

Toronto Blue Jays

UNOFFICIAL GUIDE TO THE 2011 SHORT-SEASON

Written by Marc Hulet, minor league columnist at FanGraphs.com

Includes:
Short-Season Team Previews
Amateur Draft Analysis
Top 50 Prospects List
Player Profiles

Toronto Blue Jays Front Office

	General Manager	Scouting Director	Farm Director
2011	Alex Anthopoulos	Andrew Tinnish	Charlie Wilson
2010	Alex Anthopoulos	Andrew Tinnish	Charlie Wilson
2009	J.P. Ricciardi	Jon Lalonde	Dick Scott
2008	J.P. Ricciardi	Jon Lalonde	Dick Scott
2007	J.P. Ricciardi	Jon Lalonde	Dick Scott
2006	J.P. Ricciardi	Jon Lalonde	Dick Scott
2005	J.P. Ricciardi	Jon Lalonde	Dick Scott
2004	J.P. Ricciardi	Jon Lalonde	Dick Scott
2003	J.P. Ricciardi	Chris Buckley	Dick Scott
2002	J.P. Ricciardi	Chris Buckley	Dick Scott
2001	Ash/Ricciardi	Chris Buckley	Bob Nelson
2000	Gord Ash	Tim Wilken	Bob Nelson

Toronto Blue Jays Top 50 Prospects

Top 25 Regular Season Prospects	Top 25 Short Season Prospects
Brett Lawrie 3B	Aaron Sanchez RHP
Deck McGuire RHP	Noah Syndergaard RHP
Carlos Perez C	Kellen Sweeney 3B
Jake Marisnick OF	Adonys Cardona RHP
Travis d'Arnaud C	Griffin Murphy LHP
Anthony Gose OF	Chris Hawkins 3B/OF
Zach Stewart RHP	Santiago Nassy C
Eric Thames OF	Justin Nicolino LHP
Asher Wojciechowski RHP	Myles Jaye RHP
Adeiny Hechavarria SS	D.J. Thon SS
Chad Jenkins RHP	Mitchell Taylor LHP
Moises Sierra OF	Dalton Pompey OF
Drew Hutchison RHP	Zak Adams LHP
A.J. Jimenez C	Carlos Pina LHP
Marcus Knecht OF	Brandon Mims 2B
Michael McDade 1B	Sony Javier OF
Michael Crouse OF	Gabriel Cenas 3B
David Cooper 1B	Sam Dyson RHP
Henderson Alvarez RHP	Cesar Sanchez RHP
Nestor Molina RHP	Shane Optiz SS
Justin Jackson OF/IF	Jose Vargas LHP
K.C. Hobson 1B	Adaric Kelly RHP
Sean Nolin LHP	Carlos Ramirez OF
John Anderson LHP	Art Charles 1B
Darin Mastroianni OF	Seth Conner, 3B

**2011 draft picks not included*

Toronto Blue Jays 2011 Amateur Draft

Below you will find a list of the 2011 amateur draft picks, including brief scouting write-ups for each pick in the first 15 rounds.

Toronto took a very aggressive approach to the draft. The organization spent the majority of its early picks on high-ceiling prep talent and used the later rounds to fill the short-season rosters with depth. The club did find some intriguing late-round talent, including Aaron Nola, Austin Nola, Jerrick Suiter, and Johnny Coy. *Below, odds of draft picks signing by mid-August deadline are in brackets.*

1. Tyler Beede, RHP, Massachusetts HS (75%)

A lot of teams moved Beede – a consensus first round talent – down their draft boards after he sent out a letter stating that he intended to follow through on his commitment to Vanderbilt University and that it would take a huge bonus to change his mind. Beede has an advanced delivery and throws his fastball in the 88-93 mph range. He also features a curveball, slider, and changeup.

1S Jacob Anderson, OF, California HS (100%)

A bit of a surprise selection in this slot, Anderson entered 2011 as one of the Top 100 draft-eligible prep prospects, according to Baseball America but slid as the year went on. He has good size and a nice swing, invoking comparisons to former Jays outfielder Shawn Green. Anderson has solid raw power but could need a fair bit of time to develop.

1S Joe Musgrove, RHP, California HS (signed)

A \$500,000 investment in the right-hander swayed him from his San Diego State University commitment. Musgrove has the ceiling of a No. 3 starter and features a low-90s fastball, curveball, and changeup. His heater has touched the mid-90s.

1S Dwight Smith Jr., OF, Georgia HS (75%)

The son of the former Cubs' outfielder of the same name, Smith Jr. has an impressive batting stroke for a prep player and should move rather quickly for a high school draftee (assuming he signs and forgoes his scholarship to Georgia Tech). He may eventually have to move from centerfield and there are questions about how much power he'll hit for and if it will be enough to play every day.

1S Kevin Comer, RHP, New Jersey HS (30%)

Like Beede, Comer is committed to Vanderbilt University and will be a very tough (and expensive) sign. The right-hander has a solid pitcher's frame, throws in the low 90s and flashes a plus curveball. He threw less than 20 innings during the high school season and showed inconsistent stuff, which caused him to slide down teams' draft boards.

2. Daniel Norris, RHP, Tennessee HS (50%)

A consensus first-round talent, Norris' asking price (more than \$3 million) scared off a lot of teams. If Toronto does not come to an agreement with the right-hander, he'll likely head off to Clemson University for at least three seasons. The left-hander can touch the mid-90s with his heater, but sits in the low-90s. He also features a curveball, slider, and changeup.

2. Jeremy Gabryszewski, RHP, Texas HS (90%)

Likened to 2010 draftee Noah Syndergaard, Gabryszewski is a tall, raw Texas right-hander who shows immense upside and has started to see his fastball velocity spike. It's ranged anywhere from 86-93 mph. He also has a good breaking ball and a changeup. He was an over-draft but has a high ceiling.

3. John Stilson, RHP, Texas AM (30%)

Stilson entered the 2011 season as a potential Top 10 pick in the draft but his season took a turn for the worst when he suffered a shoulder injury, which was later diagnosed as a SLAP lesion. There is

some talk now, though, that the injury may not be as bad as originally thought. If healthy enough, Stilson could pitch in the Cape Cod Summer League to try and boost his value. Even before the injury, scouts had concerns over the effort in his delivery. His fastball can touch the upper-90s and he has a plus changeup. He also features two breaking balls that are average.

4. Thomas Robson, RHP, British Columbia HS (90%)

The top-rated Canadian in the 2011 draft, Robson was nabbed one round earlier than he was projected to go on most draft boards. The right-hander saw his stuff take a small step back this year but he has promising potential and could blossom with year-round development. He has a fastball that has touched 93 mph, a solid curveball, and a changeup. He commands the ball well considering his inexperience and age (17).

5. Andrew Chin, LHP, Massachusetts HS (20%)

Chin was a bit of a surprise with this pick. He could have gone even higher on talent alone but the southpaw had Tommy John surgery in April so he likely won't be able to pitch in competitive games until next summer. He's committed to Boston College but could be worth the investment considering the success rate with the surgery. Chin has a fastball that ranges from 86-92 mph and he also flashes a developing curveball and changeup.

6. Anthony DeSclafani, RHP, U Florida (70%)

DeSclafani entered 2011 as one of the Top 100 draft-eligible college players, according to Baseball America. A reliever in '11, the right-hander showed a potentially-lethal fastball-slider combination but did not dominate due to poor command. His fastball sits in the low-to-mid 90s but lacks movement.

7. Christian Lopes, SS/1B, California HS (50%)

Lopes is an amateur prospect that has been on the scouting radar a long time (not unlike former high draft pick John Tolisano) but his skills have not developed as quickly as expected. As such, he could be a tough sign away from his University of Southern California commitment. He generates good gap power thanks to solid bat speed.

