2028 Arms — Staff Rankings

Pitchers with scouting reports on file · ranked on present stuff + verified performance + projection + fit · UVA commits in green · rival commits in red · updated 10/23/26

UVA RECRUITING RANKINGS

TIER 1 — THE TOP OF THE SHELF

1 Francis Conners-Schmid — LHP/OF · Salisbury School, CT

report

PG grade **10** · **#21 NATIONAL (#4 OF · NY #1)** · PBR NE #2 · 6'2" 220 · L/L · uncommitted · TRUE TWO-WAY

#1 on total value — the only player on this board who is two top-100 prospects in one uniform. The bat is consensus elite (#21 in America, Impact 90, 107.7 EV, 421-foot power) and the arm stands alone as a top-ten name on this list anyway: sat **89.1–90.1 T90.9 from the left side** at the Future Games with two-plane life, a sweeper that added 700 rpm in a month, a –23" screwball change, and **2.29 ERA / 91st-percentile WHIP / 36 K%** results — all on the leftover share of his training time. One roster spot, two premium assets, and a market that prices only the bat. That's the best value on the board, and it's not close.

Over Slot #83 (2028 HS top-100, as an OF): "a toolshed… plus raw power projection with middle-of-the-lineup impact upside… size, bat speed, handedness and athleticism are fun to buy into." Projects to RF — they haven't priced the arm either.

2 Antonio Burke — RHP/3B · Highland, VA · COMMITTED → VIRGINIA 🎉

report

PG #316 · 6'4" 189 · Stars Victus · **committed 9/8**

Our guy, and the measuring stick: the **biggest arm winner at the Future Games** — 92.0 avg, T94.3, with a **+1.15 aVAA** that put him top-5 on the event's pound-for-pound fastball board. Nobody else on this list combined his velocity AND flatness in Emerson. The 6'4" frame at 189 still has a full projection cycle left, and the firm 2350+ FB with a 2500+ wipeout slider was overpowering 16U bats all summer. On the day it mattered most, against the best of the class, his fastball was the best one — and it wears orange and blue. #1 among the pure arms.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 — the FG fastball data hasn't reached the national draft boards yet.

3 Dylan Cunningham — RHP/3B · Austin Prep, MA

report

PBR **#44** · PG **#60 (#9 RHP · MA #1)** · PG grade **10** · 6'4" 230 · 16U Fall WS MVPitcher · uncommitted

The loudest raw stuff available: sat 90.4–93.4 T94 at the Future Games (T**95.1** in Feb) with 18" of ride, and the curveball is the best breaking ball we've charted — **2796 avg / 2928 max rpm** with -18" of depth. Career .144 against, 41.3 K%, 96th-percentile WHIP. The command gap (56% strikes, 23 WP) is the one thing keeping a grade-10 arm available in September — whoever bets on the fix gets a Friday-night ceiling.

Over Slot #52: "up to **96** and will almost certainly reach higher… super fast arm… one of the best breaking balls in the class… all the components required for an impact arm." Flags the streaky control; notes he'll be 19 on draft day.

4 Jack Postma — RHP · Barrington, IL

report

PBR **#66** · PG **#82** · 6'5" 200 · All-American Game participant · uncommitted

Highest floor-plus-pedigree combo of the uncommitted arms: **7.0' of extension at 6'5"** riding 92.4, with a 100%-zone sweeper. MSL Pitcher of the Year with a championship no-hitter (81 K / 62.1 IP) — performs in games, repeats the delivery, and the market knows it. The most conventional "safe" top-100 starter bet on the shelf; winning him is a straight talent fight.

Over Slot #55: "close to 7 feet of extension, slot 4–5 inches lower than MLB average — pretty unique for 6-6… missed a ton of bats bullying hitters with the heater alone… enormous ceiling… can sometimes signal day-one upside." Their looks: sits 88–90, up to 94.

