



# Padres Press Clips

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<u>Article</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Page</u>
Again, Tyson Ross on his game as Padres dismiss Giants	SD Union Tribune	Sanders	2
Padres pitcher Dinelson Lamet to have Tommy John surgery	SD Union Tribune	Acee	4
Blister sends MacKenzie Gore to Fort Wayne's DL	SD Union Tribune	Sanders	6
Padres' boss Fowler: 'We got to a good place' in fiery radio flap	SD Union Tribune	Miller	8
First pitch: Wil Myers progressing but remains on the DL	SD Union Tribune	Sanders	11
Padres' Perdomo, Rockies' Arenado draw five-game bans from MLB	SD Union Tribune	Sanders	13
Talking with ... Padres pitcher Joey Lucchesi	SD Union Tribune	Sanders	15
Minor League Matters: Who's off to a good start in Class AAA?	The Athletic	Waldon/Lockard	17
Friday the 13th delivers unwelcome news on two fronts for Padres pitching	The Athletic	Lin	18
Ross leads Padres to win on mound, at bat	MLB.com	Cassavell	21
Lamet to undergo Tommy John surgery	MLB.com	Cassavell	24
Perdomo suspended 5 games for role in fracas	MLB.com	Cassavell	26
Ross hits, pitches Padres to 5-1 win over Giants	Associated Press	AP	28
Padres righty Dinelson Lamet to undergo elbow surgery	Associated Press	AP	30
MLB suspends Nolan Arenado, Luis Perdomo as part of brawl punishments	Associated Press	AP	31
#PadresOnDeck: Naylor, Tatis Homer; Gore on Disabled List with Blister	FriarWire	Center	32
A.J. Preller: Pro Scouts Earned Big Wins with Pirela, Galvis	FriarWire	Lafferty	34
Richard leads Padres against Giants Saturday night	STATS	STATS	36

# Again, Tyson Ross on his game as Padres dismiss Giants

**Jeff Sanders**

In what seemed a lifetime ago, [Tyson Ross](#) had climbed the mound for eight starts against [Bruce Bochy's Giants](#). The pitcher the [Padres](#) trotted out on Friday night – 16 months removed from thoracic outlet syndrome surgery – ought to have looked fairly familiar to the Padres' [NL West](#) rivals.

The 30-year-old veteran certainly looked as good as Padres manager Andy Green had ever seen in person in firing six-plus strong innings at a familiar foe in a 5-1 victory over the Giants in front of a crowd of 31,675 at Petco Park.

“This is definitely what we were hoping for and believing in,” the Padres’ third-year skipper said. “I was excited the first time I saw him throw off a mound in [spring training](#). It just looked so much different, so much freer. He worked incredibly hard to get to where he is right now. It's good to see guys who work that hard rewarded with some positive results early in the season.”

Those results, on the mound, looked like this: One unearned run, seven groundball outs, one walk and a hit batter in six-plus innings, an effort not all unlike the work he turned in with regularity as he rose to prominence in the Padres’ rotation his first trip through San Diego.

Before the shoulder injury. Before the surgery. Before the non-tender. Before a trying year in Texas.

Ross is back.

Even he feels like it.

“I felt like I threw good game out there and competed,” Ross said after improving to 4-4 with 11 appearances (nine) starts against San Francisco. “That's what I did in '14 and '15 when I was going good. Going six innings. Us getting the win. That's all I can ask for.”

But not all the Padres require these days.

A pinch-hitting [Clayton Richard](#) had supplied their only hit on Thursday. On Friday, they were hitless through four innings when Christian Villanueva rolled a soft grounder to third base for an infield single.

His teammates loaded the bases before the breakthrough came and Ross was as happy to provide it – via a single to right for a 1-0 lead – as he was his effort on the mound.

“Clayton's been swinging the heck out of it,” Ross said after collecting his first hit since Sept. 29, 2015. “I don't have the power that he does – he's a lot bigger than me – but he came in (on Thursday), took a great hack, put a good swing on it and got a base hit, and I did the same tonight.”

The regular offense took it from there.

Jose Pirela added another run that frame via a sharp single to right, two more scored in the sixth – on a double from Villanueva and a single from [Freddy Galvis](#) – and Franchy Cordero added an insurance run in the seventh on his second homer since rejoining the Padres on Wednesday.

The Padres' eight hits proved a breath of fresh air even if they took five innings to arrive.

Before the end of the sixth, Giants starter Ty Blach was out of the game with four runs – three earned – allowed on seven hits and a walk.

“It was good to finally see some hits,” Green said. “It's been a while.”

Ross' night lasted a tad longer than Blach's.

In fact, his six-plus innings represented his longest outing since throwing seven innings in a loss to Colorado on Sept. 10, 2015.

Green gave Ross a chance to get outs in the seventh on Friday, but [Gregor Blanco](#) led off the inning with a single and Galvis' error on Carlos Asuaje's double-play feed – his first as the Padres' new shortstop – ended his afternoon with 100 pitches (67 strikes).

The lone run crossed the plate when [Joe Panik](#) greeted reliever [Craig Stammen](#) with a single to left, ending a streak of stranding 17 straight inherited runners that had dated back to last August.

After [Evan Longoria](#) struck out, Galvis redeemed himself and Stammen by starting an inning-ending double play on a grounder off the bat of [Andrew McCutchen](#).

Cordero got that run back a half inning later on moonshot homer to right-center, Stammen worked a scoreless eighth and Brad Hand induced a game-ending double play to secure Ross' second win since rejoining San Diego's rotation.

He's endured quite a bit in his hiatus. He's hoping some of the things he's picked up – a bump in velocity, improved command (14 strikeouts vs. four walks) and better all-around pitching sense – helps him stick.

“When you miss 15 months,” Ross said, “you've got nothing to do but learn – unless you bury your head in the sand and be stubborn. I sat out and watched a lot of baseball and talked to a lot of people on the bench during that time. I tried to learn and be better and smarter when I came back.”

So far, so good.

# Padres pitcher Dinelson Lamet to have Tommy John surgery

Kevin Acee

Turns out, Padres pitcher Dinelson Lamet will not be back by May.

Probably not even next May.

The right-hander has opted to undergo Tommy John surgery to repair a torn ulnar collateral ligament in his throwing elbow.

“It’s not something that is good to go through,” said Lamet, who has been on the disabled list since the start of the season after leaving the Padres spring training finale due to elbow pain. “But sooner or later in this game it’s something you might have to deal with.”

An initial examination of Lamet’s arm on March 25 indicated he had no structural damage, but an MRI taken in the ensuing days revealed a tear significant enough to require surgery.

At that time, Lamet sought a second opinion, which confirmed that diagnosis.

Still, the pitcher said he was feeling good and actually was showing remarkable strength in the arm, according to sources. He resumed playing catch on April 5, increasing his distance from 45 to 60 and then 90 feet and throwing with increased velocity over the next several days.

When he still felt tightness in his elbow at 90 feet, he had another image done and this time decided to have the surgery.

The decision to go ahead with the procedure was made Friday morning, and surgery is tentatively scheduled for some time next week with Dr. Keith Meister.

The Padres, while wanting to give Lamet the longest possible time frame to recover and still possibly pitch in 2019, all along deferred to Lamet. The pitcher received counsel from his agent and other players who had undergone Tommy John surgery.

“As an organization you don’t get to dictate to player to go have surgery,” manager Andy Green said Friday. “You partner with your player. You advise them. You let doctors talk to them. All that happened all the way through. The process took a couple weeks.

“I think that gives him the peace of mind he is doing the right thing. He doesn’t have a doubt in his head now, whereas before he thought ‘Maybe I can throw still.’ ... It’s disappointing to say the least, but we wanted to walk alongside him throughout – not dictate, not tell him what to do – and wait for him to get there. He’s at that place now.”

Lamet learned of PRP (platelet rich plasma) therapy and other biological treatments during his investigation of options. He was initially encouraged by the lack of pain, telling the Padres he never experienced the pop and searing pain many pitchers do when they suffer a complete-thickness tear of the UCL.

