

# Daily Clips



June 19, 2012

**LOS ANGELES DODGERS CLIPS**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2012**

**LA Times:**

Dodgers are ready to deal this year, but can they find a partner? – Dylan Hernandez

As Padres apathy mounts, sale process could drag on – Bill Shaikin

**Dodgers.com:**

Team first culture explains Dodgers' success – Alex Angert

**ESPN.com:**

Dodgers at the deadline – Jason Churchill

**Daily News:**

Dodgers reliever Tolleson making major adjustment – JP Hoornstra

**True Blue LA:**

Dodgers 6/18 minor league report – Brandon Lennox

Preview: Oakland A's – Phil Gurnee

Dodgers 2012 minor league preview: Ogden Raptors – Brandon Lennox

**Fox Sports West:**

No rush to get Kemp, Lilly back – Sports XChange

**ESPN Deportes:**

Los Dodgers visitan a los Atleticos – Stats LLC

**USA Today:**

Dodgers' Matt Kemp tackles Dee Gordon after walkoff win – Matt Jones

**Examiner:**

Fast, who is Dee Gordon? – Daiveun Curry-Chapman

**Pro Boxing Fans:**

Gallery: Josesito Lopez Dodgers first pitch

## LOS ANGELES DODGERS CLIPS

TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2012

LA TIMES

### **Dodgers are ready to deal this year, but can they find a partner?**

The Dodgers have new owners who say the purse strings have been loosened since the Frank McCourt years. But with more teams in playoff contention, the trade market has been slow to develop.

By Dylan Hernandez

June 18, 2012, 5:02 p.m.

With new owners in place, the Dodgers say they are no longer under the economic hardships that prevented them from landing frontline pitcher CC Sabathia at the 2008 nonwaiver trade deadline.

But the capacity to add to the team's payroll alone won't make deals happen.

General Manager Ned Colletti says he has been on the phone with other GMs since the beginning of May, but has found the trade market slow to develop – even more than in past seasons. He attributes that to the change in the playoff format, which has added an extra wild-card team in each league.

"The second wild card has kept an extra eight or nine clubs in it," Colletti said. "They have no real reason to act quickly."

So Colletti waits. He is waiting for teams to drop out of contention. He's waiting for the July 31 nonwaiver trade deadline to approach and force teams to decide if they'll be buyers or sellers.

Through Sunday, only three major league teams were 10 or more games out of the second wild-card position in their league: the Minnesota Twins (101/2 games), the San Diego Padres (111/2) and the Chicago Cubs (13).

Colletti estimates the Dodgers will have five or six potential trade partners at the deadline.

While Colletti remains unclear on which teams those will be, he has identified his team's needs. He wants to add an arm to the rotation and a bat to the lineup. He would also like add a left-hander to a bullpen that currently has only one, Scott Elbert.

The Dodgers aren't expected to encounter the kind of roadblock they did in 2008. That year, they worked out a deal to send a package of prospects to the Cleveland Indians in exchange for Sabathia, third baseman Casey Blake and utilityman Jamey Carroll, but owner Frank McCourt vetoed it because he couldn't afford to take on their salaries. That potential trade didn't include third baseman Andy LaRoche or right-hander Bryan Morris, with whom the Dodgers parted later that month in a three-way deal to acquire Manny Ramirez.

The following year, the Dodgers thought they were in prime position to add former Cy Young Award winner Cliff Lee. This time, it wasn't a shortage of cash that scuttled a potential deal, but a shortage of top-tier prospects in their minor league system. The Cleveland Indians traded Lee to the Philadelphia Phillies, who offered a superior package of prospects.

The Dodgers' farm system remains thin on position players. Their top outfield prospect, Alfredo Silverio, is out for the year recovering from injuries sustained in an off-season car accident. The next-best, outfielder Joc Pederson, is still in Class A.

What the Dodgers do have in abundance are pitchers, as scouting director Logan White has collected a group of hard throwers in recent drafts. Among them are former first-round picks Zach Lee, Ethan Martin and Chris Reed.

Colletti said potential sellers have so far indicated they are inclined to move only impending free agents, which further shrinks what already figures to be a seller's market.

Hitters who fit that category include first basemen Carlos Lee of the Houston Astros and Justin Morneau of the Twins and Padres outfielder Carlos Quentin. Lee or Morneau would be an offensive upgrade at a position where James Loney has driven in only 21 runs for the Dodgers.

The list of soon-to-be free-agent pitchers includes Ryan Dempster of the Cubs, Zack Greinke and Shaun Marcum of the Milwaukee Brewers, and Brandon McCarthy and Bartolo Colon of the Oakland Athletics.

If the Dodgers add an arm, they could move 22-year-old Nathan Eovaldi to the bullpen or back to the minors.

"You never have enough pitching," Colletti said. "We're going to continue to build depth."

But Dempster was placed on the 15-day disabled list Monday because of a tight side muscle. Meanwhile, Marcum was scratched from his scheduled start Tuesday because of tightness in his elbow.

### **As Padres apathy mounts, sale process could drag on**

By Bill Shaikin

June 18, 2012, 10:44 a.m.

This might be the perfect storm of Padres apathy.

San Diego might lose 100 games, not that very many people would see them. The Padres' attendance has fallen by one-third since Petco Park opened in 2004, and the Padres' broadcasts have been blacked out in much of San Diego all season because Fox Sports and Time Warner Cable are fighting over money.

In some cities, the mayor would shame Fox and Time Warner into getting the home team back on TV. In San Diego, better to worry about getting the home team sold.

The news is not necessarily good on that front either, with the possibility that the Padres might not have a new owner in place by the end of the season.

