



Padres Press Clips

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Marlins beat Padres in Memorial Day repeat

[Kevin Acee](#)

In a rematch of a game played less than two weeks ago, in which both teams' lineups remained essentially the same, the [Padres](#) got a pair of promising doubles, but also got doubled up and lost for the second time.

More than anything, a 4-0 loss to the [Marlins](#) on Friday night in the opener of a three-game series was mainly due to an inability to repeat the type of execution they had time and again in winning seven of their previous nine and 15 of their past 24 games.

"Basically, what we've done for the last few weeks," manager Andy Green said, "we didn't do well today."

None of Green's in-game machinations paid off Friday – not that pulling every lever perfectly would have changed the outcome for a team that failed to get a run despite three times having a runner in scoring position with fewer than two outs.

Padres rookie starter Eric Lauer did better Friday than in his first game against the Marlins, but Miami rookie Caleb Smith was again more than good enough to earn his second win in 12 days against the Padres.

All eight of the Padres starters from a 7-2 defeat on Memorial Day at Petco Park were back in the lineup Friday, with only [Hunter Renfroe](#) and [Christian Villanueva](#) switching places in the third and fourth spots.

Smith (5-6) allowed one run on three hits in seven innings on May 28. Friday, the Padres got four hits off the lefty but failed to score before (or after) he departed with a 3-0 lead but with the bases loaded and one out in the sixth.

With right-handed side-armer [Brad Ziegler](#) replacing Smith, [Cory Spangenberg](#) pinch-hit for Villanueva. Green said the move was based on Spangenberg's history against Ziegler, which included a walk-off home run in 2014.

Spangenberg hit the first pitch he saw back to Ziegler, who threw home to start an inning-ending double play.

That was essentially the Padres' last gasp – after they had blown two chances to strike the game's first blow.

Eric Hosmer, playing in his hometown against the team he grew up rooting for, missed a home run by a couple feet in the first inning. After settling for his 19th double of the season, which tied him for the [National League](#) lead, the generally extremely heady Hosmer was doubled off second when he ran too far toward third on a routine one-out fly ball to left field by Hunter Renfroe.

"He just thought the ball would get down," Green said. "It's one of those times you make a mistake on the base paths. That hasn't been his history. That's not the type of baserunner he is. He's very smart, very aggressive, makes good decisions. He made a mistake."

[Manuel Margot](#)'s double down the left field line started the third inning. A sacrifice bunt by Lauer moved Margot to third. Jose Pirela struck out and Hosmer's line drive to right fielder [Brian Anderson](#) ended the threat.

The Marlins mixed up their batting order a bit, but seven of the eight position players starting Friday also started May 28. This time, they didn't get Lauer (2-4) out of the game until he'd completed five innings, more than double the 2 1/3 he went on May 28.

After Lauer's major league-leading sixth pick-off of the season ended the third inning, he allowed two runs in the fourth. The second of those came after he intentionally walked No.8 hitter Yadiel Rivera to get to Smith, whose first hit of his career was also his first RBI.

Lauer would walk in a third run on his second-to-last batter, one that Green consciously allowed him to face despite the rookie lefty struggling and approaching what would end up a career-high 111 pitches.

"You want to see him get through five, at least, in that situation," said Green, who also knew Lauer's spot in the order was first up the next inning. "You want to give him an opportunity at times to test him. ... That was one of those

situations we're already down. You want to see him rise up and get through five innings."

Said Lauer: "I was really happy that Andy let me stay in there and battle through that. It was a good learning experience for me. ... Being able to work through tough situations is something I need to do, so I was really happy he left me in."

The repeat series continues Saturday. The Padres took the final three in a four-game series against the Marlins last week – and with the same pitchers scheduled to go for both teams in the next two games, [Tyson Ross](#) against [Dan Straily](#) on Saturday and Clayton Richard against Jose Urena on Sunday.

The Padres will have to take the next two if they are to win their fourth straight series, something they have not done since August 2015.

Padres notes: For Ross, it's first batters first; Franchy getting close

Kevin Acee

Tyson Ross knew he had a problem, and he wanted to quantify it.

So after his worst start of the season, in which he allowed four runs in the sixth inning of what was at the time a 1-1 game against the Nationals on May 7, Ross requested some data from the Padres' baseball numbers crunchers.

"How often do I give up runs in innings where the leadoff runner gets on?" he asked.

What he found out was that seven of the nine times he had allowed the first batter in an inning to reach base, that runner scored. And in eight of those nine innings, at least one run scored. Of the 19 runs he had allowed, 11 came in innings when the first batter reached base.

"I was scuffling to get through a lot of innings, so I asked for that info," Ross said. "I saw it in black and white – OK I need to get the first guy out."

Ross, who starts Saturday against the Marlins, has been the Padres' most consistent starter – and the best at retiring the first runner in an inning. Opponents are 8-for-62 with nine walks and two hit batters when leading off an inning against Ross. That .129 batting average against Ross is fourth-lowest in the majors.

Ross (5-3, 3.13 ERA) has allowed just 28 runs in 70 2/3 innings, but 20 of those runs have come in innings in which the lead-off runner has reached base.

"I've really tried to bear down on the first guy," Ross said. "I can tell the difference in the outing just because something as simple as getting the lead-off guy on limits the damage – pretty much exponentially for me."

Pitchers explain that it is not so much the number of pitches as the number of pitches in stressful situations (runners on, especially in scoring position with less

than two outs) that wears them out. It is the preponderance of those situations that diminishes durability within games and over the course of a season.

"If it takes three singles for them to score a run ... that's fine," Ross said. "I'll take my chances with them trying to string together three hits to score versus a guy getting on and then they can bunt him over and things like that to produce a run.

"You're going to have jams and situations you're going to have to work out of. Those things happen. But if you can help yourself out and know the value in getting the lead-off guy out and how it can translate to low-stress innings, that's a huge thing."