5 Ryan Gaines — RHP/OF · Highland School, VA report

PG **#98 (VA #2 · #1 RHP)** · PBR #328 · PG grade **9.5** · 6'5" 185 · Artillery · uncommitted

The ceiling bet, **in footprint** (Haymarket, ~40 minutes out). +26 mph in three years, T**94** at PG Jr. National (99.96th %ile), sat 87–92 at the FG with two-plane life, 6.9' extension, and a changeup that mirrors the fastball's movement cell. Command still catching up to the spike (12% BB) — normal and fixable. PG repriced him to #98; PBR hasn't (#328) — the boards haven't finished catching up to the arm.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 — consistent with PBR lagging PG on him; the national boards haven't repriced the summer.

TIER 2 — FAST RISERS & HOOS FUTURES

6 AJ Dungan — RHP/1B · Lipscomb Academy, TN report

PBR **#101 (+115 since July)** · PG #167 · 6'4" 175 · FTB (plays up w/ '27s) · uncommitted

Best value-to-stuff ratio going. Lost spring '25 to **Tommy John (freshman year, per Over Slot)**, came back sitting 89.9–93.2 T**94.7** at the FG with a slider that gained nine mph into an **85–87 gyro bullet**, from a low 5.2' release that flattens everything. 85th-%ile K/7, 35.7 K% in '26 with 70% whiff-per-swing. Both boards are mid-reprice — get in before they finish. The 14% walk rate is the project.

Over Slot #58: "built like **Jacob Misiorowski**... already up to **95**... he's going to throw gas... high-octane ceiling." Confirms the '25 injury was **Tommy John as a freshman**, and he'll be young (18.1) on draft day.

7 Lucien Kovalcik — RHP/OF · École Sainte-Trinité, ON 🇨🇦 report

PBR **#83 (#17 RHP)** · Ontario #2 · PG #244 (Canada #3, **#1 RHP**) · 6'4" 200 · Fieldhouse Pirates · uncommitted

Canada's top '28 arm and the steepest velo climb on this list that has **held**: 78 → 92 PG-verified in 24 months (99.74th %ile — class avg is 73), still 90–91 this fall. Started Game 1 of the Future Games for Team Canada: **91.2–92.3 T92.6** with a heavy-run two-seam look (16.6" run / 13.2" ride) from **6.6' extension** — FB models at ~102 off the published shapes — plus a low-80s bullet slider that made him **PBR Impact 75 #22 of the whole event** ("a premier must-follow in the class"). Backed it up in games: 4 IP, 0 R, 6 K vs 18U competition in September. Two pitches tracked so far and the cross-border recruit is the work; the arrow is straight up.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 — Canadian circuit arms reach the national draft boards late; PBR has already repriced him to #83.

8 Ty Howard — RHP/INF · Spotswood, VA · COMMITTED → VIRGINIA 🎉 report

PBR **#187** · PG VA #16 (#4 RHP) · 6'4" 169 · **just turned 16 — youngest arm on this list** · committed 9/5

The age-adjusted steal of our class. Sitting 87–89 T89.1 with a heavy sink/run profile and a rare **high-spin "Airbender" changeup (T2907 rpm, 17" run with depth — the Devin Williams shape)** — while being a FULL YEAR younger than most of this list. The resume is absurd for a 16-year-old: Class 3 state champion, Valley District Player of the Year, 88 career PG innings at 2.46 with an 87th-percentile WHIP. +3 mph per year for three straight years on a 6'4"/169 frame that hasn't started filling out — ride the ordinary development curve and this is a mid-90s East-West starter by draft spring. Ranked #8 on present stuff; on a 2029-equivalent age basis he might be top three.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 — the age-adjusted case remains ours to enjoy quietly.

TIER 3 — PROFILE BETS · DISTINCT LOOKS, MARKET LAGGING

9 Ryan Waddell — RHP/SS · Western Branch, VA · COMMITTED → VIRGINIA TECH (9/8) report

PBR #322 (listed as SS) · 6'3" 185 · 16y 4mo · low slot, 6.5–7.0' extension

The one that got away to Blacksburg — ranked here so we remember what we're measuring against in the rivalry. Sat 87.2–89.3 T**90.0** at the FG off a low 5.1' slot with 6.5' of extension, and the summer slider transformation was as deliberate as any on this list: **+3.6 mph, +396 rpm, +10.6" of sweep** in five months to a 2504-avg/2648-max plus-spin sweeper. +8.1 mph in 13 months overall and still just 16y4m. Present stuff sits between Howard and Moore; the development slope says Tech got a good one.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100.

