

The Boston Globe

Sahil Bloom, ex-Weston High hurler, goes coast to coast

Weston's Bloom sharpens skills

By Marvin Pave
Aug. 7, 2011

Sahil Bloom, a Globe All-Scholastic pitcher at Weston High in 2009 who set a school record with 23 career victories, has traveled coast to coast this year.

Bloom, a sophomore reliever at Stanford University, where he has gone 2-0 with an 0.55 earned run average his first two college seasons, took the mound as a starter this summer with the Mystic, Conn., Schooners of the New England Collegiate Baseball League, with impressive results.

Bloom joined the Schooners in late June, after 13th-ranked Stanford's run to the NCAA Super Regionals, and started five games, going 2-0 with a 1.61 ERA and 22 strikeouts in 28 innings. He walked only five batters and allowed two extra-base hits, both doubles.

The 6-foot-2, 205-pound righthander started and relieved last summer with the NECBL's New Bedford Bay Sox, whose manager, **Ray Ricker**, took the reins of the Mystic squad this year.

"I had thought about signing a temporary contract with Brewster in the Cape Cod League," said Bloom, "but I felt I'd get more innings and an opportunity as starter with Mystic, so I called Ray Ricker, and he said that would be my role. It couldn't have turned out better.

"It was a great experience and great fun, and I hope it carries over into my next college season, because this was a big step in my development. The only disappointment was that we missed the playoffs."

Stanford head coach **Mark Marquess** said Bloom's improved breaking ball, with more bite and command, was especially effective late in the season for the Cardinal team.

"Sahil really blossomed for us down the stretch, and so this summer we wanted to get him as many innings as possible. Among our pitchers in summer

ball he's done as well if not better than all of them," said Marquess.

"We're really excited about how far he's come, and he'll get a chance to contribute, perhaps as a starter, middle reliever, or closer."

While noting that Bloom can throw 88 to 90 miles per hour, Marquess said, "what has made him successful is that he's throwing his curve and changeup for strikes."

Bloom doesn't return to school until Sept. 23, so he'll stay in shape at Cressy Performance in Hudson, where he's worked out since his sophomore year of high school.

A three-time Dual County League All-Star at Weston High and the league's MVP as a senior, Bloom also set program records for career ERA, strikeouts, and opponent batting average.