



Padres Press Clips

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Trade talk heating up about Padres pitchers

By AJ Cassavell

SAN DIEGO -- The Padres have pitching. The rest of the Majors needs pitching. It should be a busy final few hours for the San Diego front office ahead of Tuesday's non-waiver Trade Deadline.

Over the past few days, contending clubs have inquired about relievers [Craig Stammen](#) and [Kirby Yates](#) and starter [Tyson Ross](#), sources said. As of Monday afternoon, no deal was imminent. But it sounds like the club expects things to pick up as the clock ticks toward 1 p.m. PT on Tuesday afternoon.

Ross is the only pitcher of the three whose contract expires at the end of the season. He owns a 4.41 ERA in 21 starts this year. The starting-pitching market is thin, but it still seems doubtful that the Padres would get much in a deal for Ross straight up. It's more likely he's packaged with one of their back-end relievers.

Yates has been excellent this season and is under team control through 2020. Entering play Monday, he owns a 1.60 ERA in 41 appearances. He's served as the Padres closer since the deal that sent [Brad Hand](#) to Cleveland earlier this month.

As for Stammen, he's on a team-friendly contract through the 2019 season. He's posted a 2.63 ERA in 46 games and has served in a number of roles -- including multiple innings and late-inning fireman with runners on base. It's easy to see how he'd fit in a contending bullpen.

"It's natural to think of the future and what might happen and all that," Stammen said. "But in the end, I have no control over any of it. So I focus every single day on what I can do to help the San Diego Padres win."

Yates echoed that sentiment.

"The less I know, the better," Yates said. "I don't control any of it. I'm not really eager to get it over with. Maybe my wife is. But I'm just not focused on any of that."

Yates, Stammen and Ross -- the Padres' three most prominent trade chips -- will know their fates by 1 p.m. PT on Tuesday.

Padres force extras but haunted by bunt play

By AJ Cassavell

SAN DIEGO -- The Padres bunted themselves out of a potential game-winning rally in the 11th inning Monday night. The Giants homered themselves into the lead minutes later.

Small ball and long ball both bit the Friars, as they dropped their sixth straight, a 5-3 loss to San Francisco in 12 innings at Petco Park. [Gorkys Hernandez](#) launched a go-ahead solo homer off [Matt Strahm](#) in the 12th, before the Giants tacked on another with a [Buster Posey](#) blooper.

The Padres squandered their best opportunity in the 11th. With men on the corners and one out, [Austin Hedges](#) -- who has been red-hot at the plate and had two hits Monday -- attempted to squeeze the game-winning run home from third base.

"I just want to get the run in," Hedges said. "I have a lot of confidence in my bunting. I've always been a good bunter, in my opinion. Any time we've got a chance to win the game like that, I've got confidence in myself to do it."

[Sam Dyson](#)'s 0-1 fastball tailed in on Hedges' hands. The ball made contact near the handle of his bat and caromed back toward the mound. [Christian Villanueva](#) was forced to stay put at third base. Hedges, meanwhile, was out at first (on a nice pick by first baseman [Austin Slater](#)). The Padres stranded a pair when [Carlos Asuaje](#) struck out.

Afterward, Hedges revealed the bunt was of his own volition. Manager Andy Green didn't fault the decision-making.

"I have all the confidence in the world in him doing what he wants," Green said. "He's won baseball games for us in the past bunting, he's won baseball games for us swinging the bat."

Hedges said he made the decision to bunt after he fell behind in the count, 0-1.

"If that's ball one, I feel like that puts me in the driver's seat to drive that run in," Hedges said. "The fact that it's 0-1, I was still confident to put the bunt down."

Hernandez's ensuing homer rubbed salt in the wound. He demolished a 1-2 changeup from Strahm into the left-field seats.

This, after two consecutive innings in which the Padres came mere feet from winning the game at the same part of the ballpark. In the ninth, Carlos Asuaje flied out to the warning track. [Eric Hosmer](#) -- who went 2-for-4 and extended his hitting streak to seven games -- did the same in the 10th.

The cruel twist of fate: Either of those outs would've sufficed in the 11th. Instead, the Padres fell to 5-19 this month, assuring them of their lowest July win total in franchise history.

"There's no secret recipe," Hosmer said. "We have to come in, continue to battle. The season doesn't let up on you, the schedule doesn't let up on you. It's down to us to figure a way out, and that's what we're going to do."

TRADE CHIPS SHINE

If this was the last time [Craig Stammen](#) and [Kirby Yates](#) pitch for the Padres, the two righty relievers put on a show. Stammen worked the eighth inning and needed only nine pitches to retire the heart of the Giants' lineup in order. Yates followed with scoreless ball in the ninth and 10th.

It's easy to see how both could fit in a contending club's bullpen. In all likelihood, the Padres [will continue to field calls](#) on both Stammen and Yates in the hours leading up to today's 1 p.m. PT non-waiver Trade Deadline.

"It's a little easier to focus on your future once that date's passed," Stammen said. "But you know what? I've said this from the beginning: I've tried to really be where my feet are, take one day at a time, know that the next day isn't promised to me. That perspective came from being injured [in 2016] and out of the game. That's serving me well at this current time."

LAUER HOUR

Starter [Eric Lauer](#) was mostly solid, but he surrendered three runs on [Chase d'Arnaud's](#) second-inning homer. Lauer didn't allow another run, but he labored and threw 101 pitches before he was removed for a pinch-hitter after five.

