

Kernels' Batts promoted by Twins

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The Cedar Rapids Kernels made a pair of roster moves on Thursday, including the promotion of opening-day starter Mat Batts to Fort Myers by the Minnesota Twins organization.

Pitcher Yorman Landa was placed on the 7-day disabled list with a right lat strain.

To fill the spots on the pitching staff, right-handers Luke Bard and Jose Velez will join the Kernels from Extended Spring Training.

Batts made seven starts for the Kernels this season, posting a 3-2 record and 2.21 ERA with one complete game. In 40.2 innings, he allowed 31 hits and 14 runs (10 earned) with 11 walks and 44 strikeouts.

Landa made one relief appearance vs. Peoria on May 19th, striking out one over an inning pitched. He was activated from the DL back on May 18th.

The Twins selected Bard in the Compensation Round (42nd overall) of the 2012 First Year Player Draft out of Georgia Tech. He did not pitch in 2014 due to injury and in 19 career games (one start) he has a 1-0 record and 3.72 ERA with one save. In 19.1 innings, he allowed 12 hits and nine runs (eight earned) with 16 walks and 16 strikeouts.

The Twins signed Velez as a non-drafted free agent on September 23, 2014.