



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Game Information

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OAKLAND ATHLETICS (2-0-1) VS. ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS (2-0)

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2015 – SALT RIVER FIELDS – 1:05 P.M. MT
A'S WEBCAST

ABOUT THE A'S: The A's have two wins and a tie over the first three games this spring, marking the first time they have been undefeated over the first three games since 2000 when they also started the spring 2-0-1 (lost game 4)...have not been undefeated after four games since 1998 when they opened 4-0...played their first tie game of the spring yesterday and now have 17 tie games over the last seven springs...had five tie games last year, which were the most by an Oakland team since moving to Arizona for Spring Training in 1969...the previous high was three in 2010 and 2013...the pitching staff has allowed just eight runs (2.33 ERA) and 21 hits (.212 opponents batting average) over the first three games...this is the A's 47th Spring Training in Arizona...return to Mesa for the first time since 1978...after training in Bradenton in Florida in 1968, the A's moved to Arizona in 1969 and trained in Mesa from 1969-78...moved to Scottsdale in 1979 and then spent 33 seasons at Phoenix Municipal Stadium from 1982-2014...are scheduled to play 35 games this spring, including 30 games in Arizona, two in Las Vegas against the Cubs (March 13-14) and three in the Bay Area against the Giants (April 2-4)...the A's went 15-13-5 last spring, which marked their third consecutive spring with a winning record (17-13-3 in 2013, 15-7-2 in 2012)...the last time A's had three straight winning springs was from 2000-04 when they had five straight...went 8-5-2 in the final spring at Phoenix Muni and 7-8-3 on the road...led the majors in walks (135), ranked second in runs (193) and on-base percentage (.358), and tied for fourth in triples (11)...the A's pitching staff ranked fifth in the majors with 247 strikeouts...those are the most strikeouts by an A's team during the spring since statistics are available beginning in 1991...the previous high was 228 in 2013.

YESTERDAY: The A's and Cubs played to a 2-2 tie at Sloan Park...Barry Zito started for the A's and retired each of the first five batters before hitting Chris Coghlan and allowing a two-run home run to Mike Olt...those were the only runs the A's pitching staff would allow as Pat Venditte, Tyler Clippard, Fernando Abad, Bobby Wahl, Ryan Verdugo, Seth Frankoff and Tucker Healy tossed a scoreless inning of relief each...the A's scored their first run in the seventh inning on a RBI single by Luke Carlin...Rangel Ravelo tied the game with a RBI double in the eighth...the A's were held to six hits by six different players.

A's vs. DIAMONDBACKS: This is the first of two meetings between the A's and Diamondbacks this spring...meet again in Mesa March 10...the two clubs also met twice last spring, with the A's winning 2-0 at Phoenix on March 7 after playing to an 8-8 tie at Salt River Fields a day earlier...the A's are now 4-1-3 against the Diamondbacks over the last four springs.

PLAYER NOTES: **Luke Carlin (NR)** has hit safely and driven in a run in each of his two games (2 for 3, 2 RBI)...**Sam Fuld** has hit safely in each of his two games (2 for 5, .400)...**Josh Reddick** had three hits and two RBI in his first game Wednesday at San Francisco...**Marcus Semien** is 5 for 5 with four runs, two home runs, seven RBI and a walk in two games...he leads the majors in home runs, RBI, runs and total bases (11) and is tied for the lead in hits...**Ben Zobrist** has doubled and hit safely in each of his two games (3 for 4, 2 doubles).

IN CAMP: The A's have 62 players in camp, which does not include two players on the 60-day disabled list (Griffin, Thompson)...that includes 40 players on the 40-man roster and 22 non-roster invitees...the breakdown includes 32 pitchers, six catchers, 17 infielders and seven outfielders.

