



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Game Information

Oakland Athletics Baseball Company • 7000 Coliseum Way • Oakland, CA 94621
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A's vs. BREWERS

This is the first of two meetings between the A's and Brewers this spring...the clubs meet again in Phoenix March 25...the A's won both games last spring, a 6-0 victory at Maryvale March 6 and an 8-6 decision in Phoenix March 13.

IN CAMP

The A's have 60 players in camp this spring...that includes 41 players on the 40-man roster (Bartolo Colón does not count against the 40-man limit) and 19 non-roster invitees...the breakdown includes 30 pitchers, six catchers, 16 infielders and eight outfielders

MINOR LEAGUE DATES

Minor League pitchers and catchers report to Papago Park March 4 (first workout March 5), while position players report March 10 (first workout, March 11).

A's ON THE AIR

The A's radio network will broadcast 13 games this spring, including 10 from Arizona and all three games against San Francisco in the Bay Area in April...the Arizona schedule includes all weekend games...games can be heard in the Bay Area on the A's flagship station, 95.7 FM The Game, with the exception of February 23 and 24 and March 24...Ken Korach returns for his 18th year in the A's broadcast booth and will be joined by Vince Cotroneo (8th) and Ray Fosse, who enters his 28th season in the booth...in addition, Comcast SportsNet California will televise two games: Sunday, March 24 against Los Angeles (NL) and Saturday, March 30 against San Francisco...Glen Kuiper joins Fosse in the broadcast booth for those telecasts...all games from Arizona not aired on the A's Radio Network can be heard live via the A's website, www.oaklandathletics.com.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS (0-0) VS. MILWAUKEE BREWERS (0-0)
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2013 – MARYVALE BASEBALL PARK – 1:05 P.M.

ABOUT THE A'S

ABOUT THE A'S: The A's open their 45th Spring Training in Arizona today, including their 32nd consecutive spring in Phoenix...trained in Mesa from 1969-78, moved to Scottsdale in 1979 and have been in Phoenix since 1982...today's February 23 opener is the earliest date for a spring opener since the franchise moved to Oakland in 1968...the previous earliest was February 25 in 2009, also a World Baseball Classic year...have won just one Cactus League opener since 2004, a 15-7 win over the Cubs at Mesa, February 27, 2011...are scheduled to play 34 games this spring in addition to an exhibition game against Italy's WBC team March 5...the schedule includes 31 games in Arizona and three in the Bay Area against San Francisco (March 28-30)...the A's went 15-7-2 last spring, their first spring with a winning record since 2008 (18-8)...it was the best record among Cactus League teams and third best in the majors behind Toronto (24-7-1) and Detroit (20-8-5)...the 15 wins were three more than the A's total from each of the previous two springs (12-21-1 in 2011, 12-17-3 in 2010), despite playing just 24 games.

COACHING STAFF: Manager Bob Melvin, beginning his second full season with the A's, welcomes back five returning members of last year's coaching staff in pitching coach Curt Young (8th season), first base coach Tye Waller (7th season), third base coach Mike Gallego (5th season), bench coach Chip Hale (2nd season) and hitting coach Chili Davis (2nd)...the only new member of the staff is Darren Bush, who replaces Rick Rodriguez as bullpen coach... Bush has managed in the A's farm system the last six years, including back-to-back division titles with Triple-A Sacramento the past two seasons.

OFF SEASON MOVES: Although 20 of the 25 players on the A's American League Division Series roster return this year, including all 12 pitchers, the A's did make several off season acquisitions...the first came just nine days after the ALDS ended when Chris Young was acquired from the Arizona Diamondbacks October 20...Andy Parrino and Andrew Werner were acquired from San Diego November 16, Chris Resop came from Pittsburgh in a November 30 deal, John Jaso was acquired from Seattle in a three-team, five-player trade January 16 and Jed Lowrie and Fernando Rodriguez came from Houston in a five-player trade February 4...the A's re-signed free agent Bartolo Colón November 3 and inked Hiroyuki Nakajima to a two-year deal with a club option December 18...the five players from the ALDS roster who are gone are Chris Carter (Lowrie trade), Stephen Drew (free agent, Boston), Jonny Gomes (free agent, Boston), George Kottaras (waivers, Kansas City) and Cliff Pennington (Young trade)...free agents Brandon Inge and Brandon McCarthy also will not return.

HOW THE A'S WERE BUILT: Of the 41 players on the A's 40-man roster, 26 were acquired via trade and two off waivers (Blackely, Scribner)...four were signed as free agents (Balfour, Colón, Crisp and Moss) and four were non-drafted free agents (Céspedes, Figueroa, Nakajima and Ynoa)...the five players on the 40-man roster that were drafted by the A's are Sean Doolittle (2007, compensation pick following the 1st round), Grant Green (2009, 1st round), A.J. Griffin (2010, 13th round), Dan Straily (2009, 24th round) and Jemile Weeks (2008, 1st round).

