



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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A's Reach Agreement With Curt Young to Return as Pitching Coach

OAKLAND, Calif. – The Oakland Athletics announced today the team has signed Curt Young to a one-year contract to return as pitching coach. Young, regarded as one of the top pitching coaches in Major League Baseball, had left the A's after 23 years in the organization to join the Boston Red Sox this past season.

The team also announced it has removed the "interim" title from Mike Henriques and named him strength and conditioning coach for the 2012 season.

Originally selected by the A's in the fourth round of the 1981 draft, Young pitched 10 seasons with team. After four years as a minor league coach in the organization, Young was named the A's pitching coach prior to the 2004 season. During his tenure as coach from 2004-2010, Oakland pitchers posted an American League-best 4.03 ERA and held opponents to an AL-low .257 average while allowing the fewest home runs (1,062) in the league. His 2010 staff led the American League with a 3.56 ERA and 17 shutouts, while A's starters registered a Major League-best 3.47 ERA, the lowest such mark in the AL since the 1990 Red Sox (3.32). This past season, Boston pitchers ranked third in the American League in strikeouts (1,213) and opponent batting average (.247) and tied for fourth in shutouts (13).

During Young's tenure as Oakland pitching coach, seven A's pitchers—Mark Mulder (2004), Tim Hudson (2004), Justin Duchscherer (2005, 2008), Barry Zito (2006), Dan Haren (2007), Andrew Bailey (2009) and Trevor Cahill (2010)—have been selected to the American League All-Star team, with Mulder and Haren earning starts in the Midsummer Classic. Closers Huston Street (2005) and Bailey (2009) also earned AL Rookie of the Year honors.

Young compiled a 69-53 record and 4.31 ERA in 251 games, 162 starts, during an 11-year Major League pitching career that included stints with Oakland (1983-91, 1993), Kansas City (1992) and the New York Yankees (1992). The left-hander went 13-9 with a 3.45 ERA in 1986 and led the team in victories, earning him an Opening Day start in 1987. He matched his career best in wins in 1987, posting a 13-7 record and 4.08 ERA in a career-high 31 starts. Young was also a member of the A's starting rotation when they won three consecutive American League pennants from 1988-90. He tossed two one-hitters during his career: Oct. 5, 1986 against Kansas City and June 9, 1987 vs. Chicago.

Henriques (pronounced hen-REEKS), originally hired as the A's minor league strength and conditioning coordinator in November of 2010, was named Oakland's interim strength and conditioning coach May 3 when Bob Alejo accepted an assistant athletic director position at North Carolina State. He previously spent five seasons in the San Diego Padres' minor league system (2006-10), including two years as their assistant coordinator. The Central Connecticut State graduate also served four off-seasons with the NBA's Portland Trail Blazers as assistant strength and conditioning coach from 2007-10, as well as a summer internship at Arizona State in 2005.

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