

OAKLAND ATHLETICS GAME INFORMATION

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OAKLAND ATHLETICS (2-2-1) VS. CHICAGO CUBS (3-1-1)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018 – SLOAN PARK – 1:05 P.M. MST

A'S WEBCAST

ABOUT THE A'S: The A's have lost each of their last two games, both on the road, after going 2-0-1 over the first three games, all at home...have committed just three errors, which is the fewest in the Cactus League...the pitching staff has a 7.53 ERA, which is the highest in the majors...this is the A's 50th Spring Training in Arizona, their fourth since returning to Mesa in 2015 after a 36-year absence...after training in Bradenton, Florida in 1968, the A's came west 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 32 games this spring...the total includes 29 games in Arizona and three in the Bay Area against the Giants (March 25-27)...the A's went 16-18 (.471) last spring, which was the fourth worst record in the Cactus League...went 12-17-3 (.422) in 2016, which was fifth worst in the CL...this marks the first time Oakland has finished with a losing record in back-to-back springs since 2010-11...compiled a 5.93 ERA, which was second highest in the majors to Cincinnati (6.13)...it was the second highest spring ERA by an Oakland team over the last 18 years (6.10 in 2016)...surrendered 37 home runs, which tied for fifth fewest in the CL...had the second fewest strikeouts (247) and tied for the fifth fewest walks (121)...the offense ranked fourth in the CL in walks (133), tied for fourth in triples (11) and fifth in onbase percentage (.351)...also tied for the fewest stolen bases (15), ranked third in fewest hit by pitches (10) and fourth in most strikeouts (300)...the strikeouts were the most by an A's team during the spring since at least 1990 (previous: 248 in 2009)...the defense committed 28 errors, which was fourth fewest in the CL...however, turned just 23 double plays, which was the fewest in the CL and tied for third fewest in the majors...went 9-7 at Hohokam, 0-1 in Oakland and 7-10 on the road.

YESTERDAY: The A's lost to the Indians at Goodyear, 16-8...Jake Smolinski had sacrifice flies in both the first and third innings and Franklin Barreto had a RBI triple in the third...A's starter Frankie Montas allowed two runs in the second inning (2.0 ip, 3 h, 2 r, 2 er, 1 so) and Yusmeiro Petit allowed a run in the third, tying the game at 3-3...Chris Bassitt allowed three runs in the fifth, but the A's came back to tie the game with three unearned runs in the sixth on a three-run home run by Sheldon Neuse...Bobby Wahl allowed four runs in the seventh inning for the loss and Cleveland scored six times in the eighth to put the game away...B.J Boyd added a two-run home run in the eighth inning to complete the A's scoring...Barreto had two triples for the A's and Emilio Pagán (1.0 ip) and Kyle Finnegan (0.1 ip) tossed scoreless relief.

A's vs. CUBS: This is the first of two meetings between the A's and Cubs this spring...meet again at Hohokam on March 11...Oakland lost two of three games last spring...both of the losses came at Sloan Park (4-3 on Feb. 25 and 15-11 on March 29) and the win came at Hohokam (9-8 on March 12)...are 2-5-2 against the Cubs over the previous three springs...are 0-3-1 all-time at Sloan Park.

PLAYER NOTES: Franklin Barreto had two triples yesterday at Cleveland, which ties him for the Major League lead (Florial, NYY)...has appeared in two games at second base and two at shortstop...*Slade Heathcott (NR)* is one of four Athletics to appear in all five games this spring (Laureano, Martini, Neuse)...*Ramon Laureano* is one of four Athletics to appear in all five games this spring (Heathcott, Martini, Neuse)...*Nick Martini (NR)* is one of four Athletics to appear in all five games this spring (Heathcott, Martini, Neuse)...*Nick Martini (NR)* is one of four Athletics to appear in all five games this spring (Heathcott, Laureano, Neuse)... Brandon Moss has hit safely in each of his two games (3-for-6, .500)...Sean Murphy (NR) has hit safely and driven in a run in each of his two games this spring (2-for-4, three RBI)...Sheldon Neuse (NR) is one of four Athletics to appear in all five games this spring (Heathcott, Laureano, Martini)...Marcus Semien has hit safely in each of his two games (3-for-6, .500).

IN CAMP: The A's have 59 players in camp, which is 11 fewer than last spring when they had 70...the total includes 40 players on the 40-man roster and 19 non-roster invitees...the breakdown includes 30 pitchers, six catchers, 11 infielders and 12 outfielders.

