

2025 AZ Selected Players Scouting Reports and Statistical Comparison

I. Selection Process

After spending the past 2025 season scouting and observing hundreds of high school baseball players through my internship at Prep Baseball Report, I decided to do scouting reports on three lesser-known players who displayed some excellent baseball skills and season performances, and illustrate that through some advanced statistical analysis that their performances compare most favorable to more widely know high school players and potential MLB prospects across the country. Those three players are the following (each are from the state Class 5A division):

- RHP Landon Hood, Canyon View HS (Waddell, AZ)
- OF Gavin Mesa, Chaparral HS (Scottsdale, AZ)
- RHP/INF JT Price, Centennial HS (Peoria, AZ)

Each player's general scouting report and skill value grading (both present and future) is available under Exhibit A of this document.

I. Introduction to Pitcher DIGS

To illustrate how these players compared statistically with others in their 2025 graduating class across other states, I will be utilizing some advanced statistics and metrics I have access to through a website called "Pitcher DIGS" ([Pitcher DIGS](#)).

Pitcher DIGS is run by Kyle Goings out of Northern California. In his spare time from his full-time job and as a loving husband and parent, he created and runs this website that produces an advanced statistical leaderboard of baseball players' performance for the current specific season. He had focused mainly on professional and collegiate statistics since its maiden launch back in 2023 since those were readily available through other statistical platforms, but just recently back in 2024, he started creating one for high school players. (which he was able to provide statistics and advanced metrics for over 15,000 prep players). Using the rankings and statistics provided by certain baseball media platforms, he has then been able to utilize formulas he developed to upload all the stats from those websites to create statistical leaderboards. He has also done his best to provide a consistent, similar analysis and leaderboards for other states, prioritizing state powerhouses in the Southeast and Midwest. Upon discovery of the website and the great work Kyle does, I volunteered to help him update his spreadsheets for the state of Arizona and as many high school programs as he would like, and he graciously accepted. So, during the season leading up to the recent conclusion with the respective class state championships, I updated his Arizona High School spreadsheets with all the statistics that

he needed and were available from public social media websites. It was a lot of work, but it was very rewarding once he made all the statistical generations available on his website. It is also worth noting that he has created two new baseball metrics called “DIGS” (which is a pitching metric that stands for Defensive Independent Game Score) and “BaGS” (which is an offensive metric that stands for Batter Game Score), as these were his flagship metrics when he originally launched Pitcher DIGS back in 2023. I will get more into this later in the program. All in all, we have been able to produce final statistics and metrics for over 2,700 Arizona high school players from the 2025 season. There are not too many sites out there on the World Wide Web that have such publicly available in-depth analysis of baseball amateur statistics and metric evaluations at the high school level, so I am honored to have met Kyle and been able to contribute to his endeavor.

To give you some context on what each stat/metric represents, here are the definitions provided by MLB.com¹, and Pitcher DIGS² through their website and X account³:

- ***Wins Above Replacement, including offensive and pitching WAR (WAR/oWAR/pWAR):*** WAR measures a player's value in all facets of the game by deciphering how many more wins he's worth than a replacement-level player at his same position (e.g., a Minor League replacement or a readily available fill-in free agent).

WAR = Wins Above Replacement

- ☐ Combines points from ALL games played... it's a total.
- ☐ oWAR includes offensive & fielding production.
- ☐ pWAR includes only pitching production.
- ☐ WAR combines the two scores.
- ☐ Last year, 0.5 WAR was the average for all players in Superior CA (nearly 2,000 players).
- ☐ Roughly 100 players earned 3+ WAR | Top 30 earned 4+ | Top 15 earned 5+.

- ***Defensive Value (DEF):***
 - Fielding (labeled DEF on the BaGS leaderboard)**
 - ☐ Awards points for any outs or assists recorded in the field.
 - ☐ Does NOT penalize for errors (1 point if the play is made, 0 if it's not).
- ***Weighted On-Base Average (wOBA):*** wOBA is a version of on-base percentage that accounts for how a player reached base -- instead of simply considering whether a player reached base. The value for each method of reaching base is determined by how much that event is worth in relation to projected runs scored (example: a double is worth more than a single). Unlike on-base percentage and OPS (OBP +

¹ [Glossary | MLB.com](#)

² [Pitcher DIGS on X: https://t.co/3Bcrx1J7is](https://t.co/3Bcrx1J7is) / X

³ <https://t.co/3Bcrx1J7is> / X

SLG), wOBA assigns value to each method of reaching base, in terms of its impact on scoring runs.