Doctors consulted in recent days said an MRI of a majority of major league pitchers' arms would reveal some degree of tear in the UCL. Padres pitcher [Robbie Erlin](#), in fact, pitched with a tear for at least a couple years before it became severe enough for him to have Tommy John surgery in 2016.

In the end, Lamet agreed surgery was the most assured route to being the pitcher he had been and was becoming.

"I know there were other methods out there I could have tried," he said through an interpreter. "... I think we all agreed this was the best route to (come back and) be able to throw the way I can throw."

The Padres believe Lamet has top-of-the-rotation potential and after his outstanding spring were eager to see his progress in 2018. To that end, they believe he can be back on a major league mound by early- or mid-summer of '19.

Typical Tommy John recovery for pitcher is 12-18 months, from surgery to a return to game action.

Lamet, 25, had seemed this spring to build off his strong rookie season. He was clocked in the high 90s multiple times, to go with a darting slider and an improving curve.

Lamet had a 4.57 ERA in 21 starts.

While he struggled at times with control and an over-reliance on his top two pitches, he dazzled with a 2.44 ERA over a 10-start (59 innings) stretch from late July to mid-September.

His 114 1/3 innings did not qualify him to be included in the final [MLB](#) statistical rankings, but his 10.9 strikeouts per nine innings would have ranked sixth behind Chris Sale, Robbie Ray, [Max Scherzer](#), [Corey Kluber](#) and [Chris Archer](#).

"In terms of the timing, yeah, it's hard," Lamet said, "... Despite everything, I definitely feel fortunate to be where I am, to be able to show in spring training the work in the offseason paid off, to have earned what I earned and know I was in good position to have success."

# Blister sends MacKenzie Gore to Fort Wayne's DL

Jeff Sanders

MacKenzie Gore may yet move quickly in his climb up the [Padres'](#) system.

Just as soon as the blister on his left middle finger cooperates.

The bothersome digit on Friday pushed the 19-year-old left-hander onto low Single-A Fort Wayne's seven-day disabled list, a minor setback after he allowed two runs in three innings earlier in the week to start his stay in the Midwest League. Gore contended with a blister a bit last summer during his debut in the rookie-level Arizona League and again during [spring training](#).

He reported improvement after Tuesday's start, but the Padres on Friday opted to shelve him to take care of the blister once and for all rather than trying to maintain it while beginning to build innings for his climb up the system.

Last year's No. 3 overall pick, Gore is ranked No. 26 in Baseball America's most recent top-100 prospects list. He struck out 34 batters over 21 1/3 innings (1.27 ERA) last summer and debuted with Fort Wayne with four strikeouts and two runs allowed on five hits and a walk in three innings.

## FRIDAY'S GAMES

### TRIPLE-A EL PASO (5-4)

- [Las Vegas 7, Chihuahuas 1](#): RHP Chris Huffman (0-1, 3.86) struck out six and allowed three runs on six hits and a walk in six innings. RHP Trey Wingenter (23.14) and LHP Buddy Baumann (0.00) both struck out two in a scoreless frame before RHP Eric Yardley (19.64) allowed four runs in the ninth. 2B Luis Urias (.333) went 0-for-4 to snap his on-base streak at seven games.

### DOUBLE-A SAN ANTONIO (5-3)

- [Arkansas 8, Missions 4](#): SS Fernando Tatis Jr. (.206) hit his first homer, C Austin Allen (.321) hit his fourth and LF Josh Naylor (.467) hit his sixth, tops in the organization. Naylor's and Tatis' blasts came back-to-back in the third inning. LHP Logan Allen (1-1, 5.91) struck out six, but allowed six runs on 10 hits and three walks in 5 2/3 innings in the loss.

## HIGH SINGLE-A LAKE ELSINORE (3-6)

- **Lancaster 11, Storm 3:** LHP Adrian Morejon (0-2, 3.24) struck out five and allowed four runs – two earned – on six hits and a walk in 4 2/3 innings in the loss. SS Kelvin Melean (.500) went 3-for-4 with two runs scored, CF Buddy Reed (.200) drove in two runs on two this and 3B Hudson Potts (.333) went 2-for-4.

## LOW SINGLE-A FORT WAYNE (2-7)

- **TinCaps 13, Bowling Green 2:** RHP Mason Thompson (1-, 4.50) struck out four and allowed a run on five hits and a walk in 5 2/3 innings. LHP Ben Sheckler (5.59) saved his first game with one run over the final 3 1/3 innings. 1B Jalen Washington (.222) hit his first homer, while 2B Reinaldo Ilarraza (.240) went 3-for-4 with a double and three steals. 3B Esteury Ruiz (.241) drove in two runs on three hits and LF Jack Suwinski (.250) went 1-for-3 with a triple, four RBIs and a walk.

## Transaction

- RHP **Adrian Martinez** came off the temporarily inactive list to replace Gore on Fort Wayne's roster.

# Padres' boss Fowler: 'We got to a good place' in fiery radio flap

**Bryce Miller**

Mopping up the radio mess between the Padres and flagship radio station 97.3 FM was hardly as simple as one host who tweeted himself out of a job before he started it.

This wasn't singularly and solely about a Bay Area guy named Kevin Klein stepping into it brain-cramp-deep with a social media post that referenced suicide attempts at a sensitive local landmark while promoting a new show.

This was about what the Padres think is acceptable when it comes to the team's airwaves voice box. This was about what ticket-buying fans should be exposed to and asked to stomach in an increasingly uncivil world.

So the questions continued to churn, of course, after it became quietly clear that Klein packed his bags before truly unpacking them in the first place.

The Padres huddled with lawyers as Executive Chairman Ron Fowler fumed about an evolving format he labeled "shock-jock" radio. Fowler threatened to find a way, despite the enormous and complex business complications, to leave the station during the season unless changes came.

The station released a statement this week, saying it would shift to an all-sports format, without Klein — without mentioning Klein by name. Presto-chango, The Machine became The Fan.

So, what did the Padres request? What did they demand? What did they shape? Where did they yield?

Enter Fowler.

"I would say we had significant input and impact on the changes. I wouldn't say we forced them," Fowler said Friday afternoon. "But we didn't tell them who to use and when to use them, in terms of personalities."

That leads to the other question. Why did the Padres react so sternly and decisively in the wake of one tweet from Klein, while the station employs morning host Dan Sileo — someone dogged by claims of racism, sexism, anti-Semitism and maybe a few more "isms" than that?

Internally, the Padres will tell you it's a misconception that Klein was the reason for all the fireworks. They'll tell you conversations already were occurring about the discomfort with a format that included risqué comedy bits oddly stitched into programming.



To the Padres, Klein was just the very public tipping point.

Many contend the Padres promised Sileo wouldn't come within a country mile of team coverage. The statement, however, said he would not be involved with what they directly control — the broadcast itself. The station, however, agreed to extend that to pre-game and post-game shows, too.

When Padres broadcaster Jesse Agler and Fox Sports analyst Mark Sweeney started to pop up on Sileo's show, bristling followed.

Fowler, again.

"His track record of dealing with Padres personnel (while previously at The Mighty 1090) was fine," Fowler said. "I didn't have any issues with that. I think Dan Sileo, in terms of how he's worked with the Padres, has been fine. I don't always agree with him. He doesn't always agree with me.

"I think the past is the past."

Trust, fragile and fresh, seems to be extending in both directions.

Fowler initially was so bothered by station direction capped by the Klein tweet, another franchise executive confirmed, that he rejected an initial draft of a press release because he didn't feel the wording was strong enough.

"Although it didn't look like we'd get it resolved in our initial conversation, over time we got to a good place," Fowler said. "We feel they're abiding by what they told us they would do, so want to give it a chance to work."

There's a lot of incentive for that to happen. For one, the contract with the station is a five-year deal. For another, advertising tie-ins reportedly reaching into seven figures would be nearly impossible to untangle on short notice.

Bob Bolinger, the senior vice president and market manager for Entercom San Diego, did not return a call seeking comment when the story broke initially or again Friday.

A segment of Padres followers wonder if former team President Mike Dee, who forged the Entercom deal, had a hand in the initial problems or peace-making that followed. Dee, who left the Padres under still-unexplained circumstances, now oversees sports programming for the radio company.

