



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 9, 2010

***** Media Availability and Photo Opportunities *****
for "A's Firefighter Appreciation Night"

FRIDAY, SEPT. 10

WHAT: In conjunction with the A's partnership with the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation (AARBF) for "Firefighter Appreciation Night," A's players will visit with outpatient children at the Bothin Burn Center at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital (900 Hyde Street, San Francisco). AARBF visits with outpatient and in-clinic patients weekly at the Bothin Burn Center to provide support to youth and adult burn victims and their families.

WHO: **Andrew Bailey**, 2009 American League Rookie of the Year and two-time All-Star, will join fellow A's pitchers **Brett Anderson** and **Boof Bonser** and AARBF staff this Friday in visiting outpatient children, signing autographs and taking part in a Q/A session from **12:00 to 12:30 pm**.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 11

WHAT: As part of "Firefighter Appreciation Night," the A's will pay tribute to more than 50 Bay Area firefighters, including local fire chiefs, during a special on-field pre-game ceremony before the A's vs. Red Sox game at Oakland Coliseum. Four of the area's longest tenured firefighters will throw out the ceremonial first pitches of the game and local civilian heroes will be honored during a pre-game presentation.

A's players and coaches will wear ball caps from various Bay Area fire departments during this special pre-game ceremony.

WHO: Available to the media on the field in front of the A's dugout from **5:20-5:40 pm**:

Longtime firefighters:

- San Jose Captain Doug Stewart with 48 years service
- Alameda County Firefighter Hollis Franks with 38 years of service
- San Francisco Battalion Chief Mike Morris with 36 years of service
- Oakland Captain Bruce Nielsen with 30 years of service

Local civilian heroes:

- **Alesaundra Tafoya**, a Manteca three-year-old who saved her father's life by walking two blocks by herself to the fire station to get help (August).
- **Sylvester Wiggins**, a Richmond man who forced his way into a burning building to save a trapped family (April).
- **Gilbert Rodriguez**, an Elk Grove man whose quick reaction to a fire-igniting spark between his neighbor's homes saved two families lives (July).
- A group of 10 high school students who teach fire safety tips to tenants of single-room-occupancy buildings in San Francisco's Chinatown.

For additional information about "A's Firefighter Appreciation Night" on Sept. 11, 2010, please visit oaklandathletics.com/firefighter.

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