8. Mark Biggs, RHP, Kentucky HS (40%)

One of the top prospects in Kentucky entering 2011, Biggs fractured a vertebrae in his back while weight lifting, which caused him to slide in the draft. The right-hander is committed to the University of Louisville but might be worth the risk and investment. Prior to his injury, he was throwing 87-93 mph. Biggs also has a solid changeup and developing curveball. The club will probably watch him play this summer before offering a contract.

9. Andrew Suarez, LHP, Florida HS (40%)

Suarez has been a top draft prospect for quite some time but an inconsistent season caused him to slide to the Jays in the ninth round. The lefty has a fastball that ranges from 87-92 mph, as well as a curveball and a changeup. He's committed to the University of Miami.

10. Aaron Garza, RHP, Texas HS (60%)

Toronto surprised a lot of people by taking Garza with a 10th round pick. Most consider him a lock to attend the University of Houston as a prospect who could take huge strides over the next few seasons and potentially develop into a top prospect for the 2014 draft. He's 6'4" but only 160 lbs. Once he adds muscle, his 85-88 mph fastball should jump up significantly. His repertoire also includes a curveball, slider, and changeup.

11. Andy Burns, SS, U Arizona (50%)

Because he transferred from the University of Kentucky to Arizona, Burns had to sit out the 2011 season. Despite that he's a solid prospect and entered the '11 season as one of the Top 100 draft-eligible college prospects, according to Baseball America.

12. John Norwood, OF, New Jersey HS (20%)

Norwood is another potential Vanderbilt student. The outfielder has good speed and projects to develop into a solid defender in center field. He likely won't hit for much power so he'll have to

develop his small-ball skills.

13. Matt Dean, 3B/SS, Texas HS (20%)

A potential first or second round draft pick, Dean slid due to signability concerns. He was strongly committed to the University of Texas prior to the draft. He shows plus raw power and has a nice swing. Defensively, he played shortstop in high school but would move to third base in pro ball; he has more than enough power potential to be an above-average third baseman if everything clicks.

14. Cole Wiper, RHP, Washington HS (40%)

Committed to the University of Oregon, Wiper entered the season as one of the top draftable prep prospects in the nation. The right-hander has a fastball that touches 93 mph but his best pitch is his curveball, which should develop into a plus offering. He also throws a good changeup and a developing slider. He was a two-way player in high school but is a better prospect as a pitcher.

15. Cody Glenn, LHP, Texas HS (30%)

Glenn entered 2011 as a very promising pitching prospect but slid due to signability concerns and his strong commitment to Louisiana State University. His fastball currently sits in the 87-91 mph range and he also flashes a curveball and changeup. Glenn has a very projectable frame and a low-three-quarter arm slot that should make him tough on left-handed hitters.

16. Richard Prigatano, 1B, California HS (30%)

17. Brady Dragmire, RHP, California HS (20%)

18. Jon Berti, SS, Bowling Green University (signed)

19. Luke Weaver, RHP, Florida HS (20%)

20. Joel Seddon, RHP, Michigan HS (20%)

21. Peter Mooney, SS, U South Carolina (70%)

22. Aaron Nola, RHP, Louisiana HS (40%)

23. K'Shawn Smith 3B Florida JC (70%)

24. David Rollins, LHP, Texas JC (signed)

25. Eric Arce, C/1B, No School - Florida (signed)

26. Justin Atkinson, SS, British Columbia HS (signed)

27. Derrick Loveless OF Iowa HS (30%)

28. Jorge Vega-Rosado, SS, Florida CC (signed)

29. Taylor Cole, RHP, Brigham Young U (signed)

30. Kevin Patterson, 1B, Auburn U (signed)
31. Austin Nola, SS, Louisiana State U (40%)
32. Kevin Pillar, OF, Cal State U (signed)
33. Kramer Champlin, RHP, Arizona State U (80%)
34. Luis (Aaron) Munoz, C, Northwestern State U (signed)
35. Jerrick Suiter, RHP, Indiana HS (20%)
36. Arik Sikula RHP Marshall U (signed)
37. Leslie Williams, RHP, Northeastern U (signed)
38. Nico Taylor, 1B/OF, Northwood U (signed)
39. Chris Cox, RHP, Canisius College (70%)
40. Nicholas Baligod, OF, Oral Roberts U (signed)
41. Cody Bartlett, SS, Washington State U (signed)
42. Shane Davis, LHP, Canisius College (signed)
43. Jake Eliopoulos, LHP, No School - Canada (80%)
44. Colby Broussard, RHP, Faulkner U (signed)
45. Johnny Coy, 1B, Wichita State U (20%)
46. Shane Farrell, RHP, Marshall U (50%)
47. Austin Davis, 3B, Pennsylvania HS (30%)
48. Jake Wakamatsu, OF, Texas HS (20%)
49. Charlie Lamar, LHP, Florida HS (20%)
50. Eric Brown, RHP, U British Columbia (signed)

2010 Draft Review

Best Pick So Far: Deck McGuire or Aaron Sanchez

Most Disappointing: Sam Dyson (Tommy John surgery)

Don't Give Up On: Dickie Joe Thon (Out with illness)

It's hard to comment too much on this draft without a full year's worth of data. Deck McGuire (11th overall) has performed as well as can be expected and could even see double-A by the end of the year. Prep picks Aaron Sanchez (34th) and Noah Syndergaard (38th) have both already seen their fastballs improve since turning pro. Both are raw, though, so they could take a fair bit of time to develop. College righty Asher Wojciechowski (41st) needs to sharpen his secondary stuff so he's a step behind McGuire in terms of development.

The organization's first bat came with the selection of prep infielder Kellen Sweeney (2nd round), who also happens to be the brother of Oakland Athletics outfielder Ryan Sweeney. The younger brother has a great eye at the plate but modest power potential. The club grabbed two more promising young bats in the third round with 3B/OF Christopher Hawkins and Canadian OF Marcus Knecht.

The team continued to stock up on high-ceiling prep pitching with the likes of LHP Justin Nicolino (2nd), LHP Mitchell Taylor (7th), LHP Zak Adams (15th), RHP Myles Jaye (17th), and RHP Adaric Kelly (28th). My favorite out of that group, right now, is Jaye. Other draft picks to keep an eye on as the year progresses include: SS D.J. Thon (5th), LHP Sean Nolin (6th), SS Shane Optiz, Canadian OF Dalton Pompey, and RHP Danny Barnes (35th).

Many of the players listed above will spend the year in short-season ball, after beginning the year in extended spring training, and have profiles/scouting reports in the pages that follow.

2009 Draft Review

Best Pick So Far: Jake Marisnick

Most Disappointing: James Paxton (Did Not Sign)

Don't Give Up On: K.C. Hobson

This was one of the most disappointing Jays drafts in recent memory and certainly didn't help former GM J.P. Ricciardi keep his job. The club failed to sign three of its first four draft picks and walked away from negotiations with two Canadians, lefties James Paxton and Jake Eliopoulos, as well as prep right-hander Jake Barrett, who is now on track to be a top draft pick in 2012. It was allegedly a medical report that scared the club away from Barrett but he's been fine so far in college.

First-rounder Chad Jenkins (20th overall) has produced modest pro numbers as a starter. He's spent much of the year in high-A ball with a solid ERA and excellent ground-ball numbers but he lacks a reliable strikeout pitch. His pitch-to-contact method will temper his overall ceiling and he could help himself out by getting into better shape. The club used some of the money it saved earlier in the draft and bought Jake Marisnick (3rd round) away from his college commitment for \$1 million.