10 Owen Murphy — RHP/OF · The Haverford School, PA report

PBR #260 (was #129) · PG #447 · **6'5" 210 · 16y 7mo — young for the class** · Canes Mid-Atlantic · uncommitted

The biggest stuff-vs-rank gap on the board: sat **88.9–92.6 T93.5 at the Future Games** with 15.7" of ride from **6.8' of extension** — and a **648-rpm splitter**, the lowest-spin pitch we've charted in the class (beats Moore's 916 by 270 rpm). PG's own gun has his FB in the **99.8th percentile** while ranking him #447; PBR dropped him 131 spots the same summer he did all this. And the game logs back it: **2.59 ERA, .157 against, 32.5 K% (92nd-%ile WHIP)** over 46 PG innings. +17 mph since 2023 on a 6'5" frame a year young for the class. Same inefficiency we bought on Rojas and Dungan — bigger, younger, harder-throwing, and already dominant in games.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 — nobody has priced the summer yet, which is the point.

11 Trigg Listerman — RHP/UT · Cambridge Christian, FL report

PBR #237 · PG #370 · **USA Baseball 16U/17U NTC roster** · 6'2" 175 · 4.1 GPA · CBU Scout · uncommitted

The résumé arm: sat **89.6–91.4 at 2436 rpm** at the Future Games — the best sitting band outside our top tier — with a whole-arsenal jump behind it (+4.4 FB, +9 on a now-hard 79–81 slider in twelve months). And he flat-out pitches: **1.97 ERA, 94th-percentile WHIP, .183 against** across 64 PG innings, 62% strikes, plus a 6–1 HS spring and a USA Baseball national-team selection to validate it all. No single outlier tool; everything checked at once — the profile that out-pitches louder arms.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 — despite the USA Baseball nod; the résumé is ahead of the national boards.

12 Richie Reiffenberger — RHP/OF · Rio Rancho, NM report

PG **#175 (NM #1 overall & #1 RHP)** · PBR #252 · **Over Slot #94 national** · 6'3" 165 · Canes West · uncommitted

Promoted onto the board off the Over Slot cross-check: a national top-100 nod validates what our sheet already said — **T92.1–93** with a **2421-rpm high-spin fastball**, a 2670-rpm power sweeper and a true sinker for a three-shape east-west attack, plus **.167 against with a 94th-percentile WHIP** in his limited PG looks. Nobody flies to Albuquerque, which is the entire discount. The wiry 6'3" frame is barely started ("all projection… the present stuff is excellent" — OS). Command comes and goes; the arrow and the spin profile don't.

Over Slot #94: "the next in line" from the growing NM pipeline — "up to 94 with very high spin rates and late life… the spin rates will appeal to clubs and pitching development"; flags a tendency to over-throw with head-whack at release.

13 Matthew Prior — RHP/1B · St. Augustine, CA report

PG grade **9** · PG **#279 (+181 since July)** · 6'4" 184 · **16y 5mo — youngest uncommitted arm on the board** · San Diego Show · uncommitted

Howard's age math with three extra ticks: at 16y5m he sat **88.8–90.8 T92 at the Future Games** with an **81–85 T85.3 power slider** and an 85–86 changeup — three pitches in an 8-mph power ladder at an age when most of this class is a year older. Plus athlete (6.93 sixty at 6'4") with a frame that hasn't filled a sleeve. PG jumped him 181 spots in two months while their public gun data sits five mph stale — the boards are chasing him in real time. Movement data pending a PBR re-login; the velo, age, and athleticism already make the case.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 — yet; at this trajectory that's a matter of one more summer.

14 Clayton Moore — RHP/OF · Greenbrier Christian, VA report

VA/DC **#11** · PBR #329 · uncommitted · in footprint

The ground-ball antidote in a ride-heavy class: sink/run fastball to T**92.2** with a **916-rpm splitter** — kill-spin feel almost nobody in the class has. Virginia kid we can see cheaply and often, ranked where sinker profiles always get ranked (under), which keeps him gettable.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 — sinker profiles rarely make helium boards early.

