

Northern League Names 2007 Rookie Player and Pitcher of the Year Mike Just and Brandon Kintzler Honored in their First N.L. Season

The Northern League announced Fargo-Moorhead second baseman Mike Just was named Northern League Rookie of the Year, and the Winnipeg Goldeyes pitcher Brandon Kintzler was selected as the Rookie Pitcher of the Year as voted on by the league's managers, radio announcers, and local media.



Just, who was acquired from the River City Rascals (Frontier League) by Fargo-Moorhead on May 15th, finished the season as the top fielding second baseman (.990) and was seventh in the league in batting (.336). Playing 91 games at second, he committed only five errors while batting a team-high .336 for the RedHawks. He also led the team in doubles (24) and stolen bases (20).

The 5-11, 180-pounder, still qualified as a rookie per Northern League rules in 2007: a player with less than one year of professional service, however, Independent Leagues (excluding Atlantic League) first two years of service equal one National Association year.

The 23-year-old, right-handed hitter now has a career .327 batting average after batting .317 in 52 games in the Frontier League in 2006. Just, a native of Woodcliff, NJ, played four seasons at Liberty University (Lynchburg, VA).

Northern League Rookies of the Year

Year	Player	Team
2007	Mike Just	Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks
2006	Manabu Kuramochi	Calgary Vipers
2005	Brent Krause	Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks
2004	Casey Baker	Sioux City Explorers
2003	Brian Sprout	Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks
	Kris Cox	Winnipeg Goldeyes
2002	Jake Burnham	Sioux Falls Canaries
2001	Kevin Sullivan	Lincoln Saltdogs
2000	Jim Rushford	Duluth-Superior Dukes

Mike Just - Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks

AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS	SLG	OBP
.336	94	330	56	111	24	4	4	55	44	37	20	3	.470	.420



Kintzler, who was twice drafted as an amateur, finished the 2007 season sixth in the Northern League in ERA (4.07). Signed by the Goldeyes as a free agent on March 27th, Kintzler started the season pitching out of the bullpen before moving into the starting rotation on July 21st. Going 5-2 with a 4.07 ERA in the regular season, Kintzler was the game one and game five starter in the playoffs for Winnipeg.

The 6-1, 180-pounder, had never pitched 30 innings in a full season league prior to 2007 when he logged 77.1 innings for the Goldeyes. Having never started a game in his career prior to '07, he went 3-2 with a 3.78 ERA in eight starts.

Kintzler, a 23-year-old right-hander, was originally drafted by the New York Yankees in the 2003 draft. After not signing with the Yankees, he was drafted and signed by the San Diego Padres in 2004. He played three seasons in the Padres organization before joining the Goldeyes in '07.

Northern League Rookie Pitchers of the Year

Year	Player	Team
2007	Brandon Kintzler	Winnipeg Goldeyes
2006	Brandon Goltz	Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks
2005	Quintin Oldenburg	Gary - Calgary
2004	Mike Peschel	Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks
2003	Chris Begg	St. Paul Saints
2002	Dusty Keppen	Schaumburg Flyers
2001	Billy Coleman	Schaumburg Flyers
2000	Jason Pearson	Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks

Brandon Kintzler - Winnipeg Goldeyes

W-L	S	ERA	G	GS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	OPP.	AVG
5-2	1	4.07	29	8	77.1	78	43	35	13	41		.258