The three apparent finalists -- the O'Malley family, Orange County communications magnate Gary Jabara and Los Angeles investment advisor Steve Kaplan -- all are leading bid groups with multiple investors.

That could mean months of background checks and financial evaluations by Major League Baseball after a sale is announced.

"There is no Stevie Cohen here who is going to write a check," said one person familiar with the sale process, referring to the East Coast multi-billionaire who finished second in bidding for the Dodgers.

The best hope for a quick sale had been Cohen, who took a look at the Padres' books and passed. The next best hope had been another Dodgers runner-up, with an investment partnership that already had been scrutinized by MLB.

But neither Jabara nor Kaplan was involved in the Dodgers' bidding, and O'Malley's money would be coming from a consortium of Southern California investors, not the South Korean conglomerate that funded his Dodgers bid.

With outgoing owner John Moores still waiting for a party to meet his \$800-million sale price, it is possible other bidders could emerge. However, in the absence of a mystery billionaire, that would slow the process too.

## **DODGERS.COM**

### **Team-first culture explains Dodgers' success**

By Alex Angert / MLB.com | 06/18/12 6:22 PM ET

LOS ANGELES -- Next to each day's lineup card and workout schedule, there's a sign in the Dodgers' clubhouse that's hard for the players to miss.

It reads: "Players win games; teams win championships." In case any of the players have trouble understanding, it's translated in eight other languages from Japanese to French to German.

It's a cliché coaches tell players in locker rooms across the country in any sport on any level.

But in the Dodgers' clubhouse, it provides the best possible answer as to why this mixed-and-matched bunch of journeymen and callups have been able to string together the best record in baseball at 42-25.

"It's a group of guys that are playing together, that like each other and believe in themselves and believe they can accomplish things that nobody else thinks they can accomplish," manager Don Mattingly said, trying to pinpoint the one reason behind his team's success.

The simple fact that the Dodgers are winning this much is surprising, but not shocking.

What is shocking is that they are doing it with superstar Matt Kemp on the disabled list for the second time this season and with ace Clayton Kershaw sporting a 1-2 record with a 4.73 ERA over the past three weeks.

"There's a lot of confidence in that dugout," said Kershaw on Friday. "I can't explain it and I don't know why it's happening the way it is, but it's a fun time to be a Dodger right now."

This past series against the White Sox is a prime example of just that. On Friday, the Dodgers came back from a four-run deficit in the sixth inning to win on a wild pitch in the bottom of the eighth. The team dug itself into a similar hole the next day and erased another four-run deficit before eventually losing a heartbreaker.

The team mounted a comeback on Sunday in the ninth inning to tie the game and won it in the 10th on a Dee Gordon walk-off single.

"There's no egos in here," said Tony Gwynn, who scored the game-winning run Sunday after a one-out triple. "Guys put their egos aside and do whatever is asked of them. There's talent in here, regardless of if it's All-Star talent or not."

Gwynn, with his third team in seven years, has filled in center field and he's hitting .350 with runners in scoring position. Jerry Hairston, with his ninth club in 15 years, is hitting .314 and getting a chance to play nearly every day. Juan Rivera, with his fifth team in 12 years, hit a game-winning three-run home run against the Angels last week. And then there's 17-year veteran Bobby Abreu, who is hitting .320 since being cast away by the crosstown Angels earlier this season.

In the rotation, Chris Capuano is having his best year in eight seasons with an 8-2 record with a 2.71 ERA, and if Aaron Harang's current 3.59 ERA holds up, it would be the best mark of his 11-year career.

But it's not just well-traveled players, it's also the callups.

Super utility man Elian Herrera is hitting .305 and is providing arguably the most consistent bat in the lineup. Rookie Nathan Eovaldi has a 1.82 ERA in four starts while filling in for injured Ted Lilly. Scott Van Slyke, Jerry Sands and Ivan De Jesus have all provided late-game heroics when called upon.

"Guys in this clubhouse know their roles and they accept it," Andre Ethier said. "Whether it be a guy who starts or a guy who fills in or a guy comes in and gets a key pinch-hit or spot start."

For Mattingly, he said he has been on only a couple of teams over the years that has played this well together with this much confidence.

At this point in the season, obstacles like four-run holes and ninth-inning deficits don't seem that hard to overcome.

"Most teams get along," Mattingly said. "But they are united in the purpose. They are playing as a we. If you get guys that play as a group, they hold themselves accountable. It doesn't happen that often."

Mattingly said the Dodgers had the same type of chemistry last year and it's a lot of the same guys back this season. At this point in 2011, the team was 8 1/2 games out in the National League West with a 31-41 record. Now, the Dodgers have a five-game lead over the Giants in the division. This current group might have just needed some time together as it went 41-28 after the All-Star break in 2011, showing maybe that this season isn't such a fluke.

To Dodgers legend Tommy Lasorda, the 2012 team doesn't remind him of last year's squad, but rather a successful one that he managed.

"It's a lot like my 1988 team," Lasorda said. "We didn't have an overabundance of guys who were great, but we had guys who were great together, and I think that is what you are seeing now."

There is a banner for each Dodgers World Series team hanging from the rafters up and down the clubhouse. It just so happens that the 1988 banner with the iconic image of a limping Kirk Gibson rounding the bases is right above the aforementioned sign that says it is "Teams that win championships."

With Kemp on the mend and Kershaw capable of turning things around, there's a feeling in the Dodgers' clubhouse that another one of those banners could be hanging in the future.

