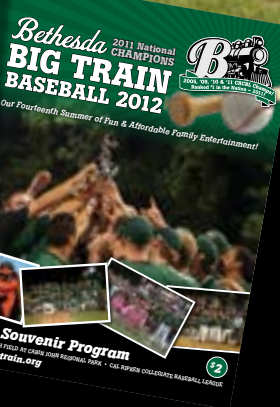
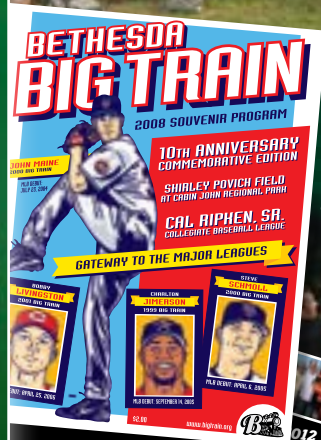
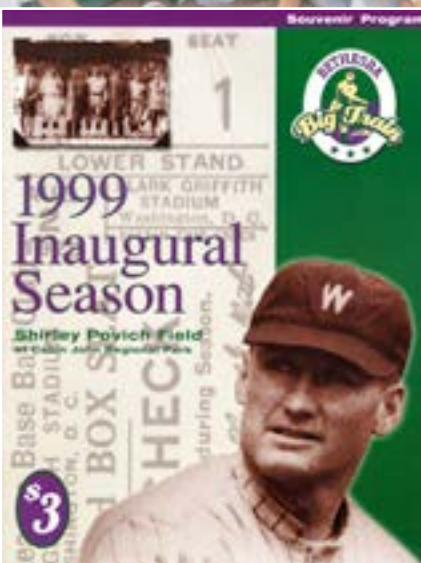
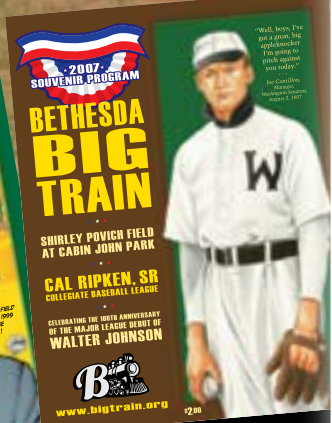


# Bethesda <sup>2011 National CHAMPIONS</sup> BIG TRAIN BASEBALL 2018

*Twenty Seasons of Affordable Family Fun Since 1999*



## 2018 Souvenir Program

SHIRLEY POVICH FIELD AT CABIN JOHN REGIONAL PARK  
CAL RIPKEN COLLEGIATE BASEBALL LEAGUE

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# BETHESDA BIG TRAIN

## Welcome from Bruce Adams, Founder, Bethesda Big Train

Dear Big Train fan:

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 20th season of Bethesda Big Train baseball at Shirley Povich Field.

Two decades ago, we promised you “summer nights of family fun with baseball at its most genuine in a county fair-like setting.” I hope you will agree that we have delivered on that promise. Even more than 20 years ago, many of us long for the community connection that Big Train baseball has provided for our families.

I remember the young fan in that first season in 1999 with a prized foul ball in hand telling me excitedly: “This was the best day of my whole life.” He’s probably 30 years old now. I hope he still loves the game and remembers fondly his days at Povich Field. Maybe he has already brought his child or soon will to a Big Train game. Another fan told co-founder John Ourisman that first summer: “When I’m here at a Big Train game, I feel like I live in a small town.” A father of one of the players on the inaugural team told me: “Mark Twain said every boy is entitled to a great summer. And, now, my boy has had his.” Marc Fisher of *The Washington Post* called Big Train baseball at Povich Field “the ultimate small-town fantasy.”

In addition to delivering family fun at affordable prices to our fans, we have delivered a very high caliber baseball. Thirteen

Big Train players have made it to the major leagues. We have won nine regular season league titles and seven league championships. In 2011, the Big Train was ranked the number one team in all of summer college baseball. In 2017, we were ranked fourth.

As we promised, we have helped build a stronger community. Our players have taught local kids at our summer camp and collected 12,158 pounds of food for the Manna Food Center. We have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in improving fields for kids. And we have showcased nearly four dozen local nonprofits to Povich Field fans each year with our Nonprofits of the Night program.

Povich Field has held up well, but after 20 seasons it was time for a refresh. I appreciate the generous supporters who made it possible to give Povich a fresh coat of paint, new signs and banners, and other improvements for the 20th season. Part of the refresh will be replacing the seat backs in 2019 as many have faded in the sun. I hope you will consider helping us by buying an inscribed seat plaque to show your support of the Big Train or honor a coach or parent or child so Povich Field will continue to be a community jewel for 20 more seasons to come.

I’m grateful to General Manager David Schneider and BCC Baseball for stepping up to the plate to keep our dream alive and that’s why I have been working with them on our campaign to refresh Povich Field. For 20 seasons, our friends at Text Design have provided the best graphics in all of summer college baseball. Thank you, Chris, Michael and Meghan.

Big Train baseball has been possible only because so many people stepped up and volunteered their time, talent, and treasure. I know you are asking, “how can I help?” Spread the word. We don’t have a budget for publicity. Word of mouth is how people learn about our community jewel. Bring your friends. Join our email list. Buy a season pass. Become a part of Povich Field by buying a seat plaque. Look for Anne or Emily at the ballpark, and ask them about being a host family. Join our Booster Club. If you want to get involved, contact us at [faninfo@bigtrain.org](mailto:faninfo@bigtrain.org).

Play ball!

Bruce Adams  
Founder

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## Bethesda Big Train

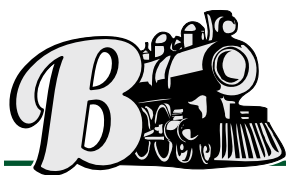
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# 2017 BIG TRAIN SWEEP RIPKEN LEAGUE TITLES

## Ranked Fourth Best Team in the Nation



2017 Big Train celebrating victory in league championship series. ©Eye on the Ball [www.eyeball.com](http://www.eyeball.com)

Only three of the nineteen Big Train teams have finished their regular season with fewer than ten losses. The national championship team of 2011 that swept the Ripken League regular season and league championship finished with a regular season record of 33-9. The 2014 team at 31-9 won the league's regular season title but then lost in the playoffs. So when the 2017 team posted a 31-9 regular season record with an eye-popping winning percentage of .775 and swept the Ripken League regular season and league championship titles while achieving a number four national ranking, they made a strong statement as possibly the second greatest team in two decades of Big Train baseball. Only five Big Train teams — 2009, 2011, 2013, 2014, and 2017 — have notched 30 or more regular season wins in the June and July grind that is the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League. And only four Big Train teams — 2005, 2009, 2011, and 2017 — have won both the Ripken League regular season and league championship titles.

True to form, the Big Train roared out of the gate winning its first five games and starting the season 7-1. The 2017 Big Train team compiled an astonishing record of 14-3 away from Povich Field. The team did not lose a game on the road until the fifteenth game of the season. Showing an extraordinary consistency throughout June and July, the team lost back-to-back games only twice all season. With a loss to the Redbirds on the road on July 11, the Big Train stood at 23-9 and trailed Alexandria in the league's South Division. Bethesda finished the season with eight straight wins including two wins over the Alexandria Aces allowing the Big Train to capture the league's South Division by a margin of three games.

The Big Train got the season started on June 6 with a 6-1 road win over the Herndon Braves. Starting pitcher **Blake Sanderson** (Florida Atlantic) allowed just one run in five strong innings. On June 8, the Big Train won 5-4 over the Baltimore Dodgers in their home opener at Povich Field to start the season at

3-0. The Big Train raced to a 3-0 lead in the second inning, but the Dodgers tied the score at four in the top of the sixth. **Gaby Cruz** (Bryant) singled and later scored the go-ahead run in the bottom of the sixth on a wild pitch. Relievers **Jack Alkire** (VCU) and **Stephen Schoch** (UMBC) held the Dodgers to one earned run in five innings. The first loss came on June 11 to the Alexandria Aces 7-3 at Povich Field. Two one run home wins over the Loudoun Riverdogs and the Baltimore Redbirds stretched the record to 7-1. **Logan Driscoll** (George Mason) led the offense in the 5-4 win over the Redbirds on June 14 with three runs batted in, but it was **Stephen Schoch** who was the hero of the game. Schoch entered the game in the top of the eighth with the Big Train ahead 5-4 but the bases full of Redbirds and no outs. Schoch struck out the next six batters to preserve the victory.

