



Padres Press Clips

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'Pen up to task as Padres take series from Braves

[Jeff Sanders](#)

The front office spent the last three days adding options for what the [Padres](#) believe, hope, pray will be a prosperous future. At the moment, after five relievers teamed up for 13 strikeouts in a 3-1 win over Atlanta on Wednesday afternoon at Petco Park, the present doesn't look so bleak.

Forget the standings.

Sitting 4½ games out in early June is about the [NL West](#) coming back to San Diego.

This is about baby steps following a 10-20 start.

After a 15-13 May, the Padres (29-35) have won four of their first six games this month and three straight series for the first time since July, with Wednesday's finale secured via a bullpen day against an upstart [Braves](#) team that arrived at Petco Park this week in first place in the [NL East](#).

"I think this is a really important step for us," shortstop [Freddy Galvis](#) said after an eighth-inning squeeze provided an insurance run for the bullpen to close out a 7-3 homestand. "I think everybody is doing their homework. Everybody is playing the game the right way. The pitching has been good. The bullpen has been awesome. We're trying to be a winning team and that's what we're doing right now."

Things that went right Wednesday: Timely, if scant, hitting in a two-run second inning against right-hander Mike Foltynewicz, the hot hand after throwing his first career shutout; flawless defense; and manager Andy Green pushing the right button every time he went to the bullpen.

Which was just about every inning for the second time since left-hander Joey Lucchesi landed on the DL with a hip injury.

Again, left-hander Matt Strahm was the choice to begin as he was last month in Los Angeles, when he started a 6-1 loss with two shutout innings.

He was nearly as sharp this time — only [Freddie Freeman](#)'s two-out homer in the first hurt him — before a parade of relievers marched to the mound, one after another.

"You know you have a lot of work ahead of you," right-hander Kirby Yates said, "but I think as a group when you get a one-run lead, we know we're covering the whole game. Everyone is going to pitch. We feel pretty good about what we've got down there."

They should.

The bullpen's 3.29 ERA is the seventh-lowest in the majors.

And like clockwork, left-hander Jose Castillo followed 2 1/3 innings from Strahm with two strikeouts among his five outs recorded.

Then Adam Cimber struck out the side in the fifth, Yates pushed through two scoreless innings and Brad Hand converted his first six-out save since 2014 despite Ozzie Albies' leadoff double to start the eighth.

That feat, in particular, required Hand — the favorite to return to the [All-Star game](#) — to strike out Dansby Swanson, Freddie Freeman and Nick Markakis in order with the tying run standing on second base. He was really in a bind, too, when he fell behind, 2-0, to Freeman before going slider-fastball-slider to fetch three whiffs from the Braves' left-handed first baseman.

"I'm not going to give in to him there," Hand said. "I'm not just going to give him a cookie over the plate. That's the tying run on second base. I tried to make a quality pitch. I threw a slider in that count. I felt comfortable being able to throw it for a strike. Even if he did take it, you can't give in to good hitters like that, especially in that situation."

Hand retired all three hitters he faced in the ninth without incident to convert his 18th save.

Just the way Green drew it up?

More or less.

All told, the Johnny Wholestaff effort combined for a line that would qualify as a gem for any one starting pitcher: Nine innings, four hits, one run, two walks and 13 strikeouts. The left-handed rookie Castillo was credited with the win, the first of his career.

"No game goes exactly how you want it to for every little change — who comes in next or how you go to the next guy," Green said. "But I felt good about how that played out because our players did a good job."

He added: "It's probably an element of more fun because there's more decisions, but the game's not about my fun. It's about those guys being put in positions they can be successful."

The Padres got just enough timely hitting off right-hander Foltyniewicz.

Hunter Renfroe led off the second with a single and scored from first on Cory Spangenberg's ensuing triple into the right-center alley. Manuel Margot's two-out single to right opened up a 2-1 lead and — after five straight quiet innings — back-to-back singles off the bullpen in the eighth allowed Galvis a look at an at-bat with runners in scoring position.

Green called for a squeeze and a bunt to the first-base side of the mound gave Hand a two-run cushion for the final three outs.

That, too, was a small, important step.

They all are at this stage in a rebuild.

"The guys are enjoying what they are doing right now and usually when you enjoy what you're doing you play well," Green said. "And they are enjoying playing winning baseball. When Freddy laid that safety squeeze down the dugout erupts. They understand that's winning baseball.

"It's contagious. It's fun."

Padres notes: Joey Lucchesi still 'feeling something'; Maton's next step, Strahm's brother drafted

Jeff Sanders

Andy Green liked an awful lot about the way Wednesday's bullpen day played out, from **Matt Strahm** off the mound from the get-go to **Brad Hand's** final six outs. The third-year skipper likes **Joey Lucchesi** quite a bit, too.

What the **Padres** do with his spot in the rotation when it comes again Tuesday in St. Louis is up in the air, although it's increasingly unlikely that Lucchesi will return based on Green's reports from Tuesday's live batting practice in extended **spring training**.

"Overall it was pretty good," Green said. "I heard it didn't feel perfect. I'm not quite sure what his next step is. Still in the lower half and in the stretch he was feeling something. I doubt we are progressing rapidly at this point in time."

Lucchesi, 24, has been on the disabled list since May 15 with a right hip strain.

Maton to San Antonio

Right-hander **Phil Maton** struck out two, walked a batter and allowed two hits in a scoreless inning Tuesday night for high Single-A Lake Elsinore, his first rehab appearance since landing on the DL with a right lat strain on May 13.

He will continue his rehab assignment at Double-A San Antonio in hopes of returning soon to San Diego, where he had allowed one run in 16 innings to start the season.

"That was my biggest worry going into the injury," Maton said. "Was I going to come back 100 percent? I felt like I was in a pretty good groove before I got hurt. After throwing yesterday – two hits, the second one was pretty weak contact, I wasn't happy with the walk, but I'm very happy with where my stuff was at. The ball was coming out nice. The slider was turning over good. Very happy with where I'm at right now."

Brothers in arms

Strahm's younger brother, **Ben**, was the **Giants'** 23rd-round selection Wednesday. He is a junior, right-handed pitcher at Northeastern State University.

The left-handed Strahm offered this, um, scouting report in jest as he hurried to congratulate his younger brother after Wednesday's game: "He does everything left-handed except throw a baseball. Idiot, huh?"

Notable

- 1B **Eric Hosmer** struck out four times Wednesday, his third four-strikeout game in 60 games as a Padre. In 1,079 games as a Royal, including the postseason, Hosmer had two such games and none since June 4, 2014.
- The Padres' three series wins in a row are a first from taking two of three from Cleveland, Philadelphia and San Francisco last year (July 4-16).

Strong system allows Padres to get 'creative' on final day of draft

Jeff Sanders

The Padres signed all but 10 of last year's draft class. Eleven from the 2016 class did not join the organization and 10 from A.J. Preller's first class went unsigned.

The fourth-year general manager would not be surprised if that number jumps slightly for the 2018 draft class. His farm system – a consensus top-three system as ranked by Baseball America, ESPN and MLB.com – allowed his scouts to pursue tougher signees with more upside.

"We've filled the system the last few years," Preller said after the final day of the draft. "I think the bar has been raised a little bit, so I think from our standpoint getting guys that you kind of like, it was a little easier to say you're going into a high-caliber system and (we were) going to be a little bit more selective. I think in terms of a lot of the selections today, we'll be able to go out and see guys that we think really have some upside and maybe not sign quite as many from a numbers standpoint.

