



GAMEDAY INFO & NOTES

Game #79 | August 3, 2021 | PK Park | Eugene, OR

Eugene Emeralds (44-34) at Tri-City Dust Devils (31-47)

RHP Ryan Murphy (0-0, -- ERA) vs. RHP Taylor Ahearn (0-2, 5.40 ERA)

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



LAST TIME OUT

For the 22nd time this season, the Emeralds played in a one-run game on Sunday, and for just the 7th time this season, the Emeralds lost by just one run. A comeback bid came up just short against Everett as the first place Frogs won a rubber match, 7-6, to take four-of-seven against the Emeralds in a series that saw Everett outscore the Ems by a mere run, 44-43. Every Emerald in the lineup notched at least one hit, and slugger Armani Smith returned to the lineup for the first time since July 22 against Hillsboro when he was hit in the hand by a pitch in his very first at-bat. Sunday saw another strong bullpen performance as Austin Reich, Chris Wright and Taylor Rashi combined for a scoreless 5.0 innings of work with just 1 hit, 1 walk, and 5 strikeouts.

TODAY'S STORYLINES

Right-hander Ryan Murphy makes his Emeralds debut tonight after being called up from Low-A San Jose last week. Murphy enters the rotation after going 4-2 in 15 starts with the Giants while posting a 2.96 ERA and an astounding 116 K's and just 18 walks in 76.0 inning pitched. At the time of his promotion, Murphy left San Jose as with the most strikeouts in ALL of Minor League Baseball (116) while also leading the Low-A West in ERA (2.96) and innings pitched (76.0). He'll face off against a Dust Devils lineup that features a pair of players that are no stranger to PK Park: Kenyon Yovan and Kyle Kasser. Yovan made his pro debut in the Angels system last week in Hillsboro while Kasser was signed by the Angels earlier this summer after spending two seasons with the Kansas City Royals organization. The Emeralds enter today firmly entrenched in second place, 7.5 games behind first place Everett and 7.0 games ahead of third place Spokane. Today also starts a spree of series against the Dust Devils, whom the Emeralds will play a total of 18 times over the season's final 36 games.

QUICK HITS

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 Genoves, 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 .385 (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 14-30 with a 6.36 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 4.01 ERA and 461 K's in 357.0 innings pitched. No other team in the Minor Leagues has fewer than 6 bullpen losses (Tampa Tarpons). Eugene's 461 bullpen K's rank 3rd in all of High-A.

Strikeout Savants

Through 78 games, the Eugene pitching staff leads the High-A West in strikeouts (829). Their 829 collective strikeouts are 4 more than the next closest High-A West team (Everett - 825), and the Ems rank 5th in all of High-A, too. Across all of Minor League Baseball, Eugene's 829 K's rank 9th. Coincidentally, the San Jose Giants (San Francisco - Low A) lead all of Minor League Baseball with 968 K's. Entering today, San Jose's 968 K's are 101 more than the next closest team (Modesto Nuts | SEA | Low-A West).

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 (.250), 3rd in runs (192), 2nd in hits (214), 2nd on OBP (.352), 4th in SLG (.423) and 4th in OPS (.777) 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), and 2nd in OBP (.392), 3rd in SLG (.477), and 1st 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, the Emeralds boast 3 of the organization's top 30 prospects:

- #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

EMS BY THE NUMBERS

Overall	44-34
Home*	20-16
Road	24-18
Neutral	0-0
Day	3-2
Night	41-32
Runs Scored	435
Runs Against	431
Run Differential	+4
Team AVG	.243
Team ERA	5.13
HR for/against	94/80
Strikeouts (pitching)	829
Strikeouts (hitting)	789
Current Streak	L2
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	0-1
September	0-0
Scoring First	28-13
Opponent Scores First	16-21
Monday	0-2
Tuesday	9-3
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	0-0
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	10-2
Series Finales	8-5

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 WSBG 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.

Olympic News and Notes

The Opening Round of the Olympics kicked off last week and will continue this week with the upcoming matchups (all times local in Japan):

- 8/4: Dominican Republic vs. USA (12pm)
- 8/4: South Korea vs. Japan (7pm)
- 8/5: Semifinal: DR/USA winner vs. Japan/Korea loser (7pm)
- 8/7: Bronze Medal Game (12pm)
- 8/7: Gold Medal Game (7pm)

Outfielder Julio Rodriguez, who played for the Everett AquaSox earlier this season, will be suiting up for the Dominican Republic. Fellow former AquaSox outfielder Patrick Kivlehan (2012) will be playing for Team USA, as will former Oregon Duck pitcher Scott McGough, who, coincidentally is married to former Emeralds intern Lauren McGough (formerly Thompson).

