



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Game Information

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

The A's defeated Seattle in Peoria, 9-2...A's starter Tyson Ross allowed a run in the first inning but the A's scored three times in the third to take the lead for good...Seth Smith tied the game with a RBI single and Jonny Gomes followed with a two-run home run...Jemile Weeks added a two-run home run in the fifth inning and Collin Cowgill, Wes Timmons, Derek Norris and Eric Sogard all added RBI singles later in the game...Jarrod Parker pitched 2.0 scoreless innings for the win, allowing just one baserunner on an error...Ryan Cook, Erick Threets, Evan Scribner, Jim Miller and Brett Hunter all tossed a scoreless inning of relief each...Weeks, Timmons, Gomes, Sogard and Kila Ka'aihue all had two hits each.

A's vs. CUBS

This is the first of three meetings between the A's and Cubs this spring...return to Mesa tomorrow and meet in Phoenix March 20...last spring, the two clubs split four meetings...split two games in Phoenix and two games in Mesa.

IN CAMP

The A's have a total of 59 active players on the roster...that includes 40 players on the 40-man roster and 19 non-roster invitees...the breakdown includes 28 pitchers, seven catchers, 9 infielders and 15 outfielders...the A's have 40 players on the 40-man roster plus Scott Sizemore, who was placed on the 60-day disabled list yesterday after tearing his left ACL February 25.

MINOR LEAGUE DATES

Minor League pitchers and catchers will report to Papago Park tomorrow with the first workout scheduled for March 6...positions players report March 11 (first workout, March 12).

A's ON THE AIR

The A's radio network will broadcast 10 games this spring, including seven from Arizona and all three games against San Francisco in the Bay Area in April...the Arizona schedule includes all weekend games plus the night game on Friday, March 16...games can be heard in the Bay Area on the A's flagship station, 95.7 FM The Game...Ken Korach returns for his 17th year in the A's broadcast booth and will be joined by Vince Cotroneo (7th) and Ray Fosse, who enters his 27th season in the booth...in addition, Comcast SportsNet California will televise two games: Saturday, March 10 against Cincinnati and Monday, April 2 at San Francisco...Glen Kuiper joins Fosse in the broadcast booth for those telecasts...all games not aired on the A's Radio Network can be heard live via the A's website, www.oaklandathletics.com.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS (1-1) VS. CHICAGO CUBS (0-0)
SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2012 – HOHOKAM STADIUM – 1:05 P.M.

ABOUT THE A'S

ABOUT THE A'S: The A's have split the first two games of the spring for the third consecutive season...lost the opener to Seattle 8-5 in Phoenix on Friday but then defeated the Mariners 9-2 in Peoria yesterday...this is the A's 44th Spring Training in Arizona, their 31st 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 24 games this spring in addition to two exhibition games in Tokyo (March 25 vs. Yomiuri, March 26 vs. Hanshin) and one at the A's Triple-A affiliate in Sacramento (March 31)...the schedule includes 21 games in Arizona and three in the Bay Area against San Francisco (April 2-4)...the 24 games will be the fewest since 1990 when they played just 16...played 26 games in 2008, the last time the A's opened the season in Japan...the A's went 12-21-1 last spring, their third consecutive spring with a losing record (12-17-3 in 2010 and 17-18-2 in 2009)...this is just the second time in Oakland history the A's had more than two straight losing springs...had five straight from 1974-78...the 21 losses last spring set an Oakland record, topping the previous mark of 18 (1993, 2005, 2009)...the .368 winning percentage was the A's lowest since going 8-14 (.364) in 1982.