"It's a byproduct of having some guys in the system we've hit on."

As such, half of Wednesday's 30 selections were high-schoolers, many of whom have commitments to strong collegiate programs.

The first such pick off the board on the final day of the draft, for instance, was Sean Guilbe, a second baseman committed to Tennessee that MLB.com ranked as the 155th-best prospect in the draft. As a 12th-round pick, only the dollars over \$125,000 apply toward the Padres' \$10.46 million bonus pool, illustrating the importance of adding another \$812,000 via last week's Phil Hughes trade.

Those dollars could be the difference in changing a mind or two about college commitments.

"Today we tried to be creative in who we took and who we looked at and how we allocate the money (after the 10th-round)," Padres amateur scouting director Mark Conner said. "I think the first two days we went after the talent and the players we really wanted, and today was just be creative and try to find guys we really liked."

The Padres have until July 15 to sign the 2018 class.

That legwork began before the draft and will continue up until the deadline in some cases.

“Some guys' numbers change a little bit,” Preller said. “Some guys maybe had their bubble burst in the draft and if they really want to sign, maybe their number comes down a little bit. I think in most cases we know what the expectation is.”

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MLD DRAFT | Padres' third-day picks

- 11. C Nick Gatewood, Georgia State
- 12. 2B Sean Guilbe, Muhlenberg HS (Pa.)
- 13. LHP Antoine Kelly, Maine East HS (Ill.)
- 14. LHP Erik Sabrowski, Cloud City CC (Kan.)
- 15. RHP Nick Thwait, Fort Recovery HS (Ohio)
- 16. OF Michael Curry, Georgia
- 17. LHP Hazahel Quijada, UC Riverside
- 18. RHP Dylan Smith, Stafford HS (Texas)
- 19. RHP Ian Villers, Northgate HS (Calif.)
- 20. RHP Reiss Knehr, Fordham (N.Y.)
- 21. CF Mason Fox, Gardner-Webb (N.C.)
- 22. CF Payton Smith, Strom Thurmond HS (S.C.)
- 23. RHP Nelson Alvarez, Miami Dade CC South
- 24. 3B Pavin Parks, Kent State (Ohio)
- 25. 2B Lee Solomon, Lipscomb (Tenn.)
- 26. LHP Tyler Mortensen, Davis Senior HS (Calif.)
- 27. RHP Gabe Mosser, Shippensburg (Pa.)
- 28. 3B Jake Plastiak, Victor J. Andrew HS (Ill.)
- 29. RHP William Duncan, Richardson HS (Texas)
- 30. LHP Cullen Dana, Seton Hall (N.J.)
- 31. RHP Jake Sims, St. Leo (Fla.)
- 32. LHP Cody Tyler, Wichita State
- 33. C Rainier Aguilar, Redlands
- 34. RHP George Arias, Tucson High Magnate School
- 35. RHP Jake Pfennings, Post Falls HS (Idaho)
- 36. RHP Will Freeman, Jones County JC (Miss.)
- 37. RHP Ben Abram, Georgetown District HS (Canada)
- 38. 1B Michael Suarez, Miami Sunset HS

- 39. RHP Seth Mayberry, Dinwiddie County Senior HS (Va.)
- 40. RHP Michael Knorr, Carlsbad HS (Calif.)

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Local connections

With their last pick, the Padres selected Carlsbad's Michael Knorr, a 6-foot-5 right-hander who is committed to Cal State Fullerton. Conner offered this report on the only local selected by his hometown team:

"Big, strong physical kid. Long, loose. Has arm strength. Secondary stuff needs to come around a little bit. One of those guys that our area scout and cross-checker have seen several times and really like the kid, like the makeup and the upside with him."

In the 34th round, the Padres selected high school right-hander George Arias out of Tucson High Magnate School. His father, also George Arias, was a third baseman for the Padres from 1997 to 1999.

Should Padres go for it? Plus thoughts on Alliance & Aztecs

[Tom Krasovic](#)

Quick hits on Alliance San Diego and the [Aztecs](#) (with more on the [Padres](#) below):

1. SDSU's football players stand to benefit from Alliance San Diego, the professional football team that will train and play in Mission Valley starting in January.
2. Alliance coach [Mike Martz](#) said he'll take strong interest in former State players and others with ties to San Diego and Southern California.
3. Martz is a Fresno State alum but also an Aztecs fan who fell in love with college football by watching Don Coryell's teams in the 1960s that played at Aztecs Bowl and San Diego Stadium.
4. As offensive coordinator of the [St. Louis Rams](#), Martz won a Super Bowl with former Aztecs playmakers Marshall Faulk and Az-Zahir Hakim.
5. Nearly 20 years later, Martz said his core football belief is the same. "I want speed," he said.
6. He noted that neither receiver Hakim (5-foot-9 5/8, 179 pounds) nor running back Faulk (5-10, 206) was large for the [NFL](#). Both were very fast.
7. The Rams got Faulk in a trade with the [Colts](#) by parting with running back Edgerrin James, a former Miami Hurricanes star and top draftee.
8. James (6-0, 216) was bigger than Faulk and may have had better sprint speed, a stunner. James was clocked at 4.38 in the 40-yard-dash at the NFL Scouting Combine. His 10-yard split was an astounding 1.49. He was a terrific NFL player.
9. Faulk became a Hall of Famer. He played faster than James because of his special change of direction and top-drawer game as a route-runner and receiver.
10. The football Aztecs were my beat during the Faulk Era. Practices were open and coach Al Luginbill kindly broke down the coaches' film for beat writers. After watching Faulk up close for scores of practices and on coaches-film breakdowns, NFL running backs appeared slow to me.
11. Martz said he likes that the Alliance has banned the kickoff. The play is exciting, he said, but coincided with the most injuries of any play in his Rams tenure.
12. The coach, a former Madison High and Mesa College tight end, said the hardest hit he took was on a kickoff. Martz was playing for Fresno State then. "I got waylaid," he said. The opponent was SDSU.
13. My guess is the Alliance has a better chance of surviving than the XFL, a pro league that plans to begin play in 2020, because the Alliance gets along with the NFL.

14. Oddsbroker Bovada is skeptical that the XFL will survive past its first season, giving it 2 to 1 odds to make it past July 4, 2021.

Quick hits on the Padres:

1. Are the Padres in playoff contention?
2. The standings say, yes. On the other hand, the team is below .500. Adjusted for ballpark and league, the pitching and hitting are also below average, and the defensive efficiency is second-to-last in the [National League](#).
3. The rival [Giants](#) are in “win now” mode. Their ace, Madison Baumgarner, made his season debut this week, and [Johnny Cueto](#), who had an 0.84 ERA in five games, is due back later this month.. The Dodgers are still standing, even after injuries punched four holes in their rotation.
4. Back to the Pads. Unless a team’s bosses are prepared to go for it, fringe clubs probably are further from contention than the standings may show.
5. A.J. Preller has surprised the baseball world in other years, so the Pads going for it perhaps can’t be ruled out although I’d be stunned if they did.
6. Teams should be mindful that, as former Pads player and coach Tim Flannery puts it, the baseball gods sometimes decide it’s your year to pull out the stops. See, 2003 [Marlins](#).
7. But the Marlins were an extreme outlier, trading prospects for relievers and tossing prospects into the deep end of the pool and seeing it all work out. Talent man Larry Beinfest’s gambles led to a stunning wild-card berth and a World Series victory over the Yankees.
8. Of course, it helps when the prospect summoned into the pennant drive is [Miguel Cabrera](#). Then 20 years and two months old, Cabrera went from the Class AA Southern League to the Marlins that June 20. Is Fernando Tatis Jr. a comparable talent now at age 19 and six months? He is coming off a big May in the Class AA Texas League. Cabrera is among great hitters in baseball history.
9. Going for it can backfire, too. Young pitchers may not be ready for prolonged work in the big leagues, especially in high-stakes games. And if it means trading away prospects for a stretch-drive addition, which is typical, that’s another risk to balance against the anticipated long-term trajectory.
10. The Pads have contended for the playoffs once in the past 10 years, The one time they went for it — and it made sense to try — the moves conked the franchise in the head.
11. Young pitcher Mat Latos was pitching so well that summer, in 2010, that the team pushed him harder than it would have if it was out of contention.

