

**Make-A-Wish Foundation®**  
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M E D I A A D V I S O R Y

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** - April 7, 2010

## **Mariners Team Up with Make-A-Wish Foundation® for Opening Day Tradition**

**Child with End Stage Renal Disease will be the first to run the bases at 2010 Home Opener**

### **WHO & WHAT**

With baseball season nearly in full swing, our hometown team has already scored big with 9-year-old wish kid Kyle Wolden of Mt. Vernon who will participate in the ceremonial running of the bases at the Mariners' Home Opener.

Each year, the Make-A-Wish Foundation chooses a child to represent the Foundation in this honored tradition. Kyle, who is battling kidney failure, was selected for this honor because he's a huge baseball fan.

In fact, you could say that baseball is in his blood. "Kyle has been around baseball forever," said his mom, Mari. "His dad, Tony, coached high school baseball and Kyle was a bat boy starting at the age of four. When Kyle got sick, his dad resigned and now coaches Kyle and his little sister's team."

According to Mari, "Kyle told me that the fact that he gets to run the bases shows how many people love and support him."

His all-time favorite baseball player is Red Sox second baseman, Dustin Pedroia who he'll meet as his Make-A-Wish, but he's still excited to root for his hometown heroes (including his favorite M's: Chone Figgins, Ken Griffey and Franklin Gutierrez) at the Home Opener.

### **WHERE & WHEN**

Kyle will hit the ground running at Safeco Field for a practice on Friday, April 9 at 11 a.m. The actual running of the bases will take place at the Home Opener on Monday, April 12 at 3:39 p.m (approximately) Safeco Field is located at 1250 First Avenue South.

### **IMPORTANT MEDIA BALLPARK ENTRANCE INSTRUCTIONS**

Media wishing to cover the practice should enter through the Third Base Entry of Safeco Field (1<sup>st</sup> Ave. side, across from the Great Floors carpet store). To cover the Opening Day pregame ceremony, media must be credentialed in advance by the Seattle Mariners Baseball Information Dept. Please contact [Kelly Munro](mailto:Kelly.Munro@mariners.com) ([kmunro@mariners.com](mailto:kmunro@mariners.com), 206-346-4401) for credential information.

### **ABOUT THE MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION**

*The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Alaska, Montana, Northern Idaho and Washington grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Since its inception in 1986, the chapter has granted more than 4,000 wishes to children in the Northwest and will grant 327 wishes this year alone. For more information about the Foundation, including how you can help share the power of a wish®, call 800.304.WISH or visit [www.northwestwishes.org](http://www.northwestwishes.org).*

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