**The Dodgers at the deadline**

3:04PM ET

## Potential Targets for LAD

- Matt Garza, RHP-- Chicago Cubs
- Ryan Dempster, RHP -- Chicago Cubs
- Zack Greinke, RHP -- Milwaukee Brewers
- Michael Cuddyer, OF -- Colorado Rockies
- Josh Willingham, OF -- Minnesota Twins
- Huston Street, RHP -- San Diego Padres
- Brett Myers, RHP -- Houston Astros
- Brandon League, RHP -- Seattle Mariners
- Brandon Inge, 3B -- Oakland Athletics
- Carlos Quentin, OF -- San Diego Padres
- Justin Morneau, 1B -- Minnesota Twins

The Los Angeles Dodgers lead the National League West with six weeks left until the trade deadline and a month until the All-Star Break. General manager Ned Colletti has a chance to do some damage this summer, and puts his club in a much better position if he can improve the roster before July 31.

## Deadline Strategy

Colletti is likely to be among the busier executives as his first-place Dodgers have holes to fill and room for upgrades all over the field. They may have valuable commodities they'll need to move in order to make room for those upgrades, however, so it should be an active few weeks in L.A., but the focus will be on the club as a buyer.

## Money

With the new ownership now at the helm, the Dodgers figure to be aggressive, and the fact that the team appears worthy of immediate investments, Colletti could have the greenest of lights in the league. Whether this means salary dumps such as Alfonso Soriano might be of interest remains to be seen, but such an idea shouldn't be completely dismissed. If the Dodgers are unable to acquire the necessary help, it won't be due to payroll restrictions.

## Bait

The Dodgers' farm system isn't exactly flush with elite talent, but they could be willing to include big-league roster members such as Juan Rivera, Tony Gwynn, Jr., and Ivan De Jesus to acquire the right players.

Top prospects such as right-handers Zach Lee, Chris Withrow, Ethan Martin, Allen Webster and Angel Sanchez could be parts of a package, as could outfielder Joc Pederson and catcher Tim Federowicz, the club's top non-pitching prospects.

There isn't a lot of depth there, but if the Dodgers are willing to move the best they have, there may not be a player on the market they can't afford.

## Targets

As the list above-right displays, the Dodgers could target just about any significant talent made available, including starting pitchers such as Garza, Dempster, Rodriguez or even Greinke. Bats such as Willingham, Cuddyer, Quentin and perhaps Morneau -- if the Twins field calls on the first baseman -- could be at the top of Colletti's wish list. The Dodgers could also use some more relief pitching, and outfield defense is a bit of a concern with the exception of Gwynn, who will return his bench role once Matt Kemp is back from the disabled list. Quentin's shortcomings in the field may or may not be overlooked since Bobby Abreu has sung the bat well since joining the team.

Expect the Dodgers to take a shot at some summer deals. Be surprised if they stand pat.

**Reliever Tolleson making major adjustment**

By J.P. Hoornstra, Staff Writer

Posted: 06/18/2012 09:37:59 PM PDT

Shawn Tolleson was fast-tracked to the majors. Now that he's here, the Dodgers' 2011 minor-league pitcher of the year has slowed his pace considerably.

Tolleson was recalled from Triple-A Albuquerque on June 4 when reliever Javy Guerra was placed on the disabled list with knee inflammation that required surgery. Since then, the right-hander has pitched in two games, both meaningless mop-up situations, and none since June 10.

"I didn't really expect anything," Tolleson said Sunday. "I'm prepared to pitch, but I don't want to say that I expected it to go like that."

The question of what to do with Tolleson is of some concern to Dodgers manager Don Mattingly, but he doesn't have much of a choice.

With four right-handed relievers on the disabled list - Guerra, Matt Guerrier, Blake Hawksworth and Rubby De La Rosa - the Dodgers simply are short of arms.

"It'll be the point when I get another guy back," Mattingly said, asked when the team would consider sending Tolleson back to Triple-A to get regular work.

The 24-year-old is throwing bullpen sessions roughly every other day, so he's getting his time on the mound. But he's not getting the adrenaline, which might be exactly what Tolleson needs.

He threw 10 pitches and walked both batters he faced in his major-league debut June 7 in Philadelphia. It didn't matter; the Dodgers were winning that game 8-3.

Three days later, Tolleson worked the ninth inning in Seattle and allowed two runs - on a single and an RBI double - after just four pitches. He retired the next three hitters in order and the run didn't matter; the Dodgers were winning 8-1.

"Coming into Philly, walking two guys was good for him," Mattingly said. "It's kind of like a free pass. He's got that in his pocket. That's how guys grow."

Tolleson also is learning a lot about the various approaches to pitching just by listening and observing.

"It's fun just to kind of keep my mouth shut and listen to guys," he said.

For relief pitchers, sitting in a bullpen day after day can be a lonely existence. But it's a different experience in the majors than the minors.

"Most of the talking is going on about the game - the hitters, how to pitch to them, things like that," Tolleson said. "In the minors you talk a little bit about that, but you stray off and talk about personal things."

So what if Tolleson's first incarnation of his big-league dream consists mainly of sitting around and listening?

"I'm having a blast," he said.

Mattingly said he considered using Tolleson on Friday, when the Dodgers fell behind the Chicago White Sox 5-1 after five innings. But a five-run rally in the sixth inning made it a close game and the manager picked Todd Coffey as the first right-hander out of the bullpen.

Coffey struggled early in the season, allowing six runs in his first six appearances, but has only given up two earned runs in 10 outings since.

"Todd deserved the opportunity to get more important innings first," Mattingly said.

Tolleson finds himself at the bottom rung of the Dodgers' pitching staff, an unfamiliar position for someone who has closed at every previous stop in the organizational ladder since he was drafted in 2010.

"It's different when you're used to going out there, pitching every other day," he said. "But at the same time, right now it's about trying to stay sharp.

"Our team is winning. As long as we're winning that's all that matters."

