



Padres Press Clips

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Hunter Renfroe battles to get it right

Kevin Acee, SDUT, 2/28/18

Hunter Renfroe's first hit of the spring shot 410 feet into a breeze and was just descending when it bounced off the batter's eye beyond the center field wall.

The feeling is Renfroe will need more of that kind of hitting to retain his spot in the Padres' lineup.

Believe it or not, the former first-rounder draft pick's status is one of the biggest "ifs" hanging over spring training.

Renfroe has flashed the talent — certainly the power and arm — to suggest he will be a solid big-leaguer. What the Padres are looking for is championship-caliber players, and Renfroe has some work to do to be more complete.

The 26-year-old set a Padres rookie record with 26 home runs in 2017, but he swatted at far too many bad pitches. His strikeout rate of nearly 30 percent was higher than his on-base percentage.

And his inability to hit right-handed pitchers made him almost a liability on many nights, an unfortunate circumstance he was placed in due to injuries elsewhere in the outfield not allowing him to platoon.

"There wasn't much of a time last year where we soft-served him," manager Andy Green said. "He went up there against everybody. We didn't take him out of the lineup, we didn't platoon. We didn't try to make it easier on him."

It is possible, if not probable, that this season Renfroe would be part of a platoon in one of the corner outfield positions (whichever one Wil Myers isn't playing). Franchy Cordero, Alex Dickerson and Travis Jankowski all bat left-handed, and Jose Pirela does well enough from the right side. Pirela is a virtual lock to be on the team as both an outfielder and infielder, and one of the three left-handed bats figures to as well.

In the meantime, Renfroe works to improve. It's a little early to say where he is in that progress.

Renfroe's mammoth homer Monday was off Angels left-hander Tyler Skaggs. On Tuesday against Seattle, he grounded into a double-play against lefty James Paxton and hit into a fielder's choice against right-hander Christian Bergman. He is 0-for-8 against righties this spring, though he has hit a couple sharp outs.

"I've had good at-bats against righties," Renfroe said. "I think it's going good."

Against right-handed pitching in 2017, his batting average was 114 points lower, his on-base percentage was nearly 150 points lower, and his slugging percentage was hardly more than half what it was against left-handers. He hit a home run every 22 at-bats against righties versus every 10.4 at-bats against lefties.

Unfortunately, right-handed pitching is far more prevalent. Renfroe's .202/.244/.393 line against righties came in 349 plate appearances. In 130 appearances against lefties, he went .316/.392/.684.

Hitters aren't wired to concede. Renfroe doesn't see the adjustment he has to make — a relatively subtle shift in his stance so he sees the ball differently coming from the right side — as prohibitive.

More than anything, he acknowledges the grind of his first big-league season was overwhelming.

"It was tough," he said. "I was ready to go. But about the middle of the year it started draining on me. I was tired. My body started wearing down."

The Padres noticed as Renfroe came up through the minors and even all the way back to college, he was a far better player in his second go-round at each level. He didn't play much as a freshman and wasn't on anyone's radar until just before his junior season at Mississippi State and was the 13th overall pick 12 months later.

He also hit right-handers pretty well in the minors, including a .306/.336/.557 line in 2016 at Triple-A El Paso.

Major league fastballs move and generally don't cross squarely over the plate. Big-league breaking pitches veer more sharply. Pitchers and coaches are smarter. The positioning of fielders is based on computers full of data.

“You get used to everything going on,” Renfroe said. “It’s a big learning experience. ... You’re trying to figure out what you need to work on. I’ve tried to do that, and it has worked so far.”

Padres spray hits, win again in Cactus League

Kevin Acee, SDUT, 2/27/18

Score: Padres 11, Mariners 6

Batter's box: Hitting in the No. 2 spot, Freddy Galvis followed up his two-walk game Monday with a double and single Tuesday. He was finally retired on a strikeout in his fifth plate appearance of the spring. ... Infielder Luis Urias, expected to start the season in Triple-A but certainly with a chance to play in San Diego in 2018, hit his third double of the spring. The 20-year-old is 3-for-6. ... Minor league outfielder Franmil Reyes hit his second homer in as many days. ... After totaling 15 hits in their first three games, the Padres had 13 Tuesday after having 14 Monday.

Balls and strikes: Clayton Richard, the presumptive opening day starter, threw a perfect second inning after giving up a hard single and two-run homer in the first. He didn't make it out of the first inning in his spring debut last year. ... Joey Lucchesi, the team's No. 9 prospect, per Baseball America, walked two in two scoreless innings. ... Eric Lauer, who with Lucchesi is a candidate to be promoted to San Diego at some point this season, allowed two runs on three hits and two walks in two innings.

