



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Game Information

Oakland Athletics Baseball Company • 7000 Coliseum Way • Oakland, CA 94621
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A's vs. CUBS

This is the first of four meetings between the A's and Cubs this spring...meet again next Monday and Saturday, March 20 in Phoenix and return to Mesa Friday, March 26...last spring, the A's were 0-2-1 against the Cubs...lost the only game in Mesa and had a loss and a tie in the Cactus League finale in Phoenix.

IN CAMP

The A's have a total of 63 players in camp, which includes 40 players on the 40-man roster and 23 non-roster invitees...the breakdown includes 30 pitchers, six catchers, 17 infielders and 10 outfielders.

MINOR LEAGUE DATES

Pitchers and catchers will report to minor league training camp at Papago Park March 6 with the first workout scheduled for March 7...position players report March 12 with the first workout scheduled for the same day...minor league spring games begin March 19 and run through April 3...extended Spring Training will begin April 8.

A's ON THE AIR

The A's radio network will broadcast 13 games from Arizona this spring and all three games in the Bay Area...games can be heard in the Bay Area on XTRA Sports 860 AM...Ken Korach returns for his 15th year in the A's broadcast booth and will be joined by Vince Cotroneo (5th) and Ray Fosse, who enters his 25th season in the booth...Robert Buan will webcast all other games in Arizona on oaklandathletics.com...three A's games from Arizona will be televised this spring, including one on Comcast SportsNet California: March 24 against the Dodgers (7:35 pm)...MLB Network will air games on March 7 against the Angels (4:00 PT tape delay) and March 26 against the Cubs (1:00 pm)...CSNCA will also air the game on April 3 against San Francisco in Oakland (1:05 pm).

OAKLAND ATHLETICS (0-0) VS. CHICAGO CUBS (0-0)

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2010 – HOHOKAM PARK– 1:05 P.M.

ABOUT THE A's

ABOUT THE A'S: The A's open their 42nd Spring Training in Arizona today, including their 29th consecutive spring in Phoenix...trained in Mesa from 1969-78, moved to Scottsdale in 1979 and have been in Phoenix since 1982...are scheduled to play 33 games this spring, including 30 in Arizona before returning to the Bay Area for three games with the Giants on April 1 and 2 in San Francisco and April 3 in Oakland...the A's went 17-18-2 last spring and finished with a losing record for the first time since 2006 (15-17)...the 18 losses tied an Oakland spring record set in 1993 and matched in 2005...however, the 37 games played were an Oakland record, topping the previous high of 34 in 1993 and 2004...went 11-5-1 at Phoenix Municipal Stadium last spring and are 21-7-1 (.741) at Phoenix over the previous two springs.

A's TOP PROSPECTS: Eight of the A's top 10 prospects according to *Baseball America* are in camp this spring...the list includes two players already on the A's 40-man roster in Chris Carter (#1) and Pedro Figueroa (#5)...six are non-roster invitees including Michael Taylor (#2), Grant Green (#3), Max Stassi (#4), Tyson Ross (#6), Jemile Weeks (#7) and Adrian Cardenas (#8)...the other two are Grant Desme (#8), who retired to become a priest, and Sean Doolittle (#10)...three of the A's top 10 appear on *Baseball America's* Top 100 Prospect List including Carter (#28), Taylor (#29) and Green (#52).

OFF-SEASON MOVES: The A's signed RHP Ben Sheets as a free agent Jan. 26 and he brings with him 221 career starts in eight years of service...last year, the five pitchers in the A's starting rotation at the beginning of the season combined for just 63 starts...other off-season additions to the 40-man roster include IF Jake Fox (trade with Cubs, Dec. 3), RHP Bobby Cassevah (Rule 5 draft, Dec. 10), OF Coco Crisp (free agent, Dec. 23), 3B Kevin Kouzmanoff (trade with Padres, Jan. 16), IF Adam Rosales (trade with Reds, Feb. 1), OF Gabe Gross (free agent, Feb. 1) and IF Steve Tolleson (waivers from Twins, Feb. 1)...in addition, RHP Justin Duchscherer and OF Jack Cust both became free agents before re-signing with the A's.

COACHING STAFF: Manager Bob Geren welcomes back his entire coaching staff from last season...they include bench coach Tye Waller, pitching coach Curt Young, hitting coach Jim Skaalen, first base coach Todd Steverson, third base coach Mike Gallego and bullpen coach Ron Romanick.

A's EN ESPAÑOL: The A's begin the second year of a five-year agreement with the Spanish Beisbol Network (SBN) to broadcast all 162 regular season games...last year marked the first time in club history the A's featured Spanish broadcasts for every regular season game, home and away...veteran announcer Amaury Pi-González will again serve as the "Voice of the A's" for all Spanish broadcasts, with Manolo Hernández-Douen handling analyst duties.