12. Latos faded in September. The following [spring training](#), he reported a shoulder ailment. He has gone on to have a decent career but 2010 was his peak season to date.
13. The Pads gave thought to trading Latos that 2010-11 offseason and would regret not moving him.
14. The “go for it” trade backfired in a big way. Mid-level prospect Cory Kluber, dealt for veteran outfielder [Ryan Ludwick](#), became a dominant for the Cleveland Indians after developing a sharp cutter and adding velocity. Ludwick struggled and later said Petco Park got into his head. (Nowadays, it’s far less likely an import from another division would reprise Ludwick 2.0 because Petco isn’t playing nearly as big as back then.)
15. The San Diego farm system is stronger now than in 2010, so finding rest for Pads pitchers should be fairly easy, regardless of where the team stands in coming weeks.
16. Joey Lucchesi is an example. His time on the disabled list is allowing the team to reduce his season work load. Other pitching prospects such as Eric Lauer and perhaps Luis Perdomo, Cal Quantrill and Logan can take turns.
17. One other point on the state of the Pads. The Marlins and [Reds](#), two recent visitors to San Diego, seem bent on losing their way to top draft slots.

Day 3 draft tracker: Padres complete draft with Carlsbad's Michael Knorr

[Jeff Sanders](#)

The third and final day of baseball's amateur draft is underway. Click [here](#) for the Day 1 roundup, [here](#) for Day 2 and return here throughout at the day for the latest on the Padres' final 30 picks.

11. C Nick Gatewood, Georgia State

- The left-handed hitter paired 13 homers and 49 RBIs with a .322/.400/.568 batting line in 52 games as a junior. He'd hit five home runs the previous season. He was named to the Johnny Bench Award Watch List this year.
- The 6-foot-2, 200-pound junior is from Duluth, Ga. He was rated the No. 9 catcher and No. 71 overall prospect in Georgia by Perfect Game while in high school.

12. 2B Sean Guilbe, Muhlenberg HS (Pa.)

- MLB.com ranked the 18-year-old Guilbe its 155th-best prospect coming into the draft. He is committed to Tennessee. Here is that report: "Outfielder Mike Siani is the highest-rated player in the state of Pennsylvania, and for good reason. But in many ways Guilbe, a product of Berks Catholic High School in Reading, has outperformed his fellow Keystone State prepster this spring. Guilbe definitely had some helium as the spring finally warmed up and the Draft approached, putting up a season that put him in contention for the state's Gatorade Player of the Year award. He has legitimate right-handed power coming from a strong, athletic body. He's more strength over bat speed with a bit of an uphill swing, something he'll likely need to shorten to ensure he taps into that raw pop consistently at the next level. A below-average runner, there are some questions about his ability to stay at the hot corner because of his hands and lack of range. He is fairly physically mature. There were several teams looking at Guilbe in the top five rounds. Those are the teams that believe his bat will translate and he'll hit enough to make his power a plus tool and make it worthwhile to lure him away from his University of Tennessee commitment."

13. LHP Antoine Kelly, Maine East HS (Ill.)

- Listed at 6-foot-6 and 175 pounds, Kelly was clocked in the upper 80s last year as a junior, according to this [Pioneer Press story](#). This [Illinois Preps Insider](#) story from last month had him up to 90 mph.

14. LHP Erik Sabrowski, Cloud City CC (Kan.)

- The 6-foot-4 pitcher hails from Edmonton, Alberta Canada. He went 7-2 with a 117 strikeouts, 26 walks and a 3.14 ERA in 66 innings this year for the T-Birds.

15. RHP Nick Thwait, Fort Recovery HS (Ohio)

16. C Michael Curry, Georgia

- The right-handed-hitting junior has 31 homers in three seasons for Georgia. Curry, 20, hit .315/.389/.486 with 10 homers, 47 RBIs and a 50-to-26 strikeout-to-walk ratio in 2018.
- He graduated from Gainesville High School, Padres CF Michael Gettys' alma mater. There, Curry was ranked the No. 4 catcher in the state of Georgia by Perfect Game.
- Curry added outfield to his resume this season, according to this [Athens Banner-Herald story](#).

17. LHP Hazahel Quijada, UC Riverside

- The 21-year-old junior was 2-5 with a 3.31 ERA, 39 strikeouts and a 1.27 WHIP in 49 innings (28 games, four starts). He had a 4.63 ERA as a freshman and a 6.14 ERA as a sophomore. UC Riverside is a Big West team.
- Graduated from San Bernardino's San Gorgonio High School.

18. RHP Dylan Smith, Stafford High School (Texas)

- [He is committed to Alabama.](#)

19. RHP Ian Villers, Northgate HS (Calif.)

20. RHP Reiss Knehr, Fordham (N.Y.)

- The 21-year-old junior was 6-3 with a 2.40 ERA, 83 strikeouts and a 1.33 WHIP in 90 innings (15 starts) this year. He had a .703 OPS as a hitter.
- Played varsity baseball, soccer, basketball and football at St. Dominic High School in Oyster Bay, N.Y.

21. CF Mason Fox, Gardner-Webb (N.C.)

- The right-handed-hitting Fox paired six homers, 40 RBIs and 21 steals with a .321/.394/.488 batting line his junior year.
- Threw 93 mph in high school.

22. CF Payton Smith, Strom Thurmond HS (S.C.)

23. RHP Nelson Alvarez, Miami Dade CC South

24. 3B Pavin Parks, Kent State

- The 21-year-old, left-handed-hitting junior walked (51) more than he struck out (39) in his lone season at Kent State (Eric Lauer's alma mater). Parks hit .275/.462/.510 with six homers, 45 RBIs and five steals.
- Parks transferred to Kent State after two years at Seminole State College of Florida, where he was the school's male athlete of the year in 2017. He played three years of football and basketball in high school.

25. 2B Lee Solomon, Lipscomb (Tenn.)

- The 22-year-old senior, a right-handed hitter, slugged eight homers, swiped 15 base and penned a .286/.411/.549 batting line in 40 games.

26. LHP Tyler Mortensen, Davis Senior HS (Calif.)

- [He is committed to San Jose State.](#)

27. RHP Gabe Mosser, Shippensburg (Pa.)

- Went 8-4 with a 3.28 ERA, 93 strikeouts and a .231 opponent average in 74 innings this year. ... Allowed three home runs in his first game this year and only two over his next 70 innings.

28. 3B Jake Plastiak, Victor J. Andrew HS (Ill.)

29. RHP William Duncan, Richardson HS (Texas)

30. LHP Cullen Dana, Seton Hall (N.J.)

- He went 5-3 with a 3.56 ERA, 76 strikeouts and a 1.40 WHIP in 73 innings this year, his sophomore season.