"I did what I could've done to put up zeros and survive through the fifth, keep us in the game," Lauer said. "I would've been happier if I would've been able to survive longer, be a little more efficient."

YOU GOTTA SEE THIS

[Freddy Galvis'](#) savvy shortstop play earned the Padres two outs in the sixth inning. He cut down Slater at third base on a ground ball for the first out of the inning.

Then, a batter later, he ranged to his left and made a sliding play before turning and stepping on the second-base bag for an out. Initially, d'Arnaud was ruled safe at second, but replays overturned that call.

MITEL REPLAY OF THE DAY

Another game, another pickoff for Lauer. With two outs in the first, Lauer put [Evan Longoria](#) on base with a walk. But he erased Longoria just as quickly with a snap throw to first base. Longoria didn't slide and was initially ruled safe, but replays showed that Hosmer applied the tag before Longoria's foot touched the base. It was Lauer's 10th pickoff this season, which leads the Majors and is three shy of Bob Shirley's single-season record.

UP NEXT

It's been a rough July for [Clayton Richard](#), who has an 8.28 ERA and 20 walks in five starts since the beginning of the month. Richard needs a bounceback effort against the Giants on Tuesday at 1:10 p.m. PT. San Francisco counters with right-hander [Dereck Rodriguez](#).

Bochy thrilled to support Hoffman at Hall

By Katie Woo

SAN DIEGO -- Giants manager Bruce Bochy recorded his 1,906th managerial win Sunday, moving him into sole possession of 11th place on the all-time win list, although he didn't actually manage the game. He had a good excuse, though -- he was attending the Hall of Fame induction for his longtime friend, Trevor Hoffman.

Bochy, who managed Hoffman for 12 seasons in San Diego, embarked on a 24-hour cross-country trip from California to Cooperstown, N.Y., and back. He left San Francisco on a red-eye flight to Chicago on Sunday morning, caught a separate flight to Albany and drove 90 minutes to Cooperstown. He had just enough time for a quick shower before heading to the ceremony, but had plenty of time to attend Hoffman's celebratory dinner after, featuring about 50 of the newly minted Hall of Famer's family and friends.

That was about all he had time for, though. Bochy took an early-morning flight from Albany to Atlanta and arrived in San Diego around 11 a.m. PT before heading to Petco Park for the first of a two-game series against the Padres. Being there for Hoffman was well worth it.

"It was a special moment, it really was," Bochy said. "I was thrilled when he was voted in and I was thrilled I was able to attend the ceremony. I could go on and on about what Trevor means to me, not just the body of work he did as a closer, but the person. That's why it was really special to be there, because he means so much to me.

"I knew that if he got voted in, that would be the ceremony I was going to try to make," he said.

Bochy's run with Hoffman spanned 12 years, with the Padres winning the division three times and capturing the National League pennant in 1998. In that time, Hoffman posted 457 saves with a 2.58 ERA and was named to the NL All-Star team five times. Their relationship is so treasured that Bochy was the introduction video to Hoffman's speech, but neither of them knew until it started playing.

"For me, it was an honor," he said. "This is the ultimate milestone you reach in our game, it's a big part of it."

Failed bunts haunt Padres as latest skid hits six games

[Jeff Sanders](#)

Eric Lauer recovered after an early home run buried the [Padres](#). His bullpen followed him with six scoreless innings. There's no telling how many more they would have needed for the NL's lowest-scoring team snap what's now a six-game losing streak.

The Giants' [Gorkys Hernandez](#) led off the 12th inning Monday night at Petco Park with a solo homer in a 5-3 loss that rang especially hollow given San Diego's abundance of wasted opportunities at the plate.

The Padres stranded nine runners.

They went 0-for-9 with runners in scoring position.

Three times they failed to get bunts down in key spots.

The last was [Austin Hedges](#)' failed attempt at a suicide squeeze with runners on first and third and one out in the 11th.

But [Sam Dyson](#)'s 93 mph two-seamer ran in on Hedges' hands, the bunt bounced swiftly in the pitcher's glove instead of up the first base line and Carlos Asuaje struck out with runners on second and third to end the threat.

A half inning later, Hernandez deposited an 0-1 change-up into the second deck in left to start a two-run rally that sent the Padres to their second six-game skid this month.

"I've always been a good bunter," said Hedges, who'd already doubled, singled and score a run in helping the Padres tie the game by the eighth inning. "Any time we have a chance to win the game like that, I have confidence in myself to do that or drive the run in swinging, too.

“It just didn't work out.”

The bunt, Hedges said, was his call.

He went to the plate expecting to swing away but switched gears when Dyson's first offering – a 94 mph sinker – caught the inside of the plate for strike one. The Padres' 25-year-old catcher won a game last September in Colorado with a well-timed squeeze with runners on first and third.

“The first pitch being called a strike definitely set us back,” Hedges said. “It wasn't necessarily a good pitch. If that's Ball 1, I think that puts us in the driver's seat to drive that run in. The fact that it was 0-1, I was still confident to put the bunt down.

“It wasn't the best bunt. It's kind of the way it's going right now.”

Clearly.

With a runner on second and no outs in the fifth, Cory Spangenberg opted to bunt for a base hit as a pinch-hitter for Lauer and didn't reach. The 11th inning started with Strahm whiffing on three bunt attempts after Christian Villanueva led off with a single. Then Villanueva, at third base on [Freddy Galvis](#)' one-out single, didn't break for the plate when Hedges' bunt touched down on the third base side of the diamond.

