



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

GAME NO. 43 / JULY 26, 2026 / 5:00 PM

MOREHEAD CITY MARLINS

30-9

VS

TRI-CITY CHILI PEPPERS

20-19

HEAD COACH: SAM CAREL (Y6 / 167-110 Record)
THIS SEASON VS. TRI-CITY: 2-1
STREAK: L1

HEAD COACH: JAMES BIERLEIN
THIS SEASON VS. MOREHEAD CITY: 1-2
STREAK: L3



@MHCMARLINS

COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VA SHEPHERD STADIUM			
RHP SPENCER CIPRO		STARTERS	TBD
TODAY	DH AT TRI-CITY	6:30 PM	HTN + MIXLR
MONDAY	VS. HOLLY SPRINGS	6:30 PM	HTN
WEDNESDAY	VS. TRI-CITY	6:30 PM	HTN



@TCCHILYPEPPERS

LEAGUE RECORD

30-9

OVERALL RECORD

33-9

HOME: 20-2

ROAD: 13-7

EAST STANDINGS

1.	MOREHEAD CITY	30-9
2.	WILMINGTON	26-13
3.	PENINSULA	22-20
4.	TRI-CITY	20-19
5.	HOLLY SPRINGS	21-20
6.	GREENVILLE	15-24
7.	ZEBULON	12-29

WEST STANDINGS

1.	ASHEBORO	27-14
2.	MACON	26-16
3.	FOREST CITY	23-18
4.	HP-THOMASVILLE	20-20
5.	LEXINGTON COUNTY	18-22
6.	BOONE	19-24
7.	MARTINSVILLE	13-27
8.	FLORENCE	11-28

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 Todthausen, 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.

LAST WEEK OF THE REGULAR SEASON

The last week of the regular season is set to be a long one for the Marlins, with three doubleheaders currently scheduled against Tri-City, Wilmington, and Zebulon. The Marlins will need to stretch the bullpen ahead of the playoffs to secure a top seed, but have a favorable position with a playoff spot locked and a four game buffer over the Sharks in second place headed into tonight's slate.

MARLINS FALL IN HOLLY SPRINGS

The Marlins struggled to get the bats going against the Salamanders last night, with five total hits spread across two innings. The Marlins pitchers gave up 10 walks, which Holly Springs capitalized on to collect 11 runs, including two homers from Brady Gold and Drew Jones.

LAST MEETING WITH THE CHILI PEPPERS

The Marlins won the last meeting with the Peppers in late June, outslugging Tri-City with four home runs to win 9-5 at home. Jakob Haynes and Jake Howard each had a long ball, and Jovan Gill added two of his own to propel the Marlins to the win. Despite giving up 14 hits, the bullpen kept the Peppers to just one extra-base hit, a solo homer for Myles Holmes in the second. Five errors were costly for Tri-City that evening, helping the Marlins to two unearned runs on the night.



MATCHING UP



39	GP	39
.311	BA	.264
.441	OBP	.385
.500	SLG	.407
.941	OPS	.792
393	H	332
75	2B	46
10	3B	1
48	HR	44
288	RBI	204
246	BB	211
323	K	340
99/124	SB/ATT	92/114
3.99	ERA	5.41

*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



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
5	Jackson Sgro	IF	5'9	180	R/R	SO	Haverford College	Hopewell, NJ
6	Joey Calabretti	RHP/UTL	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	Grand Valley State University	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
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
PC toad-en-how-zen
#13 sip-row
#18 deh-LOO-zee-OH
#21 nick-o-lay
#38 JO-vin



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							
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	W	15-1	MHC-JAKE FRIEL	VLR-TY WOODS		32-8	2:34	690
40	JULY 23 / 6:30pm	WILMINGTON	POSTPONED							
41	JULY 24 / 6:30pm	GREENVILLE	W	8-3	MHC-KOLE HOPKINS	GVL-NATE LAKE		33-8	3:37	490
42	JULY 25 / 6:30pm	@ HOLLY SPRINGS	L	11-3	HSP-CAMERON BROWN	MHC-JAMES BROCK		33-9	3:37	792
43	JULY 26 / 5:00pm	@ 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

