

# Stechschulte Pitches in First Professional Game

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Kalida native Gene Stechschulte was sent down to Triple A Memphis to start the 2000 baseball season. He didn't have to stay there very long.

Last week the Kalida High and Ashland University graduate was called up by the St. Louis Cardinals as part of their 25 man roster. He was called up as Alan Benes was sent to Memphis for rehab work on an injured shoulder.

Stechschulte made his first appearance with the Cardinals Thursday night in a 14-1 win over the San Diego Padres. The right hander worked the sixth inning allowing a run on a hit with a strikeout and a walk. Stechschulte struck out Darr as he was the first batter he faced.

At Memphis Stechschulte was 1-0 with two saves and a 1.50 ERA in four appearances.