In between all that, [Hunter Renfroe](#) hit his eighth homer, [Eric Hosmer](#) extended his hitting streak to seven games with a two-hit effort and the bullpen turned in six scoreless innings, but it was Hedges' last attempt at a bunt that cast the biggest shadow over the second six-game losing streak this month.

“It stings, I think, all the way around,” Padres manager Andy Green said. “Lauer gives up the three-run homer early in the game and manages to get through five and then our bullpen is lights out for the next five or six innings. A lot of guys did a lot of really good things today. We put ourselves in a good position in that inning with the first and third situation.”

Yet the third-year skipper deferred to Hedges' judgment over second-guessing his fourth-year big leaguer.

“In that situation you have a player with the ability to do both,” Green said. “You're just going to turn him loose to do both in the same situation.”

The really good stuff came from the bullpen.

Jose Castillo and Kirby Yates each turned in two scoreless frames, Craig Stammen turned in one and Strahm had added another when Hernandez opened the 12th with the go-ahead homer. The Giants added another run when [Buster Posey](#)'s pop fly to left field with runners on the corners fell in between [Wil Myers](#), [Manuel Margot](#) and Galvis.

The finish to Lauer's start helped curtail one disturbing trend: the worst month for Padres starting pitching in the Petco Park era.

He allowed all three runs on d'Arnaud's second-inning blast before turning in three scoreless innings to close his start, slightly lowering the rotation's July ERA to 7.11.

Briefly a Padre last year, d'Arnaud turned on an inside, 0-1 cutter after [Brandon Crawford](#) and Austin Slater opened the inning with back-to-back singles.

Lauer finished with three strikeouts, seven hits and three walks scattered over the 101-pitch start. His first walk – to [Evan Longoria](#) in the first inning – was erased via his 10th pickoff, four more than the next-best pickoff artist in the majors.

“I did somewhat what I could have done to put up zeroes and survive through the fifth, kind of keep us in the game a little bit,” Lauer said. “I would have been happier if I would have stayed in for the sixth ... or be a little more efficient with my pitches.”

Renfroe's solo homer opened the fourth inning, interrupting Derek Holland's string of seven consecutive outs.

The Giants left-hander stranded Jose Pirela's two-out double that frame and allowed only one run in the fifth-inning trouble that began with Hedges' double and continued when Hernandez muffed the catch left while running toward the warning track to catch up with Manuel Margot's hard line drive.

Margot was credited with a sacrifice fly on the error and went 0-for-5 to snap a career-best 10-game hitting streak.

Wil Myers was 0-for-6 with four strikeouts.

Padres in place to be buyers and sellers

[Kevin Acee](#)

Padres General Manager A.J. Preller and most key members of the team's personnel department have spent the past five days at a hotel near the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

"It's kind of good to kind of get away from it all," Preller said Monday. "There have been a lot of baseball fans around, so you've got to be a little careful."

Preller and his assistants and a number of the organization's top scouts have spent most of the time hunkered down at the hotel amidst the lush green trees of upstate New York, debating the cases for keeping or jettisoning certain prospects and talking over the wisdom of acquiring other team's minor and major leaguers. They will remain there through Tuesday's 1 p.m. PT trade deadline.

In weighing their offers for Kirby Yates and Craig Stammen and [Tyson Ross](#) and determining the value of [Chris Archer](#), they have also attended events put on by the team in advance of Sunday's Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Preller even set aside his phone for (most of) Sunday afternoon to watch Trevor Hoffman and five others give their induction speeches.

"There were a few times I looked down at the phone," Preller said. "But for the most part it was let me sit back and enjoy this. It's definitely not every day you get to sit there and see the legends of the game. ... Honestly, it was an amazing atmosphere. It definitely made putting the phone down for a few hours worth it."

It was certainly the longest he has done so in recent weeks.

Even at an event Friday, Preller spent much of the time outside talking on the phone. He arrived late to the team's big shindig Saturday at an upscale brewery and left well before the fireworks at night's end.

There has been and remains a lot to sort through.

Whether that leads to something ...

"We'll see what happens," Preller said.

While Preller said he felt the Padres have been both buyers and sellers in previous years, this summer has brought a new level of legitimacy to the idea of the team actually bringing in major-league players that could one day help them win.

That's because their stockpiling of quality prospects has reached a point where other team are interested in pilfering some of that young talent.

The biggest unknown is when and who the Padres are willing to deal.

According to multiple sources familiar with what the Padres have discussed over the past week, teams have inquired about virtually every one of the Padres' top prospects – from Fernando Tatis to Josh Naylor to Luis Patino.

"With the depth we have in the system," Preller said, "we can participate in a lot of conversations."

He would not confirm any names involved in talks the Padres have conducted but said, "The fact we've been receiving calls, it gives confirmation some of the clubs like our players."

The trick for the Padres is deciding who they want to let go and who they want to keep, because they have declared a number of their prospects off-limits to teams.

That, of course, complicates things.

If chatter – both from inside and outside the organization – is a reliable barometer the Padres' most significant target is Tampa Bay starting pitcher Archer, who at 29

years old and with a manageable contract that runs through 2021 is seen as an upgrade to the rotation now who can still help them win when they expect to be good.

But the Padres have repeatedly told the [Rays](#) certain players are off-limits, and there is ongoing debate inside the organization about which players should remain untouchable.

Preller has generally set and stuck to a high price for what prospects other teams will have to give up to get Padres players, and he evidently carries the same philosophy when dealing his own prospects for other teams' major leaguers.