Another rotation vacancy

The Padres will again need a pitcher (or many) to fill in for Joey Lucchesi on Tuesday in St, Louis, as the rookie left-hander continues to work back from a hip strain that has sidelined him since May 15.

"It could be anybody in that bullpen right now and it could be anybody in Triple-A," Andy Green said. "...It's going to depend on how the days leading up to it stack up."

Twice in Lucchesi's absence, the Padres have gone with a "bullpen game." Robbie Erlin started once, and Walker Lockett was called up for one start. Wednesday's 3-1 victory over the Braves, in which Matt Strahm was the first of five relievers to pitch, was the only one of the four games the Padres won.

Franchy close

Outfielder Franchy Cordero began swinging a bat Friday and will likely begin a rehab assignment soon. "He should be moving aggressively toward getting back – today being one of the big days for him," Green said. "We'll see how he looks the next few days hitting."

Padres mailbag: roster crunch; buyers or sellers; Paddack, Allen, Urias promotions

Kevin Acee

The [Padres'](#) recent success has caused many, including the team, to ponder what happens if the winning continues into July.

But prospects are never far from our thoughts.

As the Padres begin a 10-game road trip that starts a [month of wandering](#), let's discuss Brad Hand, [Tyson Ross](#), Logan Allen, Luis Urias ... and whether this team's players have anything in common with the franchise's all-time great.

Do the Padres have an impending rule 5 draft/40 man roster crisis? If so, who are they most likely to promote/release/protect?

Yes.

That's why I've been [writing about it](#) for a while. Figuring out how to make the puzzle pieces fit is a large part of what this season is about.

Chris Paddack, Anderson Espinoza, Trey Wingenter, Pedro Avila, Austin Allen, Michael Gettys, Brett Kennedy and some kid named Luis Urias are all subject to the Rule 5 Draft this year. Next year brings even more names.

This is big.

How many more K's can Paddack put on the stat sheet before he's promoted to a higher level? Do you see him going to San Antonio or El Paso after Lake Elsinore?

This is what they will address over the next few weeks.

[Paddack](#) will move up, almost certainly to Double-A.

(I've been excited about this kid since they traded for him. Not that I even knew his name before they got him, but because of the way they talked about him

then. It was basically like, "Oh well, he has to have Tommy John surgery. That's OK. We'll wait. He's that good.")

It's not just Paddack either. Multiple prospects will be promoted soon. The Padres have shown they won't hold a guy back in the lower levels.

Logan Allen is the intriguing one. They are discussing whether he would benefit from a little time in [Triple-A](#) before getting the call up.

Why Trade Ross when you barely have 4 starting pitchers (veiled Luchessi question)

Is this the most rookies on one Padres roster?

To be clear, from a personal perspective, I am not pushing to trade Tyson Ross. Absolutely fantastic guy. They benefit from having him, and so do I.

That said, he will be 32 next year. If a contender needs a guy who will give them six-plus innings with a real chance to win almost every start and comes calling with enough, they will trade him.

The argument for keeping him is that he isn't going to break the bank next year. This is a new baseball economy. But, heck, they could trade him and sign him back.

This is not the most rookies. They have used 14 rookies this season (at least one game) and had used 15 at this point last year. They ended up with 23 rookies having appeared in at least one game.

With this team clearly in a rebuilding year, but also in a poor division, if they are within 5 games of 1st place at the deadline, do they buy/hold/sell? #padres

That's a tough one. Five? If you had said two, I would have jumped at "buy."

Five probably depends on how they're playing and how the rest of the division is playing and what sort of offers they are getting – and maybe a little bit what sort of veteran is out there they think would put them over the top.

Since I like to give a definitive answer when possible, I will say "hold" if they are five out. That's my educated guess.

But even then, it is not that black and white. I still think they'd sell if someone wowed them. Five is a lot of games back — especially if it is five games back with multiple teams ahead of them. They certainly will not mortgage the future for that.

I'm in favor of holding onto Hand for our upcoming 'window.' He's 28 and he's ours thru 2020 with club option in 2021. Do you want to talk me out of that opinion?

I don't want to, but I will at least half-heartedly advocate the other side.

While Hand is completely affordable (\$14.7 million total in '19 and '20, club option for \$10 million in '21), he could bring a haul. And I believe that is what it would take to get him. A.J. Preller held out on [Craig Kimbrel](#), and it would make even more sense for him to do that here.

What to do with Janko? He's been playing great, deserves to start...but I don't see him in the long-term plans. What do you think the pads can get for him? Now or at the deadline. It's glaring considering Margot's struggles at plate and on defense.

Great question. I believe this has surprised them – Jankowski's emergence and Margot's struggles.

I get the sense they are still waiting to see which of the two is real – Jankowski being on base 35 percent of the time or Margot hitting .200.

Jankowski is certainly available, though I don't know what that market is.

How's Wil's recovery going?

He's working every day without setback. The nature of the oblique and back strains mean they'll be extremely diligent/cautious. He hasn't played baseball since April 28. We're still looking last part of this month, at the earliest. [Here's a story.](#)

Do any of the "hot lava kids" with the big league team, put in extra work like that guy from the statue did when he was a young player?

How hard this team works is not an issue.

I have written a lot about how hard they work – including the overwork that contributed to Austin Hedges' and Hunter Renfroe's injuries. I won't mention more here, because I would inevitably leave someone out. And I haven't written about it more, only because at some point it sounds trite when the team is losing.

Tony Gwynn's hard work wouldn't have become the stuff of legend if he weren't hitting .340 every year. Results create more talk about the process, and fans are more receptive to that talk when the results are there.

And the "hot lava" hasn't arrived yet. There's talent on this team, but it's not the talent [Scott Boras was referring to](#).

[Chances the Padres or any team signs Luke Heimlich?](#)

This was clearly a case of a guy who wasn't going to be signed by anyone at any price right now.