31. RHP Jake Sims, St. Leo (Fla.)

32. LHP Cody Tyler, [Wichita State](#)

- The fifth-year senior struck out 38, walked six and posted a 4.40 ERA in 30 2/3 innings out of the Shockers' bullpen.

33. C Rainier Aguilar, Redlands

34. RHP George Arias, Tucson High Magnate School

- Son of former Padres third baseman George Arias.

35. RHP Jake Pfennings, Post Falls HS (Idaho)

36. RHP Will Freeman, Jones County JC (Miss.)

37. RHP Ben Abram, Georgetown District HS (Canada)

38. 1B Michael Suarez, Miami Sunset HS

39. RHP Seth Mayberry, Dinwiddie County Senior HS (Va.)

40. RHP Michael Knorr, Carlsbad HS (Calif.)

- Padres scouting director **Mark Conner** spoke about the 6-foot-6, 215-pound Knorr after the draft: "Big, strong physical kid. Long, loose. Has arm strength. Secondary stuff needs to come around a little bit. One of those guys that our area scout and cross-checker have seen several times and really like the kid, like the makeup and the upside with him and we decided to take him late."

Padres fan catches foul ball in full beer cup, chugs it, becomes San Diego legend

By [Abby Hamblin](#)

The greatest catch in Petco Park on Tuesday was made not by one of the [San Diego Padres](#), but by a fan who caught a foul ball in her beer.

Yep, you read that correctly.

The Padres organization caught the whole thing on camera as a foul ball hit by [Atlanta Braves](#) outfielder Ender Inciarte sailed behind him into the seats at Petco Park and landed in the full beer of Encinitas resident Gabrielle DiMarco.

Here's what happened.

At the game with her dad, her dad's girlfriend and her friend, DiMarco was talking to the friend when she heard the ball whizzing toward her before she even saw it. That's when it hit what she thinks is the seat behind her and bounced into her cup.

"I felt like I won the lottery," she said in an interview with The San Diego Union-Tribune. "I was like, 'what are the chances?' I wasn't even trying to catch this ball and it landed in my cup."

When I asked her about her decision to chug the beer, she said it was a simple one.

"So many people were cheering, 'chug!' I was like, 'absolutely I will chug this beer, are you kidding me?'" she said. "I still have the ball in my cup and I'm never going to lose it.

What kind of beer was it? A Ballast Point Sculpin, which she said is one of her favorite beers. She's also a fan of Modern Times.

"I love beer," she said on Wednesday. "I'm so into the San Diego beer culture with all the good beer and breweries."

DiMarco, a 23-year-old California State University San Marcos student, has since been seen on ESPN and all across the internet.

Local and national sports analysts gave their own takes on the epic play. She quickly became a San Diego legend.

Cheers, Gabrielle.

Meet Gabrielle DiMarco, the famous San Diegan who caught a foul ball in her beer

By [Abby Hamblin](#)

She's been described as a legend, a hero and even "Hall of Fame material."

Social media is flooded with marriage proposals for her and her Instagram following is skyrocketing.

Footage of San Diego County resident Gabrielle DiMarco catching a baseball in her full cup of beer at the Padres game on Tuesday night has been viewed around the world hundreds of thousands of times in less than 24 hours. And what she did afterward has made her even more of an icon.

As the crowd around her at Petco Park cheered and chanted at her to chug the beer with the baseball in it, she downed the whole thing.

"Everyone was calling me 'MVP' and it was hilarious," DiMarco said in an interview with The San Diego Union-Tribune on Wednesday.

Watch for yourself.

Who is this famous fan? You've seen her face and her beer-drinking skills, but you probably don't know her story.

Here it is.

DiMarco is a 23-year-old California State University San Marcos student who grew up in Connecticut but now lives in Encinitas. She's a literature and writing studies major and who likes to write poetry.

"It's funny because I feel like I'm the opposite of that," she says of her newfound fame. "I'm a student. I'm an aspiring writer."

The video of her famous chug is all over Instagram, but people can also find her poetry there.

Don't get her wrong, though. She is a fan of beer and says she loves the San Diego beer culture.

"I think it's a really cool art," DiMarco said.

Of her famous catch, she says it felt like winning the lottery. After the catch she went back to thank the bartender who poured the Ballast Point Sculpin for her.

"I didn't know it would be such a big deal," DiMarco said.

She says she loves the way sports bring people together and that it made the moment that much more special.

"I just think everyone has their passion and everyone wants to get their shot," she said.

"I got really lucky."

Luis Campusano, three TinCaps pitchers headed to Midwest League All-Star Game

Jeff Sanders

Last year, Luis Campusano was a second-round pick out of Cross Creek High in Augusta, Ga. Today, the 19-year-old catcher is headlining low Single-A Fort Wayne's selections to the Midwest League All-Star Game.

Left-handers Nick Margevicius, Aaron Leasher and Travis Radke were also named to the team.

The right-handed hitting Campusano leads the TinCaps with a .297 batting average. He has homered three times driven in 22 runs and walked 13 times against 20 strikeouts.

Margevicius, tonight's starter, is tied for third in the circuit with 65 strikeouts, sixth in ERA (2.65) and is 4-2 with just nine walks in 51 innings. He was a seventh-round pick last year out of Rider.

A sixth-round pick last year out of Morehead State, Leasher is 2-3 with a 3.08 ERA, 54 strikeouts and a 1.29 WHIP in 52 2/3 innings.

The 25-year-old Radke, a 25th-rounder out of Portland in 2014, is third in the Midwest League with eight saves. He has struck out 50, walked six and posted a 1.97 ERA in 32 innings.

The Midwest League All-Star Game is scheduled for June 19 in Lansing, Mich.

View the entire West and East rosters [here](#).

Minor League Matters: Four prime prospects under the age of 20

By [Emily Waldon](#), The Athletic

A collection of exceptionally talented players is starting to surface, and many of them have yet to celebrate their 20th birthday. Some names are well known while others might be a surprise. Just to make us all feel a little older than we actually are, here is a list of prime prospects all under the age of 20.

SS Fernando Tatis Jr.

Current Assignment: Double-A San Antonio (Padres)

Ht/Wt: 6-3/185 lbs. **B/T:** R/R **DOB:** January 2, 1999

Season Stats: 227 AB, .264/.335/.493, 60 H, 48 R, 16 2B, 10 HR, 26 RBI

As young as he is, Fernando Tatis Jr. already has a lot of experience in the minor leagues. Signed as an International Free Agent by the White Sox in 2015, Tatis surprisingly didn't initially draw rave reviews. The middle infielder lacked in his physical development in the first year of his career, although his projection is proving to be accurate.

Before Tatis played in the White Sox system, he found himself on the move in 2016 as one of the trade chips for Chicago in its acquisition of James Shields from San Diego.

Tatis is projected to be an offensive fixture. And through 57 games in his second season at Double A, he's proven he has an ability to adapt.

Tatis is showing his most noticeable power since his time with Class A Fort Wayne in 2016 with a .225 ISO (the measure of a batter's raw power). Although the power is the swing-and-miss, Tatis has been able to lower his strikeout percentage from the 29 percent in his first Double-A season (2017) down to 27.1 percent.

Tatis is slashing .268/.337/.494 and is just 28 runs shy of his career high of 78 runs in about half as many games. He hits to all fields and has a great feel for the middle infield. There are plenty of reasons for Padres fans to be excited.