The dramatic victory over the Redbirds was followed by two straight home losses to the Baltimore Dodgers and the Herndon Braves. The team responded by posting wins of 11-1, 14-1, 10-1, and 8-2 in the next four games to improve their record to 11-3. Pitchers **A.J. Jones** (State College of Florida) and **Ken Waldichuk** (St. Mary's CA) each pitched six innings of shutout ball during this stretch. **James Outman** (Sacramento State), who exploded for six hits and five runs-batted-in to lead the June 18 doubleheader sweep over the Loudoun Riverdogs, was named Ripken League Offensive Player of the Week. It wasn't until June 21 that the Big Train suffered its first loss on the road blowing a 5-0 lead and falling to the Gaithersburg Giants 7-6 in 11 innings at Kelley Park in Gaithersburg. A mid-week 8-2 win over the Alexandria Aces on the road on June 22 moved Bethesda within a game of the South Division leading Aces. But it was more than just another win as Manager **Sal Colangelo** explained to the players in their post game meeting — it was the 500th regular season victory in Big Train history. The next night at the Nationals Youth Baseball Academy in

the District, Bethesda fell behind the D.C. Grays 3-1, but bounced back for a 7-3 win largely on the strength of two home runs by **James Outman** that had people comparing Outman to Hunter Renfroe, the Big Train's all-time hitting record holder.

After two losses at Povich Field, the Big Train headed into the second half of the season with a record of 13-6 and an opportunity to post a successful season. What was worrisome was a mediocre record of 5-5 at home at Povich Field. But then the Big Train bats got red hot winning eight straight games. The win streak began on June 26 with **Garrett Kuebler** (Austin Peay) driving in four runs in an 11-1 victory over the Riverdogs. On June 28, **Kirk Sidwell** (Stetson) reached base four times and drove in the tie-breaking run in the seventh inning to help Bethesda edge Herndon 8-6. The most exciting win during that stretch came on June 30 at Povich Field with a bases loaded walkoff blast off the outfield fence by **Zach Jancarski** (Maryland) in the bottom of the tenth inning. On July 2, **Stephen Schoch** continued his flawless summer with two and one-third scoreless innings of relief to save a 5-4 victory over the Dodgers. Schoch was named Ripken League Pitcher of the Week.

### 2017 Final Regular Season CRCBL Standings

NORTH DIVISION	W-L	%	GB
Baltimore Redbirds	26-14	.650	-
Gaithersburg Giants	19-21	.475	7
Baltimore Dodgers	18-22	.450	8
Silver Spring-Takoma Tbolts	17-23	.425	9
Rockville Express	15-25	.375	11
SOUTH DIVISION	W-L	%	GB
Bethesda Big Train	31-9	.775	-
Alexandria Aces	28-12	.700	3
Loudoun Riverdogs	17-23	.425	14
Herndon Braves	16-24	.400	15
D.C. Grays	13-27	.325	18
2017 Montgomery Cup			
	W-L	%	GB
Bethesda Big Train	10-2	.833	-
Silver Spring-Takoma Tbolts	6-7	.462	4.5
Rockville Express	6-8	.429	5
Gaithersburg Giants	4-9	.308	6.5



For the ninth straight season, the Bethesda Big Train and the Baltimore Redbirds faced off for the league championship. After winning the first three years, the Big Train dropped the next four in a row before reclaiming the crown in 2016. In 2017, Bethesda won its eighth regular season title and sixth league championship in the Ripken League's thirteen year history. At season end, the 2017 Big Train was ranked the fourth best team in all of summer college baseball.

The eight game winning streak ended with an 8-7 extra inning loss to the Redbirds on July 5 in Towson. **Logan Driscoll** was named Ripken League Offensive Player of the Week going four-for-four with his sixth home run of the season in a 9-0 romp over the Herndon Braves in Herndon on July 7 and three-for-three with a double in a 13-0 win over the Giants in Gaithersburg on July 9. **Justin Morris** (Maryland), **Michael Emodi** (Creighton), and **Luke Heyer** (Kentucky) homered and 2016 MVP **Vinny Esposito** (Sacramento State) blasted a grand slam in the Sunday night blowout over the Giants. The Big Train was back on I-95 for a trip to Towson to face the Redbirds again on July 11. The Redbirds hit solo home runs in the first and second innings and held on for a 2-0 win, their third win in the four regular season games between the league's premier teams.

With a record of 23-9, Bethesda sat one-and-one-half games back of the Alexandria Aces in the South Division competition for the league's coveted number one seed with eight regular season games to play. Fortunately, the team had one more hot streak in its arsenal. It began with a doubleheader 7-2 and 3-0 sweep of the Baltimore Dodgers at Povich Field on July 12. On July 13, the Big Train faced the most consequential regular season game of the summer. Bethesda trailed Alexandria by one game with six to play. A loss would have put the Big Train in a tough spot. Bethesda jumped on top 3-0, but the Aces knotted the score at four in the seventh. The bullpens took over and did not allow a run for seven innings. The Big Train blinked first giving up a home run in the top of the 15th inning. The Aces retired the first two Big Train batters in the bottom of the 15th, but allowed **Vinny Esposito** to reach first base on a dropped third strike. **Zach Jancarski** singled

and **Fox Semones** (James Madison) walked to load the bases. The Aces then walked **Logan Driscoll** on four pitches to tie the game. **James Outman's** walk-off single sealed the 6-5 victory that put Bethesda in a tie for first place with Alexandria. **Nash Eppard** (Bryant) pitched all six extra innings allowing just one run and getting the win.

The night after the 4 hour and 21 minute 15 inning marathon win, the Big Train was cruising to victory over the Grays in D.C. with a 6-1 lead at the seventh inning stretch. The Grays rallied to tie the game in the eighth and looked like they would win it in the ninth. Back-to-back singles put runners on first and third with no outs. **Cam Vassar** (James Madison) struck out the next batter, issued an intentional walk to load the bases, and retired the side on a pitcher-to-catcher-to-first base double play. On the scorecard, it looked as easy as 1-2-3. **Logan Driscoll** won the game 9-8 with a home run in the top of the eleventh inning to give the Big Train sole possession of first place with four games left. A 3-1 win over the Riverdogs set the stage for another matchup with the Aces in Alexandria on July 19. The Big Train took a 6-0 lead in the fourth inning and cruised to victory behind **Kevin Milam** (St. Mary's CA) who allowed just one earned run in six innings. Victories over Silver Spring-Takoma and Herndon allowed the Big Train to close out the regular season with a 31-9 record capturing the South Division over the Aces (28-12) by three games and besting the North Division champion Redbirds (26-14) by five games.

**James Outman** was named National Summer Collegiate Player of the Year by Rawlings and Perfect Game and was named the Ripken League's Most Outstanding Player. Outman led the league in home runs with 9 and runs batted in with 36 during

*continued on next page*

## Sal Colangelo's 2017 Big Train Manager's Awards

### Most Valuable Player

**James Outman** (OF, Sacramento State)

### Most Outstanding Hitter

**Logan Driscoll** (3B, George Mason)

### Most Outstanding Pitcher

**Ty Madrigal** (LHP, St. Mary's CA)

### Most Outstanding Relief Pitcher

**Stephen Schoch** (RHP, UMBC)

### Most Outstanding Fielder

**Justin Morris** (C, Maryland)

### Most Outstanding Utility Player

**Kevin Milam** (RHP/DH, St. Mary's CA)

### Hustle Award

**Jacob Koos** (OF, Stetson)

## National Summer Collegiate Player of the Year

### James Outman

(OF, Sacramento State)



### Perfect Game

### First Team All-Americans

**Ty Madrigal** (LHP, St. Mary's CA)

**James Outman** (OF, Sacramento State)

## 2017 Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Honors

### League Offensive Player of the Year

**James Outman** (OF, Sacramento State)

### League Championship Series Most Outstanding Player

**Justin Morris** (C, Maryland)

### League All-Star Game Most Outstanding Player

**Kevin Milam** (RHP/DH, St. Mary's CA)

### First Team All-League

**Logan Driscoll** (3B, George Mason)

**Kevin Milam** (RHP/DH, St. Mary's CA)

**Justin Morris** (C, Maryland)

**Ty Madrigal** (LHP, St. Mary's CA)

**James Outman** (OF, Sacramento State)

**Stephen Schoch** (RHP, UMBC)

**Zach Jancarski** (OF, Maryland)

### Honorable Mention All-League

**Vinny Esposito** (1B, Sacramento State)

**John Murphy** (RHP, Maryland)

### League South All-Star Team

**Logan Driscoll** (3B, George Mason)

**Vinny Esposito** (1B, Sacramento State)

**Zach Jancarski** (OF, Maryland)

**A.J. Jones** (RHP, State College of Florida)

**Kevin Milam** (RHP/DH, St. Mary's CA)

**Ty Madrigal** (LHP, St. Mary's CA)

**Justin Morris** (C, Maryland)

**John Murphy** (RHP, Maryland)

**James Outman** (OF, Sacramento State)

**Stephen Schoch** (RHP, UMBC)

**Kirk Sidwell** (OF, Stetson)

**Ken Waldichuk** (LHP, St. Mary's CA)

### Ripken League

### Offensive Players of the Week

Week 2 **James Outman** (OF, Sacramento State)

