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## Lizards pitcher signed by Dodgers

By Chris Roark, Staff Writer

One of the biggest things the Continental Baseball League has offered this season is a chance for its players to showcase their talents in hopes of attracting attention from Major League Baseball organizations.

A newly-signed Lizards pitcher has become the first CBL player to see that happen.

Matt Sartor, who joined the Lizards last month after the team made some roster changes, was signed by the Ogden Raptors, the short season Class A affiliate of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Sartor was set to leave Tuesday to join Ogden, which plays the Billings Mustangs today. Ogden is part of the Pioneer League, which concludes its season Sept. 7.

At that point, Sartor will work out in the offseason in preparation for next season, where he will hope to land on a higher A level team and work his way up.

"I'm really excited," Sartor said. "I'm ready to get going." Sartor graduated from Irving High School in 2003 and spent two seasons playing for North Central Texas College. He then transferred to UT-Arlington, where he played in 2006 and 2007. The Major League draft passed him up, but now he's getting another chance.

"It was just one of those things," Sartor said. "Some guys get drafted, some don't."

Despite not even playing in half of the CBL season, he made the most of his chances. In eight games, he was 1-0 with a 5.28 ERA but had 23 strikeouts and 10 walks in 15 1/3 innings.

"I thought I had a chance for this to happen this year because of the coaches and managers in this league," Sartor said. "[Manager] Tom [Goodwin] and [pitcher] Kieran Mattison both know a lot of people, and they really helped me get hooked up with the Dodgers."

Lizards general manager Justin Wilcher said it's good for the league for a player to be signed, and he's glad the first player to do that came from the Lizards.

"I'm really happy for Matt and am glad he gets the chance to go forward with it," Wilcher said. "He's a smart, intelligent kid. For the league, it's an honor for the Lizards to be the first team to have a player taken. When we got these guys ready to play, we ensured them that they'd have the opportunity to get into affiliated ball."

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