RHP Sixto Sanchez

Current Assignment: High-A Clearwater (Phillies)

Ht/Wt: 6-0/185 lbs. **B/T:** R/R **DOB:** July 29, 1998

Season Stats: 4-3, 2.51 ERA, 46.2 IP, 39 H, 13 ER, 11 BB, 45 K

For anyone who hadn't heard the name of Sixto Sanchez prior to 2018, that's changing quickly.

Barely 6-feet tall, Sanchez has one of the most explosive arms in baseball, and he doesn't turn 20 until July. Sanchez, who has drawn the comparison to a young Pedro Martínez, signed for \$35,000 in 2015.

Already hitting as fast as 102 mph with his four-seam fastball, Sanchez doesn't rely completely on his velocity to overwhelm hitters. His two-seam fastball has equal life, and Sanchez adds sink and movement to both variations with excellent command for a young pitcher.

Sanchez's other pitches haven't reached the elite level of his two fastballs, but they're far from lacking. His curveball is already above average and getting better. His changeup, much like his curve, remains a work in progress, but as with his fastball, he has a feel far beyond his age.

The right-hander didn't begin his stateside career until 2016 in the Gulf Coast League, where he finished 5-0 with a 0.50 ERA and a 2.26 FIP.

In his second year with High-A Clearwater, Sanchez remains under the watchful eye of a Phillies coaching staff that's keeping him on a strict pitch count.

The Phillies have held Sanchez to a max of seven innings per game. He has been able to generate a career-high 8.6 strikeouts per nine innings with a 2.51 ERA over eight games.

Don't expect the Phillies to rush him, but Sanchez is positioning himself to be considered for a promotion.

SS Royce Lewis

Current Assignment: Class A Cedar Rapids (Twins)

Ht/Wt: 6-2/188 lbs. **B/T:** R/R **DOB:** June 5, 1999

Season Stats: 172 AB, .297/.344/.413, 51 H, 26 R, 11 2B, 3 HR, 27 RBI

One of the best athletes in the Twins' minor-league system, Royce Lewis has made the transition from JSerra Catholic High School to the minor leagues appear seamless.

Lewis, who turned 19 this week, plays with a quiet ferocity. He's known for his speed and plays with confidence without being flashy.

There has been talk of transitioning Lewis from shortstop to the outfield, but considering how well he's playing, he might stick as a middle infielder for longer than originally anticipated.

Lewis isn't projected as a power hitter, but he's able to put barrel to ball very well. He hits to all fields with a smooth stroke and can pull the ball when he needs to.

Slashing .294/.343/.422 through 45 games, Lewis is third for Cedar Rapids in runs scored and second in hits, doubles and RBI.

Lewis' strikeout rate has dropped steadily from 20 percent in 2017 to 15.1 percent in his return to Class A this season. As his body fills out, there is a high probability he can add power. Lewis has good instincts, and his physical development isn't far behind.

3B Vladimir Guerrero Jr.

Current Assignment: Double-A New Hampshire (Blue Jays)

Ht/Wt: 6-1/200 lbs. **B/T:** R/R **DOB:** March 16, 1999

Season Stats: 198 AB, .409/.461/.677, 81 H, 44 R, 18 2B, 11 HR, 54 RBI

Ok, this was about as easy as they come.

There are two sides to the development of Vladimir Guerrero Jr. His offensive output is outstanding, but there is still a question surrounding where he'll end up defensively.

While his swing resembles that of his dad, the retired big-leaguer, their builds are quite different. Vladimir Sr. came into the minor-league scene lanky and lean at 6-3, 235 pounds, while Jr. comes in at a much more solid 6-0, 200 pounds.

Projected as an outfielder, will Guerrero Jr. trim down to have the speed he needs to cover enough ground?

His infield defense is adequate. He reads the ball well, but his timing is a bit of an issue. Guerrero moves fairly well and has an above-average arm, but there's still work to be done. At 19, that development should come.

Guerrero's 54 RBI this season lead the Eastern League. Slashing .402/.453/.663, Guerrero has only gotten better. Through 52 games, Guerrero is carrying a sensational .478 wOBA and a 202 wRC+ and striking out just 9 percent of the time.

Guerrero left Wednesday's game with an apparent injury, according to MLB.com. After sliding into second base in the fourth inning, he signaled to come out and walked slowly off the field, according to the report.

Padres ride 5 relievers to finale win vs. Braves

By AJ Cassavell MLB.com

SAN DIEGO -- The Padres didn't have a starting pitcher to give the baseball to on Wednesday afternoon at Petco Park. So manager Andy Green handed it to [Matt Strahm](#). And then [Jose Castillo](#). And then [Adam Cimber](#), [Kirby Yates](#) and [Brad Hand](#).

Together, the five San Diego relievers did the trick, piecing together nine excellent innings in a 3-1 victory over the Braves. It completed a 7-3 homestand for the Padres.

"It's not rocket science," Green said. "You put good pitchers on the mound and ask them to eat up 27 [outs], they've got a really good chance to do it. For me, it's credit to the work they've put in down there and the culture they have down there."

Technically, Strahm was the Padres "starter" on Wednesday, though he admitted prior to the game that he'd treat his outing as though he were pitching in relief. Strahm worked 2 1/3 innings, the longest appearance of the day. He also surrendered Atlanta's only run -- a solo blast from [Freddie Freeman](#) in the top of the first.

From there, the relief corps dominated. Castillo worked 1 2/3 scoreless. Cimber pitched the fifth and struck out the side. Yates worked his first two-inning appearance in over a year. And Hand was as dominant as ever in the eighth and ninth.

"When you do a bullpen day, the advantage is with the pitchers, because they're not going to get to see everybody multiple times," Yates said. " ... It's probably going to make it pretty hard on them, knowing what we've got at the back end of the bullpen."

It's the second time in 10 days that the Padres have used their bullpen to fill [Joey Lucchesi](#)'s place in the starting rotation. (Lucchesi is still recovering from a right-hip strain and could return in the next week or two.) The plan worked almost as well in Los Angeles earlier this month, before the Dodgers put together a four-run eighth inning off lefty [Tyler Webb](#).

In six days, Lucchesi's turn will come up again, and it's doubtful he'll be ready. The Padres could once again turn to their relief corps -- though that's dependent on the bullpen's workload over the next four days.

"It's not something you can do often," Yates said. "It is something you can do. The stars have to align, because it puts a lot of pressure on the starting pitcher the day

before and the starting pitcher the day after. ... It's hard to tell what kind of lingering effects it has."

Thursday's off-day was key. There's almost no chance Hand and Yates would've worked two innings apiece without the benefit of an extra day of rest.

It was Hand who worked under the most stress, allowing a leadoff double in the eighth as the tying run. He proceeded to strike out [Dansby Swanson](#), Freeman and [Nick Markakis](#) in order.

"It's all of us picking up each other, handing it over to the next guy," Hand said. "We have all the trust in anybody in that situation. That's a great Braves team we beat."

MOMENTS THAT MATTERED

Second chance: The Padres plated two runs in the second inning when [Cory Spangenberg](#) tripled home [Hunter Renfroe](#), then scored on a [Manuel Margot](#) single. They could've had more. Green opted to let Strahm hit for himself with men on first and second. Making his first big league plate appearance, Strahm struck out while trying to bunt. Two batters later, [Eric Hosmer](#) struck out swinging with the bases loaded on three straight sliders from Braves starter [Mike Foltynewicz](#).

Fresh squeezed: After Hand's high-leverage eighth inning, the Padres tacked on a pivotal insurance run in the bottom of the frame. [Jose Pirela](#) led off with a single and went to third on a hit by Spangenberg. That set the stage for [Freddy Galvis](#)' safety squeeze up the first-base line. Pirela scored easily, and the Padres had a 3-1 lead.