Right-handed prep pitcher Drew Hutchison wasn't on a lot of scouts' radars as a top talent but the Jays organization saw something that it liked and gave him a higher-than-normal signing bonus for the 15th round. He's rewarded that faith so far and is pitching well in low-A Lansing. First baseman K.C. Hobson received another over-slot contract and has plus raw power but it hasn't shown up in game situations. Extra money was also given to Daniel Webb (18th) based on his promising fastball but his command has been below-average in pro ball.

Middle infielder Ryan Goins (4th) looks like a solid big league utility player, while Ryan Schimpf (5th) has battled injury in 2011. Third baseman Bryson Namba (12th) has been slow to develop because of some big holes in his swing but he also has big-time power. The club has received solid value from Ryan Tepera (19th), Kevin Nolan (20th), and Brad Glenn (23rd).

2008 Draft Review

Best Pick So Far: Eric Thames

Most Disappointing: Kenny Wilson

Don't Give Up On: John Anderson

The organization did a nice job in '08 even though it didn't have any extra picks or a large budget. First baseman David Cooper (17th overall) has already spent some time in the Majors but his ceiling is somewhat modest for the offensive-minded position. He lacks the premium bat speed and raw power that you look for from a big league first-sacker. The club had hoped that another college first baseman Brett Wallace would slide to them but he went to St. Louis with the 13th overall pick. However, he was later acquired from Oakland for fellow prospect Michael Taylor (whom the Jays got from Philly in the Roy Halladay trade). Wallace was then swapped to Houston for outfielder Anthony Gose (whom Toronto tried to get from Philly in the Halladay deal but the Phillies refused to part with him until they swapped him to the Astros in the Roy Oswalt deal - Confused yet?).

Toronto also coveted Canadian infielder Brett Lawrie in this draft but he was grabbed by Milwaukee with the 16th overall pick. The organization also managed to acquire him at a later date for veteran right-handed starter Shaun Marcum. Lawrie is now the club's top prospect and the future at the hot corner.

The club knew that second-rounder OF Kenny Wilson was a raw athlete but he just hasn't been able to put it all together. Third-rounder Andrew Liebel, a college right-hander, has seen his career waylaid by surgery. Fourth-rounder 3B Mark Sobolewski, a draft-eligible college sophomore, is in double-A but his bat has wilted. SS Tyler Pastornicky is one of my favorite picks from this draft but he was sent to Atlanta in the Yunel Escobar trade.

OF Eric Thames has already reached the Majors and was considered a potential first round pick in '08 but an injury caused him to slide to the seventh. Puerto Rican catcher A.J. Jimenez (9th) also slipped after injuring his throwing elbow prior to the draft and he's a potentially-plus defender whose bat has really woken up in the past year. Canadian OF Michael Crouse (16th) is a raw but toolsy player with a huge upside if he can continue to make enough contact. Other picks that continue to look good include: RHP Danny Farquhar (10th), RHP Dustin Antolin (11th), LHP Matt Wright (12th), and LHP John Anderson (28th), who is showing a plus fastball for a lefty after missing a year due to Tommy John surgery.

2007 Draft Review

Best Pick So Far: Brett Cecil

Most Disappointing: Kevin Ahrens

Don't Give Up On: Justin Jackson

I wasn't thrilled with the Kevin Ahrens pick (16th overall) back in '07 and he's struggled to solve high-A ball so far in his career (He's currently on his third attempt). Once likened to a young Chipper Jones for his ability to switch hit, Ahrens has now given up swinging from the left side. Still just 22, all hope is not lost. J.P. Arencibia (21st) was known in college as a bat-only catcher. He's since become an almost-average defender and he's one of the top offensive rookies at the MLB level in 2011. He'll probably never hit for average or take a lot of walks but plus power, decent defensive skills and solid clubhouse presence make Arencibia a valuable player at a shallow position.

Brett Cecil's (38th overall) sophomore season in 2010 resulted in a 2.5 WAR season but diminished velocity and command in 2011 sent him to the minor leagues after four starts. The club reportedly coveted prep catcher Travis d'Arnaud with the 38th overall selection but he was snapped up with the 37th selection and was later acquired from Philadelphia in the Roy Halladay swap. Justin Jackson's (45th) career has been waylaid by inconsistency and injuries but he appears to be back on track in high-A ball while playing multiple positions (He was also hitting well in high-A in 2010 before he got hurt). Trystan Magnuson (56th), a Canadian, was an over-draft at 56 as a fifth-year senior reliever from Louisville, but he was used to help acquire veteran outfielder Rajai Davis from Oakland and recently made his MLB debut. He has the ceiling of a middle reliever.

The 2007 draft represented the first time in years that the club actively drafted and developed prep players so perhaps that's why so many of them have struggled. Infielder John Tolisano (2nd round), who is also seeing time in the outfield, is struggling to hit at double-A, while the club has already released Eric Eiland (2nd). Michael McDade was a steal in the sixth round but scouts had their concerns over his soft frame and ability to stick behind the plate. The organization immediately moved him from catcher to first base and his bat has been outstanding in both 2010 and '11. He's also developing into a strong defender. Another catcher-turned-first baseman Jon Talley (13th) is hitting OK in high-A ball this year but he's still looking for more consistency at the plate.

Back to the college players, reliever Alan Farina (3rd) has posted solid numbers but he's injury prone and can really only provide one inning per outing due to durability issues so his ceiling is limited. Brad Mills (4th) has the potential to develop into a solid fourth or fifth starter but it doesn't look like he's going to get a fair shot in Toronto so his best bet for the future is a trade (hopefully to the National League). College senior Marc Rzepczynski was a great value pick and, after spending time in the big league rotation, has settled into the bullpen where his ground-ball skills and fastball play up.

Brad Emaus (11th), a personal favorite, was lost in the 2010-11 Rule 5 draft to New York (NL), later returned to Toronto, and then flipped to Colorado to complete the Miguel Olivo trade (which resulted in a supplemental first round pick in the 2011 draft for Toronto).

2006 Draft

Best Pick So Far: Travis Snider

Most Disappointing: Luke Hopkins

Don't Give Up On: Brian Jeroloman

2005 Draft

Best Pick So Far: Ricky Romero

Most Disappointing: Brian Pettway

Don't Give Up On: Robert Ray

Got Away: Brett Wallace (Did not sign out of high school)

2004 Draft

Best Picks: Adam Lind, Casey Janssen, and Jesse Litsch

Most Disappointing: Zach Jackson and David Purcey

Got Away: Chad Beck (signed with ARZ, later traded for)

2003 Draft

Best Pick: Aaron Hill, Shaun Marcum, Ryan Roberts

Most Disappointing: Josh Banks

Got Away: None

2002 Draft

Best Picks: David Bush

Most Disappointing: Russ Adams

Got Away: Drew Butera

2001 Draft

Best Picks: Brandon League and Gabe Gross

Most Disappointing: Tyrell Godwin

Got Away: None

2000 Draft

Best Picks: Dustin McGowan

Most Disappointing: Miguel Negrón

Got Away: None

The Vancouver Canadians

Northwest League (Short Season A-ball)

The Toronto Blue Jays organization returns to Canada with its highest level short-season club. Former Jays minor league catcher John Schneider will move up from the Gulf Coast League to be at the helm. Schneider was selected in the 13th round of the 2002 amateur draft out of the University of Delaware. A strong defensive catcher, he played for six minor league seasons, including parts of four years in triple-A (mostly as an injury fill-in). He retired in '07 to pursue a coaching career with the organization. Pitching coach Jim Czajkowski was selected by the Atlanta Braves in the 29th round of the 1986 amateur draft and played 12 seasons in the minor leagues. He pitched for six organizations and ended his career in the Blue Jays organization. He spent all of 1996 in triple-A with Syracuse before splitting '97 between double-A Knoxville and Syracuse. Czajkowski saved 122 minor league ball games and appeared in five MLB games with the Colorado Rockies in 1994.