HOW THE A'S WERE BUILT: Of the 40 players on the 40-man roster, seven were drafted by the A's (Chapman, 1st round in 2014; Dull, 32nd in 2012; Gossett, 2nd in 2014; Maxwell, 2nd in 2012; Olson, compensation following 1st round in 2012; Pinder, competitive balance round B in 2013; Trivino, 11th in 2013)...one was signed as a non-drafted agent (Nuñez), three were signed as free agents (Casilla, Joyce, Petit) and three were claimed off waivers (Garneau, Smolinski, Triggs)...the other 26 were all acquired in trades...12 of the 40 players were not in the A's organization last spring and 31 have joined the A's organization since the end of the 2014 season...the longest tenured Athletics in camp are Renato Nuñez (signed July 2, 2010) and Raul Alcantara (acquired in a Dec. 28, 2011 trade).

OFF SEASON MOVES: The A's signed one free agent this offseason: Yusmeiro Petit...the A's also acquired four 40-man players via trade, including Emilio

Pagan (Seattle, Nov. 15), Stephen Piscotty (St. Louis, Dec. 14), and Ryan Buchter and Brandon Moss (Kansas City, Jan. 29).

NON-ROSTER INVITEES: The Athletics have 19 non-roster invitees in Major League camp...the players include RHP Nolan Blackwood, LHP Jeremy Bleich, RHP Simon Castro, C Santiago Chavez, RHP Kyle Finnegan, OF Anthony Garcia, OF Slade Heathcott, RHP Grant Holmes, LHP Eric Jokisch, IF Steve Lombardozzi, LHP Jarret Martin, OF Nick Martini, C Sean Murphy, IF Sheldon Neuse, IF Nick Noonan, LHP A.J. Puk, RHP Logan Shore, C Beau Taylor and RHP Bobby Wahl...six of the 19 non-roster players have Major League experience (Castro, Heathcott, Jokisch, Lombardozzi, Noonan, Wahl).

A's TOP PROSPECTS: Six of the A's top 10 prospects according to *Baseball America* are in major league camp this spring: A.J. Puk (#1), Franklin Barreto (#2), Jorge Mateo (#3), Dustin Fowler (#4), Sean Murphy (#7) and Logan Shore (#10)...the others are Jesus Luzardo (#5), Austin Beck (#6), James Kaprielian (#8) and Lazaro Armenteros (#9).

MINOR LEAGUE DATES: Minor League mini camp is currently underway... pitchers and catchers report Saturday, March 3 with the first workout scheduled for March 4...position players report Friday, March 9 with the first workout scheduled for March 10...Double-A and Triple-A games begin Tuesday, March 13 and Single-A games start on March 16.

MEDIA INFORMATION: The A's clubhouse at Hohokam Stadium will be open to members of the media with proper credentials beginning approximately one hour prior to team stretch...stretch time varies from day to day; media are asked to check @AsMediaAlerts on Twitter daily for updated clubhouse hours...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 also will open to media during games for 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 during team stretch time ... Melvin will also be available on the field 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 be asked 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 in the landing area at the top of Section 209 ... the A's provide complementary parking to members of the media in the Center Street Lot (Lot D), located behind home plate and to the right as your enter the parking lot at the home plate entrance.

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

A's ON RADIO: The A's radio network will broadcast 11 games this spring, including eight from Arizona and three games against San Francisco in the Bay Area...flagship station 95.7 FM The Game will carry each game except March 27 against San Francisco...the Cactus League schedule includes all Saturday and Sunday games except March 11, plus the March 12 game against San Francisco...Ken Korach returns for his 23rd year in the broadcast booth and will be joined by Vince Cotroneo (13th) and Ray Fosse, who enters his 33rd season in the booth...all games not broadcast over the air can be heard live via the club's web site with the exception of March 15...Donny Baarns will call the action on the webcasts, with the exception of March 5 and 6 when Dom Cotroneo will fill in.

A's ON TELEVISION: NBC Sports California will televise two games, including March 15 against Seattle (7:05 pm) and March 25 against the Giants in Oakland (1:05 pm)...Glen Kuiper joins Ray Fosse in the broadcast booth for those telecasts...four games will air in the Bay Area on MLB Network: March 7 vs. Seattle (tape delay to 9:00 PM PST and 6:00 AM PST on March 8), March 9 vs. Milwaukee (tape delay to 8:00 PM PST), March 19 vs. Los Angeles-NL (tape delay to 9:00 PM PDT) and March 21 vs. Milwaukee (live)...three A's vs. Giants will air live in the Bay Area: March 17 (NBC), March 26 (NBCSBA) and March 27 (NBCSBA+).

