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Sunday, March 13, 2005

Meyer in the rotation?

From Inside Bay Area comes this: Manager Ken Macha offered his most revealing comment yet on the starting rotation, suggesting the final two spots are for rookies Joe Blanton and Dan Meyer to lose.

Macha told reporters the Oakland Athletics have a "Plan A" and then listed the five starters in this order: Barry Zito, Rich Harden, Dan Haren, Blanton and Meyer. I'm very surprised that he's come out and said this, especially since it had been apparent until now that Meyer would get some more time in AAA before joining the rotation.

What's interesting is that it isn't like the other options have pitched themselves out of contention: Seth Etherton in particular is pitching quite well and it's unlikely that Keiichi Yabu or Kirk Saarloos would embarrass themselves in the fifth spot. I wonder if Macha is on the same page with the front office on this.

Posted by jason in Baseball, Oakland A's at 09:44

I agree with the tenor of your remarks re Macha and the A's front office (BB). Macha says some things (Byrnes comments earlier this week; now this) that a knowledgeable observer knows is either flat-out wrong or a half-truth at best. Perhaps he's just trying to bolster the confidence of Meyer and Blanton. BTW the latter pitched pretty well today (3/13).

I was surprised to learn that the A's were 2nd in the AL in most times scoring 3 or fewer runs with 71 last year (KC was 1st with 84). The hitting is again looking a bit spotty this ST. If the A's are to have any chance, Crosby and Swisher will have to put up pretty good nos. unfortunately, I wouldn't bet on it.

Anonymous on Mar 13 2005, 20:00