## TRUE BLUE LA

### **Dodgers 6/18/12 Minor League Report - Raptors Route Rockies in Season Opener**

by Brandon Lennox on Jun 18, 2012 11:40 PM PDT in Los Angeles Dodgers Minor League Report

Minor League Player of the Day – Jhosue Bermudez - 5 IP, 1 Hit, 0 Runs, 5 BB's 7 K's. Even though Josmar Cordero had another great day, I'm giving this award to his teammate Bermudez. The Venezuelan native not only had a very strong outing on Monday, but it was his 3rd start in a row in which he's allowed exactly 1 hit in exactly 5 innings of work. I really don't know much about the 19 year old lefty besides the incredible start to his professional career, but hopefully he can keep it up.

AAA – Off day

AA – All Star Break

HiA – All Star Break

LoA – All Star Break

Rookie Ogden – The Raptors used a balanced hitting attack on opening day to scale the Rockies in a 13 to 7 victory. 7 of the 9 batters in the Ogden lineup had at least 1 RBI, and Devin Shines led the way with a homer and 3 runs batted in. Surprise left fielder Jesus Valdez was one of the batters without an RBI but he still had a big day with 2 singles, a triple, and 4 runs scored, while catcher Jose Capellan also had 3 hits including a 3-bagger. Other offensive standouts were Tae-Hyeok Nam, who took one deep and doubled, and 2012 draftee Darnell Sweeney who had 2 hits singles and 2 stolen bases. On the mound Derek Cone allowed just 1 hit over 3.1 innings and struck out 4, but he also walked 4 batters and permitted two runs to cross the plate. Lefty reliever Kazuki Nishijima got rocked in his return to the Pioneer League to the tune of 8 hits and 4 runs in just 1.2 frames, but Craig Stem stopped the bleeding with a scoreless 6th. From there Gregg Downing took the ball and he never gave it up as the finished the game with a 3-inning save.

DSL – The Dominican Dodgers took advantage of 10 walks on Monday as they dismantled the Cardinals 11 to 1. Josmar Cordero was again the big hitter as he singled, doubled, and homered in route to 4 RBI's for the day. Despite being 14 games in the season he is still batting an even .500, and the 20 year old's 44 total bases rank as tops in the league. In addition, Cordero continues to get some reps behind the plate so he also has some defensive value. Gerson Nunez had 2 singles for the only other multi-hit game, while Jeffry Rojas' double was the only other extra base hit. In terms of pitching, 19 year old starter Jhosue Bermudez incredibly allowed exactly 1 hit over 5 innings for the 3rd straight start, meaning he's given up just 3 hits and 0 runs over the first 15 innings of his professional career. While he did issue 5 free passes, he made up for his wildness with 7 strikeouts. Wascar Teodo allowed the only run of the game in his 3 innings of work, while Jose Moreno got the final 3 outs in order.

Coming up – The Southern League, California League, and Midwest League all have their All Star games on Tuesday, so several Dodger minor leaguers should see action in those games (see players below). The Isotopes return to action and will send Fernando Nieve to the mound, while the Raptors second game of the season will feature Matt Laney on the mound.

Minor League All Stars



AA: Blake Smith, Pedro Baez, Matt Magill, Ethan Martin, Red Patterson, J.T. Wise, and Steve Ames

HiA: C.J. Retherford and Leon Landry

LoA: O'Koyea Dickson, Joe Winker, and Jarret Martin

Ogden Raptors Box Score (Rookie)

Dominican Dodgers Box Scors (DSL)

Minor League Central - Daily Dodger Recap

### **TBLA Preview - Oakland A's - Scratching an Inge**

by Phil Gurnee on Jun 18, 2012 3:33 PM PDT in Team Previews

The A's and Mariners have been battling all year for the right to last place in the AL West and right now the A's are losing the battle, but I expect them to triumph in the end.

They even made five excellent moves this winter and they still are going to be a last place team.

- Signed Cuban free agent Yoenis Cespedes to a four year deal and for the most part he's done just fine.
- Traded middle of the road young major league pitcher Trevor Cahill for younger prospect pitcher Jarrod Parker, and I'd say they won that trade.
- Traded closer Andrew Bailey and right fielder Ryan Sweeney for Josh Reddick and Reddick might just be their all-star.
- Traded Josh Outman to the Rockies for left handed slugger Seth Smith
- Signed free agent right handed slugger Johnny Gomes

It is tough playing in the AL West where the Angels and Rangers are heads above the next group of competition.

I'm not sure if Mr. Beane put together a rotation that looks toward Jamey Moyer as inspiration or not, but not one of the starters has a K/9 rate higher than 6.68.

1st base - many of these at one time or another had been used by the Loney bashers as examples of someone who could hit better than James Loney. . Brandon Allen got a crack and was released. Kila Ka'aihue has been given 139 at bats. Found wanting. Old stand by Deric Barton got 126 plate appearances to prove once again he has one skill. In desperation they turned to 28 year old major/minor league journeyman Brandon Moss and guess what? He's rocking. Six home runs in eleven games. Before anyone gets carried away, take note that he hit four of them in three games at Coors. Maybe not as much an indictment of the park as it is of the pitching staff. I suspect by the All-Star game they will be looking for another 1st baseman and TBLA can start talking about how Brandon Moss would be an excellent replacement for James Loney.

2nd base - Jemile weeks was declared untouchable this past winter after a decent debut season. One wonders if that is still the sentiment after watching his sophomore season? The Weeks brothers have decided take the 2012 season off. Like his brother he can take a walk, like his brother he has above average speed, unlike his brother he has zip for power. The Weeks brothers are good baseball players, their struggles this year makes one wonder what they did this winter.

