



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Media Release

Oakland Athletics Baseball Company • 7000 Coliseum Way • Oakland, CA 94621
510-638-4900 • Public Relations Facsimile 510-562-1633 • www.oaklandathletics.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 12, 2011

A's Name Phil Garner Special Advisor

Former Major League Manager Returns to Oakland Where Playing Career Began

OAKLAND, Calif. –Phil Garner, former long-time manager with the Milwaukee Brewers, Detroit Tigers and Houston Astros, has been named a special advisor to the Oakland Athletics, team General Manager Billy Beane announced today. He will be with the Major League club periodically over the remainder of the 2011 season.

Garner, who will be in uniform tonight to provide pre-game evaluation and instruction prior to the A's series opener against Texas at the Coliseum, returns to where his Major League playing career began in 1973. Originally a first-round draft pick by the A's in 1971, Garner spent the first four seasons (1973-76) of his 16-year playing career in Oakland.

The Jefferson, Tenn. native posted a 985-1054 record (.483) as a major league manager during 15 seasons with Milwaukee (1992-99), Detroit (2000-02) and Houston (2004-07). He directed the Brewers to a 92-70 record and second-place finish in his initial campaign of 1992, then later joined Houston in midseason and steered the Astros to a 48-26 mark (.629) and the National League Wild-Card playoff berth in 2004. The next season, he led Houston to an 89-73 record (.549) and the franchise's first-ever World Series appearance, losing to the Chicago White Sox. In three-and-a-half seasons in Houston, Garner piloted the team to a 277-252 (.524) mark.

Garner, 62, played parts of 16 seasons in the majors as an infielder, compiling a .260 lifetime batting average with 299 doubles, 82 triples, 109 home runs, 738 RBI and 225 stolen bases with Oakland, Pittsburgh (1977-81), Houston (1981-87), the Los Angeles Dodgers (1987) and San Francisco (1988). He was a member of the Pirates' 1979 World Series championship team, hitting .417 in the National League Championship Series and then crowning his season by batting .500 (12 for 24) in the World Series.

A three-time All-Star ('76, '80 and '81), Garner made history with the A's when he delivered the 10,000th hit in Oakland history against the California Angels on June 27, 1975.

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Contacts: Bob Rose, Director of Public Relations
(510) 563-2380, brose@oaklandathletics.com