

Profar selected to All-Star Futures Game

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The Hickory Crawdads, 1st-Half Northern Division Champions, have announced that SS Jurickson Profar has been selected by Major League Baseball to play in the 2011 XM All-Star Futures Game.

Profar becomes the first player to earn a selection as a current member of the Crawdads and is one of only seven Class A players selected to this year's Futures Game. He will join former Hickory pitcher Martin Perez ('09) on the World Team.

Profar, 18, is in his first season with the 'Dads and is the youngest player in the 14-team South Atlantic League. The Willemstad, Curacao native is hitting .264 with six home runs and 26 RBIs through his first 56 games. Profar has compiled a team-high .481 slugging percentage, complementing his six home runs with 18 doubles and a team-best five triples, which also ties him for the league lead.

He signed with the Texas Rangers in 2009 and entered this season ranked by Baseball America as the No. 2 prospect in the Rangers' minor-league system. Perez is rated No.1 Perez, 20, spent the majority of the 2009 season as a starter for the 'Dads, before being promoted to the Frisco RoughRiders (of the Class AA Texas League) on Aug. 11, 2009. As a Crawdad, Perez went 5-5 with a 2.31 ERA, striking out 105 batters in 93 2/3 innings.

In his Hickory debut on April 11, 2009, Perez tossed the first four innings of the Crawdads 3rd all-time no-hitter, a seven-inning win against the Bowling Green Hot Rods. Perez spent the entire 2010 campaign, as well as the 2011 season in Frisco. He has gone 4-2 with a 3.28 ERA this season.

Profar and Perez will team up with other top prospects from around the world to take on the U.S. Team in the Futures Game on Sunday, July 10 at Chase Field in Phoenix, AZ, as part of the MLB All-Star Game Festivities.

NOTES: The Crawdads host the Power on Friday night at 7 p.m., with Friday Night Fireworks, presented by Galaxy, Texas Pete and Highway 106.1FM after the game! It will also be New Year's Eve Night, as the Crawdads celebrate their 1st-Half Northern Division Title and the beginning of the 2nd Half. Gates open at 6 p.m.