Week 5 **Logan Driscoll** (3B, George Mason)

### League Pitchers of the Week

Week 4 **Stephen Schoch** (RHP, UMBC)

### Perfect Game Ripken League 2017 Player of the Year

**James Outman** (OF, Sacramento State)

### Perfect Game Ripken League 2017 Top Prospects

#8 **Zach Jancarski** (OF, Maryland)

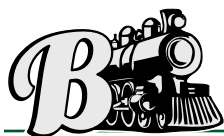
#9 **James Outman** (OF, Sacramento State)

### Baseball America Ripken League 2017 Top Prospects

#5 **James Outman** (OF, Sacramento State)

#9 **Zach Jancarski** (OF, Maryland)

#10 **Ken Waldichuk** (LHP, St. Mary's CA)



# 2017 SEASON RECAP

the regular season, just ahead of teammate **Logan Driscoll** who hit 7 home runs and had 34 RBIs. Eight players hit above .300, the most in team history. Led by Outman and Driscoll, the 2017 Big Train team was an offensive powerhouse. It tied the league record for home runs during the regular season with 43. The team's batting average of .293 is the second highest in our 19 seasons and tied for third best in league history. Outman, Driscoll, and **Kevin Milam** finished in the top six in the league in batting average. The 2017 team smashed the previous Bethesda record with 105 stolen bases. Left-handed starting pitcher **Ty Madrigal** led the league with a regular season earned run average of 0.55 and tied for second with five wins. Closer **Stephen Schoch** appeared in 16 games and did not issue a single walk in more than 26 innings pitched. Led by **Joe Nahas** (UMBC) who struck out 35 batters in 22+ innings, the Big Train pitching staff broke the previous Bethesda record with 363 strikeouts (the second highest in league history).

## LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

2017 was the third year of a new format for the League Championship Series with six of the league's ten teams qualifying for the playoffs. The two division champions in the regular season — #1 seed Big Train (31-9) and #2 seed Redbirds (26-14) — received byes and the next four teams in the standings played single games for the right to compete in the two semifinal series. On Upset Monday July 24, the #6 seed Thunderbolts (17-23) defeated the #3 seed Aces (28-12) 15-14 to win the right to play the Big Train, and the #5 seed Dodgers (18-22) beat the #4 seed Giants (19-21) 5-4 at Kelley Park in Gaithersburg to advance to the other semifinal series with the Redbirds.

In game one of the semifinal series on July 25, Bethesda beat the Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts 2-0 at Povich Field. **Ty Madrigal** was masterful through eight innings before handing the ball to **Stephen Schoch** for a 1-2-3 ninth inning to nail down a Bethesda victory. A home run by **Kevin Milam** and an RBI double from **Jordan Sargent** (High Point), both in the sixth inning, were all the offense Madrigal and Schoch needed. On July 26, the Big Train traveled to Blair Stadium in Silver Spring and swept the series with a 8-0 victory. The Big Train jumped on top 2-0 in the first inning highlighted by a **Jacob Koos** (Stetson) RBI triple, scored three more in the third, and never looked back. **Blake Sanderson** pitched five shutout innings and three relievers kept the shutout intact. The Baltimore Redbirds swept the Baltimore Dodgers winning 4-0 at home in Towson on July 25 and 8-3 on the road on July 26. This set up a Redbirds-Big Train championship matchup for the ninth year in a row.

The League Championship Series matchups between the Big Train and the Redbirds over the last eight seasons have been notable for the number of hard fought, nail-biters between two extraordinarily

well matched teams. Not so in 2017. In game one of the best of three championship on Thursday July 27 at Shirley Povich Field, the Big Train clobbered the Redbirds 14-3. Bethesda scored two runs in each of the first three innings, and the Redbirds were never in the game. **James Outman** got the party started with a booming RBI double to centerfield in the first, and **Kevin Milam** and **Vinny Esposito** both homered in a four run fifth inning. **Justin Morris** reached base in all five plate appearances. Starter **John Murphy** (Maryland) allowed just two runs through five innings before a rain delay ended his night. Relievers **Nash Eppard**, **Cam Vassar**, and **Stephen Schoch** finished the game.



Stephen Schoch, (RHP, UMBC)  
© Nicole K Kittay photography



Justin Morris, (C, Maryland)  
© Nicole K Kittay photography

Rain pushed game two to Saturday July 29, and the Redbirds returned the favor with a 15-4 romp at Carlo Crispino Stadium at Calvert Hall High School in Towson. The Redbirds jumped in front with two runs in the home half of the first inning and led 3-1 in the middle of the fifth inning. Baltimore scored four in the bottom of the fifth, gave up three in the top of the sixth, but pulled away for good with six runs in the seventh.

In the decisive game three on Sunday July 30, the teams returned to form after two uncharacteristic blowouts and gave the more than 600 fans at Shirley Povich Field the closely contested game they had come to expect when these two championship caliber teams match up. Big Train starter **Tyler Smith** (East Carolina), who had not seen action in the playoffs and had not pitched in 13 days, retired the first ten Redbirds he faced and threw 5 innings of shutout baseball. Catcher **Justin Morris** delivered the game's big blow, a three RBI double in the fourth inning and then scored to put Bethesda in the lead at 4-0. The Redbirds responded with two runs in the top of the seventh inning. **Stephen Schoch** came in and did what he had done all season long. Schoch closed out the championship victory, completing an amazing summer where he allowed no runs in 30+ innings. With his game winning hit and a game saving caught stealing in the eighth inning, Justin Morris was named the LCS Most Outstanding Player. Morris hit .500 with four RBIs, two doubles, and five runs scored in four playoff games.

*Collegiate Summer Baseball* ranked the Big Train number four in the nation for 2017 as Bethesda captured its eighth regular season title and sixth league championship in the Ripken League's thirteen year history. Big Train Manager Sal Colangelo said: "These guys stepped up to every challenge. We could be down a couple of runs, but we were going to win. If we needed to get a big hit, we got it; needed a walk-off home run, we got it. These guys did everything they needed to do. You have your ups and downs, but these guys showed their character time and again this summer. That's why they are the champions."

Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League		
YEAR	REGULAR SEASON TITLE	LEAGUE CHAMPION
2005	Bethesda Big Train	Bethesda Big Train & Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts
2006	Bethesda Big Train	Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts
2007	Youse's Maryland Orioles	Rockville Express
2008	Youse's Maryland Orioles	Youse's Maryland Orioles
2009	Bethesda Big Train	Bethesda Big Train
2010	Youse's Maryland Orioles	Bethesda Big Train
2011	Bethesda Big Train	Bethesda Big Train
2012	Rockville Express	Baltimore Redbirds
2013	Bethesda Big Train	Baltimore Redbirds
2014	Bethesda Big Train	Baltimore Redbirds
2015	Bethesda Big Train & Baltimore Redbirds	Baltimore Redbirds
2016	Baltimore Redbirds	Bethesda Big Train
2017	Bethesda Big Train	Bethesda Big Train





## Help us celebrate 20 seasons of Bethesda Big Train baseball at Shirley Povich Field

After 20 seasons, the beautiful Camden green seats have faded, and it is time to replace them.

The form below gives you an opportunity to name one or more seats in honor of a coach, a parent, a child, or your family. The new seat backs and plaques will be installed in 2019 to start the third decade of Big Train baseball.

### Be a part of Povich Field!

- ☐ **\$250: One seat plaque** and family season pass (2018 or 2019)
- ☐ **\$450: Two seat plaques**, family season pass (2018 or 2019)
- ☐ **\$1,000: Four seat plaques**, family season pass (2018 or 2019), and first pitch at Big Train game

Please make checks payable to **BCC Baseball**  
and mail with this form to:

20th Season Celebration, c/o BCC Baseball  
6400 Goldsboro Road, Suite 220, Bethesda, MD 20817

BCC Baseball is a 501 (c) (3) tax deductible nonprofit organization.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ☐ cell ☐ home ☐ work

☐ Check here if paying by credit card    ☐ Visa    ☐ Mastercard

Cardholder name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address - address as shown on credit card statement \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

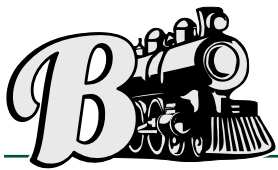
#### TEXT FOR YOUR PLAQUE

(PLEASE PRINT) Each box below represents a letter, comma, or a space; please copy this form if buying more than one seat plaque. Leave a blank square between words to signify a space.


