Pickles Win Fourth Straight Series

YAKIMA, Wash. (June 27, 2024) – It took all that they had, but the Portland Pickles (15-7) won the rubber match and the series over the Yakima Valley Pippins (12-12). In the first of a three straight game series road trip, the Pickles won their seventh series of the year.

The WCL leading defense was key for the Pickles all series, committing only one error. Game one the offense erupted for 17 runs in a dominating 17-2 win. The Pippins responded however and took game two 4-3 on a walk-off to even the series. Game three saw 10 different pitchers appear in the game, and would help guide the Pickles to a 6-4 victory and a gritty series win.

**GAME 1:**

A dominating performance from the Pickles led by a seven run sixth inning helped them to a 17-2 game one victory over the Pippins. Three Pickles’ hitters recorded a multi-hit game (Chacon, Stewart, and Christiansen). Left fielder Dominic Chacon (GCU) recorded a team high three hits with two doubles, and five RBI. Center fielder Sam Christiansen (Oklahoma) recorded a team high three runs, and catcher Connor Stewart (CSUN) recorded his fourth double of the season, and added two runs. Third baseman Patrick Keigrhan (San Francisco) also added two runs, one hit, and two walks with two RBI. Eight different Pickles’ hitters recorded at least one hit, recorded only two strikeouts and took advantage of four Pippins’ errors to match a season high 17 runs.

Three Pickles’ pitchers would limit the Pippins to only two runs on four hits. Starting pitcher Dylan Smith (Northern Colorado) gave up only one hit in four innings, adding three strikeouts. Smith ended the game with a 1.68 ERA for the season. Right-hander Murphy Gienger (Northern Colorado) earned his first win of the season. In four innings of work, Gienger gave up one run on three hits, and added four strikeouts. Gienger now sits in second with a 1.17 ERA this season. Right-hander Ethan Marmie (Cal Poly San Luis Obsipo) made his season debut facing four batters with one strikeout and one walk.

**GAME 2:**

The Pippins would respond from their game one loss, scoring two runs in the first inning, and adding another in the second. The Pickles would chip away the early 3-0 deficit with one run in the third, fourth, and sixth innings, but failed to create a big inning like game one. The Pickles would fail to put a runner in scoring position in the last three innings. Two singles, a pass ball, and an intentional walk would load the bases for the Pippins. A deep single to right field would help the Pippins walk it off and win 4-3 to tie the series.

Right fielder Tanner Griffith (St. Marys) would record two runs on two hits and was the only Pickles hitter that recorded a multi-hit game. Center fielder Tony Otis (Pacific) and first baseman Kevin Ferguson (Hawaii) each recorded a single and a RBI. Ferguson would also record the only walk for the Pickles. Base runners were hard to come by, but three hitters were hit-by-pitch (Otis, Griffith, and Sakaino), as the Pickles’ would leave six runners on base.

Left-hander Shaydon Benson (College of Southern Idaho) and right-hander Ryder Edwards (George Fox) combined for four innings, giving up no runs, four hits, two walks and four strikeouts to help their hitters settle into the ballgame and tie it up. The defense would step up as well with a clean slate and recording no errors, but it was not enough to win the series.

**GAME 3:**

A quiet game in the first six innings, turned into a battle in extras. It took 12 innings, but the Pickles would squeak a 6-4 rubber-match victory. A season high 10 Pickles pitchers would appear in the ballgame and limit the Pippins to four runs on only four hits. Eight Pickles’ hitters recorded a hit, and three would record three hits in the game (Griffith, Keighran, and Harries). Tanner Griffith (St. Marys)  recorded a team high two walks, and Patrick Keighran (San Francisco) recorded a team high two RBI. Both would also record two runs each. The Pickles would record 15 hits in the game.

The Pickles pitching staff was stellar, as they would one hit the Pippins until the eighth inning. The Pippins would push across three in the eighth to tie the game, but would fail to score again until the 12th inning.

