

# OAKLAND ATHLETICS MEDIA RELEASE

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 26, 2018

# Oakland A's to Open 50th Anniversary Season on Thursday, March 29

**OAKLAND, Calif.** – The Oakland Athletics will open their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary season with a rare 1:05 p.m. Opening Day game against the Los Angeles Angels on Thursday, March 29 at the Oakland Coliseum. Baseball Hall of Famer and A's Special Assistant to the President Rollie Fingers will throw out the ceremonial first pitch. Opening Day will also include a Navy flyover, Season Ticket Members holding the American flag in centerfield, and an A's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo wall hang giveaway for 25,000 fans.

The following night, the A's will honor members of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Team before they host Opening Night against the Angels. Members representing each of the A's ownership groups will be present for the ceremony. Following the ceremony, Steve Vucinich, the longest-tenured employee in Athletics history, will throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

# Thursday, March 29 | Los Angeles Angels | 1:05 p.m.

TV: NBC Sports California

Radio: 95.7 FM The Game and the A's Radio Network

Parking: 9 a.m.

Season Ticket Member Gate opens at 10:35 a.m. | All stadium gates open at 11:05 a.m.

50th Anniversary wall hang giveaway: 25,000 fans will receive a 50th anniversary wall hang.

Alumni autograph sessions: A's Alumni are scheduled to visit Championship Plazaprior to the game for autograph sessions. Vida Blue and Tim Hudson are scheduled to sign autographs from 11:30 a.m. to noon, and Bert "Campy" Campaneris and Jose Caneseco are scheduled to sign autographs from noon to 12:30 p.m. Fans can pay \$20 to get autographs from the two alumni per session. All proceeds benefit the Oakland A's Community Fund.

**Community Corner**: Fans can visit the new Community Corner at Section 218 to learn more about the A's work in the Oakland and East Bay community.

**Grab bags**: Fans can purchase an A's grab bag for \$20 from the Community Corner to benefit the Oakland A's Community Fund. Each grab bag will include past giveaway items.

A's Community Fund Silent Auction: Every Saturday and Sunday home game (and other select games), the A's Community Fund hosts a silent auction featuring signed and unsigned A's memorabilia as well as game-used items. The silent auctions are in the Community Corner at Section 218 and end with the last out in the bottom of the fifth inning.

A's Community Fund 50/50 Raffle: At select home games throughout the 2018 season, fans can participate in the A's Community Fund 50/50 Raffle, presented by Sutter Health. One lucky fan will win half of the gross proceeds raised at each game, with the remaining proceeds benefitting the Oakland A's Community Fund. Visit the Community Corner at Section 218 or look for designated Raffle Team Members around the ballpark.

Color Guard: Oakland Police Department

National Anthem and God Bless America: Staff Sgt. Michelle Dootlittle

Ceremonial First Pitch: Rollie Fingers

## Friday, March 30 | Los Angeles Angels | 7:35 p.m.

TV: NBC Sports California

Radio: 95.7 FM The Game and the A's Radio Network

Parking: 2 p.m.

Season Ticket Member Gate opens at 4:35 p.m. | All stadium gates open at 5:05 p.m.

**Pregame Ceremony:** The A's will host a special pregame ceremony to honor members of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Team. Members of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Team and family members of deceased alumni will be recognized on field; video clips from those who are still playing will also be shown. The A's will also recognize members representing each of the A's ownership groups. Fans are encouraged to be in their seats by 6:40 p.m.

Pet calendar giveaway: 10,000 fans will receive a pet calendar, presented by AdvoDerm Natural & Nylabone.

Alumni autograph sessions: A's Alumni are scheduled to visit Championship Plaza during the game for autograph sessions. Coco Crisp and Jason Giambi are scheduled to sign autographs during the top of the second inning, and Eric Chavez and Nick Swisher are scheduled to sign autographs during the top of the fourth inning. Fans can pay \$20 to get autographs from the two alumni per session. All proceeds benefit the Oakland A's Community Fund.

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National Anthem and God Bless America: Daniel Duffy Borup

Ceremonial First Pitch: Steve Vucinich

Nonprofit Partner of the Game: National Brain Tumor Society

## Saturday, March 31 | Los Angeles Angels | 1:05 p.m.

TV: NBC Sports California

Radio: 95.7 FM The Game and the A's Radio Network

Parking: 9 a.m.

Season Ticket Member Gate opens at 10:35 a.m. | All stadium gates open at 11:05 a.m.