2

Go Big Train!  
Andy, Sam, Alice  
& Kevin Smith





# EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE BIG TRAIN\*

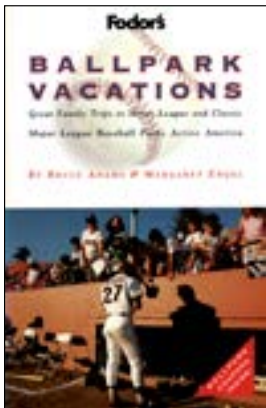
(\*But Haven't Had a Chance to Ask)

*We get lots of questions about the Big Train during the season and throughout the year. We asked Big Train founder Bruce Adams to answer twenty of the most frequently asked questions as part of our celebration of the 20th season of Bethesda Big Train baseball at Shirley Povich Field.*

## 1. Where did the idea for the Big Train come from?

After completing my second term on the County Council in 1994, Denise Gorham of BCC Baseball assigned me to coach my son Hugh's rec team. I was embarrassed by the poor conditions of the fields. I had lived through the difficult budget times and understood the challenge faced by the Parks department. It seemed to me we needed a public-private partnership to improve the fields. Government dollars alone would not be sufficient. Unfortunately, I quickly learned that folks with resources were less than thrilled with my idea of spending their money in other parts of the county. I wasn't making progress, and I needed a new plan.

The breakthrough moment came on August 28, 1995 at Damaschke Field in Oneonta, New York, just south of the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. That summer, my wife Peggy Engel, kids Emily and Hugh, and I set off on a two summer 25,000 mile adventure that took us to 44 states and two Canadian provinces to see 85 baseball games in 82 different stadiums. It was a tough job, but someone had to do it. As Larry King said: "If you have to have an obsession, make it baseball." Fodor's published our *Ballpark Vacations: Great Family Trips to Minor League and Classic Major League Baseball Parks Across America* in 1997.



Hugh was five years old that summer. He had figured out that the place to get baseballs was the visiting team's bullpen. The visiting team didn't own the balls, and there wasn't much adult supervision in the bullpen before the game. He came home from our road trip with a bucket of balls. Peggy and I were interviewing Sam Nader, the legendary owner of Oneonta's Class A affiliate of the New York Yankees who happened to be Ralph Nader's uncle, when it dawned on me that I hadn't seen five year old Hugh in quite awhile.

I went down to the visiting team bullpen, and there he was chatting it up with a group of newly minted professional ballplayers. Apparently, they were intrigued by his baseball

adventure, and they asked me if I knew about summer college baseball. I mentioned that I knew about the Cape Cod League, but that was about the limit of my knowledge. When I said we lived near Washington, one of the players said he had played in the Shenandoah Valley League the previous summer. I told him I was a baseball fanatic and that I couldn't imagine there being a great baseball scene 90 minutes from my house that I didn't know about. He assured me I would be impressed by the quality of play in the Valley League. I went back to Peggy and said that if the Valley League is anywhere near as great as the player described, we had a really good *Washington Post Sunday Magazine* article to write.

In the summer of 1996, when we weren't on the road finishing our research for *Ballpark Vacations*, we were watching games in small towns across the Shenandoah Valley. We fell in love with the New Market Rebels. The players

lived in homes of local residents and worked by day in local businesses. Seemingly half the town turned out at night for the games. The players watered, raked, and lined the fields. Parking was free, programs cost a quarter, and hot dogs were a dollar. Members of the booster club sold raffle tickets during the game, and a 75 year old former FBI agent played "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" on a celluloid accordion at the seventh inning stretch. The food was adequate, but the locals knew to stroll through a neighbor's yard to Pack's Frozen Custard where everything was finer topped by the homemade black raspberry sauce. The players shook hands after the game.

It was pure pleasure. As I drove home from those weekends, I thought about what fun it would be to be part of the Valley League. It combined two of my passions — building community values and baseball at its most genuine. But then I realized that life commuting between Bethesda and the Valley on I-66 every summer night might get old quickly. Right after our article appeared as "Minor Classic" in *The Washington Post* on March 16, 1997, I got a call. Most of you have received a call like this. The person doesn't start by saying, "You are an idiot." But you know that is exactly what he is thinking. "Don't you know there is a league just like the Valley League right here in the Washington region?" No, I did not. He told me about the Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League. I was intrigued. What I learned after seeing a couple of games that summer was that, yes, it was wooden bat baseball played by top college players. But, no, it wasn't the Shenandoah Valley League. It didn't have the community involvement. It didn't have the crowds of fans. I asked league officials why their teams didn't have community support, and they told me they were baseball guys and didn't know how to build community.

So now I had a plan. It would be just like Paul Newman's salad dressing. Actor Paul Newman started Newman's Own in 1982. The company gives its profits from the sale of its salad dressing and other products to educational and charitable organizations. With all due respect to Paul Newman, I was pretty sure it would be more fun to make baseball than salad dressing. We would build a ballpark, organize a team in the Griffith League, and take the money we made from selling tickets and hot dogs and t-shirts and spend it to improve youth baseball fields. We would use as our model the successful minor league teams that understood that the key to building a fan base was to provide a family friendly atmosphere with nightly entertainment that was more than just a baseball game. Over the last two decades, more and more community nonprofits have followed this model of providing services and goods as a way to supplement charitable giving and government grants.

## 2. What did it take to move this idea to reality?

Now we needed an organization to make this happen. The community values orientation of the Valley League's New Market Rebels was our model. The Griffith League agreed in the fall of 1997 to include a team from Bethesda. I sent notes to a bunch of my baseball crazy friends inviting them to a meeting in my living room. I was introducing the idea to the eight or ten people at the meeting when John Ourisman walked in. John said barely a word as I laid out my fundraising and other plans, but he stuck around after everyone else had left. John very gently let me know that my fundraising plan wouldn't work. The good news was that he was willing to help. He loved the idea of a community owned baseball



Big Train Founder Bruce Adams was first in line to eat a cicada June 23, 2004 and get an "I ate a Cicada at Povich Field" t-shirt.





team that would raise money to improve fields for kids. John agreed to be co-founder and began to assemble an extraordinary group of founding members. To ensure that our organization was “owned” by the community and not by any individual, family, or corporation, John set limits on the amount any individual or business could donate.

I have always believed that skill is important in making things happen, but luck can often be more valuable. Over and over during the process, exactly the right person would step up at exactly the right time. I had met John Ourisman while I was working to create the Capital Crescent Trail that ran adjacent to Ourisman Honda in Bethesda. But it wasn't John I wrote to about the baseball project. I sent a note to his step-brother Tom Korengold in Tom's capacity as president of the Greater Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce asking if he would send someone from the Ourisman organization to my planning meeting. Tom could easily have tossed my note aside. Instead, he passed it on to John and that made all the difference. John brought his business management skills and his network of friends who love sports to our enterprise. Without John, we might still be sitting in my living room trying to figure out how to make this happen.

Denise Gorham had paired Phil Leibovitz and me to coach our sons' BCC Baseball team. When I approached Phil about my idea, he explained how busy his construction firm Sandy Spring Builders was and how he couldn't possibly manage the construction of a ballpark in the winter and spring of 1999. I want to apologize right here to Phil's clients for any delay in getting their houses built on time that year. Phil and Sandy Spring Builders went all in. They were there right up to the afternoon of the first game on June 4, 1999 putting the finishing touches on the press box. Of all the concrete construction firms based in Bethesda, we made the fortunate choice of going to see John McMahon at Miller & Long. His crew of engineers and builders worked at lightning speed, and Miller & Long has remained a generous donor throughout our 20 seasons.

One of the heroes of our *Ballpark Vacations* book was Peter Kirk, one of the two or three most important figures in the revival of minor league baseball. I saw Peter across a crowd of people leaving Cole Field House after a February 1998 Terps game. I caught up with him and invited him to tour Cabin John Regional Park. When he got there, I explained how we planned to add more aluminum bleachers to the existing field. And he explained to me that the only chance we had to be successful would be to get repeat visitors. The only people who would return to watch baseball if they have to sit on aluminum bleachers would be moms, dads, girlfriends, and scouts. We all have Peter Kirk to thank for those major league quality seats on a

concrete grandstand.

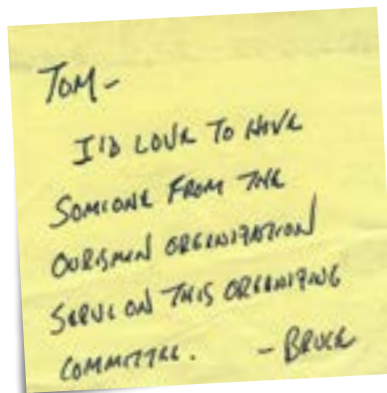
It really was an extraordinary process. For 18 months, John and I would meet with the busiest people we knew, and they would set their work aside and take an hour to swap baseball stories and listen to our dream. In visit after visit, no matter how outrageous our request, we received the same answer: “We're in. We'll do whatever you need to make this happen.” From our Founding Members, we asked for money. For others, like Sandy Spring Builders, Hopkins & Porter, and Miller & Long, we asked for their professional building skills and donated materials. In Robby Brewer and Paul Alpuche at Lerch, Early & Brewer, we found the first rate legal assistance we needed.