MEDIA INFORMATION: The A's clubhouse is open to members of the media with proper credentials beginning at 8:00 am...the clubhouse may be closed at certain times for team meetings, etc...please do not lounge or conduct interviews in the weight room/exercise area...once the game begins, the clubhouse is open only to those media who need access to players who have completed their work for the day...A's manager Bob Geren will be available to the media each morning in the first base dugout at 9:15 am...Geren will also be available on the field following the conclusion of the game...at Phoenix Municipal Stadium, members of the media will be allowed in the dugout area and foul territory behind home plate extending down to (but not past) first and third base until the batting cage is removed from the field of play...at that point, all media members must leave the field...the A's dugout will remain accessible to the media until 45 minutes before game time...still photographers and television camera crews with proper credentials must stay in assigned areas at all times...no roving is permitted...still photographers or television camera crews are not allowed in the clubhouse, training room or weight room...lunch is available to members of the media with proper credentials in the patio area in the right field corner of Phoenix Municipal Stadium...the A's are able to provide complimentary lunches to beat writers, play-by-play broadcasters and designated team officials only.

TICKET INFORMATION: Tickets for A's spring training home games are available at the Phoenix Municipal Stadium Box Office, on-line at oaklandathletics.com/spring or by calling (877) 493-BALL (2255)...the box office hours of operations are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, and during all home games...tickets for all A's regular season home games can be purchased at all the usual ticket outlets, including the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum Box Office, online at oaklandathletics.com and all Tickets.com outlets, or over the phone by calling (877) 493-BALL...season, group and luxury suite tickets can be purchased by calling (510) 638-GoA's (4627).

BASEBALL BARGAINS: The A's are unveiling some remarkable new bargains during the 2010 season...free Parking Tuesday will highlight the new initiatives for 2010...for non-Premium Tuesday Home Games, fans will be able to park free of charge...also new in 2010 are Jumbo Tickets...fans who purchase tickets in the Plaza Club and Value Deck sections will receive loaded value embedded into the ticket barcode that will be good for food and merchandise throughout the Coliseum...back again in 2010 are two of the most popular promotions, University of Phoenix Family Packs, and the \$2 Wednesday ticket promotion...Family Packs will offer families (or groups) of four people Plaza Level tickets, hot dogs, peanuts and a soft drink each for a grand total of only \$50...for every Wednesday game Plaza Level, Plaza Outfield and Plaza Reserved seats are just \$2 with \$1 hot dogs throughout the stadium on Wednesdays...for more information, go to the A's website, oaklandathletics.com.

FAN APPRECIATION TAILGATE SLATED FOR APRIL 3: On Saturday, April 3, just before the final pre-season game vs. the Giants, the Athletics will hold a special fan access event in the Coliseum parking lot...fans will be given the opportunity to meet and interact with their favorite A's players...a free event to fans, players will be signing autographs and players and staff will be answering fan questions in Q&A sessions...fans will have the opportunity to take complimentary photos with players and the World Series trophies...interactive games will be available for kids and adults...a special memorabilia sale will be held...admission to the event, including the autographs and photos, will be free (subject to player availability)...discounted parking will be available for \$10 and discounted tickets to the exhibition game will be available for just \$5...the event will take place in the North parking lot of the Coliseum, and will give fans the last look at the 2010 team before Opening Night.

TRANSACTIONS

Feb. 11 Gregorio Petit outrighted to Sacramento

Get the latest A's notes, full stat packets, clips, press releases, roster, media guide and more at <http://pressbox.oaklandathletics.com>

WORLD CHAMPIONS...1910 • 1911 • 1913 • 1929 • 1930 • 1972 • 1973 • 1974 • 1989

AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONS...1902 • 1905 • 1910 • 1911 • 1913 • 1914 • 1929 • 1930 • 1931 • 1972 • 1973 • 1974 • 1988 • 1989 • 1990

TODAY'S STARTING PITCHER

#53 TREVOR CAHILL RHP (10-13, 4.63 ERA in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first start of the spring...was one of two 21-year olds to spend the season in the A's starting rotation and led the Oakland pitching staff in starts (32), innings pitched (178.2) and losses (13)...was 10-13 with a 4.63 ERA...led Major League rookies in games started...ranked second among American League Rookies in innings pitched, tied for seventh in wins and ninth in strikeouts (90)...the games started fell one short of the Oakland rookie record of 33 set by Joe Blanton in 2005 and he is one of eight rookie 10-game winners in Oakland history...set an Oakland rookie record by allowing 27 home runs, breaking the previous mark of 24 by John Wasdin in 1996...it tied the franchise record set by Dan Pfister in 1962.

ALSO SCHEDULED TO PITCH

#13 JERRY BLEVINS LHP (0-0, 4.84 ERA in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...made the A's Opening Day roster for the first time in 2009 and had three stints with Oakland, compiling a 4.84 ERA in 20 relief appearances...posted a 12.46 ERA in five relief appearances over his first two stints but returned when rosters expanded in September to compile a 3.00 ERA in 15 appearances...allowed a .229 batting average overall, which was the lowest mark of his three seasons in the majors...that included a .218 (12 for 55) mark against right-handed hitters and .250 (7 for 28) against left-handers...walked just six while striking out 23 in 22.1 innings...yielded a .190 average with runners in scoring...was also 5-3 with two saves and a 3.84 ERA in 45 relief appearances with Sacramento.

