



# OAKLAND ATHLETICS

## Homestand Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

May 12, 2011

### **News and Notes About the A's Upcoming Homestand** A's Host Chicago White Sox, Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim and Minnesota Twins

<b>DATE</b>	<b>OPPONENT</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>TELEVISION</b>
<b>Friday, May 13</b>	<b>Chicago White Sox</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Home Run Readers program school visit with Adam Rosales at Valley View Elementary School in Richmond (11:00 a.m.)</li> <li>XFINITY Friday Family Pack</li> <li>CSNCA Authentic Fan Friday</li> <li>Ceremonial first pitch – A's local winner of MLB Honorary Bat Girl contest, Deborah Mata</li> <li>Pre-game presentation – MLB Honorary Bat Girl for MLB "Going to Bat Against Breast Cancer"</li> <li>Live National Anthem – Jessica Caylyn</li> <li>Green Stampede Homework Club, sponsored by Service Champions</li> <li>Kids Club member brings water to the umpires (third inning)</li> </ul>	<b>7:05 p.m.</b>	<b>CSNCA</b>
<b>Saturday, May 14</b>	<b>Chicago White Sox</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Giveaway – Kids Mark Ellis bat, presented by Ross Dress For Less (7,500 kids)</li> <li>Cache Creek Saturday</li> <li>California Police Youth Charities pre-game visit with Andy LaRoche</li> <li>"Mathletics" Day, sponsored by Ross Dress For Less</li> <li>Ceremonial first pitch – "Mathletics" program participant, fifth-grade student Ben Schneider</li> <li>Pre-game presentation – "Mathletics" program plaque presented to Ross Dress For Less</li> <li>Live National Anthem – Allie Richter</li> <li>Little A's program, sponsored by Bank of America</li> <li>Kids Club member "steals" third base (third inning)</li> <li>A's Community Fund Silent Auction, behind Section 120 (partner: Loved Twice)</li> <li>Post-Game Radio Show Remote with Josh Willingham from the Holiday Inn Oakland Airport Hotel</li> </ul>	<b>1:05 p.m.</b>	<b>CSNCA</b>
<b>Sunday, May 15</b>	<b>Chicago White Sox</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Giveaway – Kids baseball hat, presented by Chevy (7,500 kids)</li> <li>Little League Day, presented by Chevy</li> <li>Take the Field with the A's, presented by Washington Hospital</li> <li>Kids Club guest public address announcer (third inning)</li> <li>A's Community Fund Silent Auction, behind Section 120 (partner: "3" Children Foundation)</li> <li>Post-Game Race Around the Bases, sponsored by Chevy</li> </ul>	<b>1:05 p.m.</b>	<b>CSNCA</b>
<b>Monday, May 16</b>	<b>Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-game presentation – Bay Area All-Star Scholarship Team recipient Joshua Tabimina</li> <li>Green Stampede Homework Club, sponsored by Service Champions</li> </ul>	<b>7:05 p.m.</b>	<b>CSNCA</b>
<b>Tuesday, May 17</b>	<b>Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Step Up to the Plate for Education" program school visit with Grant Balfour at Edison Elementary School in Alameda (1:00 pm)</li> <li>Home Run Readers program school visit at Jefferson School in Berkeley (1:00 p.m.)</li> <li>Chevy Free Parking Tuesday</li> <li>Jewish Heritage Night</li> <li>Ceremonial first pitch – Akiva Tor, Consul General of Israel for the Pacific Northwest region</li> <li>Live National Anthem – Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County</li> <li>Pre-game check presentation – Wells Fargo Educator Fund Program</li> <li>Green Stampede Homework Club, sponsored by Service Champions</li> </ul>	<b>7:05 p.m.</b>	<b>CSNCA</b>
<b>Wednesday, May 18</b>	<b>Minnesota Twins</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BART \$2 Wednesday</li> <li>Ceremonial first pitch – San Jose Earthquakes forward Chris Wondolowski</li> <li>Pre-game check presentation – Wells Fargo Educator Fund Program</li> <li>Kids Club guest grounds crew member (prior to the game)</li> <li>Green Stampede Homework Club, sponsored by Service Champions</li> </ul>	<b>7:05 p.m.</b>	<b>CSNCA</b>
<b>Thursday, May 19</b>	<b>Minnesota Twins</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Free Hot Dog Thursday" (10,000 fans receive free hot dog vouchers)</li> <li>Home Run Readers Day, sponsored by the A's and California Police Youth Charities</li> <li>Ceremonial first pitch – Home Run Readers program participating teacher</li> <li>Pre-game presentation – Home Run Readers program</li> </ul>	<b>12:35 p.m.</b>	<b>CSNCA</b>