Extra bases: Galvis scooped a bouncing backhand flip from Jose Pirela to turn a double play to end the first. ... Pirela, expected to spend time at second and left field this season, made a nice play going across the grass to his right and throwing back across his body to get a runner in the second inning. He did essentially the same thing in the fifth. ... Right fielder Wil Myers got a good jump and robbed a would-be double in the gap. ... Reyes, who led Padres minor leaguers with 25 homers at Double-A San Antonio in '17 but needs to improve defensively, made a diving catch in right field.

On Deck: Dodgers, 12:10 PT at Peoria Sports Complex. Dinelson Lamet, whose rotation spot is close to certain, will make his spring debut. Hard-throwing minor league reliever Trey Wingenter, who struck out three of the four batters he faced Sunday, is scheduled to pitch as well.

Hosmer, Padres show how it should be done

Kevin Acee, SDUT 2/27/18

Single. Single. Single scores a run. Double scores another run. Fielder's choice. Three-run homer.

That's how an inning is supposed to go.

Yes, it was only one inning in a spring training game.

But it was the first spring training game played as a Padre by the man who is supposed to help make things go this way more often.

"I think the main thing we're trying to focus on is team-related, having a game plan," Eric Hosmer said after a Cactus League debut that featured an RBI single in his second at-bat. "That was one thing in Kansas City. The individual accolades are nice and everybody strives to get those. Something we realized over there is those things didn't come until after we made the playoffs. The year after we went to the World Series we had five All-Stars, couple Gold Gloves, couple Silver Sluggers.

"That's the main thing we're trying to get across to guys — you don't do it by going out individually and hitting .300. You play the team game, and that's how the individual accolades come about."

So not every inning will go like that. The specifics of an 11-6 victory over the Mariners on Tuesday are not the point.

But that there was an inning like that is the point.

That new shortstop Freddy Galvis, hitting second in the order, got the above-mentioned five-run fourth-inning started by hitting a single to right field after fouling off three full-count pitches is the point. That Wil Myers followed with a single and Hosmer came to the plate with men on base is the point. That Austin Hedges hit a home run with two men on base is the point.

"It's hard to put up a five-spot on five solo home runs," said manager Andy Green, whose club ranked last in the majors in on-base percentage and runs scored in 2017 in large part because the

solo homer was its specialty. “It’s a lot easier to do it on a walk here, a base hit here. and that’s kind of how it works.”

Last season, the Padres hit 189 home runs, which ranked 23rd in the majors. However, 120 of those came with no one on base, and their 1.48 runs per home runs were ranked 29th, better than only the San Francisco Giants.

The acquisition of Hosmer was largely motivated — among other factors — by his ability to get on base. His career-high .385 on-base percentage in 2017 would have led Padres starters by almost 40 points. (His career OBP of .342 would have ranked second on the Padres in ’17.)

The anticipation of this is what precipitates Green’s preliminary envisioning of the batting order. Hosmer batted cleanup Tuesday, his usual spot in the Royals’ order the past two seasons, but will likely do so only occasionally in ’18.

“It’s probably going to be a lot more 3 than 4 as the season unfolds,” Green said. “... You just want to get the guys you want up at the dish as many times as possible. It’s not 100 percent set in stone. We’ll watch how the lineup plays out. If (Carlos) Asuaje or (Cory) Spangenberg or Galvis is doing unbelievably well in the 2 hole and getting on base for those guys, we might like a 3-4 setup with him and Wil.”

While lineups in spring are not to be dissected too keenly, the top of the order Tuesday — Manuel Margot, Galvis, Myers and Hosmer — may have offered a sneak peek at one of the alignments Green is pondering.

Galvis, whose OBP last year jumped 35 points to a career-high .305, was hitting second in part to get him some quick plate appearances as he was playing a second straight day early in spring. But, also, Green was employing a little psychology.

“I told Freddy today, ‘You walked twice yesterday. You’re up high in the lineup,’ ” Green said. “Just reinforcing that message.”

Galvis rapped a first-inning double the opposite way after fouling off two full-count pitches. His single to lead off the big fourth innings came after three fouls on a 3-2 count.

“The guys at the top of the order — I’m assuming Manny and Freddy will be up there — two guys who can run, they can put together professional at-bats,” Hosmer said. “Whether it’s 3 or 4, it’s both good spots and a good position to drive in some runs.”

