

MINOR LEAGUE REPORT

think it's really cool to bring cameras around and see the time and effort we put in, and how our days go."

As for Garcia? Scheer's going to draw eyeballs to a few episodes of *Homegrown* on the young stud's back. But she's not sweating things like a sunglasses-buying trip blowing up. She would love to tell the definitive Garcia story, but the reality is that before too long, the young right-hander is going to get all the attention he could ever want. Sure enough, he takes a big step forward in his Sunday start, 4 $\frac{2}{3}$ solid innings with five strikeouts and two walks. Two

punchouts stand out: one, of former Yankees catcher John Ryan Murphy, came on a curveball that Monet himself could have painted, buckling Murphy's entire body. Another saw Andrés Blanco stare in disbelief at a fastball that just couldn't have done what it actually did. Kratz knows of what he speaks.

At its best, *Homegrown* is telling the other side of the story. As the third season approached, Scheer feared that it was going to be something of a downer. The 2019 Yankees looked stacked, one through 25, and she was nervous that the Triple-A

clubhouse would be filled with unhappy guys feeling trapped, left behind. Funny how things work out. And as a result, she's gotten to see some new names emerge, guys never expected to be front and center this year. The stories write themselves. "I feel like, because I was a baseball fan growing up, that there was always a disconnect between the fan and the player," Katoh says. "I always wanted to be right next to the players, to know what they were thinking, but it was always hard. Now everyone knows what the minor league life is like." ✎



The *Homegrown* crew was in town for an excellent Garcia start on a Sunday afternoon. While getting the biggest prospects onto the screen was Scheer's original goal, the program's truest value comes more from telling stories about players that the average fan hasn't heard of and may never see in the Bronx.