The Bluefield Blue Jays

Appalachian League (Advance Rookie)

This will be the club's first season as an affiliate of the Blue Jays organization after a long association with the Baltimore Orioles franchise. Long-time Auburn Doubleday (an affiliate no longer with the Jays organization) manager Dennis Holmberg will be at the helm for this club. Holmberg spent eight seasons playing in the Milwaukee Brewers organization from 1970-1977. He began with Newark of the New York-Penn League and ended with Holyoke of the Eastern League. The utility player never reached triple-A and topped out in double-A. Pitching Coach Antonio Caceres was signed out of Latin America by the Blue Jays organization and he pitched in the Dominican Summer League from 1995-97 before coming over to play stateside for one year. He played in Medicine Hat, Alberta (Can you get any further from the Dominican?) but his career ended despite posting a 3.81 ERA in 59.0 innings.

The GCL Blue Jays

Gulf Coast League (Rookie)

The longest tenured short-season affiliate of the Jays (and actually owned by the organization), the Gulf Coast League should be home to quite a few Latin players moving over to North America for the first time, as well as some of the Jays' younger draft prospects. Omar Malave will manage the club, while former Jays minor league pitcher John Wesley will be the pitching coach. Malave spent his entire playing career in the Blue Jays system, beginning in 1981 with the rookie level Blue Jays. The utility player spent nine seasons in the minors but did not reach double-A until '87 and triple-A in his final year of '89. He played for now-defunct teams such as the Florence Blue Jays of the Carolina League and the Ventura County Gulls of the California League. Wesley signed with the Jays organization as a non-drafted free agent in 2002 after a college career at the University of South Carolina and topped out in double-A with the Chicago White Sox organization in '07. He also spent time with the Mets organization and a variety of independent leagues.

The Pitchers

Key Prospects to Know

Aaron Sanchez

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-4 Weight: 190

Born: July 1992 Options: 3

School: California HS

Signed: 2010 supplemental 1st round (scouted by Blake Crosby)

Repertoire: 89-95 mph fastball, curveball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	3.46	19.0	1.63	.262	.413	74.4	49.0	1.42	R
2010	2.70	6.0	1.50	.191	.336	44.4	50.0	4.50	A-

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	13.26	5.68	9.00	0.47	R
2010	13.50	7.50	6.00	0.00	A-

Notes: Prior to the 2010 draft, Sanchez was considered one of the top prep pitchers available, and Baseball America ranked him as the fourth best prep pitcher available out of the state of California (fellow Jays prospect Griffin Murphy was fifth). Sanchez is still just 18 years old, so he has youth on his side, which is also one of the reasons why the organization held him back in extended spring training despite solid debut numbers in pro ball in 2010. In the Rookie level Gulf Coast League, the right-hander had a 3.46 FIP (1.42 ERA) and a strikeout rate of 13.26 K/9. He struggled with his control, though, and posted a walk rate of 5.68 BB/9. When everything is clicking, Sanchez has the ability to post excellent strikeout numbers and above-average ground-ball rates. His repertoire includes a low-90s fastball that now spends more time in the mid-90s, as well as a promising curveball and developing changeup. Sanchez throws with a low three-quarter arm slot and looks like he could benefit from a cutter. He has room to fill out on his slender frame. With his arm action, Sanchez looks like he's slinging the ball, which suggests he won't ever have plus control. He also slows his arm action when throwing his off-speed pitches. The pitcher may struggle against lefties until he improves his changeup. The right-hander also gets under the ball at times and drops his elbow. Sanchez has easy velocity. Signed quickly for slot (\$775,000), he could develop into a real steal if he can reign in his wildness.

Noah Syndergaard

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-5 Weight: 200

Born: August 1992 Options: 3

School: Texas HS

Signed: 2010 supplemental 1st round (scouted by Steve Miller)

Repertoire: 90-96 mph fastball, curveball, change-up

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	3.20	13.1	1.13	.226	.258	53.3	54.0	2.70	R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	4.05	2.70	7.43	0.00	R

Notes: Syndergaard is a big, strong pitcher who zoomed up the draft charts in his senior year of high school thanks to a significant bump in velocity. The Jays organization was all over him and nabbed him with a supplemental first round pick in 2010. After signing quickly, Syndergaard was sent to the Rookie Ball league and made five starts. He showed solid control for his age and experience level but is working on his fastball command. Still just 18 years old, he opened 2011 in extended spring training and the organization will be cautious with his development. He is very raw but has a high ceiling if everything clicks. Syndergaard does not look overly athletic; his delivery has actually looked awkward in the past, and repeating his delivery could be an issue. Syndergaard throws across his body at times, which adds to command issues but it helps with creating movement on his heater. He does a nice job of staying back over the rubber. Although his delivery is not smooth, it also doesn't have much effort, which should help him stay healthy. Syndergaard has added bulk to his previously tall, slender frame. He has a three-quarter arm slot. Stolen away from Dallas Baptist University, whom he had committed to, the young right-hander could be a steal for his \$600,000 signing bonus.

Adonys Cardona

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-4 Weight: 170

Born: January 1994 Options: 3

School: Venezuela

Signed: 2010 non-drafted free agent

Repertoire: 86-91 fastball, curveball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	Did Not Play								DSL

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	DNP				DSL

Notes: Cardona has a very quick arm action and throws from a higher three-quarter arm slot. He needs to do a better job of staying balanced on the mound and will also needs to get into a good fielding position during his follow through. Cardona will likely make his pro debut in the Florida Rookie League with the Gulf Coast League Blue Jays. He throws an average fastball right now, in terms of velocity, but projects to add ticks as he matures. He'll look for more consistency with his secondary pitches, especially the breaking ball. The key international signing for the Jays in 2010, Cardona was given more than \$2 million to sign.

Griffin Murphy

Left-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-3 Weight: 200

Born: January 1991 Options: 3

School: California HS

Signed: 2010 2nd round (scouted by Dan Cox)

Repertoire: 87-92 mph fastball, curveball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	Did Not Play								R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	DNP				R

Notes: Unlike Sanchez and Syndergaard, Murphy was a top-rated prep arm that held out for an extended period of time before signing his first pro contract. As a result, he did not pitch for the Jays organization in 2010; he may begin this season in Bluefield after honing his craft in extended spring training. Murphy throws with a three-quarter arm slot. He utilizes a quick arm action and has good deception. He takes a long stride. Murphy's shoulder flies open at times, which causes him to lose command of his pitches. He also occasionally holds onto his breaking ball for too long but it shows a lot of potential when it's on. His heater touches 93 mph but sits 87-91 mph. The southern California native was committed to the University of San Diego but went pro after agreeing to an \$800,000 contract. He currently projects to develop into a No. 3 starter.

Myles Jaye

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-3 Weight: 170

Born: December 1991 Options: 3

School: Georgia HS

Signed: 2010 17th round (scouted by Eric McQueen)

Repertoire: 88-93 mph fastball, breaking ball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	Did Not Play								R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	DNP				R

Notes: Potentially a 17th-round steal, Jaye was one of the most impressive pitchers in the Jays' 2010 post-season instructional league. His fastball was showing new life, and he's made strides with his secondary pitches. The Georgia right-hander was mostly a shortstop prior to his senior year of high school so he's raw but the organization has had a lot of success with turning two-way players into good pitchers (Shaun Marcum and Casey Janssen to name a pair). Jaye signed for an over-slot deal of \$250,000, which kept him from pitching at Kennesaw State University – the school where Jays' 2009 first rounder Chad Jenkins pitched.

