



NEWS RELEASE

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ARIZONA FALL LEAGUE ANNOUNCES AWARD WINNERS FOR 2024 SEASON

Nov. 19, 2023 — The Arizona Fall League has announced its award winners for the 2024 season. Award recipients were honored in a pregame ceremony prior to the AFL Championship Game this past Saturday night at Salt River Fields. The AFL has also announced its NFP Week Six Hitter and Pitcher of the Week.

Joe Black MVP Award: Scottsdale Scorpions 1B Josue Briceño (DET)

Detroit Tigers prospect Josue Briceño earned MVP honors after he became the first player in AFL history to win the Triple Crown, leading the league with a .433 batting average, 10 home runs and 27 RBI. Only eight other players have led the league in even two of those categories in the same season. Briceño also led the league in hits, extra-base hits, total bases, slugging percentage and OPS. Briceño's season highlights include a three-homer game, a five-hit game, 13 multi-hit games, reaching base safely in 11 straight plate appearances and two Hitter of the Week awards.

Dernell Stenson Sportsmanship Award: Surprise Saguaros OF Alejandro Osuna (TEX)

Texas Rangers prospect Alejandro Osuna is the recipient of the Dernell Stenson Sportsmanship Award, presented annually to the Fall League player who best exemplifies unselfishness, hard work and leadership. Osuna earned this award after receiving high praise from his teammates and coaching staff throughout the season. Surprise Saguaros manager Roberto Mercado said, "other than being a talented player and performing at a high level this fall, his work ethic is unmatched. His energy and passion for his teammates shows up in early work and during games. His leadership shows up in the way he plays and how he carries himself regardless of the result."

Offensive Player of the Year: Mesa Solar Sox 1B Niko Kavadas (LAA)

Los Angeles Angels prospect Niko Kavadas was one of the league's most consistent hitters all season and finished with 13 extra-base hits, the second-most in the league, along with 18 RBI, 17 walks, six multi-hit games and four multi-RBI games. His .462 on-base percentage ranked fourth in the league and his .700 slugging percentage and 1.162 OPS were both third-best among fall leaguers. Kavadas' best game came on October 31 when he went 4-for-5 with two home runs and six RBI, the most by any player in a game this season.

Pitcher of the Year: Glendale Desert Dogs RHP Andrew Painter (PHI)

Philadelphia Phillies No. 2 prospect and MLB Pipeline's No. 32 overall prospect Andrew Painter made six starts, including three scoreless outings, and posted a 2.30 ERA, which ranked third in the league. He allowed just four earned runs in 15 2/3 innings and collected 18 strikeouts. Painter held opponents to a .189 batting average and he issued only four walks, leading to an 0.89 WHIP, which ranked second in the league.

Reliever of the Year: Glendale Desert Dogs RHP Luis Mey (CIN)

Cincinnati Reds prospect Luis Mey went a perfect 6-for-6 in save opportunities and was the only pitcher in the league to record more than three saves. He gave up only one hit in eight and two-thirds scoreless innings with eight strikeouts across eight games, and his first seven outings were hitless. Mey finished the season with more saves (six) than batters who reached base safely against him (four).

Breakout Player of the Year: Salt River Rafters INF Caleb Durbin (NYY)

New York Yankees prospect Caleb Durbin broke out this season with a .312 batting average and a .975 OPS for the league-champion Salt River Rafters. Durbin finished tied for fourth with 29 hits and led the league with 26 runs scored. He hit safely in 19 of 24 games with seven multi-hit games, and ended the regular season on an eight-game hitting streak. The highlights of Durbin's season included setting the AFL's new single-season stolen base record (29 in 30 attempts) and shattering the league's career stolen base record (50 in 53 attempts). He stole four bases in a game twice to tie a single-game record and he had eight games with multiple steals. He also took home the Week 3 Hitter of the Week honors.

Defensive Player of the Year: Peoria Javelinas OF Andrew Pintar (MIA)

Miami Marlins prospect Andrew Pintar led all position players with 27 games and starts in the field, and his 228 defensive innings were 33 more innings than any other player. Pintar did not make an error in 51 defensive chances, he recorded three outfield assists, and he started two double plays.

NFP WEEK SIX HITTER AND PITCHER OF THE WEEK

Week 6 Hitter of the Week: Scottsdale Scorpions 1B Josue Briceño (DET)

Detroit's Josue Briceño ended his historic season with his second Hitter of the Week award, after he slashed .625/.700/1.188 with a 1.888 OPS in four games. Briceño went 10-for-16 with three doubles, two home runs, four walks and seven RBI in the final four games of Scottsdale's seven-game winning streak that led to a playoff berth. The Tigers' No. 9 prospect recorded a hit in eight straight at-bats and he reached base safely in 11 straight plate appearances in a three-game span. Briceño's best game of the week came on November 12 against Mesa when he went 5-for-5 with two doubles and four RBI.

Week 6 Pitcher of the Week: Glendale Desert Dogs RHP Jerming Rosario (LAD)

Los Angeles Dodgers prospect Jerming Rosario pitched three shutout innings with a league-best seven strikeouts out of Glendale's bullpen on November 13 against Mesa. In his final outing of the season, Rosario struck out the side in his first frame and retired the first eight batters that he faced. He allowed only one hit and he was the only pitcher last week with more than five strikeouts in a game who did not issue a walk. Six of Rosario's seven punchouts were swinging and he got through three innings on just 44 pitches.

2024 Players of the Week

Week	Hitter	Pitcher
Week 1 (10/7-10/13)	Kemp Alderman (Peoria; MIA) Colt Emerson (Peoria; SEA)	Connor Phillips (Glendale; CIN)
Week 2 (10/14-10/20)	Josue Briceño (Scottsdale; DET)	Alex Santos II (Surprise; HOU)
Week 3 (10/21-10/27)	Caleb Durbin (Salt River; NYY)	Jose Acuña (Glendale; CIN)

Week 4 (10/28-11/3)	Nick Kurtz (Mesa; ATH)	Leandro Lopez (Surprise; TEX) Josh Stephan (Surprise; TEX)
Week 5 (11/4-11/10)	Jonathon Long (Mesa; CHI)	Jake Miller (Scottsdale; DET)
Week 6 (11/11-11/16)	Josue Briceño (Scottsdale; DET)	Jerming Rosario (Glendale; LAD)

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