



# OAKLAND ATHLETICS

## Game Information

Oakland Athletics Baseball Company • 7000 Coliseum Way • Oakland, CA 94621  
510-638-4900 • Public Relations Facsimile 510-562-1633 • www.oaklandathletics.com

### YESTERDAY

The A's lost to Los Angeles (AL) at Tempe, 8-7...Dallas Braden started for the A's and allowed two runs on two hits and two walks in one inning for the loss...Vinnie Chulk pitched a scoreless second inning and Trystan Magnuson blanked the Angels in the eighth inning...the A's scored their first two runs in the fifth inning when Hideki Matsui and Conor Jackson had back-to-back walks with the bases loaded...Michael Taylor added a three-run home run in the eighth inning to make the score 8-5 and the A's scored two more runs in the ninth on a grounded into double play and a Jai Miller single...Taylor and Kevin Kouzmanoff had two hits each.

### A's vs. REDS

This is the first of two meetings between the A's and Reds this spring...the two clubs meet again in Goodyear March 22...the A's lost all three meetings last spring, including two games in Phoenix and one in Goodyear.

### IN CAMP

The A's have a total of 58 players in camp...the total includes 40 players on the 40-man roster and 18 non-roster invitees...the breakdown includes 28 pitchers, five catchers, 14 infielders and 11 outfielders.

### MINOR LEAGUE DATES

Pitchers and catchers will report to training camp at Papago Park March 8 with the first workout scheduled for March 9...position players report March 14 with the first workout March 15...the first minor league spring training game is March 21...extended Spring Training begins April 7.

### A's ON THE AIR

The A's radio network will broadcast 10 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...the schedule includes all Saturday and Sunday games plus the Fri., March 18 game against the White Sox at Glendale...Ken Korach returns for his 16<sup>th</sup> year in the A's broadcast booth and will be joined by Vince Cotroneo (6<sup>th</sup>) and Ray Fosse, who enters his 26<sup>th</sup> season in the booth...all other games in Arizona will be webcast on oaklandathletics.com...Comcast SportsNet California will televise two games, including one from Arizona on Sun., March 13 vs. Colorado...they will also air the March 29 game against San Francisco in Oakland.

## OAKLAND ATHLETICS (1-1) VS. CINCINNATI REDS (1-1)

TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2011 – PHOENIX MUNICIPAL STADIUM – 1:05 P.M.

### ABOUT THE A's

**ABOUT THE A'S:** Have split the first two games of the spring, losing to the Angels at Tempe yesterday 8-7 after winning the opener against the Cubs at Mesa on Sunday 15-7...open the home portion of the Cactus League schedule with today's contest against the Reds...this is the A's 43<sup>rd</sup> Spring Training in Arizona, their 30<sup>th</sup> 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 35 games, including 32 in Arizona, before returning to the Bay Area for three games with the Giants on March 28 and 30 in San Francisco and April 3 in Oakland...the 35 games are second most in Oakland history to the 37 games played in 2009...the A's went 12-17-3 last spring, their second consecutive spring with a losing record (17-18-2 in 2009)...the .422 winning percentage was the A's worst mark since 1990 when they went 6-10 (.375)...the three tie games were the A's most since moving to Arizona in 1969.

**CONTRACT STATUS:** The A's have agreed to terms with all 40 players on the 40-man roster...four of those players are under contract beyond the 2011 season...Brett Anderson is signed through 2013 with club options for 2014 and 2015...Kurt Suzuki is also signed through 2013 with a club option for 2014...Grant Balfour and Brian Fuentes are both signed through 2012 with club options for 2013...Michael Wuertz has a club option for 2012.

**OFF-SEASON MOVES:** The A's bolstered their offense this past off-season by acquiring David DeJesus from the Kansas City Royals (Nov. 10 for Vin Mazzaro and Justin Marks) and Josh Willingham from the Washington Nationals (Dec. 16 for Henry Rodriguez and Corey Brown)...Oakland also signed Hideki Matsui as a free agent Dec. 14...the A's turned to free agency to add to their pitching staff, signing Brandon McCarthy (Dec. 13), Rich Harden (Dec. 21), Grant Balfour (Jan. 18) and Brian Fuentes (Jan. 19).

**A's TOP PROSPECTS:** Seven of the A's top 10 prospects according to *Baseball America* are in major league camp this spring...the list includes three players already on the A's 40-man roster in Chris Carter (#2), Tyson Ross (#4) and Michael Taylor (#10)...four are non-roster invitees including Grant Green (#1), Michael Choice (#3), Jemile Weeks (#5) and Max Stassi (#6)...the other three are Aaron Shipman (#7), Yordy Cabrera (#8) and Ian Krol (#9)...two of the A's top 10 appear on *Baseball America's* Top 100 Prospect List including Grant Green (#63) and Chris Carter (#91).