CONTRACT STATUS: The A's have signed or agreed to terms with all their players on the 40-man roster...two of those players are under contract beyond the 2013 season...Hiroyuki Nakajima is signed through 2014 with a club option for 2015 and Yoenis Céspedes is signed through 2015...Brett Anderson has club options for 2014 and 2015 and Coco Crisp and Chris Young have club options for 2014.

A's TOP PROSPECTS: Six of the A's top 10 prospects according to *Baseball America* are in major league camp this spring...the list includes two players already on the A's 40-man roster in Dan Straily (#6) and Grant Green (#8) and four non-roster invitees, including Addison Russell (#1), Michael Choice (#2), Sonny Gray (#5) and Miles Head (#7)...two of the top 10 were traded as #3 A.J. Cole was dealt to Washington in the John Jaso trade and #4 Brad Peacock was sent to Houston in the Jed Lowrie deal...the other two are Daniel Robertson (#9) and Matt Olson (#10)...MLB.com's top four A's prospects are in camp (Russell, Straily, Choice and Green)...also on the list are Gray (#6), Head (#9), Michael Taylor (#12), Arnold Leon (#16) and Jefry Marte (#20).

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...lunch is available for \$8 to members of the media with proper credentials in the patio area in the right field corner...complimentary parking is available in the main lot at Phoenix Muni at the corner of Van Buren and Priest by presenting your credential to the attendant.

TICKET INFORMATION: Spring Training tickets for all A's home games at Phoenix Municipal Stadium are on sale at www.oaklandathletics.com/spring or by calling 1-877-493-BALL (1-877-493-2255)...the Phoenix Municipal Stadium Box Office is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, and during all home games...base ticket are: \$25 (Field Box), \$24 (Lower Box), \$18 (Upper Box) and \$12 (Outfield Reserve)...for Spring Training season tickets, call the A's Tickets Services Office at 510-568-5600, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PST Monday through Friday.

TRANSACTIONS

Feb. 4 Jed Lowrie and Fernando Rodriguez acquired from the Houston Astros for Chris Carter, Brad Peacock and minor leaguer Max Stassi
Feb. 12 Hideki Okajima signed to a minor league contract and invited to Major League camp as a non-roster invitee

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

#60 JESSE CHAVEZ RHP (1-1, 9.85 ERA with Toronto and Oakland in 2012)

Is scheduled to make his first start of the spring...was acquired from the Toronto Blue Jays Aug. 24, 2012 for cash considerations and was sent to Sacramento before he was recalled by the A's Sept. 10...allowed seven runs in 3.1 innings in four relief appearances with Oakland for an 18.90 ERA and .474 opponents batting average...was also 1-1 with an 8.44 ERA and .281 opponents average in nine games, two starts, with Toronto...combined for a 9.85 ERA in 13 appearances overall...struck out 30 in 24.2 innings, an average of 10.95 per nine innings...allowed a .315 opponents batting average, including .279 (19-for-68) against right-handed hitters compared to .375 (15-for-40) against left-handers...went 8-5 with one save and a 3.98 ERA in 19 games, 17 starts, with Las Vegas in the Blue Jays organization and 0-0 with a save and a 1.80 ERA in two games, one start, with Sacramento in the A's farm system...had a 3.77 ERA and .243 opponents batting average in 21 Triple-A appearances overall.

ALSO AVAILABLE TO PITCH

#44 BRUCE BILLINGS RHP (9-6, 3.95 ERA with Midland and Sacramento in 2012)

The non-roster invitee is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...spent nearly the entire 2012 season with Triple-A Sacramento where he went 7-6 with a 3.98 ERA in 25 games, all starts...ranked fourth in the Pacific Coast League in opponents batting average (.250) and seventh in ERA...began the year at Double-A Midland, tallying a 3.18 ERA and two wins in two relief appearances...was 9-6 with a 3.95 ERA in 27 games overall...tied for fifth in the A's farm system in wins, ranked seventh in innings pitched (139.0) and strikeouts (120) and 10th in ERA...allowed a .248 opponents batting average, including .247 (68-for-275) against right-handed hitters compared to .248 (62-for-250) against left-handers...pitched for Estrellas in the Dominican Winter League following the season, going 2-2 with a 4.29 ERA in six starts.

#21 MIKE EKSTROM RHP (0-0, 6.32 ERA with Colorado in 2012)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...the non-roster invitee was signed as a free agent to a minor league contract October 25, 2012...spent most of last season at Triple-A Colorado Springs where he appeared in 43 games...also had a one-month stint with Colorado following the All-Star Break, logging a 6.32 ERA in a career-high tying 15 relief appearances...opponents batted .328 against him with the Rockies, including .233 (10-for-43) by right-handed hitters compared to .524 (11-for-24) by left-handers...all 15 of his appearances came in losses...was 3-1 with a save and a 2.53 ERA in 43 relief appearances with Colorado Springs...did not allow a home run in 57.0 innings...yielded a .224 opponents batting average, including .189 (17-for-90) against left-handed hitters compared to .250 (30-for-120) by right-handers.