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 #58 PAUL BLACKBURN RHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his second appearance and first start of the spring... pitched in relief in his first outing last Friday against Los Angeles (AL) and tossed 2.0 scoreless innings...made both his Triple-A and Major League debuts in 2017...spent the first three months of the season at Nashville where he went 5-6 with a 3.05 ERA in 15 games, including 14 starts...was promoted to Oakland July 1 and compiled a 3-1 record and a 3.22 ERA in 10 starts before a right hand contusion ended his season Aug. 23...struck out just 22 batters in 58.2 innings with the A's, an average of 3.38 per nine innings...that was the lowest mark in the majors among pitchers with 50 or more innings pitched...went 1-1 with a 2.25 ERA and .212 opponents batting average over his first five starts through July 26...then went 2-0 despite a 4.39 ERA and .315 opponents average over his final five starts...allowed a .262 opponents batting average, including .225 (23-for-102) against left-handed hitters compared to .294 (35-for-119) against right-handers...was 2-1 with a 1.47 ERA and .222 opponents batting average in five starts on the road compared to 1-0 with a 5.14 ERA and .301 opponents average in five starts at home.

	BLACKBURN'S 2018 SPRING TRAINING APPEARANCES												
Date	Opponent	Score	Dec	ERA	IP	н	R	ER	BB	so	HR		
*Feb. 23	at Los Angeles (AL)	9-8	-	0.00	2.0	1	0	0	2	1	0		
Totals (1 g	ame, 1 start)	0-0	0.00	2.0	1	0	0	2	1	0			
*indicates	relief appearance												

#35 DANNY COULOMBE RHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

Retired the side in order in the seventh inning in his first outing last Saturday against San Diego (1.0 ip, 2 so)...made a team-leading 72 appearances last year in his first full season in the majors and was 2-2 with a 3.48 ERA and .240 opponents batting average...ranked fifth in the American League in games pitched...tossed just 51.2 innings as he pitched fewer than one inning in 42 of his 72 appearances...averaged 12.6 pitches per game, which was fourth lowest among AL relievers...had a 1.78 ERA and .198 opponents batting average over his first 31 games through June 24...then logged a 5.13 ERA and .277 opponents batting average over his final 41 contests...his opponents batting average broke down to .214 (22-for-103) against left-handed hitters compared to .270 (24-for-89) against right-handers...surrendered three of his four home runs to righties...had a .596 OPS against lefties, .851 against righties...allowed 15-of-49 (30.6%) inherited runners to score and had the seventh most inherited runners in the AL...first batters faced hit .238 but he walked eight and hit one for a .333 on-base percentage...went 2-0 with a 2.25 ERA at home, 0-2 with a 5.49 ERA on the road.

#44 CHRIS HATCHER RHP (1-0, 0.00 ERA)

Tossed a scoreless fifth inning and picked up the win in his first outing last Saturday against San Diego (1.0 ip, 1 bb, 1 so)...began the 2017 season with the Los Angeles Dodgers and was 0-1 with a 4.66 ERA in 26 relief appearances when he was traded to Oakland Aug. 15...went 1-1 with a save and a 3.52 ERA in 23 games with the A's and combined for a 1-2 record and a 4.22 ERA in 49 appearances in his seventh season in the majors...had career highs in strikeouts (63), innings pitched (59.2), hits (58), runs (29), earned runs (28) and home runs (10) and matched his high in walks (21)...his 49 games pitched were three short of his high of 52 in 2014 with Miami...allowed a .250 opponents batting average, including .213 (19-for-89) against left-handed hitters compared to .273 (39-for-143) against right-handers... yielded a .125 batting average with runners in scoring position but opponents hit .309 when leading off an inning...first batters faced hit .239 and he walked just two for a .265 on-base percentage...allowed 3-of-14 (21.4%) inherited runners to score...stranded all seven of his inherited runners with the Dodgers...had a 2.45 ERA in the Coliseum, a 3.15 ERA in Dodger Stadium and a 5.65 ERA in all other ballparks.

#33 DANIEL MENGDEN RHP (0-0, 27.00 ERA)

Is scheduled to make his second appearance of the spring...started and had a no decision in his first outing last Friday against Los Angles (AL) in Mesa.. faced seven batters and allowed five hits and a walk (0.2 ip, 5 h, 2 r, 2 er, 1 bb)...combined to make just 18 starts between the majors and minors last year due to two stints on the disabled list ... went 3-2 with a 3.14 ERA and .229 opponents batting average in seven starts over two stints with Oakland...was also 2-4 with a 4.17 ERA in nine starts with Triple-A Nashville and 0-0 with a 0.00 ERA in two starts with the A's affiliate in the Arizona Rookie League...walked just nine batters in 43.0 innings (1.88 per nine innings) with the A's for a .268 on-base percentage...went 0-1 with a 10.13 ERA and .371 opponents batting average in two starts during his first stint from May 29 to June 3...then went 3-1 with a 1.54 ERA and .189 opponents batting average in five starts after returning to Oakland Sept. 5 when the Sounds season concluded...his ERA during his second stint was fifth lowest in the American League over that span...his opponents batting average included a .187 (14-for-75) mark against right-handed hitters compared to .268 (22-for-82) against left-handers...allowed a .176 opponents batting average with runners in scoring position.