If it goes like it did that one inning his first time in the lineup.

Eric Hosmer to make Padres debut in cleanup spot, likely to move

Kevin Acee, SDUT, 2/27/18

The next step toward the Eric Hosmer era has begun.

The first baseman will make his spring training game debut Tuesday against the Seattle Mariners (12:10 PT, Fox Sports SD), batting cleanup.

In that sense, he might have another step to take.

“It’s probably going to be a lot more three than four as the season unfolds,” manager Andy Green said of the batting order. “... You just want to get the guys you want up at the dish as many times as possible. It’s not 100 percent set in stone. We’ll watch how the lineup plays out. If (Carlos) Asuaje or (Cory) Spangenberg or (Freddy) Galvis is doing unbelievably well in the two hole and getting on base for those guys, we might like a 3-4 setup with him and Wil.”

Hosmer batted primarily cleanup in recent years for the Kansas City Royals, for whom he hit 25 home runs each of the past two seasons.

He joins a team that has trouble getting on base, which is clearly a point of emphasis for the Padres.

The lineups in spring are not to be too dissected. Often, it is about getting a player up to hit multiple times as quickly as possible before pulling him.

That played into why Galvis is hitting second, as he played four innings yesterday in his spring debut. However, after Galvis got on base in both plate appearances hitting fifth Monday, Green took advantage of the situation with a little psychology.

“I told Freddy today, ‘You walked twice yesterday. You’re up high in the lineup,’ ” Green said. “Just reinforcing that message.”

Depending on the flow of the game, Hosmer will likely get up twice Tuesday in four innings.

As Eric Hosmer set to debut, Tatis is among future Padres to have gotten big jump

Kevin Acee, SDUT, 2/27/18

Fernando Tatis Jr., who turned 19 two days into 2018, has more at-bats than any Padres player through four spring training games.

The organization's top prospect and the youngest player in any major league camp, Tatis hit a home run in his second at-bat. He struck out in the at-bat before that opposite-field blast and all three times up the next day. He is 1-for-11 with five strikeouts.

He's learning first-hand what he has been told for years.

"They're not going to give you your pitch that much," Tatis said. "You have to be ready. When you get your pitch, you can't miss it. ... I'm glad I'm getting to experience it now. I have to go back and work hard and be ready next time."

That's the idea.

One way the Padres' different approach to building a team and preparing for this season of growing has manifest is in how Andy Green set his lineup in early spring games.

Where Padres pitchers faced a larger dose of projected starters and veteran utility guys, the Padres trotted out prospect after prospect after prospect.

"It's a unique thing," Green said. "Other teams are running their six-year free agents. We're running 17, 18, 19-year-olds."

On Monday, right fielder Wil Myers and shortstop Freddy Galvis made their spring debuts. First baseman Eric Hosmer will bat cleanup Tuesday afternoon against the Mariners in his Padres debut. Third baseman Chase Headley, pushed back after taking a grounder off the middle finger of his throwing hand, hit in the cage Tuesday morning and will practice Monday with his likely Cactus League debut Wednesday.

When that happens, every projected starter will have played. And only the major-leaguers slowed by injury will have not made an appearance.

The kids aren't done playing. Tatis, Luis Urias, Josh Naylor and Austin Allen all subbed in Monday. The top pitching prospects are just getting going.

It is just time to start getting the actual San Diego Padres ready for the actual San Diego Padres season.

To this point, it has mostly been readying for the future.

Through the first three games of the spring, exactly half of the Padres defensive innings were manned by position players who have virtually no chance of making the opening day roster, with most having no chance of playing for the big club at all in 2018.

Of the 200 possible innings, 100 were played by guys who have never appeared in a major league game.

The prospects getting this ample experience include four teenagers (Tatis, Jeisson Rosario, Gabriel Arias and Hudson Potts) who played a combined 33 innings in those first three games and another (Esteury Ruiz) who pinch ran.

It also included two 20-year-olds who have never played above Double-A. One of those is first baseman Josh Naylor, who has two singles and a walk in his six plate appearances.

What he'll take back to the minors is a wealth of understanding of how the game is best played.

“You just watch every other player on the field, and they're just kind of calm and chilled out,” Naylor said. “They're just kind of enjoying it, where some of us might get too excited, too anxious, try too hard to do something. ... You learn how to slow it down, take it pitch-by-pitch instead of getting too anxious. You learn how to relax and have fun while you're playing the game.”

