

THE SPORTS PAGE

News from the Babe Ruth Birthplace and Sports Legends Museums



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2015

FEATURE ARTICLE

At Maryland, two Jones' will be twice as nice

By Dorian Craft

After one of their most successful seasons in school history—one that saw the 2014 Maryland Lady Terrapins advance to their First Final Four since winning the NCAA championship in 2006, Maryland is at it again. Now Big 10 Champions, they are living up to preseason predictions with flying colors, on their way to their second consecutive Final Four. “I think it’s humbling,” head Coach Brenda Freese said of the conference ranking at Maryland’s media day in November, “you know, you haven’t even played a game in the Big 10 and you’re already tapped to win it.” However she added, “at the end of the day, we don’t put much emphasis on preseason rankings.”

Regardless of what emphasis the team placed on the ranking at first, the preseason prediction appears to be spot on. In their inaugural season in the Big 10, the Terps had 24 consecutive wins, a new Maryland record. A big reason for their success thus far? The play of Brionna Jones. After assuming the starting role in only her second year in College Park, the sophomore center from Havre De Grace, Md. has quickly established herself as a presence in the paint, able to contribute for the Lady Terrapins from the low post on both the offensive and defensive side of the ball. Through mid-January, Jones

had already put up impressive statistics: logging 15 games in double-digits, including a 24-point performance, a new career high, against Illinois on January 18,



Brionna Jones has been an integral part of the Lady Terps' unbelievable breakout season in the Big 10.

and six games in which she has grabbed ten-plus rebounds.

But while Coach Freese might consider Jones, “a force around the basket with the best pair of hands you’ll see,” Brionna might not even be the best player in her family. That title could easily go to her younger sister, Stephanie, a junior at Aberdeen High School. Less than two months into her junior season, Stephanie

eclipsed the 1,000-point threshold, which she reached in a game against Severna Park in December 2014. Next in her sights? Big sister Bri’s mark of 1,812. “I really wanted to do it (score 1,000 points) in the beginning of this year,” Jones told Randy McRoberts of the Baltimore Sun. “Now I’m working to beat her, that’s my next goal.”

And although Stephanie may be working to beat Brionna on the Aberdeen Eagles’ career points list now, in the future she’ll be joining her big sister in College Park, after verbally committing to the Lady Terrapins in September of last year. Of her decision, Jones said, “The thought of going to Maryland has been with me for some time, but I wanted to make sure. I didn’t want to verbal too early, but I am delighted that I am going to be a Terp.”

Who will have the better career at Maryland, Brionna or Stephanie? Only time will tell. But one thing is for certain—it’ll be fun to watch.

– **Dorian Craft** is the Sports Director at WHAG TV in Hagerstown, MD. She is a former ACC Champion softball player at Virginia Tech.

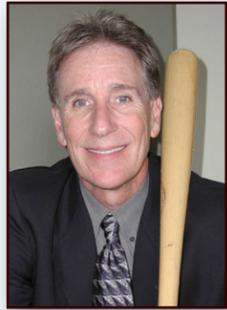
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WHAT’S COMING UP?

- APRIL 9 - SPORTS WRITERS LUNCHEON
 - APRIL 10 - OPENING DAY BLOCK PARTY
 - APRIL 11 - SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY JOSÉ BAUTISTA
- FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TICKETS,
PLEASE CALL (410) 727-1539 X3033.



BATTING HELMETS REQUIRED!

For the next three months, the Babe Ruth Birthplace Museum will be enjoying a serious makeover. The 40-plus year-old facility, which opened to the public in 1974 following a multi-year restoration project, will be ushered into the 21st Century in terms of ADA and fire-safety code issues. Beginning March 18, construction workers began in a process that will result in the main public entrance of the museum being moved from Emory Street to Dover, a cobblestoned lane on the north side of the property.

By moving the main entrance, the museum will be able to provide access to visitors with wheelchair assistance and to families with strollers, while at the same time preserving the integrity and look of the historic Emory Street façade. The new north entrance will open to a main atrium lobby where guests can purchase admission tickets at a first-level ticket booth, and/or gain access to the second and third story levels via a newly installed elevator.

Public restrooms will be fully renovated and made ADA compliant, and the building will be rewired and adorned with new flooring, fresh paint, and historic, real-deal exhibits on the life and times of George Herman 'Babe' Ruth. The project is scheduled to conclude with a grand reopening ceremony on Friday, June 12, just in time for a three-game weekend series, Orioles versus Yankees.

