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NASA’s LRO makes Baseball History

Eclipse fever is not over! The latest news—EclipseFest, a collaboration between NASA’s Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter mission team and the San Francisco Giants’ Minor League Affiliate, the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes, won Minor League Baseball’s Promotion of the Year, as voted on by fans: in a category with 9 other teams from larger markets, EclipseFest garnered 66% of the fan vote. On August 21, 2017, members of the LRO team from NASA GSFC supported EclipseFest through exhibits, hands-on activities, presentations, and a transcontinental pitch to the Charleston RiverDogs team. This sold-out event attracted 5,300 participants and achieved coverage nationwide from Sports Illustrated, ESPN, and CBS Sports.

"It’s great when you create a promotion that people immediately have a positive reaction towards and that happened quickly, in a big way, when NASA expressed their desire to participate and be on-site for the event."

- Jerry Walker, Volcanoes Owner

Salem Keizer Volcanoes fans and players observed the total solar eclipse during EclipseFest on August 21, 2017.

The Volcanoes celebrated with a trip to Cooperstown, NY to see the jersey and first pitch ball from the August solar eclipse game – now in the Baseball Hall of Fame!