"I have not had any conversations with Mike Dee as it relates to any of this," Fowler said.

A Padres spokesperson also confirmed Dee was not involved in the resolution of the situation. Meanwhile, the team and its radio station are paving a path forward.

The Padres said Entercom has entered into a deal to provide programming as early as next Wednesday on 92.9 in Temecula, extending coverage farther into North County. The station added franchise name recognition by adding an afternoon show with [Tony Gwynn Jr.](#) and host Chris Ello.

That show, a Padres spokesperson said, also will include a rotating third chair for area media personalities.

“We’re very happy with that,” Fowler said. “That’s a great lead-in to our broadcasts. We think the format change is far more acceptable to the audience for the Padres. It’s far more consistent with what we’d define as family entertainment.”

Not everything is mopped up. Plenty of people remain wary of Sileo and his past. The Padres are keenly aware, but insist assurances were piled upon assurances. So now, we wait — and listen.

Who knows? At some point, all this radio talk might actually turn to baseball.

# First pitch: Wil Myers progressing but remains on the DL

**Jeff Sanders**

At 3 p.m., [Wil Myers](#) – hat backwards and glove in hand – threw a baseball casually into a screen propped up just off Petco Park’s home dugout. He’d hit in the cage earlier at “full intensity” but the rehab schedule he’s on called for Myers to wait until Saturday to begin truly testing his right arm irritation with outfield throws.

Myers was scheduled to come off the 10-day disabled list on Friday.

He’s ready to play.

He also understands the prudence of following the trainer’s regimen.

“I have to hit every step,” Myers said Friday afternoon. “If I don’t and something happens, it’s my fault.”

A minor league rehab assignment remains an option for one of those steps, although that will be up for discussion as Myers continues to progress.

Myers hit off a tee for the first time Thursday. He’ll move to regular batting practice soon. Throwing on Saturday will be a significant step.

“That’s what was giving him the biggest issue,” [Padres](#) manager **Andy Green** said. “I’m sure he’s close to taking regular batting practice, but he hit in the cage. I went down and watched him. He looked really good. We could use him back in the lineup.”

## Roster move

**Colten Brewer** deserved a better debut. Green said as much Thursday night in describing a bad baseball game.

The 25-year-old reliever was still optioned back to Triple-A El Paso on Friday to make room for left-hander **Kyle McGrath**. All four runs allowed were unearned due to **Christian Villanueva’s** throwing error with two outs, but Brewer also allowed four hits, walked two and struck out one while throwing 24 of his 38 pitches for strikes.

McGrath cracked the Padres’ opening day roster but allowed two runs on two hits and two walks in two games before he was optioned to Triple-A El Paso. There, McGrath was 1-0 with one run allowed on two hits and no walks. He had struck out three.

## Extra bases

- Padres LHP prospect **MacKenzie Gore**, the organization's top pitching prospect and ranked No. 26 overall in the game by Baseball America, landed on low Single-A Fort Wayne's seven-day disabled list with a blister on his left middle finger. Gore struck out four and allowed two runs on five hits and a walk in three innings on Tuesday.
- RHP **Kirby Yates** (ankle) is progressing fast enough to return after a minimal stay on the disabled list. He's eligible to return Wednesday, but Thursday's off day could compel the Padres to wait until April 20.

## TODAY'S LINEUPS

[Twitter Ads info and privacy](#)

PITCHING MATCHUP | [Giants](#) at Padres

**Game 2:** 7:10 p.m. Friday

### **Giants LHP Ty Blach (1-1, 4.11 ERA)**

- Blach, 27, has walked (8) more than he has struck out (6) through his first three starts. He is 0-2 with a 3.65 ERA, 13 strikeouts and a 1.18 WHIP in five career appearances (four starts, 24 2/3 IP) against the Padres.

### **Padres RHP [Tyson Ross](#) (1-1, 5.25 ERA)**

- The 30-year-old Ross last faced the Giants in 2015 (1-2, 3.32 ERA). In 10 games (eight starts), Ross is 3-4 with a 3.61 ERA, 57 strikeouts and a 1.34 WHIP in 52 1/3 innings against San Francisco.

## On deck

- **Saturday:** Giants LHP [Derek Holland](#) (0-2, 4.09) vs. Padres LHP [Clayton Richard](#) (1-1, 5.29), 5:40p.m.
- **Sunday:** Giants RHP [Tyler Beede](#) (0-0, 4.50) vs. Padres LHP [Joey Lucchesi](#) (1-0, 1.72), 1:10 p.m.

# Padres' Perdomo, Rockies' Arenado draw five-game bans from MLB

**Jeff Sanders**

[Luis Perdomo](#), at least according to video in the public domain, did not throw a punch in Wednesday's melee. He missed with the glove whirled at [Nolan Arenado](#)'s head. The fastball that whizzed behind the [Rockies](#)' star third baseman's back, however, was deemed intentional by [Major League Baseball](#).

The penance?

A five-game suspension, which Luis Perdomo began serving immediately, leaving the [Padres](#) in search of a starting pitcher for his next turn in the rotation on Monday.

"I'm glad we're not losing a lot of guys," Padres manager Andy Green said. "You never know how that's going to play out. I think we all operated under the assumption that Perdomo would receive a suspension. We didn't appeal so we accepted it quickly and we'll move on."

Arenado also drew a five-game suspension for charging the mound, the catalyst for a benches-clearing brawl that added up to five ejections in Wednesday's series final. Rockies outfielder [Gerardo Parra](#) received a four-game suspension for punching Padres catcher [A.J. Ellis](#) and Padres reliever Buddy Baumann – already optioned to Triple-A El Paso – was banned for one game for fighting during the skirmish.

Perdomo, Arenado, Parra and Baumann also received undisclosed fines, as did Ellis, Padres shortstop [Freddy Galvis](#) and Rockies pitcher German Marquez for their actions. Ellis raced out behind Arenado and had to be held back by teammates and opposing players, Galvis also threw a glove during the fight and Marquez re-incited emotions by throwing a towel into the crowd as it appeared to calm.

None of the discipline surprised Green.

"You could just watch the review and see (Galvis) threw a glove," Green said. "It's frowned upon. It's not nearly as egregious as throwing punches. To the same effect, I think Marquez was towel-whipping people. That got him a fine. There's different types of issues in brawl rather than throwing punches and landing them."

While Baumann will not serve his suspension until his next stint in San Diego, Arenado and Parra planned to appeal their bans and were in the lineup on Friday night in Denver against the [Washington Nationals](#).

Perdomo's ban will force the Padres to make alternate plans to cover his scheduled start on Monday against the Dodgers. Right-hander [Jordan Lyles](#) and left-hander [Robbie Erlin](#) – both working in long relief – are major league options, while right-hander Walker Lockett – who is on the 40-man roster – is scheduled to pitch on Monday for Triple-A El Paso. Another option, left-hander Eric Lauer, is scheduled to start Sunday for the Chihuahuas.

“We'll sort through that,” Green said. “Our bullpen has been fairly beat up. Our bullpen has been used a lot with a two-inning start by Perdomo followed by a three-inning start last night (from Bryan Mitchell). We're going to have to get healthy and get guys going again and once we do we'll figure out who fills in for Perdomo.”

# Talking with ... Padres pitcher Joey Lucchesi

**Jeff Sanders**

*Joey Lucchesi was undrafted as a junior at Southeast Missouri State. Less than four years later, the 24-year-old rookie is in a big league rotation, leading the Padres starters in ERA and strikeouts through three starts and doing his best to get used to a new life.*

**Union-Tribune:** You're back from your first road trip. Most of us will never step foot inside a big league plane. Paint a picture for us.

**Lucchesi:** It was very professional. I said to myself, "Hey, this is the big leagues now. This is pretty awesome." ... There's all-you-can-eat food, treats, water. Pretty much anything you'd want. ... I had chicken.

**U-T:** How are you getting acclimated?

**Lucchesi:** I've been trying my best to settle in, but not try to be too comfortable. Just help contribute to the team the best I can. This is my dream, man. I'm trying to do the best I can for the team and the city.