COACHING STAFF: Manager Bob Melvin, beginning his fourth full season with the A's, welcomes back four returning members of last year's coaching staff in pitching coach Curt Young (10th season), first base coach Tye Waller (9th season), third base coach Mike Gallego (7th season) and Darren Bush (3rd season), who moves from bullpen coach to hitting coach...Melvin has added three new faces to his 2015 staff, including bench coach Mike Aldrete, bullpen coach Scott Emerson and assistant hitting/catching coach Marcus Jensen...Aldrete, a native of Carmel who attended Stanford University, was on Melvin's staff as first base coach for Seattle in 2004 and hitting coach for Arizona from 2005-06...Emerson is in his 13th season in the A's organization, including the last two as minor league roving pitching instructor...Jensen, an Oakland native and graduate of Skyline HS, is in his ninth season in the A's organization and most recently served as minor league hitting instructor in 2014.

HOW THE A'S WERE BUILT: Of the 40 active players on the 40-man roster, only two were drafted by the A's (Doolittle, compensation pick following the 1st round in 2007, and Gray, 1st in 2011)...one other (Nuñez) was signed as a non-drafted free agent...five were claimed off waivers (Freiman, Hassan, Otero, Scribner, Smith) and four were signed as free agents (Butler, Crisp, Kazmir, O'Flaherty)...the other 28 were all acquired in trades.

OFF SEASON MOVES: The A's made nine trades this offseason involving 27 players...15 of the 17 players the A's acquired in those trades are in camp...the two exceptions are Yunel Escobar, who was traded four days after being acquired, and Franklin Barreto, who is in the A's minor league camp...in addition to the players acquired in trades, the A's also signed free agent Billy Butler to a three-year contract and claimed Alex Hassan, Chad Smith and Taylor Thompson off waivers.

CONTRACT STATUS: The A's have three players under contract beyond the 2015 season...Coco Crisp is signed through 2016 with a vesting option for 2017, Billy Butler is signed through 2017 and Sean Doolittle is signed through 2018 with club options for 2019 and 2020.

MINOR LEAGUE DATES: Minor League mini camp is currently underway...pitchers and catchers report tomorrow with the first workout scheduled for Sunday...position players report March 13 with the first workout scheduled for March 14...Triple-A and Double-A games begin March 14 and Single-A games start March 21.

MEDIA INFORMATION: The A's clubhouse at Hohokam Stadium will be open to members of the media with proper credentials beginning at 8:00 am...the clubhouse may close for team meetings, etc. at certain times...please do not lounge or conduct interviews in the weight room/exercise area...once games begin, the clubhouse will also open to 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 in the first base dugout at approximately 9:15 am...Melvin will also be available in front of the dugout immediately following the game...media are permitted 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 which point media will need to leave the field...the A's dugout will remain accessible to the media until 45 minutes before game time...TV camera crews and still photographers with proper credentials must stay in assigned areas at all times...no roving is permitted...TV camera crews are not allowed in the clubhouse pregame, or in the training room or weight room at any time...still photographers are not allowed in the clubhouse, training room or weight room at any time...lunch is available for \$8 to media members with proper credentials at the patio area in the right field corner of Hohokam Stadium...the A's provide complementary parking to members of the media in the Center Street Lot (Lot D), located behind home plate.

A's MEDIA ALERTS: The A's Media Relations Department will provide as up-to-date information as possible through its media-only Twitter account...for clubhouse hours, interview times and various media alerts, please follow @AsMediaAlerts...player transactions and other relevant game information will continue to be posted at @Athletics.

A's ON THE AIR: The A's radio network and flagship station 95.7 FM The Game will broadcast 12 games this spring, including nine from Arizona and all three games against San Francisco in the Bay Area in April...the schedule includes all Saturday and Sunday games and the night game against the Giants on March 26...Ken Korach returns for his 20th year in the broadcast booth and will be joined by Vince Cotroneo (10th) and Ray Fosse, who enters his 30th season in the booth...Comcast SportsNet California will televise two games, including March 7 against the Angels (1:05 pm) and April 2 against the Giants in San Francisco (7:15 pm)...Glen Kuiper joins Fosse in the broadcast booth for those telecasts...all games not broadcast over the air can be heard live via the club's web site...in addition, 15 games will be televised by MLB Network...12 of those will air in the Bay Area, including five live broadcasts and six tape delayed.

