

Kellen Sweeney released by Toronto

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Cedar Rapids Jefferson grad Kellen Sweeney was released Wednesday by the Toronto Blue Jays organization, according to the Florida State League and MiLB.com.

Sweeney, 23, was selected by Toronto in the second round of the 2010 draft after graduating from Jefferson and given a signing bonus of approximately \$600,000.

He struggled as a hitter in the low minors and has a career .199 batting average in 254 games, with 11 home runs and 82 RBIs in parts of five seasons.

Sweeney, an infielder, was hitting .222 (8 for 36) in limited action with the Dunedin Blue Jays in the Class A Florida State League this year. He spent most of the season on the Disabled List with an undisclosed injury and was activated several weeks ago.

Part of his career was hampered by injuries. One of the highlights of his minor league career came when he hit a home run against the Cedar Rapidsernels at Veterans Memorial Stadium while playing for Lansing in the Midwest League.

Sweeney could not be reached for comment Thursday.