



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Game Information

Oakland Athletics Baseball Company • 7000 Coliseum Way • Oakland, CA 94621
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YESTERDAY

The A's lost their Cactus League opener to the Cubs at Mesa, 9-3...the pitching staff allowed five home runs and the offense was held to three hits...Adam Rosales and Chris Carter hit solo home runs in the fifth and eighth innings respectively and Josh Donaldson added a sacrifice fly in the seventh...Eric Patterson had a seventh inning single for the A's other hit...Trevor Cahill started for the A's and took the loss (2.0 ip, 3 h, 2 r, 2 er, 2 so)...Cedrick Bowers and Justin Souza tossed a scoreless inning of relief each...Cahill, Clayton Mortensen and Jerry Blevins allowed one home run each and Brad Kilby allowed two in the seventh inning.

A's vs. BREWERS

This is the first of two meetings between the A's and Brewers this spring...the two clubs meet for the final time March 11 at Maryvale...last spring, the A's were 0-2-1 against Milwaukee...lost the only game in Phoenix and had a loss and a tie at Maryvale...the A's are 1-4-1 against Milwaukee since 2008.

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 tomorrow 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 (0-1) VS. MILWAUKEE BREWERS (0-1)

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010 – PHOENIX MUNICIPAL STADIUM – 1:05 P.M.

ABOUT THE A's

ABOUT THE A'S: The A's opened their 42nd Spring Training in Arizona yesterday with a loss, the seventh consecutive year the A's have not won the opener...have a tie and six losses over that span dating back to 2004...this is the A's 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.

ATHLETICS BATTING NOTES

Chris Carter homered in his first at bat of the spring yesterday in the eighth inning at Mesa...**Adam Rosales** hit his first home run of the spring yesterday in the fifth inning at Mesa.

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

#15 BEN SHEETS RHP (Did not pitch in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first start of the spring...signed with the A's as a free agent Jan. 26, 2010 after missing the entire 2009 season after undergoing surgery on his right elbow in Feb., 2009...last pitched in 2008 with Milwaukee and went 13-9 with a 3.09 ERA in 31 starts...ranked fifth in the National League in ERA and was selected to his fourth All-Star Game...started for the NL squad...his last outing came September 27, 2008 against Chicago, a loss in a 7-3 decision (2.1 ip, 5 h, 4 r, 3 er, 2 bb, 1 so)...spent the first eight years of his career with Milwaukee and is the Brewers all-time leader in strikeouts (1206)...also ranks fifth in wins (86) and sixth in ERA (3.72)...has made 221 career appearances, all starts.

ALSO SCHEDULED TO PITCH

#40 ANDREW BAILEY RHP (6-3, 1.84 ERA, 26 Saves in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...made the jump from Double-A to the majors in 2009 and was named American League Rookie of the Year by the BBWAA...became the eighth Athletic to win Rookie of the Year honors, the third in the last six years...assumed the A's closer duties by the end of May and set an Oakland rookie record with 26 saves, breaking the previous mark of 23 set by Street in 2005...led all Major League rookies in saves...had just four blown saves and converted each of his final 21 saves opportunities, which is tied for the second longest streak in Oakland history...was named to the AL All-Star team, the only rookie named to either team...led AL relievers and ranked second in the majors with a .167 opponents batting average.

#56 CRAIG BRESLOW LHP (8-7, 3.36 ERA in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...began the 2009 season with Minnesota and had a 6.28 ERA in 17 appearances when he was claimed off waivers by the A's May 20...went 7-5 with a 2.60 ERA in 60 games with Oakland and combined for an 8-7 record and a 3.36 ERA in 77 appearances overall...the games pitched were a career high and second most in the American League...his losses tied for the lead among AL relievers but he ranked second in wins...his .197 opponents batting average tied for 10th lowest...allowed 12 of 50 (24.0%) inherited runners to score, which was 10th lowest in the AL...his opponents batting average included a .191 mark against right-handed hitters and .204 against left-handers...allowed a .143 average with runners in scoring position.

#52 LENNY DiNARDO LHP (0-3, 10.13 ERA in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...the non-roster invitee signed a minor league contract with the A's Jan. 7...spent the entire 2009 regular season at Triple-A Omaha where he was named Omaha Pitcher of the Year after leading the team in wins (10), innings (151.2) and strikeouts (127)...went 10-5 with two saves and a 3.32 ERA in 29 games, 23 starts, to earn a September call-up to Kansas City...was 0-3 with a 10.13 ERA in five starts for the Royals...allowed a .414 opponents batting average and issued 15 walks in 21.1 innings for a .487 on-base percentage...struck out just eight...left-handers hit .450 (9 for 20) while right-handers batted at a .405 (32 for 79) clip with both of his home runs...yielded a .455 mark with runners in scoring position.

#54 VIN MAZZARO RHP (4-9, 5.32 ERA in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...began the 2009 season at Triple-A Sacramento but made 17 starts for the A's before right shoulder tendinitis ended his season early...was 2-2 with a 2.38 ERA in 10 games, nine starts, with the River Cats before he was promoted to Oakland June 2...went 4-9 with a 5.32 ERA with the A's and made his final start Aug. 29...allowed a .319 batting average, including .316 against right-handed hitters and .321 against left-handers...his opponents average dropped to .250 with runners in scoring position, including .133 with RISP and two outs...received run support of three runs or less in 14 of his 17 starts and his season run support of 3.55 was second lowest among American League pitchers with 90 or more innings.

#31 BRAD ZIEGLER RHP (2-4, 3.07 ERA in 2009)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...was 2-4 with seven saves and a 3.07 ERA in 69 relief appearances last year...allowed two home runs in 73.1 innings for an average of 0.25 per nine innings, the third lowest mark among American League relievers...now has yielded four home runs in 133.0 career innings or 0.27 per nine innings...led AL relievers and ranked second in the majors with 14 grounded into double plays (Affeldt, SF 18)...ranked third among AL relievers in most hits allowed (82) and had a .293 opponents batting average...that included a .265 (45 for 170) mark against right-handed hitters and .336 (37 for 110) against left-handers...opponents hit .384 with runners in scoring position.

2010 OAKLAND ATHLETICS SPRING SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	RECORD	WINNER	LOSER	ATTEND.	HOME CUM.
March 4	at Chicago (NL)	L, 3-9	0-1	Wells	Cahill	7,496	
DATE	OPPONENT	PROBABLES				TIME	RADIO/TV
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)	LHP Brett Anderson vs. LHP Joe Saunders				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