OFF-SEASON MOVES: The A's traded three All-Star pitchers during a 12-day period in December but acquired 10 players in return, five of which were ranked among the A's top 10 prospects according to *Baseball America*...Trevor Cahill was dealt to Arizona along with Craig Breslow Dec. 17 for Ryan Cook, Collin Cowgill and Jarrod Parker...Gio Gonzalez was traded to Washington with minor league pitcher Rob Gilliam December 23 for A.J. Cole, Tommy Milone, Derek Norris and Brad Peacock...Andrew Bailey was sent to Boston with Ryan Sweeney for Raul Alcantara, Miles Head and Josh Reddick...the A's also acquired Seth Smith from Colorado for Guillermo Moscoso and Josh Outman and signed free agents Bartolo Colon and Jonny Gomes, in addition to one of their own free agents, Coco Crisp...after the start of camp, the A's signed Manny Ramirez to a minor league contract (Feb. 20) and Yoenis Céspedes to a four-year deal (March 3).

A's TOP PROSPECTS: Nine of the A's top 10 prospects according to *Baseball America* are in major league camp this spring...the list includes six players already on the A's 40-man roster in Jarrod Parker (#1), Brad Peacock (#2), Derek Norris (#7), Jermaine Mitchell (#8), Michael Taylor (#9) and Tommy Milone (#10)...three are non-roster invitees including Sonny Gray (#3), Michael Choice (#5) and Grant Green (#6)...the other is A.J. Cole (#4)...the A's have six players on *Baseball America's* Top 100 Prospect List: Yoenis Céspedes (#14), Parker (#26), Peacock (#36), Cole (#57), Gray (#65) and Choice (#80)...the six players match the most by any team (St. Louis, San Diego, Texas).

CONTRACT STATUS: Four players on the A's 40-man roster are under contract beyond the 2012 season...Brett Anderson is signed through 2013 with club options for 2014 and 2015...Coco Crisp is signed through 2013 with a club option for 2014...Kurt Suzuki is signed through 2013 with a club option for 2014...Yoenis Céspedes is signed through 2015...Grant Balfour and Brian Fuentes both have club options for 2013.

COACHING STAFF: Manager Bob Melvin, who signed a new three-year contract through the 2014 season on Sept. 21, welcomes back three returning members of last year's coaching staff in first base coach Tye Waller (6th season), third base coach Mike Gallego (4th season), and bullpen coach Rick Rodriguez (2nd season)...Melvin has added three new faces to his 2012 staff in bench coach Chip Hale, hitting coach Chili Davis and pitching coach Curt Young, who returns to Oakland after one season as pitching coach in Boston...Hale, a San Jose, Calif. native who was on Melvin's staff in Arizona from 2007-09, served as third base and infield coach with the New York Mets the past two years...Davis, a three-time All-Star during an illustrious 19-year Major League playing career, was the Boston Red Sox's hitting coach at Triple-A Pawtucket in 2011.

MEDIA INFORMATION: The A's clubhouse will be 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 Melvin will be available to the media each morning in the first base dugout at 9:15 am...Melvin 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.

JAPAN SERIES: The A's will open the regular season in Japan for the second time...will leave for Tokyo March 22 and will workout at the Tokyo Dome March 24...have exhibition games against the Yomiuri Giants (March 25 at 7:10 pm) and Hanshin Tigers (March 26 at 12:10 pm)...after another workout day March 27, the A's will open the regular season against the Seattle Mariners March 28 at 7:10 pm (3:10 am PT)...the two clubs will also square off March 29 at 6:10 pm (2:10 am PT)...Brandon McCarthy is scheduled to start the opener and Bartolo Colón will pitch in the second game...the other time the A's opened the season in Japan was in 2008 when they split two games with Boston...lost the opener 6-5 in 10 innings and won game two 5-1...there are four players in the A's camp that were on the roster in Japan in 2008 (Barton, Braden, Fiorentino, Suzuki)...the A's and Mariners were scheduled to open the 2003 season in Japan, but the trip was cancelled the day after war broke out in Iraq.

ATHLETICS BATTING NOTES

Eric Sogard has hit safely in each of the first two games and is 3 for 7 (.429) with a double, home run and two RBI...**Wes Timmons** has hit safely in each of the first two games (3 for 5, .600) and has also driven in at least one run in each contest (3 RBI total)...**Jemile Weeks** has hit safely (3 for 6, .500), scored a run (3 total) and driven in at least one run (3 total) in each of the first two games.

