

ARIZONA FALL LEAGUE

GAME NOTES - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026



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AFL Standings

	W-L	GB	Streak
Salt River Rafters	4-1	-	W2
Scottsdale Scorpions	3-1-1	0.5	W2
Surprise Saguaros	3-2	1.0	L2
Peoria Javelinas	2-3	2.0	W1
Mesa Solar Sox	1-3-1	2.5	L2
Glendale Desert Dogs	1-4	3.0	L1

Thursday's Top Performers

ORIOLES PROSPECTS Ike Irish (PEO/MLB No. 95/ BAL No. 5/DH), Brandon Butterworth (PEO/BAL/2B), and Vance Honeycutt (PEO/BAL/CF) went 5-for-12 with 6 RBIs combined. Each player hit a home run, including the first grand slam of the fall by Butterworth.

CALEB BONEMER (GLE/MLB No. 27/CWS No. 2/RF) went 2-for-4. Bonemer is tied for the league-lead with seven hits, including three multi-hit games.

YASSER MERCEDES(SRR/MIN No. 17/OF) went 2-for-4 with a 403 ft home run, a double and he scored the winning run.

RAFTERS BULLPEN (Estrada, Dean, Veach, Craig, Mena and Murray) combined to throw 6.1 innings, allowing only two hits, two runs and struck out seven batters.

TRENNOR O'DONNELL (MSS/BOS/RHP) tossed three no-hit innings, striking out a two and walking one.

BRAYLON PAYNE (SCO/MIL No. 6/CF) went 1-for-3 with a 107.9 MPH triple.

JUAN BELLO (SCO/HOU/RHP) struck out four and walked two over 3.0 hitless innings.

MLB Pipeline Top 100 Prospects

The AFL features 15 MLB Pipeline Top 100 prospects, the most prospects in the AFL since the league had 16 in both 2021 & 2022. Both the Dodgers and Tigers lead the league with two Top 100 prospects.

- 8. Sebastian Walcott - SS, Surprise Saguaros (TEX)
- 15. Eduardo Quintero - OF, Glendale Desert Dogs (LAD)
- 26. Zyhir Hope - OF, Scottsdale Scorpions (DET)
- 27. Caleb Bonemer - OF, Glendale Desert Dogs (CWS)
- 34. Arjun Nimmala - SS, Mesa Solar Sox (LAA)
- 44. Bryce Rainer - SS, Scottsdale Scorpions (DET)
- 58. Tate Southisene - SS, Glendale Desert Dogs (ATL)
- 59. Aidan Miller - SS, Surprise Saguaros (PHI)
- 63. Nathan Flewelling - C, Scottsdale Scorpions (TB)
- 66. Jarlin Susana - RHP, Salt River Rafters (WSH)
- 76. Angeibel Gomez - OF, Surprise Saguaros (KC)
- 78. Dax Kilby - SS, Salt River Rafters (NYY)
- 79. Charles Davalan - OF, Glendale Desert Dogs (LAD)
- 84. Demetrio Crisantes - 2B, Salt River Rafters (ARI)
- 95. Ike Irish - OF, Peoria Javelinas (BAL)

Media Inquiries

For Arizona Fall League media inquiries, please contact Jaden Taylor (Jaden.Taylor@MLB.com).

Today's Headlines

The Arizona Fall League returns for its 34th playing season, welcoming hundreds of top Minor League prospects, the Arizona Fall League serves as the "finishing school" for players to reach the Major League level.

Starting Pitchers

Glendale @ Salt River: The Desert Dogs send **LHP Briggs McKenzie (ATL No. 8)** to the mound for his second start of the AFL season. In his last appearance, he was charged with loss after he allowed a run over 2.1 innings. McKenzie, committed to LSU before being drafted in the 4th round (127) in 2025. In 2026, he logged a 2.08 ERA, 31 strikeouts, 1.15 WHIP in 26.0 innings pitched across seven starts. He was transferred from the 7-day to the 60-day IL on August 7, 2026, ending his season.

RHP Patrick Forbes (ARI No. 11) will toe the slab for the Rafters in his first start. In 2025, he was drafted in the first round (29) out of Louisville. The right-hander finished 2026 with a 2.73 ERA over 29.2 innings pitched with 41 strikeouts.

Peoria @ Surprise: **RHP Tekoah Roby (STL No. 14)** was drafted by the Texas Rangers in the 3rd round (86) in 2020 out of Pine Forest HS (FL). Roby was then traded to the Cardinals alongside LHP John King and SS Thomas Saggese for LHP Jordan Montgomery and RHP Chris Stratton on July 30, 2023. In 2023, he was named a National League Fall Star for the Scottsdale Scorpions in his first stint in the Arizona Fall League after striking out 18 hitters in 13.2 innings across five starts. His last appearance (456 days ago) was on July 10, 2025 for Triple-A Memphis, where he struck out six across 5.2 scoreless innings against Charlotte.

The home starter, **RHP Peyton Prescott (NYM)** was drafted in the 5th round (163) out of Florida State in 2025. Prior to being drafted, he injured his elbow during a 2025 NCAA Super Regional matchup which ultimately required Tommy John surgery. This season, he made his full-season professional debut with Single-A St. Lucie on Sept. 4, 2026.

Mesa @ Scottsdale: **RHP Fernando Perez (TOR)** signed as an International Free Agent in 2022 out of Nicaragua. Perez has collected a handful of honors including: 2023 Baseball America Rookie All-Star, 2024 Futures Game selection, 2025 Northwest League Postseason All-Star. This season, he pitched 20.0 innings with 16 punchouts in seven games (five starts).

Scottsdale's countering starter, **RHP Marcus Johnson (TB)** makes his second start of the AFL season, after he took the loss in his first appearance against Surprise. Johnson was drafted in the 4th round (112) in the 2022 out of Duke. After spending time in the Marlins organization, he was included in a trade to Tampa Bay for RHP JT Chargois and IF Xavier Edwards. In 2026, made 10 appearances, striking out 24 batters over 33.2 innings across two minor league levels.

Upcoming Games and Probable Pitchers

Friday, October 9

Mesa @ Scottsdale	1:30	RHP Fernando Perez vs. RHP Marcus Johnson
Glendale @ Salt River	1:30	LHP Briggs McKenzie vs. LHP Patrick Forbes
Peoria @ Surprise	1:30	RHP Tekoah Roby vs. RHP Peyton Prescott

Saturday, October 10 - Tucson Doubleheader at Kino SC

Peoria vs. Mesa	12:30	RHP Kannon Kemp vs. RHP Dominick Reid
Scottsdale vs. Salt River	3:30	RHP Miqueas Mercedes vs. RHP Jarlin Susana

Sunday, October 11

Glendale @ Surprise	5:00	LHP Luke Fox vs. RHP Jacob Johnson
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Batting Practice & Infield/Outfield

The Arizona Fall League is set to have three mandatory batting practice and I/O days on Oct. 8, 15, and 19. Other days are at the discretion of the coaching staffs. The schedule for those days is below:

1:30 - Home I/O: 9:45 a.m., Home BP: 10:10 a.m., Visitor BP: 11:25 p.m., Visitor I/O: 12:35 p.m.
6:30 - Home I/O: 2:45 p.m., Home BP: 3:10 p.m., Visitor BP: 4:25 p.m., Visitor I/O: 5:35 p.m.