HE SAID IT

"The guys are enjoying what they're doing right now, and usually when you're enjoying what you're doing, you play well." -- *Green, on the 7-3 homestand*

UP NEXT

It's a rematch for San Diego as [Eric Lauer](#) takes on Miami's [Caleb Smith](#) for the second time in two weeks. Smith got the upper hand in Round 1 as Lauer stumbled, giving up five earned runs and seven hits over just 2 1/3 innings. Lauer has struggled on the road (he's yet to notch a win on an away start) and the Padres have lost four out of his last five starts. First pitch is slated for 4:10 p.m. PT at Marlins Park.

Weathers latest in Padres' stable of LHPs

Organization boasts several talented lefty arms; Guilbe a high-upside reach on Day 3; Preller likes multi-sport athletes

By AJ Cassavell MLB.com

SAN DIEGO -- Before this week's Draft, the Padres already boasted the top contingent of left-handed pitching prospects in baseball. And *then* they added Ryan Weathers in the first round.

• [Every Padres pick](#)

The 18-year-old southpaw out of Loretto High joins a group of immensely talented lefties in the Padres' system -- from the top down. Already this season, [Joey Lucchesi](#) and [Eric Lauer](#) have reached the big leagues. But according to MLB Pipeline, they were only the fourth- and fifth-best left-handed prospects entering the year.

• [Padres Top 30 prospects](#)

Atop that list is MacKenzie Gore, the No. 3 overall selection in the 2017 Draft. Adrian Morejon -- San Diego's No. 6 ranked prospect -- got off to a rough start at Class A Advanced this season, but he owns a 2.34 ERA over the past month. [Logan Allen](#), meanwhile, has been excellent for Double-A San Antonio. He pitched seven innings of a combined no-hitter this week and owns a 3.24 ERA.

Now the Padres have Weathers, too. Taken with the seventh overall selection on Monday night, Weathers posted absurd numbers in his senior season at Loretto High. He pitched 76 innings, struck out 148 hitters and allowed only one earned run.

Make no mistake: The organizational push toward left-handers wasn't a coincidence.

"Dating back to 2015, that year we definitely learned a valuable lesson," said Padres general manager A.J. Preller. "At the big league level, [Frank Garces](#) was probably the only real option we had to come in from the left-hand side, and we didn't have a lot of left-handed pitching in the system. We definitely made it our priority in trades, free agents, international."

Three years later, Preller has a roster and a farm system packed with lefties. [On Wednesday afternoon](#), the Padres used left-handers [Matt Strahm](#), [Jose](#)

[Castillo](#) and [Brad Hand](#) for multiple innings. Allen started for Double-A San Antonio. Nick Margevicius started for Class A Fort Wayne.

"Our group has done a really good job identifying left-handed pitching over the last few years that we feel are big league-type guys," Preller said. "They're definitely a big part of our system. We've got some depth there."

Padres reach for Guilbe on Day 3

The Padres used seven of their eight Day 2 selections on college players, including a trio of seniors to end the afternoon. Very few of those picks feature signability concerns, meaning the Padres could have some extra money to play with in their Draft pool.

Enter Sean Guilbe, MLB Pipeline's No. 155 Draft prospect -- taken in the 12th round at No. 351 overall, largely because of his commitment to Vanderbilt. He's a strong right-handed hitter, who can play both second and third base.

The Padres own the seventh-largest bonus pool in the Draft at \$10,462,200. They acquired an extra selection -- and an extra \$812,000 toward that pool -- in the [Phil Hughes](#) trade in late May. With that flexibility, they might be able to pry Guilbe from Tennessee.

"Today we tried to be creative in who we took and who we looked at, how we may allocate the money post-[10th round]," said scouting director Mark Conner. " ... Today was a day of being creative."

Preller keen on multi-sport athletes

Not only did Weathers lead Loretto to consecutive state baseball title games. He also led his school to its first Tennessee Class A basketball title. Third-rounder Owen Miller and fourth-rounder Dylan Coleman both set their high school's scoring records in basketball.

Fifth-rounder Dwanya Williams-Sutton was a three-sport star who once threw down a highlight-reel putback dunk. Seventh-rounder Jawuan Harris played wide receiver and safety at Rutgers and was named to the All-Big Ten freshman football team in 2016.

Obviously, there's a theme here.

"You used to go in and talk to everybody, and everybody was playing three sports," Preller said. "Most of these guys play baseball year-round now. That's definitely been a

shift probably in the last five to seven years. ... In terms of the guys that we took that are athletic and play other sports, we see it as a positive."

By the numbers

Over the course of the three days, the Padres skewed slightly pitching-heavy, taking 25 arms and 16 bats. Of those 25 pitchers, 17 were right-handers.

They also took 23 college players, compared with just 18 out of high school. Among their first 12 picks, nine played baseball in the college ranks this year.

Padres prospects post big numbers

William Boor MLB.com

The Padres have one of the best farm systems in baseball and it was easy to see why on Wednesday as a trio of the organization's top prospects put up big numbers.

[San Diego's No. 1](#) prospect [Fernando Tatis Jr. \(No. 6 in MLB\)](#) and [Logan Allen](#) (Padres' No. 8) led Double-A San Antonio to a win as the duo delivered at the plate and on the mound. Tatis collected a season-high in hits as he went 4-for-5 with three RBIs.

Meanwhile, Allen posted his second straight scoreless start, yielding four hits over seven innings. Allen fired 70 of his 100 pitches for strikes and issued just one walk.

Down a level, with Class A Advanced Lake Elsinore, [Chris Paddack](#) (Padres' No. 21) continued to pile up the strikeouts. The 22-year-old fanned 10 over 5 2/3 scoreless innings and has amassed 62 strikeouts over 37 1/3 innings this season.

Five relievers hold Braves to four hits in Padres win

AP

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Matt Strahm and four other San Diego relievers combined on a four-hitter and the Padres beat Atlanta 3-1 Wednesday to take two of three from the Braves.

The Padres turned to their bullpen for the second time in 11 games because rookie left-hander Joey Lucchesi remains on the disabled list. The other time was a 6-1 loss at the Los Angeles Dodgers on May 27, also started by Strahm.

Strahm went 2 1/3 innings, allowing one run and two hits while striking out two and walking one. He gave up Freddie Freeman's home run with two outs in the first, his 11th.

Rookie lefty Jose Castillo (1-0) allowed one hit and struck out two in 1 2/3 innings. Adam Cimber struck out the side in the fifth. Kirby Yates walked two in two hitless innings.

Closer Brad Hand came on for the eighth and allowed a leadoff double to Ozzie Albies before striking out Dansby Swanson, Freeman and Nick Markakis. Hand then retired the side in the ninth for his 18th save.

The Padres got all the runs they needed in the second against Mike Foltynewicz (5-4). Hunter Renfroe hit a leadoff single and scored on Cory Spangenberg's triple to the gap in right-center. Manuel Margot's one-out single to right brought in Spangenberg, an infielder who pitched the ninth in Tuesday night's 14-1 loss. The Padres loaded the bases with two outs before Eric Hosmer struck out.

Freddy Galvis squeezed in a run in the eighth.

UP NEXT

Braves: RHP Brandon McCarthy (5-2, 4.83) is scheduled to start the opener of a three-game series at the Dodgers on Friday night.

Padres: LHP Eric Lauer (2-3, 6.82) is scheduled to start the opener of a three-game series at Miami on Friday night. Lauer lost to the Marlins 7-2 on May 28 before beating the Reds 8-2 on Saturday.