TRANSACTIONS

March 3 Yoenis Céspedes agrees to terms on a four-year contract through 2015; Scott Sizemore placed on the 60-day disabled list (torn left ACL)

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

#32 BRANDON McCARTHY RHP (9-9, 3.32 ERA with Oakland in 2011)

Is scheduled to make his first start of the spring...has been named the A's Opening Day starter for the March 28 game against Seattle in Japan...had the best season of his six-year Major League career in 2011 as he was 9-9 with a 3.32 ERA in 25 starts...had career highs in wins, starts, complete games (5), innings pitched (170.2) and strikeouts (123)...his ERA was the lowest of his career as was his .281 opponents on-base percentage and .377 opponents slugging percentage...tied for second in the American League in complete games, tied for eighth in shutouts (1) and ranked ninth in on-base percentage...with 123 strikeouts and just 25 walks, he set an Athletics record (since 1901) for strikeout-to-walk ratio with a mark of 4.92...averaged 1.32 walks per nine innings, which was the second-lowest mark in Athletics history...ranked second in the AL in strikeout-to-walk ratio and was third in walks per nine innings and home runs per nine innings (0.58)...a stint on the disabled list and a lack of run support limited him to a 1-5 record despite a 3.54 ERA in 11 starts before the All-Star Break...then went 8-4 with a 3.15 ERA in 14 starts after the break...tied for third in the AL in post-break wins and was eighth in ERA.

ALSO SCHEDULED TO PITCH

#38 ANDREW CARIGNAN RHP (0-0, 4.26 ERA with Oakland in 2011)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...pitched at three different levels in the A's farm system in 2011, combining for a 1-0 record with eight saves and a 1.85 ERA in 33 relief appearances with Single-A Stockton, Double-A Midland and Triple-A Sacramento...earned a September promotion to Oakland when rosters expanded and posted a 4.26 ERA in six relief appearances in his Major League debut...allowed a .276 opponents batting average, which included a .143 (1 for 7) mark against left-handed hitters and .318 (7 for 22) against right-handers...opponents hit .364 with the bases empty, .222 with runners on...first batters faced were 1-for-6...stranded his only two inherited runners...pitched for Phoenix in the Arizona Fall League following the season...was 0-2 with a 6.57 ERA in 12 relief appearances...struck out 16 in 12.1 innings.

#67 SEAN DOOLITTLE LHP (0-0, 9.00 ERA with AZL A's in 2011)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...missed nearly the entire 2011 season...was placed on Sacramento's disabled list April 7 as he continued to recover from surgery on a torn left patella...while on the disabled list, he began to work out as a pitcher...was both a pitcher and hitter in college at the University of Virginia...was reinstated from the disabled list Aug. 29 and transferred to the A's affiliate in the Arizona Rookie League...made his professional debut as a pitcher that day at the Giants affiliate...tossed 1.0 innings and allowed a run on no hits and one walk while striking out two.

#40 BRIAN FUENTES LHP (2-8, 12 saves, 3.70 ERA with Oakland in 2011)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...was the A's closer the first two months of the 2011 season due to Andrew Bailey's injury...was 1-8 with 12 saves, three blown saves, a 5.09 ERA and .257 opponents batting average in his first 38 appearances through July 1...then went 1-0 with no save opportunities, a 1.57 ERA and .205 opponents batting average over his final 29 appearances...was 2-8 with a 3.70 ERA in 67 appearances overall...ranked second among American League relievers in losses and tied for 10th in runs allowed (30)...the losses were a career high and the runs matched his high...struck out just 42 in 58.1 innings for a career-low average of 6.48 strikeouts per nine innings...allowed a .237 opponents batting average, which broke down to .221 (30-for-136) against right-handed hitters and .265 (22-for-83) against left-handers...first batters faced were 15 for 61 (.246) with six walks...allowed 7 of 28 (25.0%) inherited runners to score.