RETURN TO HOHOKAM: The A's and the City of Mesa reached a 20-year agreement for the team to return to Mesa in March of 2013...Oakland also holds two five-year options that could extend the contract to 30 years...the deal includes \$26.9 million in renovations to Hohokam Stadium and Fitch Park...Hohokam Stadium will seat 10,000 fans, including approximately 7,500 seats and space for approximately 2,500 additional fans to sit on the grass berms surrounding the outfield...among Hohokam Stadium's many new amenities will be the largest HD scoreboard in the Cactus League (26 x 56 feet).

TRANSACTIONS

Feb. 26	Chad Smith claimed off waivers from Detroit; Taylor Thompson placed on the 60-day disabled list (right shoulder strain).
Feb. 27	Alex Hassan claimed off waivers from Baltimore; A.J. Griffin placed on the 60-day disabled list (Tommy John surgery recovery).

Get the latest A's notes, full stat packets, clips, press releases, roster, updated media guide and more at <http://pressbox.athletics.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 AVAILABLE PITCHERS

STARTING PITCHER

#31 KENDALL GRAVEMAN RHP (0-0, 3.86 ERA with Toronto in 2014)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance and start of the spring...was acquired from Toronto Nov. 28 with Brett Lawrie, Sean Nolin and Franklin Barreto for Josh Donaldson...was named a *Baseball America* Minor League Baseball First Team All-Star after combining for a 14-6 record and a 1.83 ERA in 27 starts with Single-A Lansing, Single-A Dunedin, Double-A New Hampshire and Triple-A Buffalo...then made his Major League debut with Toronto in September in just his second professional season...was recalled from Triple-A Buffalo Sept. 2 and had no decisions and a 3.86 ERA in five relief appearances...allowed a .222 batting average and did not walk a batter in 4.2 innings...yielded a .200 average against right-handed hitters, .250 against lefthanders...his 14 minor league wins tied for third most in the all of the minor leagues and his 1.83 ERA ranked fourth among full season minor leaguers...ranked seventh in the minors in innings pitched (167.1)...led the Blue Jays farm system in ERA and wins and ranked fourth in strikeouts (115)...surrendered just two home runs, an average of 0.11 per nine innings...allowed a .232 opponents batting average, including .196 against right-handed hitters...was named the A's sixth best prospect by *Baseball America* following the trade.

#37 R.J. ALVAREZ RHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his second appearance of the spring...tossed a scoreless sixth inning in his first outing Tuesday against San Francisco (1.0 ip, 1 h)...was acquired from the Padres Dec. 18 with Jesse Hahn for Derek Norris, Seth Streich and international money...began the 2014 season at Double-A Arkansas in the Los Angeles (AL) organization but was traded to the San Diego organization July 18 as part of the Huston Street trade...was assigned to Double-A San Antonio and combined for an 0-1 record, seven saves and a 1.25 ERA in 38 relief appearances before he was selected by the Padres Sept. 2...had no decisions, a 1.13 ERA and .115 opponents batting average in 10 relief appearances in his Major League debut...did not allow an extra base hit but issued five walks in 8.0 innings for a .273 on-base percentage...struck out nine...allowed a .111 batting average against right-handed hitters compared to .125 against left-handers...opponents hit .154 with runners in scoring position...first batters faced were 1-for-8 (.125) with two walks...had a save and a 0.33 ERA in 21 relief appearances with Arkansas and was 0-1 with six saves and a 2.76 ERA in 17 outings for San Antonio...did not surrender a home run in 43.1 minor league innings.