“It’s now trying to sort through and figure out who are the guys we want to (keep) and whether we want to make moves for guys performing in the big leagues right now,” Preller said.

Yates, Stammen and Ross have blossomed into trade targets with Padres

[Jeff Sanders](#)

Nobody wanted Kirby Yates – Boston’s draft-and-follow prospect out of Kauai High in 2005 – after he blew out his elbow two games into his freshman season at Yavapai College.

The [Rays](#) sold his rights for cash considerations after developing him as a non-drafted college senior. Then the Indians sold him, the Yankees waived him and so did the Angels.

Truth be told, Yates doesn’t see a whole lot of point to thinking about rumors that he could be on the move again. The 31-year-old reliever, however, will allow that the mere idea of him as a target acquisition for a playoff run is further validation of his place among the game’s premier relievers.

“I don't want to sit here and say I want to be traded – that's definitely not the case,” Yates said. “But from where I was a few years ago to being claimed off waivers to getting designated three or four years in a row or whatever it was, I guess I have been pitching pretty well.”

Yates is not alone in his path to relevancy.

The [Padres](#) shipped their most desirable asset to the Indians coming out of the All-Star break, turning [Brad Hand](#)’s rags-to-riches rise into one of the top prospects in the organization. Hours before Tuesday’s 1 p.m. trade deadline, the organization’s remaining movable pieces – Yates, reliever [Craig Stammen](#) and starter [Tyson Ross](#) – have seen their stock rise considerably since breathing new life into their careers in San Diego.

Like Hand, Yates emerged from a waiver-claim gamble to become a formidable weapon in the back of a bullpen that’s also seen the 34-year-old Stammen turn last year’s minor league offer into a two-year extension.

Ross' situation was even more dire after the Rangers released him last fall after throwing up a 7.71 ERA in his first 49 innings off surgery to correct thoracic outlet syndrome.

He's since turned a minor league deal and a [spring training](#) invite into a \$1.75 million deal in the majors and chatter that he could help a playoff run, although that talk died off a bit as Ross' ERA ballooned to 8.87 ERA in July.

"I was on the couch last September," the 31-year-old Ross said. "I worked my tail off all offseason and came into camp happy to have an opportunity and I'm trying to make the most of it."

Stammen, too, was derailed by surgery – on his elbow – after three strong years in the back of the Nationals' bullpen.

He pitched five innings in 2015, was non-tendered that December and was waiting for the phone to ring.

The offers he got were minor league deals from the Indians in 2016 and the Padres last year.

Today, Stammen is among the bullpen options teams are considering after posting a 2.94 ERA, a 132 strikeouts and 1.16 WHIP in 131 2/3 innings over his two seasons in San Diego.

"I guess it's always nice to be wanted," Stammen said. "I went through free agency. I went through being non-tendered. There's teams that want you on their team and there's other teams where it's just crickets."

He added: "I thought I was going to have the surgery, dominate the rehab and I'd be back to normal. That wasn't the case. It took a while to get back to normal, to even feel remotely healthy and then it took a couple organizations to give me a chance to get healthy."

Likewise, the Padres – in the midst of a rebuild – were more than willing to give Yates a chance when they claimed him last April.

His splitter developing into an elite out pitch, Yates' 12.94 strikeouts per nine innings is eighth best among qualifying relievers the last two years. His resume this year – a 1.60 ERA, 50 strikeouts and an 0.89 WHIP in 39 1/3 innings – is as attractive as both his affordability and sensibility.

Yates is making \$1.062 million this year and won't be a free agent until after the 2020 season, adding to the notion that the Padres could opt to continue to reap the rewards of their reclamation project if their asking price isn't met.

Not that Yates worries about any of that.

Yes, it's nice to be wanted.

That usually comes with the territory when you're producing.

"I know this is where I've always thought I could be – in this kind of position," Yates said. "I've always felt like I was better than what I was doing. I'm not sitting in the big leagues anymore saying I could be better.

"It's, this is as good as I've ever been in my career with the intent to keep getting better."

Padres notes: Wil Myers at third? Bochy's travels

Jeff Sanders

Before the [Royals](#) drafted him in the third round in 2009, [Wil Myers](#) was headed to the University of South Carolina as a third baseman.

He grew up playing third base.

Myers even thinks he could do it in the majors (a 27-year-old in the prime of a big league career rarely lacks the confidence to do anything).

But the early work on the left side of the diamond before Monday's game, Myers said, was just an opportunity to get the blood pumping in a different manner.

"I like to do it for my footwork," said Myers, the [Padres](#) first baseman until the [Eric Hosmer](#) signing pushed him back into the outfield. "It keeps me athletic. So I was just out there taking grounders."

Myers was smiling as he spoke.

Maybe because, to the casual observer, Monday's afternoon session looked a bit more involved than previous Myers sightings in the infield.

For one thing, infield coach [Josh Johnson](#) was hitting Myers grounders, first on his knees in foul territory and then on the dirt at the hot corner. Myers took several grounders in fair territory without making throws to first base, then progressed from feigning throws to first base to actual throws across the diamond.

At one point, **Carlos Asuaje** looked to be handing out pointers upon joining the early-work rotation.

“I wouldn’t read too much into that,” Padres manager **Andy Green** said. “But like I said a while ago, Wil’s a crazy athlete. There’s nothing he couldn’t do. If he ended up over there or at shortstop one day it wouldn’t shock me.

“He’d be capable.”

Myers thinks so, too.

