



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARIZONA FALL LEAGUE ANNOUNCES WEEK ONE NFP PITCHER AND HITTER OF THE WEEK

PHOENIX – The Arizona Fall League has announced its NFP Hitter and Pitcher of the Week for games from Oct. 3-11.

Hitter of the Week: Surprise Saguaros SS Welbyn Francisca (CLE)

Cleveland's **Welbyn Francisca** led the league in seven categories, including batting average (.556), hits (10), runs (7), total bases (17), doubles (4), slugging percentage (.944), and OPS (1.556). The Guardians No. 19 prospect also ranked second in RBI (7), while only striking out once in 21 plate appearances. He recorded multiple hits in three of four games played, including a 5-for-5 showing on Opening Day, being a triple shy of the cycle and one hit shy of tying the single-game Fall League hits record.

Pitcher of the Week: Salt River Rafters RHP Jarlin Susana (WSH)

Washington's **Jarlin Susana** opened the 2026 Arizona Fall League season with the fastest recorded pitch in league history (velocity records back to 2015) at 103.4 mph before two innings later, he topped it with 103.8. MLB Pipeline's No. 66 overall prospect and No. 3 Nationals prospect threw each of the nine fastest recorded pitches ever and 17 of the fastest 20. Amongst 36 fastballs, 34 eclipsed 100.0 mph, averaging 101.7 mph. He struck out four, retiring nine of his final 10 batters faced. Across two starts, Susana ranked second in strikeouts (8), while allowing three hits in 5 2/3 innings, holding a 0.88 WHIP, a 1.59 ERA, and keeping opponents to a .150 batting average against.

Media Availability: By request to jaden.taylor@mlb.com.

The 34th season of the Arizona Fall League is underway. Regarded as the premier league for baseball's top prospects, the Arizona Fall League continues to develop top-caliber talent across all 30 MLB Clubs. AFL games will be held primarily at six Cactus League ballparks throughout the 2026 season - Camelback Ranch-Glendale, Peoria Sports Complex, Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, Sloan Park, Scottsdale Stadium, and Surprise Stadium. The 20th annual Fall Stars Game (Sunday, Nov. 8) will be played at Salt River Fields, and the AFL Championship Game (Saturday, Nov. 14) will be played at Peoria Sports Complex, both being televised on MLB Network. The full 2026 Arizona Fall League Schedule and online tickets can be found at the Arizona Fall League website at MLBFallBall.com. Nearly every 2026 AFL game will be available to watch live on MLB.com and the Fall League website.

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