

## **Rhoney Signs With Royals**

Written by Mike Kelly

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Pitcher Corey Rhoney, who played at East Burke High School in Valdese, N.C., signed a free agent contract with the Kansas City Royals on June 19. Rhoney, a right hander, has been assigned to Idaho Falls, the Royals' Rookie Class A Pioneer League affiliate.

Rhoney was 9-0 during his senior year last spring at Tennessee Wesleyan College, an NAIA school in Athens, TN., and a member of the Appalachian Athletic Conference. The Bulldogs, AAC regular-season and tournament champions, just missed advancing to the AVISITA-NAIA World Series, losing 4-3 in 19 innings to Missouri Baptist in the championship game of the NAIA Regional Championships in Kingsport, TN., on May 13.

Rhoney had a 2.67 earned-run-average with 77 strikeouts for a team that went 45-18 and was ranked 12th in the final NAIA Baseball Coaches' Top 25 Poll.

"We lost some great players, but I'm proud of Rhoney and look forward to seeing his baseball career continue at the next level," said TWC Head Baseball Coach Billy Berry.

Rhoney, who is listed on the Chukars' roster, has not made an appearance in the first four games of the season.

**Photo Courtesy: Corey Rhoney, PHOTO SUBMITTED**