In the 10th, the Pippins would load the bases with one out. A bunt attempt would force a Pippins baserunner halfway down the line, but catcher Connor Stewart would make a great stop, and chase him down for the second out of the inning. A ground ball to the left side of pitcher Nolan Ficklin (BYU) would turn him around and would make a great play to get the out at first and move us to the 11th inning.

A leadoff error by the Pippins, and then a sacrifice bunt from the Pickles in the top of the 12th would advance the go-ahead run to second base with one out. An intentional walk, and a HBP would allow a two-out walk from Dominic Chacon (GCU) to score the go-ahead run and take the 4-3 lead. This would then lead to a Carter Speights (UC Davis) at bat for his first of the season, and first in his collegiate career. Speights came in to pitch in the bottom of the 11th inning, and would record a walk, and then a pass ball would extend the 6-3 lead for a three run 12th inning.

A leadoff single, and two one out walks would bring the go-ahead run to the plate and the bases loaded for the Pippins. This would bring right-hander Josiah Shipley (Clackamas CC) into the game and the tenth pitcher of the night for Pickles. A fly out to center field, and a two out walk would score a Pippins run, and send the go-ahead run on first. A strikeout from Shipley would clinch the 6-4 rubber match and win the fourth straight series for the Pickles. Shipley would earn the save, and Speights would earn his first win of the season.

**SEASON NOTES:**

* Brock Roundy (Utah Tech) has recorded 5+ strikeouts in three of four games pitched, and has not given up a run this season in 16 innings pitched.
* Dylan Smith (Northern Colorado) has thrown at least 3+ innings in every appearance this season, and leads the team with 18 innings pitched.
* Murphy Gienger (Northern Colorado) has 4+ strikeouts in every appearance this season.
* Shay Timmer (Salt Lake CC) leads the team with two wins on the season.
* Freddie Reodriguez (Hawaii) has thrown for five and six innings in his two appearances this season.
* Josiah Shipley (Clackamas CC) and Noah Luchessi (Sacramento State) lead the team in appearances (6) this season.
* Tanner Griffith (St. Marys)  has reached base safely in 18 of 20 games this season. Griffith has recorded five multi-hit games, and leads the team with # walks this season.
* Patrick Keighran (San Francisco) has recorded two RBI in back-to-back games.
* Dominic Chacon (GCU)  has recorded at least one hit in five of the last six games, and has recorded three multi-hit games. Chacon has reached base safely in 13 of 14 games played this season.
* Sam Christiansen (Oklahoma) has reached base safely in 18 of 21 games this season.
* Alex Gouveia (UC Davis) has reached base safely in seven of nine games played this season. Gouveia has record four multi-hit games this season,
* Connor Stewart (CSUN) has recorded at least one hit in seven straight games, and has four multi-hit games this season. Stewart has reached base safely in 14 of 16 games played this season.
* Shunsuke Sakaino (CSUN) has reached base safely in 13 of 15 games played this season.
* Tyler Harries (San Francisco) has reached base safely in 15 of 20 games this season.
* Nate Wood (South Alabama) has recorded a hit in five of the last six games, and has reached base safely in 14 of 18 games played this season.
* The Pickles have won their seventh series of the season, have won seven of eight this season, and won their fourth straight series.
* The Pickles are 9-4 at home, 6-3 on the road, and 7-3 in their last 10 games

**PICKLES IN THE WCL:**

* The Pickles stand 3 games back of first place in the South Division of the WCL, and third overall in winning percentage (.682). Team defense is first in fielding percentage (.977).
* Offense is first in total walks (137), HBP (48), Sacrifice Hits (29), second in stolen bases (51), OBP (.391), third in runs scored (139), and fourth in RBI (110),
* Pitching is first in hits allowed (126), strikeouts (212), WHIP (1.18), SLG allowed (.222), AVG against (.179), second in runs allowed (68), earned runs (63), ERA (2.80), and third in wins (15).
* Tanner Griffith (St. Marys) sits first in total walks (23), first in OBP (.490) and third in HBP (7)
* Patrick Keighran (San Francisco) is first in HBP (9), third in runs scored (21), fourth in total walks (16), and eighth in OBP (.463).
* Connor Stewart (CSUN)????
* Sam Christiansen (Oklahoma) sits tied first in stolen bases (13), and fifth in total walks (15).
* Dominic Chacon (GCU) sits 10th in OBP (.452).
* Brock Roundy (Utah Tech) and Shay Timmer (Salt Lake CC) sit first in ERA (.000).

