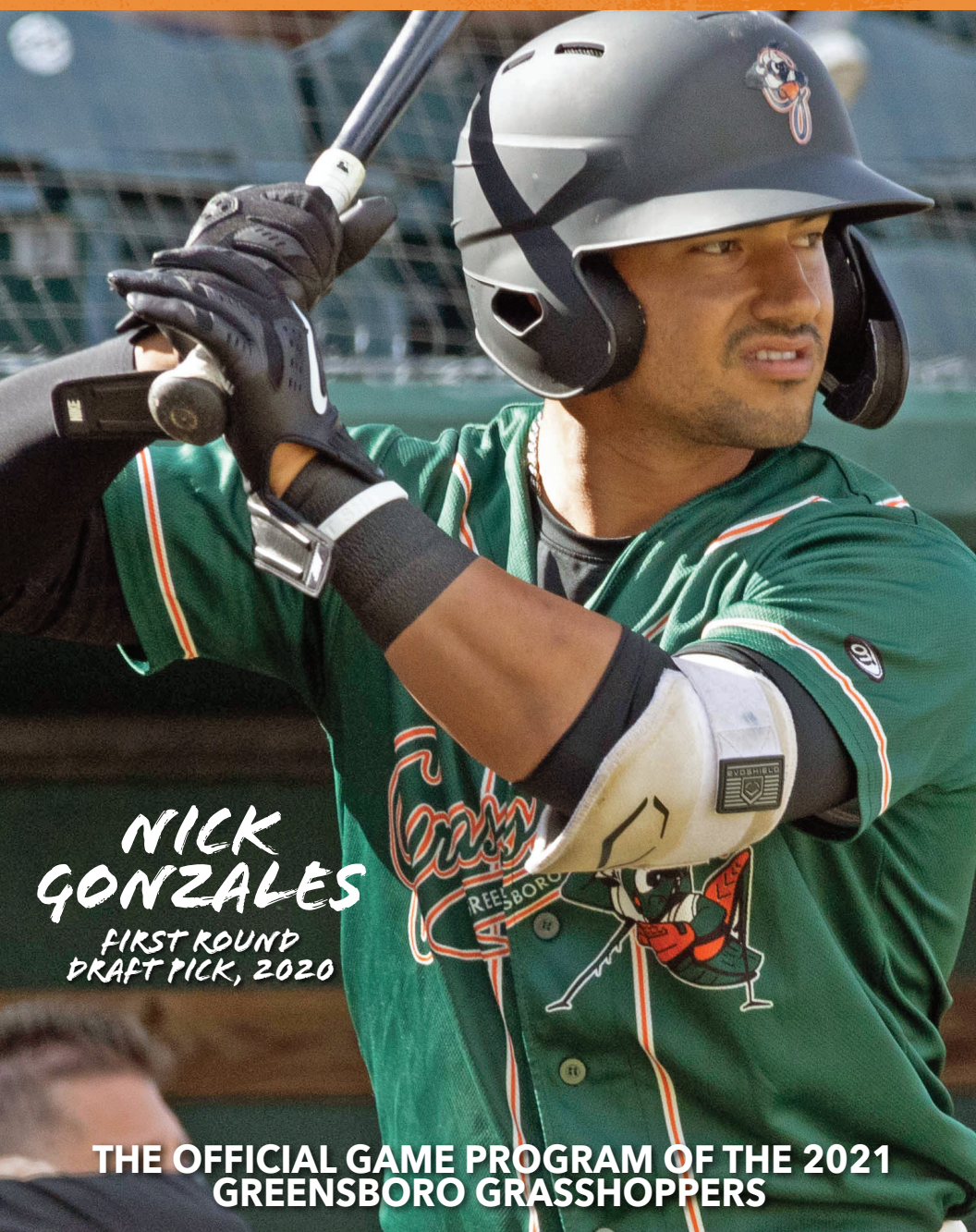




THIRD EDITION | MAY 25 - MAY 30



NICK
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Photos courtesy of Jak Kerley, Dano Keeney and the Pittsburgh Pirates.



May 4, 2021

Dear Grasshoppers Fans,

On behalf of our entire staff, I would like to welcome you to beautiful First National Bank Field and the 16th year of Greensboro Grasshoppers Baseball. This year promises to be another great season, with excitement both on and off the field. We have worked incredibly hard to provide you, our fans, with the best affordable family entertainment possible.

All of this would not be possible without the participation of our corporate partners and friends. Please make a note of who these people are and support them with your business. First National Bank has made a very significant investment in Greensboro and we are excited to begin our fourth year with them as our naming rights partner.

We begin this season with many COVID-19 related restrictions in place and ask for your compliance with these matters.

If there is ever anything we can do to enhance your experience, please do not hesitate to let us know. You are the reason we are here, so please have fun and come back often to visit.

Go Hoppers!!

Sincerely,

Donald C. Moore
President/General Manager



HAVE FUN AND GET BETTER

GETTING TO KNOW HOPPERS INFIELDER NICK GONZALES

By Jeff Mills

Often the game we love doesn't love us back.

That's baseball, a game of routine failure punctuated by just enough moments of success that keep us coming back for more.