[As a fan, why is it wrong to cheer for the team to win?](#)

Sounds like you have an internal fight going on. I don't see any reason to root against them. Even if they were to win 20 of their next 30 and lead the West, they're not blowing up the farm system to get the next [Ryan Ludwick](#). Enjoy it, man.

Tri-City, AZL teams preparing to start seasons

Jeff Sanders

A loaded farm system compelled the amateur scouting ranks to target 2018 draft prospects with the best chance to rise through the [Padres'](#) improved system. The staff on the player development side of the operation, on the other hand, has been adjusting to a quality population boom for quite some time, with perhaps the most painstaking of their endeavors arriving each when spring when they're forced to whittle down 160-170 minor leaguers to the 100 that break camp with full-season affiliates.

"We've talked about this a lot the last couple years – competition being a really important thing," Padres farm director **Sam Geaney** said. "... There's a lot of guys that – and I don't want to say this in a negative way – but maybe in other organizations they would have no doubt that they were making a team but are in extended [spring training](#) for us.

"I think the challenge for them is to stay motivated, stay ready and perform."

The start of short-season Tri-City's season next week, then, is a chance to further thin the ranks left behind at extended spring training. The organization's two rookie-level Arizona League teams begin play the following week, allowing several selections from the 2017 draft to finally begin accumulating 2018 stats.

For instance, second-rounder **Blake Hunt**, a catcher, and third-rounder **Mason House**, an outfielder, are both being considered for Tri-City's opening day roster, while right-hander **Andres Munoz** – a standout in the Arizona Fall League – could start his season in the Northwest League as he makes his way back from the elbow troubles that have stalled his season to date. Munoz threw live batting practice this week.

The Dust Devils also figure to see an influx of college talent from the 2018 draft class as they sign ahead of the July 15 deadline.

Tri-City will open its season June 15 at Salem-Keizer and the Padres' two Arizona League teams will start June 19 and June 20, respectively. With the Dominican

Summer League starting this week, the Padres farm system will soon have as many as eight teams in action on its busiest nights.

First impression

Right-hander **Luis Patino** was one of the farmhands left behind when the minor league season began. The 18-year-old Colombian is affirming the organization's intrigue now that he's joined low Single-A Fort Wayne.

Through four starts, Patino has struck out 19, walked four and posted 4.15 ERA over 17 1/3 innings. Over his last two starts, he has struck out 12 over nine shutout innings heading into Saturday's home start against Lansing.

"His challenge is to be a little more efficient early on," Geaney said of Patino, a signee from the 2016-17 international class. "But he's been up to 97 mph and he's one of the most athletic guys in the system. It's the makings of a plus curveball, slider and change-up. He's a guy we really, really like a lot. It's been a good test of our patience to control ourselves and not let him get out (to an affiliate) to start the year, but it's good now that he's out pitching for a young and exciting team."

AROUND THE FARM

- **El Paso (AAA):** RHP **Jesse Scholtens** earned his first PCL win with five innings of two-run ball on Friday. He still has an 8.53 ERA in six El Paso starts after going 4-1 with a 2.80 ERA and 45 strikeouts in six starts in the Texas League.
- **San Antonio (AA):** SS **Fernando Tatis Jr.** was named the Texas League player of the month for May after hitting .336/.414/.639 with seven homers and 16 RBIs in 29 games last month. He is 10-for-25 to start June.
- **Lake Elsinore (A+):** RHP **Chris Paddock**, after allowing eight earned runs over his previous two starts, struck out 10 over 5 2/3 scoreless innings of three-hit ball this week. He has 61 strikeouts against two walks in 37 1/3 innings to start the season.
- **Fort Wayne (A):** C **Luis Campusano** and LHPs **Nick Margevicius**, **Aaron Leasher** and **Travis Radke** were selected to the Midwest League All-Star Game.

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

(Through Friday; min. 159 plate appearances, 47 innings)

- **Batting average:** .329 – OF Buddy Reed (A+)
- **On-base percentage:** .398 – 1B Josh Naylor (AA)
- **Homers:** 14 – OF Franmil Reyes (AAA)
- **Total bases:** 124 – SS Fernando Tatis Jr. (AA)
- **RBIs:** 47 – Naylor
- **Steals:** 28 – Reed
- **Wins:** 8 – LHP Logan Allen (AA)
- **ERA:** 2.29 – LHP Osvaldo Hernandez (A)
- **WHIP:** 1.15 – RHP Jesse Scholtens (AA/AAA)
- **Saves:** 8 – LHP Jose Castillo (AA, AAA), LHP Travis Radke (A), LHP Brad Wieck (AA)
- **Strikeouts:** 80 – Allen
- **SO/W:** 8.11 – LHP Nick Margevicius (A)

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FRIDAY'S GAMES

TRIPLE-A EL PASO (30-32)

- **Chihuahuas 4, Iowa 3:** RHP **Jesse Scholtens** (1-3, 8.88) struck out six and allowed three runs on five hits and two walks in five innings in earning his first win. RHP **Robert Stock** (2.70) saved his third game with a perfect ninth. CF **Auston Bousfield** (.247) drove in two runs on two hits and 1B **Allen Craig** (.264) went 1-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. SS **Luis Urias** (.254) walked four times and scored a run.

DOUBLE-A SAN ANTONIO (38-22)

- **Missions 5, Midland 4:** RHP **Colin Rea** (8.27) struck out eight and allowed two runs on two hits and two walks in five innings, his best start in four post-Tommy John starts. RHP **Phil Maton** struck out three over two

scoreless innings and LHP **Brad Wieck** (1-2, 2.35) earned the win despite two unearned runs allowed in one inning when the Missions rallied for the walk-off. 1B **Kyle Overstreet** (.274) went 4-for-5 with a run scored and an RBI and LF **Josh Naylor** (.319) went 3-for-5 with an RBI and a run scored. SS **Fernando Tatis Jr.** (.280) went 1-for-3 with two walks.