- **Earned Run Average (ERA):** Earned run average represents the number of earned runs a pitcher allows per nine innings -- with earned runs being any runs that scored without the aid of an error or a passed ball. ERA is the most commonly accepted statistical tool for evaluating pitchers.

- **Batter Game Score (BaGS and BaGS+)⁴:**

BaGS is an offensive rating system designed around the inputs of ottoneu fantasy baseball scoring (AB, 1B, 2B, 3B, HR, BB, HBP, SB, & CS). Statcast Barrels are also incorporated when available, as are GDP & SF. BaGS can be calculated on a single-game basis, but is primarily intended for comparing season or career performance. BaGS is adjusted for park, league, & year at the MLB level; age, level, park, & league for MiLB; and age, conference, & park (where applicable) for collegiate. BaGS scoring (where 50 is average) is used to estimate a player's wOBA, then converted to BaGS+ (where 100 is average).

BaGS+ Scale

175 | Elite (+++)

150 | Excellent (++)

125 | Very Good (+)

100 | League Average

75 | Replacement

BaGS = Batter Game Score (measures offensive success)

- ☐ BaGS awards points for things like hits (different weights for each type), BB, SB, HBP, & Sac Flies.
- ☐ BaGS penalizes (takes away points) for making outs, and doubles the penalty for strikeouts.
- ☐ BaGS is calculated as the average of all games played.
- ☐ BaGS+ means the scores are converted to a scale where 100 is average. Anything over 150 is excellent.

- **Defense Independent Game Score (DIGS and DIGS+)⁵:**

DIGS is a game score metric measuring IP, SO, BB, HBP, HR, & H. It is designed for multi-inning pitchers, is adjusted for park, league, & year for MLB; age, level, park, & league for MiLB; and age, conference, & park (when applicable) for NCAA & JuCo. While DIGS marries a results-based model (including raw H & HR) with a batted ball regression model (where batted ball types & quality of contact are used at the MLB level & league average results are used for MiLB & college). The formula is designed so a player's reported DIGS score will lean heavily to the regression model early on, then gradually slide more to the results model as his BF total rises during the season. DIGS scoring (where 50 is average) is used to estimate a player's ERA, then converted to DIGS+ (where 100 is average).

⁴ [Pitcher DIGS - BaGS](#)

⁵ [Pitcher DIGS - DIGS](#)

DIGS+ Scale

160 | Elite (+++)
140 | Excellent (++)
120 | Very Good (+)
100 | League Average
80 | Below Average
60 | Replacement

DIGS = Defense Independent Game Score (measures pitching success)

- ☐ Awards points for each out recorded (extra for K's).
- ☐ Penalizes for hits, HR, BB, & HBP.
- ☐ Does NOT penalize for defensive errors.
- ☐ Adds in a "batted ball luck factor" for each pitcher to account for defensive gaps.
- ☐ Calculated as an average of all games pitched.
- ☐ DIGS+ means scores are converted to a scale where 100 is average. Scores over 140 are excellent.

• Two-Way Player score (TWP and TWP+):

TWP+ = Two-Way Players

- ☐ Combines BaGS & DIGS (plus strength of schedule) to rate two-way player production..
- ☐ 100 is average. Scores over 150 are excellent.

One aspect of each of these new metrics is that each contains a “strength of schedule” (SOS) component, factoring in each respective player's class/division level of competition. Here is how that SOS component is factored in per Pitcher DIGS, including points for graduation year⁶:

Strength of Schedule (labeled SOS+ on leaderboards)

- ☐ Calculated using Maxpreps team ratings & strength ratings from the past 3 years.
- ☐ Schools receive SOS points from their own opponents & their league rating.
- ☐ A 100 SOS+ score means exactly average competition.
- ☐ All players receive an SOS adjustment (either raises or lowers their score).

