



**International League of Professional Baseball Clubs, Inc.**  
 55 South High Street,  
 Suite 202, Dublin, OH 43017  
 (614) 791-9300 Fax (614) 791-9009  
 www.ILBaseball.com

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## GREG BIRD & JERAD EICKHOFF HONORED AS INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

The International League announced today that Scranton/Wilkes-Barre first baseman Greg Bird and Lehigh Valley pitcher Jerad Eickhoff have been named the League's Batter and Pitcher of the Week for the period from August 3-9. Each player is the third member of his respective club to claim an IL weekly award this season. Bird joins fellow RailRiders Rob Refsnyder (May 11-17) and Cole Figueroa (May 25-31), while Eickhoff follows Brian Bogusevic (May 4-10) and Jesse Biddle (July 16-19) of the IronPigs.

### GREG BIRD, Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders

### IL BATTER OF THE WEEK

Scranton/Wilkes-Barre's Greg Bird hit .348 over the past week, with five of his eight hits going for extra-bases, while pacing the International League with 10 RBI and a .783 slugging percentage. His most productive game came Wednesday night in Columbus, when Bird turned in his third career multi-homer effort and added his first triple of the season in a 7-2 RailRiders rout of the Clippers. Bird collected RBI in five of his six games played this week, including Sunday when he drove in three runs in a 9-1 win at Toledo. Since his promotion to the RailRiders from Double-A in early July, Bird is among the top ten in the IL in extra-base hits, home runs, RBI, and slugging.

22-year-old Greg Bird is in his fifth season as a professional player after being selected by the Yankees in the 5th round of the 2011 draft. This is his first season playing above the Double-A level. Before his promotion, Bird was hitting .258 with six home runs and 29 RBI for Double-A Trenton. Bird is a native of Aurora, Colorado.

	<u>G</u>	<u>AVG</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>2B</u>	<u>3B</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>RBI</u>	<u>SLUG</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SB</u>
<b>Week:</b>	6	.348	8	23	4	2	1	2	10	.783	1	0
<b>Season:</b>	31	.295	36	122	14	7	1	6	23	.516	11	0

### JERAD EICKHOFF, Lehigh Valley IronPigs

### IL PITCHER OF THE WEEK

In his first two starts since being acquired by the Phillies organization from Texas as part of the trade deadline deal for Cole Hamels, Jerad Eickhoff is 2-0 and has allowed just one run over 14.0 innings. He led Lehigh Valley to a 5-1 win in Toledo in his debut on Tuesday, going 6.0 innings and striking out seven. He followed that with an even more impressive performance Sunday evening in Columbus where he tossed 8.0 shutout innings, scattering five hits and a walk while punching out four as the IronPigs rolled to a 9-0 victory. Before the trade, Eickhoff was 9-4 with a 4.25 ERA for Triple-A Round Rock and was among the top five in the Pacific Coast League in WHIP, batting average against, wins, and strikeouts.

25-year-old Jerad Eickhoff is in his fifth professional season and his first pitching above the Double-A level. In 2014 with Double-A Frisco, he went 10-9 with a 4.08 ERA. Eickhoff is a native of Evansville, Indiana.

	<u>G</u>	<u>GS</u>	<u>CG</u>	<u>SHO</u>	<u>W-L</u>	<u>ERA</u>	<u>IP</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>ER</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>SV</u>
<b>Week:</b>	2	2	0	0	2-0	0.64	14.0	11	1	1	2	11	0
<b>Season:</b>	2	2	0	0	2-0	0.64	14.0	11	1	1	2	11	0

BUFFALO BISONS

CHARLOTTE KNIGHTS

COLUMBUS CLIPPERS

DURHAM BULLS

GWINNETT BRAVES

INDIANAPOLIS INDIANS

LEHIGH VALLEY IRONPIGS

LOUISVILLE BATS

NORFOLK TIDES

PAWTUCKET RED SOX

ROCHESTER RED WINGS

SCRANTON/WILKES-BARRE  
RAILRIDERS

SYRACUSE CHIEFS

TOLEDO MUD HENS