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

HIGH-A WEST STANDINGS

	W	L	PCT.	GB	RF	RA
Everett	51	26	.662	-	548	346
Eugene	44	34	.564	7.5	435	431
Spokane	37	41	.474	14.5	402	406
Hillsboro	35	42	.455	16.0	335	372
Vancouver	35	42	.449	16.5	390	437
Tri-City	31	47	.397	20.5	309	427

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)

TODAY'S PROBABLE STARTERS

#32 Ryan Murphy (RHP)

Height: 6'1 Weight: 190 lbs Acquired: Round 5 (2020)

Hometown: Poughkeepsie, NY School: Le Moyne (NY)

Born: October 9, 1999 (21)

Per Baseball America Draft Report: "Murphy was a stalwart of Division II Le Moyne's rotation for three years, piling up 215 strikeouts and just 44 walks in 203.2 innings. His impressive performance carried over into last summer in the New England Collegiate Baseball League, where he led the circuit in ERA (2.25) and was named pitcher of the year. Murphy's fastball sits around 90 mph with a high spin rate, and he mixes in a slider and changeup, though his offspeed offerings are below average. He fills up the strike zone, which helps his stuff play up." COLLEGE: In three seasons for the Dolphins, Murphy went 16-9 with a 3.40 ERA working primarily as a starter (29 starts, one relief outing). In 203.2 collegiate innings, he struck out 215 while walking 44. As a freshman at Le Moyne, Murphy fired a 7.0-inning no-hitter in the second game of a doubleheader at the University of New Haven on April 15, 2018. The no-no was the eighth individual no-hitter in school history and the first by a freshman.

Stats below with Low-A San Jose:

W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	K	AVG	WP
4	2	2.96	15	15	0	0	0	0	76.0	59	33	25	11	2	18	0	116	.215	7

PITCHES: 4-Seam Fastball, Curveball, Slider, Changeup

BIO: Promoted from Low-A San Jose to High-A Eugene on July 29. At time of promotion, led all of Minor League Baseball in strikeouts (116). While with San Jose in 2021, Murphy went 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. Departed San Jose as the Low-A leader in strikeouts (116), ERA (2.96) and innings pitched (76.0). Third pitcher to be promoted from San Jose to Eugene this season, following LHP Chris Wright and RHP Austin Reich. Ranked #25 in Baseball America Midseason Giants prospect rankings.

#28 Taylor Ahearn (RHP)

Height: 6'1 Weight: 190 lbs Acquired: Free Agent (2021)

Hometown: Santee, CA School: Cal State San Marcos

Born: November 25, 1994 (26)

American Association championship. He went 1-5 for them with a 4.06 ERA in 2020. He was back with the Milkmen in 2021 and pitched in three games for the team before being signed by the Angels. The Milkmen won the 2020 title over the Sioux Falls Canaries, capturing the best-of-seven series 4 games to 3, setting off a celebration at the Canaries' stadium in South Dakota. Playing in front of fans in 2020: The American Association, drew considerable attention for allowing fans in 2020 to attend games, in a limited capacity, as the coronavirus pandemic wreaked havoc on the sports world. The Milkmen limited capacity to 1,600 fans at its sparkling 4,000-seat stadium in Franklin that opened last season in order to allow for social distancing. Despite the smaller seating arrangement, the Milkmen often played before boisterous crowds on many nights. The Milkmen roster also included pitcher Henderson Alvarez, who hurled a no-hitter for the then-Florida Marlins on the final day of the 2013 season, and Tim Dillard, who pitched for 15 years in the Brewers organization and has earned a major following on social media for his whacky antics. Dillard doused himself with milk during Thursday night's on-field celebration. As a Senior in 2017 he led the California Collegiate Athletic Association in innings pitched (99.1) and finished second in striking out batters looking (31) during the regular season. He finished his senior campaign with a 4.08 ERA and a 7-7 record. When he was selected in 2017, he became the first Cal State San Marcos Cougar drafted since 2013 and fourth overall in program history. Transferred to O II Cal State San Marcos for his final two years of college in 2016 and 2017. Started his college career at Sienna College, pitching for the Saints in 2014 and 2015. AS A FRESHMAN: Won the MAAC Championship game, tossing 5.2 innings and allowing just six hits and one run in Siena's 5-1 victory over Canisius (where his Tri-City teammate Tyler Smith went). That year was a part of the Siena College baseball program's first NCAA Tournament win against Dallas Baptist (May 31) in Fort Worth, Texas. Broke his high school doubles record in 2013 and had a walk-off against Cathedral Catholic at Petco Park in 2013

W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	IBB	K	AVG	WP
0	2	5.40	8	3	0	0	0	0	20.0	28	16	12	3	4	9	0	17	.315	6

PITCHES: Fastball, Slider, Curveball, Changeup

Notes: Signed by the Angels in May 2021. Originally selected by the Boston Red Sox in the 32nd round of the 2017 MLB Draft out of the O II program Cal State San Marcos. Pitched in 2017 and 2018 in Boston's system. Reached as high as High-A Salem. Was released by Boston in January 2019. After being released by the Red Sox, he caught on with the River City Rascals of the Frontier League in 2019 and he quickly became the second-best starter in their rotation. Averaging more than six innings per outing, the right-hander accumulated 74.0 innings across 12 appearances (11 starts) and finished with a 3.04 ERA. Went on to play for the Milwaukee Milkmen in 2020, helping lead the Milkmen to an

UPCOMING SCHEDULE & PROBABLE PITCHING MATCHUPS

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	EMERALDS STARTER	OPPONENT STARTER
Wednesday, August 4	7:05pm PST	Tri-City Dust Devils	RHP Kai-Wei Teng	RHP Luis Alvarado
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	@ Hillsboro Hops	RHP Kai-Wei Teng	TBD