Graduation Year

- ☐ Minor points awarded for underclassmen (freshmen >> soph >> juniors)



II. Statistical Analysis and Comparisons

A. Landon Hood

Landon is a tall, extremely fluid right-handed starting pitcher had an incredible senior year. The Class 5A All-State Player of the Year led all Arizona high school pitchers in strikeouts

⁶ <https://x.com/DigsPitcher/status/1775968668704506036>

(138) and wins (12) and was 2nd in ERA (0.80) for any pitcher with a minimum of 50 innings pitched. He also had a phenomenal HS career 34.5% strikeout ratio. However, what stood out in Landon's performance were the advanced metrics in both WAR and DGS+. His senior year performance registered a 4.7 pWAR value, which was tops in the Western part of the country for any pitcher with a minimum of 40 innings pitched.









State	School	Player	Class	Div	Committed	PA	IP											
Player	Class	POS	State	Logo	School	Coil	WAR	oWAR	pWAR	DEF	PA	wOBA	IP	ERA	BaGS+	DIGS+	TWP+	
1. Landon Hood	2025	P, INF	AZ		Canyon View		5.6	0.8	4.7	0.3	50	0.504	88	0.80	113	193	192	
2. Seth Hernandez	2025	RHP, INF, OF	CA		Corona	★	7.4	2.8	4.6	-0.1	116	0.586	53.1	0.39	170	219	238	

The other metric that illustrated his impressive performance was his DGS+ score of 193, which comfortably puts him in the elite level. He was 3rd in DGS+ evaluation to only Hernandez and Hernandez's fellow graduating teammate Ethan Bingaman among pitchers with at least 40 innings pitched.

State	School	Player	Class: 2... (1)	Div	Committed	PA	IP											
Player	Class	POS	State	Logo	School	Coil	WAR	oWAR	pWAR	DEF	PA	wOBA	IP	ERA	BaGS+	DIGS+	TWP+	
1.	Seth Hernandez	2025	RHP, INF, OF	CA		Corona	★	7.4	2.8	4.6	-0.1	116	0.586	53.1	0.39	170	219	238
2.	Ethin Bingaman	2025	RHP, OF	CA		Corona		6.7	3.3	3.5	-0.7	130	0.649	49	1.00	187	196	229
3.	Landon Hood	2025	P, INF	AZ		Canyon View		5.6	0.8	4.7	0.3	50	0.504	88	0.80	113	193	192







B. Gavin Mesa









The athletic left-handed swinging outfielder had a tremendous offensive performance this season. Not only did he place tie for 3rd in home runs (6) and 8th in slugging percentage (.813), but he also had a phenomenal offensive outburst according to his offensive WAR wOBA, and BaGS+. For oWAR (2.9), he placed 21st among all qualified hitters within the selected Western States leaderboard and 7th within the state of Arizona with at least 75 plate appearances. He also placed 11th and 3rd, respectively in those same categories for his BaGS+ score. However, his weighted on-base average was 5th in the Western State Leaderboards and tops of the state of Arizona among qualified hitters. He was, without question, the prototype "Moneyball" hitter at getting on base.

State	School	Player		Class: 2... (1)	Div	Committed			PA	IP							
									75	200	0	100					
Player	Class	POS	State	Logo	School	Coll.	WAR	oWAR	pWAR	DEF	PA	wOBA	IP	ERA	BaGS+	DIGS+	TWP+
1. Tate Southisene	2025	2B, OF, RHP	NV		Basic		4.4	4.4		0.4	129	0.862			216		
2. Tyler Jackson	2025	C	NV		Centennial		3.0	3.0		0.6	94	0.798			199		
3. Spike Magill	2025	C	CO		Mountain Vista		3.2	3.2		6.7	90	0.745			189		
4. Kevin Jeon	2025	INF, OF	CA		La Mirada		2.7	2.7			88	0.739			180		
5. Gavin Mesa	2025	OF, INF	AZ		Chaparral		2.9	2.9		-0.5	108	0.733			186		

C. JT Price

JT Price was a star two-way player for the State Class 5A champions who had an incredible senior campaign, being 2nd in state Class 5A in strikeouts (103) and wins (10) to previously mentioned All-State Landon Hood. He also had an incredible offensive performance, leading the team in runs batted in (29), being 2nd on his team in on-base percentage (0.522) and home runs (3), and 3rd in runs scored (31). This all-around stand-out performance was reflected in his total WAR and TWP+ grading, where he was 4th in the selected Western states leaderboards in total WAR (5.6) and 6th in his TWP+ score (193).