By April 10, 1998, we had incorporated the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club (BCBBC) with a commitment “to raise money to improve the quality of youth baseball fields in Montgomery County and the District of Columbia.” We were moving fast and needed to be able to accept tax deductible contributions long before the IRS would grant us our tax-exempt status. Fortunately, there was a Montgomery Parks Foundation available to accept tax deductible contributions so we could move forward with our plan to have a ballpark ready for our first game on June 4, 1999. And we needed a team. Derek Hacopian, a Churchill High School grad who was an All-American at the University of Maryland before his professional career was cut short by injury, had recently opened a baseball training facility in Gaithersburg. Derek agreed to recruit and coach the team.

One-by-one, all the pieces were falling in place. As is so often the case, when you need something done in Montgomery County, you'll find the world's expert living here. We needed a scorecard, and Garrett Park's Paul Dickson, author of *The Joy of Keeping Score* (Walker, 1996), designed a scorecard for us. We needed an architect, and Alan Sparber stepped up. My friend Alysia Emden connected us to Chris Renshaw of Text Design, and Text Design has produced the best graphics in all of summer college baseball for us for two decades. The *Gazette* newspapers agreed to donate ad space to promote our games. We needed good food, and Rob Rubin of Ledo Pizza was our guy. We needed new and stronger lights, but we didn't have the money in the budget. Someone in the Parks department noticed that it was time for new lights on the Cabin John 90' diamond and pointed out that the money was already in the capital budget. The experts told us we needed a covered

picnic pavilion if we expected to make money on picnics. But we didn't have that in our budget either. The Davis Family stepped up and donated the funds. And the weather gods looked fondly on us as well. Because of limited snowfall that winter and a Herculean effort by the local building industry, we were able to build the ballpark in five months and have it ready for opening night June 4, 1999.

By December 1998, under John Ourisman's leadership, the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club had raised \$500,000 to build the ballpark. We needed another \$100,000 to complete our initial plans, but, even more importantly, we needed to begin to get the word out and start to build a fan base. As John and I explained in dozens of meetings in 1998, this wasn't a sure thing. The conventional wisdom was that summer college baseball could not succeed in a busy place like Bethesda with all the entertainment options we have here. As an example, when the highly regarded Coastal



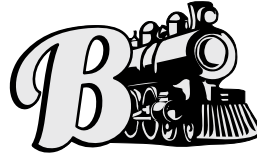
## BETHESDA COMMUNITY BASE BALL CLUB

### FOUNDING MEMBERS

ERIC BILLINGS	PHIL LEBOVITZ
STUART BINDEMAN	BRUCE MACKEY
ALAN BUBES	HALL MARTIN
NEIL COHEN	JOHN MCMAHON
SKIP DAVIS	PETER MINSHALL
TIM DAVIS	JOHN OURISMAN
WAYNE DAY	ROBERT OURISMAN
PEGGY EACHO FECHNAY	MAURY POVICH
MICHAEL GELMAN	MITCH RALES
DON GRAHAM	JOE ROBERT
DOUG JEMAL	ALBERT H. SMALL, JR.

### CORPORATE FOUNDERS

FRIEDMAN BILLINGS RAMSEY | LINENS OF THE WEEK  
OURISMAN AUTOMOTIVE | PEPSI-COLA  
RIGGS BANK | THE WASHINGTON POST



## *With special appreciation*

*to those whose major contributions made it possible for us to  
give our beloved Shirley Povich Field a fresh coat of paint,  
brand new signs, and other improvements in celebration of the  
20th season of Bethesda Big Train baseball.*

*Connie Chung and Maury Povich*

*R J Crowley/Becky Crowley*

*Floyd E. Davis Company/Skip Davis*

*Peggy Engel and Bruce Adams*

*Ann Marie and Steve Fay*

*Miller & Long Concrete Construction/  
John McMahon and Mike Lenkin*

*Lisa and John Ourisman*

*Connie and David Povich*

*Lynn Povich and Stephen Shepard*

*... and with great thanks to the organizations that made  
the Povich Field Refresh a reality.*



TXTDESIGN inc.

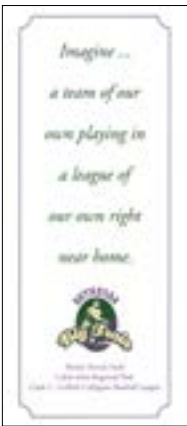






Miller & Long staff building grandstand walls in February 1999.

Plain League was launched in 1997, it had teams in Durham and Raleigh. They failed. It was the teams in the more rural parts of the Carolinas that succeeded. While there are exceptions, summer college baseball tends to thrive in places like Chatham, MA, Edenton, NC and New Market, VA.



So, as we recruited our players and constructed our ballpark, we also had money to raise and a fan base to build. In December of 1998, I sent a short four paragraph letter along with a brochure designed by the Earl Palmer Brown firm to my mailing list of political, community, and baseball friends. Our inspiration this time wasn't Paul Newman but rather John Lennon. The cover of the brochure said simply: "Imagine... a team of our own playing in a league of our own right near home." There wasn't any choice but to imagine. Virtually no one who received that brochure knew anything about summer college baseball. There were no players. There wasn't a ballpark. Inside, the brochure promised: "Join us for summer nights of family fun with baseball at its most genuine in a county fair-like setting." The request was to send \$100 to get a small plaque on one of the

606 seats at the ballpark or \$1,000 as a Diamond Club sponsor to be listed on a ballpark plaque. Astonishingly, the seats sold out and the plaque filled up in just two months.

### 3. How did the team get the name Big Train?



For the initial meeting in my living room in 1997 to discuss the concept of a Bethesda based team in the Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League, I made a very traditional list of baseball team names for the group to consider. I remember Barons, as in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School Barons, was on my list. When someone suggested Big Train as a way of honoring Walter Johnson, I was thinking to myself "Big Train is a person's nickname, not the name of a team." Before I could make my point, another in the group said he was also thinking of Big Train for the name.

If it worked for the group, it sure worked for me. Big Train it would be. I grew up being told by my dad that Walter Johnson wasn't just the greatest pitcher in history. Everyone agreed about that. He told me Walter Johnson was one of the greatest people who ever lived. My dad grew up in Edgemoor near what is now downtown Bethesda. Just a two mile trolley ride west and north on Old Georgetown Road lived a another young baseball and basketball player named Eddie Johnson. Eddie's dad worked at Griffith Stadium in Washington, DC. He was the manager of the Washington Senators from 1929 to 1932 when the boys were between 12 and 15 years old. When the Senators played at home in the summer, Eddie went to the ballpark with his dad. Eddie need a pal to hang out with, and my dad's house was on the way. I told my kids when they were growing up that it would be like Cal Ripken picking them up and taking them to Camden Yards to hang out with Cal's kids in the dugout.

Later, as a member of the Montgomery County Council, I had the privilege of getting the Johnson house at 9100 Old Georgetown Road designated historic. Johnson bought the eight acre Alta Vista estate in 1925, possibly with his bonus money and fees for articles after the 1924 World Series championship. The 11 room, white clapboard Victorian house sat back off the road. There was a four acre fruit orchard, coops for 2,000 chickens, and, of course, a ballfield. By 1936, the Kansas born farm boy needed more space and moved from Bethesda to a farm in Germantown that is now the site of Seneca Valley High School.

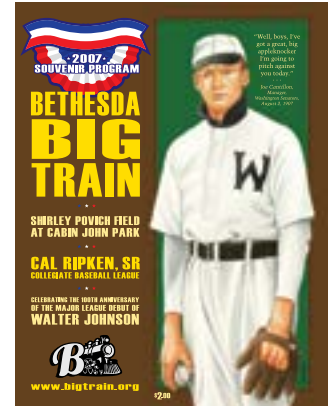


Sculpture by Joseph Craig English

of the deepest bushes to pitch against us. He was a tall, shambling galoot of about twenty, with arms so long they hung far out of his sleeves, and with a sidearm delivery that looked unimpressive at first glance. One of the Tigers imitated a cow mooing, and we hollered at Cantillon: 'Get the pitchfork ready, Joe—your hayseed's on his way back to the barn.' The first time I faced him, I watched him take that easy windup. And then something went past me that made me flinch. The thing just hissed with danger. We couldn't touch him. ... [e]very one of us knew we'd met the most powerful arm ever turned loose in a ball park."

Hank Thomas, Walter's grandson and the author of the terrific biography *Walter Johnson: Baseball's Big Train* (1995, Phenom Press), was instrumental in launching the Bethesda Big Train and secured permission from the family to name our team after his grandfather. In the preface, Shirley Povich confirmed my dad's appraisal of Walter Johnson: "Captivated was I, not only by his unmatched pitching skills, but by the manner of the man, his modesty, humility, and humanity while surrounded by a game that in his era was the playing field of roughnecks."