**Next Up:**

The Portland Pickles (15-7) will travel to Ridgefield for a three-game series against the Ridgefield Raptors (9-11) June 28th-30th.

Ticket Info: <https://www.picklestickets.com/>

Pickles Start Second Half Strong

PORTLAND, Ore. (July 8, 2024) – In a rescheduled rain out game, the Portland Pickles (21-8) defeated the Walla Walla Sweets (9-21) in a 9-2 victory in Walker Stadium. The Pickles have now won six in a row, and 4-0 to start the second half of the season. Portland also improved to 8-1 over Walla Walla, and have won four consecutive over the Sweets.

Two Pickles’ pitchers kept the Sweets in check all night. Starting pitcher Freddie Rodriguez (Hawaii) threw for 5.0 innings giving up two runs on five hits and striking out five Sweets’ hitters while earning his third win of the season. Rodriguez has struck out 23 hitters in 21 innings pitched this inning and has a 1.28 ERA. Left-hander Chris Downs (Cal Poly) threw a season high 4.0 innings in his fourth appearance of the season. Downs struck out four Sweets’ hitters, giving up no runs on only three hits.

The offense started out hot with eight runs in the first three innings. Three Pickles’ hitters recorded a three-hit game (Frederick, Gouveia, and Otis), with seven of nine starters recording at least one hit. Left fielder Carter Frederick (Oklahoma) recorded a double, two singles, two RBI, and a stolen base in his season debut for the Pickles. Second baseman Alex Gouveia (UC Davis) recorded a run and three RBI to go along with his three hits. Center fielder Tony Otis (Pacific) recorded two doubles for two of his three hits on the night. First baseman Patrick Keigrhan (San Francisco) recorded three walks to total five in the last two games.

The Pickles finished second in the South Division of the WCL and second overall in winning percentage (.724). In order to make the playoffs, the Pickles will need to finish in the top four of the South Division in the second half of the season. Four Pickles made the 2024 WCL All-Star Game. Patrick Keigrhan, Tanner Griffith, Shay Timmer, and Freddie Rodriguez.

**KEY MOMENTS OF THE GAME:**

Top of the 1st inning: Walla Walla used a leadoff single to push across one run and take the early 1-0 lead. In the bottom half of the inning, first baseman Patrick Keigrhan (San Francisco) scored on a second baseman Alex Gouveia (UC Davis) single RBI to tie the ball game 1-1. An error from the shortstop would score Carter Frederick (Oklahoma) and third baseman Alejandro Garza (Cal Poly) would then record a single to take the 3-1 lead

Top of the 2nd inning: A leadoff single again, and a walk would give the Sweets runners on first and second with one out, but a double play would eliminate the threat.

Bot of the 2nd inning: Catcher Connor Stewart (CSUN) and designated hitter Kevin Ferguson (Hawaii) recorded a pair of singles, and first baseman Patrick Keigrhan (San Francisco) worked a walk to load the bases with no outs. With one out, second baseman Alex Gouveia (UC Davis) ripped a single up the middle to push across a run. A sacrifice fly from right fielder Tanner Griffith (St. Marys), and a double from Tony Otis (Pacific) would help score two more runs for another three run inning and take the 6-1 lead.

Bot of the 3rd inning: Shortstop Tyler Harries (San Francisco) ripped a line drive for a lead off single. Another single up the middle from catcher Connor Stewart (CSUN) and a walk from first baseman Patrick Keigrhan (San Francisco) would load the bases with one out. A left fielder Carter Frederick (Oklahoma) sacrifice fly, and a second baseman Alex Gouveia (UC Davis) single up the middle would score two more runs and increase their lead 8-1.

