

# 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

OAKLAND ATHLETICS (12-4-1) VS. ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS (6-9-1) SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2012 – SALT RIVER FIELDS AT TALKING STICK – 1:05 P.M.

#### **YESTERDAY**

A's split a split squad, defeating the Cubs 4-3 in Phoenix but losing to the Giants 7-2 in Scottsdale...in Phoenix, Travis Schlichting started for the A's and allowed a run in the first inning but that was the only run he would allow (3.0 ip, 2 h, 1 r, 1 er, 1 bb, 1 so)...the A's came back with three runs in the bottom of the first on an error and a two-run double by Seth Smith...Brandon Allen added a sacrifice fly in the sixth inning to complete the A's scoring...Pedro Figueroa and Erick Threets pitched a scoreless inning of relief each and Seth Smith had three hits...in Scottsdale, Tommy Milone blanked the Giants on one hit over the first three innings before allowing four runs in the fourth for the loss (4.0 ip, 5 h, 4 r, 4 er, 2 so)...Derek Norris had a RBI double in the second inning and Collin Cowgill a RBI single in the seventh to account for the scoring...Fautino De Los Santos and T.J. Walz tossed a scoreless inning of relief each...Cowgill and Daric Barton had two hits apiece.

#### A's vs. DIAMONDBACKS

This is the only meeting between the A's and Diamondbacks this spring...last year, the two clubs split two meetings...the A's lost 4-2 in Phoenix March 20 but won at Scottsdale 15-7 on March 24.

#### IN CAMP

The A's have a total of 44 active players on the roster...that includes 37 players on the 40-man roster and seven non-roster invitees...the breakdown includes 20 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

radio network broadcast 10 games this spring, including seven from Arizona and against San three games the Bay Area Francisco Arizona schedule April...the 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 San at 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

# **ABOUT THE A's**

**ABOUT THE A'S:** Split a split squad yesterday to snap their winning streak at seven games...are now 12-4-1, which is the best record in the Cactus League ahead of San Francisco (11-4-3)...it is the A's best record after 17 games since going 13-3-1 in 2000 (won game 18)...have clinched a winning record in the spring for the first time since 2008 (18-8)...the 12 wins match the A's total from each of the previous two springs (12-21-1 in 2011, 12-17-3 in 2010)...the A's are 7-2 on the road this spring compared to 5-2-1 in Phoenix...lead the majors in runs (108) and doubles (47) and top the CL in walks (61)...rank second in the CL in hits (179), third in on-base percentage (.361), fourth in batting (.296) and tied for fourth in slugging (.464) and triples (5)...the pitching staff leads the CL in walks (58) and ranks third in strikeouts (119).