#39 BRAD KILBY LHP (1-0, 0.53 ERA in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...spent nearly the entire 2009 regular season at Triple-A Sacramento and went 4-2 with two saves and a 2.13 ERA in 45 relief appearances to earn a Sept. 1 call-up to Oakland...was 1-0 with a 0.53 ERA in 11 games, one start, with the A's...allowed a .164 batting average, which included a .132 (5 for 38) mark against right-handed hitters and .217 (5 for 23) against left-handers...struck out 20 in 17.0 innings, an average of 10.59 per nine innings...with Sacramento, he fanned 77 in 63.1 innings, an average of 10.94 strikeouts per nine innings...allowed a .179 opponents batting average, including .150 (22 for 147) against right-handed hitters and .234 (18 for 77) against left-handers.

#44 JOHN MELOAN RHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...pitched for four different organizations in 2009 but his only Major League action came with Oakland in September...did not allow an earned run in six games and 8.1 innings with the A's...struck out 11 of the 29 batters he faced for an average of 11.88 strikeouts per nine innings...allowed a .111 opponents batting average and no extra base hits...combined for a 0-0 record and a 4.37 ERA in 44 games, two starts, with Columbus, Durham, Indianapolis and Sacramento, all Triple-A affiliates...walked 30, struck out 61 and yielded nine home runs in 68.0 innings...opponents batted .257, which included .242 (40 for 165) against right-handed hitters and .280 (28 for 100) against left-handers.

#62 CLAYTON MORTENSEN RHP (2-4, 7.63 ERA in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...was acquired by the A's from St. Louis in the Matt Holliday trade and went 2-4 with a 7.81 ERA in six starts with Oakland...made his Major League debut in just his third professional season with a relief appearance for St. Louis earlier in the season (6.00 ERA)...was 2-4 with a 7.63 ERA in seven games, six starts, overall...yielded six home runs in 30.2 innings and struck out 13 while also walking 13...allowed a .328 opponents batting average, including .317 (19 for 60) by left-handed hitters and .338 (23 for 68) by right-handers...was 7-6 with a 4.37 ERA in 17 starts with Memphis and 2-2 with a 4.45 ERA in six starts with Sacramento...combined for a 9-8 record and a 4.39 ERA in 23 starts overall in the minors.

#64 JUSTIN SOUZA RHP (6-8, 4.78 ERA in minors in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...was acquired by the A's last year from the Seattle Mariners organization for infielder Jack Hannahan July 11 and was assigned to Double-A Midland...went 0-2 with a 10.35 ERA in five starts before a shoulder injury ended his season Aug. 4...was 6-6 with a 3.35 ERA in 20 games, 14 starts, at Double-A West Tenn and combined for a 6-8 record and a 4.78 ERA in 25 games, 19 starts, overall...it was the first time in his career he had more starts than relief appearances...yielded just five home runs, or 0.46 per nine innings...allowed a .274 opponents batting average, including .257 (44 for 171) against left-handed hitters and .288 (61 for 212) against righties.

2010 OAKLAND ATHLETICS SPRING SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	PROBABLES	TIME	RADIO/TV
March 4	at Chicago (NL)	RHP Trevor Cahill vs. RHP Randy Wells	1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
March 5	Milwaukee	RHP Ben Sheets vs. RHP Yovani Gallardo	1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
March 6	Los Angeles (AL)	LHP Dallas Braden vs. RHP Jered Weaver	1:05	
March 7	at Los Angeles (AL)		1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM/MLB Network
March 8	Chicago (NL)		1:05	
March 9	Texas (ss)		1:05	
	at Kansas City (ss)		1:05	
March 10	Chicago (AL)		1:05	
March 11	at Milwaukee		1:05	
March 12	at Arizona		1:05	
March 13	San Diego (ss)		1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
	at San Francisco (ss)		1:05	
March 14	Kansas City		1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
March 15	at Cincinnati		1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
March 16	OFF DAY			
March 17	San Francisco		1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
March 18	Arizona		1:05	
March 19	at Colorado		1:10	
March 20	Chicago (NL) (ss)		1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
	at Cleveland (ss)		1:05	
March 21	Cincinnati		1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
March 22	at Seattle		1:05	
March 23	OFF DAY			
March 24	Los Angeles (NL)		7:35	XTRA Sports 860 AM/CSNCA
March 25	at San Francisco		7:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
March 26	at Texas (ss)		1:05	
	at Chicago (NL) (ss)		1:05	MLB Network
March 27	at Kansas City		1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
March 28	Colorado		1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM
March 29	Seattle		1:05	
March 30	at Chicago (AL)		1:05	
March 31	Cincinnati		1:05	
April 1	vs. San Francisco (at SF)		7:15	XTRA Sports 860 AM/CSNBA
April 2	vs. San Francisco (at SF)		7:15	XTRA Sports 860 AM/KNTV
April 3	vs. San Francisco (at OAK)		1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM/CSNCA