SS - Cliff Pennington is the starting shortstop.This may never happen again

3rd Base - What is with the A's and Tigers? Last year the Tigers release Scott Sizemore and the A's picked him up in desperation and gave him the job at 3rd base. He responded with a career season putting up a 114 OPS+. For the Tigers his OPS+ was 59 when he was

released. This spring Sizemore went down with a season ending injury and the A's were forced to use catcher Josh Donaldson at 3rd base. Donaldson has made 28 starts and hit one home and driven in seven runs. Five of those RBI's happened in one game. Basically Donaldson made 28 starts and actually hit the ball in one game. I'm not making that up. If you want to win a bet on who has been able to garner over 100 at bats and is the worst offensive player in baseball, bet on Donaldson. So, back to the A's and Tigers. Brandon Inge had a long career as a Tiger but it came to an end this spring when he was hitting .100 in 20 at bats, so he was released. Naturally the A's claimed him and proved that lightning can strike twice. As soon as Brandon donned the A's uniform he started hitting three run home runs. Inge has made 29 starts for the A's and has five games with four runs batted in. Five.

Catcher - Kurt Suzuki should be an Angel his offense is so bad

Right Field - Josh Reddick has been a revelation. He's simply been one of the best right fielders in the AL and deserves to be the A's All-Star selection.

Center Field - Yoenis Cespedes has hit when he's been able to play. His TSL of .273 / .336 / .485 is respectable. We shall find out this week about his defense which statistically looks wanting. I'm not sure if he will play CF in t this series or not. He's had a bad hamstring that has kept him out of games for over a week. He may be eased in as a DH, but he is supposed to play

Left Field - CoCo Crisp - played CF when Cespedes was out and will probably play CF in this series, if not he should be in LF. Overall Coco's numbers are horrible but he has shown signs of life in the past week. In the last eight games he's started his OPS is .891. Colin Cowgill has filled in while both Cespedes and Crisp were hurt. With both of them back I don't expect to see him but he might start one game.

DH - If you ever dreamed of a platoon, you probably dreamed of Seth Smith and Johnny Gomes and so far they are doing exactly what you would have expected. They are basically interchangeable with one putting up an OPS of .830 and the other .850.

Starting Pitching:

This is what you are looking at:

Game One - Brandon McCarthy

Game Two - Tom Milone

Game Three - Jarrod Parker

Bullpen:

Grant Balfour was the closer on opening day and lost that gig to Fuentes who lost that gig to Ryan Cook. Funny how it works but eventually they get the right guy for the gig. This is what they have done in June so far.

## **Dodgers 2012 Minor League Preview - Ogden Raptors**

by Brandon Lennox on Jun 18, 2012 10:30 AM PDT in Los Angeles Dodgers Minor League Report

The Ogden Raptors being their 10th season as a Dodger affiliate season on Monday, making them the longest tenured minor league club for LA. Playing in the hitter friendly Pioneer League, the Raptors are usually an offensive heavy club. Over the past few years several big hitters have come through Ogden, including Jerry Sands, Angelo Songco, and Blake Smith in 2009, Jake Lemmerman and Jonathan Garcia in 2010, and O'Koyea Dickson, James Baldwin, and Joc Pederson in 2011.

The 2012 team will again be led by manager Damon Berryhill, who has guided the club to an impressive 127 and 100 record over the past three seasons at the helm. Bill Simas return for his second year as the team's pitching coach, while the ever popular Johnny

Washington will also be in Ogden again, although this time he'll simply be a coach rather than the hitting coach. The hitting coach job has gone to 12 year big league veteran and former Dodger Doug Mienkiewicz who will be making his coaching debut. Unlike the minor league previews I did earlier in the year, I will not be guessing the team's roster because it has already been announced. That being said, I'm sure there will be a lot of additions and turnover on this team since there are a lot of 2012 draftees who have yet to sign.

While I'm not going to list out the entire roster, I will highlight several of the names that will be appearing at each position. Also, the number in parenthesis after each name indicates where I ranked that player heading into this season.

#### Starting Pitchers:

The opening day starter for the Raptors is expected to be Derek Cone (ranked #35), who will be joining Ogden for the 3rd straight season. Cone appeared in one game for the Quakes earlier this season and I actually expected the 22 year old to spend all of 2012 in a full season league but it looks like the Dodgers have other plans. Cone had an ERA over 5 last season for the Raptors but also struck out more than 10.5 batters per 9 innings so he has good stuff. I like his frame and projection which is why I ranked him so high this past off-season. Matt Laney (#140) is penciled in as the #2 starter after spending the first part of the season with the Loons. The 23 year old free agent signee dominated younger competition in the Arizona Rookie League in 2011, but struggled a bit in Great Lakes. Carlos Frias (#71) will get another chance to start after being used sparingly as a reliever with the Quakes last season. Frias actually played in Ogden way back in 2009, then also spent the entire 2010 season with the Raptors. He's a guy whose velocity has fluctuated over the years, but when at his best he can get his fastball up to the mid 90's. Carlos De Aza (#124) has started just 2 games in his 5 year minor league career and struggled in the Ogden bullpen last season, but for now it looks like he'll join the rotation. Despite his extensive experience he is still just 22 years old so hopefully he can put it together in 2012. Jake Hermsen, the Dodgers 2012 28th round pick out of Northern Illinois, looks like he'll be the #5 starter. The lefty didn't have much success during his senior season, but he's a lefty and the Dodgers must have seen something they liked out of him.