After retiring from baseball to his Germantown farm, people urged Walter Johnson to become a candidate for public office. This modest man likely needed substantial coaxing to enter the political arena. In 1938, he was elected



# Big Train by the Numbers

with lots of help from our volunteers,  
friends, and sponsors

## Nineteen Years of Community Baseball

- 🔸 Built Shirley Povich Field in 1999
- 🔸 1,500 Volunteers
- 🔸 Maintained 25 youth fields throughout Montgomery County in 2001
- 🔸 Improved Cabin John #2 (Little Povich Field) in 2002
- 🔸 Built Jackie Robinson Field in Anacostia for the Field of Dreams after-school program 2002
- 🔸 Invested more than \$600,000 improving baseball and softball fields for kids from Rockville to Takoma Park, Bethesda to Anacostia, and Germantown to Wheaton
- 🔸 Sold 600 Povich Field seat plaques and 500 commemorative bricks
- 🔸 Sent several huge boxes of sneakers and gloves to kids at Campo de Sueños in the Dominican Republic every year since 2001
- 🔸 Helped send more than 600 Fields of Dreams kids to see the Nationals and Orioles
- 🔸 Donated Big Train season passes to more than 320 local schools and youth-serving organizations for their fundraisers
- 🔸 Hosted more than 440 Bethesda Big Train games at Shirley Povich Field
- 🔸 Hosted three Fourth of July Ledo Pizza Hardball Classics
- 🔸 Hosted fourteen League All-Star games
- 🔸 Hosted two Military All-Star games
- 🔸 Hosted seven Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Playoffs
- 🔸 Delivered 6 tons of food to Manna Food Center through efforts of Big Train players
- 🔸 Provided housing in our community for more than 340 out-of-town Big Train players
- 🔸 Watched 13 alumni move up to Major Leagues
- 🔸 Watched an additional 10 alumni play with Major League teams in spring training games
- 🔸 Watched 154 alumni play in Professional Baseball
- 🔸 Welcomed 260,000 fans to Big Train baseball games
- 🔸 Certified 31 high school kids through the Student Leadership Program
- 🔸 Certified more than 30,000 community service learning hours for our teenage volunteers
- 🔸 One National Championship

# Big Train ALL-TIME RECORDS



Compiled by Bill Hickman

<b>Batting Average</b> (min. 100 AB)	Adam Barry (Cal State Northridge)	.414 in 2011
<b>Games Played</b>	Drew Carson (Southern Mississippi)	42 in 2004
	Greg Lemon (Salisbury)	42 in 2004
	Adam Barry (Cal State Northridge)	42 in 2011
	Ryne Willard (Tallahassee CC)	42 in 2013
<b>Runs Scored</b>	Hunter Renfroe (Mississippi State)	47 in 2012
<b>Hits</b>	Adam Barry (Cal State Northridge)	67 in 2011
<b>Doubles</b>	Brendan Hendriks (San Francisco)	17 in 2012
<b>Triples</b>	Ryan Collins (Mississippi State)	6 in 2010
<b>Home Runs</b>	Hunter Renfroe (Mississippi State)	16 in 2012
<b>RBI</b>	Hunter Renfroe (Mississippi State)	53 in 2012
<b>Total Bases</b>	Hunter Renfroe (Mississippi State)	116 in 2012
<b>Slugging %</b> (min. 100 AB)	Hunter Renfroe (Mississippi State)	.866 in 2012
<b>On Base %</b> (min. 100 AB)	Jarrold Parks (Mississippi State)	.526 in 2009
<b>Stolen Bases</b>	Stephen Alemais (Tulane)	26 in 2014
<b>Hit by Pitch</b>	Jarrold Parks (Mississippi State)	21 in 2009
<b>ERA</b> (min. 35 IP)	Matt Hiserman (Santa Clara)	0.00 in 2008
	Bryan Hamilton (UNC Charlotte)	0.00 in 2010
<b>Wins</b>	Byron Binda (Coastal Carolina)	6 in 2002
	Gus Hlebovy (Kent State)	6 in 2002
	Keith Moreland (UNC Charlotte)	6 in 2004
	Scott Schneider (St. Mary's (CA))	6 in 2008
	Cameron Love (San Francisco)	6 in 2009
	Bubba Derby (San Diego State)	6 in 2013
<b>Winning %</b> (min. 7 decisions)	Keith Moreland (UNC Charlotte)	.857 in 2004
	Cameron Love (San Francisco)	.857 in 2009
<b>Saves</b>	Justin Davis (Old Dominion)	10 in 2000
	Matt Hiserman (Santa Clara)	10 in 2008
<b>Appearances</b>	Justin Davis (Old Dominion)	18 in 2000
	Matt Hiserman (Santa Clara)	18 in 2008
	Bryan Hamilton (UNC Charlotte)	18 in 2010
<b>Games Started</b>	Matthew Griffith (Middle Tennessee State)	10 in 2000
<b>Strikeouts</b>	Dirk Hayhurst (Kent State)	69 in 2001

## Other Notable Achievements

<b>Most Home Runs in a Game</b>	Marcus Taylor (Middle Tennessee State) June 26, 2003 v. Herndon Braves at Herndon High School	3
<b>Most Strikeouts in a Game</b>	Dirk Hayhurst (Kent State) — June 12, 2001 v. Reston Hawks at Povich Field	18
<b>Triple Play</b>	July 11, 2000 v. Vienna Mustangs at Nottoway Park	3-2-5-4
<b>No-hitters</b>	Jeff Little (Vanderbilt) June 23, 1999 v. Arlington Senators at Barcroft Field	
	Kevin Damiano (Penn State) June 29, 2001 v. Lower Bucks Indians in State College, PA	
	Mark Galvin (Kentucky) July 27, 2001 v. Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts at Povich Field	
	Keith Moreland (UNC Charlotte) July 14, 2004 v. Baltimore Pride at Povich Field	



to a term as one of the five Montgomery County Commissioners (the predecessor body to the County Council). In 1940, he ran for the congressional seat in Maryland's Sixth District but lost to the incumbent Democrat William D. Byron. He was reelected as a County Commissioner, again as the only Republican, in 1942. Walter Johnson died of a brain tumor on December 10, 1946 at the age of 59. He is buried in Rockville Cemetery. If you visit, you are likely to see some Bethesda Big Train memorabilia at the grave. In 1956, the new high school near his Bethesda home was named after him.



#### 4. Why is the ballpark named after Shirley Povich?



Early on, I thought it would be great to play the games in or near downtown Bethesda. The ballfield at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School was within walking distance of scores of restaurants and the Bethesda METRO station. But quickly I realized the neighbors might not appreciate the loud music and people parking on their residential streets. So much for the restaurants and the METRO station. Plan B was a no brainer. The 90 foot diamond in the athletic complex at Cabin John Regional Park (known as Field #1) was conveniently located near I-270 and the Beltway and had plenty of parking, and

a gorgeous backdrop of evergreen trees. And no near neighbors to complain when the games went past 10 p.m. But fan friendly, it wasn't. There were some aluminum bleachers and an ancient press box that disintegrated the first time our bulldozer touched it. We had a fine surface and a beautiful setting, but we had a lot of money to raise and work to do. We made our formal request to the Montgomery County Park Commission to renovate and use the Cabin John field on September 29, 1997. The Commission met just weeks later to agree to have staff negotiate a detailed development and license agreement to allow us to build a ballpark at the site of Field #1. That agreement was signed on December 21, 1998.

John Ourisman and I both wanted our ballpark to be a living baseball history museum. With the team to be named after Walter "Big Train" Johnson, we were on the right path. We needed a name for the ballpark and soon realized Shirley Povich Field would be perfect. As one of the nation's premier sports journalists, Shirley Povich's career at *The Washington Post* spanned 75 years from Babe Ruth to Cal Ripken, Jr. Many a young Washingtonian developed a passion for reading by devouring Povich's "Mornings with Shirley Povich" in *The Washington Post*. As Ben Bradlee, the *Post's* former executive editor, explained: "Shirley Povich was why people bought the paper. You got the *Post* for Shirley and the sports section. He was the sports section. For a lot of years, he carried the paper, and that's no exaggeration."