HIGH SINGLE-A LAKE LESINORE (30-31)

- **Lancaster 8, Storm 7 (10):** RHP **Reggie Lawson** struck out seven, allowed three runs in six innings and was in line for the win before RHP **David Bednar** (2-2, 4.45) allowed three runs – two earned – over 1 1/3 innings. LF **Nate Easley** (.234) drove in three runs on three hits and C **Luis Torrens** (.277) went 3-for-5 with two doubles and a run scored. CF **Edward Olivares** (.261), 3B **Hudson Potts** (.258) and SS **Chris Baker** (.200) each had two hits.

LOW SINGLE-A FORT WAYNE (27-32)

- **TinCaps 9, Lansing 3:** LHP **Oswaldo Hernandez** (4-2, 2.29) struck out six and allowed two runs on four hits and two walks in six innings. C **Luis Campusano** (.285), 1B **Jalen Washington** (.250) and SS **Gabriel Arias** (.205) each drove in two runs. CF **Jeisson Rosario** (.278) and LF **Robbie Podorsky** (.339) each went 2-for-5 with an RBI and two runs scored.

ROOKIE DSL PADRES (3-3)

- **Orioles 15, Padres 5:** RHP **Eudi Asencio** (0-1, 23.14) allowed eight runs – two earned – in one inning in the start. SS **Yeison Santana** (.261) and C **Matias Polanco** (.333) each had two hits.

Padres hit the road without their newfound optimism

By Dennis Lin

MIAMI — The general malaise that has enveloped the National League West might make the Padres appear closer than they really are. On Friday, they opened a three-city road trip six games under .500 but only 4 1/2 out of the division lead. After a 7-3 homestand, speculation that they could go on a surprising pre-trade deadline run had infiltrated local airwaves.

Across the country, a 4-0 loss to the Miami Marlins supplied a reminder that this season remains largely devoted to development. The Padres remain far from fully formed, including in one vital area of the roster; since rookie Joey Lucchesi landed on the disabled list three weeks ago, they have effectively functioned with four starting pitchers.

The youngest of those options continued to ride a steep learning curve on Friday. Left-hander Eric Lauer managed to record 15 outs, but the rookie also issued six unintentional walks, the most by a Padres starter since Tyson Ross handed out seven free passes on June 6, 2014.

Four years after that outing, Ross has rebounded from thoracic outlet surgery to reclaim his status as the Padres' most dependable starter. That development has rendered him an obvious trade candidate on a last-place club. Yet it's worth wondering whether San Diego can afford to part with Ross so soon.

The question involves more than money. Ross, who signed a minor-league deal in December, is making relatively little of it. Any deal would constitute a classic case of selling high after buying low.

But Ross' value on this roster is clearly reflected in the 70 2/3 innings he has logged. Only Clayton Richard, a fellow veteran with less trade appeal, has thrown more for the Padres. Every five games, Ross has helped protect a bullpen that has worked the fourth-most innings in the majors. Meanwhile, his performance has encouraged continued patience for the organization's pitching prospects.

At present, there are few arms the Padres want to rush up to the majors. Lucchesi's hip strain will sideline him for at least another turn in the rotation. Luis Perdomo, who has pitched well since a demotion to Triple A, recently endured a

bout with shoulder inflammation. Logan Allen, perhaps the closest of the arms in Double A, has impressed, but he turned 21 just last month.

Lauer celebrated his 23rd birthday only five days ago, and he has demonstrated a youthful innocence on more than one occasion.

Late Friday, he was asked what he had learned through nine major-league starts. "I don't want to use a swear word," Lauer said, "but you can't half-ass a pitch. You've got to be behind it 100 percent."

On the mound, Lauer had gone through more growing pains. His ERA ticked down to 6.64. His walks-and-hits-per-inning rose to 2.06, the highest among NL pitchers.

"We expect ups and downs this year out of him," Padres manager Andy Green said before the game. "Our faith's not dissuaded by him having a rough outing or two, but we expect him to continue to grow. He's got all the potential to be effective up here."

Facing the Marlins for the second time in three starts, Lauer was less tentative than in some previous outings. He did not benefit on a few borderline calls.

But he was also fortunate to yield only three runs. After three scoreless innings, he needed 27 pitches to get through the fourth, when a leadoff walk and a double both came around to score. In the fifth, he walked the bases loaded with two outs, then issued another walk.

Green left Lauer in to face pitcher Caleb Smith. Lauer induced a groundout and walked off the field. He had thrown 111 pitches, a career high at any level.

"You want to see him get through five [innings], at least, in that situation," Green said. "There's times we're not going to give him that opportunity, based on the context of the game. But that was one of those situations. We're already down; we want to see him rise up and get through five innings."

On a day the box score indicated failure, Lauer at least succeeded in doing that.

"I was really happy that Andy let me stay in and battle through that," he said. "It was a good learning experience for me and a good mental sign for me that he's comfortable leaving me in in those situations and letting me get that chance to grow. Being able to work through tough situations is something that I need to learn to do."

Lauer scuffles in defeat as offense goes cold

AJ Cassavell MLB.com

MIAMI -- A month and a half ago, the Padres decided it was more important that they test [Eric Lauer](#)'s mettle in the big leagues, than it was to give him more seasoning at Triple-A El Paso. Lauer is getting tested, all right. And the results haven't always been pretty.

At times this season, Lauer has been sharp, as he was last Saturday against the Reds. But more often than not, it's been a grind for the 23-year-old rookie. That was the case again in the Padres' 4-0 loss to Miami on Friday night at Marlins Park.

For five innings, Lauer labored, allowing three runs and throwing an ungainly 111 pitches. He walked seven Marlins in the process. The lone intentional pass came back to bite him when Miami starter [Caleb Smith](#) swatted an RBI single on the next pitch for his first Major League hit, putting the Marlins up 2-0 in the fourth.