The Padres planned all along to do this. It's an invaluable part of the process – a baptism into the deep waters of big-league speed and smarts that can be talked about but never fully understood until one has played in such a game.

“You just give them a chance to be on the field,” Green said. “Honestly, just being over here, when they go into next year will accelerate their process of believing they can do it and acclimate them to me and the coaching staff. We just expose them to this sort of thing.”

Padres' Eric Hosmer makes positive first impression, on and off the field

Dennis Lin, The Athletic, 2/27/18

PEORIA, Ariz. — His debut over, Eric Hosmer walked alongside a new friend as they departed Peoria Stadium. The Padres' exhibition against the Mariners had not yet finished, but spring training can be a leisurely setting. Substitutions had been made. Players from both teams, done for the afternoon, streamed through a gate beyond the right-field corner.

Hosmer, the Padres' new first baseman, and Randy Jones, the franchise's first Cy Young Award winner, trailed the pack. Nearly four decades separate the two men, but on the day of their first meeting, they had found a common thread.

Jones, in uniform for his role as guest instructor, wore No. 35 on Tuesday and throughout his playing career. Hosmer wore No. 35 during seven seasons in Kansas City. Last week, he joined the Padres and switched to No. 30 in homage to late Royals pitcher Yordano Ventura. Hosmer had learned that Jones' number is retired in San Diego.

"I told him I would not even think about taking that from him," said Hosmer, who alternated between deference and levity. "I was messing with him about his windup. He said he wanted a baseball card with me doing it. It was fun to get to know him today."

Hosmer's knowledge of the Padres predates his recent signing. His agent, Scott Boras, represents catcher Austin Hedges and several of the organization's top minor leaguers. Hosmer traveled to San Diego multiple times during the winter, and General Manager A.J. Preller visited him in South Florida.

With his arrival in camp, Hosmer's education has progressed to full immersion. A week ago, he fielded questions during an introductory press conference. A few hours later, he took the field for the Padres' first full-squad workout.

Manager Andy Green, recognizing the circumstances, allowed Hosmer to ease into game action. Hosmer made his first appearance in a Padres uniform in Tuesday's 11-6 victory, going 1 for 3 with an RBI single. During the previous three games, he looked on as a slew of young prospects were exposed to Cactus League competition.

"We were messing around the other day," Hosmer said. "We had an infield that wasn't old enough to buy a drink yet."

"To watch the videos and just read up on these guys was extremely helpful. . . . That's one thing, but to get out here and get on the field with them and see how they go about it, it fires you up as a player, because the talent's real."

Hosmer's \$144 million contract, a franchise record, tasked him with leadership on two fronts. Coming off a season in which he hit .318 with a .384 on-base percentage, he will anchor a young lineup. Tuesday, he batted cleanup, though Green indicated that the first baseman will see more time in the three-hole.

“We might like a 3-4 setup with him and Wil (Myers),” the manager said.

As well, Hosmer is expected to guide the clubhouse, soon to be stocked with precocious faces. The setting may be different, but the challenge is familiar.

“I feel that I can be the veteran presence that can help them, just kind of give them heads-up on what the league has in store for you, how to make adjustments and all that stuff,” said Hosmer, who helped spearhead the Royals’ rise to consecutive World Series trips. “It’s going to be fun.”

Myers, another Kansas City draftee, previously spent three springs with Hosmer. Their reunion pushed the former from first baseman to outfielder, but Myers has welcomed the move. On Tuesday morning, he spoke excitedly of his latest assignment.

“If we can rally around each other and take pride in that, I think we will be one of the best outfields in baseball,” said Myers, whose enthusiasm has not gone unnoticed.

“I know the competitor he is and he wants to win,” Hosmer said. “That was one of the things that really fired me up. Getting to visit (San Diego), they said Wil reached out and said he was more than willing to play right field. It fires me up.”

Notes

It is not etched in stone that Myers will be the opening-day right fielder, but Hosmer’s comment supplied more proof of the Padres’ preference. Myers made his second consecutive start at the position, and his day included a lunging interception of a ball in the gap. . . . Hedges and outfield prospect Franmil Reyes each hit their second home runs of the spring. Catcher Raffy Lopez, in competition with A.J. Ellis for a reserve role, homered and doubled. . . . Left-hander Clayton Richard made his spring debut, starting the game and allowing two runs over as many innings. Prospect Joey Lucchesi also debuted, logging two scoreless innings.