Carlos Pina

Left-Handed Pitcher

Height: 5-11 Weight: 170

Born: March 1990 Options: 3

School: Venezuela

Signed: 2007 non-drafted free agent

Repertoire: 88-92 mph fastball, slider, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2007									DSL
2008		68.1	1.18					3.69	DSL
2009	3.39	51.2	1.20	.240	.284	67.0	69.0	1.57	R
2010	Injured – Did Not Play								A-

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2007					DSL
2008	8.40	1.70	9.00	0.40	DSL
2009	6.10	2.79	8.01	0.35	R
2010	DNP				A-

Notes: Pina had a very impressive North American debut in 2009 but missed all of the '10 season after surgery wiped out the year. He's been throwing well in extended spring training and should open the 2011 short season in either Bluefield or Vancouver. The southpaw showed a solid-average fastball before his injury. Although he produced modest strikeout rates, Pina displayed above-average command for his experience level and was a ground-ball machine. He has the potential to develop into a solid big league starter but Pina's future may be in the bullpen, depending on the development of his secondary pitches.

Justin Nicolino

Left-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-3 Weight: 160

Born: November 1991 Options: 3

School: Florida HS

Signed: 2010 2nd round (scouted by Carlos Rodriguez)

Repertoire: 88-91 mph fastball, curveball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	Did Not Play								R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	DNP				R

Notes: The Jays organization loaded up on prep left-handers early on during the 2010 amateur draft with Nicolino and Murphy. A tall, skinny pitcher, Nicolino currently shows fastball velocity at 87-91 mph but could fill out and add more pop to the catcher's glove. He also shows the potential for a plus changeup and an average curveball. He's considered a late bloomer because he didn't start adding real strength and weight to his frame until his junior season. Nicolino was pried away from a University of Virginia commitment with a contract worth \$615,000. The Florida native may open the 2011 season in the Gulf Coast League after failing to pitch in a pro game in '10.

Mitchell Taylor

Left-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-0 Weight: 160

Born: May 1992 Options: 3

School: Texas HS

Signed: 2010 7th round (scouted by Aaron Jersild)

Repertoire: 88-93 mph fastball, curveball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	Did Not Play								R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	DNP				R

Notes: The third of four prep southpaws taken in the 2010 draft, Taylor was given an above-slot \$375,000 contract to forgo the University of Houston. The Texas native is known for having an above-average curveball but he also has a solid fastball at 87-93 mph. His changeup is a work in progress, as is his control. There are some makeup concerns with Taylor after he was suspended midway through his senior year of high school. He throws with a pronounced leg kick and has a very quick arm action with a lower three-quarter arm slot. He might actually be better off throwing a slider or cutter than a curveball. Taylor needs some work to repeat his arm slot. He also tends to fall forward over the rubber and needs to stay back. At 6'0" 160 lbs, he has room to grow and potentially improve his current ceiling as a No. 3 or 4 starter.

Zak Adams

Left-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-2 Weight: 190

Born: March 1992 Options: 3

School: Texas HS

Signed: 2010 15th round (scouted by Steve Miller)

Repertoire: 88-91 mph fastball, curveball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	Did Not Play								R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	DNP				R

Notes: Like Mitchell Taylor, Adams has a solid fastball-curveball mix. He slid to the 15th round because most clubs considered him un-signable thanks to a strong commitment to Tulane University. The Jays organization was able to get a deal done thanks to a \$250,000 cheque. Bigger than Mitchell Taylor, Adams has a solid pitcher's frame and could see his fastball velocity increase as he fills out. There are some concerns about his durability as he underwent three surgeries as an amateur. He has a nice, easy delivery and takes a long stride. Adams slows his arm action down when he throws his breaking ball and generally fights his arm slot. He also rushes his mechanics at times.

Jose Vargas

Left-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-0 Weight: 170

Born: July 1990 Options: 3

School: Panama

Signed: Unavailable

Repertoire: 87-91 mph fastball, curveball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2007	2.67	40.2	1.40		.371		33.0	3.10	DSL
2008	2.50	59.0	1.10		.295		51.0	3.20	DSL
2009	2.77	67.0	1.02	.210	.267		50.0	1.34	DSL
2010	3.14	47.1	1.42	.296	.345	67.1	39.0	4.18	R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2007	8.40	2.20	10.40	0.20	DSL
2008	8.40	2.40	7.50	0.10	DSL
2009	6.90	2.30	7.00	0.00	DSL
2010	5.13	2.09	10.65	0.00	R

Notes: Still just 20, Vargas is entering his fifth pro season but just his second since coming to North America. An under-sized lefty, Vargas gets by thanks to above-average control. He does, though, struggle with his fastball command. Despite his modest size, he does pump in his fastball with average velocity. After showing above-average ground-ball rates in the Dominican Summer League, Vargas' rate dropped to 39% in 2010 but he did not allow a home run. He should move up to Bluefield or Vancouver in 2011. He has the ceiling of a LOOGY.

Cesar Sanchez

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-2 Weight: 210

Born: August 1991 Options: 3

School: Dominican Republic

Signed: 2009 non-drafted free agent

Repertoire: Unavailable

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2009	3.73	24.0	1.50	.253	.354		45.0	4.13	DSL
2010	3.68	53.2	1.16	.217	.265	62.2	53.5	3.69	DSL

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2009	9.40	4.90	7.60	0.00	DSL
2010	5.87	3.35	7.04	0.00	DSL

Notes: An under-the-radar signing from '09, Sanchez has done nothing but produce solid pro numbers in the Dominican Summer League over the past two seasons. He saw his strikeout rate dropped significantly in '10 but he showed better control and improved his ground-ball rate by almost 10%. He's very raw but the right-hander has a high ceiling.

Sam Dyson

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-2 Weight: 205

Born: May 1988 Options: 3

School: University of South Carolina

Signed: 2010 4th round (scouted by John Hendricks)

Repertoire: 93-97 mph fastball, slider, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	Did Not Play								R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	DNP				R

Notes: Dyson will miss the entire 2011 season after undergoing Tommy John surgery. In terms of pure stuff, the right-hander would have been in the Top 10 amongst pitchers eligible for the 2010 draft but his medical history scared off a lot of teams. He should be ready to pitch his first pro game by mid-2012 but he's already 23. A starter in college, the Jays organization will probably use him in relief to help him A) stay healthy, and B) move quickly. Dyson was a potential first round pick as a draft-eligible college sophomore in 2009 but he slid to the 10th round and failed to sign with Oakland. Washington also drafted him out of high school as a highly-regarded amateur pitcher. When healthy, the right-hander touches the upper-90s with his fastball but he's torn labrums in both shoulders, had bone spurs removed, and ulnar nerve transposition surgery. Despite all the issues, he sat at 92-95 mph with his fastball in 2010 and also has a potentially-plus slider. In a perfect world, Dyson has the ceiling of a No. 2 starter but he'll likely end up as a set-up man or closer. The Jays organization gambled \$600,000 on his arm.

Adaric Kelly

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 5-10 Weight: 170

Born: December 1992 Options: 3

School: Florida HS

Signed: 2010 28th round (scouted by Carlos Rodriguez)

Repertoire: Unavailable

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	Did Not Play								R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	DNP				R

Notes: Kelly signed literally seconds before the deadline for clubs to come to terms with 2010 draft picks. A native of Aruba, he was drafted out of a Florida high school. He was committed to Bethune-Cookman University but agreed to a \$250,000 pro contract with the Jays. Kelly is shorter than 6'0" so the Jays must be expecting a growth spurt. He's young and will pitch during the 2011 season at the age of 18. He should open the year in the Gulf Coast League but has battled injuries throughout extended spring training.

