



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 defeated the Texas Rangers 11-7 in Surprise...Jemile Weeks homered to lead off the game but A's starter Brad Peacock allowed five runs in 2.1 innings (5 h, 3 bb, 1 so)...Weeks added another solo home run in the fourth and Seth Smith belted a RBI double later in the inning to narrow the gap to 5-4...Neil Wagner allowed a run in 1.2 innings but the A's tied the game with a two-run sixth inning...Anthony Recker homered to lead off the inning and Cliff Pennington added an RBI double...Ryan Cook and Pedro Figueroa pitched a scoreless inning of relief each before Erick Threets allowed a run in the seventh...the A's then scored five times in the ninth inning for the win...the first run scored on an error, tying the game at 7-7, and Derek Norris added a grand slam to give the A's the lead...Evan Scribner pitched 2.0 scoreless innings for the win...Pennington had four hits.

A's vs. MARINERS

This is the third and final meeting between the A's and Mariners this spring...the A's lost the Cactus League opener 8-5 in Phoenix on March 2 but then won the next day in Peoria, 9-2...the A's lost both games last spring, losing 6-4 in Phoenix March 7 and a 10-2 in Peoria March 12.

IN CAMP

The A's have a total of 45 active players on the roster...that includes 37 players on the 40-man roster and eight non-roster invitees...the breakdown includes 21 pitchers, five catchers, nine infielders and 10 outfielders...the A's have 40 players on the 40-man roster plus Scott Sizemore, who was placed on the 60-day DL March 3 after tearing his left ACL February 25, and Brett Anderson, who placed on the 60-day DL March 13 as he continues his recovery from "Tommy John" surgery.

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 (10-3-1) VS. SEATTLE MARINERS (10-4-1) FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2012 – PHOENIX MUNICIPAL STADIUM – 7:05 P.M.

ABOUT THE A'S

ABOUT THE A'S: Have won six straight games and are now 10-3-1, which is the best record in the Cactus League ahead of Seattle (10-4-1)...since 1986 (the earliest year full spring results are available), the only time the A's had a better record after 14 games was in 2000 when they were 11-2-1...that club split a split squad in games 15 and 16 to go to 12-3-1...the A's are 7-1 on the road this spring compared to 3-2-1 in Phoenix...lead the Cactus League in walks (55), are tied for first in doubles (36), rank second in runs (96), hits (153) and on-base percentage (.373), third in batting (.302) and fourth in slugging (.474)...the pitching staff ranks second in the CL in walks (52) and fourth in strikeouts (101).

SPRING IN ARIZONA: 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.

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)...MLB Network will televise the games on a tape delayed basis at 6:00 am PT and 7:00 pm PT on both days...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

Brandon Allen is tied for second in the Cactus League in RBI (10)...is 1 for 15 with three RBI over his last six games after going 4 for 7 (.571) with seven RBI over his first two contests...**Daric Barton** made his first appearance of the spring Monday and is 0 for 7 with three walks in two starts at designated hitter...**Yoenis Céspedes** made his A's debut last Saturday against Cincinnati and went 2 for 2 with a walk, a RBI single and a solo home run...is 1 for 10 with a walk in three games since then...has started three games in center field and one at designated hitter...**Collin Cowgill** is 7 for 7 with two walks over his last nine plate appearances...is 9 for 11 (.818) over his last six games after going 2 for 16 (.125) over his first five contests...is tied for fourth in the CL in doubles (4), tied for fifth in steals (3), ranks seventh in on-base percentage (.467), tied for seventh in hits (11) and 10th in batting (.407)...has made 10 appearances in center field, five in right and two in left...**Coco Crisp** has reached base safely via hit or walk in all seven of his games (7 for 21, two walks)...all seven of his starts have come in center field...**Josh Donaldson** is 7 for 21 (.333) over his last six games after going 2 for 18 (.111) over his first six contests...has appeared in 12 games, all at third base...**Jonny Gomes** is tied for fifth in the Cactus League in walks (5)...**Brandon Moss** has hit safely in seven of his nine games and is batting .467 (7 for 15)...**Derek Norris** went 1 for 2 with a grand slam and four RBI yesterday at Texas after going 2 for 10 with one RBI over his first eight games...**Cliff Pennington** went 4 for 4 with two doubles yesterday at Texas and has reached base safely in all nine of his games...has hit safely in each of his last eight (13 for 26, .500)...is tied for second in the CL in hits (13), ranks third in batting (.464) and on-base percentage (.531) and tied for fourth in doubles (4)...**Manny Ramirez** went 1 for 2 with a home run Tuesday against Milwaukee after going 0 for 8 over his first three contests...**Anthony Recker** is 4 for 8 (.500) over his last three games after going 1 for 7 (.143) over his first four contests...**Josh Reddick** has hit safely in each of his eight games (10 for 25, .400)...is tied for sixth in the CL in runs (7)...has made all eight of his appearances in right field...**Seth Smith** is 2 for 17 (.118) over his last five games after going 5 for 10 (.500) over his first four contests...has appeared in six games in left field and three in right field...**Eric Sogard** has reached base safely via hit or walk in each of the 11 games in which he has batted...leads the majors in runs (101)...is tied for fourth in the CL in total bases (21), tied for fifth in hits (12), ranks ninth in slugging (.677) and 10th in on-base percentage (.457)...has appeared in nine games at shortstop, four at third base and one at second base...**Kurt Suzuki** had his first three-hit game Monday at Chicago (AL) and is 3 for 5 (.600) over his last two games after going 4 for 16 (.250) over his first six contests...**Wes Timmons** is 5 for 11 (.455) with three walks over his last eight games after going 3 for 12 (.250) over his first four contests...has appeared in nine games at second base, four at third base and one at shortstop...**Jemile Weeks** homered twice yesterday at Texas and now has three overall, which is tied for second in the CL...is also second in total bases (25), tied for second in hits (13), tied for fourth in RBI (9), fifth in slugging (.806), tied for sixth in runs (7) and eighth in batting (.419)...has three straight multiple-hit games (7 for 13, .538) and five overall.