Pirela shows promise in 1st appearance at 2B

AJ Cassavell, MLB.com, 2/27/18

PEORIA, Ariz. -- After a torrid second half last season, **Jose Pirela** probably has his roster spot locked up already, but there might not be a single player with a bigger impact on the club's roster competitions this spring.

Pirela made his first appearance at second base during the Padres' 11-6 victory over Seattle on Tuesday. Last season he played only 39 innings at second, but the Padres are committed to giving him a longer look there in 2018. He made two very nice plays ranging to his right, but short-hopped a double-play turn in the first inning.

If Pirela proves proficient enough at second, that opens opportunities for manager Andy Green to tinker with his lineup in a number of ways. Pirela spent almost all of 2017 in left field, but **Eric Hosmer's** arrival has cluttered things.

With **Wil Myers** shifting to right, the Padres have a backlog of outfielders eyeing the starting left-field job. Pirela is at the forefront, but his versatility could clear the way for **Hunter Renfroe** to receive more at-bats (or perhaps **Franchy Cordero** or a healthy **Alex Dickerson**).

It also means the Padres may have a third option at second base, where **Cory Spangenberg** and **Carlos Asuaje** are battling for a job. Both are left-handed hitters, and Pirela's powerful right-handed presence would make for a nice complement.

"[Pirela] made some really nice plays, and if you watch ground balls, he looks fine," Green said. "I don't have a ton of concern there. The more reps we can get him, the better he'll be. We'll just look for ways to optimize our lineup this year, and if that means him bouncing in to second base against left-handed pitching, then that's what it means."

In 2017, Pirela posted a .288/.347/.490 slash line with a team-leading 122 OPS+. But throughout his career, he's been a defensive liability -- much more so at second base than in left field.

For now, Green isn't too concerned with Pirela's ability to transition, although he did acknowledge the challenges.

"He's an offense-first player," Green said. "When you divide his defensive reps, it makes it that much harder on him. It's that much more work to be sound in both situations."

Hedges powers up

Catcher **Austin Hedges** has played two spring games, and he's homered in both. Apparently, those offseason swing changes have already begun to pay off.

Hedges -- who entered camp with a revamped swing, one that limits the movement in his hands and allows him to see pitches better -- capped a five-run fourth inning with a no-doubt three-run homer on Tuesday.

"Good early returns," said Green. "I like where he is right now. I think he likes where he is. He's squared up some baseballs."

Lefty prospects take the mound

Ranked **eighth and ninth**, respectively, in the Padres system, **Eric Lauer** and **Joey Lucchesi** took the mound for the first time this spring on Tuesday afternoon. Neither has a serious chance of breaking camp with the big league club, but midseason callups certainly aren't out of the question.

Lauer looked sharp early, freezing **Robinson Cano** with a 3-2 fastball for a strikeout looking, but he hit the wall in his second frame, and allowed two runs on three hits over 1 2/3.

Lucchesi, meanwhile, worked around a one-out walk in the fifth before tossing a 1-2-3 sixth.

Camp battles

- **Raffy Lopez**, locked in a battle with **A.J. Ellis** for the backup job behind Hedges, homered in the sixth and smashed a double to right in the eighth. In three games this spring, Lopez is 2-for-4 with a pair of walks.

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- Cordero, eyeing a backup spot in the outfield, has recorded extra-base hits in three of his four games, including a double on Tuesday.

Injury update

- Spangenberg is day to day after jamming his wrist during a workout over the weekend, but the Padres don't expect him to be out long.

- Third baseman **Chase Headley** (bruised finger) participated in the team's workout on Tuesday morning. Presuming no further setbacks, he'll likely debut on Thursday.

Up next

The Padres have sky-high hopes for **Dinelson Lamet** in 2018. The 25-year-old right-hander was dominant at times during his rookie season, and now he'll be looking to add a measure of consistency. Lamet takes the ball for the first time this spring when the Padres host the Dodgers on Wednesday at 12:10 p.m. PT on MLB.TV.

Hosmer makes great impression in SD debut

AJ Cassavell, MLB.com, 2/27/18

PEORIA, Ariz. -- **Eric Hosmer** arrived at the Peoria Sports Complex on Tuesday morning, checked the lineup card in the corner of the clubhouse and felt that familiar feeling in the pit of his stomach: pregame jitters.

He's had that feeling hundreds of times, but never as a Padre. After 10 years in the Royals organization, Hosmer made his first appearance for San Diego on Tuesday, and he made a solid first impression, going 1-for-3 with an RBI single against a split Mariners squad.