And so it was for the Greensboro Grasshoppers' **Nick Gonzales** when he stepped into the right-hand batter's box with one out and the bases loaded in the 10th inning of the 11th game of his professional career.

Gonzales, the college hitting machine picked seventh overall in the 2020 draft, was 0-for-4 with two strikeouts against Rome pitchers up to that point. He had stranded five baserunners.

Gonzales took two balls from Rome right-hander **Marrick Crouse**, then swung at a pitch he liked ... and hit a weak ground ball to shortstop. Another failure by Gonzales' standards, poor contact not up to snuff with his own expectations.

And yet, it was enough for a perfect moment.

"I knew the bases were loaded," Gonzales said, "and I figured all I had to do was put the ball in play and make something happen. The way the situation was, when I hit the ground ball, I knew I was a little early on it and got it off the end (of the bat).



"But I could tell I didn't hit it hard enough for them to turn a double play as long as I ran hard. So I ran just as fast as I could, didn't think about anything else except getting down the line to first. I beat it out, and I was safe, and I knew we had won. The game was over, and we sent everyone home. That was a lot of fun."

Rome's only chance was a double play, and the Braves forced out **Matt Frazier**, who had been intentionally walked to load the bases. But Gonzales' footspeed beat the throw to first base easily, and **Jack Herman** scored from third.

Game over. Drive home safely.

The Hoppers spilled out of the dugout and mobbed Gonzales in a moment of pure joy, as the biggest crowd of the season so far stood and cheered.

continued on page 7

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COACHING STAFF



KIERAN MATTISON • FIELD MANAGER

Mattison is in his fifth season as a manager in the Pirates organization. He spent the 2019 season with Bristol and led the club to a 34-33 record, with a postseason berth for the first time since 2002. He led the West Virginia Black Bears to a 32-44 record in 2018 and guided the DSL Pirates to a 36-34 mark in 2017.

The former right-handed pitcher attended East Carolina University and was signed by Kansas City as a non-drafted free agent in 2002. Kieran pitched for five minor league seasons in the Kansas City, Cleveland and Los Angeles (NL) organizations, in addition to playing in various independent leagues and in the Chinese Professional Baseball League through 2010.



MATT FORD • PITCHING COACH

Ford is in his first year with the Hoppers and eighth season with the Pirates organization. He spent the 2019 season as the Rehab Pitching Coach and previous two years as Pitching Coach with Bradenton after serving in the same capacity with the West Virginia Power in 2016.

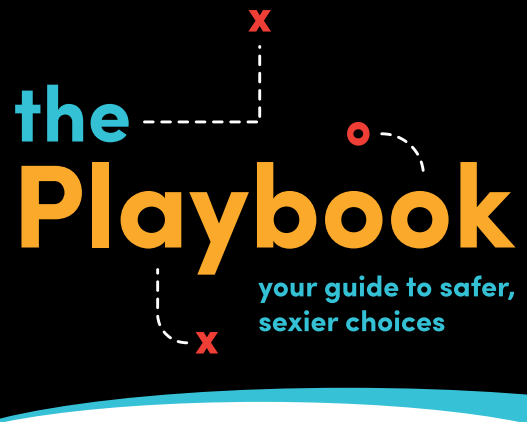
Ford was Toronto's third-round selection in the 1999 First-Year Player Draft and made his professional debut with Medicine Hat in the Pioneer League that summer. As a former left-handed pitcher, he posted a 2.37 ERA with Dunedin in 2002 and was selected by Milwaukee in the Rule 5 Draft in December 2002. Ford made his Major League debut with the Brewers on April 2, 2003 and pitched a scoreless inning of relief.



RUBEN GOTAY • HITTING COACH

Gotay is in his first year with the Hoppers and first full season with the Pirates organization. Prior to joining the Pittsburgh Pirates in 2020, he was with the Phillies organization.

He played professionally for 17 years (2001-2017), including parts of four seasons in the Major Leagues with the Royals (2004-05), Mets (2007) and Braves (2008). As a former infielder he compiled .255 batting average, 12 homers and 77 RBI in 316 big league games. Gotay was originally selected by Kansas City in the 31st round of the 2000 First-Year Draft.



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BLAKE BUTLER • DEVELOPMENT COACH

Blake joined the Pittsburgh Pirates in 2020. The 2021 season will be his first full season as a Developmental Coach. Butler was born in Greensboro, NC and is a 2013 graduate of Southeast Guilford High School. He went on to play for the College of Charleston and was selected by the Cincinnati Reds in the 15th round of the First-Year Player Draft.

Butler made his professional debut with the Arizona League Reds in 2015. He Spent the 2016-17 seasons playing with Daytona in the Florida State League.

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Hitting Coach: Rick Eckstein
Pitching Coach: Oscar Marin
First Base Coach: Tarrik Brock
Third Base Coach: Joey Cora
Bench Coach: Don Kelly
Bullpen Coach: Justin Meccage

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HAVE FUN AND GET BETTER

GETTING TO KNOW HOPPERS INFIELDER NICK GONZALES

continued from page 2

"We couldn't ask to have a better hitter at the plate in that situation," Hoppers manager **Kieran Mattison** said. "If you want to load the bases to get to him, man, go right ahead. ... It was a good moment. We talk about it all the time: Get down the line hard and put pressure on the defense. It's for moments like that."