Until then, be sure to wear your batting helmet...or hard hat, if you plan on meandering anywhere near the Babe Ruth Birthplace, which, of course, you won't be doing unless you're a construction worker! Sports Legends Museum's renovations, by the way, will be delayed until later this year, keeping the doors open to the public on its regular operating schedule.

Mike Gibbons, Executive Director

BABE RUTH BIRTHPLACE FOUNDATION

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BABE'S BIRTHDAY BASH 2015, FEBRUARY 6

(From left to right) Bruce Posner, Michael Gibbons, Brian Jordan, and Smyth Jewelers President Leonard "Buzz" Getschel pose as Mr. Jordan accepts this year's Babe Ruth Community Service Award. Our Birthday Bash saw a great cast of sports stars, sneak peeks into the coming Orioles season, and a great night of food and fun for members and guests.

MEMBERS' NIGHT WITH THE BALTIMORE BLAST, MARCH 11

Thanks to everyone who could make it to our Members' Night with the Baltimore Blast! The Blast took on the Rochester Lancers for the Major Arena Soccer League Division Final that turned into a real nail-biter. We are grateful to the Blast for working with us to get such great playoff seats after a snow cancellation in February. More member events are on the way this summer!



Amanda's Pick

Stories from our collections vault

OBJECT: Baltimore Bullets vs. Boston Celtics Program

DATE: 1948-49 Season

WHY DO WE HAVE IT? The current Washington Wizards have to give a shout-out to the 1944-1954 incarnation of the Baltimore Bullets. 1948 was the only year the Bullets won a Basketball Association of America Championship, and then the team folded in 1954. But in 1963, the Bullets name was resurrected as part of the NBA. Ten years later, that team would move south and evolve into the Wizards of today. There isn't much that survives from the Baltimore Bullets, making this program a rare find.

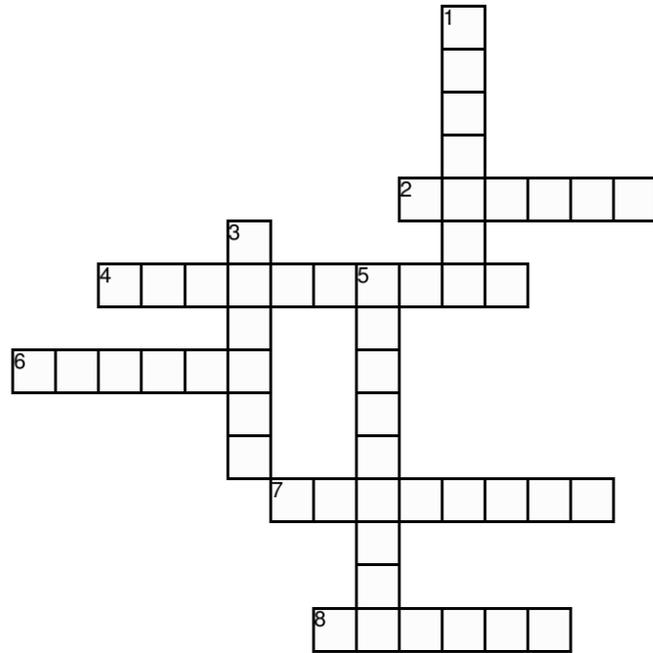
WHY IN THIS ISSUE? To be honest, I've never fallen in love with basketball the way that I have with baseball or football. This program piqued my interest because it was from a game versus Boston, one of my favorite cities (aside from Baltimore of course!). Baltimore may no longer have a professional basketball team to cheer on, but we do have the opportunity to root for Mark Turgeon, Brenda Frese, and the men and women of the UMD basketball teams as they make their mark in the Big 10. Go Terps!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Legends Club | Eric Arneklev | David Dannenfelser | Andrew & Amy McLaughlin | Gary Shertzer |
| David Dopkin | Edward Arnold | Louis Ford | George Moerschel | Jerry Sokolis |
| Kevin Fruman | Charles Atkinson | Frank Hart | Alex & Lisa Molmud | Daniel Weikle |
| Dennis Weinman | Connie Atkinson | Chris & Kit Henick | Gary Nengel | |
| | Steve Bartlett | Hilary & Byron King | David Newman | Manny Vendelis, |
| | Kim Belts | Steve Krechmer | Greg Oliver | Harford Cleaners |
| | Jason & Ritchie Brino | Joshua McConaha | Lisa Roberts | |
| | Aaron Corkran | Brian McDonald | Melissa Rodriguez | |