Bot of the 7th inning: An error and a walk would give the Pickles runners on first and second yet again. A two out double from left fielder Carter Frederick (Oklahoma) ripped a double off the wall to extend the 9-2 lead.

**SEASON NOTES:**

* Sam Christiansen (Oklahoma) has reached base safely in 20 of 24 games this season, and has recorded at least one run in 18 games.
* Tanner Griffith (St. Marys)  has reached base safely in 23 of 27 games this season. Griffith has recorded seven multi-hit games, and leads the team with 25 walks this season.
* Patrick Keighran (San Francisco) has recorded at least one hit in seven of the last nine games, with five multi-hit games this season.  Keighran has also recorded at least two runs in eight games this season, and has recorded 2+ walks in seven games this season
* Alex Gouveia (UC Davis) has recorded a run in six straight games, reaching base safely in 13 of 16 games played this season. Gouveia has recorded eight multi-hit games this season, and four games with at least three hits.
* Connor Stewart (CSUN) has recorded seven multi-hit games this season. Stewart has reached base safely in 16 of 21 games played this season.
* Shunsuke Sakaino (CSUN) has reached base safely in 15 of 18 games played this season.
* Tyler Harries (San Francisco) has recorded seven multi-hit games this season, and recorded seven hits in the last four games, and has a five-game hitting streak.
* Carter Frederick (Oklahoma) made his Pickles debut with a three-hit game.
* Brock Roundy (Utah Tech) has recorded 5+ strikeouts in three of four games pitched, and has not given up a run this season in 16 innings pitched.
* Murphy Gienger (Northern Colorado) has recorded 4+ strikeouts in four of five appearances this season, and is third on the team in innings pitched (18).
* Freddie Rodriguez (Hawaii) has thrown for 5+ innings in all four starts this season, and has won three of his four starts this season. Rodriguez also leads the team in innings pitched (20)
* Dylan Smith (Northern Colorado) has thrown at least 4+ innings in four of five appearances this season, and is second on the team in innings pitched (20).
* Noah Luchessi (Sacramento State) and Josiah Shiply (Clackamas CC) lead the team with seven appearances this season.
* The Pickles have won their nine series this season, and have won sixt straight series.
* The Pickles are 10-4 at home, 11-4 on the road, and 8-2 in their last 10 games

**PICKLES IN THE WCL:**

* The Pickles are 4-0 in the second half of the season. Pickles finished second overall in winning percentage (.680) in the first half of the season, and second in the South division with a 17-8 record.
* Team defense is second in fielding percentage (.976).
* Offense is first in HBP (60), Sacrifice Hits (36), second in OBP (.387), in runs scored (173), and third in total walks (165), stolen bases (67), RBI (135), fourth in runs scored (182), and fifth in RBI (143).
* Pitching is first in runs allowed (183), SLG allowed (.236), AVG against (.195) second in runs allowed (89), strikeouts (257), WHIP (1.23), ERA (2.81)
* Tyler Harries (San Francisco) sits seventh in AVG (.338)
* Tanner Griffith (St. Marys) sits first in total walks (25), fifth in HBP (7), and sixth in OBP (.453), seventh in runs scored (21).
* Patrick Keighran (San Francisco) is first in OBP (.513), HBP (14), second in runs scored (28), and total walks (23), eighth in Slugging Percentage (.468).
* Connor Stewart (CSUN) sits fourth in HBP (8).
* Sam Christiansen (Oklahoma) sits second in stolen bases (14).
* Tony Otis (Pacific) sits fifth in stolen bases (11).

**Next Up:**

The Portland Pickles (21-8)  will be back on the road to face the Springfield Drifters (12-16) in a three-game series July 9th-11th.