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)
March 9 Landon Powell released
March 11 Sean Doolittle and Jermaine Mitchell optioned to Sacramento; Fabio Castro, Michael Choice, Edgar Gonzalez, Sonny Gray, Grant Green, Cedric Hunter, Jim Miller, Jason Pridie, Max Stassi and Merkin Valdez reassigned to minor league camp
March 13 Brandon Hicks claimed off waivers from Atlanta; Brett Anderson placed on the 60-day disabled list (left ulnar collateral ligament surgery)
March 15 Brandon Hicks optioned 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

#45 GRAHAM GODFREY RHP (0-1, 9.00 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his fourth appearance and second start of the spring...has pitched in relief in each of his last two outings (4 er in 4.0 ip, 9.00 ERA) after starting in his first outing March 2 against Seattle...made his Major League debut in 2011 and was 1-2 with a 3.96 ERA in five games, four starts, over three stints with the A's...walked just five batters in 25.0 innings (1.80 walks per nine innings)...allowed a .305 batting average, which included a .267 mark against left-handed hitters and .356 against right-handers...allowed a .222 average with runners in scoring position...made one start at Double-A Midland and was also 14-3 with a 2.68 ERA in 19 games, 18 starts, with Triple-A Sacramento...led the Pacific Coast League and tied for fifth in all of minor league baseball in wins...combined for a 2.59 ERA with Sacramento and Midland, which was the lowest ERA in the A's farm system...was named the A's Organizational Pitcher of the Year and was also named to the *Baseball America* Triple-A All-Star Team...made four starts for Escogido in the Dominican Winter League following the season and was 1-0 with a 3.31 ERA.

GODFREY'S SPRING TRAINING APPEARANCES

| Date | Opponent | Dec | IP | H | R | ER | BB | SO | HR | BF |
|--------|----------|-----|-----|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 3/2 | SEA | L | 2.0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| 3/6 | at MIL | - | 2.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| 3/11 | KC | - | 2.0 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Totals | | | 6.0 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 28 |

ALSO SCHEDULED TO PITCH

#50 GRANT BALFOUR RHP (0-0, 12.27 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his fifth appearance of the spring...has not allowed a run in his last two outings (2.0 ip) after allowing at least two runs in each of his first two outings (5 er in 1.2 ip, 27.00 ERA)...his last appearance was Monday at Chicago (AL) when he retired the side in order in the fourth innings (1 so)...has faced 19 batters, allowing seven hits and walking three...was used mostly as a set-up man with Oakland last year, posting a 5-2 record with two saves, a 2.47 ERA and .199 opponents batting average in 62 relief appearances...tied for eighth among American League relievers in grounded into double plays (8), ranked 10th in opponents on-base percentage (.266) and was tied for 10th in wins...also tied for eighth in home runs allowed (8)...the grounded into double plays and home runs were career highs...his .199 opponents average broke down to .191 (21 for 110) against left-handed hitters and .207 (23 for 111) against right-handers...opponents hit .125 with runners in scoring position...tied for eighth in the AL in first batter strikeouts (19)...allowed just 2 of 15 (13.3%) inherited runners to score, which was the lowest mark of his career.