Because of course he does (he also has played the position 15 times in the minors and once in the majors).

“I was going to play South Carolina to play third,” he said. “That was my position growing up. If it comes to that, maybe I will. For now, it’s just for fun.”

Bochy’s travels

[Giants](#) manager [Bruce Bochy](#) was among those who joined **Trevor Hoffman** in Cooperstown for Sunday’s induction into the Hall of Fame.

The journey cost Bochy – the first active manager who was not a Hall-of-Famer (yet) to attend an induction, according to USA Today – only one game.

To pull it off, Bochy boarded a plane after Saturday’s loss to the Brewers at AT&T Park. He caught a connection to Albany in Chicago and then drove an hour-and-half to reach Cooperstown by 11:30 a.m. Sunday.

It was just enough time to check in, shower and head to the ceremony. He rejoined his team in San Diego by 11 a.m. Monday.

“It was special – it really was,” said Bochy, Hoffman’s manager from 1993 to 2006. “I was thrilled when he was voted in and I was thrilled I was able to attend the ceremony. I could go and on about what Trevor means to me. Not just the body of work as a closer but the person. That’s what it was really special to be there, because he means so much to me.”

Column | No surprise — Bochy logged 6,000 miles to support Hoffman

[Tom Krasovic](#)

Bruce Bochy had to be there for Trevor Hoffman, even it meant leaving his post and traveling 6,000 miles over two days.

Hoffman's induction into the Hall of Fame was some 2,900 miles away from San Francisco, where Bochy was supposed to manage his [Giants](#) club — but Hells Bells if Bochy was going to miss this.

So, Bochy got permission from his bosses to go to Cooperstown, took in the ceremony, and then went to San Diego to catch up with his team.

This was as surprising as Hoffman, back in the day, throwing a first-pitch strike.

Here's how it worked when the two were on the same [Padres](#) team: Hoffman had Bochy's back, and Bochy looked out for Hoffman.

Launch to their careers

Go back to 1996 and the streets of Chicago

Bochy was walking off yet another Padres defeat, .

The Padres were a good team in a bad way, and Bochy, a man of dry humor, mused out loud that if they didn't get back on track soon, Larry Lucchino was going to get rid of him.

The Padres snapped out of it, and it was Hoffman who played a big role in the team going on to win the [National League West](#).

Not only did he pitch well as a closer, he worked hard to build the know-how and fitness of the relief corps as a whole.

The 1996 bullpen would lead the [National League](#) in ERA, and Hoffman would close out the final three games at Dodger Stadium to collect the franchise's first playoff berth since 1984.

If the Padres had fallen short of the postseason, by no means was it certain that Bochy would've kept his job.

The top bosses, owner John Moores and Lucchino, in effect inherited Bochy two offseasons earlier when they bought the team.

Lucchino was said to have wanted someone who had more personality, a la Earl Weaver, the former Orioles firebrand.

General Manager Randy Smith had lined up Bochy for the managerial job, his first in the big leagues, but Moores and Lucchino had to sign off.

There would be no five-year rebuild. It was understood that the Pads had to win on the field to build support for a new ballpark.

Hoffman was just getting settled into his role as a closer.

Smith had traded for him during the 1993 season in the infamous Fire Sale.

What outsiders didn't know was that Hoffman, in Bochy's first season at the helm, pitched despite a soft-tissue tear in his shoulder.

He had opted to postpone the surgery until after the 1995 season. He recorded 31 saves and an adjusted ERA that was average, good enough for a franchise that made stride a year after finishing deep in last place.

The young closer supported Bochy behind the scenes, too, no small thing in a big-league clubhouse.

After his shoulder was repaired, Hoffman came back in 1996 to have a very good season. He worked 88 innings, the most in his career. He had a 2.25 ERA, 42 saves and a 0.920 WHIP.

Bochy, for his part, earned Hoffman's praise on several fronts.

The closer often lauded him for his leadership and consistency. And he singled Bochy out for not getting greedy early seasons with how he used the closer. Bochy, he said, understood how to play the long game.

Bochy couldn't have imagined that Hoffman's career would span 18 years, but it seems almost certain that he contributed to his longevity.

Coupled with the long-range view of seasons was the one-inning-per-outing restriction that Bochy loosely placed on Hoffman.

For his career, Hoffman would exceed one inning in only nine percent of his save attempts.

Bochy and Hoffman were part of 12 Padres teams including four West champions. Their contributions in 1996 and 1998, when the team reached the [World Series](#), played a role in San Diegans voting for a ballpark measure that led to the construction of Petco Park.

"Trevor means so much to me," Bochy said Sunday at Cooperstown, in [comments to Jayson Stark of The Athletic](#). "It's not just about what he did on the field. Man, we're close friends – and remain that. We get together a lot. Shoot, I saw his kids grow up. And he made an impact on me, you know, with the things he did on the field and the clubhouse. So I wanted to show my appreciation."

Bochy stands to get his own bronze bust someday, due to the three World Series titles he led the Giants to from 2010 to 2016.

It was Bochy's handling of pitchers, especially relievers, that Giants General Manager [Brian Sabean](#) singled out when he hired the manager after the 2006 postseason.

Forecasts are tricky, but here's one with short odds. If Bochy is inducted into the Hall, count on Hoffman making it to Cooperstown for the ceremony.

The numbers tell the tale: Bochy wore 15; flip the digits, and you have Hoffman's 51.

