

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

Here is the next group of prospects in the 2010 Indians Top 50 Prospect Countdown here on TheClevelandFan.com and SportsTimeOhio.com. As a reminder, these scouting reports will be linked and listed for easy access on my [site](#).

Also, my new 2010 Cleveland Indians Top 100 Prospects & More [book is now available](#). To order the book (which profiles over 165 players in the system and runs 214 pages in length) ... [go here for all the details](#)

[#50-46](#)

[#45-41](#)

[#40-36](#)

[#35-31](#)

[#30-26](#)

[#25-21](#)

[#20-16](#)

10. Alex White – Right-handed Pitcher

Born: 08/29/1988 – Height: 6’3” – Weight: 195 – Bats: Right – Throws: Right

Year	Age	Team	Lvl
2009	20	DNP	-

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM



History: White was selected by the Indians in the 1st round of the 2009 Draft out of the University of North Carolina. He signed right at the deadline on August 17th

for \$2.25 million. He was the Atlantic Coast Conference Pitcher of the Year in 2008. He is from Greenville, NC which is about 20 minutes from the Indians High-A Kinston affiliate.

Strengths & Opportunities: White is a big, strong, athletic right-handed pitcher with three power pitches that all project as legitimate above average major league pitches. His stuff is electric, fronted by a plus-plus fastball that has good life and sits at 92-95 MPH and has touched 97 MPH. His fastball comes out of his hand free and easy and has good, late heavy sink to it. He has also shown an ability to maintain his velocity deep into games, and he has the arm strength to add more velocity. He features two different secondary pitches, a splitter and slider that are both swing-and-miss type pitches. He recently added the splitter to his repertoire as in high school he was more of a power sinker-slider pitcher, and has really improved it to where it is now his best secondary pitch and his most effective pitch against left-handed hitters. The splitter has good late fade, and there is no question it is a weapon for him. His slider sits at 82-86 MPH and has good late break to it, and flashes plus ability already with good tilt and depth when he is on with the pitch.

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

At 6'2" 235 pounds, White has very good size and profiles as a strong, durable workhorse kind of pitcher. He is a plus-plus makeup guy who is very intelligent, coachable, grounded, and strong in his values. He has a good feel for pitching, and a great track record of being able to pitch when under pressure. He is extremely athletic, which helps him field his position well and do a good job of repeating his delivery. He is a competitor who is a bulldog on the mound that goes right after hitters.

White has unbelievable makeup and composure, which to go along with his mid-90s fastball, devastating splitter, and wipeout slider is why the Indians feel he has a chance to be successful power backend reliever down the road. He has the makeup and mentality to pitch out of the bullpen as he showed some versatility on the mound in college where he pitched effectively in both the starting rotation and bullpen. The Indians believe his track would be shortened if he were put him in a bullpen role, and that his strike throwing ability and stuff would play up in the role. For now he will pitch out of the starting rotation and the plan is to develop him into a starter, but at the moment the bullpen certainly seems like his best long term fit. By starting him he can get regular work in games and in side sessions, and have more opportunities to be exposed to various game situations and to develop all of his pitches regularly in an outing. Also, with three pitches of his quality, you have to start him as the bullpen should only be as a fallback option if he fails as a starter.

The Indians interest in White goes all the way back to when he was in high school as they scouted him heavily three years ago and their scout Bob Mayer got to know him well, but they were unable to draft him. They watched him the last three years at North Carolina, and he was one of their main targets since the beginning of last season in preparation for last year's draft. Upon drafting him last year, there was no immediate need to get him to sign since he had accrued so many innings already that year at North Carolina and likely would have only made a handful of appearances in late August had he signed earlier. He joined up with Double-A Akron late in the season for three weeks as part of a return to throw program to build his arm strength back up so he could go to Instructional League in the fall to get acquainted with the organization and begin his first exposure to pro ball. While with Akron, he got a crash course on the organizational philosophies, minor league lifestyle, coaching, facilities, and more. He went out to Instructional League and pitched well, and his best outing was his final outing there in mid-October when he was stretched out to five innings and allowed no earned runs on five hits, no walks, and had three strikeouts and hit 94 MPH on the gun.