**SPRING IN ARIZONA:** This is the A's 44<sup>th</sup> Spring Training in Arizona, their 31<sup>st</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 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...the losses 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 ranks second in the Cactus League in RBI (11)...is 2 for 4 over his last two games after going 1 for 15 over his previous six contests...Daric Barton had two hits yesterday at San Francisco in his first start at first base...went 0 for 8 over his first three games, including two starts at designated hitter...**Yoenis Céspedes** is 1 for 14 over his last four games after going 2 for 2 with a walk, a RBI single and a solo home run in his debut March 10 against Cincinnati...has started four games in center field and one at designated hitter...Collin Cowgill has hit safely in each of his last eight games (12 for 17, .706) after going 2 for 16 (.125) over his first five contests...is tied for third in the CL in hits (14), tied for fourth in stolen bases (4), ranks seventh in on-base percentage (.486), ninth in batting (.424) and tied for ninth in RBI (8)...has made 11 appearances in center field, five in right and four in left...reached base safely in 11 consecutive plate appearances (eight hits, three walks) before lining out in the sixth inning Friday night against Seattle...Coco Crisp has reached base safely via hit or walk in all nine of his games and has hit safely in each of his last seven (8 for 23, .348)...is tied for the CL lead in triples (2)...all nine of his starts have come in center field...Josh Donaldson is 9 for 28 (.321) over his last eight games after going 2 for 18 (.111) over his first six contests...has appeared in 14 games, all at third base...Jonny Gomes is tied for fourth in the Cactus League in walks (6)...each of his last three hits are doubles...**Derek Norris** is 2 for 6 with a double, grand slam and five RBI over his last two games after going 2 for 10 with one RBI over his first eight games...Cliff Pennington has reached base safely in all 10 of his game and has hit safely in each of his last nine (15 for 29, 518)...ranks second in the CL in hits (15) and batting (.484) and third in on-base percentage (.543)...went 4 for 4 with two doubles Thursday at Texas... Manny Ramirez is 2 for 7 (.286) with a double and a home run over his last three games after going 0 for 8 over his first three contests... Anthony Recker is 4 for 11 (.364) over his last four games after going 1 for 7 (.143) over his first four contests...Josh Reddick went 0 for 4 yesterday at San Francisco after hitting safely in each of his first nine games (11 for 28, .393)...is tied for seventh in the CL in runs (8) and tied for ninth in RBI (8)...has made all 10 of his appearances in right field...Seth Smith went 3 for 3 yesterday against the Cubs after going 2 for 17 (.118) over his previous five games...has appeared in six games in left field and four in right field...Eric Sogard has reached base safely via hit or walk in each of the 13 games in which he has batted...leads the majors in runs (12)...is tied for fifth in the CL in hits (13) and ranks eight in total bases (22)...has appeared in 10 games at shortstop, four at third base and two at second base...Kurt Suzuki had his first three-hit game last Monday at Chicago (AL) and is 3 for 8 (.375) over his last three games after going 4 for 16 (.250) over his first six contests...Wes Timmons is 2 for 10 (.200) over his last seven games after going 7 for 18 (.389) over his first seven contests...has appeared in 11 games at second base, four at third base and one at shortstop...Jemile Weeks homered twice Thursday at Texas and now has three overall, which is tied for second in the CL...is tied for second in total bases (25), tied for fourth in RBI (9), tied for fifth in hits (13) and sixth in slugging (.735)...is 7 for 16 (.438) over his last four 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)

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

March 18 Erick Threets reassigned to minor league camp

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

# **TODAY'S STARTING PITCHER**

#### #66 TYSON ROSS RHP (1-0, 1,29 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his fourth start of the spring...has not allowed a run in his last two starts (6.0 ip) after allowing one run in 1.0 inning in his first start March 3 at Seattle...went 3-3 with a 2.75 ERA in nine games, six starts, with Oakland last year before going on the disabled list May 20 with a strained left oblique...made four rehab starts before he was reinstated from the DL and optioned to Sacramento July 25...surrendered just one home run in 36.0 innings with the A's and had a .298 opponents slugging percentage...allowed a .252 opponents batting average, which included a .250 (17-for-68) mark against left-handed hitters and .254 (16-for-63) against right-handers, opponents hit 315 with the bases empty 172 with runners on

ROSS' SPRING TRAINING STARTS										
Date	Opponent	Dec	ΙP	Н	R	ER	ВВ	SO	HR	BF
3/3	at SEA	-	1.0	1	1	1	2	1	0	6
3/7	LAD	-	3.0	1	0	0	1	2	0	10
3/12	at CWS	W	3.0	3	0	0	2	2	0	13
Totals			7.0	5	1	1	5	5	0	29

against right-handers...opponents hit .315 with the bases empty, .172 with runners on, including .208 with runners in scoring position...was 3-2 with a 7.61 ERA in nine starts with Sacramento...struck out 34 in 36.2 innings but also issued 22 walks...allowed a .325 opponents batting average...pitched for Phoenix in the Arizona Fall League following the season and was 1-3 with a 5.94 ERA in seven starts.

