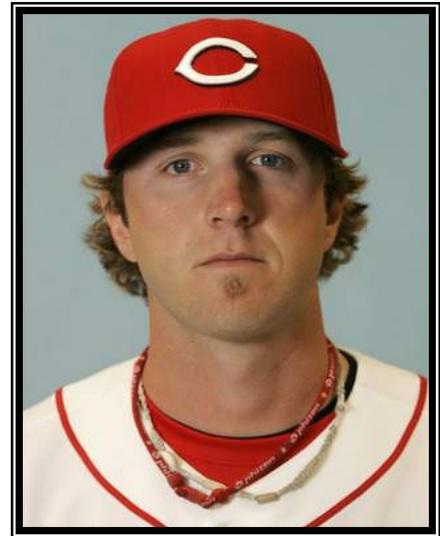




2007  
Senators Baseball

Spring Training  
Update



Former CGL pitcher Jared Burton  
played for the Senators in 2000.

## Reds not ruling out Burton

### Rule 5 pick 'has a real good arm'

**LAKELAND, Fla.** - It's pretty clear that if the Reds had a roster spot to burn, right-hander Jared Burton would make the team. His stuff is that good." He has a real good arm," manager Jerry Narron said. "The big thing with him is can he throw strikes. His arm - stuff-wise - he's probably got the best of anybody in our bullpen."

Burton, a 25-year-old right-hander, is a Rule 5 pick. The Reds must keep him on the 25-man roster all year or offer him back to the Oakland A's for half the \$50,000 the Reds paid to select him. It won't be easy to find a roster spot, however. Five spots, Narron said, are pretty set - lefthanders Mike Stanton, Bill Bray and Rheal Cormier and right-handers David Weathers and Todd Coffey. Dustin Hermanson is likely to get another one of the spots. In fact, it looks as if he's going to be the closer. That's six relievers.

The Reds will likely keep 12 pitchers. Kirk Saarloos would be the seventh reliever, if Matt Belisle wins the fifth starter's job. Belisle has pitched extremely well and looks like a lock to take the fifth spot. (Don't completely write Saarloos off as the fifth starter: He pitched six innings of shutout ball in a minor-league game Monday.) Belisle has options, so there's a possibility, albeit very slim, that Belisle starts the year in Triple-A and Saarloos joins the rotation.

Burton survived a cut on Monday, when the Reds optioned Brian Shackelford and Brad Salmon to Triple-A Louisville.

Narron doesn't concern himself with Burton's Rule 5 status." I'm just worried about people who can get guys out," he said.

\*\*\*\*\* **Jared Burton** was a member of the 2000 Vienna Senators club that won the CGL title. Burton was a starting pitcher for the Senators and he attended Western Carolina. Burton, who led Western in strikeouts in both the 2001 and 2002, was drafted in the eighth round in 2001 as the 248th overall pick. He continues to rank 10th on Western's career strikeouts chart with 212 during 2000-02.

\*\*\*\*\* **Burton** would become the 7th Senator to make the Major Leagues.