



MOREHEAD CITY MARLINS

2026 GAME NOTES

PUCK O'NEAL FIELD AT BIG ROCK STADIUM | 2714 MAYBERRY LOOP ROAD | MOREHEAD CITY, NC, 28557 | 252-269-9767

EXHIBITION 3 / JULY 22, 2026 / 6:30 PM

MOREHEAD CITY MARLINS

29-8

VS

VA BEACH VALOR

0-4

HEAD COACH: SAM CAREL (Y6 / 165-109 Record)
THIS SEASON VS. VA BEACH: 2-0
STREAK: L1

HEAD COACH:
THIS SEASON VS. MOREHEAD CITY: 0-2
STREAK:



@MHCMARLINS

MOREHEAD CITY, NC BIG ROCK STADIUM				
LHP DREW WEDGEWORTH		STARTERS	TBD	
TODAY	VS. VA BEACH	6:30 PM	HTN	
THURSDAY	VS. WILMINGTON	6:30 PM	HTN	
FRIDAY	VS. GREENVILLE	6:30 PM	HTN	



@VBVALOR

LEAGUE RECORD

29-8

OVERALL RECORD

31-8

HOME: 18-2

ROAD: 13-6

EAST STANDINGS

1.	MOREHEAD CITY	29-8
2.	WILMINGTON	26-11
3.	TRI-CITY	20-16
4.	PENINSULA	20-19
5.	HOLLY SPRINGS	18-20
6.	GREENVILLE	15-23
7.	ZEBULON	10-27

WEST STANDINGS

1.	ASHEBORO	24-13
2.	MACON	22-16
3.	FOREST CITY	21-17
4.	HP-THOMASVILLE	20-18
5.	BOONE	19-21
6.	LEXINGTON COUNTY	17-20
7.	MARTINSVILLE	12-27
8.	FLORENCE	10-27



MATCHING
UP



37	GP	4
.315	BA	.173
.442	OBP	.296
.510	SLG	.183
.953	OPS	.479
378	H	18
71	2B	4
10	3B	0
48	HR	0
280	RBI	3
232	BB	13
306	K	43
94/118	SB/ATT	6/7
3.80	ERA	9.47

*stats vs. CPL teams

MHC MEDIA TEAM

Lead Broadcaster: Kyle Beene
571-245-3329 | kyledbeene@gmail.com
Broadcast & Streaming Intern: Max Schwanz
NOTES COMPILED BY KYLE BEENE

KEY STORYLINES

REELIN' IN THE YEARS

The Marlins return for their 16th season in the Coastal Plain League. This year also marks the sixth under Head Coach Sam Carel, the winningest in Marlins history, who is in his second stint with the team. Carel led Morehead City to two Petitt Cup Playoff appearances in his first two seasons back.

REFLECTING ON 2025

Last Season, the Marlins finished 4th place in the East Division with a final record of 21-24. Morehead City was led by four All-CPL team players Tanner Malley (Western Michigan), Nate Anderson (Kennesaw State), Reid Bertram (Gardner-Webb), and Danny Thompson (UNC Greensboro).

MOREHEAD CITY PREVIEW

With a litany of returning players, the Marlins are poised for a successful 2026 campaign. Look out for some powerful bats and dominant pitching this season thanks to your favorite Morehead City stars. With Head Coach Sam Carel back at the helm alongside Jaylen Mack and Gabe Todtenhausen, a rising star among pitching coaches, the team looks to be as strong as ever in Big Rock.

MAKING HISTORY...AGAIN...AGAIN?

The Marlins list of Coastal Plain League records continues to grow with a new CPL single-game record of eight home runs against Greenville over the weekend.

Their 10 All-Star selections and 12 total mercy wins are both record-breaking numbers. With the 15-3 mercy win over Holly Springs on Saturday, Morehead City broke another record with three consecutive run-rule wins.

FISH CLINCH THE PLAYOFFS

With the 18-0 win over Greenville, the Marlins have clinched a spot in the playoffs with hopes of holding onto the #1 seed. The Marlins need just a few more wins to lock in a top-2 spot, but won't be able to secure the best record in the East for several more games.

TATER FACTORY

The Marlins set a new CPL single-game record with eight home runs in Greenville, dominating the Yard Gnomes 18-0. Jovan Gill had his second three-homer game of the week, along with two from Joey Calabretti, and one from Jake Howard, Jakob Haynes, and Braxton Thomas. Aidan Newton dominated over three innings, striking out seven, with Heard, Ferguson, Parache, and Zoeller combining for an additional nine to hold the Gnomes to only two hits.