Baseball Hall of Fame: Bruce Bochy skips game, endures travel odyssey to support Trevor Hoffman

[Bob Nightengale](#), USA TODAY

COOPERSTOWN, N.Y. - It took two flights, from San Francisco to Chicago to Albany, N.Y., a 90-minute layover, a 1 hour, 15-minute car ride, and after traveling all night and morning, San Francisco Giants manager Bruce Bochy finally got to Cooperstown for his first Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

"I had to be here," Bochy said. "I couldn't miss this."

Bochy managed Hall of Fame closer Trevor Hoffman, and coached with Alan Trammell with the San Diego Padres, and despite a sleepless night, says it was all worth it. Bochy is the first active manager who's not a Hall of Famer to attend the ceremonies.

It's the first time Bochy has been to Cooperstown since the Padres played in the exhibition Hall of Fame Game in Cooperstown, and he was sued. Bullpen catcher Mark Merila, a former All-American second baseman from the University of Minnesota, played in the game and hit a foul ball that struck a woman in the face. The woman sued Bochy, he said, for using a minor leaguer instead of a major-league player.

The lawsuit was dropped. The memory lives.

Bochy says he started thinking about leaving the Giants for the induction when Hoffman was elected in January, and then asked for permission three weeks from the Giants' front office, which was granted by GM Bobby Evans and vice president Brian Sabean.

"They were really supportive of this," Bochy says. "I didn't know if managers ever did this. You wonder if it's the right thing to do. But they made it easy for me. Trevor meant too much to me. This man had a great impact on me. The things he did on the field and in the clubhouse, I wanted to show my appreciation."

It also eased any discomfort that Minnesota Twins manager Paul Molitor, a Hall of Famer, also attended the ceremony in support of teammate Jack Morris. The only other active managers to attend were ones who were inducted the same day.

The way Bochy figures it, as long as he's in Cooperstown, he was going to pray to the baseball gods with his team having lost three consecutive games, falling to 7 ½ games behind the Los Angeles Dodgers in the NL West.

"Hey, we lost three in a row, we got to change our luck," Bochy said. "I'm in hallowed grounds now. Maybe this will help."

Hernandez's HR in 12th, leads Giants to 5-3 win over Padres

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Their early 3-0 lead long gone, the San Francisco Giants got some big plays late to had the free-falling San Diego Padres their sixth straight loss.

Gorkys Hernandez hit a go-ahead home run leading off the 12th inning, Will Smith struck out the last four San Diego batters and Austin Slater had a big play at first base as the Giants beat San Diego 5-3 Monday night.

"Great win," manager Bruce Bochy said. "We had the lead and give them credit, they found a way to come back. But we hung in there with some gutty efforts there by everybody. We've had some tough losses, so it's good to win one like this on the road. Hard-fought by all those guys out there."

The Padres had runners on first and third with one out in the 11th and failed to score. Instead, they dropped to 2-8 since the All-Star break and lost for the 13th time in 15 games. San Diego is 5-19 in July.

With runners on first and third in the bottom of the 11th, San Diego's Austin Hedges bunted for the second out. Pitcher Sam Dyson fielded it and made a low throw to Slater, who picked it out of the dirt. Freddy Galvis advanced to second, but Christian Villanueva wasn't able to score from third.

"He threw it low and Slater picked us up," Bochy said.

Will Smith (1-1) came on and struck out Carlos Asuaje. He then struck out the side in the 12th.

"That's big. The winning run's on third," Smith said. "You definitely don't want to cash in your buddy's runs, that's for sure. You've got to bear down and make some good pitches there."

Hernandez homered to left on a 1-2 pitch from Matt Strahm (2-3), his 13th. The Giants got another run on Buster Posey's fielder's choice blooper.

Watching the ball go out was "awesome, because we had the lead," Smith said. "Twelfth inning like that, a game we really need to win, that was a big momentum swing. The dugout was loud, pumped up. He crushed it, so it was a big jolt for us."

The Giants had a scoring chance in the 10th, when Andrew McCutchen was hit by a pitch from Kirby Yates with two outs. He took third when Buster Posey's comebacker caromed off Yates' glove and the pitcher threw it away at first for an error. However, Yates got out of the jam when Evan Longoria popped up to second base.

Asked if Hedges bunted on his own, manager Andy Green said: "That situation right there I've got confidence in him swinging the bat and I've got confidence in him laying the bunt down. So he's got the ability to do both, and that one just didn't work out for us."

San Diego tied it with one out in the eighth when rookie Christian Villanueva doubled in Eric Hosmer, who singled with one out.

The Giants took an early lead on Chase d'Arnaud's three-run home run after rookie lefty Eric Lauer allowed singles to Brandon Crawford and Austin Slater opening the inning. It was the fifth for d'Arnaud, who played 22 games with San Diego last year.

San Diego cut into the deficit on Hunter Renfroe's leadoff homer in the fourth, his eighth, and Manuel Margot's fly ball off the glove of left fielder Hernandez in the fifth. Margot was credited with a sacrifice fly and Hernandez with an error. It brought in Austin Hedges, who hit a leadoff double and advanced to third on a sacrifice.

Derek Holland pitched into the sixth inning for the Giants, allowing two runs and four hits, with five strikeouts and two walks. He was lifted after walking Hosmer leading off the sixth.

Lauer went five, allowing three runs and seven hits, with three strikeouts and two walks.

FULL DAY

Joe Panik had two at-bats for Triple-A Sacramento before flying to San Diego after being recalled by the Giants. He popped up as a pinch-hitter in the eighth.