And it's a moment that tells you all you need to know about Nick Gonzales.

Dude is a ballplayer.

UNDERDOG TO PROSPECT

The same kind of hustle we saw on that fielder's choice grounder landed Gonzales on the injured list during his first road trip.

Gonzales broke the pinky finger on his right hand during a collision at first base in a game at Hickory.

Jason Mackey of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reports the injury is a fracture to the volar plate, a ligament that joins two bones in his right little finger. The finger must be immobilized to heal.

The Pittsburgh Pirates placed Gonzales on the 7-day IL, but it's an injury that needs 4-to-6 weeks to heal. Barring complications, that timeline puts him back in Greensboro's lineup for home series against Greenville in late June or Asheville in early July.

So the season pauses for Gonzales with a .294 batting average in 13 games. Of his 15 hits, nine have gone for extra bases with seven doubles and two home runs.

It's a setback, but Gonzales remains one of the top prospects in the game. MLB Pipeline ranks the 21-year-old second baseman as Pittsburgh's No. 2 prospect and the No. 33 prospect in all of minor league baseball.

It wasn't always that way.

Gonzales grew up in Vail, Ariz. - a town a little smaller than Reidsville - about 25 miles southeast of Tucson. At 5-foot-10 and 180 pounds, most college recruiters passed over him. He walked on at New Mexico State and proved himself.

continued on page 14





**FRANCISCO
ACUNA #7**

Infielder • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 01/12/00 • Hometown: Stockton, CA
Pirates Acq: 27th Round • 2019



**BRAXTON
ASHCRAFT #51**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 10/05/99 • Hometown: Robinson, TX
Pirates Acq: 2nd Round • 2018



**BEAR
BELLOMY #18**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 11/29/96 • Hometown: Scott Depot, WV
Pirates Acq: 28th Round • 2019



**MICHAEL
BURROWS #50**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 11/08/99 • Hometown: Waterford, CT
Pirates Acq: 11th Round • 2018



**OMAR
CRUZ #26**

Pitcher • Bats: Left • Throws: Left
Born: 01/26/99 • Hometown: Hermosillo, Son, Mexico
Pirates Acq: Trade • 2021



GREENSBORO GRASSHOPPERS ROSTER

As of May 21, 2021

MANAGER Kieran Mattison #24

HITTING COACH Ruben Gotay #12

PITCHING COACH Matt Ford #52

DEVELOPMENT COACH Blake Butler #31

ATHLETIC TRAINER Victor Silva

STRENGTH & CONDITIONING Henry Torres

#	PITCHERS	B/T	BORN	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
51	Ashcraft, Braxton	RHP	10/05/99	6'4	206	Robinson, TX	2nd Rd., '18
18	Bellomy, Bear	RHP	11/29/96	6'2	220	Scott Depot, WV	28th Rd., '19
50	Burrows, Michael	RHP	11/08/99	6'1	192	Waterford, CT	11th Rd., '18
26	Cruz, Omar	LHP	01/26/99	6'1	200	Hermosillo, Son, Mex.	Trade '21
41	Ford, Grant	RHP	03/11/98	6'1	191	San Jose, CA	5th Rd., '19
37	Garcia, Oliver	RHP	01/08/98	6'3	213	San Francisco de Marcoris, DR	Free Agent '15
49	Kobos, William	RHP	08/03/97	6'0	211	Charlotte, NC	19th Rd., '18
38	Leonard, Garrett	RHP	09/25/96	6'1	196	Fort Mill, SC	15th Rd., '19
28	Manasa, Alexander	RHP	01/06/98	6'4	208	Farmington, MI	11th Rd., '17
43	McGough, Trey	LHP	03/29/98	6'2	178	Johnstown, PA	6th Rd., '19
39	Melendez, Cristofer	RHP	09/16/97	6'3	230	Azua, D.R.	Trade '18
45	Mlodzinski, Carmen	RHP	02/19/99	6'2	232	Hilton Head, SC	CBA Rd., '20
15	Priester, Quinn	RHP	09/15/00	6'3	207	Cary, IL	1st Rd., '18
27	Roberts, Austin	RHP	07/27/98	6'1	218	Sacramento, CA	8th Rd., '19
48	Selby, Colin	RHP	10/24/97	6'1	221	Chesapeake, VA	16th Rd., '18
17	Thomas, Tahnaj	RHP	06/16/99	6'4	220	Freeport, Bahamas	Trade '18

#	CATCHERS	B/T	BORN	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
23	Koch, Grant	R/R	02/05/97	6'0	197	Fayetteville, AR	5th Rd., '18
29	Shockley, Dylan	R/R	04/10/97	5'10	195	Rio Grande, OH	34th Rd., '19
35	Wilkie, Kyle	R/R	10/20/97	5'11	199	Cumming, GA	12th Rd., '19

#	INFIELTERS	B/T	BORN	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
7	Acuna, Francisco	R/R	01/12/00	5'6	161	Stockton, CA	Free Agent, '16
47	Finol, Claudio	R/R	04/13/00	5'11	171	Maracaibo, VZ	Rule 5 Draft '20
46	Matthiessen, Will	R/R	01/09/98	6'7	220	Tualitin, OR	6th Rd., '19
44	Shackelford, Aaron	L/R	10/16/96	5'9	220	Murrieta, CA	14th Rd., '19
19	Triolo, Jared	R/R	02/08/98	6'3	207	Austin, TX	Comp B Rd., '19
5	Valdez, Jesus	R/R	12/29/97	6'0	173	Nizao, D.R.	Trade '18

