

James Kleiven '24 Notes 4/8 vs No. 1 Delbarton

Commitment: University of Miami

Physical: 6'3" 225 lbs, athletic build, powerful upper body

Statline: 4.2 IP, 2 H, 3 R, 2 ER, 3 BB, 2 HBP, 5 K

Pitch Mix: FB 88-90 T91, CB 72-74 T76

Kleiven is a  $\frac{3}{4}$  slot power arm with a projectible Major League body with a high spin four-seamer and BB. His operation is robotic, and he seems stiff on the rubber. Control was an issue early and often as he hit and walked his first two batters. In the second inning it was more of the same, walking and hitting his second and third batters before letting up some hard contact. Could have been some nerves early on. The FB clearly overpowered some of the hitters and the heater had some cut early in the first inning; also showed some run later on. The deeper he got in the game the more feel he had for the tight CB and commanded it well. It played as a put-out pitch, but he also doubled and even tripled up on it early in counts.

He stands closed off out of the stretch and his biggest issue was throwing over his front leg. Poor lead leg block and lacks some flexibility.

It was also interesting to note he seemed very nervous holding runners on, especially at second base. There was a 2-strike count with 2 outs where he was hesitant to attack the batter and was worried about the runners on. Had a high 70s SL that was more of a cutter but didn't seem to use it much. May be a third pitch he can work on but for now it's a two-pitch mix.

FB is said to have been up to 94 with a 2800+ spin rate. This was his second start of the season but was the best competition he has faced up to this point.