> Prepped at South Brunswick High School in Leland, NC... North Carolina 3A State Pitcher of the Year ... First-team All-State selection for coach Mike Anderson and South Brunswick High School ... Named second-team All-State by High SchoolOT ... Helped Cougars to the 3A state tournament finals his senior season</p>										

WOODPECKERS PITCHERS

39 Jose VARELA RHP 6'1, 183 lbs. Age: 21	Recent Apps: IP H R(E) BB K HR
<p>2026 Season:</p> <p>Career Notes & Factoids: ----> Last season with Fayetteville appeared in four games, all in relief, and struck out 12 hitters in 12.0 total innings...recorded first Single-A save on 4/26 at Lynchburg ----> Played two summers in the Florida Complex League between 2024-25...pitched for Fayetteville in late April and in June. ----> Made his pro debut at 18 years old in the Dominican Summer League in 2023...went 5-1 with a 2.49 ERA and struck out 71 over 47.0 innings ----> Signed an International Free Agent contract with the Astros on 7/11/22 ----> Born in Wichita, Texas but spends his offseasons living in Mexico</p>	
17 Ryan VERDUGO RHP 6'2, 205 lbs. 4SFB, 2SFB, SWP, CH, CRV, CUT Age: 23	Recent Apps: IP H R(E) BB K HR
<p>2026 Season:</p> <p>Career Notes & Factoids: ----> 2025: Member of the Opening Day roster...Assigned to the FCL Astros on 4/7... Re-added to the Fayetteville roster on 8/17...Made his Single-A debut at Fredericksburg (8/22) ----> 2024: Did not pitch after getting drafted ----> Selected in the 12th round of the 2024 MLB Draft out of California State University, Bakersfield ----> Featured as the Roadrunners closer as a freshman before becoming the Friday night starter his final two seasons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Went 3-6 with a 2.72 ERA, 93 K, 1.19 WHIP, and .208 BAA in 14 appearances spanning 89.1 innings in 2024 - Led the team and finished top five in the Big West Conference in ERA, innings pitched, strikeouts, and BAA - Received All-Big West Second Team honors - Won back-to-back Big West Pitcher of the Week awards - Multiple statistics rank in the program's top ten - Second and ninth in single-season BAA (.208 in 2024, .267 in 2023) - Fourth in single-season strikeouts (93 in 2024) - Seventh in single-season ERA (2.72 in 2024) - Ninth in single-season saves (3 in 2022) - Fourth in career strikeouts (169) - Seveth player in program history drafted in the 12th round or earlier - First player in program history drafted by the Astros 	
66 Charlie WEBER RHP 6'1, 200 lbs. Age: 21 4SFB, 2SFB, Sweeper, Cutter, Changeup	Recent Apps: IP H R(E) BB K HR
<p>2026 Season: Will make his pro debut in 2026</p> <p>Career Notes & Factoids: - 2025: Signed an undrafted free agent contract with the Astros on 7/23 out of Saint Louis University...did not pitch after signing. ----> Made 18 relief appearances in 2025 with Saint Louis and pitched to a 2.89 ERA with four saves and 58 strikeouts in 56.0 innings pitched. ----> Was a starter for the Billikens in 2024 and had a 5.72 ERA across 56.2 innings pitched ----> Started college career at Wofford College and made 15 starts for the Terriers during his freshman campaign... named to the 2023 Southern Conference All-Freshman team ----> Prepped at Chaminade College Prep where he pitched and played third base ----> Throws from a mix of sidearm arm slot and submarine slot...adds a sinker to his arsenal when pitching submarine style. ----> Father, Fred, played baseball at Central Missouri State, and mother, Laura, played basketball at Arkansas State... Older brother, Jack, played baseball at Saint Louis University ----> From St. Louis, Missouri</p>	
37 Jackson WELLS RHP 5'11, 200 lbs. 4SFB, CH, CUT, SWP, CRV Age: 23	Recent Apps: IP H R(E) BB K HR
<p>2026 Season: Picked up a winning decision in his pro debut on 4/4 vs. WIL</p> <p>Career Notes & Factoids: -Signing an undrafted free agent contract with Houston on 7/23/25 out of University of Arkansas-Little Rock...did not pitch after signing...was planning to play grad season for Arkansas Razorbacks if he didn't sign pro. ----> Made 17 appearances (16 starts) as a senior in 2025...recorded a 5.36 ERA with a career-high 97 strikeouts in 87.1 total innings pitched. - 2024: Wells finished 5-3 as the Trojans won the OVC regular-season title. He struck out a season-high nine batters in a win against SEMO. ----> 2023 (Soph): In his debut season as a Trojan, Wells quickly earned his spot as one of the premiere pitchers in the OVC and would ultimately be named the 2023 OVC Pitcher of the Year as well as All-OVC First Team as he led the nation in ERA... Wells earned a National leading ERA of 1.65 in 15 games including 2 complete games and 93 innings pitched...Paul Skenes at LSU was 2nd in the nation that season with a 1.69 ERA. ----> Graduate of Rogers High School where he lettered all 4 years for the Mountaineers ... Helped the team win the Arkansas 6A State Championship in 2021 and in that same year he was also named the Gatorade Player of the Year</p>	