Cesar Chavez Day: The A's will host Cesar Chavez Day, becoming the first team in Major League Baseball to dedicate a day in his honor. Oakland has long been a part of the Chavez legacy, dating back to the 1950s when Cesar began organizing around the Fruitvale District and greater Oakland. Cesar Chavez Day is a national holiday that celebrates the birth and legacy of the civil rights and labor movement *activist* on March 31 of each year. As part of the celebration, the A's will host Cesar's sisters Rita and Eduwieges Chavez, nephew Rudy Medina-Chavez, more than 200 members of the Chavez family, and a number of community leaders and nonprofit organizations. For a special ticket offer benefiting Chavez Family Vision, Inc., fans can visit <a href="https://example.com/chavez">athletics.com/chavez</a>.

Coliseum stadium globe giveaway: 15,000 fans will receive a Coliseum stadium globe.

**Community Corner:** Fans can visit the new Community Corner at Section 218 to learn more about the A's work in the Oakland and East Bay community.

**Grab bags**: Fans can purchase an A's grab bag for \$20 from the Community Corner to benefit the Oakland A's Community Fund. Each grab bag will include past giveaway items.

A's Community Fund Silent Auction: Every Saturday and Sunday home game (and other select games), the A's Community Fund hosts a silent auction featuring signed and unsigned A's memorabilia as well as game-used items. The silent auctions are in the Community Corner at Section 218 and end with the last out in the bottom of the fifth inning.

A's Community Fund 50/50 Raffle: At select home games throughout the 2018 season, fans can participate in the A's Community Fund 50/50 Raffle, presented by Sutter Health. One lucky fan will win half of the gross proceeds raised at each game, with the remaining proceeds benefitting the Oakland A's Community Fund. Visit the Community Corner at Section 218 or look for designated Raffle Team Members around the ballpark.

National Anthem: Eric Domulot

Ceremonial First Pitch: Rudy Medina-Chavez and Season Ticket Member

Nonprofit Partner of the Game: Cesar Chavez Foundation

#### Sunday, April 1 | Los Angeles Angels | 1:05 p.m.

TV: NBC Sports California

Radio: 95.7 FM The Game and the A's Radio Network

Parking: 9 a.m. \$30 until 2 p.m.; \$40 after 2 p.m. because of Warriors game

Season Ticket Member Gate opens at 10:35 a.m. | All stadium gates open at 11:05 a.m.

**Food Trucks**: Food Trucks will be located in Lot A for Sunday's game due to the Warriors game. Fans will be able to exit and re-enter the ballpark to access the food trucks through Gate A.

**Community Corner:** Fans can visit the new Community Corner at Section 218 to learn more about the A's work in the Oakland and East Bay community.

**Grab bags**: Fans can purchase an A's grab bag for \$20 from the Community Corner to benefit the Oakland A's Community Fund. Each grab bag will include past giveaway items.

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**Race Around the Bases**: Race Around the Bases invites children ages 14 and younger onto the field to run the bases after most Sunday games.

National Anthem: Natalie Schroeder

Ceremonial First Pitch: Season Ticket Member

#### Monday, April 2 | Texas Rangers | 7:05 p.m.

TV: NBC Sports California

Radio: 95.7 FM The Game and the A's Radio Network

Parking: 4 p.m.

Season Ticket Member Gate opens at 5:05 p.m. | All stadium gates open at 5:35 p.m.

National Anthem: Sinaloa Middle School Choir Ceremonial First Pitch: Season Ticket Member

# Tuesday, April 3 | Texas Rangers | 7:05 p.m.

TV: NBC Sports California

Radio: 95.7 FM The Game and the A's Radio Network

**Parking:** 4 p.m. – Chevy Free Parking Tuesday

Season Ticket Member Gate opens at 4 p.m. | All stadium gates open at 4:30 p.m.

National Anthem: St. Mary's College Choir Ceremonial First Pitch: Season Ticket Member

# Wednesday, April 4 | Texas Rangers | 7:05 p.m.

TV: NBC Sports California

Radio: 95.7 FM The Game and the A's Radio Network

Parking: 4 p.m.

Season Ticket Member Gate opens at 5:05 p.m. | All stadium gates open at 5:35 p.m.

National Anthem: Sinaloa Middle School Band Ceremonial First Pitch: Season Ticket Member

# Thursday, April 5 | Texas Rangers | 12:35 p.m.

TV: NBC Sports California

Radio: 95.7 FM The Game and the A's Radio Network

Parking: 9 a.m.

Season Ticket Member Gate opens at 10:35 a.m. | All stadium gates open at 11:05 a.m.

National Anthem: Pinole Valley High School

Ceremonial First Pitch: TBD

Nonprofit Partner of the Game: The Arc of Alameda County

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