

Chapter 1 : Baltimore City Recreation and Parks Sports

Baseball in Baltimore, Maryland (Images of Sports Series) by Tom Flynn Few cities can boast as rich a baseball history as Baltimore. With longtime entries in the majors, minors, and Negro Leagues, the city's core of faithful fans have seldom lacked a team to root for.

He, along with his female counterpart, "Diamond" replaced former mascot BJ Birdie before the season as a mascot duo. Like his predecessor, Ace resembles a large blue jay. In , Ace became the sole mascot of the team after Diamond was removed by the Blue Jays prior to the start of the season. In , Blue Jays fans were introduced to his younger brother Junior see below. He was resurrected and upgraded to be a costumed performing character in , having previously only been an official logo image and since only appearing on special materials. Baxter the Bobcat, and he became the mascot in The mascot was created by Brantley Bell who is currently an infielder in the Cincinnati Reds minor league system , the son of Jay Bell , one of the players on the Diamondbacks inaugural season roster. Brantley came up with the name from two sources. The bobcat is from the original name of the stadium where the Diamondbacks play. The bobcat is a wild cat native to Arizona. A beer-barreled chalet was built for him inside the stadium where he led the crowd cheering. Following each home run and every victory by the Brewers, he would slide down and plunge himself into a huge beer mug in celebration. Bernie Brewer was a fixture at Brewers home games until , when the Brewers re-built the bleachers , replacing the chalet with a sound tower and sending Bernie into retirement. By popular demand, Bernie Brewer came out of his retirement in , when the fans voted for his return. Bernie was brought back not as just a mustachioed man in lederhosen , but a full-body costume of a man, including large foam head. The chalet was then rebuilt it had been in storage on the third base side under the box seats above the left-center field bleachers. The original beer mug that Bernie used to slide into is still in Milwaukee, Wisconsin as part of the Lakefront Brewery, Inc. Resembling a marlin with limbs, he can be seen at every Marlins home game. He competes in a waterboat race, which is a computer-animated video shown on the screen, during each game. The name, picked by original team owner Wayne Huizenga , is derived from the fact that a marlin is a billfish , and Huizenga wanted a name that was different from the baseball type names of other mascots like Slider and Sluggerrr and one that children could remember more easily. Billy is also seen at games dancing with kids on the field in between innings and making special appearances in the Fan Zone. After a giveaway of masks in June proved popular, the team introduced the Luchador as a permanent character in July He is an anthropomorphic purple triceratops. The choice of a dinosaur, specifically this type, was inspired by the discovery of a number of dinosaur fossils—most notably a 7-foot-long 2. His name "Dinger" is one of many slang terms for a home run. Dinger is often seen on the field before and after the game and roaming around the stadium during the game. When Rockies hitters are at bat in the late innings of a game, he often dances in the seats immediately behind home plate in an effort to distract opposing pitchers, sitting down only immediately before the beginning motion of each pitch. Dinger works year-round promoting physical fitness and literacy for thousands of elementary school students in the Rocky Mountain Region. He acts out his own Dinger Story for the kids. The cat wears a Tampa Bay Rays ring, wears chains, and wears his Rays hat backwards. Louis Cardinals [edit] See also: Louis Cardinals Fredbird entertaining the crowd between innings during a Cardinals game at Busch Stadium Fredbird is the official mascot for the St. A person dressed up as Fredbird can often be found entertaining young children during baseball games at Busch Stadium. His name is derived from "Redbird", a synonym for the cardinal bird and for the Cardinals themselves. Fredbird was introduced in by the Cardinals, then owned by Anheuser-Busch , to entertain younger fans at the games. He quickly became popular with fans for his dancing, habit of "beaking" the heads of supporters, and for throwing T-shirts into the stands. In later years, he has been joined by "Team Fredbird", a group of young women employed by the club who help him with his T-shirt toss and occasionally in other duties. Gapper Cincinnati Reds [edit] See also: Red , the long-time mascot in the winter of as the franchise was preparing to move to their new home, Great American Ball Park. A young fan won two season tickets for submitting the winning name; he is named after the "gap" in the stands in the seats of Great American, which provides a view