**U-T:** You came a long way to be here. What's the support been like for you?

**Lucchesi:** In general, my phone has been blowing up – on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, texting.

**U-T:** How are you managing all that?

**Lucchesi:** I try to write back everyone, but sometimes I can't get to them all. Hopefully they don't take it the wrong way. I'm just overwhelmed sometimes. ... I'll get back to them at some point.

**U-T:** How about your old roommates – Cal Quantrill and Eric Lauer. Have you heard much from them since your debut?

**Lucchesi:** I got a text from Cal my first start. Eric, I talked to him here and there to see how he's doing.

**U-T:** You know, Lauer said in [spring training](#) that the only thing you can beat him in is checkers.

**Lucchesi:** And ping-pong.

**U-T:** Well, he didn't say ping-pong. [He said just checkers](#). He was very specific about that.

**Lucchesi:** Oh, then he's leaving some stuff out. The next time you see him, tell him that Joey said he beat you in ping-pong in front of everyone. Tell him.

**U-T:** These aren't guys that you grow up with, but you certainly create a bond quickly when you're together in the minor leagues. What's that like?

**Lucchesi:** We're going through the same grind. We have the same dream. I respect Eric as a person and he respects me as a person and how we go about our job. We're both lefties. We've become friends.

**U-T:** Does it really bother you when he calls you "Sloppy Joe?"

**Lucchesi:** I don't like it, but he doesn't call me that anymore.

**U-T:** You picked off [Charlie Blackmon](#) at Petco Park immediately after he led off the game with a single. You said you worked on that between starts. It reminded me of a story your Double-A manager, Phillip Wellman, relayed when you allowed a number of steals early in the Texas League and how he challenged you to fix it – which you did. How much has the running game been an emphasis in your development?

**Lucchesi:** Yeah, that was my (second) start and I had like four guys steal on me and we had a talk and I worked on ... I know I can pick off guys. I was just nervous for the start. Just like here I was nervous for my first start. I just did a lot of dry work and practiced.

**U-T:** You take pride in having something in front of you to fix and fixing it, don't you?

**Lucchesi:** Definitely. I'm not perfect. I have to keep working every day to stay consistent.

**U-T:** Your Sunday start is against the [Giants](#). You grew up in Northern California. What sort of feelings or emotions will you have going into the game?

**Lucchesi:** Actually I was an A's fan. Well, I *was* an A's fan – now I'm a Padres fan. But I watched Bumgarner and Belt and Pence when I was young. ... But when we go to San Francisco I'll definitely have a lot of people come out.



# Minor League Matters: Who's off to a good start in Class AAA?

By Emily Waldon and Melissa Lockard Apr 13, 2018

Welcome to Minor League Matters, a weekly column by Emily Waldon and Melissa Lockard that will highlight notable performances around the minor leagues.

In this first edition, we focus on prospects at the Class AAA level.

*All stats good through April 12.*

## **Pacific Coast League (Class AAA)**

*Reports by Melissa Lockard*

### **SS Javy Guerra**

#### **El Paso Chihuahuas (Padres)**

**Ht/Wt:** 5-11 / 155 lbs. **B/T:** L/R **DOB:** Sept. 25, 1995

**Season Stats:** 26 AB, .346/.433/.769, 9 H, 5 R, 2 2B, 3 HR, 8 RBI

The Padres have been waiting for Guerra to break out at the plate since they acquired him from the Red Sox in the Craig Kimbrel trade before the 2016 season. Guerra hit 15 home runs while posting a .279/.329/.449 line with Class-A Greenville in the Red Sox organization in 2015 as a 20-year-old and was the Padres' top prospect heading into the 2016 season.

He hasn't been able to match those Greenville numbers since joining the Padres, however. In 2016, he hit only .202 in 105 games in the offense-friendly California League. He improved to .226 in 89 games with a return to the Cal League in 2017, but hit only .212 in 39 games with Class AA San Antonio to finish the year.

The Padres have remained aggressive with Guerra's development despite his struggles at the plate. Guerra had five hits in 17 at-bats in big league camp this spring and the Padres assigned him to Class AAA El Paso to begin the regular season. So far, he is finding the Pacific Coast League to his liking, as he's rediscovered his power stroke in the thin air of El Paso (although it should be noted that the Chihuahuas use a humididor).

Still only 22, Guerra is in his second option season after he was added to the Padres' 40-man roster before the 2017 campaign. Guerra has fallen behind Fernando Tatis, Jr. in the Padres' shortstop prospect depth chart, but he could still turn into a valuable major league player. Defensively, Guerra has above-average range and a strong arm that allows him to make head-turning plays on a frequent basis. Offensively, he has shown he can hit for power if he is able to make regular contact.

Guerra's strikeout rate has remained high, even with his early success in El Paso, and that will be worth monitoring throughout the season. Still, with his defensive skills, if Guerra can find a consistent offensive approach, he could carve out a niche in the big leagues at some point this year.

# Friday the 13th delivers unwelcome news on two fronts for Padres pitching

By Dennis Lin

More than 1,800 miles separate San Diego and Fort Wayne, Ind., the home of the Padres' Low-A affiliate. The best pitching prospect in the organization could traverse the distance by next September. MacKenzie Gore turned 19 less than two months ago, but there might not be another 19-year-old lefty on the planet with his particular combination of raw talent and innate feel. As general manager A.J. Preller has said, "The good ones come quick."

That statement carries a few caveats, of course. Development can stall for any number of reasons. Players get injured. Arms are the most vulnerable appendages.

On Friday, the Padres appeared to suffer not one but two noteworthy setbacks on the pitching front. First came word that a blister on Gore's left middle finger had sent him to the seven-day disabled list, though team officials downplayed the severity. Later in the afternoon, a young right-hander who already has shown glimpses of major-league excellence tried to put a brave face on crushing news.

"It's not something that's good to go through. But sooner or later in this career, in this game, it's something that you might have to deal with," Dinelson Lamet said through an interpreter. "You never expect it, you never want it to happen. But you know it's a reality."

Sometime next week, Lamet will become the latest San Diego pitcher to undergo Tommy John surgery. The Padres will miss his services for at least a full year. Modern medicine is more likely than ever to facilitate a full recovery, but there is no telling what Lamet will be when or if he returns to the majors.

"You're just disappointed for Dinelson, because he had a really nice debut last year," Preller told *The Athletic*. "He had real opportunity here to take it to another level. It's the nature of pitching and the game right now. Injuries happen."

Left-hander Cory Luebke, one of the Padres' most talented Tommy John patients to date, never started another big-league game after his operation. Colin Rea had his elbow reconstructed 17 months ago, but his comeback hit a snag this spring, lat soreness the culprit.

Lamet's upside arguably surpasses what once was imagined for Luebke. The righty flew through three levels of the farm system in 2016. Last year, he posted a gaudy strikeout rate as a rookie. He seemingly took a step forward this spring.

In the Padres' Cactus League finale, Lamet felt his elbow tighten as he yanked a slider. He felt significantly better the next morning, but the 25-year-old on Friday opted to abort a brief attempt at rehabilitating his injury.

"Once I got out to 90 feet [playing catch] is when I started to feel a little bit of pain," Lamet said. "That's when we went back in, had another MRI and made the decision."

Lamet's torn collateral ligament represents a blow to the Padres' hopes to contend in the not-too-distant future. How the organization adjusts remains to be seen.

The easy answer lies in continued patience. A slew of top-end pitching prospects, some with more potential than Lamet, could march up to Petco Park in relatively short order. Joey Lucchesi, who replaced

Lamet in the second game of the season, has mostly baffled big-league hitters. Another lefty, Eric Lauer, offers similar projection as a back-of-the-rotation arm.

Lower in the minors, Gore, Michel Baez and Adrian Morejon are potential aces, though in more than one case the Padres have been compelled to practice caution. Baez, who dealt with a lower-back issue before spring, isn't expected to debut with High-A Lake Elsinore until later this month. The same goes for another righty, Chris Paddack, who underwent Tommy John surgery in 2016.

The news for Gore seems somewhat positive. The teenager has not experienced elbow-related trouble and, before last summer's rookie-level dominance, had not pitched with blisters. A change in climate — from the subtropical humidity of Gore's native North Carolina to the desert air of Arizona — might be to blame.