State	School	Player	Class: 2... (1)	Div	Committed	PA	IP										
						75200	40100										
Player	Class	POS	State	Logo	School	Coll.	WAR	oWAR	pWAR	DEF	PA	wOBA	IP	ERA	BaGS+	DIGS+	TWP+
1. Seth Hernandez	2025	RHP, INF, OF	CA		Corona		7.4	2.8	4.6	-0.1	116	0.586	53.1	0.39	170	219	238
2. Ethin Bingaman	2025	RHP, OF	CA		Corona		6.7	3.3	3.5	-0.7	130	0.649	49	1.00	187	196	229
3. Boston Kellner	2025	INF, RHP	AZ		Hamilton		6.6	3.8	2.8	0.6	139	0.685	72.1	2.90	193	158	205
4. JT Price	2025	3B, RHP	AZ		Centennial		5.6	2.4	3.3	-1.2	117	0.605	62.2	2.35	157	165	193

State	School	Player		Class: 2... (1)	Div	Committed	PA		IP								
							75	200	40	100							
Player	Class	POS	State	Logo	School	Coll.	WAR	oWAR	pWAR	DEF	PA	wOBA	IP	ERA	BaGS+	DIGS+	TWP+
1. Seth Hernandez	2025	RHP, INF, OF	CA		Corona		7.4	2.8	4.6	-0.1	116	0.586	53.1	0.39	170	219	238
2. Ethin Bingaman	2025	RHP, OF	CA		Corona		6.7	3.3	3.5	-0.7	130	0.649	49	1.00	187	196	229
3. Boston Kellner	2025	INF, RHP	AZ		Hamilton		6.6	3.8	2.8	0.6	139	0.685	72.1	2.90	193	158	205
4. Chase Johnston	2025	LHP, INF	UT		Maple Mountain		5.4	1.7	3.7	2.5	107	0.427	66.2	0.63	128	192	200
5. Vaughn Neckar	2025	P, DH	CA		Vista Murrieta		5.4	2.3	3.1	-1.6	105	0.607	53	0.92	167	166	194
6. JT Price	2025	3B, RHP	AZ		Centennial		5.6	2.4	3.3	-1.2	117	0.605	62.2	2.35	157	165	193

III. Conclusions

I first want to thank Pitcher DIGS again for allowing me to contribute to this great platform and for having all these incredible stats and metrics available. None of this would be possible without it. Utilizing the advanced statistics and metrics provided by Pitcher DIGS, I wanted to bring to attention these three stand-out baseball performers, as they exhibited performances that showed how they can be considered elite-level ball players and can most likely excel at the next levels of the game.

EXHIBIT A

Landon Hood Scouting Report

Player, POS: Landon Hood, RHP

Team: Canyon View HS (Waddell, AZ)

Role: Starting Pitcher

Arm

Throws: R

action: good

Current: HS Sr.

Height: 6-3

Delivery: good

Next Yr: MLB or D1 (Commit: Gonzaga)

Weight: 190

Wind-up: SWU

Tops: MLB

Arm Angle: full

Interest: Yes

Pitch	Velo (Ave.)	Fut	Cat	Pres	Fut
FB	87-89 (T91)	55	Control	60	70
CB	70-73	60	Command	60	70
Slider/Sweep	71-72	60	Poise	60	70
CU	72-74	60	Agg	55	60
Other	N/A	N/A	OFV	55	70

Summation: Led the state in pWAR (6.3) and DIGS+ (195) for pitchers with min. 50 IP per Pitcher DIGS*. Had a career 34.5% K rate. Projectable frame at 6'3 190 pounds with clean mechanics and composure on the mound. Sits upper 80s/touches low 90s with a firm fastball, showing consistent tempo and strike-throwing ability. Mixed in a slurvy 74–77 breaking ball and a 74–76 changeup with some late fade. Has shown maturity in pitch sequencing, especially early, opening with spin to keep hitters off balance. Profiles as a dependable arm with the potential to contribute to a rotation role; however, needs to develop some power into his game to make his breaking and off-speed pitches more potent so he can continue to produce at higher levels.

