

Bixler, Westphal will pitch for Kernels

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The Cedar Rapids Kernels and Minnesota Twins announced Wednesday that Brandon Bixler has been activated from the 7-day disabled list and Luke Westphal will join the Kernels from Fort Myers in the Florida State League.

Bixler and Westphal are left-handed pitchers.

Bixler was placed on the DL when the Kernels broke spring training in April. He was selected by the Twins in the 16th round of the 2013 draft and pitched for the Kernels last season, posting a 7-4 record and 2.68 ERA in 41 relief appearances.

The Twins signed Westphal as a non-drafted free agent on Jan. 31. He pitched last season for the Gateway Grizzlies of the independent Frontier League, making 35 appearances (one start) with a 3-5 record, 2.91 ERA and one save. Westphal has appeared in 16 games (five starts) for Fort Myers, posting a 3-3 record and 3.82 ERA.

With Wednesday's transactions, the Kernels roster is at the Midwest League maximum of 25 active players.

The Kernels are currently on break for the Midwest League All-Star Game. They return to action Thursday night against the Quad Cities River Bandits at Veterans Memorial Stadium.