Gore debuted with Fort Wayne on Tuesday, yielding two runs in three innings. A joint decision was subsequently reached.

“MacKenzie has dealt with some blisters over the past year — last summer in the [Arizona Rookie League] and during spring training this year,” farm director Sam Geaney said. “He's been improving over the last several weeks, but both MacKenzie and the organization would just prefer to take care of it now so he can get on with his 2018 season.”

The Padres hope their most prized pitching prospect can return to game action in a couple weeks. Publicly, the organization has shied away from sharing timetables, realizing the downside. There is never a guarantee.

For Lamet, the initial belief was he might pitch again in May. While an MRI confirmed damage to his UCL, he wished to consider non-surgical solutions. In the end, the exploratory period did not move the estimated return date. If the right-hander retakes the mound at Petco Park next summer, both he and the Padres will be ecstatic.

“Even though that whole process took a couple weeks, I think that gives him the peace of mind that he knows he's doing the right thing,” manager Andy Green said. “He doesn't have a doubt in his head now.”

There is, however, uncertainty about what happens in Lamet's absence. The Padres have a bounty of arms in their system, but they cannot bank on most of them panning out. Even if a top prospect reaches the majors and begins to establish himself, disaster can strike at any time, as it did for Lamet.

“You're not going to find a guy who's in the top 10 in Major League Baseball in punchouts per nine just floating around in your minor-league system,” Green said. “[Lamet is] very unique. He was our highest-upside guy sitting up here in our rotation. That stings. You don't just replace him.”

At some point, whether before 2019 or prior to 2020, the Padres are likely to make a serious run at a frontline arm. The organization has both financial flexibility and minor-league players to dangle in trades. Yet, given the tenuous nature of arm health and the cost of controllable talent, it might be wise to retain a surplus.

In the meantime, the Padres intend to continue exercising patience with the likes of Gore and Baez.

“I don't think it looks like [Lamet's surgery] accelerates anybody else,” Preller said. “They'll tell us when they're ready.”

If anything, the loss of Lamet might encourage the Padres to be more aggressive in free agency. The trouble there is a lack of obvious fits, although a reprisal of this past winter's market could lead to some interesting possibilities.

Still, the Padres will wait for Gore, Baez and others to surface. They will hope Lamet reemerges. They will continue sifting for bargains. They may have found one in a former all-star.

In Friday night's 5-1 victory over San Francisco, Tyson Ross threw six innings without allowing an earned run for the first time since 2015. Through three starts, the 30-year-old has notched 14 strikeouts against four walks, a ratio he did not approach in his prime. Eighteen months removed from thoracic outlet decompression surgery, he looks rejuvenated and slightly reinvented.

"I'm getting a little older, a little wiser," Ross said. "I'm not trying to hump up and throw it as hard as I can. Trying to move the ball around a little bit and have better command comes with that."

If that keeps Ross effective and, more importantly, healthy throughout the season, the Padres will gladly look beyond the radar readings.

# Ross leads Padres to win on mound, at bat

Starter limits Giants to unearned run in 6-plus innings, notches RBI single

By AJ Cassavell MLB.com @AJCassavell

Apr. 13th, 2018

SAN DIEGO -- **Tyson Ross** was dominant on the mound Friday night, but it was the Padres' offense -- held to one hit over the first 13 innings of the series against San Francisco -- in dire need of a spark.

So Ross provided that, too.

His fifth-inning RBI single opened the scoring, and the San Diego bats woke up quickly after that. **Franchy Cordero** homered, and Ross settled in for six-plus innings of one-run ball as the Padres beat the Giants, 5-1, on Friday night.

"We put everything together," said third baseman **Christian Villanueva**, who went 2-for-2 with a walk and a hit-by-pitch. "Tyson did a great job. He got all the momentum going."

San Francisco left-hander **Ty Blach** had worked four hitless innings when Villanueva bounced a slow chopper up the third-base line to lead off the fifth. **Evan Longoria** couldn't convert his barehand attempt, and the Padres capitalized.

They loaded the bases for Ross, who was sitting on five very sharp innings and only 77 pitches. Manager Andy Green opted to let his starting pitcher bat, and he was promptly rewarded when Ross smacked an RBI single to the opposite field. **Jose Pirela** followed suit, giving the Padres a 2-0 lead.

"Our pitchers rake right now," said Green, an allusion to **Clayton Richard**'s two hits -- including a three-run homer -- this week. "The way [Ross] was throwing the baseball with as short as our **bullpen was ... he did a lot for us.**"

The Padres doubled that edge in the sixth -- more than enough support for Ross, who worked six innings for the third time in three starts this season. He used his fastball/slider combo to great success, allowing only an unearned on seven hits and a walk while striking out five.

It's been a triumphant return to the Padres for Ross, who missed almost all of 2016 with a shoulder injury, then spent '17 with Texas struggling to regain his old form. He threw 45 sliders Friday night and recorded 10 swings and misses with the pitch.

"That's what I did in '14, '15, when I was going good," Ross said.

Said Green of Ross' signature slider: "It was everything it's ever been. And that's saying a lot."

It's probably a bit too simplistic to say Ross is merely back to his old self. He was an All-Star in 2014 and posted a 3.16 ERA in parts of four seasons for San Diego. Since then, Ross says he's

sacrificed a small amount of fastball velocity for better command of the pitch -- a result of being "older and wiser" as a pitcher.

"When you miss 15 months, you've got nothing to do but learn, unless you're going to bury your head in the sand and be stubborn," Ross said. "I tried to learn and be better and smarter when I came back."

So far, so good.

Cordero tacked on some insurance with a towering solo shot in the seventh. It was the second blast for the Padres' **No. 10 prospect** in 12 at-bats since his Wednesday callup.

#### MOMENTS THAT MATTERED

**Redemption for Galvis:** **Freddy Galvis**' first error as a Padre came at a seemingly inopportune time in the top of the seventh inning. He dropped the throw from second baseman **Carlos Asuaje** on a potential double-play grounder. One run scored in the frame, but Galvis had his revenge, starting a crisp inning-ending double play on an **Andrew McCutchen** chopper.

**Double the fun:** **Hunter Renfroe** and Villanueva have a long history of success against left-handed pitching, but Giants manager Bruce Bochy opted to let Blach face the righty-hitting duo to open the sixth. Renfroe swatted an opposite-field double, and Villanueva drove him in three pitches later by doing the same. Galvis followed with an RBI single, ending Blach's night and giving the Padres a 4-0 lead.

#### YOU GOTTA SEE THIS

For the second night in a row, Padres catcher **Austin Hedges** was at the center of an impressive double play. Friday's wasn't quite as dazzling as **his spectacular grab** in the series opener. But it proved crucial in the flow of the game. With one out in the fourth, Ross got **Hunter Pence** to chase a slider in the dirt. Hedges blocked the baseball, then fired to second in time to nab **Brandon Crawford** and end the inning.

#### HE SAID IT

"I was excited the first time I saw him throw off a mound in the spring. He just looked different, so much freer. He worked incredibly hard to get to where he is right now. It's good to see guys who have worked that hard get rewarded." -- **Green on Ross**

#### MITEL REPLAY OF THE DAY

The turning point in the Padres' fifth-inning rally came when Asuaje hit a relatively routine chopper to **Brandon Belt** at first base. Belt initially looked to turn two, but bobbled the ball as he transferred it to his throwing hand. He flipped to first instead, where Asuaje dove head-first into the bag. He was called out, but the Padres orchestrated a successful challenge to load the bases.

#### UP NEXT

Richard is still looking for a return to his excellent form from Opening Day. In two starts since,

the veteran left-hander allowed nine earned runs in 10 innings. Richard faces the Giants on Saturday in the third game of their four-game set at 5:40 p.m. PT. He'll be opposed by left-hander **Derek Holland**.

