

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

ATHLETICS

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FORMER ARKANSAS TECH PITCHER AUBREY MILLER REBOUNDED WELL AFTER A TOUGH BEGINNING WITH THE BLUEFIELD ORIOLES

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA – Former Arkansas Tech University baseball player **Aubrey Miller** has rebounded well after struggling early on in his first summer of professional baseball with the Bluefield (W. Va.) Orioles.

Miller, who was a 23rd round selection by the Baltimore Orioles in this year's Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft, has made 10 appearances on the season and has an 0-1 record and a 8.47 earned run average for the Orioles.

Bluefield, who is the Baltimore Orioles rookie-league team in the Appalachian League, were 8-16 record on July 17, but they have since won 11 of its last 17 games to improve its record to 19-21 on the season. Entering tonight's game at Kingsport (Tenn.), the Orioles are 5.5 games out of first place in the Appalachian League's East Division and they have won seven of its last 10 games.

On the season, Miller, a 6-foot-4, 215-pound right hander, has pitched in 17 innings, all in relief and has allowed 19 hits and 16 earned runs, while walking 12 and striking out 13 opposing batters. The 10 appearances are tied for second on the club and the 17 innings pitched is ninth on the team.

In his professional debut on June 21 against Elizabethton (Tenn.), Miller, a Van Buren, Ark., native, allowed one hit and two runs, of which one was earned, while walking two and striking out one in his 1.2 innings of work.

Miller, who was the 685th player selected overall in this year's MLB Draft, was the eighth player chosen in the 23rd round and one of five GSC players taken in the 2006 draft, and was the first Tech player selected in the MLB Draft since former Wonder Boy first baseman **John Paul Davis** was selected in the 22nd round by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in 2001.

This past season, Miller, who was a Second-Team All-Gulf South Conference West Division selection, made 16 appearances and nine starts and recorded a 4-3 record and a 4.41 ERA, which was best among Tech's pitchers. For the season, Miller tossed three complete games and earned two saves. He pitched a team-best 69.1 innings and allowed 71 hits and 34 earned runs, while striking out a team-high 52 and walking only 18 opposing batters and allowed opponents to hit a combined .274.

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