Shirley Povich covered the 1924 World Series, the only time the Washington Senators were crowned world champions. His description of Don Larsen's perfect game in the 1956 World Series remains a classic: "The million-to-one shot came in. Hell froze over. A month of Sundays hit the calendar. Don Larsen today pitched a no-hit, no-run, no-man-reach-first game in a World Series." He championed integration in major league baseball and had a long running feud with the owner of the Washington NFL team noting that its colors were "burgundy, gold and Caucasian." Povich covered Lou Gehrig when he said his goodbye at Yankee Stadium and Cal Ripken, Jr. at Camden Yards when he broke Gehrig's streak of 2,130 consecutive games played. He filed his last column the day before he died at 92 on June 4, 1998. In 1975, Povich received the J.G. Taylor Spink Award from the Baseball Writers' Association of America at the induction festivities at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

We knew this choice would be well received in the community and add distinction to our effort, but we needed to get the family's permission to use the Povich name. We asked our friend and fellow baseball enthusiast Don Graham, publisher of *The Washington Post*, if he would help. Don wrote to Shirley's son Maury asking him to meet with us. John Ourisman and I took a train to New York and attended filming of two episodes of *The Maury Show*. After the shows were taped, we met Maury in his office. I remember being dazzled by the baseball memorabilia. Maury was enthusiastic about having the ballpark named after his dad and agreed to be a Founding Member of our Bethesda Community Base Ball Club. With permission from the family, we proposed the name to the Parks department and received approval.



The December 18, 1998 groundbreaking ceremony for Shirley Povich Field was a well attended and festive affair. The Povich and Johnson families were joined by Montgomery County officials, BCBBC Founding Members, and youth baseball supporters. We had hoped that Shirley Povich himself would be at the ground breaking, but he

had died just six months before. Happily, Maury was able to report that when he told his dad that the ballpark would be named in his honor, his dad responded: "Well, this is an offer I can't refuse." The formal agreement that let us move forward was signed by Parks just days later. When Phil Leibovitz of Sandy Spring Builders hit the existing press box with his bulldozer, it disintegrated and the renovation and construction had begun. We had just more than five months before opening night.

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*"Well, this is an offer  
I can't refuse."  
— Shirley Povich*

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For Povich Field to be a living baseball history museum, it wasn't enough to tell the stories of Walter Johnson and Shirley Povich on the back of the grandstand wall. We needed the architecture of the ballpark to reflect our mission. You

enter Povich Field through an arch designed to evoke memories of historic Doubleday Field near the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. The red brick and the Camden green seats honor Baltimore's Camden Yards, the ballpark that forever changed baseball architecture by turning back to the golden age of ballpark construction at the start of the twentieth century. And the original hand-operated scoreboard in left field was based on the iconic Ebbets Field scoreboard of the Brooklyn Dodgers. During our travels for the *Ballpark Vacations* book, we had seen a similar Ebbets Field replica scoreboard in the state of Washington that had been built by Margaret and Bob Bavasi, the owners of the rookie level Everett Aquasox. Bob's dad, Buzzie Bavasi, had been general manager of the Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers.

#### 5. How did the Big Train end up in a league named after Cal Ripken?

If there had not been a Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League, there would not have been a Bethesda Big Train. Starting a team and building a ballpark was challenging enough. Establishing a summer college league from scratch would have been far too daunting.

The league was founded in 1945 as the National Capital City Junior League and was a charter member of the All-American Amateur Baseball Association (AAABA). Games were played on the Ellipse near the White House. When Clark Griffith, the longtime owner of the Washington Senators, died in 1955, the league was renamed in his honor as the Clark C. Griffith Memorial Baseball League. Griffith had been inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1946 after a major league career as a pitcher, manager, and team owner. As a pitcher, he compiled a record of 237-146, with seven 20 win

## 20 QUESTIONS

seasons including six in a row from 1894-1899. As a big league manager for 20 years, his record was 1,491-1,367. He helped Ban Johnson recruit players from the National League to establish the American League in 1901 and was the owner of the Washington Senators from 1920 until his death.



In the mid-1960s, Lady Bird Johnson's beautification initiatives eliminated two of the four baseball fields on the Ellipse and forced the league to relocate to Northern Virginia. The Griffith League wasn't the only activity disrupted by Mrs. Johnson's conservation efforts. As President Johnson once explained: "Whenever I try to take a nap, there is Lady Bird in the next room

with Laurance Rockefeller and eighty ladies talking about the daffodils on Pennsylvania Avenue."

In the early 1970s, the Griffith League adopted the use of aluminum bats which had become popular with amateur baseball organizations. The iconic Cape Cod League became the first collegiate summer league to reintroduce wooden bats in 1985 after a decade of using the aluminum bats favored by college baseball. The wooden bats attracted major league scouts which in turn drew the best college prospects to the Cape. With a goal of improving the quality of players, the Griffith League made the switch back to wooden bats in 1993, changed its name to Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League, and relaxed its rules about accepting players from outside the Washington area. Griffith League teams captured the championship of the All-American Amateur Baseball Association in Johnstown, PA in 1997 (Prince William Gators) and 1998 (Arlington Senators). In 1999, the Big Train became the fifth team in the league. The Senators would repeat as national champions in 1999 and win again in 2001 and 2002.

The Big Train was a consistent competitor in the Griffith League right from the start, finishing in second place in our 1999 inaugural season and representing the league with a third place finish in the National Amateur Baseball Federation (NABF) College World Series. In 2000, the Big Train posted the best overall record at 29-11 in the Griffith League, but finished second in each round to two different teams and failed to make the playoffs (yes, we changed the rules after that). The 2000 team was runner-up in the NABF College World Series. Bethesda slipped to fourth place out of seven teams in 2001 posting its only non-winning season at 20-20. The Big Train finally broke through in 2004 and won the Griffith League crown.

Some in the Griffith League leadership appreciated the fan friendly, community service values of the Big Train and the Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts, but others did not. In the end, our culture never meshed with the self-described "baseball guys" of the Griffith League. After winning the championship in 2004, we decided to start a league explicitly dedicated to the community service values that had inspired our founding.

We decided to focus the new league in Maryland and approached two top teams that regularly competed in the national AAABA tournament. The College Park Bombers readily agreed to join. The key, it seemed, would be to get Youse's Maryland Orioles, a Baltimore-based team named after the legendary scout and coach Walter Youse. In 60 years as the backbone of amateur baseball in Baltimore, Youse had helped produce scores of major leaguers, including Hall of Famers Al Kaline and Reggie Jackson. The Big Train had regularly played exhibition games with the Orioles at Povich Field. When Youse's manager Dean Albany agreed to join the effort, the project had instant credibility in the world of college baseball. The Thunderbolts of Silver Spring-Takoma had joined the Griffith League in 2000 and modeled its program after the Big Train. They became the fourth team giving the new league the critical mass needed to move forward.

Very quickly, we realized that the perfect way to honor Maryland's tradition of old school, fundamental baseball would be to name the new league after Cal Ripken, Sr. As one of the architects of "The Oriole Way," Ripken Senior's maxim was simple: "Perfect practice makes perfect." The Maryland native began managing his way up the Orioles minor league system in the Class D Florida State League in 1961 at the age of 25. He served as manager of the major league Orioles in 1987 and 1988. He left a legacy of excellence admired by all who love the game. On September 6, 1995, Cal Ripken, Jr. broke Lou Gehrig's unbreakable record of consecutive major league games played, and he said this about his dad that night: "He not only taught me the fundamentals of baseball, but he also taught me to play it the right way, and to play it The Oriole Way. From the very beginning, my dad let me know how important it was to be there for your team and to be counted on my your teammates."



We had a great idea for the league's name. Now, we needed to get it approved. In addition to managing the national champion Youse's Orioles, Dean Albany was a scout for the major league Orioles. Dean and I met with Billy Ripken, a twelve season major leaguer and one of Ripken Senior's sons, and laid out our plans for the new league. The family soon gave its approval and turned responsibility for negotiations with the new league over to the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation. The inaugural season of the Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate Baseball League began with a June 10, 2005 game at Shirley Povich Field between the AAABA national champion Youse's Orioles and our 2004 Griffith League champion Big Train. Over time, the six team Ripken League grew to ten and expanded its territory into the District of Columbia and Virginia. Some of that growth came as the Griffith League contracted and ultimately suspended operations after the 2009 season. Youse's Maryland Orioles had replaced the Griffith League's Arlington Senators as the dominate national team winning the AAABA crown in 2003-2008 and 2010-2011 and again in 2013 before it suspended operations after the 2014 season. In 2010, the league dropped "Sr." from its name to avoid sounding like a league for those 55 and better.

### 6. What is the Big Train's win-loss record over the years?



The Big Train has been a success since the very first inning of the very first game on June 4, 1999. My wife Peggy gave me one of those "You are an idiot?" looks that I seem to get from people fairly frequently when she asked just before our inaugural game, "Why would you schedule opening night against the national champions? Wouldn't it have made more sense to schedule a team you could beat?" While silently questioning my own sanity, I breezily responded: "But wouldn't it be cool if we beat the national champions?" It was a great relief when with



a packed house that included Shirley Povich's wife and family, the Big Train players jumped on the Arlington Senators with five runs in the first inning and cruised to a 7-2 victory.