QUICK TRIP

Bochy arrived in San Diego at about 11 a.m. Monday after attending the Hall of Fame induction of former Padres closer Trevor Hoffman on Sunday. "It was a hit and run," Bochy said of going coast-to-coast twice in just more than 48 hours. He took a redeye Saturday night after the Giants' game in San Francisco, arriving in Cooperstown, New York, at about 11:30 a.m. He stayed in Cooperstown Sunday night to attend a dinner with Hoffman's family and friends. Bochy managed Hoffman for 12 years with the Padres. Bench coach Hensley Meulens managed the Giants to an 8-5 victory Sunday against Milwaukee.

HOT CORNER

Padres outfielder Wil Myers was taking grounders at third base before the game. Green said not to read too much of it. Still, Myers, San Diego's first baseman before Eric Hosmer was signed, could be a defensive upgrade over Villanueva.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Placed RHP Johnny Cueto on the 10-day disabled list with a sprained right elbow. Bochy said there's a "strong possibility" Cueto will need reconstructive surgery. INF Pablo Sandoval (strained right hamstring) also went on the DL.

UP NEXT

Giants: Rookie RHP Dereck Rodriguez (5-1, 2.75 ERA) is scheduled to start the matinee series finale. He didn't factor in the decision in his start against San Diego on June 24, a 3-2 Giants win in which he held San Diego to one run and four hits in seven innings.

Padres: LHP Clayton Richard (7-10, 5.05) is 0-2 with a 14.63 ERA in his two starts since the All-Star break. He didn't factor in the decision in either of his starts against the Giants this year.

This Day in Padres' History—

July 31

By Bill Center

July 31, 1979—Right fielder **Dave Winfield** goes 5-for-5 with a double, a homer, four RBIs and four runs scored in the Padres 10–3 win in Atlanta. In his final at-bat, Winfield becomes the first Padre ever to get hits in eight straight at-bats.

July 31, 1982—Right fielder **Sixto Lezcano** goes 6-for-7 with three homers and seven RBIs as the Padres sweep a doubleheader in Cincinnati.

July 31, 1988—Right fielder **Tony Gwynn** is named the National League Player of the Month for July. Gwynn hit .406 in July with three homers, 17 RBIs and 16 runs scored.

July 31, 1995—The Padres trade pitcher **Andy Benes** to Seattle for pitcher **Ron Villone** and outfielder **Marc Newfield**.

July 31, 1996—Left fielder **Greg Vaughn** acquired from the Milwaukee Brewers in a trade for pitchers **Ron Villone** and **Bryce Florie** and outfielder **Marc Newfield**.

July 31, 2002—**Phil Nevin** hits two of five Padres homers in an 11-inning Padres win over the Cubs at Wrigley Field. Nevin and **Mark Kotsay** both homer in the top of the 11th. Padres pitchers also tie a franchise record for an extra-inning game with 20 strikeouts.

July 31, 2005—Padres broadcaster **Jerry Coleman** formally inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y., as the winner of the Ford C. Frick Award.

July 31, 2009—Right-handed pitcher **Jake Peavy** traded to the Chicago White Sox for four pitchers, including left-handed starter **Clayton Richard**.

July 31, 2011—The Padres trade right-handed relief pitcher **Mike Adams** to the Texas Rangers for minor league starting pitchers **Robbie Erlin** and **Joe Wieland**.

#PadresOnDeck: LHPs, Logan Allen, Ben Sheckler, RHP Colin Rea Sharp in Shutout Losses

By Bill Center

Three Padres minor league affiliates were shut out Monday night although each got an excellent outing from their respective starting pitchers.

— Right-hander **Colin Rea**, 28, had his best outing since having “Tommy John” elbow reconstruction surgery in 2016, allowing two hits and two walks with 10 strikeouts in five shutout innings for Triple-A El Paso to lower his earned run average to 6.19.

— Left-hander **Logan Allen**, 21, who is ranked the [Padres' No. 8 prospect by MLB Pipeline](#), allowed two runs on five hits and a walk with four strikeouts over six innings for Double-A San Antonio. He fell to 10–5 with a 2.62 ERA.

— And left-hander **Ben Sheckler**, 23, allowed one run on three hits and a walk with three strikeouts in five innings for Single-A Fort Wayne. He fell to 1–3 with a 3.39 ERA.

Around the Farm:

TRIPLE-A EL PASO (58–49): OKLAHOMA CITY 2, Chihuahuas 0— RHP **Kazuhisa Makita** (2.30 ERA) followed Rea and allowed a hit and two walks with three strikeouts in two scoreless innings. RHP **Erik Johnson** (0–2, 9.00) suffered the loss, giving up two runs on three hits and a walk in the bottom of the eighth to end a scoreless tie. C **Francisco Mejía** (.333) was 1-for-3 with a walk. LF **Shane**

Peterson (.267) and 3B **Diego Goris** (.261) were each 1-for-3. RF **Franmil Reyes** (.327) and 1B **Brett Nicholas** (.305) were each 1-for-4.

DOUBLE-A SAN ANTONIO (21–16, 63–44): CORPUS CHRISTI 3, Missions 0 — RHP **Miguel Diaz** (2.10 ERA) followed **Logan Allen** and gave up a run on four hits in two innings. DH **Nick Schulz** (.158) was 1-for-3. CF **Buddy Reed** (.167) was 1-for-4 as the Missions were held to two hits.

ADVANCED SINGLE-A LAKE ELSINORE (19–19, 53–55): The Storm was off Monday.