One of the big concerns last year with White was a drop in velocity, which is a big reason he slid out of the top five picks in the draft and ultimately to the Indians. There were no reported injuries or any disclosures of shoulder tendonitis, but combined with the fact he had an over-reliance on his secondary stuff and the velocity of his fastball dipped, something was not right and it was a red flag for teams. The Indians believe the velocity issues were mechanical in nature and are fixable with coaching, and that a full offseason of rest should bring the life back to his arm. The key pitch in his arsenal is his slider as it is the one pitch that lacks consistency, and without it makes his fastball-splitter mix more conducive to the bullpen. He needs more consistent command of it in the zone as in college the pitch regularly ended up out of the zone, which will fool college level hitters but not get pro hitters to bite. In addition to the velocity and slider issues, the other big concern is his inconsistent command and performance. He has problems controlling the strike zone, and lacks consistent focus where at times he can lose it for an inning and get knocked around. At Instructional League last fall the Indians got to work on fixing some of his issues, mainly getting him to work on repeating and smoothing out his delivery and try to throw all of his pitches for strikes to both sides of the plate.

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

Outlook: The addition of White to the Indians farm system adds yet another high level power-armed pitching prospect that they did not have at this time last year. With the infusion of so much talent via trades last July and now White, the Indians upper level pitching landscape has changed dramatically in just a short amount of time. There is no rush to get him to the big leagues considering the Indians are retooling for contention in 2011, but he is an advanced pitcher and could come quick and should finish the year at Double-A Akron, and potentially Triple-A Columbus depending on his progress. If all goes well, his ETA in Cleveland should be sometime late-2011. When spring rolls around and the 2010 season gets underway, he will be in big league camp during spring training before going to minor league camp about halfway through, and is expected to be in the High-A Kinston starting rotation at the outset of the season.

Photo courtesy of Carl Kline

(no site stat pages for White since he has not pitched professionally yet)

9. Carlos Carrasco – Right-handed Pitcher

Born: 03/21/1987 – Height: 6'3" – Weight: 215 – Bats: Right – Throws: Right

Year	Age	Team	Lvl
2004	17	GCL Phillies	R

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

2005	18	Lakewood	A
------	----	----------	---

2005	18	Batavia	A-
------	----	---------	----

2005	18	GCL Phillies	R
------	----	--------------	---

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

2006	19	Lakewood	A
------	----	----------	---

2007	20	Clearwater	A+
------	----	------------	----

2007	20	Reading	AA
------	----	---------	----

2008	21	Reading	AA
------	----	---------	----

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

2008	21	Lehigh Vy	AAA
------	----	-----------	-----

2009	22	Lehigh Vy	AAA
------	----	-----------	-----

2009	22	Columbus	AAA
------	----	----------	-----

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}
Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

2009	22	Cleveland	MLB
------	----	-----------	-----

MiLB Totals

MLB Totals



History: Carrasco was signed as a 16-year old undrafted minor league free agent out of Venezuela by the Philadelphia Phillies in 2003. The Indians acquired him as part of a four player package they received from the Phillies when they traded Cliff Lee and Ben Francisco to them on July 29th, 2009. Carrasco is a former #1 prospect in the Phillies organization and was #1 or #2 in almost every publication from 2007-2009. Except for the last week of the Triple-A season he pitched the entire season in the International League and finished 2nd in games started (26), 2nd in innings pitched (157.0), 1st in strikeouts (148), 4th in batting average against (.245), and 2nd in K/9 (8.48) among starting pitchers. After his final Triple-A start he was called up to Cleveland in September and made his major league debut on September 1st against the Detroit Tigers.

Strengths & Opportunities: Carrasco has a very good three pitch mix led by a fastball that consistently comes in at 92-94 MPH and has topped out at 96 MPH. He complements the fastball with a very good plus changeup that he commands well to both sides of the plate and has good depth and fade. His third best pitch is a curveball which has the makings of being another plus pitch for him. He has outstanding command of his fastball and locates it well, and it plays up a bit because of the quality of his changeup. The fastball has good movement and late life, and he does a good job of keeping it in the strike zone. The Indians feel his fastball-changeup-curveball mix are all major league above average pitches in the making, with the fastball and changeup already there. He has shown an ability to strike batters out and limit the walks, and has a good, clean delivery with a good head on his shoulders. He turns 23 years old just before the start of the season, so there certainly is still a lot of upside and projection left in him.

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

Carrasco's numbers in his short stint with the varsity team in Cleveland were dreadful, but he was still much better last year during his time with the Indians and in Triple-A Columbus than he was with the Phillies' Triple-A Lehigh Valley club before being acquired. Between his time in Triple-A, Cleveland, and in winter ball last year he threw over 200 innings, but his body held up and he was as strong as ever near the end of the season. In August he showed no wear and tear at Columbus as his fastball was consistently popping the guns at 95 MPH in the eighth inning of games. His ability at 22 years old last season to pile up the innings and stay strong along with no significant injuries throughout his six year minor league career make him an extremely durable pitching prospect.