#### Bullpen:

First off, please be aware that some of the players I have listed in the bullpen could end up in the rotation. The five starters I have listed above are tentative, and things could change. That being said, based on the current roster the Raptors would have 9 members of their bullpen, so there will definitely be some fluctuation with the roster at the beginning of the season. Based on my rankings from this past offseason, the highest rated player in the Raptor bullpen would be Kazuki Nishijima (#97) who spent all of last year in the Pioneer League, but was a little unlucky and posted a 5.51 ERA vs. a 3.60 FIP. The lefty is a sinkerball type pitcher who should have a better year in 2012. Craig Stem (#113) would be my next best ranked player and at 6'5" has a lot of projection. The 2011 15th round pick had a 2.39 FIP in the Arizona League last season, but struggled in a brief appearance with the Quakes this year. Jason West (#148) was the only only bullpen arm I had ranked in my top 150, and he actually spent a good part of 2012 already with the Loons. Don't let his 2.22 ERA in the Midwest League fool you, though, as he walked more batters than he struck out and had a FIP of 4.44. I'm going to skip over a few of the relievers, but I did want to highlight the current bullpen features 3 members from the 2012 draft. 15th rounder Duke von Schamann was a recent addition to the team as he just signed, and it's yet to be seen if his sinker ball will be used in the rotation or in relief. 19th rounder Owen Jones seems like he'd be better suited as a starter, but a heavy college workload is probably what is forcing him to the pen. Finally Daniel Coulombe, the Dodgers 25th round pick this year, could turn out to be a valuable left hander out of the bullpen for Ogden as he excelled for Texas Tech this past year.

Follow the jump for the rest of the preview

★ ★ ★

#### Outfield:

Compared to last year, it looks like the Raptor outfield will be significantly weaker in terms of overall talent and prospect status. Last year Joc Pederson, James Baldwin, and Scott Schebler, all top 30 Dodger prospects in my opinion, roamed the outfield grass for Ogden. Based on the current roster Malcolm Holland (#96) would be the highest rank player in the group, and he doesn't even have outfield experience. Holland, a 2nd baseman last year, is a quick player who has a lot of speed and will probably play some center field. His bat is still very raw, though, so it will be interesting to see if the 20 year hits enough to stay in the lineup. Devin Shines (#141) started the year in Great Lakes but struggled, went on the DL, and now has been sent back to Ogden. He can play all over the outfield but again has a bit of a questionable bat. Devon Ethier (#152) is the 3rd outfielder listed on the roster and I'm surprised that he's even

still in the system after the horrendous numbers he put up last year. He hit .119 in the Arizona Rookie League so hopefully he can show some improvement. Pat Stover, the Dodgers last pick in the 2012 draft, is the final outfielder but I really don't know much about him. He had a decent season playing college ball at Santa Clara University and has good size at 6'4", but I don't know what to expect from him.

#### Infield:

When compared to the outfield, the Ogden infield should be relatively exciting in 2012 as it features some of the team's top talent. At this point 18 year old 3rd baseman Alex Santana (#21) has to be considered the team's top prospect as he has the most potential, although he is also very raw. Santana was a reach when the Dodgers selected him in the 2nd round in 2011, but he still has a lot of talent and will look to prove himself in the hitter friendly Pioneer League. Jesus Valdez (#56) is also listed as 3rd baseman, but he played a lot of 1st base last season and will probably return to the right side of the infield. He showed some power last year and is still just 20 years old without a lot of hitting experience (he was also a pitcher in college) so he is a bit of a wildcard. The middle infield should be some sort of a combination of Justin Boudreaux (#60) and 2012 13th round pick Darnell Sweeney. Boudreaux started 2012 with the Loons but struggled mightily, so he'll return to Ogden where he had some success in 2011 as a shortstop. Sweeney is a solid defender but not much of a hitter, so he'll probably go back and forth between 2nd and shortstop and hit in the bottom part of the order.

#### Catcher/DH:

2012 18th round pick Eric Smith will probably get at least half of the starts behind the plate because he's relatively new to the position and needs the reps. The 21 year old hit for a solid average while at Stanford and could turn out to be a solid middle round pick. Jose Capellan (#146) should get the other half of the starts at the beginning of the season, although he could lose playing time later in the year once other catchers are added to the roster. I haven't seen enough of the 21 year old Capellan to know if he's simply an organizational player or if he can turn into somewhat of a prospect. For the DH spot, I have Korean native Tae-Hyeok Nam (#104) penciled in. The 21 year old has been in the Dodgers organization since 2009, but has yet to do much at the plate. This will technically be his fourth season of Rookie ball so he really needs to put it together now.

#### Other 2012 draftees who might join the Raptors:

There are quite a few 2012 draftees who have signed yet aren't on a roster yet, so this team could be significantly different in a few weeks. I'm not going to spent time talking about the later round picks, but in terms of players selected in the first 15 rounds, I think several of the college draftees will join Ogden like 5th rounder Ross Stripling (RHP), 10th rounder Zach Babbit (2nd base), 11th rounder Jeremy Rathjen (OF), and 14th rounder Matthew Reckling (RHP). Of the players who haven't signed yet, UCLA closer Scott Griggs (8th round) is almost a lock to join Ogden, and 2nd rounder Paco Rodriguez (LHP) could join the team as well, although my hunch is that he'll go straight to a full season league. The Dodgers top 2 picks, Corey Seager and Jesmuel Valentin, will probably start out in Arizona and then may join the Raptors towards the end of the year.

## FOX SPORTS WEST

### No rush to get Kemp, Lilly back

June 18, 2012

The Dodgers have been without a pair of key contributors, CF Matt Kemp and LHP Ted Lilly, for a while, and though both are getting closer to rejoining the team there is still no specific timetable for their respective returns.