Takeaways from the Padres' 3-1 win over the Braves

John Horvath, FOX Sports San Diego

SAN DIEGO– Five different [Padres](#) pitchers held the [Braves](#) to four hits and a run, [Cory Spangenberg](#) tripled in the second as part of a two-hit day and San Diego defeated the Braves 3-1 on Wednesday afternoon to take their third series in a row.

San Diego improved to 29-35 while [Atlanta](#) fell to 36-26.

Takeaways

Strahm serves as "opener" for Padres

For the second time in less than two weeks, left-handed pitcher [Matt Strahm](#) started a bullpen game for the Padres. He did quite a good job, too.

With two outs in the bottom of the first, the red-hot [Freddie Freeman](#) homered off Strahm. It was the only blip on the reliever's radar. The 26-year-old went 2 1/3 innings, allowing two hits and the aforementioned home run. He struck out two while throwing 21 of 30 pitches for strikes.

The former Royal continued a string of solid outings as he continues to work back from last year's knee surgery. In his last 7 1/3 innings, Strahm has allowed only one run and one walk while striking out five.

"I see a lot of value in starting Strahm off the mound to start ballgames," stated manager Andy Green. From the beginning, I've seen him as a potential starting option for us going forward. He is controlled innings wise, we are going to be sure to protect him."

"To get him off in a starters capacity is good for him and good for us in the future," he continued.

Bullpening works!

Without a traditional starter on Wednesday afternoon, the Padres bullpen was tremendous. The aforementioned Strahm opened the game, pitching 2 1/3 innings.

Rookie reliever [Jose Castillo](#) followed Strahm and continued an impressive start to his big league career. The Venezuela native pitched 1 2/3 innings of scoreless baseball, striking out two. He ended up earning his first MLB victory.

[Adam Cimber](#) pitched the fifth and dominated, striking out the side in a perfect inning.

[Kirby Yates](#) relieved the side-armor to pitch the sixth and seventh innings. He did struggle with command at times, but bore down when necessary and averted any damage.

Then, All-Star closer [Brad Hand](#) came on for a six-out save. He allowed a leadoff double to [Ozzie Albies](#) in the 8th but struck out [Dansby Swanson](#), Freddie Freeman, and [Nick Markakis](#) in succession to strand the talented Braves second baseman at second.

Hand then retired the side in a perfect ninth to record his 18th save of the season and preserve the victory.

Second inning makes all the difference

Down 1-0 heading into the bottom of the second, the Padres took the lead for good with two of their three runs on the afternoon.

[Hunter Renfroe](#) led off with a single through the left side of the infield off Braves starter [Mike Foltynewicz](#). Cory Spangenberg followed with an RBI triple into the right-center field gap to tie the game at one apiece.

After [Freddy Galvis](#) was unable to get Spangenberg home and [Raffy Lopez](#) walked, [Manuel Margot](#) lined an opposite-field base hit off the glove of Braves 2B Ozzie Albies to give San Diego the lead.

Coming into the game, Foltynewicz had only allowed two earned runs in his last 32 innings. The Padres did a good job of driving up his pitch count throughout his outing, forcing him to exit after only five innings (100 pitches). He struck out eight.

"Foltynewicz has been dominating people, stated manager Andy Green. "Sometimes you have to scratch and claw and fight. We put guys on base today, we had opportunities and cashed in on enough of them to beat a good starting pitcher."

Squeezing out a run in the eighth

In need of some insurance, the Padres mounted a rally against Braves reliever [Dan Winkler](#), who had ranked second among all MLB relievers with a 0.74 ERA entering play.

[Jose Pirela](#) got the inning started with a single up the middle. A soft Hunter Renfroe ground ball advanced Pirela to second. Cory Spangenberg followed with his second hit of the afternoon to advance Pirela to third.

Freddy Galvis delivered the Padres' third run of the ballgame with a safety squeeze, scoring Pirela.

Another series win

The Padres have won three series in a row for the first time since July 4-16 of last season.

Mound Marvels, Padres Bullpen Pitches Team to Win

5 San Diego Padres relief pitchers combined to allow just 4 hits and 1 run in a 3-1 win over the Atlanta Braves.

NBC 7 Staff

The San Diego Padres beat the Atlanta Braves 3-1 Wednesday thanks to a new baseball strategy called "bullpenning."

If a team is running short on traditional starting pitchers for whatever reason, more teams are turning to their bullpen for short stints rather than bring in a spot starter from the minor leagues or wherever. It's called "bullpenning."

Against the Braves, 5 Padres pitcher teamed up, allowing just 4 hits and 1 run.

Typically a relief pitcher, Matt Strahm started the game for the Padres. Strahm pitched 2.1 innings before giving way to Jose Castillo. Castillo worked 1.2 innings and earned the win, his first career major league victory. From there Adam Cimber pitched 1 inning, Kirby Yates went 2 inninings, then Brad Hand earned a 2 inning save.

After the Braves jumped ouut to a 1-0 lead on a Freddie Freeman home run, the Padres took the lead in the 2nd inning. Corey Spangenberg's triple plated Hunter Renfro to tie the game at 1, later Manuel Margot RBI single scored Spangenberg giving the Padres a 2-1 lead. The Padres added a run in the 8th.

The Padres will take a 29-35 on a 10 game road trip, which starts Friday in Miami against the Marlins.

2018 Draft Day Three: Padres to Draft Thirty Players in Final Day

The third and final day of the MLB Draft is always an interesting one as each team goes rapid fire through the final thirty rounds of available players. The Padres selected three players in [day one](#) and another eight in [day two](#). Here's who was selected by the San Diego ball club in the third and last day of the draft:

Round 11, Pick 321: Nick Gatewood, C, Georgia State
Round 12, Pick 351: Sean Guilbe, 2B, Muhlenberg HS (PA)
Round 13, Pick 381: Antoine Kelly, LHP, Maine East HS (IL)
Round 14, Pick 411: Erik Sabrowski, LHP, Cloud County CC
Round 15, Pick 441: Nick Thwaites, RHP, Fort Recovery HS (OH)
Round 16, Pick 471: Michael Curry, C, Georgia (GA)
Round 17, Pick 501: Hazahel Quijada, LHP, Univeristy of California—Riverside
Round 18, Pick 531: Dylan Smith, RHP, Stafford HS
Round 19, Pick 561: Ian Villers, RHP, Northgate HS (CA)
Round 20, Pick 591: Reiss Knehr, RHP, Fordham (NY)
Round 21, Pick 621: Mason Fox, CF, Gardner-Webb University (NC)
Round 22, Pick 651: Payton Smith, CF, Strom Thurmond HS
Round 23, Pick 681: Nelson Alvarez, RHP, Miami Dad CC South
Round 24, Pick 711: Pavin Parks, 3B, Kent St U
Round 25, Pick 741: Lee Solomon, 3B, Lipscomb U
Round 26, Pick 771: Tyler Mortensen, LHP, Davis Senior HS (CA)
Round 27, Pick 801: Gabe Mosser, RHP, Shippensburg U
Round 28, Pick 831: Jake Plastiak, 3B, Victor J Andrew HS
Round 29, Pick 861: William Duncan, RHP, Richardson HS
Round 30, Pick 891: Cullen Dana, LHP, Seton Hall U
Round 31, Pick 921: Jake Sims, RHP, St. Leo U
Round 32, Pick 951: Cody Tyler, LHP, Wichita State U
Round 33, Pick 981: Rainer Aguilar, U Redlands
Round 34, Pick 1011: George Arias, RHP, Tucson High Magnet School (AZ)
Round 35, Pick 1041: Jake Pfennigs, RHP, Post Falls HS (ID)
Round 36, Pick 1071: Will Freeman, RHP, Jones County JC
Round 37, Pick 1101: Ben Abram, RHP, Georgetown District HS (ON)
Round 38, Pick 1131: Michael Suarez, 1B, Miami Sunset HS

#PadresOnDeck: Tatis Honored; Pitchers Perdomo, Nix, Baez Sharp; Hitters Connect

By Bill Center

Tuesday was a bountiful day in the Padres minor league system.