**COACHING STAFF:** Manager Bob Geren welcomes three new members to his 2011 coaching staff, as only Tye Waller, Mike Gallego and Ron Romanick return from last season...Gallego remains the team's third base coach, while Waller and Romanick—formerly bench and bullpen coach—have been reassigned to first base coach and pitching coach, respectively...new faces on this year's staff are bench coach Joel Skinner, hitting coach Gerald Perry and bullpen coach Rick Rodriguez...Skinner arrives after managing Cleveland's Double-A affiliate in Akron last season, while Perry served as hitting coach for Boston's Triple-A team in Pawtucket in 2010...Rodriguez was promoted from pitching coach of Oakland's Triple-A franchise in Sacramento.

**MEDIA INFORMATION:** The A's clubhouse will be open to members of the media with proper credentials beginning at 8:00 a.m...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 a.m...Geren will also be available in front of the dugout following the game...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.

**TICKET INFORMATION:** Spring Training tickets for all A's home games at Phoenix Municipal Stadium are on sale at www.oaklandathletics.com/spring or by calling 1-877-493-BALL (1-877-493-2255)...the Phoenix Municipal Stadium Box Office is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, and during all home games...individual game ticket pricing will remain unchanged for a third consecutive season...the prices are: \$25 (Field Box), \$22 (Lower Box), \$18 (Upper Box) and \$12 (Outfield Reserved)...for Spring Training season tickets, call the A's Tickets Services Office at 510-568-5600, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PST Monday through Friday, or log on to www.oaklandathletics.com/spring.

**FAN APPRECIATION TAILGATE SLATED FOR MARCH 29:** On Tuesday, March 29, just before the final pre-season home 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 team's four 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 of available players, will be free...it is also the first Chevy Free Parking Tuesday, while discounted tickets to the Giants-A's game that night will be available for only \$5...the event will take place from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the North parking lot of the Coliseum, and will give fans the last look at the 2011 team before Opening Night...for more information, go to the A's website, oaklandathletics.com.

### ATHLETICS BATTING NOTES

**Matt Carson** has started each of the first two games (one in right field, one in center field)...**Michael Choice** has hit safely in each of the first two games, going 2 for 3 Sunday against the Cubs and 1 for 2 yesterday against the Angels...**Coco Crisp** had a grand slam and four RBI Sunday against the Cubs at Mesa...**Josh Donaldson** has hit safely in each of the first two games, going 1 for 2 in each contest...**Jai Miller** had a RBI single yesterday against the Angels after going 2 for 2 with two RBI in the opener Sunday against the Cubs...**Kurt Suzuki** has started each of the first two games (Sunday at designated hitter, yesterday at catcher) and is 1 for 4 (.250)...**Michael Taylor** hit his first home run of the spring yesterday against the Angels, a three-run shot in the eighth inning...**Steve Tolleson** has started each of the first two games (one at second base, one at shortstop).

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

### #47 GIO GONZALEZ LHP (15-9, 3.23 ERA in 2010)

Is scheduled to make his first start of the spring...began the 2010 season as the A's fifth starter but ended up finishing second on the team in wins, posting a 15-9 record with a 3.23 ERA in a team-leading 33 starts...was the only Athletic to spend the entire season in the starting rotation...tied for fourth in the American League in games started, ranked fifth in opponents slugging (.329), eighth in ERA, 10th in opponents batting average (.229) and tied for 10th in wins...led the A's with 171 strikeouts and 92 walks...his walk total was second highest in the AL...also led the A's in innings pitched (200.2)...yielded just 15 home runs for an average of 0.67 per nine innings, which was 10th lowest in the AL...was 7-6 with a 3.79 ERA in 18 starts before the All-Star Break...then went 8-3 with a 2.59 ERA in 15 starts after the break...ranked fourth in the AL in post-break ERA and tied for fourth in wins.

## ALSO SCHEDULED TO PITCH

### #49 BRETT ANDERSON LHP (7-6, 2.80 ERA in 2010)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...two stints on the disabled list with elbow problems limited him to just 19 starts in 2010...was 7-6 with a 2.80 ERA after going 11-11 with a 4.06 ERA in his first season...tossed 112.1 innings and did not qualify for the league leaders...however, based on a minimum of 100 innings pitched, he ranked fifth in the American League in ERA...also ranked fourth in fewest home runs per nine innings (0.48), fifth in fewest walks per nine innings (1.76) and lowest run support (3.53), eighth in strikeout to walk ratio (3.41) and ninth in opponents slugging percentage (.353)...is now 15-10 with a 2.88 ERA in 36 starts since June 29, 2009...his ERA is second lowest among AL pitchers with 200 or more innings pitched over that span (Hernandez, SEA 2.33) and sixth lowest in the majors...opponents batted .257, which included .243 by right-handed hitters and .299 by left-handers.