#	OUTFIELDERS	B/T	BORN	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
14	Frazier, Matthew	L/R	01/12/98	6'2	212	Fresno, CA	3rd Rd., '19
36	Gorski, Matthew	R/R	12/22/97	6'3	209	South Bend, IN	2nd Rd., '19
22	Herman, Jack	R/R	09/30/99	5'10	190	Berlin, NJ	30th Rd., '18
25	Macias, Fabricio	R/R	03/11/98	6'0	186	Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico	Free Agent, '18
34	Sanchez, Lolo	R/R	04/23/99	6'0	172	Santo Domingo, D.R.	Free Agent, '15



Wilmington Blue Rocks Roster

As of May 22, 2021



Manager: #17 Tommy Shields **Coaches:** **Pitching** - #43 Justin Lord

Hitting - #19 Luis Ordaz

Athletic Trainer - Don Neidig

Strength & Conditioning Coach Shane Hill

No.	Pitchers (15)	B/T	Ht.	Wt.	Birthdate	Age	Birthplace	Acquired by Nationals
28	Joan Adon	R/R	6'2"	242	8/12/1998	22	Santo Domingo, D.R.	Signed as free agent on 7/2/16
38	Zach Bryzkcy	R/R	6'2"	225	7/12/1999	21	Hickory, NC	Signed as free agent on 7/1/20
14	Cade Cavalli	R/R	6'4"	230	8/14/1998	22	Tulsa, OK	1st round of the 2020 Draft
15	Matt Cronin	L/L	6'2"	195	9/20/1997	23	Navarre, FL	4th round of the 2019 Draft
26	Tyler Dyson	R/R	6'4"	220	12/24/1997	23	Bradenton, FL	5th round of the 2019 Draft
35	Cole Henry	R/R	6'4"	215	7/15/1999	21	Florence, AL	2nd round of the 2020 Draft
34	Andrew Karp	R/R	6'1"	204	9/30/1995	25	Winter Garden, FL	6th round of the 2018 Draft
22	Evan Lee	L/L	6'1"	200	6/18/1997	23	Bryant, AR	15th round of the 2018 Draft
23	Francis Peguero	R/R	6'2"	170	10/4/1995	25	Hato Mayor, D.R.	Signed as free agent on 6/14/13
40	Malvin Pena	R/R	6'2"	180	6/24/1997	23	Santo Domingo, D.R.	Signed as free agent on 6/14/14
32	*Todd Peterson	R/R	6'5"	230	1/22/1998	23	St. Petersburg, FL	7th round of the 2019 Draft
16	*Holden Powell	L/L	6'0"	190	9/9/1999	21	Visalia, CA	3rd round of the 2020 Draft
30	Jackson Rutledge	R/R	6'8"	245	4/1/1999	22	Fenton, MO	1st round of the 2019 Draft
45	Reid Schaller	R/R	6'3"	210	4/2/1997	24	Indianapolis, IN	3rd round of the 2018 Draft
29	Alex Troop	L/L	6'5"	210	7/10/1996	24	Batavia, IL	9th round of the 2017 Draft
27	Christian Vann	L/L	6'2"	195	6/25/1996	24	West Palm Beach, FL	25th round of the 2018 Draft
No.	Catchers (3)	B/T	Ht.	Wt.	Birthdate	Age	Birthplace	Acquired by Nationals
39	Brady Lindsly	L/R	6'1"	221	3/3/1998	23	Dallas, TX	4th round of the 2020 Draft
11	Israel Pineda	R/R	5'11"	190	4/3/2000	21	Maracay, VZ	Signed as free agent 7/02/16
37	Andrew Pratt	R/R	6'3"	225	7/24/1996	24	Albuquerque, NM	10th round of the 2019 Draft
No.	Infielders (6)	B/T	Ht.	Wt.	Birthdate	Age	Birthplace	Acquired by Nationals
3	Jake Alu	L/R	5'10"	175	4/6/1997	24	Hamilton, NJ	24th round of the 2019 Draft
8	Yasel Antuna	S/R	6'0"	195	10/26/1999	21	Peravia, D.R.	Signed as free agent on 7/02/16
25	Jack Dunn	R/R	6'2"	185	9/5/1996	24	Alpharetta, GA	20th round of the 2019 Draft
6	Gilbert Lara	R/R	6'4"	198	10/30/1997	23	Bani, D.R.	Traded from MIL on 8/31/2018
4	Kyle Marinconz	L/R	5'10"	185	5/24/1996	24	San Jose, CA	24th round of the 2018 Draft
13	Omar Meregildo	R/R	6'1"	185	8/18/1997	23	Santo Domingo, D.R.	Signed as free agent on 8/12/2014
No.	Outfielders (4)	B/T	Ht.	Wt.	Birthdate	Age	Birthplace	Acquired by Nationals
12	Gage Canning	L/R	5'10"	175	4/23/1997	24	Ramona, CA	5th round of the 2018 Draft
31	Justin Connell	R/R	6'1"	185	3/11/1999	22	Barcelona, ES	11th round of the 2017 Draft
24	Jacob Rhinesmith	L/L	6'2"	195	5/23/1996	24	Shakopee, MN	18th round of the 2018 Draft
7	Armond Upshaw	S/L	6'0"	190	6/20/1996	24	Newman, GA	11th round of the 2016 Draft