"You can't really translate anything on a practice field to what that game-like situation is," Hosmer said prior to the game. "I'm excited to see how it feels, get back in the box, get back in that groove."

Hosmer batted fourth on Tuesday, but don't get used to that. Skipper Andy Green said Hosmer will most likely bat third during the regular season, and understandably so. His .318/.385/.498 slash line would have led the Padres in all three categories last season.

Hosmer, one of the offseason's most coveted free agents, inked an eight-year deal worth \$144 million last week. He is guaranteed \$105 million of that before an opt-out clause he structured into the deal becomes available after 2022.

Hosmer played all 162 games for Kansas City last season and tied a career high with 25 homers. The Padres host the Royals on Friday afternoon.

"The first couple days was weird," Hosmer said. "The hardest part was just putting names to faces. It was a lot of 'Bud' and 'Boss' going around, because I wasn't sure of names. As far as players go and the staff here, I'm already extremely comfortable with these guys. I really think the message that Andy and the coaching staff have sent to the team is the right one."

Padres' Hosmer gives Hoffman Rolex after receiving No. 30

Jerry Crasnick, ESPN, 2/27/18

PEORIA, Ariz. -- Eric Hosmer earned a reputation as a first-class teammate over seven seasons with the Kansas City Royals. It didn't take his new club in San Diego long to find out why. Hosmer was grateful when Padres third base coach Glenn Hoffman gave up his No. 30 uniform jersey as a sign of goodwill at the start of spring training, so he recently surprised Hoffman with a Rolex watch at the Padres' complex in Peoria.

Eric Hosmer had 127 home runs and 566 RBI in seven seasons with the Royals. Hosmer wore No. 35 in Kansas City, but that jersey is retired in honor of Padres Hall of Famer Randy Jones. Hosmer wanted to wear No. 30 in San Diego as a tribute to his late Royals teammate Yordano Ventura, who died in a car crash in the Dominican Republic in January 2017. But he needed the go-ahead from Hoffman to make it happen.

"Like I said to Hoffy, it was extremely meaningful for me," Hosmer said Tuesday. "So I wanted to get a nice gesture for him. It's an unwritten rule throughout the league that if a veteran guy comes and asks for a number and somebody has it, you do something like that for him."

Hosmer declined to comment on the cost of the Rolex, but he said a "friend in Kansas City" helped pick out the gift. Hoffman has since switched to jersey No. 26.

"I bet there were a lot of coaches who were mad they didn't have '30' after that," Hosmer said, laughing.

After a long winter of waiting, Hosmer signed a franchise-record eight-year, \$144 million contract with the Padres a week ago. He is expected to bring veteran leadership, on-base ability and solid defense to a young San Diego team that exceeded expectations with 71 victories last season. He went 1-for-3 with an RBI single in his Cactus League debut against the Seattle Mariners on Tuesday.

Hosmer spent part of the day getting acquainted with Jones, who is roaming the back fields in uniform this week. Jones, known as the "Junk Man" for his soft-tossing repertoire, went 22-14 with a 2.74 ERA for the Padres and won the National League Cy Young Award in 1976.

"I was messing with him about his windup, and he told me he wants a baseball card of me doing it," Hosmer said.

As Hosmer acclimates to Padres camp, he is particularly encouraged by the surplus of young talent in the organization.

"The other day we had an infield that wasn't old enough to buy a drink yet," Hosmer said. "The wave of talent we've got coming up is pretty special to watch. It's one thing to hear about

prospects and all that. To see the (young position players) and the arms as well, it gives you a lot to look forward to."

Padres score 11 runs as Hosmer makes debut

Staff, FSSD, 2/28/18

PEORIA, Ariz. — For the first time in his career, Eric Hosmer took a professional at-bat in a San Diego Padres uniform. The Padres' most coveted free agent pickup of the offseason made his spring training debut Tuesday, going 1-for-3 with an RBI single against the Seattle Mariners' split squad.

Hitting fourth in the Padres' lineup, Hosmer roped a single to right field scoring another free agent pickup in short stop Freddy Galvis. The Friars would go on to score five runs in the inning, highlighted by an Austin Hedges' three-run home run to center field.

The Padres also got home runs from catcher Raffy Lopez and outfielder Franmil Reyes.

The Padres play the Los Angeles Dodgers Wednesday afternoon, with the game available on FOX Sports San Diego at 12:00 p.m. PT.