SERIES RECAP WITH VA BEACH

The Marlins have defeated the Valor in both exhibition games this season with a combined 21 runs in the two games. In the first meeting, Morehead City shutout the Valor 15-0 in Bryce Nicolay's first start. In the last game, the Marlins took it 6-1 with appearances from Nicolay, Hopkins, Brady, Wedgeworth, Parache, and DeLuzio.



2026 MOREHEAD CITY MARLINS ROSTER

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	B/T	YR	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
1	Lincoln Strump	IF	5'11	185	R/R	FR	UNC - Greensboro	Newport, NC
2	Grant Russo	OF/IF	5-9	190	S/R	R-SO	Bloomsburg University	Sugarloaf, PA
3	Braxton Thomas	1B	6-2	225	L/L	JR	Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo	Patterson, CA
4	Ronnie Rowley	IF/OF	6-1	210	S/R	JR	MidAmerica Nazarene University	Bemen, OH
6	Joey Calabretti	RHP/OF	6-2	200	R/R	JR	La Salle University	Perkasie, PA
7	Matthew Heard	RHP	6-2	195	R/R	SR	University of North Georgia	Monroe, GA
8	Ethan Dillon	OF	6-2	190	R/R	SO	Transylvania University	Louisville, KY
9	James Brock	RHP	5-11	195	R/R	SR	University of British Columbia	Burnaby, BC
10	Reid Bertram	LHP	6-2	195	L/L	R-SR	Gardner-Webb University	Concord, NC
11	Zach Greenberg	C	5-10	185	R/R	R-JR	Winthrop University	Horsham, PA
12	Carson Gipson	RHP	6-2	200	R/R	SR	Univeristy of Mount Olive	Pikeville, NC
13	Spencer Cipro	RHP	6-5	225	R/R	R-SR	Belmont Abbey College	Brookfield, MA
14	Gavin Zoeller	LHP	5'11	175	L/L	JR	Lincoln Memorial University	Suwanee, GA
15	Diego Diaz	IF	5-10	180	L/R	JR	University of Texas - San Antonio	Pharr, TX
16	Jakob Haynes	C	6-3	220	R/R	JR	Seton Hill University	Claridge, PA
17	Jake Howard	OF/IF	6-3	235	R/R	SO	Chowan University	Kinston, NC
18	Tyler DeLuzio	LHP	5-11	195	L/L	R-JR	University of Mount Olive	Newport, NC
19	Jon Howard	IF	6-3	220	R/R	R-JR	Longwood University	Kinston, NC
20	Kole Hopkins	RHP	6-4	200	R/R	SO	University of Mount Olive	Tarpon Springs, FL
21	Bryce Nicolay	RHP	6-3	190	R/R	R-SO	Murray State University	Oakville, MO
22	Joey Hiller	RHP	5'11	190	R/R	FR	Quinnipiac University	Center Moriches, NY
23	Bray Touchstone	C/1B	5-10	220	R/R	SO	Samford University	Cantonment, FL
24	Ryan Jackson	RHP	6-1	185	R/R	R-SO	Benedictine College	Denver, CO
26	Jake Friel	LHP	6'2	185	L/L	R-FR	Sacred Heart University	Devon, PA
28	Connor Brady	RHP	6-3	205	R/R	R-JR	Texas A&M-TeXarkana	Van Buren, AR
33	Matt Hubbard	RHP	6-4	220	R/R	SO	University of Toledo	Perrysburg, OH
38	Jovan Gill	1B/RHP	6-3	230	L/R	6TH-SR	Grand Valley State University	Kansas City, MO
39	Drew Wedgeworth	LHP	6-2	195	L/L	R-FR	Missouri State University	Springfield, MO

COACHES

HEAD COACH SAM CAREL

YEAR AS HC: 6
 YEAR IN MHC: 7
 ALMA MATER: MISSOURI STATE
 HOMETOWN: ST. LOUIS, MO
 RESIDES: ST. LOUIS, MO

PITCHING COACH GABE TODTENHAUSEN

YEAR AS PC: 5
 YEAR IN MHC: 1
 ALMA MATER: METROPOLITAN CC, MO
 HOMETOWN: KANSAS CITY, MO
 RESIDES: KANSAS CITY, MO

HITTING COACH JAYLEN MACK

YEAR AS HTC: 2
 YEAR IN MHC: 2
 ALMA MATER: COKER UNIVERSITY
 HOMETOWN: LUMBERTON, NC
 RESIDES: MOREHEAD CITY, NC

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

HC carol #38 JO-vin
 PC toad-en-how-zen
 #1 pa-ra-chee
 #13 sip-row
 #18 deh-LOO-zee-OH
 #21 nick-o-lay