Pronunciation Guide:

Joan Adon: Yo-ahn a-Dough-n

Jake Alu: Alou

Yasel Antuna: Yah-Sell ann-Tuna

Zach Bryzkcy: Bricksey

Cade Cavalli: Cah-Valley

Justin Connell: Conn-ull

Matt Cronin: Crone-in

Kyle Marinconz: Marin-cone

Omar Meregildo: Mara-Hill-dough

Francis Peguero: Pah-gare-oh

Israel Pineda: Pin-aid-ah

Reid Schaller: Shaller

*=Injured List



**CLAUDIO
FINOL #47**

Infielder • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 04/13/00 • Hometown: Maracaibo, VZ
Pirates Acq: Rule 5 Draft '20



**GRANT
FORD #41**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 03/11/98 • Hometown: San Jose, CA
Pirates Acq: 5th Round • 2019



**MATTHEW
FRAZIER #14**

Outfielder • Bats: Left • Throws: Right
Born: 01/12/98 • Hometown: Fresno, CA
Pirates Acq: 3rd Round • 2019



**OLIVER
GARCIA #37**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 01/08/98 • Hometown: San Francisco de Macoris, DR
Pirates Acq: Free Agent • 2015



**MATTHEW
GORSKI #36**

Outfielder • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 12/22/97 • Hometown: South Bend, IN
Pirates Acq: 2nd Round • 2019

2021 SCHEDULE



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MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	HIC 6:30PM	HIC 6:30PM	HIC 6:30PM	HIC 6:30PM	HIC 6:30PM
HIC 2:00PM	OFF	ROM 6:30PM	ROM 12:00PM	ROM 6:30PM	ROM 6:30PM	ROM 6:30PM
ROM 2:00PM	OFF	@HIC	@HIC	@HIC	@HIC	@HIC
@HIC	OFF	WIL 6:30PM	WIL 6:30PM	WIL 6:30PM	WIL 6:30PM	WIL 6:30PM
WIL 6:30PM	OFF					

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		WS 6:30PM	WS 12:00PM	WS 6:30PM	WS 6:30PM	WS 6:30PM
WS 2:00PM	OFF	@HIC	@HIC	@HIC	@HIC	@HIC
@HIC	OFF	@WS	@WS	@WS	@WS	@WS
@WS	OFF	GVL 6:30PM	GVL 12:00PM	GVL 6:30PM	GVL 6:30PM	GVL 6:30PM
GVL 2:00PM	OFF	@BG	@BG			

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				@BG	@BG	@BG
@BG	OFF	ASH 6:30PM	ASH 12:00PM	ASH 6:30PM	ASH 6:30PM	ASH 6:30PM
ASH 2:00PM	OFF	@ROM	@ROM	@ROM	@ROM	@ROM
@ROM	OFF	@GVL	@GVL	@GVL	@GVL	@GVL
@GVL	OFF	WS 6:30PM	WS 6:30PM	WS 6:30PM	WS 6:30PM	WS 6:30PM

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
WS 2:00PM	OFF	HIC 6:30PM	HIC 12:00PM	HIC 6:30PM	HIC 6:30PM	HIC 6:30PM
HIC 2:00PM	OFF	@WS	@WS	@WS	@WS	@WS
@WS	OFF	BG 6:30PM	BG 6:30PM	BG 6:30PM	BG 6:30PM	BG 6:30PM
BG 2:00PM	OFF	@ASH	@ASH	@ASH	@ASH	@ASH
@ASH	OFF	HV 6:30PM				

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			HV 6:30PM	HV 6:30PM	HV 6:30PM	HV 6:30PM
HV 6:30PM	OFF	@JS	@JS	@JS	@JS	@JS
@JS	OFF	@HV	@HV	@HV	@HV	@HV
@HV						

All dates, times and opponents are subject to change.

NORTH DIVISION

ABD Aberdeen IronBirds • BAL
BRK Brooklyn Cyclones • NYM
HV Hudson Valley Renegades • WY
JS Jersey Shore BlueClaws • PHI
WIL Wilmington Blue Rocks • WSH

SOUTH DIVISION

ASH Asheville Tourists • HOU
BG Bowling Green Hot Rods • TB
GBO Greensboro Grasshoppers • PIT
GVL Greenville Drive • BOS
HIC Hickory Crawdads • TEX
ROM Rome Braves • ATL
WS Winston-Salem Dash • CWS





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JULY 9 • 30	AUGUST 6 • 20
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MAY 9 • 16 • 30	JUNE 6 • 27	JULY 11	AUGUST 1 • 8 • 22	SEPT. 5
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\$2 soda (16oz.) and water (12oz.) and discounted drafts (16oz.) (\$2 domestic and \$3 craft)!