Ticket Info: <https://www.picklestickets.com/>

Pickles Win 10th Straight Series

SPRINGFIELD, Ore. (July 11, 2024) – Following a game one defeat, the Portland Pickles (23-9) won games two and three over the Springfield Drifters (13-8) to win their 10th straight series of the season. The Pickles have now won eight of nine and are 6-1 to start the second half of the season. Tied with the Ridgefield Raptors for wins (6), the Pickles are only .5 games behind first place for the south division of the WCL standings. The Pickles are already five wins away from last year's win mark (28).

The Pickles finished second in the South Division of the WCL and second overall in winning percentage (.724). In order to make the playoffs, the Pickles will need to finish in the top four of the South Division in the second half of the season. Four Pickles made the 2024 WCL All-Star Game. Patrick Keigrhan, Tanner Griffith, Shay Timmer, and Freddie Rodriguez.

**GAME 1:**

The Pickles dropped their first game of the second half of the WCL season on the road 5-4 in Springfield. The Drifters scored three runs in the fifth, totaled 11 hits, and took advantage of three Pickles’ errors. The offense for the Pickles just couldn’t crack a big inning as the offense left eight runners on base and totaled nine hits. Left fielder Carter Frederick (Oklahoma), and third baseman Alejandro Garza (Cal Poly) recorded three hits a piece. Garza recorded two RBI, and right fielder Tanner Griffith (St. Marys) recorded two runs of his own. Game one flipped the script for base runners for the Pickles. The offense recorded only three walks and failed to record a big inning.

Right-hander Dylan Smith (Northern Colorado) got the start on the knoll and recorded his fifth start of the season, and his third straight appearance pitching 4.0 innings. Smith allowed just one run on five hits, striking out four Drifters’ hitters. Left-hander Nolan Ficklin (BYU) threw a season high 3.0 relief innings giving up one run on four hits, striking out two drifters. Both Smith and Ficklin totaled a 2.25 ERA for the season.

**GAME 2:**

Recording at least a run in seven of nine innings, the Pickles bounced back in game two with a 14-4 victory over the Drifters. A four fun third inning would and seven of nine Pickles’ hitters recording a hit would force a game three rubber match. Center fielder Tony Otis (Pacific) and shortstop Tyler Harries (San Francisco) recorded a three-hit game. Designated hitter Patrick Keigrhan (San Francisco) recorded three runs, four walks, a HBP, and recorded a double and an RBI. First baseman Kevin Ferguson (Hawaii) and Otis recorded three RBI, with Otis recording his third home run of the season.

Starting left-hander Shaydon Benson (College of Southern Idaho) tied a season high 3.0 innings pitched in his seventh appearance of the season. Right-hander Murphy Gienger (Northern Colorado) recorded his second win of the season, recording 5.0 innings, with one run, on four hits, striking out four Drifters’ hitters in relief.

**GAME 3:**

The Pickles’ pitching staff earned a shutout in a 6-0 game three and series win. Left-hander Ben Smith (GCU) recorded his second consecutive win in his fourth start of the season. Smith threw a season high 5.1 innings giving up no runs on three hits, while striking out five Drifters hitters. Smith now has a 2.79 ERA for the season and retired 16 of the 20 batters faced. Right-hander Alex Overbay (UNLV) and right-hander Carter Delaney (UC Davis) recorded two strikeouts and one hit a piece. The Defense also did their job as they recorded no errors in the series clinching victory.

The top six hitters recorded all 12 hits for the Pickles. A leadoff home run in the top of the first by  first baseman Patrick Keigrhan (San Francisco) highlighted the offensive display for the Pickles. Keighran and right fielder Tanner Griffith (St. Marys) recorded two hits with Keigrhan hitting his third home run of the season. Second baseman Alex Gouveia (UC Davis) and center fielder Tony Otis (Pacific) recorded two hit games. Three Pickles’ baserunners recorded a stolen base (Griffith, Otis, and and Ferguson), and the lineup recorded six walks as a team. There were four doubles recorded as well for the Pickles (Keighran, Frederick, Gouveia, and Otis). A three run three inning would help the Pickles settle in and coast for the shutout victory and would help clinch their tenth series win of the season.