#68 ARNOLD LEON RHP (4-1, 2.70 ERA with Stockton, Midland and Sacramento in 2012)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...pitched at three different levels in the A's farm system last year, combining for a 4-1 record, one save and a 2.70 ERA in 44 relief appearances with Single-A Stockton, Double-A Midland and Triple-A Sacramento...had career-highs in wins, appearances and strikeouts (74)...allowed a .271 opponents batting average, including .259 (36-for-139) by right-handed hitters compared to .284 (33-for-116) against left-handers...surrendered five home runs, all solo shots...opponents hit .295 with the bases empty, .246 with runners on...allowed 8 of 18 (44.4%) inherited runners to score...converted 1 of 2 (50.0%) save opportunities...pitched for Culiacan in the Mexican Pacific Winter League following the season...was 1-0 with a 0.79 ERA and .179 opponents batting average in 12 relief appearances.

#33 FERNANDO RODRIGUEZ RHP (2-10, 5.37 ERA with Houston in 2012)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...was acquired from Houston February 4 with Jed Lowrie for Chris Carter, Brad Peacock and minor leaguer Max Stassi...spent the entire 2012 season in Houston's bullpen and was 2-10 with a 5.37 ERA in 71 games...ranked second on the club in appearances and led all Astros relievers in strikeouts (78)...set career-highs in innings pitched (70.1), strikeouts and appearances...allowed a .252 opponents batting average, including .226 (21-for-93) against left-handed hitters compared to .266 (47-for-177) against right-handers...held first batters faced to a .203 batting average...ranked fifth in the Majors and third in the National League with 56 inherited runners...allowed 14 of those runners to score (25.0%).

#45 JUSTIN THOMAS LHP (0-0, 8.22 ERA with New York-AL and Boston in 2012)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...the non-roster invitee was signed as a free agent to a minor league contract November 15, 2012...saw action in the majors with Boston and New York (AL) last year but spent most of the season with the Triple-A affiliates of the two organizations...was on Boston's Opening Day roster and logged a 7.71 ERA in seven relief appearances...claimed off waivers by the Yankees May 12 and compiled a 9.00 ERA in four relief appearances during a September call-up...combined for an 8.22 ERA in 11 big league appearances overall...made four relief appearances with Pawtucket, posting a 3.38 ERA, before he was claimed by the Yankees...went 2-1 with a save and a 3.45 ERA in 30 games, including six starts, at Scranton/Wilkes-Barre...combined for a 3.45 ERA in 34 minor league appearances overall.

2013 OAKLAND ATHLETICS SPRING SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	PROBABLES	TIME	RADIO/TV
February 23	at Milwaukee	RHP Jesse Chavez vs. RHP Mike Fiers	1:05	A's Radio Network
February 24	at Los Angeles (AL)	LHP Travis Blackley vs. RHP Barry Enright	1:05	A's Radio Network
February 25	Cleveland	LHP Andrew Werner vs. RHP Justin Masterson	1:05	
February 26	at Arizona		1:05	
February 27	San Diego		1:05	
February 28	at Chicago (NL)		1:05	
March 1	San Francisco		1:05	
March 2	Colorado		1:05	95.7 FM The Game
March 3	at Colorado		1:05	95.7 FM The Game
March 4	Los Angeles (AL)		1:05	
March 5	at Kansas City Italy (exhib.)		1:05	
March 6	OFF DAY			
March 7	Seattle		1:05	
March 8	at Seattle		1:05	
March 9	at Texas		1:05	95.7 FM The Game
March 10	Arizona		1:05	95.7 FM The Game
March 11	at San Diego		1:05	
March 12	Kansas City		1:05	
March 13	OFF DAY			
March 14	Texas		1:05	
March 15	at Arizona		1:05	
March 16	Los Angeles (AL) at Chicago (AL)		1:05	95.7 FM The Game
March 17	Chicago (NL)		1:05	95.7 FM The Game
March 18	Seattle		1:05	
March 19	at Los Angeles (NL)		1:05	
March 20	OFF DAY			
March 21	at Cincinnati		1:05	
March 22	Chicago (AL)		7:05	
March 23	at San Francisco		1:05	95.7 FM The Game
March 24	Los Angeles (NL)		1:05	CSNCA/A's Radio Network
March 25	Milwaukee		1:05	
March 26	at Cleveland		1:05	
March 27	Colorado		1:05	
March 28	San Francisco (at S.F.)		7:15	95.7 FM The Game
March 29	San Francisco (at S.F.)		7:15	95.7 FM The Game
March 30	San Francisco (at Oak.)		1:05	CSNCA/95.7 FM The Game