All things considered, it was something of a minor miracle Lauer managed to limit the damage to three runs. But that was plenty of support for Smith, who stifled San Diego for the second time in 12 days.

"[Lauer] gave us an opportunity to make a run at the game late," manager Andy Green said. "We just never mounted a charge."

In the fourth and fifth innings, Lauer loaded the bases and found himself on the ropes. On both occasions, Green let his rookie left-hander work through it.

The challenge was by design. Lauer had never thrown 111 pitches at any level. But Green saw an opportunity to test his resolve in a big moment.

"It was a good learning experience for me, and a good mental sign for me that he's comfortable leaving me in in those situations and letting me get that chance to grow," Lauer said. "Being able to work through those tough situations is something that I need to do."

The Padres' only real scoring threat came in the sixth, when they loaded the bases with one out against Smith. That spelled the end of his night, and right-hander [Brad Ziegler](#) entered to face [Christian Villanueva](#). Green countered by pinch-hitting with the lefty-hitting [Cory Spangenberg](#).

As decisions go, this one seemed like a tossup.

There's an obvious case to let Villanueva hit. He's second in the National League with 15 homers. But Villanueva has been abysmal against right-handed pitching this season, and the case for Spangenberg was equally clear cut.

In sporadic playing time, Spangenberg has struggled this year. But he has had success against the side-arming Ziegler, and he's been heating up this week. The left-right splits favored Spangenberg, too.

"Obviously, it didn't work out," Green said.

The drama never even got a chance to build. On the first pitch, Spangenberg chopped one back to the mound. Ziegler threw home to start a double play. For the Padres, it was that kind of night.

MOMENTS THAT MATTERED

Keeping it close: Lauer had already allowed two runs in the fourth when [Brian Anderson](#) came to the plate with the bases loaded. The rookie left-hander reached back for some extra velocity on his fastball. This season, that pitch has averaged 90 mph. Lauer's final two fastballs of the frame hit 93 mph, and the last one got Anderson swinging. The deficit was still two.

Hoz doubled up: [Eric Hosmer](#) smacked an opposite-field double in the top of the first inning, but he ran himself right out of scoring position one batter later. On [Hunter Renfroe](#)'s relatively routine fly ball, Hosmer was caught too far off second base. Left fielder [Cameron Maybin](#) threw to second for an easy double play. After the game, Green noted that Hosmer merely got a poor read on where the baseball would land.

YOU GOTTA SEE THIS

These days, it seems like Lauer picks off a runner every game. He did so again in the bottom of the third inning, catching Anderson off first base. It's the sixth

time in nine games this season that Lauer has picked off a baserunner -- the most in the Majors.

"It's a real weapon," Green said.

How is it still such a weapon, even when opponents know he has it in his back pocket? The success is twofold. Lauer's move is clearly deceptive, but he also gets rid of the baseball quicker than most left-handers.

"I don't think he's fooling as many guys as it looks like," Green said. "They think they've got more time, and then he gets that foot down, and that snap throw comes over a lot quicker than anybody expects. They're almost shocked by it."

SOUND SMART

[Manuel Margot](#)'s third-inning double clocked in with a 112.9 mph exit velocity. That's the hardest Margot has hit a baseball this season, and it's not even close. (He hit a 108.4 mph lineout on May 14.) The second-year center fielder has slumped for most of the season, but there are signs he could be breaking out. Margot, who is 5-for-16 with four walks in June, also hit a 104-mph rocket that [Lewis Brinson](#) tracked down a step shy of the center-field wall in the fifth.

UP NEXT

The Padres have won each of [Tyson Ross](#)' last five starts, and he'll take the ball on Saturday afternoon in Miami with first pitch slated for 1:10 p.m. PT. Ross was solid in his two starts on the Padres' recent homestand, but game circumstances limited him to just 87 and 91 pitches. With an extra day of rest, courtesy of Thursday's off-day, Ross should be fresh as he squares off with Marlins righty [Dan Straily](#).

Richard climbing Padres' pitching ranks

By Bill Center San Diego Padres

Bill Center, longtime sportswriter for U-T San Diego, is an employee of the Padres.

[Clayton Richard](#) has climbed up the Padres' all-time list of pitching leaders this season.

Richard has induced 11 double-play grounders this season to give him 128 for his career with San Diego -- which puts him second among Padres' pitchers all-time. Randy Jones tops the list by a wide margin with 176.

Richard's victory over the Braves last Monday was his 55th as a Padre, tying him with Bruce Hurst for the most in franchise history for a left-hander. No. 1 on that list, of course, is Jones with 92. Richard also moved into a three-way tie for eighth on the Padres' all-time wins list with Hurst and Joey Hamilton -- dropping a reliever named Trevor Hoffman from the top 10.

Richard has also climbed into eighth on the Padres' career lists in three other categories: games started (161), innings pitched (968 2/3) and losses (63) -- and he has made it to 10th in strikeouts (636).

Plus, Richard leads all National League pitchers this season with 20 assists.

NOTEBOOK

- [Brad Hand](#) had the third two-inning appearance of the season Wednesday, but the first in a save situation. Since May 1, Hand has allowed two runs on nine hits and seven walks with 28 strikeouts (including four on Wednesday) over 17 1/3 innings in 15 appearances. He has 12 saves in as many opportunities, with a 1.04 ERA and a 0.92 WHIP.
- [Craig Stammen](#) worked one perfect inning with two strikeouts Wednesday. Since the start of May, Stammen has allowed one run on nine hits and four walks with 14 strikeouts in 13 2/3 innings for a 0.64 ERA and a 0.93 WHIP. He has lowered his ERA from 3.00 to 1.88 during the run.

- [Kirby Yates](#) also worked two innings Wednesday with two walks and two strikeouts. After 10 straight scoreless appearances, he has allowed two runs on nine hits and two walks with eight strikeouts over eight innings in seven appearances.
- [Jose Castillo](#), 22, has struck out five of the nine Major League hitters he's faced in two appearances while allowing one hit. He also picked up his first Major League win Wednesday.