# Lamet to undergo Tommy John surgery

By AJ Cassavell MLB.com @AJCassavell

Apr. 13th, 2018

SAN DIEGO -- The Padres entered 2018 with immensely high hopes for right-hander **Dinelson Lamet**. Coming off an impressive rookie campaign, Lamet added a biting curveball and was the highest upside arm in the San Diego rotation. As a sign of their lofty expectations, the Padres named Lamet their No. 2 starter in the Opening Day rotation March 25. Later that day, Lamet threw his final pitch of the year.

That much was confirmed Friday, when the club revealed Lamet will undergo season-ending Tommy John surgery next week.

An MRI exam taken after the injury revealed damage to the ulnar collateral ligament in Lamet's pitching elbow. Initially, Lamet hoped to rehabilitate his elbow without Tommy John surgery. But after reaching 90 feet in his throwing progression last week, he began to feel pain again. On Friday, he and the Padres changed course and opted for surgery.

"Everything happened really fast after that injury," Lamet said. "It's not that I didn't believe it, but I wanted to find out. I wanted to let things calm down and understand what would happen to my arm when I tried it."

In 21 starts last season, Lamet posted a 4.57 ERA while setting a franchise rookie record with 10.9 strikeouts per nine innings. He had added a curveball to a dominant fastball/slider mix and appeared poised for a breakout sophomore campaign.

Instead, Lamet bounced a slider in the second inning of his final Cactus League start. That's when he felt tightness in his right forearm. He left the game after one more pitch and was placed on the disabled list to start the season.

"In terms of the timing, it's hard," Lamet said.

"He was our highest upside guy sitting here in our rotation," said Padres manager Andy Green. "That stings. You don't just replace him. I loved the way he went through Spring Training, too -- with an edge. It was with a belief that he was going to pitch at the top of the rotation."

Initially, the Padres hoped Lamet's injury was strictly muscular, and they eyed a six-week rehab period. A follow-up MRI told a different story.

The Padres stayed mum on the results of that MRI until Friday afternoon. It's now apparent Lamet sustained a tear in his UCL, though not severe enough to mandate immediate surgery. Knowing those results, it was Lamet's decision to initially attempt to rehab his elbow.

"What a lot of people don't understand in this process is you don't dictate to your player to go get surgery -- you partner with your player, you advise them, you let the doctors talk to them," Green said. "He felt very strong, he wasn't feeling pain, he wanted to throw, and he wanted to see if he could get through it. ... Even though that whole process took a couple weeks, I think



that gives him the peace of mind that he knows he's doing the right thing. He doesn't have a doubt in his head now."

Dr. Keith Meister will perform the surgery on Lamet's elbow next week -- a result Lamet said he always knew was possible but had hoped to avoid. After discussions with his agent, the Padres and teammates who had endured similar circumstances, Lamet decided to ditch his rehab attempt.

"There were other methods out there, other things that I could have maybe tried," Lamet said. "But we all agreed this was probably the best route, the most sure, the most secure route going forward to be able to get back and be able to throw the way I can throw -- instead of maybe coming back and having less velocity or not being myself."

Returning from Tommy John surgery can be a tricky proposition. The timetable generally given ranges from 12-18 months.

In March, the Padres felt Lamet could be a force at the front of their rotation. They still feel that way, but the process has been put on hold.

"It's most disappointing really for him," Padres general manager A.J. Preller said. "He had a really nice rookie year last year and looked like he was on the verge of taking some steps forward. ... The expectation is he's back with us in a year, and he's a big part of our future."

# Perdomo suspended 5 games for role in fracas

Perdomo also receives 5-game suspension; Parra gets 4 games; Baumann gets 1; 3 others fined

By AJ Cassavell MLB.com @AJCassavell

Apr. 13th, 2018

SAN DIEGO -- Four players were suspended and three more fined as the result of Wednesday's benches-clearing altercation at Coors Field between the Padres and Rockies.

Colorado's **Nolan Arenado** and San Diego's **Luis Perdomo** each received five-game bans for their roles as the primary instigators of the fracas. Rockies outfielder **Gerardo Parra** received a four-game suspension, while Padres reliever **Buddy Baumann** was hit with a one-game suspension. Arenado and Parra will appeal; it remains unclear if Perdomo will do the same.

"I think that falls in line with what you've seen the last number of years with these things," Rockies skipper Bud Black said. "As of now [Parra and Arenado] are appealing. But that could change."

"We'll have to reconfigure the rotation, probably insert somebody in there to fill in for a start," added Padres manager Andy Green. "... It was what it was. I know Major League Baseball tries to sort through a lot of things when they make those decisions. Glad we're not losing a lot of guys."

All four suspended players were fined undisclosed amounts, as were Rockies starter **German Marquez**, Padres catcher **A.J. Ellis** and Padres shortstop **Freddy Galvis**.

Wednesday's incident sparked when Perdomo threw a 96-mph fastball behind Arenado, who promptly charged the mound. Perdomo responded by throwing his glove in Arenado's direction. Chaos followed as players converged from all directions on the left side of the infield.

"Five games is a lot of games, you know," Arenado said. "I was just defending myself. ... They throw hard out there and reactions happen, and that's all it was."

Perdomo declined to comment Friday evening, but has maintained his innocence throughout, claiming an inside pitch merely got away from him. The results preceding the incident tell a bit of a different story.

Padres center fielder **Manuel Margot** had been plunked in the ribs the night before and ended up on the disabled list as a result. The next day, Rockies shortstop **Trevor Story** and Padres right fielder **Hunter Renfro** were also hit in the early stages of the game. Tensions boiled over in the third when Perdomo's pitch sailed behind Arenado.

"You're not going out there, you don't want to charge the mound, you don't want to fight, that's not why we're playing this game," Arenado said. "But you know, 96 at you on purpose, I think would frustrate a lot of people."

Parra and Arenado were in the lineup for Friday's game against Washington. Should one of the two drop the appeal, the Rockies could stagger the suspensions so as not to have two regulars out of the starting lineup at the same time. After three games in Washington this weekend, Colorado heads to Pittsburgh for three before returning home to face the Cubs.

Perdomo was slated to start Monday against the Dodgers. Barring an extended appeal, the Padres would need to fill his place in the rotation.

Long relievers **Robbie Erlin** and **Jordan Lyles** -- both of whom competed for starting jobs in Spring Training -- are the likeliest candidates to replace Perdomo. Right-hander **Walker Lockett** could also fill in. He's slated to pitch Monday for Triple-A El Paso, and already has a place on the team's 40-man roster.

Baumann, meanwhile, has since been optioned to El Paso, meaning he won't serve his suspension until he returns to the big leagues. Baumann was not ejected from the game, and after the kerfuffle he allowed five runs (two earned) in the inning in relief of Perdomo.

The Padres and Rockies, who have already met seven times this month, will square off again April 23-25 in Denver.

# Ross hits, pitches Padres to 5-1 win over Giants

11:06 PM PT  
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO -- The old [Tyson Ross](#) is back, which is a good thing for the [San Diego Padres](#). Ross hit an RBI single with the bases loaded to snap a scoreless tie in the fifth and pitched six-plus strong innings to lead the Padres to a 5-1 victory against the [San Francisco Giants](#) on Friday night.

The Padres had gone 10 hitless innings since pinch-hitting pitcher [Clayton Richard](#) had their only hit Thursday night in the third inning of a desultory 7-0 loss to the Giants. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, that was the first time a team's lone hit was by a pitcher who did not start the game since June 28, 1935, when Pittsburgh's Mace Brown did it against the [Chicago Cubs](#) after entering as a reliever.

"Our pitchers are raking right now," San Diego manager Andy Green said.

Ross said he was happier with his hit than with his strong performance on the mound.

"RBI for sure, man. All pitchers wish we could hit. That was fun," he said.

Ross (2-1) allowed an unearned run on seven hits while striking out five and walking one. He exited in the seventh after a single and an error on shortstop [Freddy Galvis](#) put runners on first and second. [Craig Stammen](#) allowed [Joe Panik](#)'s RBI single.

The 31-year-old Ross rejoined the Padres when he signed a minor league contract in December and made the squad as a non-roster invitee. He was an All-Star in 2014 and was San Diego's opening day starter in 2016, but didn't pitch again that season due to a shoulder ailment that required surgery. He appeared in just 12 games for Texas last season after recovering from the surgery.