*All A's games will be carried on SportsRadio 95.7 FM and on the A's Radio Network, with Ken Korach and Vince Cotroneo calling the action. "A's Talk," the A's pre-game and post-game radio shows, are hosted by Chris Townsend.*

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROMOTIONS OR EVENTS LISTED ABOVE. PLEASE VISIT [WWW.OAKLANDATHLETICS.COM](http://WWW.OAKLANDATHLETICS.COM).**

### **Homestand Highlights – Promotions and Events**

**A's Promotional Giveaway Items:** On May 14, 7,500 kids will receive a Mark Ellis bat, presented by Ross Dress For Less and on May 15, 7,500 kids will receive an A's baseball hat, courtesy of Chevy.

**CSNCA Authentic Fan Friday Broadcast:** Friday, May 13, will mark the first time this season that A's television announcers **Ray Fosse** and **Glen Kuiper** will broadcast the game live from the front row of the CSNCA Value Deck as part of the Comcast SportsNet California Authentic Fan Friday.

**A's Post Game Radio Show Remote:** The A's post-game radio show, "A's Talk," which is carried on SportsRadio 95.7 FM, the new radio home of the A's, will broadcast live on location from the Holiday Inn Oakland Airport Hotel (77 Hegenberger Road) on Saturday, May 14. Fans are invited to join host **Chris Townsend** and A's outfielder **Josh Willingham** after the game for the show, food and beverage specials and a chance to win prizes. In addition, fans in attendance who make a minimum donation of \$5 to the Josh Willingham Foundation will receive a Willingham autograph (as time permits). All proceeds donated to the Josh Willingham Foundation will assist the victims of the recent disasters in Willingham's home state of Alabama and the surrounding states. To donate to the disaster relief efforts online, please visit [www.thejoshwillinghamfoundation.org](http://www.thejoshwillinghamfoundation.org).

## **Homestand Highlights – Promotions and Events (continued)**

**A's Little League Day:** On Sunday, May 15, members of organized youth baseball and softball programs are invited to the ballpark for a day with the A's. Little Leaguers will gather for a pre-game festival, be greeted by A's players as they parade around the field and receive A's kids baseball hats, courtesy of Chevy. In addition, prior to the event, groups that purchased 100 or more tickets to A's Little League Day were invited for a special "Chalk Talk" with A's shortstop **Cliff Pennington** and A's first base coach **Tye Waller** from 9:30-10:10 a.m..

**Jewish Heritage Night:** The A's will celebrate their inaugural Jewish Heritage Night on May 17. Fans who purchased tickets through the special link for this event will be served a special food item in the West Side Club prior to the game and receive an A's Yarmulke. Consul General of Israel for the Pacific Northwest region, Akiva Tor, will throw out the ceremonial first pitch of the game. In addition, members of the Jewish Community Center of Sonoma County will sing the National Anthem. For more information, please visit [www.oaklandathletics.com/jewish](http://www.oaklandathletics.com/jewish).