Gavin Mesa Scouting Report

Player, POS: Gavin Mesa, OF

Team: Chaparral HS (Scottsdale, AZ)

Role: Starting Outfielder

Throws: R

Current: HS Sr.

(Commit: Cochise
CC)

Height: 6-4

Next Yr: MLB or D1

Weight: 200

Tops: MLB

Bats: L

Interest: Yes

Cat	Pres	Fut	Cat	Pres	Fut
Hitting	55	60	Fielding	50	55
Power	55	60	Range	50	55
Speed/Base	50	55	Agg	55	60
Speed/Running	55	55	Interests	55	60
Arm/Strength	55	60	OFP	N/A	60
Arm/Accuracy	55	60			

Summation: This past season led state in wOBA (0.733) and 3rd in BaGS+ (186) for min. 75 PAs per Pitcher DIGS*. Tall, athletic frame that still could develop more muscle/strength. Balanced set-up at the plate. Has worked on limiting pre-pitch bat movement before using a toe-tap in the load. Stays connected to the back side and uses levers well for quick hand and bat speed. Upward and efficient bat path creates good lift on contact, heavy line-drive and fly-ball profile. Athleticism is on display in the outfield as he gets to the ball quickly. Quick glove to release time. Good direction and velocity on throws from the outfield. Potential as a runner with long strides. Potential plus power bat with great offensive potential. Needs to work on defensive skills and range to remain a position player in the next levels.

JT Price Scouting Report

Player, POS: JT Price, RHP/3B

Team: Centennial HS (Peoria, AZ)

Role: Starting Third Baseman and Starting Pitcher

Arm

Bats: R

action: good

Current: HS Sr.

MLB or (Commit: New Mexico

Throws: R

Delivery: good

Next Yr: D1

St.)

Height: 5-11

Wind-up: SWU

Tops: MLB

Arm

Weight: 179

Angle: 3/4

Interest: Yes

Pitch	Velo (Ave.)	Fut	Cat	Pres	Fut
FB	87-90 (T91)	60	Control	55	60
CB	76-78	60	Command	55	60
Slider/Sweep	69-71	55	Poise	55	60
CU	79-82	60	Agg	55	60
Other			OFV	N/A	60

Summation: Had the 2nd highest pWAR (4.3) and 4th highest DIGS+ (193) in state for 2025 class w/ min 50 IP per Pitcher DIGS*. Strong bodied right-hander who can pound the zone consistently. Fastball worked 87–90 and touched 91, paired with a 76–78 curveball and firm 79–82 changeup. Worked at a quick tempo and threw with intent, showing pitchability and mound presence. Profiles as a strike-thrower with the potential to carve out a role as a starter or swingman at the next level.

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Cat	Pres	Fut	Cat	Pres	Fut
Hitting	50	60	Fielding	50	60
Power	50	60	Range	55	60
Speed/Base	55	60	Agg	60	60
Speed/Running	55	60	Baseball Interests	60	60
Arm/Strength	55	60	OFV	N/A	60
Arm/Accuracy	55	60			

Summation: Had the 4th highest total WAR value (7.6) for selected Western states and 2nd highest two-player plus score (TWP+) in the state for 2025 class (193) for min. 75 IP and 100 PAs. Top 25 in both oWAR (3.4) and BaGS+(157) in state for 2025 class for min. 100 PAs per Pitcher DIGS*. Physically imposing right-handed hitter displays both strength and quick bat speed, consistently driving the ball with power to his pull side. His compact swing and controlled approach enables him to effectively recognize pitches early, decreasing the number of pitches chased outside of the zone. Price's power at the plate and potential to drive in runs make him a vital offensive contributor at the next level, particularly in the middle of the batting order.

*Pitcher DIGS website: [Pitcher DIGS - High School](#)