#PadresOnDeck: Naylor, Urías, Rosario, Tatis Jr. Pace Padres' Hitting Prospects

By Bill Center

Luis Urías found an unusual way to snap out of a rare slump Friday night.

He didn't get a hit.

But Urías, who turned 21 on June 3, drew walks in all four plate appearances and scored a run for Triple-A El Paso. Urías, who is ranked the [Padres' No.3 prospect by MLB Pipeline](#), was in a 3-for-32 slump that dropped his batting average with the Pacific Coast League team to .254.

Other Top-30 prospects who had good games Friday night:

— Left-fielder **Josh Naylor** was 3-for-5 with a RBI and a run scored for Double-A San Antonio. Naylor is hitting .319 and shares the Texas League lead in RBIs with 47.

— Shortstop **Fernando Tatis Jr.**, 19, was 1-for-3 with two walks for the Missions to get his batting average back to .280.

— Third baseman **Hudson Potts**, 19, the [Padres' No.15 prospect](#), was 2-for-4 with a double, a walk, a RBI and a run scored to raise his batting average to .258 for Advanced Single-A Lake Elsinore.

— Center fielder **Edward Olivares**, 22, the [Padres No.18 prospect](#), was 2-for-5 with a RBI and is hitting .261 for the Storm.

— Center fielder **Jeisson Rosario**, 18, the [Padres No.17 prospect](#), was 2-for-5 with a RBI and two runs scored for Single-A Fort Wayne, where he is hitting .278.

There were several other notable hitting performances by players outside the Top-30 prospect list.

— First baseman **Kyle Overstreet** (.274) was 4-for-5 with a RBI and a run scored for San Antonio.

— Catcher **Luis Torrens** (.277) was 3-for-5 with two doubles and a run scored for Lake Elsinore. Left fielder **Nate Easley** (.234) was 3-for-4 with a double and three RBIs for the Storm.

— First baseman **Jalen Washington** (.250) was 2-for-4 with a homer, two RBIs, a stolen base and two runs scored for Fort Wayne. Left fielder **Robbie Podorsky** (.339) was 2-for-5 with a RBI and two runs scored.

There were also two pitching performances of note Friday night:

— Right-hander **Reggie Lawson**, 20, the [Padres' No.29 prospect](#), allowed three runs on seven hits and two walks with seven strikeouts in six innings for Lake Elsinore to lower his earned run average to 2.84.

— Cuban left-hander **Oswaldo Hernandez**, 20, allowed two runs on four hits and two walks with six strikeouts in six innings and has a 4–2 record with a 2.29 ERA for Fort Wayne.

There were two notable rehab pitching performances by right-handers at Double-A San Antonio Friday night:

— **Colin Rea** (8.27 ERA) pitched the best in his third rehab outing, allowing two runs on four hits and two walks with eight strikeouts in five innings. He threw 90 pitches.

— Reliever **Phil Maton**, who had his rehab shifted to Double-A after one outing with the Storm, allowed a hit with three strikeouts in two innings in his debut with the Missions. He threw 21 pitches.

Around the Farm:

TRIPLE-A EL PASO (30–32): Chihuahuas 4, IOWA 3—CF **Auston Bousfield**(.247) backed Urías, going 2-for-3 with a walk and two RBIs. 1B **Allen Craig**(.264) was 1-for-4 with a RBI and a run scored. 3B-2B **Carlos Asuaje** (.293) was 1-for-3 with a run scored. RF **Forrestt Allday** (.321) was 0-for-3 with a walk and a run scored. Starting RHP **Jesse Scholtens** (1–3, 8.88 ERA) allowed three runs on five hits and two walks with six strikeouts in five innings. LHP **Kyle McGrath** (4.03) allowed a hit and a walk with a strikeout in 1 1/3 scoreless innings. RHP **Jonathan Aro** (4.66) issued a walk while retiring two of the three hitters he faced. LHP **Tyler Webb** (2.25) gave up two hits and a walk with a strikeout in a scoreless inning. RHP **Robert Stock**(2.70) worked a perfect ninth to get his third save.

DOUBLE-A SAN ANTONIO (38–22): MISSIONS 5, Midland 4—RHP **Rowan Wick** (3.76 ERA) followed Rea and Maton and allowed a hit with a strikeout in a perfect inning. LHP **Brad Wieck** (1–2, 2.35) allowed two unearned runs on a hit and a walk in an inning and got the win. RF **Rod Boykin** (.225) backed Naylor, Tatis and Overstreet, going 2-for-4 with a RBI. DH **Webster Rivas** (.308) was 2-for-4 with a walk and a run scored. 2B **Peter Van Gansen**(.294) was 1-for-4 with a RBI and a run scored.

ADVANCED SINGLE-A LAKE ELSINORE (30–31): LANCASTER 8, Storm 7 (10 innings)—RHP **Austin Smith** (7.03 ERA) followed Lawson and allowed two runs on two hits and a walk in an inning. RHP **Blake Rogers** (3.23) struck out two in a perfect inning. RHP **David Bednar** (2–2, 4.45) allowed three runs (two earned) on four hits and two walks in 1 1/3 innings to take the loss. SS **Chris Baker** (.200) backed Torrens, Easley, Potts and Olivares, going 2-for-4 with two runs scored. RF **Buddy Reed** (.329) was 1-for-5 with a RBI and his California League-leading 28th stolen base. DH **Jorge Oña** (.265) was 1-for-5 with a double, a RBI and a run scored.

SINGLE-A FORT WAYNE (27–32): TIN CAPS 9, Lansing 3—LHP **Ben Scheckler** (4.14 ERA) followed Hernandez and struck out one in two perfect innings. RHP **Evan Miller** (0.76) allowed a run on a hit in an inning. DH **Tirso Ornelas** (.265) backed **Jeisson Rosario**, Podorsky and Washington and had a double in three at-bats with a walk, a RBI and a run scored. SS **Gabriel Arias** (.205) was 1-for-3 with two RBIs and a walk. C **Luis Campusano** was 0-for-3 with two walks and two RBIs. RF **Jack Suwinski** (.212) had a double in three at-bats with a walk and a run scored.