MAY 6 • 13 • 27	JUNE 3 • 24	JULY 8 • 29	AUGUST 5 • 19	SEPT. 2
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More spectacular fireworks follow every Saturday home game!

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MAY 8 • 15 • 29	JUNE 5 • 26	JULY 10 • 31	AUGUST 7 • 21	SEPT. 4
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GETTING TO KNOW HOPPERS INFIELDER NICK GONZALES

continued from page 7

"I've always been the underdog throughout my career," Gonzales said. "And now being a first-round pick or whatever, it's kind of exciting. It's cool, you know? Living up to the hype of being a first-rounder, that's never really bothered me. ... I see it as an incredible opportunity to be looked at and perceived as a guy like that."

Gonzales earned it. He won the NCAA batting title with a .432 average his sophomore year, and in the pandemic-shortened 2020 season, he batted .448 with 12 homers in 16 games. In three years at New Mexico State, he batted .399 with 37 HRs and 152 RBIs in 128 games.

Gonzales closed his college career on an 82-game on-base streak.

"(College) was awesome," Gonzales said. "I was fortunate enough to go to New Mexico State, and I had really great coaching all three years that I was there. I was under **Brian Green** for the first two years, and then **Mike Kirby** for my junior year. They were great guys, and I learned so much from them. I wouldn't be where I am today without the guys who helped me."

Talk to Gonzales for even a few minutes, and you discover a recurring theme. He credits those around him - family, teammates and coaches - for the success he's earned.

THE SWING

It's easy to dismiss metal-bat success in a hitter's ballpark at high altitude.

Until that same hitter tears up the prestigious wood-bat Cape Cod League.

"Cape Cod was amazing," Gonzales said. "That was one of the best summers of my life. I went out there, and I didn't really know what to expect. I made up my mind that I was going to have fun. And I was lucky to play for another great coach, **Mike Roberts**, and he helped me out so much. He was a great mentor and coach. I went there and played loose and free, with no stress and no worries. I met some really great people, some teammates I still talk to even now."



photo courtesy of N.M. State Athletics

Playing for the Contuit Kettleers in the summer of 2019, Gonzales earned league MVP honors when he batted .351 with 14 doubles, four triples, seven home runs and 33 RBIs in 42 games.

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**JACK
HERMAN #22**

Outfielder • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 09/30/99 • Hometown: Berlin, NJ
Pirates Acq: 30th Round • 2018



**WILLIAM
KOBOS #49**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 08/03/97 • Hometown: Charlotte, NC
Pirates Acq: 19th Round • 2018



**GRANT
KOCH #23**

Catcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 02/05/97 • Hometown: Fayetteville, AR
Pirates Acq: 5th Round • 2018



**GARRETT
LEONARD #38**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 09/25/96 • Hometown: Fort Mill, SC
Pirates Acq: 15th Round • 2019



**FABRICIO
MACIAS #25**

Outfielder • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 03/11/98 • Hometown: Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico
Pirates Acq: Free Agent • 2018



**ALEX
MANASA #28**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 01/06/98 • Hometown: Farmington, MI
Pirates Acq: 11th Round • 2017



**WILL
MATTHIESSEN #46**

Infielder • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 01/09/98 • Hometown: Tualatin, OR
Pirates Acq: 6th Round • 2019



**TREY
McGOUGH #43**

Pitcher • Bats: Left • Throws: Left
Born: 03/29/98 • Hometown: Johnstown, PA
Pirates Acq: 6th Round • 2019



**CRISTOFER
MELENDEZ #39**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 09/16/97 • Hometown: Azua, DR
Pirates Acq: Trade • 2018



**CARMEN
MLODZINSKI #45**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 02/19/99 • Hometown: Hilton Head, SC
Pirates Acq: CBA Rd. • 2020

HAVE FUN AND GET BETTER

GETTING TO KNOW HOPPERS INFIELDER NICK GONZALES

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Why? Gonzales has incredibly fast hands and covers the entire strike zone with a short, compact swing and elite bat speed.

"I like to stay real tight through the swing - a quick, short swing - and try to hit everything hard," Gonzales said. "The goal every single game is to hit two balls hard, whether I get a hit or not. Just hit two balls hard in fair territory.

"It's been kind of natural. I took (the short swing) as my own and embraced it. It was something my dad taught me as a kid, to have real short swing. I worked on it, and worked on it, and worked on it some more. And now, that's my swing."

Little tweaks to the swing over time produced remarkable power from Gonzales' compact frame. Green, the former New Mexico State coach, worked with Gonzales to raise his hands slightly in his stance, adjust his elbow position and get more out of his legs.

The result? A quick bat got even quicker. Gonzales hit nine home runs as a freshman, 16 in two fewer games as a sophomore.