SINGLE-A FORT WAYNE (16–20, 48–57): BOWLING GREEN 1, TinCaps 0 — RHP **Evan Miller** (2.32 ERA) followed Sheckler and struck out two in two perfect innings. RHP **Dylan Coleman** (1.04) allowed a hit in a scoreless inning. DH **Luis Almanzar** (.177) was 1-for-2 with a hit-by-pitcher. CF **Jeisson Rosario** (.280) was 1-for-4 as the TinCaps were held to two hits.

SHORT-SEASON SINGLE-A TRI-CITY (3–4, 21–24): BOISE 11, Dust Devils 10 — 1B **Luis Asuncion** (.275) had a double and a home run in five at-bats with two RBIs and two runs scored. C **Blake Hunt** (.246) was 3-for-5 with three RBIs and two runs scored. SS **Owen Miller** (.337) had two doubles in four at-bats with a walk and two runs scored. LF **Grant Little** (.270) was 2-for-5 with a RBI and a run scored. DH **Michael Curry** (.222) had a two-run double in five at-bats. CF **Tre Carter** (.237) had a double in five at-bats with a RBI and a run scored. 3B **Kelvin Alarcon** (.200) was 1-for-4. RF **Dwayna Williams-Sutton** (.250) had a double in five at-bats with a run scored. Starting RHP **Cole Bellinger** (1–4, 6.96 ERA) gave up eight runs on nine hits with a strikeout in two innings to take the loss. RHP **Korey Anderson** (3.21) had three strikeouts in two perfect innings. LHP **Ramon Perez** (3.27) allowed a hit in two scoreless innings. RHP **Wen-Hua Sung** (8.74) allowed two runs on three hits and a walk with two strikeouts in an inning. RHP **Diomer Lopez** (1.83) allowed an unearned run on a hit with a strikeout in an inning.

DOMINICAN SUMMER LEAGUE PADRES (25–23): Diamondbacks 5, PADRES 4 (10 innings)—SS **Bryan Torres** (.232) was 3-for-5 with a stolen base, two RBIs and a run scored. 2B **Luis Paez** (.216) was 2-for-5 with a run scored. 3B **Victor Nova** (.222) was 2-for-4 with a run scored. Starting RHP **Mauricio Rodriguez** (2.27 ERA) allowed an unearned run on four hits and four walks with two strikeouts in five innings.

ARIZONA ROOKIE PADRES:

PADRES-1 (14–17): The Padres game at the Rangers was suspended in the top of the second by strong winds.

PADRES-2 (16–16): The Padres game at the Reds was suspended after two innings by strong winds and a power failure with the Padres leading 2–0 on a two-run single by RF **Yordi Francisco**.

Giants aim to add to Padres' July agony

STATS

SAN DIEGO — Having extended several Padres' marks for futility, the [San Francisco Giants](#) have a chance to make San Diego's lengthy summer a bit longer Tuesday afternoon at Petco Park.

The Giants defeated the Padres 5-3 in 12 innings Monday night, marking the 17th time in 18 series openers at home this season that the Padres have lost. That alone, however, does not tell the whole story. The Padres lost a sixth straight game for the second time in a span of 15 games (2-13) and fell to 8-29 since June 15.

Now they have a chance to finish July with a 5-20 mark, which, percentage-wise, would be the second-worst monthly mark in the 50-season history of the Major League Padres. The expansion team of 1969 went 5-22 in August.

Giants right-hander [Dereck Rodriguez](#) (5-1, 2.75 ERA) will try to end the Padres' July on another losing note as he's paired against Padres left-hander Clayton Richard (7-10, 5.05 ERA).

Rodriguez, a 26-year-old rookie, will be facing the Padres for the second time this season (and in his major league career). On June 24 at AT&T Park in San Francisco, Rodriguez held the Padres to one run on four hits over seven innings but did not factor into the decision.

Rodriguez has made 11 appearances for the Giants and nine starts. The Giants are 7-2 in his starts. Rodriguez is 4-1 with a 2.91 ERA in his starts and 1-0 with a 1.42 ERA in two relief appearances that covered 6 1/3 innings. He has worked a total of 59 innings, allowing 21 runs (18) earned on 53 hits and 15 walks for a .236 opponents' batting average and a 1.15 WHIP. He has allowed two runs or less in each of his last six starts.

At the age of 34, Richard is the veteran leader of the Padres' staff, although he has struggled of late — losing four straight decisions over his last six starts. The Padres are 1-5 during a run that has seen Richard give up 28 runs on 36 hits and 18 walks with 16 strikeouts in 32 innings for a 7.88 ERA and a 1.69 WHIP.

Richard's problems have only grown in his first two starts since the All-Star break. He has allowed 13 runs on nine hits and six walks in just eight innings.

Before the start of his slide on June 27, Richard had a 7-6 record with a 4.23 ERA in 16 starts. His ERA has climbed 0.82 since.

Richard will be facing the Giants for the fourth time this season. He is 1-1 after his first three starts and has given up 13 runs (12 earned) on 18 hits and seven walks with 13 strikeouts in 15 innings — for a 7.20 ERA and a 1.67 WHIP.

During the course of his career, Richard has faced San Francisco 23 times (20 starts) and is 7-8 with a 4.50 ERA, a 1.449 WHIP and an opponents' batting average of .289. He has pitched 118 innings against the Giants and given up 65 runs (59 earned) on 133 hits and 38 walks with 58 strikeouts.