#### ALSO SCHEDULED TO PITCH

#### **#58 EVAN SCRIBNER RHP (1-0, 2.57 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 Thursday at Texas when he picked up the win (2.0 ip, 2 h, 1 bb, 1 so)...the non-roster invitee was claimed off waivers from San Diego October 25 and outrighted to Sacramento November 18...made his Major League debut with San Diego last year, posting a 7.07 ERA in 10 relief appearances over two stints with the Padres...opponents hit .300, including .226 (7-for-31) by right-handed hitters and .379 (11-for-29) by left-handers...was 2-3 with a 4.71 ERA in 28 relief appearances with Tucson...converted 10-of-11 (90.9%) save opportunities...allowed a .255 opponents batting average, including .245 (13 for 53) by left-handed hitters and .264 (14 for 53) by right-handers...yielded a .179 batting average with runners in scoring position and opponents were 0 for 13 with RISP and two outs...was placed on the disabled list July 28 with a strained right shoulder...was recalled by San Diego Sept. 2 and placed on the 60-day DL.

#### #62 NEIL WAGNER RHP (0-0, 12.46 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his fifth appearance of the spring...has allowed at least one run in three of his four outings, including his last appearance Thursday at Texas (1.2 ip, 1 h, 1 r, 1 er, 1 so)...made his Major League debut with Oakland late in the 2011 season, posting a 7.20 ERA in six relief appearances...allowed a .300 opponents batting average, including .231 (3-for-13) by right-handed hitters and .429 (3-for-7) by left-handers...first batters faced were 0-for-2 with three walks and he allowed 1-of-3 (33.3%) inherited runners to score...combined for a 3-4 record, six saves and a 3.26 ERA in a career-high-tying 50 relief appearances with Double-A Midland and Triple-A Sacramento...struck out 87 batters in 66.1 innings, an average of 11.80 per nine innings...surrendered just two home runs, an average of 0.27 per nine innings...allowed a .232 opponents batting average, including .219 by right-handed hitters and .253 by left-handers...opponents batted .143 with a .226 on-base percentage when leading off an inning...converted 6-of-9 (66.7%) save opportunities and allowed 8-of-23 (34.8%) inherited runners to score.

# 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	3	3,675		
March 4	at Chicago (NL)	W, 12-10	2-1	Schlichting	Mateo	10	),366		
March 5 L	Los Angeles (AL)	L, 1-9	2-2	Wilson	Peacock	3	3,511	9,827	
a	at Chicago (NL)	W, 8-7	3-2	Castro	Zych	5	5,809		
March 6	at Milwaukee	W, 6-0	4-2	Milone	Rodriguez	2	2,835		
March 7 L	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	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 k	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 M	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	7,562		
March 16	Seattle	W, 6-1	11-3-1	Godfrey	lwakuma	9,038*		38,646	
March 17 (	Chicago (NL)	W, 4-3	12-3-1	Schlichting	Maholm	8,799*		47,447	
8	at San Francisco	L, 2-7	12-4-1	Lincecum	Milone	12	,022*		
DATE (	OPPONENT	PROBA	-			TIME	RADIO/T	V	
March 18 a	at Arizona			RHP Trevor Cahil		1:05	95.7 FM 7	<u>The Game</u>	
March 19	Arizona	RHP Ja	rrod Parker vs	s. RHP Josh Colln	nenter	1:05			
March 20 (	Chicago (NL)	RHP Bra	andon McCar	thy vs. RHP Rodri	igo Lopez	1:05			
March 21 a	at Kansas City	RHP Ba	rtolo Colon vs	s. RHP Luis Mend	loza	1:05			
March 25 v	vs. Yomiuri at Tokyo (exhib.)	)				7:10*			
March 26 v	vs. Hanshin at Tokyo (exhib.	.)				12:10*			
March 31	at Sacramento (exhib.)					6:05			
April 2 v	vs. San Francisco (at SF)						:35 95.7 FM The Game/CSNCA		
April 3	vs. San Francisco (at OAK)						35 95.7 FM The Game		
April 4	vs. San Francisco (at SF)					12:45	95.7 FM 7	The Game	

<sup>\*</sup>March 25 game starts at 3:10 am Pacific Time. March 26 game starts at 8:10 pm Pacific Time on March 25.