While Carrasco displays very good mound presence and executes his pitches well, things tend to go downhill quickly for him when runners reach base and a few hits are strung together against him. His numbers have yet to truly back up his excellent stuff and potential because of his age mostly because he always seems to have that one disastrous inning every time out. Going all the way back to rookie ball, he has a tendency for making bad situations worse where all the damage against him tends to occur in one inning because he turns one run innings into three or four run innings. His one inning meltdowns have resulted in many scouts giving him the "soft" label because he is unable to battle and get himself out of jams. The Indians are aware of this issue and feel that his troubles pitching out of jams is something he will in time learn to manage. He was able to power his way through the lower levels of the minors on his stuff alone, so he is just now realizing the importance of adjustments within innings and in at bats and is something they will try to expedite this coming season by getting him to be more consistent outing to outing, inning to inning, and pitch to pitch. Bottom line, it is all about learning to avoid the big inning, handling adversity, and being more consistent with his stuff.

Carrasco also has a tendency at times to overthrow, which results in his ball flattening out and him getting hit hard. This was evident in his callup to Cleveland where his emotions were all over the place and he was over-throwing, and the result was 40 hits and 6 home runs in just 22.2 innings over five starts. He also tends to lose his release point on his curveball at times so needs to be more consistent with that. He needs to get better at getting right-handed hitters out more consistently as they touched him up some with the big hit (1.17 HR/9 in AAA). Teams run on him pretty easily, so controlling the running game may be the final thing he does to polish himself off, and it likely will be one of his main goals at Triple-A Columbus to start the season. Last, he has never really put up a very good statistical season during any of his time at Double-A, Triple-A or the big leagues the last three years except for his initial callup to Triple-A in 2008 which was just six starts, so his lack of good performance above the High-A level is concerning.

Outlook: With his powerful pitch mix, intelligence, and desire the sky is the limit for Carrasco. He certainly has the weapons and talent to compete at the major league level, now it is just whether or not he can make the transition and pitch there. The Indians will be patient with him as they know there will be a lot of growing pains still as he continues to make that transition to being a big league pitcher. They know that when they acquired him he was extremely talented but also still very unpolished. They feel he is a good arm who has the potential to be a middle of the rotation starter - or better - for the next six to seven years. He will compete in spring training for a spot in the big league rotation, but is not expected to make the team and instead begin the season at Triple-A Columbus for more seasoning and to finish him off as a pitcher so when he finally does get the call sometime in 2010 it is for good.

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

Photo courtesy of Ken Carr

[Carlos Carrasco MinorLeagueBaseball.com page](#)

[Carlos Carrasco Baseball-Reference page](#)

[Carlos Carrasco MinorLeagueSplits.com page](#)

8. Hector Rondon – Right-handed Pitcher

Born: 02/26/1988 – Height: 6’3” – Weight: 180 – Bats: Right – Throws: Right

Year	Age	Team	Lvl
2005	17	DSL Indians	R
2006	18	GCL Indians	R

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

2007	19	Lake County	A
2008	20	Kinston	A+
2009	21	Akron	AA

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

2009

21

Columbus

AAA

Totals

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}
Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM



Hector Pardo, Starting Pitcher, Indians						
Year	Age	Pos	Team	Throws	Bats	Lvl

2005	17		Burlington	R		
------	----	--	------------	---	--	--

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

2006	18	GCL Indians	R
2007	19	Lake County	A
2007	19	Kinston	A+
2008	20	Kinston	A+

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

2009

21

Akron

AA

Totals

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}
Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM



Nick Winkler Bleeding Cool Baseball Prospect				
Year	Age	Pos	Team	Lvl

2008	17		GCL Phillies	R
------	----	--	--------------	---

2010 Indians Top 50 Prospects: #10-6

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Monday, March 22 2010 3:00 PM - Last Updated Saturday, March 27 2010 3:07 PM

2009	18	Lakewood	A
------	----	----------	---

2009	18	Lake County	A
------	----	-------------	---

Totals

Written by {ga=consigliere}

A baseball player in a white pinstriped uniform with "Captains" and the number "32" on the front. He is wearing a blue cap with a bulldog logo and a black glove, in a ready position on the field.

19 / 19