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TRIPLE-A BASEBALL
NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOP SLUGGERS OUT TO CLAIM TRIPLE-A HOME RUN DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP BELT

Aaron Judge, Chris Marrero, and Jesus Montero of the International League along with Kyle Jensen, Rob Segedin, and Travis Taijeron of the Pacific Coast League, have been named the six Triple-A All-Stars to participate in the 2016 Harris Teeter & Tide+ Triple-A Home Run Derby presented by Clariant. The Derby will take place on Monday, July 11 at BB&T Ballpark in Charlotte, North Carolina, at 7:00 p.m. EST, two days prior to the 2016 Triple-A All-Star Game. The home ballpark of the Charlotte Knights promises to be friendly to the sluggers, as it's been the site of more home runs than any other International League park since opening in 2014.

Scranton/Wilkes-Barre's **Aaron Judge** was the IL Player of the Month in June, when he clubbed a League-best nine home runs to give him 16 on the season. Judge was a 1st round draft pick by the Yankees in 2013 out of Fresno State, one year after he won the College Home Run Derby in Omaha. Pawtucket's **Chris Marrero** is tied for 4th in the IL with 14 home runs this season, including one at BB&T Ballpark in yesterday's Independence Day victory over the Knights. Buffalo veteran **Jesus Montero** hit his first two big league home runs in the same game in 2011, and a year later he clubbed 15 long balls for the Mariners. Including his nine homers this season, Montero is quickly closing in on 150 round-trippers for his professional career.

Over the past three seasons Reno's **Kyle Jensen** has hit more home runs (63) than any player in the Pacific Coast League, and his 16 long balls this year are 3rd-best in the circuit. He's also the PCL leader in RBI with 74. Oklahoma City's **Rob Segedin** has already amassed a career-high in home runs in 2016 with 13. The former Yankees 3rd-round draft pick is in his first season in the Dodgers organization. **Travis Taijeron** of Las Vegas has 13 home runs this season as he prepares for his second consecutive appearance in the Triple-A All-Star Game. Taijeron's 38 home runs since the start of 2015 are the second-most in the PCL.

In addition to the three PCL All-Stars and three IL All-Stars, a pair of North Carolina products will also participate after winning the "High School Home Run Derby Tournament" at BB&T Ballpark in May. **Trent Alley** of Charlotte Country Day School and **Riley Zayicek** of Lake Norman High School earned the right to slug it out alongside the professional mashers. The eight participants will each be joined on the field by a celebrity captain representing a charity. The charities will each receive \$1,000, with the winning captain's charity to collect an additional \$1,000 prize. Six celebrity captains have already been announced: former NFL standout Jason Sehorn, current Carolina Panthers linebacker Shaq Thompson, former NBA star and current coach of the Charlotte 49ers men's basketball team Mark Price, former Cy Young winner Jack McDowell, former professional wrestling champion Sgt. Slaughter, and Charlotte Hornets head coach Steve Clifford. The remaining captains will be announced later this week.

Triple-A All-Star Participants Statistical Information:

<u>International League Participants</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>2016 Total</u>	<u>Career High HR</u>	<u>Career to Date</u>
Aaron Judge, <i>Scranton/Wilkes-Barre</i>	24	16	20 (2015)	53
Chris Marrero, <i>Pawtucket</i>	28	14	23 (2007)	131
Jesus Montero, <i>Buffalo</i>	26	9	23 (2015)	148
<u>Pacific Coast League Participants</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>2016 Total</u>	<u>Career High HR</u>	<u>Career to Date</u>
Kyle Jensen, <i>Reno</i>	28	16	28 (2013)	164
Rob Segedin, <i>Oklahoma City</i>	27	13	13 (2016)	51
Travis Taijeron, <i>Las Vegas</i>	27	13	25 (2015)	104

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