Lacrosseword Puzzle



Word Bank

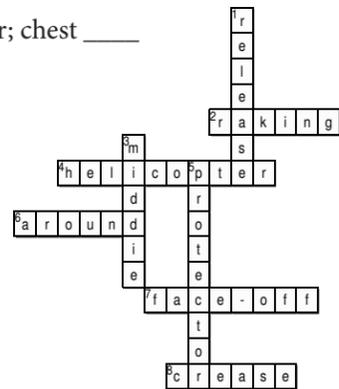
Helicopter Around Raking Middie Release
Crease Protector Face-off

Across

- Stopping the ball with the back of the stick and catching it as it rolls backwards (bad technique!)
- When a stick is checked out of the player's hand so it flies across the field.
- _____ the world; shot where stick is wrapped around the opposite direction over the shoulder of the shooting hand.
- One-on-one attempt to take the ball; usually at the beginning of the game, halftime, or after a score.
- The circle around the goal which attack players can't enter.

Down

- Players call 'Ball! Man! _____!' to pick up the ball and block a defender.
- Midfielder; coach will call out '_____ back!' to prevent offsides penalty.
- Part of a goalkeeper's gear; chest _____



ANSWERS

LAST ISSUE'S ANSWERS



The Ballpark Food Review

By Doug Roberts

College lacrosse season is underway, and with plenty of Division One collegiate weekend games between now and May (mostly on Saturday) you're going to be hungry.

How about brunch? Not just any brunch, but one of the best brunches in Lacrosseville. Consider the weekend brunch at Tark's Grill, nestled in the heart of Greenspring Valley.

The Tark's brunch menu features a dozen gourmet entrées, including eight egg dishes ranging from a crab omelet (\$18), to two eggs any style served with hash browns and bacon, canadian bacon or sausage (\$8), to bagels and lox (\$12), or to buttermilk fresh blueberry pancakes (\$10).

My choice is the astounding Lindsay's Chicago Chopped Salad with thirteen ingredients (including bacon). I get it with grilled salmon—it could very well be the best salad in town. Did I say bacon again?

Want the ingredients for Lindsay's

salad? Sure. Go to baberruthmuseum.org, go to our Sports Page tab and have at it.

Besides brunch, Tark's Grill also serves lunch and dinner. The dinner menu has over 15 choices (\$18-34), two jumbo lump crab cakes (market price) and, if you ask, they'll turn their Custom Blend Hamburger into one hell of a bacon cheeseburger.

Tark's Main Dining Room serves ninety diners; there's also a Wine Room and a Bar and Lounge. Brittany, Kevin and Megan mix classic bloody mary's. I like mine with a shrimp in it, but I've been told they'll garnish one with a pinch of Old Bay and a stick of bacon. Seriously.

Operating partner as well as congenial host Bill Shriver reminded me that Tark's has its own Hall Of Fame Room. Go to Tarks.com and check out what Brooks Robinson, Cal Ripken, Pam Shriver, Jim Palmer, Artie Donovan and Ozzie Newsome have to say about one of



Baltimore's BEST restaurants.

Yep, ladies and gents, it's finally lacrosse season. So kick back, enjoy a delightful weekend brunch at Tark's Grill at Greenspring Station...and play on!

Visit baberruthmuseum.org/sports-page for the Lindsay's salad recipe.

— **Doug Roberts** is a volunteer writer and editor who for 23 years reviewed restaurants for WBAL Radio.

WHAT ARE THE PROS SAYING...

about stalling and the 30-shot clock?

The NCAA has changed the rules of the grand old game, lacrosse. Well, sort of. They have instituted a 30 shot clock. But it is not a clock that is employed throughout the game at the official scorers' table but is started only when the officials on the field think stalling is occurring. What's the reaction here in Baltimore?

Bob Shriver, Boys' Latin Lacrosse Head Coach

"My feeling on the shot clock and the timer is that lacrosse is billed as 'the fastest sport on two feet' and anything that can keep that part of the game moving in the right direction is a huge positive. Lacrosse is a beautiful game and when it's being played up and down the field with little limitations as to how fast the game goes the clock really helps."