## **Homestand Highlights – Community Relations**

**MLB "Honorary Bat Girl":** Prior to the game on May 13, Deborah Mata, will be recognized by the A's as their local 2011 MLB Going to Bat Against Breast Cancer "Honorary Bat Girl" contest winner. The MLB Honorary Bat Girl Contest is a campaign to recognize baseball fans who have been affected by breast cancer and have demonstrated a commitment to fighting the disease. Mata, a teacher at Castlemont High School in Oakland, was first diagnosed with breast cancer 11 years ago and made a commitment to advocate for early detection of breast cancer, especially in disadvantaged communities. In 2010, Mata was once again diagnosed with cancer and she credits the support of her friends, family and students for making her even stronger in her second "bat against cancer." Mata will throw out the ceremonial first pitch of the A's vs. White Sox game and receive a gift bag on behalf of MLB and the A's, which includes a certificate signed by MLB Commissioner Allan "Bud" Selig naming Mata as the A's "Honorary Bat Girl."

**Pre-Game Meet and Greet:** In partnership with the California Police Youth Charities (CPYC), the A's will host a group of at-risk children on Saturday, May 14, for a pre-game meet and greet with A's infielder **Andy LaRoche**. CPYC works with athletes and celebrities in order to provide at-risk children positive opportunities in order to push the message that drugs, alcohol and gang violence are not the answers to their problems.

**Bay Area All-Star Scholarship Team:** Prior to the game on May 16, the A's will recognize Joshua Tabimina of Pittsburg as the 2011 scholarship recipient on behalf of the A's for the Bay Area All-Star Scholarship Team (BAASST). BAASST is a partnership that was established in 1996 by the A's, Warriors, Raiders, 49ers, Giants and Sharks, that awards a \$3,000 scholarship by each of the teams to a successful student residing within one of the Bay Area's nine counties. Students must attend a public high school and be a college-bound senior with a minimum GPA of 3.0, display leadership qualities in the classroom and inspirational qualities on the athletic field, and be able to demonstrate the value of education, good work ethic and community outreach. Tabimina, a senior at Pittsburg High School lettering in football and wrestling, plans to attend the University of California, Berkeley, in the fall and major in mechanical engineering.

**"Step Up to the Plate for Education" Program:** On Tuesday, May 17, A's pitcher **Grant Balfour** will visit Edison Elementary School in Alameda (1:00 p.m.) and congratulate students for selling the most tickets, and in turn, raising the most money by a school this year as a part of the A's "Step Up to the Plate for Education" fundraising program. Through this program, schools can sell A's tickets for designated 2011 games and the A's will donate up to 50 percent of the ticket sales directly back to the schools. In 2011, more than \$40,000 has been dispersed to Bay Area schools to support various programs such as athletics, music and art, to name a few. For more information about fundraising opportunities, please visit [www.oaklandathletics.com/fundraising](http://www.oaklandathletics.com/fundraising).

**A's Home Run Reader Visit:** A's infielder **Adam Rosales** will visit with 200 students at Valley View Elementary School in Richmond on Friday, May 13 (11:00 a.m.) and an A's player will visit with approximately 23 students at Jefferson School in Berkeley on Tuesday, May 17 (1:00 p.m.), on behalf of the A's Home Run Readers Program. The players will congratulate students who reached their reading goals, host a Q/A session, sign autographs for correct trivia answers and invite the students to the Coliseum for Home Run Readers Day. The A's Home Run Readers Program is sponsored by the A's and California Police Youth Charities.

**A's Home Run Reader Day:** Prior to the game on Thursday, May 19, the A's will host Home Run Readers Day for all students who participated in the program during the 2010-11 school year. Four teachers will receive a Home Run Readers program plaque and eight students will receive an autographed baseball. Over 11,000 students are expected to attend the game and for the 2010-11 school year, over 16,000 students from 73 Bay Area schools reached their reading goals. Four of those schools received a visit from an A's player or coach, courtesy of the A's and California Police Youth Charities.

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