Kemp has been on the disabled list since May 31 with a left hamstring strain, the second one he has suffered this season. He will accompany the Dodgers to Oakland on their road trip this week but no date has been set for his return. Kemp was originally estimated to miss four weeks.

"If you start putting a timetable on it, these guys are goal-oriented. It's almost like it pushes the guy to do something before his body is ready to do it," said manager Don Mattingly. "I think it's better not to put those artificial deadlines on these guys. Let's find out when they're healthy and ready to go, and let's go."

Lilly has been on the disabled list since May 24 with left shoulder inflammation. He still hasn't thrown since going on the disabled list but has reported slight improvement in his shoulder in recent days. However, the Dodgers will be cautious with Lilly.

"We don't have a timetable. It's been one of those things in the past, when he's had this kind of thing going on he came back too early," said Mattingly. "They want him to be pain-free before he starts throwing again, and he's not there yet."

Once he starts throwing again, Lilly will need to build his arm strength back up and pitch in minor league rehab games before he is ready to rejoin the Dodgers, meaning he is likely at least a month away.

With Kemp and Lilly, the Dodgers don't know exactly when they will return. But one thing is certain: they won't be rushed back.

#### NOTES, QUOTES

Hawksworth to start rehab assignment

--RHP Blake Hawksworth is scheduled to pitch in a pair of minor league rehab games June 21 and 22 with high-A Rancho Cucamonga. Hawksworth has been rehabbing at the Dodgers' facility at Camelback Ranch in Arizona and has yet to pitch this season.

--LHP Chris Capuano struck out a season-high 12 batters in eight innings Sunday against the White Sox. Capuano had a 5.87 ERA in his three previous June starts but said he made a mechanical adjustment to get his delivery on the right track.

"I had a lot of trouble putting the ball where I want," Capuano said. "But my last couple bullpens, then today, felt much better with the location of my pitches."

--SS Dee Gordon delivered an RBI single in the 10th inning Sunday for his second walk-off hit of the season. Since returning to the leadoff spot on June 3, Gordon is hitting .276 with a .354 on-base percentage and 10 runs scored in 14 games.

--IF/OF Elian Herrera had three hits on Sunday against the White Sox, tying a career high. Herrera hit .353 (6-for-17) for the week, with three doubles and five walks in six games.

--OF Tony Gwynn hit a triple in the 10th inning and scored the winning run against the White Sox on Sunday. The triple ended an 0-for-16 slump for Gwynn that featured eight strikeouts.

--Manager Don Mattingly was ejected in the sixth inning by third base umpire Jerry Meals for arguing a run that was taken off the board for the Dodgers. Meals called C Matt Treanor out on appeal for running home too soon on a sacrifice fly. It was the fourth ejection of the season for Mattingly, who has been ejected on both Father's Day and Mother's Day this season. "If you're not 100 percent sure, I don't know how you can overturn the run," Mattingly said.

BY THE NUMBERS: 6 -- number of regular-season series the Dodgers played against the White Sox in interleague play before getting their first series win, taking two of three from Chicago at Dodger Stadium over the weekend.

QUOTE TO NOTE: "If you're not 100 percent sure, I don't know how you can overturn the run." -- manager Don Mattingly, on third base umpire Jerry Meals calling Matt Treanor out on appeal for leaving third base too early on a sacrifice fly, negating a run for the Dodgers.

#### ROSTER REPORT

##### MEDICAL WATCH:

--CF Matt Kemp (strained left hamstring) went on the 15-day disabled list retroactive to May 14. He began a rehab assignment with Class AAA Albuquerque on May 27, and he was activated May 29. He re-injured the hamstring May 30 and left the game. He went back on the 15-day disabled list May 31, and he is expected to be out until at least late June. He had resumed taking batting practice as of mid-June. He will travel with the team on its upcoming road trip.

--LHP Ted Lilly (left shoulder inflammation) went on the 15-day disabled list retroactive to May 24. An MRI showed no damage, so he won't need surgery. But he still can't throw. However, he has reported improvement in the shoulder.

--RHP Blake Hawksworth (arthroscopic right elbow surgeries in January 2012 and February 2012) went on the 60-day disabled list March 27. He played in an intrasquad game at the Dodgers' Arizona facility on May 24. He is scheduled to pitch in a pair of minor league rehab games June 21 and 22 with high-A Rancho Cucamonga.

--LHP Clayton Kershaw (plantar fasciitis) has been bothered by the foot irritation when he runs, but he said it doesn't affect him when he pitches.

--RHP Javy Guerra (right knee inflammation) went on the 15-day disabled list retroactive to June 3. He underwent surgery June 5 and will be out until July.

--INF Justin Sellers (bulging lower back disk) went on the 15-day disabled list retroactive to May 23. The problem was causing him numbness in his right leg. He received a second epidural injection in early June.

--2B Mark Ellis (left leg surgery) went on the 15-day disabled list May 19. He had to have a second surgery May 21 to drain his swollen left leg, two days after having an emergency fasciotomy to relieve pressure in the leg. He was hitting off a tee in mid-June and took batting practice June 15. There is no timetable for his return.

--RHP Matt Guerrier (right elbow tendinitis) went on the 15-day disabled list retroactive to April 19, and he was transferred to the 60-day DL on June 4. He threw a bullpen session May 16 and then had to rest for three days with elbow soreness. He had more elbow pain May 23, slowing his recovery again. He isn't expected to return until after the All-Star break.

--RHP Rubby De La Rosa (Tommy John surgery in August 2011) went on the 60-day disabled list March 26.

## ESPN DEPORTES

### Los Dodgers visitan a los Atléticos

STATS LLC

LOS ÁNGELES -- Hasta su más reciente partido, los Atléticos de Oakland estaban disfrutando de su mejor momento en el plato esta temporada.

