

Greene Stands Tall In Texas

Written by Mike Kelly
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Jonathan Greene continues his hot pace in 2011.

Playing for the Frisco Roughriders, the Class AA affiliate of the Texas Rangers in the Texas League, Greene is hitting .301 in 72 games with 81 hits and a .476 slugging percentage. He has nine home runs, 20 doubles and 45 RBI this season.

Greene, who played at Watauga High and set a school record with 11 home runs his senior year, played college baseball at Western Carolina University. He was selected by the Texas Rangers in the eighth round of the 2007 Major League Baseball draft.

Holland Stands Out With Royals

Pitcher Greg Holland, who played at McDowell High and was a teammates of Jonathan Greene at Western Carolina, is having a pretty good stay with the Kansas City Royals.

Since he was called up by the big club on May 19, Holland is 2-1 this season with a 1.31 earned-run-average. He's given up three earned runs in 20 2/3 innings with six walks and 25 strikeouts. Opponents are hitting .176 against him.

Holland threw two scoreless innings with three strikeouts Wednesday afternoon against the Chicago White Sox at U.S. Cellular Field. The Royals beat the White Sox 4-1, taking two of three from the Southsiders in that series.

Holland had ten saves in his final season at WCU and was a first-team All-SoCon selection before he was selected by the Royals in the MLB draft in June of 2007. He made his MLB debut August 2, 2010 in Oakland.

Quate Hanging Tough in Montgomery

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The numbers may not be very impressive, but former Appalachian State baseball player Zach Quate has been a steady performer for the Montgomery Biscuits of the Southern League (Class AA affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays).

In 29 games, Quate, who was named the best relief pitcher by the Rays organization last season, is 3-3 with 11 saves and a 4.23 ERA. In 38 1/3 innings, Quate has given up 18 earned runs with 11 walks and 30 strikeouts. Quate was selected by Tampa Bay in the 14th round of the MLB draft in 2009. He set a school record in 2009 with 11 saves his senior year at ASU. Chris Patterson, currently with the St. Louis Cardinals organization, broke that record the next season.