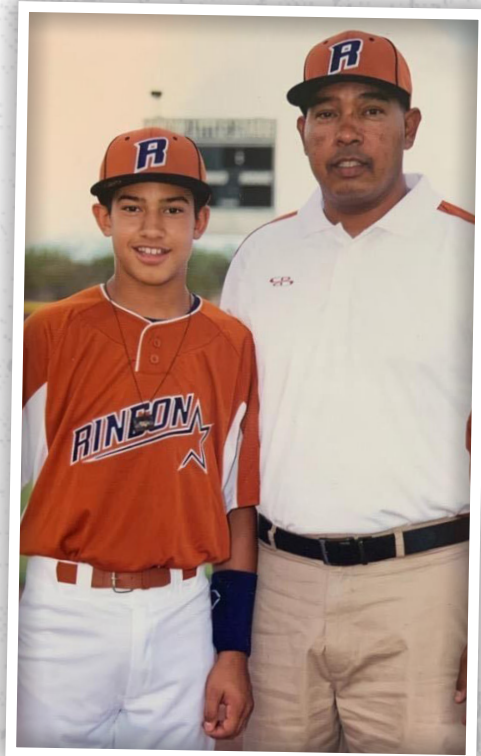
All that hard contact paid off on draft day, and Gonzales signed with the Pirates for a reported bonus of \$5,432,400, the slot value for the No. 7 pick.

THE SAME GUY

The pressure and the hype could crush some players. But not Gonzales.

His makeup is part of what drew the Pirates to him in the first place. He's the same guy now he was then, a team player who loves the game.

"I've been playing baseball since I was 3 or 4 years old," Gonzales said. "Some of my best memories, really, are playing with my brother and my dad. Just going into the backyard and having fun, or having fun at ballparks with them. The atmosphere of being at a ballpark and everything that goes with it, that's what I love."



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Nick Gonzales and his father, Mike



**QUINN
PRIESTER #15**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 09/15/00 • Hometown: Cary, IL
Pirates Acq: 1st Rd. • 2018



**AUSTIN
ROBERTS #27**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 07/27/98 • Hometown: Sacramento, CA
Pirates Acq: 8th Rd. • 2019



**LOLO
SANCHEZ #34**

Outfielder • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 04/23/99 • Hometown: Santo Domingo, DR
Pirates Acq: Free Agent • 2015



**COLIN
SELBY #48**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 10/24/97 • Hometown: Chesapeake, VA
Pirates Acq: 16th Rd. • 2018



**AARON
SHACKELFORD #44**

Infielder • Bats: Left • Throws: Right
Born: 10/16/96 • Hometown: Murrieta, CA
Pirates Acq: 14th Rd. • 2019

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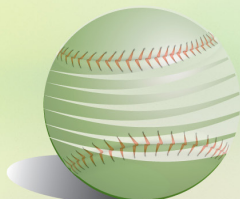
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**DYLAN
SHOCKLEY #29**

Catcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 04/10/97 • Hometown: Rio Grande, OH
Pirates Acq: 34th Rd. • 2019



**TAHNAJ
THOMAS #17**

Pitcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 06/16/99 • Hometown: Freeport, Bahamas
Pirates Acq: Trade • 2018



**JARED
TRIOLO #19**

Infielder • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 02/08/98 • Hometown: Austin, TX
Pirates Acq: Comp. B Rd. • 2019



**JESUS
VALDEZ #5**

Infielder • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 12/29/97 • Hometown: Nizao, DR
Pirates Acq: Trade • 2018



**KYLE
WILKIE #35**

Catcher • Bats: Right • Throws: Right
Born: 10/20/97 • Hometown: Cumming, GA
Pirates Acq: 12th Rd. • 2019

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Gonzales older brother, Daniel, played linebacker at Navy. Their father, Mike, works as a superintendent for a home builder in the Tucson suburbs.

"Sometimes, whenever I start to feel like this is work, I think of how lucky I am," Gonzales said. "I'm playing baseball as my job. I think of what my dad used to tell me, that this is a game. He'd say, 'You have so much fun and you love doing this, and it's your job now. You can't really complain, can you?' He's right. I see him wake up early every morning and go to work at his job. That's a grind. You know what I mean? I'm playing a game. It's supposed to be fun."

And it's even fun, Gonzales said, when the game doesn't love you back. That's just baseball.

"I'm a guy who gives all his energy and plays hard every single game," Gonzales said. "In and out of the dugout, I want to be the same guy regardless of whether I go 0-for-5 or 5-for-5. I wouldn't want anyone to be able to tell how I'm doing based on body language. ...

"The goals for me are simple, and they're the same they've always been: have fun and get better. That's it. Nothing fancy." ♥

In his career at the News & Record, journalist Jeff Mills won 10 national and 12 state writing awards from the Associated Press Sports Editors, the Society for Features Journalism, and the N.C. Press Association.



BALLPARK GUIDE



As you are probably expecting, events are going to look a little different than in years past. With your help, we can still provide the same amazing experiences you have grown accustomed to over the years.

The safety and well-being of the community, guests and staff is of the utmost importance to the Greensboro Grasshoppers. We will continue to follow the guidance of national, state and local agencies in the development of our COVID-19 policies. It is our intent to do everything to ensure the health and safety of our guests and ballpark staff and make sure First National Bank Field meets or exceeds all recommended standards. Please help us keep our events safe by following these new policies when you visit us this summer. We respectfully ask that you do not attend an event at First National Bank Field if you feel unwell or if you have been knowingly exposed to COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to an event.

We're so glad to have you back!

ACCESSIBLE SEATING

Accessible seating is available behind the back row of the seating bowl in sections 101, 102, 103, 106, 107, 108, 109, 112, and 114. To purchase accessible seating in advance, please call 336.268.2255 or stop by the First National Bank Field Box Office.

