

Eric Beaulac

Stats

(Chart from The Baseball Cube)

2009 Stats	G	W-L	ERA	IP	H	BB	K	SV	WHIP	
SAV (nym)	A	25	7-7	2.97	115	109	40	132	2	1.30

He was drafted in the 8th round last year, so the Mets are thinking he has a major league quality arm, and me saying he is the Mets best pitching prospect is not a reflection of the Mets having a thin crop of young arms, but the fact he is actually a great young pitcher, who could be a dominant major leaguer for years to come. He has always had a great K/BB ratio, even in college he did, posting K/BBs of 81/50, and in his final year 113/43, he has a lot of command, and the key for any pitcher, especially a young developing one, is not letting a lot of runners on base, because runners on base tend to score, and that is never good for a pitcher.

If you look at it, you could say that he allowed 109 hits in his 115 innings of work, and therefore my conclusion about him not letting runners on is false because of this, but with over 9 Strike outs per 9, he can get himself out of a jam, and besides, he never imploded, and pitchers who allow a serious amount of base runners always end up imploding (see Daisuke Matsuzaka and Oliver Perez filed away in my “I told you so” cabinet), so it is not a significant problem.

The Baseball Cube gives him a 15 for control, which is slowly becoming a false statement, as he is showing great command over his pitches, and has me excited for maybe pitching in one of the Winter Leagues, or Fall Leagues, or maybe even the AFL. I put him at 3 overall only behind the highly touted (or at least in my mind) Josh Thole (for Plate Discipline), and Ike Davis (For sheer power).

Physical

I am not one to praise a player, or call him a prospect because they can throw hard, have a great pitch, or a “baseball body”. I rank prospects based on performance, and consider in physical ability maybe as 10% of the ranking. Eric Beaulac is a 6’5 190 kid, built for throwing the ball by you, but yet he is a control pitcher. He throws 90-91 on average, and is as low as 87, and as high as 93 sometimes, says Scouting The Sally.

A pitcher’s best weapons are his breaking pitches, but Beaulac has just one, his slider, which he compliments with a change-up. His slider ranges from 78-83, usually sitting in the low 80s, and has been known to flash plus pitch potential at times, and if it does he would be compared (not so intelligently) to Bobby Parnell. His change-up sits at 78-84 MPH, and is a third pitch, as it is not as effective as his slider or fastball, but he locates it.

He may end up in the bullpen because of his lack of depth of pitches, but I think that would be a major mistake, and some even say the only reason he is so effective is

because his slider is too much for the lower level hitters, well I guess we will see next season as he will most likely be at Double-A.

So is Eric Beaulac deserving of my ranking, many will not agree, and I want you to comment on it, but also try to see it my way, he dominates, and until he does not, he is a major prospect to me, unlike Mejia or Holt.