

White Sox Select Beck in Second Round

Written by Gilham Barrett

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Junior right-hander Chris Beck was selected in the second round by the Chicago White Sox. The Jefferson, Ga., native was the third pick by the American League team and the 76th overall selection on Tuesday. Beck broke out with

a 9-5 record and 3.23 ERA his sophomore season after going 2-4 with a 8.31 ERA in his freshman campaign. Beck was stellar during his two starts in the 2011 Southern Conference Tournament Championship run and was named the Most Outstanding Player after pitching a complete game shutout. The junior was a Preseason All-American coming into the 2012 season and went 6-7 with a 3.91 ERA in 16 starts. Beck totaled back-to-back 100 strikeout seasons with 115 punch outs in 2012 and allowed just 29 walks.

PHILLIPS GOES IN SIXTH ROUND TO TORONTO

Eric Phillips became the third Eagle selected in the top-10 rounds when the Toronto Blue Jays exercised the 205th overall pick in the sixth round to take the senior infielder. Phillips, who was drafted for the first time in his baseball career on Tuesday, made his first start on February 22, 2009 and never looked back. In the process of becoming the school's all-time career hits leader, he helped GSU to two Southern Conference Tournament Titles and three championship game appearances.

The Carrollton, Ga., native finished his four-year career with 339 hits, a .366 batting average, 66 doubles, 20 home runs and 194 RBIs. He improved his batting average in every season in Statesboro and hit .391 with a career-best 24 doubles and 54 RBIs in 2012. An All-Southern Conference selection in all four seasons, Phillips helped lead the Eagles to their most successful four-year period since Head Coach Rodney Hennon led his first three teams in 2000, 2001 and 2002 to three-straight regionals.

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LEVERETT SELECTED BY TWINS

In the final round of day two of the MLB draft, Jarret Leverett became the fourth member of the Georgia Southern Baseball team to be selected in the top-15 rounds. The left-hander was the second selection in the 15th round by the Minnesota Twins. Leverett, who shaved nearly five runs off of his ERA from his junior to senior year, was 4-2 with a 2.81 ERA in 2012 and an integral part of the bullpen. Leverett made one start on the weekend in March, but after rejoining the bullpen, settled in to record a team-best seven saves in 51.1 innings.

The senior helped the Eagles advance to the Southern Conference Title game in 2011 with a save against the College of Charleston. Leverett went 0-3 with two saves and a 7.84 ERA that season but really improved his final year in Statesboro to post a career 4-5 record with 9 saves and a 5.05 ERA in 54 appearances.