#39 BLAKE TREINEN RHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

Pitched a scoreless sixth inning in his first outing last Saturday against San Diego (1.0 ip, 1 h, 1 bb, 1 so)...was acquired from Washington in the Sean Doolittle/Ryan Madson trade on July 16, 2017 and ended up saving 13 games for the A's...went 3-4 with a 2.13 ERA in 35 appearances with Oakland and his ERA was third lowest in the American League among pitchers with more than 35 innings from July 17 through the end of the season...was 0-2 with three saves and a 5.73 ERA in 37 games with the Nationals and combined for a 3-6 record, a career-high 16 saves and a 3.93 ERA overall...also had career highs in innings pitched (75.2), strikeouts (74), losses, hits (80), runs (35), earned runs (33), home runs (6), hit batters (5), ERA, opponents slugging percentage (.397) and OPS (.736)...matched his high in wild pitches (4)... converted 16-of-21 (76.2%) save opportunities, which was the fifth lowest save percentage in the majors...tied for third among Major League relievers in grounded into double plays (12)...yielded a .274 opponents batting average, including .252 (41-for-163) against right-handed hitters and .302 (39-for-129) against left-handers.

UPCOMING PROBABLES

February 28 at Chicago (NL)

Cubs: RHP Kyle Hendricks, LHP Mike Montgomery, RHP Carl Edwards Jr, LHP Justin Wilson, RHP Justin Grimm, RHP Eddie Butler, RHP Luke Farrell

March 1 vs. Texas

A's: RHP Jharel Cotton, RHP Andrew Triggs, RHP Santiago Casilla, RHP Liam Hendriks, LHP Ryan Buchter, RHP Raul Alcántara, LHP Jarret Martin, RHP Bobby Wahl

Rangers: RHP Clayton Blackburn, RHP Paolo Espino, LHP David Hurlbut, RHP Nick Gardewine, RHP Kevin Jepsen, RHP Steve Delabar

March 2 OFF DAY

2018 OAKLAND A'S SPRING TRAINING SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	RECORD	WINNER	LOSER	ATTEND.	HOME CUM.	DATE March 11	OPPONENT Chicago (NL)	TIME 1:05 pm	RADIO/TV
Feb. 23	Los Angeles (AL)	W, 9-8	1-0	Alcántara	Pinder	4,315	4,315	March 12	San Francisco		(95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network)
Feb. 24	San Diego	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		7,837	March 13	at Kansas City	1:05 pm	(,			
Feb. 25	Kansas City	T, 4-4	2-0-1	_	_	'	'	March 14	Off Dav		
Feb. 26	at Chicago (AL)	Ĺ, 6-7	2-1-1	Kopech	Graveman	2,826	,	March 15	Seattle	7:05 pm	(NBCSCA)
Feb. 27	at Cleveland	L, 8-16	2-2-1	DeMasi	Wahl	2,275		March 16	Cleveland	1:05 pm	
DATE	OPPONENT	TIME RADIO/TV						March 17	Seattle (ss)	1:05 pm	(95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network)
Feb 28	at Chicago (NL)	o (NL) 1:05 pm							at San Francisco (ss)	4:05 pm	
March 1	Texas	(as 1:05 pm						March 18	Chicago (AL)	1:05 pm	(95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network)
March 2	Off Day							March 19	at Los Angeles (NL)	7:05 pm	
March 3	San Diego	1:05 pm (95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network)						March 20	Los Angeles (NL)	1:05 pm	
March 4	at San Diego	1:05 pm (95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network)						March 21	at Milwaukee	1:05 pm	
March 5	Chicago (AL)	hicago (AL) 1:05 pm						March 22	Colorado	1:05 pm	
March 6	Texas 1:05 pm						March 23	at Los Angeles (AL)	1:05 pm		
March 7	at Seattle	ttle 6:40 pm						March 24	Milwaukee	12:05 pm	
March 8	Los Angeles (AL)	.os Angeles (AL) 1:05 pm				March 25	San Francisco (at Oak)	1:05 pm	(NBCSCA/95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network)		
March 9	at Milwaukee	vaukee 1:05 pm				March 26	at San Francisco (at SF)	7:15 pm	(95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network)		
March 10	at Texas	1:05 pm (95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network)				March 27	at San Francisco (at SF)	6:05 pm	(A's Radio Network)		