15 Colton Small — LHP/1B · Forest Hills Eastern, MI report

PBR **#174 (MI #1 LHP)** · PG #391 · **6'10" 211 · 16y 8mo — young for the class** · CBA Orioles Scout · uncommitted

The unicorn: a six-foot-ten, sixteen-year-old LEFTY who sinks it — heavy 2079-rpm ball with –16" of run from a 6.5-foot release, the steepest downhill angle on this board. +7.2 mph in twelve months to T89.5 at the FG (90–91 in-game since), and nobody squares him: **.193 against, zero homers in 77.1 career PG innings** with an 87th-percentile WHIP. The 17% walk rate is the predictable growing-into-the-body flag. Highest variance in the bottom half of this list — and if the ordinary curve holds, the loudest ceiling shape too.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 — but their #94 is the OTHER NM arm (Reiffenberger), so they're watching that region.

16 David Rojas — RHP/OF · Don Bosco Prep, NJ report

PBR #411 · PG #500 (NJ #17) · 6'2" 199 · ZT NY Lugo · uncommitted

Best extension we've charted (**7.3'**), real pitch design (81–84 splitter at **1127 rpm**), and the best strike-thrower here: 89th-%ile walk rate, **0.54 ERA with 15 K / 2 BB** in '26. Only present velo (88–90 T91) keeps him this low — the spike happened in NJ spring ball where nobody saw it. At 92–93 next spring he jumps two tiers and the price triples.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 — same visibility gap as PBR/PG; nobody has seen the spring velo.

TIER 4 — DEVELOPMENT WATCH · ONE JUMP AWAY

17 Charlie Reiffenberger — LHP/OF · Delano, MN report

Nationally unranked · Shooter's Impact 75 · 6'1" 169 · two-sport (hockey) · uncommitted

The steepest fresh arrow on the board: **+4.4 mph in 29 days** to 86–88 T89.2 at the Future Games — and he threw HARDER on day two of back-to-backs ("pitcher first," per PBR MN). The angle is the weapon: a **4.3–5.2' release with 6.6–6.8' extension** makes ordinary carry play flat-elite, with a 16–18" fade changeup off the same slot. A Minnesota hockey kid who hasn't had one full baseball off-season yet, and nobody has ranked the jump — the definition of buying before the market opens.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100 (their #94 Reiffenberger is Richie of Rio Rancho, NM — no relation).

18 Kline Cummings — LHP · The Bolles School, FL report

PBR #333 · 6'2" 165 · L/L · 16y 8mo · Bolles pipeline · uncommitted · no PG footprint (PBR circuit)

A carry LEFTY still growing into himself: **19.8" avg IVB (22.1 max)** at the Future Games — Johnston-tier ride from the left side, which is far rarer — with the FB-mirror changeup landed for a **100% zone rate**. The body and velo are moving together: two inches and twenty pounds in ten months with the fastball up **+7.5 mph** to T87.9, ride and extension climbing in step. At 6'2" 165 and 16y8m the frame is half-filled, and Bolles arms pitch real innings against real competition. The bet is the same as Johnston's — one more velo grade — but from the premium side of the rubber.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100.

19 Cash Wiltgen — RHP/3B · Calabasas, CA report

CA #69 (#22 RHP) · PG #363 · 6'3" 181 · ZT National · uncommitted

Twelve-month arc reads 84.5 → 89.7 → sitting **89–91 with 18.4" IVB** at Shove Day two weeks after the FG, plus a sub-1000 rpm kick-change that kills 1500+ rpm off the fastball. The arrow is steep; he ranks here on distance from Charlottesville and present velo among a deeper board. If the T92 his X bio claims verifies this fall, revisit immediately.

Over Slot: not on their 2028 HS top-100.

Ranking = staff blend of present stuff (TrackMan: velo/shape/spin), verified game performance (DiamondKast), physical projection & age, and fit/recruitability (footprint, availability, market timing) · UVA commits shown in green and ranked among the class · Sources: PBR profiles & Future Games TrackMan, Perfect Game showcases & game logs, staff reports on file · Over Slot 2028 HS Draft top-100 cross-reference added 9/10/26 · Prepared by UVA Pitching · 9/10/26