#55 MATT BUSCHMANN RHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

The non-roster invitee is scheduled to make his second appearance of the spring...tossed a scoreless seventh inning in his first outing Tuesday against San Francisco (1.0 ip, 1 h, 2 so)...was 9-7 with a 4.52 ERA in 23 games, 22 starts, with Triple-A Sacramento last year...also went 1-0 with a 2.70 ERA in two starts with Single-A Stockton after an early season stint on the disabled list...combined for a 10-7 record and a 4.40 ERA overall...surrendered a career-high tying 17 home runs (also 2009)...struck out 134 batters, which tied Chris Lamb for the most in the A's farm system...also tied for third among A's minor leaguers in wins, ranked sixth in innings pitched (143.1) and eighth in ERA...allowed a .266 opponents batting average, including .225 (52-for-231) against left-handed hitters compared to .295 (95-for-322) against right-handers...opponents hit .213 with a .282 on-base percentage when leading off an inning...yielded a .221 batting average with the bases empty, .333 with runners on...allowed a .292 average with runners in scoring position but opponents were 12-for-55 (.218) with RISP and two outs.

#44 EURY DE LA ROSA LHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his second appearance of the spring...tossed a scoreless inning in his first outing Wednesday at San Francisco (1.0 ip, 1 so)...was acquired from Arizona for cash considerations, Dec. 18...began the 2014 season at Triple-A Reno and was 2-4 with two saves and a 2.52 ERA in 36 relief appearances when he was promoted to Arizona July 5...spent the remainder of the season with the Diamondbacks and went 2-0 with a 2.95 ERA in 25 games...surrendered just two home runs in 36.2 innings, an average of 0.49 per nine innings...however, allowed 10-of-13

(76.9%) inherited runners to score, which was the highest percentage in the majors among relievers with 10 or more inherited runners...first batters faced went 8-for-23 (.348) with two walks (.400 on-base percentage)...allowed a .262 batting average, including .233 (20-for-86) against right-handed hitters compared to .309 (17-for-55) against left-handers...allowed a .224 opponents batting average with Reno, including .150 against left-handed hitters...pitched for Oriente in the Dominican Winter League following the season and went 2-1 with a 4.22 ERA in 13 relief appearances.

#72 JIM FULLER LHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

The non-roster invitee is scheduled to make his second appearance of the spring...allowed an unearned run in the eighth inning of his first outing last Tuesday against San Francisco (1.0 ip, 1 r, 1 bb, 1 so)...spent the entire 2014 season with Double-A New Britain after being selected by Minnesota in the Triple-A portion of the Rule 5 draft...went 3-1 with a save and a 2.41 ERA in a career-high 38 games for the Rock Cats...yielded just two home runs in 56.0 innings, an average of 0.32 per nine innings...struck out 68 batters (10.93 per nine innings), but also issued 30 walks (4.82 per nine innings)...allowed a .227 opponents batting average, which included a .214 (12-for-56) mark against left-handed hitters compared to .232 (36-for-155) against right-handers...surrendered both of his home runs to righties with runners on base...opponents hit .186 with runners in scoring position...yielded a .279 batting average and a .426 on-base percentage to batters leading off an inning...had a 2.84 ERA in 25 appearances before the All-Star Break, a 1.85 ERA in 13 games after the break...compiled a 1.35 ERA and .165 opponents batting average in 19 games on the road compared to a 3.38 ERA and .275 opponents average in 19 outings at home...logged a 3.86 ERA during the day, 1.93 at night.

#33 FERNANDO RODRIGUEZ RHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

The non-roster invitee is scheduled to make his second appearance of the spring...did not allow a run in his first outing last Tuesday against San Francisco (0.2 ip, 1 h, 1 bb, 1 so)...appeared in seven games over two stints with the A's last year after missing the 2013 season following Tommy John surgery...had a win, a 1.00 ERA and .129 opponents batting average...left-handed hitters were 1-for-11 (.091) with his only extra base hit (double) and both of his walks...righties went 3-for-20 (.150)...allowed 1-of-4 (25.0%) inherited runners to score and first batters faced were 2-for-7 (.286)...did not allow a run in four games in Oakland (4.0 ip) or five outings at night (6.1 ip)...went 3-0 with a 1.97 ERA in 38 relief appearances with Sacramento...struck out 53 in 45.2 innings, an average of 10.45 per nine innings...walked just 16 for a strikeout-to-walk ratio of 3.31...surrendered two home runs, an average of 0.39 per nine innings...allowed a .235 opponents batting average, which included a .189 (14-for-74) mark against left-handed hitters compared to .271 (26-for-96) against right-handers...both of his home runs were solo shots against righties...opponents hit .154 when leading off an inning.