#13 JERRY BLEVINS LHP (1-0, 3.38 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his fifth appearance of the spring...has not allowed a run in his last three outings (1.2 ip), including his last outing Monday at Chicago (AL) when he retired the only batter he faced in the fifth inning...was on the A's Opening Day roster last year but had six stints with the club...had no decisions, a 2.86 ERA and .235 opponents batting average in 26 appearances...the ERA was the lowest of his career but he allowed 8 of 14 (57.1%) inherited runners to score, which was the highest percentage of his career...compiled a 4.40 ERA in 15 games before the All-Star Break and a 1.29 ERA in 11 appearances after the break...walked 13 batters in 14.1 innings before the break, just one in 14.0 innings after the break...his opponents batting average included a .220 (13 for 59) mark against right-handed hitters compared to .256 (11 for 43) against left-handers...allowed both of his home runs to lefties.

#40 BRIAN FUENTES LHP (0-0, 11.25 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his fifth appearance of the spring...allowed four runs in the sixth inning in his last outing Tuesday against Milwaukee (1.0 ip, 3 h, 4 r, 4 er, 1 bb) after allowing just one run in 3.0 innings over his first three appearances...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 against right-handed hitters and .265 against left-handers...first batters faced were 15 for 61 (.246) with six walks...allowed 7 of 28 (25.0%) inherited runners to score.

#77 JORDAN NORBERTO LHP (1-0, 4.15 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his sixth appearance of the spring...has not allowed a run in four of his five outings, including his last appearance Tuesday against Milwaukee when he pitched a scoreless seventh inning for the win (1.0 ip, 1 h, 3 so)...was acquired from Arizona at the trading deadline last year, posting an 8.10 ERA in six relief appearances over two stints with the A's...issued seven walks in 6.2 innings...allowed a .308 opponents batting average, which broke down to .294 against right-handed hitters and .333 against left-handers...was 6-2 with a save and a 4.25 ERA in 41 relief appearances with Triple-A Reno in the Arizona organization before the trade...had a save and a 1.08 ERA in six relief appearances with Sacramento...was 6-2 with two saves and a 3.79 ERA in 47 minor league appearances overall...surrendered just two home runs in 57.0 innings...allowed a .246 opponents batting average, including .238 against right-handed hitters compared to .258 against left-handers...pitched for Escogido in the Dominican Winter League following the season and was 2-0 with a 2.45 ERA in 16 games, six starts.

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 | |
| March 4 | at Chicago (NL) | W, 12-10 | 2-1 | Schlichting | Mateo | 10,366 | |
| March 5 | Los Angeles (AL) | L, 1-9 | 2-2 | Wilson | Peacock | 3,511 | 9,827 |
| | at Chicago (NL) | W, 8-7 | 3-2 | Castro | Zych | 5,809 | |
| March 6 | at Milwaukee | W, 6-0 | 4-2 | Milone | Rodriguez | 2,835 | |
| March 7 | Los Angeles (NL) | T, 3-3 | 4-2-1 | --- | --- | 3,583 | 13,410 |
| March 8 | at Los Angeles (NL) | L, 2-7 | 4-3-1 | Capuano | Parker | 5,721 | |
| March 9 | at Colorado | W, 6-4 | 5-3-1 | Blevins | Chatwood | 9,596 | |
| March 10 | Cincinnati | W, 6-2 | 6-3-1 | Colon | Cueto | 6,644 | 20,054 |
| March 11 | Kansas City | W, 10-8 | 7-3-1 | Figueroa | Wood | 4,840 | 24,894 |
| March 12 | at Chicago (AL) | W, 9-4 | 8-3-1 | Ross | Peavy | 4,468 | |
| March 13 | Milwaukee | W, 8-6 | 9-3-1 | Norberto | De La Cruz | 4,714 | 29,608 |
| March 15 | at Texas | W, 11-7 | 10-3-1 | Scribner | Stetter | 7,562 | |
| DATE | OPPONENT | PROBABLES | | TIME | RADIO/TV | | |
| March 16 | Seattle | RHP Graham Godfrey vs. RHP Hisashi Iwakuma | | 7:05 | 95.7 FM The Game | | |
| March 17 | Chicago (NL) | RHP Travis Schlichting vs. LHP Paul Maholm | | 1:05 | 95.7 FM The Game | | |
| | at San Francisco | LHP Tommy Milone vs. RHP Tim Lincecum | | 1:05 | | | |
| March 18 | at Arizona | RHP Tyson Ross vs. RHP Trevor Cahill | | 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 | | |

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