Nick Purdy

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-5 Weight: 205

Born: October 1989 Options: 3

School: Ontario HS (Canada)

Signed: 2009 non-drafted free agent

Repertoire: 88-93 mph fastball, curveball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	3.95	55.0	1.16	.236	.286	71.0	36.0	3.76	R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	8.18	2.62	7.85	0.98	R

Notes: Signed after not being drafted in '09, Purdy produced solid numbers in 2010. He showed above-average control in Rookie Ball, although he tired a bit later in the season. Purdy, a Canadian, doesn't look overly athletic on the mound and struggles to repeat his mechanics at times. His delivery definitely has effort to it and he doesn't always finish his pitches. Despite the negatives, he has a big, strong pitcher's frame He was drafted out of high school by the Kansas City Royals in the 36th round of the '08 amateur draft but did not come to terms. He should spend the season pitching – appropriately – in Vancouver.

Milciades Santana

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-5 Weight: 215

Born: January 1989 Options: 3

School: Dominican Republic

Signed: Unavailable

Repertoire: Unavailable

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2008	5.95	38.2	1.86		.311		49.0	6.75	DSL
2009	3.19	67.0	1.08	.234	.303		47.0	2.96	DSL
2010	2.27	30.0	1.00	.183	.277	72.7	38.0	2.70	R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2008	4.20	6.50	10.20	0.50	DSL
2009	8.20	2.10	7.70	0.40	DSL
2010	10.50	3.30	5.70	0.00	R

Notes: There weren't many expectations weighing Santana down in 2010 but he produced solid numbers and people took notice. He has a strong pitcher's frame and has some life on his fastball. He could jump up to Pulaski or Vancouver for the 2011 season and could start to move quickly through the system if he can improve his overall command.

Julio Carmona

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-1 Weight: 205

Born: October 1990 Options: 3

School: Dominican Republic

Signed: 2009 non-drafted free agent

Repertoire: Unavailable

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	3.32	58.0	1.22	.189	.282	67.1	36.5	3.26	DSL

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	10.40	5.12	5.90	0.00	DSL

Notes: Carmona is a bit of a late bloomer who was signed a little later than most Dominican prospects. He impressed enough, though, in his first pro season to get an invitation to North America for 2011. Already over 200 lbs, Carmona will have to watch his conditioning. He missed a lot of bats in 2010 in the Dominican Summer League but he struggled with his command and could stand to work down in the strike zone more, if he hopes to be successful as he moves up the chain. If Carmona's control does not improve, he could move to the bullpen on a full-time basis.

Deivy Estrada

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 5-11 Weight: 180

Born: August 1992 Options: 3

School: Venezuela

Signed: 2009 non-drafted free agent

Repertoire: 82-85 mph fastball, curveball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2009	2.58	44.0	1.20	.241	.339		51.0	2.66	DSL
2010	3.89	53.2	1.42	.267	.318	76.0	47.0	3.89	R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2009	9.80	2.70	8.20	0.20	DSL
2010	7.04	3.52	9.22	0.67	R

Notes: Estrada is a project. He currently throws a batting-practice fastball but the organization expects him to grow and increase his strength. Just 18, the lefty already has two pro seasons under his belt and has posted solid numbers despite his below-average fastball. Estrada could move up to Bluefield at some point in 2011 and will continue to sharpen his secondary pitches. Because he's not overly tall for a pitcher, the southpaw will need to work on getting a solid downhill plane on his pitches to get lower in the strike zone on a more consistent basis.

Leandro Mella

Left-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-4 Weight: 190

Born: May 1990 Options: 3

School: Dominican Republic

Signed: Unavailable

Repertoire: Unavailable

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2008	3.05	46.1	1.27		.297		39.0	2.33	DSL
2009	5.31	18.0	1.94	.262	.350	84.3	29.0	5.31	R
2010	4.11	7.2	1.43	.245	.284	58.3	33.0	5.87	R
2010	13.50	4.2	2.79	.275	.380	42.9	31.0	13.50	A-

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2008	9.10	5.10	6.40	0.00	DSL
2009	10.50	8.50	9.00	1.00	R
2010	4.70	4.70	8.22	0.00	R
2010	9.64	15.43	9.64	0.00	A-

Notes: Mella will be looking for a bounce-back season after losing much of the last two seasons due to injury and ineffectiveness. He's pitched just over 30.0 innings during that time frame and has battled both his command and his control.

Zach Breault

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-5 Weight: 210

Born: December 1988 Options: 3

School: Bryan College (NAIA)

Signed: 2010 non-drafted free agent

Repertoire: 89-93 mph fastball, slider, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2010	Did Not Play								R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2010	DNP				R

Notes: Breault, a Canadian, was signed after a tryout with the Jays. He spent the 2010 summer season pitching for the Intercounty Baseball League in Ontario for the London Majors. He has a good pitcher's frame but is raw. He will open the 2011 pitching in the starting rotation for the Vancouver Canadians.

Tyler Ybarra

Left-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-1 Weight: 185

Born: December 1989 Options: 3

School: Kansas HS

Signed: 2008 43rd round

Repertoire: 88-93 mph fastball, curveball, changeup

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2009	4.53	20.1	1.92	.336	.377	53.0	48.2	6.64	R
2010	Did Not Play								R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2009	4.87	4.43	12.84	0.44	R
2010	DNP				R

Notes: Ybarra was signed to an over-slot deal in '08 based largely on the potential of his developing fastball. He was considered by Baseball America as the best left-handed prep pitcher in the state and the third best high school pitcher overall. He was known, though, for having below-average command and control. He held his own during his pro debut in '09 but missed all of last season after being suspended. The organization swept him away from the University of Oklahoma.

Denny Valdez

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-3 Weight: 190

Born: May 1990 Options: 3

School: Dominican Republic

Signed: Unavailable

Repertoire: Unavailable

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2008		6.0						16.50	DSL
2009	3.86	32.2	1.10	.214			27.9	2.20	DSL
2010	Injured – Did Not Play								R

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2008	4.50	16.50	13.50	3.00	DSL
2009	6.30	3.30	6.60	0.60	DSL
2010	DNP				R

Notes: The Jays organization brought Valdez over to North America in 2010 even though he was recovering from Tommy John surgery. He should be ready to pitch at some point this season, likely in the Gulf Coast League. He has less than 40.0 innings of professional experience.

Alex Ramirez

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-2 Weight: 200

Born: February 1990 Options: 3

School: Dominican Republic

Signed: 2006 non-drafted free agent

Repertoire: Unavailable

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2007	6.21	41.2	1.91		.329		38.0	8.86	DSL
2008	4.97	58.2	1.48		.306		47.0	6.60	DSL
2009	5.55	31.2	1.35	.234	.253		40.0	3.69	DSL
2010	2.70	53.2	1.04	.217	.289	73.9	46.5	2.01	DSL

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2007	4.30	5.80	11.40	0.90	DSL
2008	4.90	3.80	8.80	0.60	DSL
2009	4.80	4.80	7.40	0.90	DSL
2010	8.05	2.35	7.04	0.00	DSL

Notes: It's not often that you see a pitcher spend four seasons in the Dominican Summer League and actually get an invitation to North America. Ramirez, though, improved significantly in 2010 and is still just 21 years old. Ramirez made significant strides with his command and control, which led to him almost doubling his strikeout rate over '09 and cutting his walk rate in more than half.

