

Dowdy Inks Free-Agent Deal

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Former Appalachian State University catcher Jeremy Dowdy (Raleigh, N.C./Wakefield) has signed a free-agent contract with the Chicago White Sox and will likely begin his professional career in nearby Bristol, Va. with

the rookie-level Bristol White Sox of the Appalachian League. Dowdy is one of only three players in Appalachian State history to play in 200 games as a Mountaineer. The 6-3, 215-pounder finished his collegiate career ranked among the program's all-time top 10 with 203 games played, 198 starts, 732 at-bats, 43 doubles, 127 RBI and 86 walks and signed with the White Sox shortly after last week's 40-round Major League Baseball Draft. His brother, Josh, was a pitcher at Appalachian from 2007-2009 and enjoyed a three-year pro career in the Baltimore Orioles' organization.

Jeremy Dowdy is currently working out with other White Sox rookies at the team's facility in Glendale, Ariz. and will likely be assigned to Bristol later in the week. The Bristol White Sox open their 2012 season on Tuesday, June 19 at home versus the Bluefield Blue Jays. In other news regarding former Mountaineers in the pros, right-handed pitcher Ryan Arrowood (Rutherfordton, N.C./R-S Central), who was selected by the Colorado Rockies in the 28th round of last week's MLB Draft, will bypass rookie level and begin his pro career as a member of the Tri-Cities Dust Devils, the Rockies' short-season class-A affiliate in Pasco, Wash. Arrowood and the Dust Devils, the defending Northwest League East Division champions, open their season on Friday night versus the Everett AquaSox.

Photo Courtesy: Jeremy Dowdy, ASU Athletics