



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Homestand 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:

April 20, 2012

News and Notes About the A's Upcoming Homestand

A's Host Cleveland and Chicago; Celebrate 1972 World Series Championship Team

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	TELEVISION
Friday, April 20	Cleveland Indians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vida Blue and Tyson Ross to participate in ribbon cutting ceremony for Vida Blue's Field of Dreams at Northern Light School (2 p.m.)</i> • <i>1972 World Series Championship Team Celebration - Autograph session in Eastside Club</i> • <i>Giveaway – Kurt Suzuki "Fat Head" cling, sponsored by Comerica Bank (7,500 kids)</i> • <i>XFINITY Friday Family Pack</i> • <i>CSNCA Authentic Fan Friday</i> • <i>A's Amigos program visit, sponsored by Kelly Moore Paints and XFINITY</i> • <i>Live national anthem – Anthony Smith</i> • <i>Wells Fargo School Supply Drive (behind Section 120)</i> • <i>Kids Club member brings water to the umpires (third inning)</i> 	7:05 p.m.	CSNCA
Saturday, April 21	Cleveland Indians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>1972 World Series Championship Team Reunion and Celebration</i> • <i>Giveaway – Rollie Fingers bobblehead, sponsored by Comcast SportsNet California (10,000 fans)</i> • <i>Ceremonial first pitch – Rollie Fingers</i> • <i>Live national anthem – Matt King</i> • <i>Cache Creek Saturday</i> • <i>Kids Club member "steals" third base (third inning)</i> • <i>A's Community Fund Silent Auction, behind Section 120 (partner: Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Foundation)</i> 	6:05 p.m.	CSN Plus
Sunday, April 22	Cleveland Indians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Earth Day Giveaway – Mendocino Redwood seedling (10,000 fans)</i> • <i>Giveaway – A's mini license plate, sponsored by Chevrolet (7,500 kids)</i> • <i>Little League Day, presented by Chevrolet</i> • <i>Live national anthem – Braden Sweeney</i> • <i>Take the Field with the A's, sponsored by Washington Hospital</i> • <i>Kids Club Guest PA Announcer, third inning</i> • <i>A's Community Fund Silent Auction, behind Section 120 (partner: Boys & Girls Club of Diablo Valley)</i> • <i>Post-Game Race Around the Bases, sponsored by Chevrolet</i> 	1:05 p.m.	CSNCA
Monday, April 23	Chicago White Sox <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A's player to visit Otis Elementary School in Alameda on behalf of A's Home Run Readers Program (1 p.m.)</i> • <i>Jackie Robinson Day ceremonial first pitch/pre-game presentation – Jackie Robinson Scholar</i> • <i>Live national anthem – Pinole Valley High School</i> • <i>Pre-game check presentation – Wells Fargo Teacher Awards</i> 	7:05 p.m.	CSNCA
Tuesday, April 24	Chicago White Sox <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jemile Weeks fielding clinic at newly renovated Skyline High School in Oakland (1 p.m.)</i> • <i>Live national anthem – Sheldon High School Choir</i> • <i>Pre-game check presentation – Wells Fargo Teacher Awards</i> 	7:05 p.m.	CSNCA
Wednesday, April 25	Chicago White Sox <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>BART \$2 Wednesday</i> • <i>Ceremonial first pitch – Teri McKeever, University of California's women's swimming and diving head coach</i> 	12:35 p.m.	NO TV

For additional information about the promotions or events listed above, please visit www.oaklandathletics.com.

Promotions and Special Events

Celebration of 40th Anniversary of 1972 World Series Title: The A's will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the club's 1972 World Series title—the first world championship won by any major professional sports team in Bay Area history—Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21 vs. Cleveland. The two-night celebration will feature appearances by players from the '72 team, including Hall of Famer **Rollie Fingers**, former Cy Young Award winner and American League MVP **Vida Blue**, World Series MVP **Gene Tenace**, and All-Stars **Bert Campaneris**, **Joe Rudi** and **Ken Holtzman**, plus **Tim Cullen**, **Dave Duncan**, **Dick Green**, **Dave Hamilton**, **Mike Hegan**, **Joe Horlen**, **Darold Knowles**, **Ted Kubiak** and **Bob Locker**, among others.

1972 Team Autograph Session: On Friday, April 20, members of the '72 team will sign autographs for fans in the Eastside Club, with proceeds benefitting the Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Foundation. Autograph tickets are \$20 per station during each session (four sessions scheduled, two stations per session). Tickets for all sessions will go on sale outside the Eastside Club North doors, near Section 234, at 5:35 p.m. Autograph sessions will begin at 6:15 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m.

1972 World Series Team Reunion: The celebration continues Saturday, April 21, with a special pre-game on-field reunion honoring the members of this historical 1972 team. Ten thousand fans in attendance will receive a **Rollie Fingers bobblehead**, sponsored by Comcast SportsNet California, and Fingers will throw out the ceremonial first pitch of the game (set for 5:55 p.m.). In addition, a limited number of fans who made a donation to the Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Foundation will take part in a special meet-and-greet with members of '72 team before the game.