"I felt like I threw a good game out there. I competed," Ross said. "That's what I did back in '14, '15 when I was going good. Throwing six innings, us getting the win, that's all I can ask for."

Ross was happy with his command.

"I'm getting a little older, a little wiser. I'm not trying to hump up and throw it as hard as I can, and trying to move the ball around a little bit and having better command comes with that. I felt pretty good today and hopefully I can get better."

His comeback has been impressive so far.

"When you miss 15 months you've got nothing to do but learn, unless you're just going to bury your head in the sand and be stubborn," he said. "I sat out and watched a lot of baseball and talked to a

lot of people on the bench during that time of not playing, and tried to learn and be better and smarter when I came back."

[Franchy Cordero](#) homered for the Padres leading off the seventh, his second.

[Brad Hand](#) came on with runners at first and second and one out in the ninth to get his fifth save. The Padres jumped on [Ty Blach](#) (1-2) for two runs and four hits in the fifth, with a fielding error by first baseman [Brandon Belt](#) leading to one of the runs being unearned. San Diego added two runs on three consecutive hits opening the sixth to chase the left-hander.

[Jose Pirela](#) also hit an RBI single in the fifth. In the sixth, [Hunter Renfroe](#) and [Christian Villanueva](#) hit consecutive doubles and Galvis followed with an RBI single to chase Blach.

Blach allowed four runs, three earned, and seven hits. He struck out three and walked one.

"I felt really good," Blach said. "I felt like I was keeping the ball down, executing a lot of really good pitches down in the zone, getting a lot of groundballs, kind of the contact that I like to get. Left a couple of balls up there with some guys on base. I got a couple groundballs early in that inning, just not quite right at guys. Got behind, left a couple balls up, then the same thing in the sixth there."

Said manager Bruce Bochy: "He was throwing well. They placed it where we couldn't catch it. That was the difference really in the game, and we were still having a tough time getting that big hit. We're going to have to find a way to get these runners in."

[Brandon Crawford](#) had three hits for the Giants.

## TRAINER'S ROOM

Padres: Announced that RHP [Dinelson Lamet](#) will have season-ending reconstructive elbow surgery next week. He was hurt in his final spring training start. Lamet had been projected as the team's No. 2 starter.

## UP NEXT

Giants: LHP [Derek Holland](#) (0-2, 4.09 ERA) is scheduled to make his third start of the season. He's 0-1 lifetime against San Diego, having allowed seven runs, six earned, on a career-high 13 hits in 5 2/3 innings of a 7-3 loss with Texas on June 27, 2009.

Padres: Richard (1-1, 5.29) is coming off a 7-6 win at Colorado on Monday night in which he hit a three-run homer.

# Padres righty Dinelson Lamet to undergo elbow surgery

8:10 PM PT

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO -- Right-hander [Dinelson Lamet](#), who had been projected as the [San Diego Padres'](#) No. 2 starter this season, will have season-ending reconstructive elbow surgery next week.

The 25-year-old Lamet was hurt during his final start of spring training on March 25 and began the season on the disabled list.

Manager Andy Green said Friday that Lamet was the closest of the organization's young pitchers to earn a spot at the top of the rotation this season.

"It's tough for all of us," Green said. "He was going to be the guy we looked to to anchor our staff this year and we were hopeful right after the injury that he'd be able to avoid surgery. ... Disappointing, to say the least, and tough for him. The hope and expectation is sometime next year he'll be back on the mound pitching for us. He's a guy we still have a ton of faith in, a ton of belief in. It's a tough loss."

Lamet made his big league debut last year, going 7-8 with a 4.57 ERA in 21 starts, with 139 strikeouts and 54 walks.

"It's not something that's good to go through, but sooner or later in this career, in this game, I think it's something you might have to deal with," Lamet said through an interpreter. "You never expect it, you never want it to happen but you know it's a reality."

Lamet said he felt tightness in his elbow after throwing a slider on March 25.

He took a week off and then started a throwing program. Once he got up to 90 feet, he had another MRI and decided to have the surgery.

"Despite everything, I definitely feel fortunate to be where I am, to have been able to show in spring training that the work in the offseason paid off, to have earned what I earned and to know I was in position to have success," he said.

Lamet's injury opened the way for lefty [Joey Lucchesi](#) to be promoted from the minors. While nothing is imminent, Green says lefty Eric Lauer could be the next of San Diego's hotshot pitching prospects to be called up.

# MLB suspends Nolan Arenado, Luis Perdomo as part of brawl punishments

7:09 PM PT  
Associated Press

NEW YORK -- [Rockies](#) third baseman [Nolan Arenado](#) has been suspended five games for charging the mound after [Luis Perdomo](#) threw a pitch behind his back, inciting a benches-clearing brawl during Wednesday's game against the [San Diego Padres](#).

Major League Baseball announced Friday that Perdomo was also suspended five games for intentionally throwing at the All-Star third baseman.

"Five games is a lot of games," Arenado said before Friday night's game. "I just defended myself."

Rockies outfielder [Gerardo Parra](#) was suspended four games for fighting. Arenado and Parra appealed their suspensions, allowing them to play for Colorado against the [Washington Nationals](#) on Friday night.

Padres pitcher Buddy Baumann got a one-game suspension for fighting. The suspended players were also fined.

Padres catcher [A.J. Ellis](#) and infielder [Freddy Galvis](#) and Rockies right-hander [German Marquez](#) were fined but not suspended.

The Padres said Perdomo would not appeal. Baumann was optioned to Triple-A on Thursday, so he'll serve his suspension the next time he's up with the big league club.

Arenado swung wildly at Perdomo after he reached the mound, but none of his punches landed squarely.

"It's hard not to react a certain way when you know someone's trying to do something on purpose. It is what it is," Arenado said. "Obviously, five games -- you don't want to fight. That's not why we're playing this game. But 96 [mph] at you on purpose, you get frustrated."

The brawl came during a tense series that included three batters being hit by pitches before the benches-clearing incident. San Diego's [Manuel Margot](#) was hit first and ended up on the disabled list.

# #PadresOnDeck: Naylor, Tatis Homer; Gore on Disabled List with Blister

*By Bill Center*

**Josh Naylor** hit his sixth homer of the young season Friday night and [Nº1 prospect Fernando Tatis Jr.](#) connected for his first for Double-A San Antonio.

But the focus among the Padres prospect shifted from hitting to pitching with news on several fronts.

— Left-hander **MacKenzie Gore**, 19, the third overall pick in the 2017 draft and the Padres' second-ranked prospect behind Tatis, was placed on the seven-day disabled list with Single-A Fort Wayne due to a blister on the middle finger of his left hand. Gore had been bothered by the blister since spring training and although it had improved, the Padres decided to give him a week off to clear the issue.

— Right-handed starter **Mason Thompson**, 20, who is ranked the [Padres' Nº25 prospect](#), allowed one run on five hits and a walk with four strikeouts over 5 2/3 innings for Fort Wayne, lowering his earned run average to 4.50.

— Left-handed starter **Adrian Morejon**, 19, rated the Padres' Nº6 prospect, allowed four runs (two earned) on six hits and a walk with five strikeouts for Advanced Single-A Lake Elsinore to lower his ERA to 3.24.

Returning to offense:

— Naylor, 20, was 1-for-2 with his six homer and two walks with two runs scored. Naylor, who started in left field Friday night, leads all minor league players with six homers after eight games and is hitting .467.

— Tatis, 19, homered in four at-bats, to raise his batting average to .206.

— And catcher **Austin Allen**, the Padres' Nº29 prospect, had a double and his fourth homer in four at-bats for the Missions to raise his season average to .321.



— Third baseman **Hudson Potts** (.333) was 2-for-4 to extend his hitting streak to seven straight games for Lake Elsinore.

— Outfielder **Tirso Ornelas**, 18, was 2-for-4 with a double, a walk, a RBI and two runs scored for Fort Wayne. The Tijuana native is off to a .323 start.

