



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

EAST DIVISIONIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME 1 / AUGUST 4, 2026 / 6:30 PM

MOREHEAD CITY MARLINS

34-14

VS

WILMINGTON SHARKS

33-14

HEAD COACH: SAM CAREL (Y6 / 171-115 Record)
THIS SEASON VS. WILMINGTON: 4-5
STREAK: W3

HEAD COACH: RUSS BURROUGHS
THIS SEASON VS. MOREHEAD CITY: 5-4
STREAK: W7



@MHCMARLINS

WILMINGTON, NC BUCK HARDEE FIELD				
RHP JOEY HILLER		STARTERS	TBD	
TODAY	AT WILMINGTON	6:30 PM	HTN + MIXLR	
WEDNESDAY	VS. WILMINGTON	6:30 PM	HTN	
THURSDAY	VS. WILMINGTON (IF NEEDED)	6:30 PM	HTN	



@ILMSHARKS

LEAGUE RECORD

34-14

OVERALL RECORD

37-14

HOME: 23-4

ROAD: 14-10

EAST STANDINGS

1.	MOREHEAD CITY	34-14
2.	WILMINGTON	32-14
3.	HOLLY SPRINGS	27-21
4.	PENINSULA	26-22
5.	TRI-CITY	25-22
6.	GREENVILLE	16-32
7.	ZEBULON	13-33

WEST STANDINGS

1.	MACON	30-17
2.	FOREST CITY	28-19
3.	ASHEBORO	28-20
4.	HP-THOMASVILLE	24-22
5.	BOONE	23-24
6.	LEXINGTON COUNTY	18-29
7.	MARTINSVILLE	15-29
8.	FLORENCE	12-33

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.

EAST DIVISION DESTINY

The Marlins and Sharks have been regular opponents in the East Divisional Championship, with their most recent meeting back in 2023. The Sharks ended up defeating Morehead City in three games before losing to the Lexington County Blowfish in the championship. The rivalry has always been intense, and will surely keep fans on the edge of their seats again this year.

SHARKS TAKE THE WILDCARD

Wilmington took down the Salamanders on Sunday night 9-1 to move past the East Wildcard. Wilmington dominated with 13 hits, while starter Ryan Forey went for six innings, allowing only three hits and one unearned run. The Sharks then used some of their best in the bullpen in Josh Hauser, Connor Kane, and Logan Voeltz to close out, the trio holding Holly Springs scoreless in three innings.

CHUM BUCKET CHALLENGE CONTINUES

Morehead City will travel to Wilmington for game one of the East Divisional Championship, with games two and three (if necessary) back at Big Rock on Wednesday and Thursday. The Marlins dominated the early season against Wilmington, but have since lost the last two meetings. The stakes have never been higher for the Marlins, who have set a multitude of records this season with hopes of achieving the ultimate goal of hoisting the Petitt Cup.

REGULAR SEASON FINALE

The Marlins defeated the Yard Gnomes on Saturday to secure the #1 seed in the Petitt Cup Playoffs, winning a 5-4 nailbiter in front of the home crowd. With Hiller, DeLuzio, Greenidge, Zoeller, Hopkins, Gipson, and Jake Howard all appearing on the mound, the Marlins gave up only one earned run on the night. Jake Howard was the hero of the game, getting the called strike three against Jace Parnin to win the game.



MATCHING UP



48	GP	47
.308	BA	.283
.432	OBP	.400
.493	SLG	.397
.925	OPS	.797
.475	H	.419
.91	2B	.68
.10	3B	.7
.58	HR	.29
.343	RBI	.278
.280	BB	.229
.387	K	.310
111/137	SB/ATT	136/152
4.53	ERA	5.09

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	Jude Morton	1B	5-11	190	R/R	R-JR	Tusculum University	Jacksonville, NC
2	Grant Russo	OF/IF	5-9	190	S/R	R-SO	Bloomsburg University	Sugarloaf, PA
3	Derrick Davis	OF	6-0	180	R/R	FR	Chowan University	Tarboro, NC
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	Jaden Greenidge	3B/RHP	6-0	195	R/R	SR	Lincoln University	Richmond, VA
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
25	Broderik Miller	LHP	6-5	205	L/L	SO	Bridgewater College	Newport, NC
26	Jake Friel	LHP	6-2	185	L/L	R-FR	Sacred Heart University	Devon, PA
27	Parker Gay	RHP	6-1	205	R/R	FR	University of North Carolina - Pembroke	Rocky Mount, NC
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
#5 ss-CRO
#13 sip-row
#18 deh-L00-zee-OH
#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 (P)	@ 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
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
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
33	JULY 26 / 5:00pm (P)	@ TRI-CITY	L	8-4	TRI-CHARLIE RICHWINE	MHC-SPENCER CIPRO		33-10	2:22	437
43	JULY 26 / 5:00pm	@ TRI-CITY	L	8-6	TRI-CLARK DRISCOLL	MHC-GAVIN ZOELLER		33-11	2:29	437
44	JULY 27 / 6:30pm	HOLLY SPRINGS	L	7-4	HSP-SETH COXIE	MHC-CARSON GIPSON		33-12	3:01	375
45	JULY 29 / 5:00pm	TRI-CITY	W	10-9	MHC-MATTHEW HEARD	TRI-MATT MANLEY		34-12	3:25	680
40	JULY 29 / 5:00pm (P)	WILMINGTON	L	6-5	WLM-LOGAN VOELZ	MHC-MATTHEW HEARD	JOSH HAUSER	34-13	2:24	1,522
46	JULY 30 / 7:05pm	@ WILMINGTON	L	11-6	WLM-AIDEN LENZEN	MHC-JAKE FRIEL		34-14	2:19	1,522
34	JULY 31 / 4:35pm (P)	ZEBULON	W	15-2	MHC-JAMES BROCK	ZEB-GARRETT SAWYER		35-15	2:19	1,364
47	JULY 31 / 4:35pm	@ ZEBULON	W	8-5	MHC-PARKER GAY	ZEB-MATTHEW DRIVER	KOLE HOPKINS	36-15	2:22	1,364
48	AUG 1 / 6:30pm	GREENVILLE	W	5-4	MHC-JADEN GREENIDGE	GVL-JAQUAVIOUS CLEMMONS	JAKE HOWARD	37-15	2:55	780
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