into and out of the stadium. The term "gapper" is also a slang phrase for a batted ball which falls into the "gap" between outfielders generally a ball hit to either left-center or right-center field which rolls to the fence. According to a recent Cincinnati. He made his mascot debut in He only appears on Jr. Jays Sundays formerly Jr. Jays Saturdays, prior to the season. Lou Seal is the official mascot of the San Francisco Giants. Although his name a play on the name "Lucille" is a bit ambiguous, he is indeed "officially" male and the person inside the costume is a man. In a contest held by the Giants where fans were asked for ideas, six people submitted the name "Lou Seal. In Forbes Magazine named Lou Seal the best mascot in sports. This practice ended in when the San Jose Giants introduced their own mascot named Gigante. Mariner Moose Seattle Mariners [edit] Main article: In , a contest for children 14 and under was held to select a mascot, after entries the club chose the "Mariner Moose" The Moose made his debut on April 13, dancing on the field at the Kingdome. Inline skating behind an ATV would continue to be a fan favorite until , when the team moved to Safeco Field and a natural grass playing surface. The Moose makes several hundred appearances in the community each year in addition to Mariners home games, at everything from hospitals to wedding receptions. Met New York Mets [edit] Main article: He is a baseball -headed humanoid being who wears a Mets cap and uniform. Starting in , Mr. Jan Met or Lady Met is the female version of Mr. Met, the mascot of the New York Mets. She is a baseball-headed humanoid being, has brown hair in a ponytail and wears a Mets cap and uniform. Met first appeared at games in before disappearing into obscurity. She appeared with Mr. Met in a " This is SportsCenter " commercial. The Mets reintroduced Mrs. Met in mascot form in Red Cincinnati Reds [edit] Mr. Red in Main article: He is a humanoid figure dressed in a Reds uniform, with an oversized baseball for a head. Red made his first appearance on a Reds uniform as a sleeve patch in The patch featured Mr. The following season, , saw the Reds adopt sleeveless jerseys, and Mr. Red was eliminated from the home uniform. He was moved to the left breast of the road uniform, and remained there for one season before being eliminated entirely. In , the Reds re-designed their uniform and "Mr. Red" was reintroduced as a sleeve patch on the undershirt. The costumed mascot disappeared in the late s but was reintroduced in Red retired in leaving Gapper, Rosie Red and Mr. Redlegs to take his place. A new version of Mr. Red was unveiled at Redsfest ; the new mascot will be on the field with Mr. Redlegs, Gapper and Rosie Red. Redlegs Cincinnati Reds [edit] See also: Redlegs is a mascot of the Cincinnati Reds. He was reintroduced in to play a supporting role, along with Mr. Redlegs gained national notoriety by falling off of an ATV during pre-game antics. This caused the large, baseball-shaped head to fall off of the Mr. Redlegs costume, exposing the head of the person inside the costume. He was seen a few days later wearing a neck brace as a joke. Orbit Houston Astros [edit] Main article: Orbit mascot Orbit Orbit is the mascot of the Houston Astros. Orbit represents a green space alien with antennae, in keeping with the Space City theme of the city of Houston. Originally serving as team mascot from until , he was replaced by a new mascot, Junction Jack. Paws Detroit Tigers [edit] Main article: He is a tiger who made his debut on May 5, , in Tiger Stadium. He "resides" in Comerica Park to this day. Phillie Phanatic Philadelphia Phillies [edit] Main article: He is a large, furry, green bi-pedal creature with a cylindrical beak containing a tongue that sticks out. He can be seen riding around on an ATV at home games.

Chapter 2 : Yahoo Sports MLB

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Chapter 3 : Oriole Park at Camden Yards | Baltimore Orioles

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