*Around the Farm:*

TRIPLE-A EL PASO (5-4): Las Vegas 7, CHIHUAHUAS 1-3B **Dusty Coleman** (.160) was 1-for-3 with a double and a run scored. LF **Nick Schulz** (.333) was 1-for-4 and had El Paso's only other hit. Starting RHP **Chris Huffman** (0-1, 3.86 ERA) allowed three runs on six hits and a walk with six strikeouts in six innings to suffer the loss. RHP **Trey Wingenter** (23.14) struck out two in a perfect inning. LHP **Buddy Baumann** (0.00) issued a walk with two strikeouts in an otherwise perfect inning. RHP **Eric Yardley** (19.64) allowed four runs on four hits and two walks with a strikeout in an inning.

DOUBLE-A SAN ANTONIO (5-3): Arkansas 8, MISSIONS 4—Starting LHP **Logan Allen** (1-1, 5.91 ERA) allowed six runs on 10 hits and three walks with six strikeouts in 5 2/3 innings. RHP **Jason Jester** (2.08) allowed a run on four hits with three strikeouts in 2 1/3 innings. RHP **Robert Stock** (3.00) allowed a run on a hit with two strikeouts in an inning.

ADVANCED SINGLE-A LAKE ELSINORE (3-6): Lancaster 11, STORM 3—SS **Kelvin Melean** (.500) was 3-for-4 with two runs scored. CF **Buddy Reed** (.200) was 2-for-4 with two RBIs and a walk. LF **Taylor Kohlwey** (.222) had a double in three at-bats with a walk and a run scored. 1B **Brad Zunica** (.200) was 1-for-3 with a walk. RHP **Austin Smith** (6.75 ERA) followed Morejon and allowed three runs on four hits and a walk with three strikeouts in 2 2/3 innings. RHP **Dauris Valdez** issued two walks and hit a batter, giving up three runs without retiring a hitter. RHP **Blake Rogers** (7.71) allowed a run on two hits with two strikeouts in 1 2/3 innings.

SINGLE-A FORT WAYNE (2-7): TinCaps 13, BOWLING GREEN 2-2B **Reinaldo Ibarrazza** (.240) backed Ornelas, going 3-for-4 with a double, a walk, three stolen bases and a run scored. LF **Jack Suwinski** (.250) was 1-for-3 with a triple, a sacrifice fly, a walk, four RBIs and two runs scored. 1B Jalen Washington (.222) had a home in five at-bats for three RBIs. C **Juan Fernandez** (.250) was 1-for-3 with a double, a walk and three RBIs. 3B **Esteury Ruiz** (.241) was 3-for-6 with a double and triple, two RBIs and a run scored. CF **Jeisson Rosario** (.250) was 0-for-2 with three walks and three runs scored. LHP **Ben Sheckler** (3.59 ERA) followed Thompson and allowed a run on four hits and a walk in 3 1/3 innings.

# A.J. Preller: Pro Scouts Earned Big Wins with Pirela, Galvis

Padres GM talks with 97.3 The Fan about promising hitters

*By Justin Lafferty*

Shortstop has long been a glaring area of need for the Padres, one the team addressed with gusto this offseason. That issue looks like a thing of the past.

So far, **Freddy Galvis** has been exactly as advertised—a steady infielder who can make routine and star-studded plays each night.

Padres General Manager **A.J. Preller** recently appeared on flagship station 97.3 The Fan, talking with **Chris Ello** and **Tony Gwynn Jr.** about the valuable contributions this season by Galvis and **Jose Pirela**.

Preller lauded his pro scouting department, who have long been fans of Galvis and Pirela. The Padres acquired Pirela in November 2015 and re-signed him the following year. Galvis came over in a trade this winter from the Philadelphia Phillies.

Galvis has quickly endeared himself to the Padres' fanbase by being a constant presence who can deliver clutch hits and play a stellar shortstop.

“I can't tell you how many people I talked to about Freddy who came back and kept talking about his competitiveness, being a winner, being baseball smart, a guy that is just a winning baseball player,” Preller said. “So far here in Spring Training and the early going of the season, we've seen that every night. It's nice having a guy, when a ground ball is hit up the middle, you know what's going to happen.”

Galvis isn't the only win for the Padres' pro scouting team. Pirela, as of Friday morning, ranks second in the National League in hits. Preller said that his scouts have long been a fan of Pirela, as well. They knew that the Yankees were blessed with infield depth, so they saw an opportunity to make what seemed like a minor trade at the time.

Pirela battled injuries early on in his Padres tenure, but tore the cover off the ball in AAA-El Paso in 2017, earning a promotion to San Diego. He hasn't stopped hitting since, Preller said.

"He's a guy that can swing the bat, brings energy to the club every day and it looks like he's going to be a nice player for us," Preller said of Pirela.

Despite key acquisitions like Galvis and **Eric Hosmer**, the Padres have gotten off to a slow start. Still, Preller is impressed with how the bullpen has bounced back from a rough opening series, notably **Brad Hand** and **Kirby Yates**.

"Obviously, the first homestand, not the way we wanted to come out of the gate," Preller said. "I think what we've talked as a group is improvement and progress. We've got a young group overall. As the year goes on, you want to see individual players get better and the team get better."

Listen to the full interview [here](#).

# Richard leads Padres against Giants

## Saturday night

### STATS

Apr 14, 2018 at 11:20a ET

SAN DIEGO — The better question might be, who is not pitching for the [San Francisco Giants](#) and [San Diego Padres](#) these days rather than who will be taking the mound.

Madison Bumgarner, Johnny Cueto and Jeff Samardzija are on the disabled list for the Giants.

And the Padres learned Friday afternoon that No. 2 starter [Dinelson Lamet](#) will miss the entire 2018 season with Tommy John elbow reconstruction surgery while [Luis Perdomo](#) will miss his next scheduled start because he is serving a five-game suspension for throwing behind Nolan Arenado in Colorado Wednesday afternoon.

But that won't affect Saturday night's pairing at Petco Park as the Padres host the Giants for round three of a four-game series.

The pairing of left-handers matches the Giants' Derek Holland (0-2, 4.09 ERA) against the Padres' [Clayton Richard](#) (1-1, 5.29). Despite all the changes both teams have faced in their rotations, Richard and Holland opened the season with assured spots.

And while Richard has faced the Giants 20 times over the course of his career, Holland will be making only his second start against the Padres and his first-ever outing at Petco Park.

Holland will be making his third start for the Giants and the 187th of his career. The first 184 of those were for American League teams. He signed with San Francisco in the offseason as a minor league free agent and pitched his way into the rotation during spring training.

"Derek deserves a little better than he's experienced thus far with us," said Giants manager Bruce Bochy. "We've scored one run in the two games he's pitched and that came in a 2-1 loss. He's pitched better than two losses."

In his most recent outing, Holland, who had his start pushed back due to a rainout, allowed two runs on only two hits and eight strikeouts in six innings. In his two starts, he has allowed only five hits in 11 innings, although he has issued four walks.

Holland's only previous start against the Padres came on June 27, 2009, when he allowed seven runs (six earned) on 13 hits in 5 2/3 innings while pitching for the Texas Rangers. The 13 hits allowed equaled a career-high.

Richard, the Padres' Opening Day starter, will be making his fourth start of the season. He allowed only one run on six hits over seven innings in the opener. But in his last two starts, he has given up nine runs on 13 hits and six walks with nine strikeouts in 10 innings.

"The formula is pretty simple for Clayton," said Padres manager Andy Green. "If he gets ground balls, he's going to be successful."

Richard has already seen action against the Giants this series. He singled as a pinch-hitter in the third inning Thursday night — and that turned out to be the only hit the Padres got.

Richard was 0-2 in three starts against the Giants last season with 5.29 ERA. The Giants hit .324 against Richard in 2017 with a 1.647 WHIP. Richard is 6-7 against the Giants in his career with a 4.11 ERA in 20 games (17 starts). He has a 30-27 record in two stints with the Padres at Petco Park with a 3.26 ERA in 75 games (73 starts).

Green hasn't decided who will start in Perdomo's scheduled spot Monday against the Dodgers, although it will likely be either [Robbie Erlin](#) or [Jordan Lyles](#). Both have been sharp out of the Padres' bullpen.

The teams split the first two games of this series, with San Diego winning Friday 5-1.