Quint Kessenich, ESPN Lacrosse Analyst

"It's a band-aid for a sport that needs more up tempo action and continues to place a tremendous burden on the officials. It's a slight upgrade, the fans can see it and the folks at home watching TV can see it but the game needs an official, real shot clock like in college basketball."

Interviews for "What are the pros saying..." are conducted by Doug Roberts.

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Getting ready for 2015: Spring Training Preview

By Brittany Ghirola

The Orioles have had a lot of success in the Rule 5 Draft in years past, and they are hoping to continue that trend in 2015.

Baltimore selected a pair of pitchers this winter, right-handers Logan Verrett from the New York Mets and Jason Garcia from the Boston Red Sox. While both are intriguing, the O's got a player with the potential for some high upside in Garcia. Fully recovered from Tommy John surgery, Garcia's fastball hit triple digits in this fall's instructional league. A 17th-round pick in the 2010 first-year player draft, Garcia's dominant effort against the Orioles in instructs is what made Baltimore's scouts sit up and take notice.

"We saw him a lot," executive vice president of baseball operations Dan Duquette said of Garcia at the Winter Meetings. "I think he pitched against 18 of our hitters and struck out 14 of them in the instructional league this fall. He's a hard-throwing right-handed pitcher. He has

a nice delivery, good secondary pitches. Although he's only pitched in Class-A ball, he has very good equipment and skills to be a major league pitcher."

Garcia sits more in the mid-90s in longer outings and has a complimentary

[Garcia is] a hard-throwing right-handed pitcher. He has a nice delivery, good secondary pitches. Although he's only pitched in Class-A ball, he has very good equipment and skills to be a major league pitcher.

~Dan Duquette

slider and changeup in his arsenal. His best chance at making the club this spring is in the bullpen as a power arm. Because he's a Rule 5 Draft selection, Garcia has to make the Orioles' Opening Day roster, or he will

be offered back to the Red Sox. So, all eyes will be on him at this year's camp as the Orioles will have to make a relatively quick decision.

Garcia made a favorable impression at the Orioles' minicamp in Sarasota in mid-January, but it can be difficult for teams to keep Rule 5 pitchers on the roster.

Last year for short-season Lowell and Class-A Greenville, Garcia went 3-2 with three saves and a 3.67 ERA in 14 combined games (seven starts). He held right-handed hitters to a .189 average and struck out 9.4 batters per nine innings.

– **Brittany Ghirola** has been the Orioles beat reporter for *MLB.com* since 2010. She often conducts interviews and makes appearances for the *Mid-Atlantic Sports Network (MASN)*, *NBC Sports*, and *ESPN Radio and Sports Center*, and was an *All Big-10 swimmer* for Michigan State.



A few words with Dan Duquette

From the "Evening with Dan Duquette" museum event on December 4, 2014

What are you looking for when you're watching 18-19 year old pitchers?

"So, if we were looking at the best pitcher in the history of the Orioles, say, Jim Palmer, right? We would see great size, terrific athletic ability, a smooth fluid motion and an excellent command of his pitches. So that answers your question. You'd be looking for players built like Jim Palmer that have all the mental facilities that he has, and all the great physical abilities that he has."

Listen In

Baltimore Sports' Untold Stories from interviews by John Patti

Who do the Orioles send to the mound in the bottom of the 13th? A guy named Eddie Watt.

In a 2006 interview, during an evening at Morgan State University honoring the Orioles on the 40th anniversary of their 1966 World Series victory, Eddie told me how that game fulfilled his childhood fantasy. Eddie said, "Being very poor growing up as a kid, I never had me a chance to go anywhere or do anything.

"I played in high school and I started playing semi-pro ball at 15. I played four years in the minor leagues and I had been with the club in spring training, but the first regular season big league game that I ever attended was the game that I played in on opening day 1966."

So Eddie, how did it go? George Scott was the first hitter, and Eddie said the only thing that saved him was that he pitched against Scott in the minors. He got Scott to strike out. Watt got Rico Petticelli on a ground ball to

The first big league game I ever saw was Opening Day of 1966, and I ended up pitching in the bottom of the 13th inning of it.

~ Eddie Watt

third and Tony Horton on a dribbling ground ball back to the mound. Eddie said, "You had never seen anyone any happier to end a ballgame than I was at that time." He was elected to the Baltimore Orioles

Hall of Fame in 2000.