#54 EDGAR GONZALEZ RHP (0-0, 9.00 ERA with Colorado in 2011)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...the non-roster invitee was signed to a minor league contract October 27...made one Major League appearance with Colorado in 2011, tossing 2.0 innings of relief at St. Louis Aug. 14...allowed two runs on five hits and a walk while striking out one...split the balance of his season between Triple-A Durham in the Tampa Bay organization and Triple-A Colorado Springs...combined for an 8-6 record and a 5.00 ERA in 26 games, 25 starts, in the minors...allowed a .290 opponents batting average, including .268 (76-for-284) against right-handed hitters compared to .315 (79-for-251) against left-handers...yielded nine of his 13 home runs to lefties...eight were solo shots...pitched for Hermosillo in the Mexican-Pacific Winter League following the season, logging a 4-6 record and 3.21 ERA in 14 games, all starts...surrendered just three home runs in 67.1 innings.

#73 TRAVIS SCHLICHTING RHP (5-3, 4 saves, 7.10 ERA with Albuquerque in 2011)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...the non-roster invitee signed a minor league contract with the A's December 20...spent the entire 2011 season with Triple-A Albuquerque in the Los Angeles Dodgers farm system...was 5-3 with four saves and a 7.10 ERA in 51 relief appearances...had minor league bests in games, saves, innings pitched (64.2) and strikeouts (51)...allowed a .302 opponents batting average, including .300 (45-for-150) against right-handed hitters compared to .306 (33-for-108) against left-handers...opponents hit .226 when leading off an inning...compiled an 8.53 ERA in 30 appearances before the All-Star Break...had a 5.06 ERA and all four of his saves in 21 outings after the break...allowed 4 of 15 (26.7%) inherited runners to score...posted a 1.59 ERA in the ninth inning...pitched for Mayaguez in the Puerto Rican Winter League following the season...was 2-0 with a 0.92 ERA in eight games, seven starts...held the opposition to a .205 batting average.

2012 OAKLAND ATHLETICS SPRING SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	RECORD	WINNER	LOSER	ATTEND.	HOME CUM.
March 2	Seattle	L, 5-8	0-1	Beavan	Godfrey	6,316	6,316
March 3	at Seattle	W, 9-2	1-1	Parker	Millwood	8,675	
DATE	OPPONENT	PROBABLES		TIME	RADIO/TV		
March 4	at Chicago (NL)	RHP Brandon McCarthy vs. RHP Rodrigo Lopez		1:05	95.7 FM The Game		
March 5	Los Angeles (AL)	RHP Brad Peacock vs. LHP C.J. Wilson		1:05			
	at Chicago (NL)	RHP Bartolo Colon vs. RHP Ryan Dempster		1:05			
March 6	at Milwaukee	LHP Tommy Milone vs. RHP Yovani Gallardo		1:05			
March 7	Los Angeles (NL)			1:05			
March 8	at Los Angeles (NL)			1:05			
March 9	at Colorado			1:05			
March 10	Cincinnati			1:05	95.7 FM The Game/CSNCA		
March 11	Kansas City			1:05	95.7 FM The Game		
March 12	at Chicago (AL)			1:05			
March 13	Milwaukee			1:05			
March 14	OFF DAY			1:05			
March 15	at Texas			1:05			
March 16	Seattle			7:05	95.7 FM The Game		
March 17	Chicago (NL)			1:05	95.7 FM The Game		
	at San Francisco			1:05			
March 18	at Arizona			1:05	95.7 FM The Game		
March 19	Arizona			1:05			
March 20	Chicago (NL)			1:05			
March 21	at Kansas City			1:05			
March 25	vs. Yomiuri at Tokyo (exhib.)			7:10*			
March 26	vs. Hanshin at Tokyo (exhib.)			12:10*			
March 31	at Sacramento (exhib.)			6:05			
April 2	vs. San Francisco (at SF)			7:35	95.7 FM The Game/CSNCA		
April 3	vs. San Francisco (at OAK)			7:35	95.7 FM The Game		
April 4	vs. San Francisco (at SF)			12:45	95.7 FM The Game		

*Time listed is local. March 25 game starts at 3:10 am Pacific Time. March 26 game starts at 8:10 pm Pacific Time on March 25.