Luis Mendez

Right-Handed Pitcher

Height: 6-7 Weight: 250

Born: October 1989 Options: 3

School: Venezuela

Signed: 2007 non-drafted free agent

Repertoire: Unavailable

	FIP	IP	WHIP	AVG	BABIP	LOB%	GB%	ERA	Level
2008	9.32	16.2	3.23		.419		35.0	13.50	DSL
2009	5.04	29.0	1.86	.298	.366		39.0	6.52	DSL
2010	3.46	47.0	1.19	.227	.270	68.9	56.0	3.06	DSL

	K/9	BB/9	H/9	HR/9	Level
2008	3.20	14.00	15.10	1.10	DSL
2009	7.80	5.90	10.90	0.30	DSL
2010	5.17	3.26	7.47	0.00	DSL

Notes: After three seasons in the Dominican Summer League, the Jays organization brought Mendez over to North America to help round out the pitching staffs for the short-season clubs now that three teams are being fielded. Mendez is a monster on the mound but he needs to command his fastball much better if he's going to succeed. He may solid strides in 2010 by working down in the zone more consistently and saw his ground-ball rate improve significantly.

The Hitters

Key Prospects to Know

Kellen Sweeney

Second/Third Baseman

Bats: Left Throws: Right

Height: 6-0 Weight: 180

Born: September 1991 Options: 3

School: Iowa HS

Signed: 2010 2nd round (scouted by Wes Penick)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	.267	.450	.444	.418	45	.178	.344	0/1	R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	24.6	26.7		A

Notes: Sweeney performed quite well in his pro debut but the organization chose to take the cautious approach with him and held him back in extended spring training for the first two months of the 2011 season. Sweeney shows an outstanding eye at the plate and often had a better idea of the strike zone than the umpires in Rookie Ball. He can be a little too passive at times and needs to make sure he's taking advantage of "his pitch" when he gets it. Sweeney doesn't possess much power but he does use the whole field and has some opposite field gap strength. He comes from a strong baseball family and his brother Ryan Sweeney is an outfielder with the Oakland Athletics. Sweeney played mostly third base during his pro debut after spending his prep career at shortstop and in the outfield. He may end up at second base because he lacks the prototypical power of a third baseman. He appears to be fully recovered from Tommy John surgery, which he had after blowing out his elbow while pitching in a high school game during his junior season. Like teammate Griffin Murphy, Sweeney was pried away from a University of San Diego commitment, so you can imagine the Jays organization is a four letter word around campus (The club also tried unsuccessfully to lure Kris Bryant away from the school). Sweeney received a bonus of \$600,000.

Dickie Joe Thon

Shortstop

Bats: Right Throws: Right

Height: 6-2 Weight: 185

Born: November 1991 Options: 3

School: Puerto Rico HS

Signed: 2010 5th round (scouted by Jorge Rivera)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	Did Not Play								R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	DNP			R

Notes: Thon is the son of Dickie Thon Sr., a 15-year MLB veteran who spent most of his time with Houston and Philadelphia. Raised in both Houston and Puerto Rico, the younger Thon was given an above-slot \$1.5 million contract to forgo a college career at Rice University. There was a well-documented spat between his father and the Jays organization but a deal got done at the last minute. It remains to be seen when Thon will begin playing for the Jays, though, as he signed too late to get at-bats in 2010 and he's been dealing with a blood disorder that's kept him off the baseball diamond. It's not expected to be a long-term issue, but he's still raw (He focused on volleyball and track in high school) so he's missing valuable development time. Thon shows good gap power thanks to above-average bat speed. Defensively, he has the arm to stick at shortstop but he's already 6'2" and could out-grow the position. He runs OK but has a slow first step. With some luck, Thon may play for the Gulf Coast League Blue Jays at some point this summer.

Chris Hawkins

Third Baseman/Outfielder

Bats: Left Throws: Right

Height: 6-2 Weight: 210

Born: August 1991 Options: 3

School: Georgia HS

Signed: 2010 3rd round (scouted by Eric McQueen)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	.255	.324	.350	.324	157	.096	.336	8/3	R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	8.6	24.2		R

Notes: Hawkins was considered one of the top prep bats in the state of Georgia but questions about his future defensive home caused him to slide a bit. He's an above-average base runner right now despite his size and he has excellent bat speed, which helps him hit for power. Hawkins also has a good eye for his age and experience level. A shortstop in high school, he spent time at a number of positions for the Jays in his debut, including third base, and the outfield. He's expected to spend the 2011 season in center field in either Bluefield or Vancouver. He has above-average arm strength and could fit in right field if he slows down due to his size (6'2" 210 lbs). Hawkins signed a \$380,000 contract that bought him out of his commitment to the University of Tennessee.

Santiago Nessay

Catcher

Bats: Right Throws: Right

Height: 6-2 Weight: 230

Born: December 1992 Options: 3

School: Venezuela

Signed: 2009 non-drafted free agent

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2009	Did Not Play								DSL
2010	.248	.327	.376	.357	141	.128	.337	4/0	DSL

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	8.6	31.2	9.4	DSL

Notes: Nessay – also spelled Nessi – was the jewel of the Jays’ international signing efforts in 2009 but his development will be a slow process. Although he’s just 18, the catcher is already at least 230 lbs and really needs to watch his conditioning to avoid becoming Bengie Molina before he turns 25. He projects to be an average defensive catcher with above-average power, but he may not hit for much average unless he can trim down the strikeouts. Nessay reportedly has solid makeup, and he’ll make his North American debut in 2011 likely in the rookie Gulf Coast League. With the best catching depth in baseball ahead of him (J.P. Arencibia, Travis d’Arnaud, A.J. Jimenez, and Carlos Perez), the organization can afford to be patient with Nessay.

Dalton Pompey

Outfielder

Bats: Both Throws: Right

Height: 6-1 Weight: 170

Born: December 1992 Options: 3

School: Ontario HS (Canada)

Signed: 2010 16th round (scouted by Jamie Lehman)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	.191	.255	.319	.284	47	.128	.200	4/1	R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	5.9	21.3		R

Notes: Pompey had an outstanding spring training in 2011 and really opened some eyes as one of the top hitters. He spent much of the spring playing with the older squads despite being one of the youngest position players in minor league spring training and held his own against more advanced pitching. He reminds me a little bit of fellow Canadian prospect Michael Crouse thanks to his intriguing combination of speed and power. Although he produced a sub-.200 average in his pro debut, he showed above-average pop for his age and was just 17 during the season. This switch-hitter is one sleeper that you'll want to monitor closely, although he's been dealing with a hand injury.

Shane Opitz

Shortstop

Bats: Left Throws: Right

Height: 6-1 Weight: 195

Born: January 1992 Options: 3

School: California HS

Signed: 2010 11th round (scouted by Jon Bunnell)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	.303	.361	.455	.387	33	.152	.357	1/0	R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	5.6	15.2		R

Notes: Opitz comes from a baseball family and his older brother Jake Opitz plays in the Cubs organization. A three-sport star in high school (football, basketball, baseball), the younger prospect has a nice left-handed stroke but won't hit for much power. Opitz is a solid base runner but appears to be headed for a career as a utility player in the Mike McCoy mold. He was committed to the University of Nebraska, where he brother played ball for three seasons, but was given an above-slot deal at \$225,000.

Gabriel Cenas

Third Baseman

Bats: Right Throws: Right

Height: 6-1 Weight: 155

Born: October 1993 Options: 3

School: Venezuela

Signed: 2010 non-drafted free agent

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	Did Not Play								DSL

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	DNP			DSL

Notes: Cenas was Toronto's other large Latin investment in 2010. After doling out more than \$2 million for Adonis Cardona, the organization handed the hot corner prospect \$700,000. He's raw but Cenas has the makings of an above-average hitter with good power. He also displays above-average arm strength. He'll likely spend the entire year in the Dominican Summer League and has gotten off to an encouraging start.