Los Dodgers de Los Angeles tendrán a Aaron Harang en la lomita, quien intentará mantener callados a esos bates, y negarle a Bradnon McCarthy su sexta victoria consecutiva el martes por la noche.

Luego de tener el peor promedio de las Grandes Ligas, .208, en los primeros 52 juegos, los Atléticos (31-36) están bateando para .284 en los últimos 15 partidos.

Oakland había ganado cinco partidos en fila antes de perder ante San Diego 2-1 el domingo.

"Si uno vuelve a ver el partido, se dará cuenta que hicimos contacto sólido, aunque las bolsa fueron directamente a jugadores rivales", declaró el tercera base Brandon Inge. "Podríamos haber anotado 10 carreras, no es que nos estamos ponchando".

Oakland buscará tener mejor suerte ante Harang (5-3, 3.59 ERA), aunque este último tiene un récord de 2-0 y una efectividad de 1.89 en tres aperturas este mes.

"Estoy sintiéndome bien", admitió Harang. "Es bueno ayudar al equipo a ganar".

Por su parte, McCarthy (5-3, 2.79) tiene un récord de 5-0 en sus últimas seis aperturas.

Sin embargo una lesión en el hombro le ha impedido a McCarthy tomar la lomita desde la victoria ante Texas por 7-1 el 7 de junio.

Será su primera salida ante los Dodgers (42-25), que han ganado seis de sus últimos siete juegos como visitante tras vencer en dos de tres a los Medias Blancas de Chicago.

Los Dodgers han perdido nueve de los últimos 11 partidos ante Oakland en interligas.

## USA TODAY

### Dodgers' Matt Kemp tackles Dee Gordon after walkoff win

Comments By Matt Jones, USA TODAY Updated 20h 52m ago Matt Kemp, the Los Angeles Dodgers' All-Star center fielder, has been placed on the disabled list twice this season with a hamstring injury.

Dodgers center fielder Matt Kemp celebrates with teammate Dee Gordon after Gordon's walkoff single Sunday. CAPTION By Keith Birmingham, AP

That tender hamstring didn't stop Kemp from mobbing Dee Gordon on the field after Gordon's walk-off single in the 10th inning Sunday gave the Dodgers a 2-1 win.

Kemp, who is on pace to return to the lineup sometime within the next month, took batting practice and jogged on the field recently according to the Los Angeles Times. Kemp is hitting .355 with 12 home runs.

After returning to the lineup a few weeks ago, Kemp hurt his hamstring again on just his second day back. The first-place Dodgers are being slightly more cautious the second time around.

Kemp, however, may be getting bored. Dodgers manager Don Mattingly was ejected from Sunday's game after he argued an appeal call that cost the Dodgers a run.

The reason Mattingly went out to argue?

"I really went out there just to protect Matt," Mattingly said.

It was Kemp who was chirping the loudest about the call.

Baiting ump's. Tackling teammates. Sounds like someone's ready to come off the DL.

## EXAMINER.COM

### **FAST, Who is Dee Gordon?**

Daiveun Curry-Chapman

Corona Sports Examiner

Corona-Calif-Leading off for your Los Angeles Dodgers, the shortstop number 9 Dee Gordon and the crowd at Chavez Ravine stands with a thunderous applause. Devaris "Dee" Gordon 5'10 150 pounds is listed as the lightest player in the majors. But this shortstop from Windermere, Florida has brought some life back to the top of the Dodgers lineup. From being an absolute terror on the base paths to his flashy glove work, Gordon has quickly become a fan favorite at Dodger stadium.

Gordon's journey hasn't been the easiest though. At age 6 he lost his mother Devona Strange in a tragic murder by the hands of an ex-boyfriend. The passing lead the distraught Dee to the arms of his fraternal grandmother Annie Pearl Gordon. "Being a child, you don't know what they expect. He was OK. One thing about me as a person, grandmother, friend, and parent you just have to talk to them. And ask god to do the rest," said Mrs. Gordon. Dee persevered putting up great number in the Minor leagues before his big break with the boys in blue.

It wasn't long ago that many in the City of Angels were worried when Rafael Furcal went down with an injury. Now fans postpone that walk to the concession stands when number 9 gets on base. His speed and overall skill set even has Dodger skipper Don Mattingly comparing him to some of the greats. "The kid has a good swing. He's not just out there trying to slap the ball. Maybe this isn't a fair comparison, but I remember seeing Omar Vizquel in Seattle when he first started and thinking, 'they can just knock the bat out of his hands.' But he got his hits. That's all Dee has to do, get his hits and get on base," said Mattingly.

In his first career start last summer, he had three hits and a stolen base. Also in a game last July 1st , against the Angels he stole second, third and home in the same inning. He became the first Dodger player since Harvey Hendrick in 1928 and the first Major Leaguer since Jayson Werth on May 12, 2009 to accomplish that feat. Dee is hitting .236 with 1 homerun 15 RBI's and 31 runs scored so far this season, but his average doesn't give justice to how critical a role he has on the team. Dodger star Matt Kemp hurt hamstring and all tackled Dee after his walk-off hit Sunday against the White Sox. Dee's father former major league pitcher Tom "Flash" Gordon may have to very well pass that nickname over to his son because if you blink in a flash Gordon has just stolen second base. The Dodgers are sitting pretty with the best record in baseball at 42-25. Many around Los Angeles are hoping this is the year they party like it's 1988. And with young talent like Kershaw, Kemp, Ethier, and Gordon they seem to have great reason. Everyone loves the story of the little guy who overcame and achieved, as for Dee I'm sure he's just fine with his role as leadoff man for one of the most storied franchises in the MLB.