DOMINICAN SUMMER LEAGUE PADRES (3–3): Orioles 15, PADRES 3—SS **Yeison Santana** (.261) was 2-for-5 with a RBI. C **Matias Polanco** (.333) was 2-for-3 with a run scored.

This Day in Padres History—June 9

By Bill Center

June 9, 1981—**Tony Gwynn**, 21, is drafted by the Padres in the third round of the June free agent draft. Gwynn was the fourth player selected by the Padres in the 1981 draft with University of Arkansas **Kevin McReynolds** outfielder being their first-round pick. Also on June 9, Gwynn was drafted in the 10th round by the San Diego Clippers of the National Basketball Association.

June 9, 1985—Right-hander **Andy Hawkins** runs his record to 11–0, holding the Reds to one run on eight hits and six walks over seven innings in the Padres 5–3 win at Cincinnati.

June 9, 1993—The Padres name Randy Smith their seventh general manager, replacing **Joe Mcllvaine**. Smith, 29, becomes the youngest general manager in Major League history.

June 9, 1998—**Greg Vaughn** breaks a 1–1 tie with a grand slam homer in the bottom of the seventh to give the Padres a 5–1 win over Cincinnati at Qualcomm Stadium.

Last-place Marlins looking to beat Padres again

STATS

MIAMI — The [Miami Marlins](#) — this weekend celebrating the 25th anniversary of their first season — are looking for a big series against the visiting [San Diego Padres](#).

The Marlins got off to a good start in that endeavor on Friday, shutting out the Padres 4-0.

On Saturday, the Marlins will start right-hander [Dan Straily](#) (2-2, 3.50 ERA) against Padres right-hander [Tyson Ross](#)(5-3, 3.31 ERA).

Despite Friday's win, the Marlins (23-40) are still in last place in the National League East, which does not sit well with first-year Miami CEO Derek Jeter, the former New York Yankees shortstop.

"It's tough," Jeter told the media when asked about the Marlins' season. "I'd be lying if I said it wasn't tough. You want results to be there right away, but you can't just snap your fingers and fix something that's been broken."

The Padres (29-36) are also in last place, but they are much closer to the top of their division, the NL West. The Padres, despite their listless loss on Friday in which they produced just six hits off of four Marlins pitchers, are still 19-16 since May 1.

Ross has been part of that success as San Diego has won each of his past five starts. Ross has also lasted at least five innings in 11 of his 12 starts this season.

Ross, 31, hasn't lost a game since May 7, and this already qualifies as a bounce-back season for him. He won a combined 23 games between 2014 and 2015 but then went just 3-4 in 11 starts the past two seasons.

Now he's back on track, and the Padres are 9-3 this year when he starts. That includes a 9-5 Padres win at home on May 29 against the Marlins, a game in which Ross allowed six hits, one walk and three runs in 5 1/3 innings.

Straily was Ross' counterpart that day, allowing seven hits and five runs in 5 2/3 innings and taking the loss.

Walks have been a major problem for Straily. His walk percentage of 18.9 is third-worst in the majors among pitchers with at least 29 innings. His 5.5 walks per nine innings are on pace to becoming the worst rate of his career.

As for the Marlins team as a whole, Miami has won three of its past four games. Rookie right fielder [Brian Anderson](#), who has 21 multi-hit games this year, went 3-for-5 on Friday.

Anderson is one of three Marlins hitters batting over .290. Those three batters were batting 1-2-3 in Friday's lineup: Starling Castro at .292, Anderson at .304 and J.T. Realmuto at .303.

No full-time Padres starter is hitting over .290, and the Padres got shut down on Friday by Caleb Smith, [Brad Ziegler](#), [Drew Steckenrider](#) and [Kyle Barraclough](#).

The Padres also received news on Friday that one of their pitchers, [Jose Torres](#), was suspended for 100 games by Major League Baseball, effectively ending his season. He was punished after he was arrested in December on charges that stemmed from a domestic-violence incident involving his wife.

Takeaways from the Padres' 4-0 loss to the Marlins

John Horvath, FOX Sports San Diego

MIAMI— Caleb Smith pitched 5 1/3 scoreless innings and recorded his first MLB hit, leading the [Miami Marlins](#) to a 4-0 shutout victory over the [Padres](#) on Friday night at Marlins Park.

Miami improved to 23-40 while San Diego fell to 29-36.

Takeaways

Lauer struggles with command

11 days ago, rookie left-hander [Eric Lauer](#) took the hill against the Marlins and was unable to get out of the third inning, giving up seven hits and five earned runs in a blowout loss.

On Friday night, Lauer took the mound at Marlins Park to face the same team in their throwback uniforms. He ended up laboring through five innings; allowing six hits, three runs, and a career-high seven walks.

All seemed to be going well for the Ohio native until the bottom of the fourth, when he walked [Justin Bour](#) to lead off the inning. [Cameron Maybin](#) followed with a double to advance Bour to third, and [Lewis Brinson](#) brought him home two batters later on a sacrifice fly to deep left field.

After intentionally walking the number eight hitter [Yadiel Rivera](#), pitcher Caleb Smith brought home the second and final run of the inning on his first career base hit.

Lauer walked the next batter before escaping further damage.

In the fifth, Lauer again found himself in trouble. The Fish loaded the bases with two outs via two hits and a walk. Yadiel Rivera then worked a five-pitch walk to bring home another run.

It would take seven more pitches for Lauer to retire Caleb Smith and finally get out of the inning.

All in all, it was a mixed bag of results for the rookie, who has been looking for any kind of consistency in what has been an up-and-down rookie season. In his 111 pitches, Lauer did induce 11 swinging strikes and get 16 called strikes. He also averaged 91.2 mph on his fastball, which was up nearly two ticks from his previous start against the Marlins.