2026 SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

GAME	DATE / TIME	OPP.	W/L	SCORE	WIN	LOSS	SAVE	RECORD	TIME	ATT.
1	MAY 28 / 6:30pm	@ ZEBULON	W	15-5	MHC-CARSON GIPSON	ZEB-JACOB FOSTER		1-0	2:52	526
2	MAY 29 / 6:30pm	FLORENCE	W	13-3	MHC-KORY WILLIAMS	FLO-KANYE BRAXTON		2-0	2:31	900
3	MAY 30 / 7:00pm	@ PENINSULA	W	7-0	MHC-AIDAN NEWTON	PEN-PARKER CODINGTON		3-0	2:49	2,934
5	JUNE 3 / 7:00pm	@ MACON	W	12-2	MHC-CARSON GIPSON	MAC-ROBERT MITCHELL		4-0	2:47	1,635
6	JUNE 4 / 7:00pm	@ FLORENCE	L	1-0	FLO-JACKSON GRINE	MHC-DREW BOWLES		4-1	2:37	1,288
7	JUNE 5 / 6:30pm	WILMINGTON	W	3-1	MHC-MATTHEW HEARD	WLM-LUKE HAYES		5-1	2:24	867
EXH	JUNE 6 / 6:30pm	VA BEACH	W	15-0	MHC-BRYCE NICOLAY	VLR-TY WOODS		6-1	2:13	468
8	JUNE 7 / 5:45pm	@ TRI-CITY	L	6-2	TRI-LIAM STEWART	MHC-AIDAN NEWTON		6-2	2:41	720
9	JUNE 8 / 6:30pm	ZEBULON	W	6-2	MHC-SPENCER CIPRO	ZEB-BRADY STRAWMYER		7-2	2:51	457
10	JUNE 11 / 6:30pm	TRI-CITY	W	13-2	MHC-CARSON GIPSON	TRI-COLE TORBETT		8-2	2:17	635
11	JUNE 12 / 6:30pm	WILMINGTON	W	2-0	MHC-REID BERTRAM	WLM-OTHO SAVAGE	SAGE FERGUSON	9-2	2:34	900
12	JUNE 13 / 6:30pm	@ ZEBULON	W	17-7	MHC-NUNO PARACHE	ZEB-STUART THARLE		10-2	4:13	805
13	JUNE 14 / 6:30pm	MACON	W	10-9	MHC-MATT HUBBARD	MAC-DEVIN MILLER	MATTHEW HEARD	11-2	2:41	689
14	JUNE 15 / 6:30pm	ZEBULON	W	7-2	MHC-DREW WEDGEWORTH	ZEB-HUNTER MITCHELL		12-2	2:32	465
15	JUNE 17 / 6:30pm	HOLLY SPINGS	W	3-2	MHC-JAMES BROCK	HSP-RALPH GARIANO	MATTHEW HEARD	13-2	2:48	725
16	JUNE 18 / 6:30pm	@ GREENVILLE	W	9-8	MHC-BRANDON CARTER	GVL-CHRISTIAN DAVIS		14-2	3:41	509
17	JUNE 19 / 6:30pm	PENINSULA	W	15-1	MHC-REID BERTRAM	PEN-JACE KIRBY		15-2	2:38	840
18	JUNE 20 / 6:30pm	@ GREENVILLE	W	16-0	MHC-AIDAN NEWTON	GVL-NOLAN FEIDT		16-2	2:39	518
19	JUNE 21 / 6:30pm	WILMINGTON	L	11-3	ILM-DEREK LANGFELDER	MHC-MATT HUBBARD		16-3	3:24	567
20	JUNE 22 / 7:00pm	@ PENINSULA	L	10-2	PEN-BRIAN EREU	MHC-DREW WEDGEWORTH		16-4	2:37	1,050
21	JUNE 24 / 6:30pm	PENINSULA	W	5-4	MHC-BRANDON CARTER	PEN-OLVIS GENAO		17-4	3:00	657
4	JUNE 25 / 5:30pm (POST)	@ WILMINGTON	W	9-6	MHC-JAMES BROCK	WLM-OTHO SAVAGE	SAGE FERGUSON	18-4	2:31	1,015
22	JUNE 25 / 7:05pm	@ WILMINGTON	L	7-3	WLM-LOGAN VOELZ	MHC-REID BERTRAM		18-5	2:27	1,015
23	JUNE 26 / 6:30pm	TRI-CITY	W	9-5	MHC-MATT HUBBARD	TRI-CAL TRAVERS		19-5	3:12	890