### #50 GRANT BALFOUR RHP (2-1, 2.28 ERA in 2010)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...was signed by the A's as a free agent to a two-year contract through 2012 with a club option for 2013, January 18...made 57 relief appearances with Tampa Bay last year, despite spending the month of August on the disabled list...compiled a 2.28 ERA, which ranked eighth among American League relievers...allowed a .216 opponents batting average, including .174 against right-handed hitters and .267 against left-handers...opponents hit .161 with runners in scoring position, including .074 with RISP and two outs...struck out 56 batters in 55.1 innings and walked just 17 for a strikeout-to-walk ratio of 3.29...has compiled a 2.98 ERA and .201 (130 for 646) opponents batting average over his last three seasons...has 311 career strikeouts, which are the most in Major League history by a pitcher born in Australia.

### #75 FERNANDO CABRERA RHP (0-0, 20.25 ERA in 2010)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...the non-roster invitee was signed as a free agent to a minor league contract December 14...spent the entire 2010 season at Triple-A Pawtucket with the exception of a one-game stint with Boston...was selected by the Red Sox July 16 and pitched that day against the Rangers (1.1 ip, 2 h, 3 r, 3 er, 2 bb, 0 so, 1 hr, 20.25 ERA)...was 2-5 with 22 saves and a 3.86 ERA in 54 relief appearances with Pawtucket...struck out 76 in 60.2 innings for an average of 11.27 strikeout per nine innings...that was the third best mark among International League relievers...allowed a .277 opponents batting average, including .229 against right-handed hitters and .340 against left-handers...posted a 2.70 ERA with a win and a save in four relief appearances for Ponce in the Puerto Rican Winter League following the season...also had no decisions and a 3.38 ERA in three postseason starts.

### #57 BRIAN FUENTES LHP (4-1, 24 saves, 2.81 ERA in 2010)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...was signed by the A's as a free agent to a two-year contract with a club option for 2013, January 19...started the 2010 season as the closer with Los Angeles (AL) but finished it in a set-up role with Minnesota following a late August trade...combined for a 4-1 record, 24 saves and a 2.81 ERA in 48 relief appearances...allowed a .181 opponents batting average, which ranked fifth lowest among American League relievers...issued 20 walks for a .273 opponents on-base percentage, which is a career low...first batters faced hit .122, which was fifth lowest in the AL...his opponents batting average broke down to .128 against left-handed hitters and .202 against right-handers...allowed just one extra base hit to lefties (double) for a .149 slugging percentage...righties slugged .403...posted a 1.19 ERA and .133 opponents average in 22 appearances after the All-Star Break.

## 2011 OAKLAND ATHLETICS SPRING SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	RECORD	WINNER	LOSER	ATTEND.	HOME CUM.
Feb. 27	at Chicago (NL)	W, 15-7	1-0	Devine	Garza	6,892	
Feb. 28	at Los Angeles (AL)	L, 7-8	1-1	Pineiro	Braden	2,822	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>OPPONENT</b>	<b>PROBABLES</b>		<b>TIME</b>	<b>RADIO/TV</b>		
March 1	Cincinnati	LHP Gio Gonzalez vs. RHP Mike Leake		1:05			
March 2	Cleveland	LHP Bobby Cramer vs. RHP Justin Masterson		1:05			
March 3	at Milwaukee			1:05			
March 4	Texas			1:05			
March 5	San Francisco			1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM		
March 6	Milwaukee			1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM		
	at San Diego			1:05			
March 7	Seattle			1:05			
March 8	San Diego			1:05			
March 9	at Texas			1:05			
March 10	Kansas City			1:05			
March 11	Los Angeles (NL)			1:05			
	at Milwaukee			1:05			
March 12	at Seattle			1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM		
March 13	Colorado			1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM / CSNCA		
March 14	at Cleveland			1:05			
March 15	Chicago (NL)			1:05			
	at Kansas City			1:05			
March 16	OFF DAY						
March 17	Chicago (NL)			1:05			
March 18	at Chicago (AL)			4:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM		
March 19	Chicago (AL)			1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM		
March 20	Arizona			1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM		
	at San Francisco			1:05			
March 21	at Los Angeles (NL)			1:05			
March 22	at Cincinnati			1:05			
March 23	at Chicago (NL)			1:05			
March 24	at Arizona			1:05			
March 25	Los Angeles (AL)			1:05			
March 26	Colorado			7:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM		
March 27	at Colorado			1:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM		
March 28	vs. San Francisco (at SF)			7:15	XTRA Sports 860 AM / CSNBA		
March 29	vs. San Francisco (at OAK)			7:05	XTRA Sports 860 AM / CSNCA		
March 30	vs. San Francisco (at SF)			12:45	XTRA Sports 860 AM		