

An interview with Reds prospect Sean Buckley

Chase Fitzgerald - Redlegs Review

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The 2013 campaign will mark the third professional season for Reds prospect Sean Buckley. Sean, who is the son of Reds scouting director Chris Buckley, was drafted by Cincinnati in the sixth round of the 2011 Draft out of St. Petersburg College.

He is currently listed by MLB.com as the eighth-best prospect in the minor league system and is expected to begin the year in Bakersfield with the Single-A Blaze.

The 23-year-old spent last year with Single-A Dayton and batted .244 with 14 homers, 28 doubles, and 68 RBI.

Chase recently had the chance to catch up with Sean and that conversation is detailed below. A big thanks goes to the 6-foot-4 slugger for taking the time to do this.

You had a rough year but finished off the season strong. Think that gives you momentum going into next season?

I wouldn't say I had a rough year, just definitely not the year I expected. However I did finish strong and that also carried over into a good instructional league. I improved my pitch selection, cut down on strikeouts and just had more quality at bats. I also felt like I improved my defensive play in the outfield. I do believe that will give me some momentum leading into the 2013 season

What is your proudest individual achievement?

My proudest individual moment would have to be the day I signed and officially became a professional.

What is your favorite spot to hit in the lineup?

I'm fine with hitting in any spot of the lineup, but I would prefer 3rd-5th to give me the most RBI opportunities.

How old were you when you realized that you were going to make it to the pros?

I knew I wanted to be a professional baseball player since I was about 2 or 3. I really didn't know that could become a reality until I was selected in the draft out of high school.

Who did you look up to when you were growing up?

The person I look up to most would definitely be my father. My favorite player growing up was Chipper Jones.

Do you follow the big league club much?

I always follow the big league club along with all our other affiliates. I like to know what's going on within the organization and keep up with all the guys.

Did you train with any of your teammates this offseason?

I trained with Jesse Winker and Joe Hudson at the performance compound in Tampa during the offseason.

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Who is your current favorite MLB player?

My favorite current MLB player is Josh Hamilton

What are your expectations for the coming season?

My expectations for this season are to stay healthy, improve as a player and help my team win.

What are some of your personal goals?

I don't really like to set specific statistical goals. Of course I have statistical estimates I would like to be in the range of but I prefer to set goals such as to become a better hitter and outfielder. Make a league all star game and help my team get to the playoffs. I believe if I achieve those goals, the specific statistics will be pretty good as well.