



## **DEREK JOHNSON**

Derek Johnson, 2001 Division III ABCA/Rawlings All American First Team was born in Fullerton, California. Six-months later, the family moved to Whittier, California, where Johnson eventually attended La Serna High School from 1993-1997. Johnson had shown early athletic promise and was continuously motivated by his older brother to make the commitment to excellence in sports as well as academics.

In 1997 while at La Serna, Johnson was named MVP for the Del Rio League, Area MVP, and was awarded 2nd Team All CIF Southern Section. Johnson's career was highlighted in 1997 when he was selected by the Rotary Club of Whittier to play in the First All-Star Rotary Baseball Classic.

Following graduation from high school, Johnson attended Denison University in Granville, Ohio, graduating in 2001 with a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Economics. During his senior year, Johnson was selected as the Division III First Team All American, North Coast Atlantic Conference MVP and Regional MVP. He was a Utility Player who played First Base and Pitcher. Johnson's Batting Average was .490 in 2001. He achieved all his athletic success while maintaining a 3.3 Grade Point Average on a 4.0 scale.

After graduation from Denison, Johnson decided not to exercise his options for a career in professional baseball but to go into Business. He worked for the Pacific Life Insurance Company in their Annuities and Mutual Funds Division and then went on to become a successful entrepreneur in the petroleum industry before becoming a Financial Advisor at Smith Barney, where he works along side his brother, Damon and his Father, David. Johnson's Mother, Emily, is a Registered Nurse and a retired Flight Attendant for United Airlines.

Johnson's hobbies include Baseball, Basketball, Golf, Bike riding and outdoor activities. He has recently announced his engagement to Kimberly Gimbel, of Whittier, an Executive with a local Los Angeles clothing company. The couple plans to be married on June 9, 2007, exactly one year from the date of this year's 10th Anniversary All Star Banquet.

Johnson is a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, the Rotary Club of Whittier and the Whittier Chamber of Commerce.