UPCOMING PROBABLES

March 6 at Arizona

Diamondbacks: LHP Robbie Ray, RHP Randall Delgado, RHP Allen Webster, LHP Will Locante, RHP Jake Barrett, RHP Enrique Burgos

March 7 vs. Los Angeles (AL)

A's: RHP Chris Bassitt, LHP Rudy Owens, LHP Eric O'Flaherty, RHP RYan Cook, RHP Angel Castro, RHP Kevin Whelan, RHP Evan Scribner

Angels: LHP C.J. Wilson, RHP Fernando Salas, RHP Michael Morin, RHP Vinnie Pestano, LHP Scott Snodgrass, RHP Cam Bedrosian, RHP Nate Smith

March 8 vs. Chicago (AL)

A's: LHP Drew Pomeranz, LHP Brad Mills, RHP Tyler Clippard, LHP Fernando Abad, LHP Ryan Verdugo, SHP Pat Venditte, RHP Arnold Leon

White Sox: RHP Jeff Samardzija, RHP Javy Guerra, RHP Chris Beck, RHP J.D. Martin, LHP Joe Savery, LHP Onelki Garcia

2015 OAKLAND A'S SPRING TRAINING SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	RECORD	WINNER	LOSER	ATTEND.	HOME CUM.
March 3	San Francisco	W, 9-4	1-0	Mills	Bumgarner	7,820	7,820
March 4	at San Francisco	W, 9-2	2-0	Chavez	Peavy	8,868	
March 5	at Chicago (NL)	T, 2-2	2-0-1			11,132	
DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	RADIO/TV				
March 6	at Arizona	1:05					
March 7	Los Angeles (AL)	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network/MLBN (7:00 AM PT on 3/8)				
March 8	Chicago (AL)	1:05	CSNCA/95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network				
March 9	at Texas	1:05					
March 10	Arizona	1:05					
March 11	Cleveland	1:05					
March 12	Seattle	12:05					
March 13	at Kansas City	1:05					
	at Chicago (NL) (at L.V.)	5:05	MLBN (9:00 PM)				
March 14	San Francisco	1:05					
	at Chicago (NL) (at L.V.)	12:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network				
March 15	at Milwaukee	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network/MLBN (11:00 PM PT)				
March 16	at Los Angeles (NL)	1:05	MLBN (6:00 PM)				
March 17	San Diego	1:05					

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	RADIO/TV
March 18	at Seattle	1:05	MLBN (Live)
March 19	OFF DAY		
March 20	Los Angeles (NL)	1:05	
	at Colorado	1:05	MLBN (6:00 AM on 3/21)
March 21	Cincinnati	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network
March 22	at Cincinnati	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network
March 23	at Cleveland	1:05	MLBN (Live)
March 24	Chicago (NL)	1:05	
March 25	at Milwaukee	1:05	MLBN (Live)
March 26	at San Francisco	7:05	95.7 FM The Game/CSNBA
March 27	Texas	1:05	
March 28	at Chicago (AL)	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network/MLBN (Live)
March 29	Milwaukee	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network
March 30	Colorado	1:05	
March 31	at Los Angeles (AL)	1:05	MLBN (Live)
April 1	Los Angeles (AL)	12:05	MLBN (6:00 AM on 4/2)
April 2	San Francisco (at S.F.)	7:15	CSNCA/95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network
April 3	San Francisco (at S.F.)	7:15	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network/CSNBA
April 4	San Francisco (at Oak.)	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network/CSNBA