The day began with 19-year-old **Fernando Tatis Jr.**, the youngest player in the league, being named the Texas League Player of the Month for May. Tatis hit .336 (41-for-122) with 12 doubles, two triples, seven home runs, 30 runs scored, 16 RBIs, 13 walks and five steals—for a .414 on-base percentage, a .639 slugging percentage for a 1.054 OPS.

Then three key starting pitchers turned in excellent performances while eight hitters ranked among the Padres Top-30 prospects had games of at-least two hits.

We start with the right-handed starting pitchers:

— **Luis Perdomo** came off the disabled list (shoulder inflammation) with Triple-A El Paso and gave up two runs on five hits and a walk with four strikeouts in five innings to lower his earned run average to 2.89.

— **Jacob Nix**, 22, the Padres' 12th-ranked prospect by the MLB Pipeline, made his second scoreless start of the season with Double-A San Antonio since coming off the disabled list (groin). He allowed two hits and a walk with four strikeouts over five shutout innings and now has allowed four hits and a walk with six strikeouts in nine scoreless innings. He received credit for his first win of the season.

— **Michel Baez**, 22, the Padres' fifth-ranked prospect, allowed a hit and no walks with eight strikeouts over six scoreless innings for Advanced Single-A Lake Elsinore. He is now 2–5 with a 2.84 ERA on the season.

Turning to the hitters:

— Tatis, who is ranked the [Padres' No1 prospect](#), was 2-for-4 with two runs scored to raise his batting average to .268 for San Antonio.

— Catcher **Austin Allen** (.330), the [Padres' №27 prospect](#), had two doubles in three at-bats with a sacrifice fly and two runs scored for San Antonio.

— Left fielder **Josh Naylor**, 20, was 2-for-4 with a run scored to raise his batting average to .317 for the Missions.

— Center fielder **Michael Gettys**, 22, the [Padres' №28 prospect](#), hit a two-run homer (his 10th) with San Antonio. He is hitting .263. It was the fourth homer in five games for Gettys, who is riding an 11-game hitting streak that has raised his batting average to .263.

— Center fielder **Edward Olivares**, 22, the [Padres' 18th-ranked prospect](#), was 3-for-4 with three RBIs and a steal for Lake Elsinore. He is hitting .260.

— Catcher **Luis Campusano**, 19, the [Padres' №22 prospect](#), was 2-for-4 with his third homer and two RBIs to raise his team-leading batting average to .297 for Single-A Fort Wayne.

— Shortstop **Gabriel Arias**, 18, the [Padres' №9 prospect](#), was 2-for-3 with a double, a walk, a RBI and two runs scored to raise his batting average to .208 for Fort Wayne.

— Center fielder **Jeisson Rosario**, 18, the [Padres' №17 prospect](#), was 2-for-5 with a RBI and is hitting .276 for Fort Wayne.

— And right-fielder **Tirso Ornelas**, 18, the [Padres' №13 prospect](#) was 2-for-6 with a double and a run scored raise his batting average to .273 for Fort Wayne.

El Paso made four roster moves Tuesday. Perdomo and right-hander **Jonathan Aro** were activated from the disabled list. Right-hander **Chris Huffman** was placed on the seven-day disabled list and right-handed reliever **Eric Yardley** was transferred to San Antonio.

Around the Farm:

TRIPLE-A EL PASO (28–31): OMAHA 6, Chihuahuas 5—RHP **Miguel Diaz**(0–2, 8.25 ERA) followed Perdomo and allowed four runs on five hits and two walks with four strikeouts in three innings to suffer the loss. C **Brett Nicholas**(.297) was 2-for-4 with a double, two

RBI and a run scored. 1B **Allen Craig** (.262) was 2-for-4 with a double, a RBI and a run scored. RF **Forrestt Allday** (.353) was 3-for-5 with a double and a run scored. LF **Shane Peterson** (.256) was 2-for-4 with a RBI. 2B **Carlos Asuaje** (.319) was 1-for-3 with a double, a walk and two runs scored. SS **Javy Guerra** (.198) was 1-for-3.

DOUBLE-A SAN ANTONIO (36–21): MISSIONS 5, Midland 4–3B **Ty France** (.267) backed Tatis, Allen, Naylor and Gettys, going 3-for-4 with two doubles and two RBIs. 2B **Peter Van Gansen** (.303) was 2-for-4 with a run scored. Five relievers followed Nix. RHP **Jason Jester** (2.48 ERA) allowed two runs on a hit and two walks with a strikeout in an inning. RHP **T.J. Weir** (13.50) allowed a run on a hit with a strikeout in two-thirds of an inning. RHP **Eric Yardley** (2.20) gave up a hit in one-third of a scoreless inning. RHP **Rowan Wick** (3.91) allowed a run on a hit and two walks with a strikeout in an inning. LHP **Brad Wieck** (2.45) struck out two in a perfect inning for his eighth save.

ADVANCED SINGLE-A LAKE ELSINORE (29–29): Storm 7, INLAND EMPIRE 0—The Storm's fourth-straight win boosted them to .500 and into first place in the Southern Division of the California League. RHP **Phil Maton** followed Baez with his first rehab appearance, allowing two hits and a walk with two strikeouts in a scoreless inning. RHP **Blake Rogers** (3.84 ERA) allowed a hit with two strikeouts in an inning. RHP **David Bednar** (4.00) allowed two hits with three strikeouts in a scoreless inning. 1B **Brad Zunica** (.235) backed Olivares with a two-run homer, his seventh of the season. SS **Kelvin Melean** (.242) was 2-for-3 with a walk and a run scored. LF **Buddy Reed** (.338) was 1-for-5 with two RBIs and a run scored. C **Luis Torrens** (.265) was 1-for-4 with a run scored.

SINGLE-A FORT WAYNE (26–30): SOUTH BEND 8, TinCaps 7 (11 innings)—Starting RHP **Mason Thompson** (5.82 ERA) allowed four runs (three earned) on six hits and no walks with four strikeouts in five innings. LHP **Aaron Leasher** (3.08) gave up two hits and a walk with eight strikeouts in four scoreless innings. LHP **Travis Radke** (0–2, 1.97) gave up four runs (one earned) on three hits with two walks in 1 2/3 innings to suffer the loss. DH **Justin Lopez** (.245) backed Campusano, Arias, Rosario and Ornelas, going 2-for-5 with a triple and a run scored. 1B **Jalen Washington** (.248) was 2-for-5. 3B **Luis Almanzar** (.188) was 1-for-4 with a walk and a stolen base.

DOMINICAN SUMMER LEAGUE PADRES (1–2): Reds 5, PADRES 2—DH **Brandon Valenzuela** (.429) was 1-for-4. RF **Cristian Heredia** (.250) was 1-for-4 with a RBI. Starting RHP **Carlos Guarate** allowed a hit and no walks with five strikeouts in three scoreless innings.