



# OAKLAND ATHLETICS

## Media Release

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### A's Sign Jennings, Tomko to Minor League Contracts

*Veteran Pitchers Have Combined for 162 Major League Wins in Their Careers*

PHOENIX, ARIZ. – The Oakland A's have signed veteran right-handed pitchers Jason Jennings and Brett Tomko to minor league contracts. Jennings will report to Major League Spring Training, while Tomko will join minor league camp to continue his rehabilitation of last year's arm injury. In their Major League careers, the two pitchers have combined for 162 victories and 614 appearances during the past 13 seasons.

Jennings, the 2002 National League Rookie of the Year, posted a 58-56 record and 4.74 ERA with Colorado from 2001-06. The 6-2, 235-pound Dallas, Tex, native was traded to the Houston Astros after the 2006 season, as he ended his career with the Rockies as the franchise's all-time winningest pitcher. He was the Rockies' first round draft choice in 1999 and fashioned a 16-8 mark and 4.52 ERA in 32 starts in his 2002 rookie season, with his 16 wins ranking seventh in the National League. In his final season in Denver, Jennings registered a 9-13 record and 3.78 ERA (12<sup>th</sup> in the NL) in 32 starts in 2006.

In his only season with Houston, Jennings endured a 2-9 mark and 6.45 ERA in 19 games, 18 starts. He signed a free agent contract with Texas on Jan. 17, 2008, but only appeared in six games (all starts) with the Rangers in 2008, recording a 0-5 ledger and 8.56 ERA. Jennings moved to the bullpen last season and scuffled a 2-4 mark and 4.13 ERA in 44 relief appearances with the Rangers. In his first 41 games through Aug. 17, he owned a 3.59 ERA, but he allowed six runs (five earned) on eight hits in only 3.1 innings over his final three appearances which led to his release Aug. 27. Jennings, 31, enters this year with a 62-74 lifetime record and 4.95 ERA in 225 games, including 180 starts, in nine big league campaigns.

Tomko, 36, initially signed a minor league contract with the A's Aug. 5 after being released by the New York Yankees July 29. The 6-2, 220-pound right-hander impressed with a 4-1 record and 2.95 ERA in six starts with Oakland before being sidelined for the remainder of the season with an irritated nerve in his right arm. However, in his final 2009 appearance on Sept. 14, he earned his 100<sup>th</sup> career victory by tossing a five-hit shutout in the A's 9-0 win at Texas.

Compiling a 100-102 mark and 4.65 ERA in 309 games (266 starts) over 13 Major League seasons, Tomko has pitched for nine teams in his career—Cincinnati (1997-99), Seattle (2000-01), San Diego (2002, 2007-08), St. Louis (2003), San Francisco (2004-05), Los Angeles Dodgers (2006-07), Kansas City (2008), New York Yankees (2009) and the A's. Signed to a minor league contract by the Yankees last Feb. 20, he was used solely in relief by New York in etching a 1-2 record and 5.23 ERA in 15 appearances. The Cleveland, Ohio native was originally selected by the Reds in the second round of the June 1995 draft.

The 2009 and career statistics for Jennings and Tomko follow:

JENNINGS	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Texas	2	4	4.13	44	0	0	0	1	61.0	67	31	28	28	44
<b>CAREER</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>4.95</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1128.1</b>	<b>1253</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>749</b>

  

TOMKO	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
New York-AL	1	2	5.23	15	0	0	0	0	20.2	19	12	12	7	11
Oakland	4	1	2.95	6	6	1	1	0	36.2	31	12	12	6	22
<b>CAREER</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>4.65</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1798.1</b>	<b>1883</b>	<b>1002</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>1195</b>

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