



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 22, 2010

A's Outfielder Grant Desme Announces Retirement 2009 Arizona Fall League MVP to Enter the Priesthood

OAKLAND, Calif. – Oakland A's minor league outfielder Grant Desme, who recently was named the 2009 Arizona Fall League MVP, has announced his retirement from baseball to enter the priesthood.

Desme, 23, batted a combined .288 with 31 home runs, 89 RBI and 40 stolen bases in 131 games at Single-A Kane County and Stockton last season. He followed that performance by batting .315 with a league-leading 11 home runs and 27 RBI in 27 games for the Phoenix Desert Dogs in earning the Arizona Fall League's MVP award.

"We respect Grant's decision and wish him nothing but the best in his future endeavors," said A's General Manager Billy Beane.

Desme, the A's second-round selection in the 2007 Draft, was named Big West Conference Player of the Year at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo his senior season.

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