Listen to the interview at baberruthmuseum.org/sports-page.

– **John Patti** has anchored and reported for *WBAL Radio* since 1984.

Jim Hennemann asks,

What If?

How many times have we started a question with the words "what if?" Nobody plays the "would've, could've, should've" game better than an avid baseball fan. It was driven home again shortly after I'd written a piece about legacy of the late Hank Peters, the former Orioles' General Manager who passed away a few weeks ago.

Peters is best remembered for engineering the 10-player trade with the Yankees, June 15, 1976, generally credited with helping the Orioles win two American League pennants and one World Series. Somewhat overlooked were events preceding and following that left questions unanswered. It was a trade with Oakland the last week of spring training, sending Don Baylor and Mike Torrez to the

As that brought Jackson and set up the deal with the Yankees.

"I think we'd have won two or three more times if they'd signed Reggie Jackson and had him in the lineup with Eddie," said my youngest brother John, as big a Murray fan as you'll find who was intrigued by the damage the two Hall Of Famers might have done hitting back-to-back in the O's lineup. In his lone year here, Reggie missed the first month while negotiating, hit .277 with 27 home runs and 91 runs batted as the Orioles finished 88-74, a distant second to the Yankees.

The Orioles won 90 or more games six times in the next seven years (missing only in the interrupted strike year of 1981), winning pennants in 1979 and 1983, finished second four times, being eliminated once on the last day and

another on the next-to-last day. Jackson, who said the Orioles' rejected his request for \$1.5 million over five years, later said he thought the O's would've won at least five times with him in the lineup.

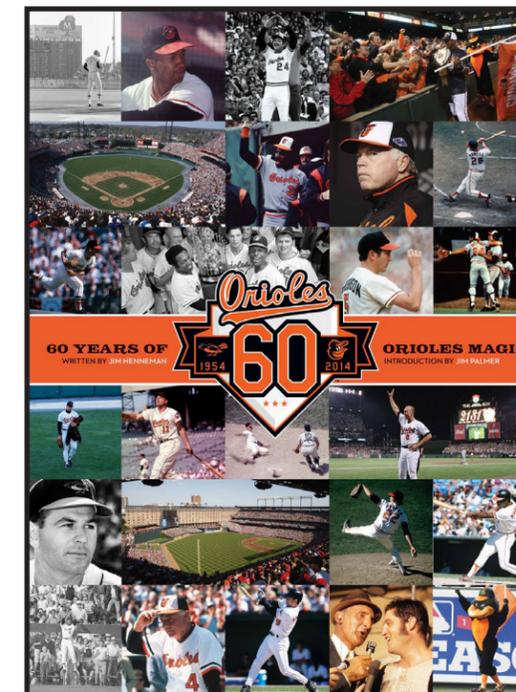
The O's weren't the only ones to misread baseball's first free-agent market. Jackson and his representatives (he had several) were also guilty of misjudgment—eventually signing with the Yankees for \$2.9 million over five years, double the figure reportedly turned down by the O's. The Yankees, of course, won the pennant in three of the years the Orioles came up short.

The flip side to this scenario is the one never discussed. Suppose the O's had not made the Jackson trade in the first place? They wouldn't have made that 10-player trade because Ken Holtzman (obtained from the A's) was the key piece going to New York, but Torrez had just won 20 games for the Orioles and would go on

to win 65 more in the next four years for the A's, Yankees and Red Sox, and Baylor was just beginning to show the talent that would eventually make him an MVP (ironically, in 1979, when the O's won the pennant).

What if? We can never answer the "would've, could've, should've" questions. But it doesn't stop us from asking. In fact, I'd bet that Hank Peters took those same questions to his grave.

Jim Hennemann is a long-time Baltimore sports writer, the author of "60 Years Of Oriole Magic" (pictured on the right) and the "Upon Further Review" column on www.pressboxonline.com.





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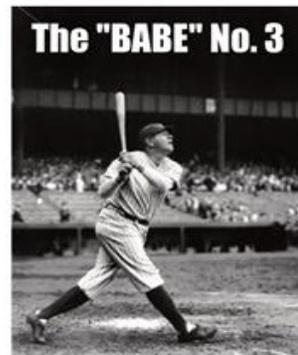
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