

Minor Happenings: Indians Draft Lots Of Pitching

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Friday, June 12 2009 7:00 PM -

The Indians drafted their share of pitching in this year's MLB Draft. 31 pitchers in total amongst their 50 selections, and 23 of them were right handed pitchers. Also, each of the Indians first 23 selections were college players, as the Tribe didn't select a high school player until their 24th pick. In this week's edition of Minor Happenings, Tony focuses on the draft, giving us a comprehensive rundown of who the Indians selected ... laden with lots of good quotes from Indians Director of Amateur Scouting Brad Grant.



"Minor Happenings" covers the important developments and news in the Indians farm system. While most of the information in this report is from my own research and through interviews I have conducted with organizational personnel, some information in this report is collected and summarized from the various news outlets that cover each team.

The 2009 First-Year Player Draft has come and gone, and now that the picks have been made the real fun begins as teams scramble to sign players by the August 15th signing deadline. To stay with the draft theme, the news and notes in the farm system will be put on hold this week as we concentrate on wrapping up the draft.

Lots of comments from Director of Scouting Brad Grant, and also some other nuggets on the draft as well.

For those that missed it, we had 3rd round pick right-handed pitcher Joe Gardner and 18th round pick catcher Dwight Childs on our radio show

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Smoke Signals on Thursday night

Lots of great insight from both players on how their draft day went and what their plans are going forward.

Also, I will be at Lake County tonight and Akron on Sunday as I begin to make my next round through the farm system talking to players, coaches, club officials and so on.

Directors Cuts

According to Indians Director of Amateur Scouting Brad Grant, pitching was viewed as the strength of what was considered a weak draft, so they targeted pitching in the draft. They had a college pitcher targeted with first pick, and it ended up being White who was the top option on their board at the time their pick came up.

Also, Grant mentioned that they did not take any Boras guys in the draft, though this was not by design as it just worked out that way.

They have already begun negotiations with many of their picks right now, though for the players still playing in the College World Series they cannot do anything with them until their season's are over.

Here is what Grant had to say about several of the players take in the draft:

On Alex White (RHP, 1st round): "He'll run up to 95-96 MPH. He has good life to his plus fastball, and it has good, heavy sink to it and is more like a two-seam fastball. He features two different secondary pitches, a split which is a late swing-and-miss type

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Arizona State

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