**SEASON NOTES:**

* Tyler Harries (San Francisco) has recorded eight multi-hit games this season, and recorded 10 hits in the last six games.
* Tanner Griffith (St. Marys)  has reached base safely in 26 of 30 games this season. Griffith has recorded eight multi-hit games, and leads the team with 28 walks this season.
* Patrick Keighran (San Francisco) has recorded at least one hit in 9 of the last 11 games, with six multi-hit games this season.  Keighran has also recorded at least two runs in 10 games this season, and has recorded 2+ walks in eight games this season.
* Alex Gouveia (UC Davis) has recorded a run in seven of nine games, reaching base safely in 15 of 19 games played this season. Gouveia has recorded 10 multi-hit games this season, and four games with at least three hits.
* In his first four games, Carter Frederick (Oklahoma) is 8-16 with two doubles, four runs, recording five RBI, and a 4-1 BB/K ratio.
* In his first four games, Alejandro Garza (Cal Poly) is 6-17 with a double, three runs, recording three RBI, and 3-1 BB/K ratio.
* Connor Stewart (CSUN) has reached base safely in 18 of 23 games played this season.
* Shunsuke Sakaino (CSUN) has reached base safely in 16 of 19 games played this season.
* Sam Christiansen (Oklahoma) has reached base safely in 20 of 24 games this season, and has recorded at least one run in 18 games.
* Dylan Smith (Northern Colorado) leads the team in innings pitched (24), and has thrown for 4.0+ innings in five of six appearances this season.
* Murphy Gienger (Northern Colorado) has recorded 4+ strikeouts in five of six appearances this season, and is second on the team in innings pitched (23).
* Freddie Rodriguez (Hawaii) has thrown for 5+ innings in all four starts this season, and has won three of his four starts this season. Rodriguez also is third on the team in innings pitched (21).
* Brock Roundy (Utah Tech) has recorded 5+ strikeouts in three of four games pitched, and has not given up a run this season in 16 innings pitched.
* Shaydon Benson has appeared in seven games and has thrown for at least 2+ innings in every appearance, and struck out 3+ three times.
* Noah Luchessi (Sacramento State) leads the team with eight appearances this season.
* The Pickles have won their 10 series this season, and have won seven straight series.
* The Pickles are 10-4 at home, 13-5 on the road, and 8-2 in their last 10 games

**PICKLES IN THE WCL:**

* The Pickles are 6-1 in the second half of the season. Pickles finished second overall in winning percentage (.680) in the first half of the season, and second in the South division with a 17-8 record.
* Team defense is second in fielding percentage (.974).
* Offense is first in HBP (60), Sacrifice Hits (43), second in OBP (.394), in runs scored (206), walks (189) and third in stolen bases (72), and RBI (162).
* Pitching is first in hits allowed (210), strikeouts (279), SLG allowed (.244), AVG against (.201), second runs allowed (98), WHIP (1.23), ERA (2.78).
* Tyler Harries (San Francisco) sits fourth in AVG (.356), sixth in OBP (.453)
* Alex Gouveia (UC Davis) sits fifth in AVG (.346).
* Tanner Griffith (St. Marys) sits first in total walks (28), and sixth in OBP (.453), HBP (7), in runs scored (24).
* Patrick Keighran (San Francisco) is first in OBP (.523), HBP (15), second in runs scored (33), and total walks (27), third in Slugging Percentage (.517).
* Connor Stewart (CSUN) sits fifth in HBP (8).
* Sam Christiansen (Oklahoma) sits third in stolen bases (14).
* Tony Otis (Pacific) sits fourth in stolen bases (13).

**Next Up:**

The Portland Pickles (21-8) will be back home in Walker Stadium  to face the Bend Elks (21-12) in a three-game series for State Fair Weekend July 12-14.

Ticket Info: <https://www.picklestickets.com/>