Sony Javier

Outfielder

Bats: Right Throws: Right

Height: 6-0 Weight: 195

Born: June 1991 Options: 3

School: Dominican Republic

Signed: 2008 non-drafted free agent

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2009	.243	.317	.322	.291	177	.079	.313	2/2	DSL
2010	.264	.324	.327	.323	159	.063	.302	1/3	DSL

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2009	8.0	21.1	14.0	DSL
2010	6.4	12.6	10.5	DSL

Notes: One of my favorite sleepers, Javier produced a solid season in the Dominican Summer League in 2010 despite having very little hype around him. The outfielder currently displays below average power and doesn't run much but he has good control of the strike zone and should hit for average, making him at least a potential fourth outfielder. Javier should open the year in either Bluefield or the Gulf Coast League.

Carlos Ramirez

Outfielder

Bats: Right Throws: Right

Height: 6-3 Weight: 175

Born: April 1991 Options: 3

School: Dominican Republic

Signed: 2008 non-drafted free agent

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2009	.229	.305	.318	.281	179	.089	.317		DSL
2010	.205	.301	.285	.288	151	.079	.284	2/1	R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2009				DSL
2010	9.2	31.8		R

Notes: Ramirez got off to a strong start to the 2010 season but his bat wilted as the summer progressed. He shows patience at the plate but his swing still has a lot of holes in it. He's also still learning how to drive the ball with authority. Still just 20, he should return to the Gulf Coast League or move up to the Appalachian League. He has the potential to be an above-average defender.

Brandon Mims

Second Baseman

Bats: Both Throws: Right

Height: 5-11 Weight: 180

Born: June 1992 Options: 3

School: Texas HS

Signed: 2010 9th round (scouted by Steve Miller)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	.500	.500	.500	.472	2	.000	1.000	0/0	R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	0.0	50.0	0.0	R

Notes: Mims appeared in just one game after signing for \$230,000. He has good actions and a solid arm at shortstop but he projects to develop into a utility player. On the base paths, he shows above-average speed and good instincts. Mims has been dealing with injuries.

Art Charles

First Baseman

Bats: Left Throws: Left

Height: 6-6 Weight: 220

Born: November 1990 Options: 3

School: California JC

Signed: 2010 20th round (scouted by Blake Crosby)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	.244	.331	.431	.364	123	.187	.356	5/0	R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	11.3	39.0	13.0	R

Notes: The Jays organization surprised a number of people with the selection of Charles. It wasn't that he's a bad prospect but most teams scouted him as a left-handed pitcher with average stuff. Charles is very raw as a hitter but has massive power potential if he can learn to make consistent contact. He was signed away from a commitment to Oral Roberts University. He should move up to Bluefield or Vancouver in 2011.

Angel Gomez

Outfielder

Bats: Both Throws: Right

Height: 6-2 Weight: 180

Born: January 1992 Options: 3

School: Puerto Rico HS

Signed: 2010 23rd round (scouted by Jorge Rivera)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	.074	.167	.074	.120	27	.000	.100	0/1	R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	3.3	25.9		R

Notes: Gomez your typical high-risk, high-reward player. He doesn't keep the bat through the strike zone enough, which leads to contact issues. When he makes contact, though, he shows good power potential. He also needs to curb his aggressiveness. Defensively, he projects to be an average left fielder. He doesn't have great range or a particularly strong arm. He should spend the year back in the Gulf Coast League.

Leonardo Hernandez

First Baseman/Catcher

Bats: Right Throws: Right

Height: 5-10 Weight: 195

Born: February 1990 Options: 3

School: Venezuela

Signed: 2007 non-drafted free agent

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2008	.238	.291	.272	.259	151	.034	.259	1/1	DSL
2009	.292	.392	.392	.356	120	.100	.321	2/0	DSL
2010	.207	.258	.248	.260	121	.041	.236	0/0	DSL

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2008	7.3	7.3	10.0	DSL
2009	9.1	9.1	14.0	DSL
2010	6.1	14.0		DSL

Notes: In need of catching depth now that the organization has three short-season affiliates, Hernandez has been brought over to North America despite a down offensive season in 2010. He will also see time at first base after spending a good portion of the '10 season at first base to make room for Nassy and Kervin Santiago.

Melvin Garcia

Outfielder

Bats: Right Throws: Right

Height: 6-0 Weight: 175

Born: September 1991 Options: 3

School: New York HS

Signed: 2010 33rd round (scouted by Michael Pesce)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	.209	.306	.326	.293	43	.116	.346	0/1	R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	10.2	39.5		A

Notes: Garcia wasn't on many radars despite playing amateur ball in New York. He's a very raw hitter whose best skill is his athleticism. He also has enough speed to steal 20 bases. Garcia will be a very long term project and will spend the year in Rookie Ball.

Seth Conner

Third Baseman/Catcher

Bats: Right Throws: Right

Height: 6-2 Weight: 205

Born: January 1992 Options: 3

School: Missouri HS

Signed: 2010 41st round (scouted by Darin Vaughn)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	Did Not Play								R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	DNP			R

Notes: The organization talked about moving Conner behind the plate. He even spent some time working out there in the summer – at the club’s request – before signing. Ultimately, though, it appears as though he’ll remain at the hot corner for now, as he spent most of his time there this spring. He has a strong arm and raw power at the plate. He was given \$100,000 to forgo a three-year career at Missouri State University.

Danny Arcila

Shortstop

Bats: Left Throws: Right

Height: 6-1 Weight: 170

Born: July 1990 Options: 3

School: Venezuela

Signed: 2007 non-drafted free agent

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2007	.167	.255	.222	.226	162	.055	.255		DSL
2008	.221	.389	.264	.318	163	.043	.327		DSL
2009	.209	.288	.305	.269	187	.096	.304		DSL
2010	.181	.230	.340	.269	94	.160	.200	1/0	R

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2007	11.2	29.8	16.0	DSL
2008	21.3	24.5	10.0	DSL
2009	9.3	28.4	14.0	DSL
2010	4.9	22.3	12.0	R

Notes: Arcila has a nifty glove, which is why he was brought stateside despite less-than-stellar offensive numbers in the Dominican Summer League. He should return to the Gulf Coast League in 2011 or, possibly, move up to Bluefield.

Andy Fermin

Second Baseman

Bats: Left Throws: Right

Height: 6-0 Weight: 180

Born: July 1989 Options: 3

School: Florida JC

Signed: 2010 32nd round (scouted by Cliff Pastornicky)

	AVG	OBP	SLG	wOBA	AB	ISO	BABIP	SB/CS	Level
2010	.462	.548	.577	.524	26	.115	.500	0/0	R
2010	.273	.345	.353	.332	150	.080	.328	0/0	A-

	BB%	K%	LD%	Level
2010	12.9	7.7		R
2010	8.9	18.7		A-

Notes: Fermin got off to a strong offensive start to his pro career in 2010 but projects to develop into a light-hitting infielder with above-average defensive skills. He'll never hit for power and he doesn't possess much speed, so his ceiling is limited. His father, Felix Fermin, played parts of 10 seasons in the Majors and was a similar player, albeit with better athleticism and range. He has good makeup. Fermin hails from the same Junior College as Toronto right-fielder Jose Bautista.

More Information:

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Marc Hulet has been covering the Toronto Blue Jays minor league system for seven years now at a variety of sites, including BattersBox.ca. He is also the second-most tenured writer at FanGraphs.com, where he provides prospect analysis and scouting reports on minor league players. Each winter, he provides Top 10 prospect lists and scouting reports for all 30 MLB organizations. He has also written online for ESPN, NBCsports, Rotoworld, and Heater Magazine. His work has been found on book store bookshelves for the past three years as a contributor to the baseball annual The Graphical Player by Acta Sports. Trained in print and broadcast journalism in Ontario, Canada, Marc spent five years working full-time for Sun Media as a reporter, photographer, and editor before venturing out on a freelance career.