However, his calling card in the minor leagues was stellar command. That obviously has not translated to the big leagues yet. With tonight's start, Lauer is currently walking an average of 5.49 batters per nine innings.

Smith silences Friars again

Matching up with Eric Lauer and the Padres for the second time in two weeks, Marlins left-hander Caleb Smith was able to silence the Padres once again. He shut out the Friars over 5 1/3 innings, allowing four hits and striking out five.

Smith also recorded his first MLB hit in the fourth, an RBI single to right.

Missed opportunities

The Padres were shut out on Friday, but they certainly had chances to prevent it.

In the first, [Eric Hosmer](#) hit a one-out double to put himself in scoring position. However, he then misread a soft ball by [Hunter Renfroe](#) and was doubled off of second to end the inning.

In the third, [Manuel Margot](#) led off with a double and advanced to third on Eric Lauer's sacrifice bunt. [Jose Pirela](#) followed with a strikeout and Eric Hosmer lined out to right to end the threat.

Then, down 3-0 in the sixth, the Padres loaded the bases with one out off of Marlins starter Caleb Smith. At 92 pitches, Smith was removed from game for right-handed reliever [Brad Ziegler](#).

Looking to play matchups, manager Andy Green pinch-hit for [Christian Villanueva](#) with [Cory Spangenberg](#), who grounded the first pitch of the at-bat right back to Ziegler to start a 1-2-3 double play.

Manuel Margot

Manuel Margot, who has been looking much more comfortable at the plate of late, went 1-for-3 with a double. He also flew out to the warning track in center, narrowly missing a home run.

Multi-hit games

Both Jose Pirela and Eric Hosmer recorded multi-hit games for the Padres.

Beginning of a long road trip

Today, San Diego began a stretch of games where they will play 23 of their next 28 games on the road.

Marlins unite for shutout win over Padres in 25th-anniversary opener

AP

MIAMI (AP) — Despite taking a shutout into the sixth inning, Caleb Smith was most proud of what he did with the bat.

Smith had an RBI single for his first career hit to help the [Miami Marlins](#) beat the [San Diego Padres](#) 4-0 Friday night.

“Probably the first hit, definitely more proud of that today,” Smith said.

Smith (5-6) gave up four hits and two walks while striking out five in 5 1/3 innings. [Brad Ziegler](#) pitched 1 2/3 innings including getting an inning-ending double play with the bases loaded in the sixth, [Drew Steckenrider](#) tossed an inning, and [Kyle Barraclough](#) got the last three outs to finish the shutout.

“I think Ziegler deserves the win tonight,” Smith said. “He came in and saved me. He did a great job.”

Smith beat the Padres for the second time in two weeks after giving up one run in seven innings on May 28.

“You see a team the second time almost back-to-back and it’s interesting to see the adjustments each team makes,” Marlins manager Don Mattingly said. “Their guy ([Eric Lauer](#)) threw the ball better against us tonight than he did, really good I thought, but Caleb stayed the same — throwing zeroes, got a big hit.”

[Brian Anderson](#) had three hits and [Cameron Maybin](#) had two for the Marlins, who have won three of four. [J.T. Realmuto](#), [Lewis Brinson](#), and [Yadiel Rivera](#) each drove in a run without a hit.

The Marlins took control of the game in the middle innings scoring twice in the fourth, once in the fifth, and once in the sixth.

[Justin Bour](#) walked to open the fourth and moved to third on Maybin's double. One out later, Brinson had a sacrifice fly to get the Marlins on the scoreboard. After an intentional walk to Rivera, Smith followed with his run-scoring single to right.

[Starlin Castro](#) drew a walk to load the bases, but Lauer (2-4) got out of the inning by striking out Anderson.

Rivera's two-out walk with the bases loaded in the fifth pushed the lead to 3-0, and Realmuto grounded into a fielder's choice in the sixth to cap the scoring.

Lauer allowed three runs and six hits in five innings. He struck out six and walked a career-high seven.

"Overall, it was back and forth," Lauer said. "There were some good things. There some bad things. Definitely the walks not something you want to see happening. The good thing I look back there were some borderline strikes, (pitches) that could have been strikes. It wasn't some huge misses. It wasn't me all over the place."

[Eric Hosmer](#) and [Jose Pirela](#) each had two hits for the Padres.

"We just weren't able to mount a charge," Padres manager Andy Green said.

MARLINS ROCK RETRO UNIFORMS

The Marlins wore throwback white pinstripe uniforms with teal hats as part of their 25th anniversary weekend, which included 18 former players participating in Friday's festivities.

"These are good-looking unis, they really are," Mattingly said. "They're a good look. It's what you picture when you think about their teams so it's good to see them out there. I think guys liked them. Actually I think they really liked them."

Shortstop [Miguel Rojas](#), who remembers watching fellow Venezuelans [Miguel Cabrera](#), Alex Gonzalez, and Ozzie Guillen on the 2003 World Series championship team, was one of the players who enjoyed the uniforms.

"I feel I'm going to enjoy this weekend more than anybody because I really like the colors," Rojas said.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Padres: OF [Franchy Cordero](#) (right forearm) took batting practice before the game and is looking to make a return soon. "He should be moving aggressively towards getting back," Green said. "Today is one of the big days for him now." Green added Cordero "probably will" go on a rehab assignment before returning to the club. "We'll see how he looks the next few days hitting BP-wise, all his work, and make a determination there," Green said.

UP NEXT

Padres: RHP [Tyson Ross](#) (5-3, 3.31 ERA) will start the second game of the series on Saturday. The Padres have won each of his last five starts.

Marlins: RHP [Dan Straily](#) (2-2, 3.50) will be making his second start against the Padres this season. He allowed five runs, four earned, in 5 2/3 innings on May 29 in San Diego.