

Sam Carlson: P

DOB: 12/3/98 (23)

HT: 6'4"

WT: 195

H/T: R/R

Acquired: 2017, 2nd (55) - SEA

Highest Level: Low-A (Modesto)

ETA: 2023

Grades:

Fastball	Slider	Changeup	Command	OFP	Risk
55 93-95	50 81-83	55 83-85	45	45	High

PHYSICAL: Strong, athletic build with sturdy lower half. Shows athleticism and prowess on the mound. Has fair muscular development and is most likely capped physically. Square shoulders alongside solid flexibility on the hill.

STRENGTHS: Has above average fastball with decent life, especially up in the zone. Has shown continued development and projects to be a solid out-pitch. Uses his stronger lower half well and possesses a firm hip drive towards the plate. Carlson has an overhand delivery mixed with very good arm-action with durable lead-leg block. Above average command with ability to pinpoint his fastball in addition to locating his secondary and tertiary offerings as well. Changeup has late movement and accels at the bottom half of the zone; great compliment to his FB. Slider has shown flashes and has tremendous depth.

WEAKNESSES: Slider isn't as efficient as his changeup in terms of consistency. Injury history has been somewhat concerning with Tommy John surgery in 2018. Was out all of 2019 recovering and unfortunately lost out due to the COVID-plagued 2020 season. Drafted out of high school, these types of arms tend to need more time to develop. Command and control still can improve post-injury.

SUMMARY: Has a solid swing and miss repertoire of pitches and the strikeouts should be there. Walks have been a concern but will continue to develop. Risk comes with injury history but also has solid upside which can be met. Strong work ethic with competitive fire. If he improves on controlling his slider, he'll have a scary three-pitch mix with the ability to put up high future strikeout rates. Potential backend rotation piece and could also be an effective reliever considering his repertoire of pitches.

EVALUATOR: Ethan Kagno