A's Promotions: This homestand features a number of promotional giveaway items including April 20, when 7,500 kids will receive a **Kurt Suzuki "Fat Head" cling**, sponsored by Comerica Bank; April 21, when 10,000 fans will receive a **Rollie Fingers bobblehead**, courtesy of Comcast SportsNet California, and April 22 when 7,500 kids will receive a **mini license plate**, sponsored by Chevrolet.

Promotions and Special Events (continued)

A's Little League Day: On Sunday, April 22, 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 an A's mini license plate, courtesy of Chevrolet. In addition, prior to the event, groups that purchased 100 or more tickets to A's Little League Day are invited for a special "chalk talk" with pitcher **Jerry Blevins** and bullpen coach **Rick Rodriguez** at 9:30 a.m.

Earth Day: In recognition of Earth Day, observed globally April 22 to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's natural environment, the A's will give a **redwood seedling** to 10,000 fans Sunday before the A's 1:05 p.m. game vs. Cleveland, courtesy of FSC® certified Mendocino® Redwood. [SEE SEPARATE RELEASE]

Ceremonial First Pitch: University of California's women's head swimming and diving coach **Teri McKeever** will throw out the ceremonial first pitch Wednesday, April 25. Known as one of the best swimming mentors in the U.S. and the world, McKeever led Cal to three of the last four NCAA championships including this year's title. This summer, she will serve as the head coach of the U.S. Olympic women's swimming team, after she worked as a U.S. assistant coach at the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. Now in her 20th season as Cal's head coach, the five-time conference coach of the year has produced several Olympians in Berkeley, including Natalie Coughlin, Dana Vollmer, Emily Silver, Hannah Wilson, Lauren Boyle and Haley Cope.

Community Relations

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Vida Blue's Field of Dreams: Former Cy Young Award winner and American League MVP **Vida Blue** and Northern Light School alumni and A's starting pitcher **Tyson Ross** will participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Vida Blue Field of Dreams located at Northern Light School Friday, April 20 at 2 p.m. In addition, the A's Community Fund will be making a \$3,000 donation to Northern Light School to assist in the maintenance of the field.

Wells Fargo School Supply Donation Program and Teacher Awards: This program collects school supplies at the A's Guest Relations booth at every A's Friday home game to benefit local schools in need. At the end of the season, an A's player and team mascot Stomper donate the collected supplies during a player visit to East Bay schools. Over the past two years, the A's and Wells Fargo have collected more than 5,000 supplies for local schools. In addition, throughout the season the A's honor local teachers for their dedication to education in a special on-field pre-game ceremony with Wells Fargo providing additional funding to those schools.

A's Amigos Program: Prior to the game April 20, an A's player will speak to a group of children about the importance of education, sportsmanship and hard work as a part of the A's Amigos Program. In addition to the pre-game visit, each child will receive a game ticket and an A's hat, courtesy of Kelly-Moore Paints and XFINITY.

National Anthem Singer: On Sunday, April 22, the national anthem will be performed by Granada High School junior **Braden Sweeney**, who recently organized a talent showcase at Livermore High School featuring 20 acts (including himself) that raised \$5,360 for the Invisible Children Protection Plan.

A's Home Run Readers Program School Visit: An A's player will visit with more than 150 students at Otis Elementary School in Alameda on behalf of the A's Home Run Readers Program Monday, April 23 at 1 p.m. The player 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. For the 2011-12 school year, over **13,800 students** from 76 Bay Area schools reached their goals and four of those schools will receive a visit from an A's player or coach.

Weeks' Clinic at Newly Renovated Skyline Field: **Jemile Weeks** will host a fielding clinic for the varsity and junior varsity baseball teams of Oakland's Skyline High School Tuesday, April 24 at 1 p.m. at their newly renovated field. The A's renovation of Skyline's baseball field was completed in March in partnership with the Good Tidings Foundation, and included new infield irrigation, infield turf and cinder, new home plate and mound clay, improved outfield drainage, fresh paint and a new mower. [SEE SEPARATE ADVISORY]

Green Stampede Homework Club: Before select A's home games, teachers and volunteers from Oakland public schools offer tutoring for at-risk students at the Coliseum. Students who attend the study group are rewarded with tickets to that night's game. If a student shows up to all eight of the study groups, they will be rewarded with a visit from an A's player for a Q&A session and autographs. The first session will meet until June 6 and the second session will meet between Aug. 2 and Sept. 21.

A's Community Fund Silent Auction: The A's will host silent auctions of various sports memorabilia behind Section 120 at all A's Saturday and Sunday home dates during the season. Proceeds benefit the A's Community Fund and other local charities.

Take the Field with the A's: Prior to select weekend games during the season, selected Little Leaguers will accompany A's players as they take the field, stand with the players during the national anthem, and receive an autographed ball from an A's player. Take the Field with the A's is sponsored by Washington Hospital.

Race Around the Bases: Following most Sunday afternoon games, children 14 and under will have a chance to race around the bases. Race Around the Bases is sponsored by Chevrolet.

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Contact: Kristy Fick, Senior Manager, Player and Media Relations
510-563-2236; kfick@oaklandathletics.com