

Justin Friend

Born on June 21, 1986 in Manteca, California. Attended East Union High School before attending Chabot Jr College in Hayward, CA. He attended Oklahoma State University, where he majored in Education. Friend was drafted in the 13th round in the 2007 MLB draft by his favorite childhood team, the Oakland Athletics. Justin spent 2007 playing for the Vancouver Canadians (short season Northwest League). In 2008 he spent the entire year with the Kane County Cougars (Low-A Midwest League). Justin spent most of the 2009 season with, the Stockton Ports (High-A California League). Friend excelled in the bullpen for the Ports with a 2.87 ERA with 64 strike outs in 59.2 innings, and ended the season by helping the Double-A Midland Rockhounds win the Texas League Championship. Justin experienced his first season of winter ball this fall playing with the Phoenix Desert Dogs in the Arizona Fall league.