Yovani Gallardo

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Yovani Gallardo (born February 27, 1986) is a Mexican-American righthanded starting pitcher for the Milwaukee Brewers. He was selected in the second round of the 2004 Major League Baseball Draft out of Trimble Technical High School in Fort Worth, Texas.^[1]

Gallardo is listed at 6'2" and 210 pounds.^[2] He has showcased impressive hitting skills for a pitcher. In 188 career at-bats, he has an average of .213 with nine home runs and twenty-six RBIs.^[2] He regularly throws four pitches: a fastball, curveball, slider, and changeup with a lot of movement.

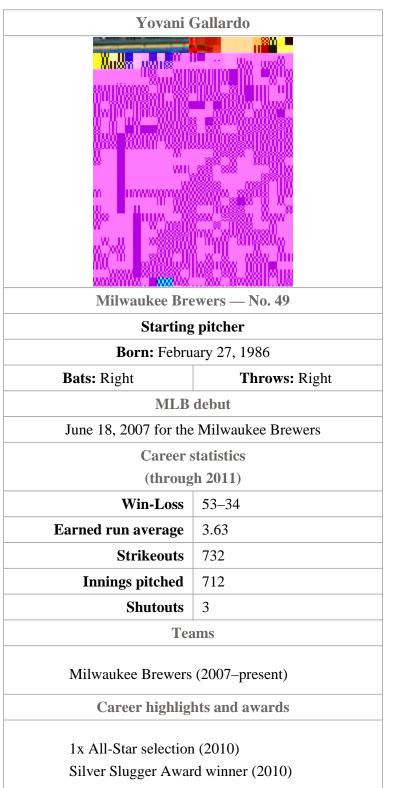
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2006 season

With Single-A Brevard County, on June 9, Gallardo had a no-hitter for 8 innings before surrendering a triple; Gallardo finished the game with 11 strikeouts.^[3] Splitting time between Brevard County and Double-A Huntsville, he led all minor league pitchers with 188 strikeouts in 155 innings of work, the most in a single season by a Brewers prospect.^[4] His

Double-A line included 13 starts and a 1.63 ERA.^[4]



Cardinals. He struck out 6 batters, one of them Albert Pujols. He struck out 9 on May 31 against the Cincinnati Reds. Gallardo pitched another 2-hitter on June 5, shutting out the Atlanta Braves 4–0. He struck out six.

Gallardo struggled with his stamina in the final two months of the season, and was finally benched for the remainder of the year in mid-September. Gallardo started 30 games for the Brewers, with a record of 13–12 with a 3.73 ERA. He struck out 204 batters over 185 innings pitched, becoming only the 4th Brewer pitcher to strike out 200+ batters.

2010 season

On April 7, the Brewers signed Gallardo to a five-year, \$30.1 million contract extension through the 2014 season, with an \$13 million option for 2015.^[18]

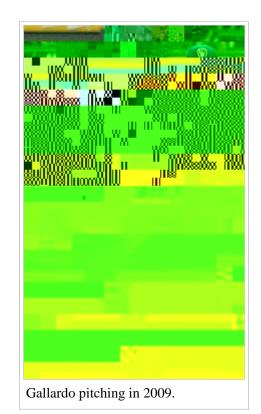
Gallardo pitched his first career complete game shutout on May 28 at Miller Park against the New York Mets, outdueling Mets ace Johan Santana 2–0.

Gallardo was selected to his first all-star game in the 2010 season, but just after he was elected, he got injured.

On August 27, 2010, Gallardo was robbed at gunpoint at a Milwaukee supermarket. He and clubhouse attendant Alex Sanchez handed over jewelry and money to the robbers. Sanchez was struck on the head with the butt of the gun.

Gallardo had a solid 2010 season, going 14–7 with a 3.84 ERA and 200 strikeouts in 185 innings pitched, plus two complete game shutouts. Gallardo also was stellar at the plate, batting .254 with 4 homeruns, 10 RBIs, and a .504 slugging percentage. Gallardo was awarded the National League Silver Slugger award as the best hitting pitcher.

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On September 17, Gallardo set a new career high in strikeouts with 13 against the Cincinnati Reds, including 4 in one inning, with Brandon Phillips reaching on a wild 3rd strike. Gallardo became the second Brewer ever to strike out 4 batters in one inning, with Manny Parra being the other. Gallardo also won his 17th game of the season, the most by a Brewer since Chris Capuano won 18 games in 2005.

On September 23, in his final regular season start, Gallardo struck out 11 Marlins. It was the third straight start in which Gallardo struck out at least 11 batters, and it ensured him another 200 strikeout season, his third in a row. As a result of this game, he became the first Brewers pitcher to notch 3 straight double digit strikeout starts, as well as 3 straight 200+ strikeout seasons. The only other pitchers to have three 200-K seasons at 25 or younger over the last 20 years is Kerry Wood and **Yovani Gallardo**. Wood did it in 1998, 2001 and 2002. Gallardo did it in 2009, 2010, and 2011.

Gallardo finished with a 17–10 record for the season with a 3.52 ERA, and 207 strikeouts (fifth in the league) in 207.1 innings pitched. His 17 wins were fourth in the NL.^[19]

In Game 1 of the NLDS against the Arizona Diamondbacks, Gallardo pitched 8 innings, only surrendering 4 hits and a walk, and one earned run on a solo home run by Ryan Roberts. His nine strikeouts tied a franchise record for most strikeouts in a postseason game for the Brewers. Gallardo earned a win as the Brewers went on to win 4–1.

Gallardo started game 5 of the NLDS, lasting 6 innings. Control was a problem for him throughout the game, bouncing multiple pitches in front of home. He threw 66 strikes in a 112-pitch, 6-inning effort. Gallardo didn't receive the decision, surrendering 1 earned run as the Brewers went on to win 3-2 in 10 innings.

Scouting Report

Gallardo has a four pitch repertoire consisting of a Four-seam fastball, a curveball, a slider, and a change -up. The fastball is generally thrown between 92–95 mph, occasionally reaching as high as 96, the curve is thrown hard in the upper 70's to lower 80's, and the slider is usually in the mid 80's and has a late sharp break, similar to a cutter. When he was in the minors, his curveball was considered the best curveball in the minor leagues. He has somewhat phased out his change-up, only throwing it sparingly in his recent starts. Gallardo is a strikeout pitcher, having a career average of around one strikeout for every one inning pitched.

^ Lance, Max. "Gallardo loses no-hitter in ninth" (http://web.minorleaguebaseball.com/gen/articles/printer_friendly/milb/y2006/m06/d10/c89639.jsp) . http://web.minorleaguebaseball.com/gen/articles/printer_friendly/milb/y2006/m06/d10/c89639.jsp. Retrieved

20. ^ "Yovani Gallardo: Stats, Bio, Photos , Highlightsm" (http://mlb.mlb.com/team/player.jsp? player_id=451596) . Mlb.mlb.com. http://mlb.mlb.com/team/player.jsp?player_id=451596. Retrieved October 3, 2011.

External links

Career statistics and player information from MLB (http://mlb.mlb.com/team/player.jsp? player_id=451596), or ESPN (http://sports.espn.go.com/mlb/players/stats?playerId=28650), or Baseball-Reference (http://www.baseball-reference.com/5450 TD-.0002 Tc.0002 Tw(flayers/sg/gllaryer)