ALCOHOL

Beer is available at all concession stands including the Bud Light Grandstand Bar; limit two beers (or two glasses of wine) per person, per purchase. North Carolina law prohibits the selling to or purchase of alcohol to minors under the age of 21. Each customer must present valid picture identification at the time of purchase. All beer sales will conclude with the first pitch of the middle of the 8th inning on a regular basis, however, Grasshopper management reserves the right to discontinue beer sales without notice and/or refuse the sale of beer to any individual. A Grasshoppers' staff member will gladly help arrange a ride for anyone who needs one. Alcohol is not permitted in Section (114).

AUTOGRAPHS

Due to Covid-19 league protocols, players are not permitted to sign autographs.

ATM

There are ATMs located next to the Hoppers Yard souvenir store, behind Section 108.

BABY CHANGING AREAS

Baby changing tables are located in the Family Restroom behind Section 112 on the main concourse and also in the restrooms located throughout the ballpark.

BEVERAGES, FOOD & CONTAINERS

No food, drinks, coolers or containers may be brought into First National Bank Field.

CONDUCT

No abusive language or any behavior that can be viewed as offensive to others will be tolerated anywhere at First National Bank Field. Fans are strictly prohibited from entering the playing field at any time. Failure to adhere to First National Bank Field policies will result in ejection from the stadium.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

If you have any questions about First National Bank Field or need assistance, please visit our First National Bank Guest Services booth, located on the concourse behind Section 110.

FAMILY SECTION

The Cone Health Family Section is located in Section 114 near the Rotary Play Park and designed for families and young children. Alcohol and inappropriate behavior are not permitted in this section.

FIRST AID

Guilford County EMS and the Greensboro Police Department are on duty patrolling stadium areas at all times during the games to ensure your safety. Should you need assistance, please notify a Grasshoppers staff member or visit the First Aid Station, located behind Section 112 on the first base side.

GATES OPEN

Gates at First National Bank Field open :30 minutes prior to game time.

GIFT CERTIFICATES

Gift certificates for Grasshoppers merchandise and tickets can be purchased in any increment at The Hoppers Yard souvenir shop.

GROUP OUTINGS

There's never been a better way to entertain a group! Bring the whole gang out for great food and family entertainment at First National Bank Field! Call 336.268.2255 to speak with a Group Sales representative today!

HANDICAP PARKING

Handicap parking is available in the Edgeworth Street lot, located behind the Bud Light Grandstand Bar. For your convenience, we suggest purchasing your game tickets in advance, as there is no game ticket outlet available at that entrance.

KID'S PLAY AREA

The Rotary Play Park is located down the first base line and is specially designed to be kid friendly! For the safety of our play park guests, children must be 54" or under to enter. No food or drink is permitted inside the play area. Parents should not leave their children unattended.

LAWN SEATING

Lawn seating is on a first come, first served basis. Fans are welcome to bring blankets into the lawn areas at First National Bank Field, however, lawn chairs, large umbrellas, wagons, carts, and balloons are not permitted.

LOST AND FOUND

Items can be turned in to, or retrieved from, the First National Bank Guest Services booth located behind Section 110.

LOST PARENTS/FOUND CHILDREN

Children who have lost their parents will be escorted by a staff member to the First National Bank Guest Services booth, located behind Section 110. Parents who have lost their child may ask any First National Bank Field employee for assistance.

PAGING

Paging services are available in the case of an emergency. If you need a fan paged, please speak to a representative at the First National Bank Guest Services booth.

PARKING

Several parking lots surround the stadium on Grasshoppers game days, ranging from \$4-\$6.

RAIN POLICY

IF THE GAME IS DELAYED

Play will continue as soon as weather and safety permits. In the event five innings of one game are not completed, the game will be suspended or postponed and tickets can be exchanged as listed below. If five or more innings have been completed, it is considered an official game.

IF THE GAME IS OFFICIALLY POSTPONED

Your ticket can be exchanged for any remaining 2021 regular season home game, based on availability. Your ticket must be exchanged at the Grasshoppers Box Office for a ticket of equal value, subject to availability. There will be no refunds issued.

RE-ENTRY

For your safety, re-entry is not permitted into First National Bank Field, except in the possibility of a rain delay and the need to socially distance our fans.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms are located throughout the concourse and are handicapped accessible. A family restroom is located on the first base side, behind section 112.

SECURITY

All fans and their bags will be screened upon entering First National Bank Field. For the safety of all guests, the following items are prohibited:

- Any outside food and beverage
- Weapons of any description, including firearms (weapons carried with a permit are also prohibited)
- Knives of any size
- Canes, chains or sticks of any length (non-medical use canes)
- Fireworks or any explosive
- Illegal drugs
- Laser pointers
- Pets (except service animals)

SMOKING

First National Bank Field prohibits smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes, vaporizers and other similar devices except in designated smoking areas. Smoking is allowed only in designated areas in the Bud Light Grandstand Bar and at the suite level bar.

SUITE ACCESS

Fans with tickets for seats on the suite level or the Party Decks may use the stairs on either end of the concourse or the elevator located behind Section 107. Please retain your ticket to ensure your access to those areas.



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