

Rookie Davis

Rookie Davis was born April 29, 1993 in Greenville, NC. As a 12-year-old, he was selected to play for Rawlings in Cooperstown, NY. A well-rounded athlete, Rookie decided to focus on baseball at the age of 13. Rookie attended Dixon High School where he was a standout. He was All State four times, the 2010 NC Player of the Year and an Under Armour All American (getting to play at Wrigley Field), four time All Conference, three-time Conference Player of the Year, four time All Area, two-time Area Player of the Year and two-time High School Perfect Game All-American.

Rookie committed to East Carolina University after his freshman year (the youngest ever to do so at that time). In high school he had a .544 career batting average (3rd in NC), hit 37 home runs, had 150 RBI's (1st in NC), 168 hits (1st in NC), was 25-4 with 422 strike outs as a pitcher (tied 10th in NC), threw five no hitters (3rd in NC) and had a high school career 1.67 ERA. He was the #2 rated two-way amateur player in the country for high school and college. He hit safely in 25 straight games (6th in NC). Had a .590 batting average in a season (tied 25th in NC). Some of his single-season highs include 13 wins (15th in NC), 186 strikeouts (12th in NC), 20 strikeouts vs Topsail in seven innings, 59 hits (6th in NC), and 52 RBI's (12th in NC). He was also a three-time NC State Games participant.

Also in 2010, Rookie played for the Arizona Diamondbacks in the East Coast Pro Showcase. Every Major League team visited the Davis home prior to the MLB draft. Half were interested in him as pitcher and half as a hitter. Rookie was drafted in the 14th round as a pitcher by the New York Yankees. To honor his high school career, Dixon retired his #24 jersey. Dixon also honored Davis by naming the field, the Rookie Davis Field. Rookie climbed the Yankees minor league system, making All-Star teams in Staten Island and Tampa and was ranked as the Yankees #6 prospect. Rookie was traded to the Cincinnati Reds in 2015. Rookie made another All-Star team in Pensacola. On April 6, 2017, Rookie made his Major League debut for the Reds. A serious hip surgery cut his season short and threatened his career. After being told he would probably never pitch again, Rookie battled and earned a deal with the Pittsburgh Pirates for the 2019 season. Rookie retired from baseball during the Covid pandemic and opened the Davis Academy in Jacksonville, NC. Rookie has helped countless players excel in baseball.