24	JUNE 27 / 6:30pm	@ FOREST CITY	W	14-10	MHC-DREW WEDGEWORTH	FOR-DJ MCDOWELL	MATTHEW HEARD	20-5	3:30	348
25	JUNE 28 / 6:30pm	@ ASHEBORO	W	10-7	MHC-RYAN JACKSON	ASH-BEN SHEPHERD	SAGE FERGUSON	21-5	3:45	250
26	JULY 1 / 6:30pm	FOREST CITY	L	6-1	FOR-CORBEN CHILDERS	MHC-BRYCE NICOLAY		21-6	3:00	690
27	JULY 2 / 7:05pm	@ WILMINGTON	L	10-3	WLM-RYAN FUREY	MHC-DREW WEDGEWORTH		21-7	3:00	1,812
28	JULY 3 / 6:30pm	ZEBULON	W	15-3	MHC-MATT HUBBARD	ZEB-GARRETT SAWYER		22-7	2:40	900
29	JULY 5 / 5:05pm	@ HOLLY SPRINGS	W	10-6	MHC-RYAN JACKSON	HSP-ANDREW EDRINGTON		23-7	3:44	508
ASG	JULY 6-7	CPL ALL-STAR GAME	L	12-8	WEST-RYLAND BOZENHARD	EAST-RYAN FUREY			3:09	891
EXH	JULY 8 / 6:30pm	VA BEACH	W	6-1	MHC-CONNOR BRADY	VLR-WALT CLEVINGER		24-7	2:25	437
30	JULY 9 / 6:30pm	WILMINGTON	W	12-2	MHC-MATT HUBBARD	WLM-RYAN FUREY		25-7	3:15	699
31	JULY 10 / 6:30pm	ZEBULON	W	11-0	MHC-KORY WILLIAMS	ZEB-BRADY STRAWMYER		26-7	2:00	745
32	JULY 11 / 6:30pm	@ HOLLY SPRINGS	W	15-3	MHC-AIDAN NEWTON	HSP-RALPH GARIANO		27-7	2:36	483
33	JULY 12 / 5:45pm	@ TRI-CITY	POSTPONED TO 7/26							
34	JULY 13 / 6:30pm	ZEBULON	POSTPONED TO FUTURE DATE							
35	JULY 15 / 6:30pm	GREENVILLE	W	11-6	MHC-BRANDON CARTER	GVL-JOSH ROBERSON		28-7	3:42	783
36	JULY 16 / 6:30pm	@ GREENVILLE	W	17-11	MHC-CARSON GIPSON	GVL-KEELY FURR		29-7	3:30	431
37	JULY 17 / 6:30pm	PENINSULA	W	14-1	MHC-JOEY HILLER	PEN-JACKSON RUNYON		30-7	2:35	900
38	JULY 18 / 6:30pm	@ GREENVILLE	W	18-0	MHC-SAGE FERGUSON	GVL-CHRISTIAN DEL CAMPO		31-7	3:09	498
39	JULY 20 / 7:00pm	@ PENINSULA	L	5-2	PEN-ELI TYNDALL	MHC-MATT HUBBARD		31-8	3:02	1,983
EXH	JULY 22 / 6:30pm	VA BEACH								
40	JULY 23 / 6:30pm	WILMINGTON								
41	JULY 24 / 6:30pm	GREENVILLE								
42	JULY 25 / 6:30pm	@ HOLLY SPRINGS								
43	JULY 26 / 5:45pm	@ TRI-CITY								
44	JULY 27 / 6:30pm	HOLLY SPRINGS								
45	JULY 29 / 6:30pm	TRI-CITY								
46	JULY 30 / 7:05pm	@ WILMINGTON								
47	JULY 31 / 6:30pm	@ ZEBULON								
48	AUG 1 / 6:30pm	GREENVILLE								
POST	AUG 2	EAST WILDCARD								
POST	AUG 4	EAST DIV G1								
POST	AUG 5	EAST DIV G2								
POST	AUG 6	EAST DIV G3								
POST	AUG 8	PETITT CUP G1								
POST	AUG 9	PETITT CUP G2								
POST	AUG 10	PETITT CUP G3								



2018 & 2019 PETITT CUP CHAMPIONS