In 19 seasons from 1999 through 2017, the Big Train has only failed to post a winning season once. I'll always be grateful to Jim Burt Jr. (Miami, BT 2001) for hitting a late inning grand slam on the road in Germantown on July 31, 2001 in the team's final game of the season to raise the team's record to 20-20 and avert what would have been the only losing season in Big Train history.

The Big Train's regular season record of 519 wins and 254 losses computes to an eye-popping winning percentage of .671. Baseball isn't like football. Very few baseball teams at any level win at the rate that the Big Train has for the last 19 seasons. The New York Yankees with a winning percentage of .579 have the best regular season record in major league baseball in the years (1999-2017) since the Bethesda Big Train began. The Cardinals at .555, Red Sox at .551, and the Dodgers at .539 are the next highest winning percentages in MLB over that time period.

According to our irreplaceable Big Train statistician Bill Hickman, Joe Torre has the best record among big league managers with more than 500 regular season decisions during the Big Train era with 1,108 wins and 795 losses for a winning percentage of .582. Torre bested such other MLB coaching legends as Bobby Cox (.557), Tony LaRussa (.553), and Terry Francona (.552).

So, move over, Joe Torre. Meet Derek Hacopian and Sal Colangelo.

Timing counts for a lot in life, and the Big Train was really lucky that Derek Hacopian, an All-American at the University of Maryland, was available to help set us on a winning path. Derek was a Churchill High School graduate who played three summers in the Clark Griffith League. As a member of the Maryland Terps in 1992, Derek turned in one of the most impressive college seasons ever, batting .490 with 23 home runs and 83 runs batted in. He won the ACC Triple crown on his way to being named Atlantic Coast Conference Player-of-the-Year. Over the next five years in the minor leagues, Derek was a three time league All-Star as an outfielder. When his pro career was cut short by injury, Derek turned to coaching and teaching baseball. Chuck Faris, his manager for the Reston Raiders in the Griffith League, called Derek "the best pure hitter I ever saw. Period." For the Big Train, Derek was the right guy at the right place at the right time.

One day in February of 1999, just months before our first game, Derek ran into Sal Colangelo at Montgomery Mall not far from where Shirley Povich Field was being constructed. Derek had known Sal from the Griffith League when they played on rival teams and asked him if he would be interested in being a coach for the new team. Sal had played baseball and football at Virginia Tech. I'm sure Sal could not have imagined that 20 years after that chance encounter at the mall, he would have a national championship, a Maryland State Amateur Coach of the Year Award, and six league championships on his baseball resume.



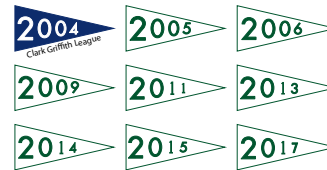
In six years in the Griffith League as the Big Train skipper, Derek notched 149 regular season wins against only 90 losses for a winning percentage of .623. His 2000 Big Train team had the best overall record at 29-11 in the Griffith League and placed second in the NABF College World Series. In his

sixth and last season as manager, the 2004 team captured the Griffith League regular season title with a record of 29-13 and won the league championship.

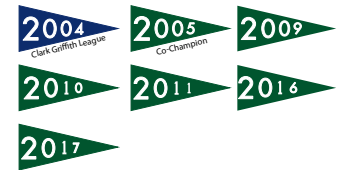
When Derek decided to step down as manager, Sal Colangelo stepped up and took over the head job of recruiting and managing for the 2005 season as we transitioned to the new Ripken League. In 13 seasons at the helm, Sal's Big Train teams have won eight regular season titles and six league championships. In 2011, the Big Train was named the nation's top summer college team by Perfect Game USA. Sal's 370 wins with only 164 losses computes to an extraordinary winning percentage of .693.

## CAL RIPKEN COLLEGIATE BASEBALL LEAGUE

### Regular Season Champions



### League Champions



## 7. What is it like to be an elite

### Division 1A college baseball player?

It's a grind.

A Division 1 NCAA baseball player's season starts in February and includes 50 to 60 regular season games. Conference tournaments and the national championship continue into the middle of June when the eight surviving teams arrive in Omaha, NE for the College World Series. Depending on the success of their teams in the tournaments, players might get a week at home before reporting to their summer teams. The Northwoods League schedules 72 regular season games and the Coastal Plain League schedules 56, but the norm in summer collegiate baseball is about 44. The Ripken League plays 40 regular season games with the possibility of six or more playoff games. And then, within weeks, the players report back to college and begin fall practice. Granted, this is not quite the grind of a 140 game minor league schedule, but it's a grind.

In the early years, the Big Train played more exhibition games than we do now. We would begin around Memorial Day with games against teams from the Shenandoah Valley. In 1999, we traveled to Altoona, PA before the start of the Griffith League and swept the L.S. Fiore Memorial Day Tournament to pick up our first championship. We also hosted our own tournament — "Ledo Pizza July 4 Hardball Classic" — from 1999 to 2001. The purpose of the holiday classic was to give our fans an opportunity to see teams from other leagues and build relationships with other collegiate summer programs. We hosted two teams — Maryland Bombers and Youse's Orioles — that later joined us in the Ripken League as well as ABCO Phillies from Pennsylvania, Brooklyn Cadets, Churchland Thoroughbreds of Portsmouth, L.S. Fiore of Altoona, Mount Airy Sharks, Swann Insurance of Cambridge, and Youth Service of Brooklyn. We won the championship in 1999 and finished second in 2000 and 2001. In addition, for several seasons we played mid-season exhibition games with Youse's Orioles. In our six years in the Griffith League, we traveled to post-conference tournaments three times adding another week to the schedule. After three years with a robust schedule of non-conference games, we recognized that the long grind of the league schedule was punishing enough on our players and decided to drop our tournament and reduce the number of preseason exhibition games. The Ripken League ends with our league championship. The winner does not then go to a post-conference tournament.

The teams in the Northwoods League and the Coastal Plain League are for-profit organizations. The more games they play, the more money the teams can earn. The Ripken League, as with most summer collegiate leagues, is set up as a not-for-profit organization. Our highest goal is to give our players an excellent experience with wooden bat baseball with a chance to sharpen their skills. We believe the forty game regular season is adequate, reduces the

dangers of overusing pitchers, and allows the players a needed break before returning to college.

## 8. Where do the Big Train players come from and how are they selected?

The 1999 Big Train roster included 28 players from 22 different colleges and universities and 13 different states. While there were three players from Montgomery County and others from Virginia and the District of Columbia, they were outnumbered by players from the hotbeds of baseball talent in California, Florida, and Texas and elsewhere across the country.

On March 16, 1999, less than three months before opening day, members of the board of Montgomery County Baseball Association (MCBA) wrote to the director of Parks to insist that the Parks department not waive its residency requirement. "There are more than enough high quality college players who live in Montgomery County who are qualified to play for the Big Train," they asserted. It was easy to understand their point of view. Why should a team made up mostly of players from outside the county get to take game time in a public park away from local ballplayers? Fortunately, there was a nearby and recent precedent. Prince George's Stadium in Bowie, MD is the home of the Bowie Baysox, the Eastern League AA affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles. The stadium, opened in 1994, was built on park property as a result of a public private partnership between Peter Kirk's Maryland Baseball Limited Partnership and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the same organization with which we partnered.



Our concept was to raise private dollars to create an excellent ballpark that would attract families looking for affordable family entertainment right near home. Obviously, we argued, a lot more Montgomery County residents would come to watch the Big Train play than would use the field if there were no Big Train. Our plan was to take the money earned from the games and plow it back into improving youth baseball and softball fields. With all due respect to the local baseball talent in Montgomery County, it was very clear

that a team of Montgomery County All-Stars would not have been able to compete in the Griffith League with teams drawing players from across the country. The controversy died once youth baseball supporters realized the talented players from across the country were role models for their players and that our plan to raise money to improve youth fields really worked.

The Big Train does not have the financial resources to scout college players from across the country. Our managers, first Derek Hacopian and now Sal Colangelo, have developed contacts with college baseball programs. The colleges know what we want — good young players who want to develop their skills over the summer. And we know what the colleges want — a good experience for their players to develop their skills without exhausting them or, in the case of their pitchers, ruining their arms through overuse. By building relationships of trust with ten to a dozen colleges at a time, our managers build their core roster. Things happen, of course — injuries, summer school, family priorities — and the roster is in flux especially during the early weeks as players arrive at different times after their college seasons end. As coaches and situations change, the core group of colleges our managers rely on has changed. In the early years, Jacksonville State, Miami, Middle Tennessee State, and San Francisco were more prominent on our roster than now. Mississippi State, Sacramento State, St. Mary's-CA, and Stetson have been significant sources of Big Train talent for the last decade. Florida Atlantic, Kentucky, and Maryland have provided players throughout our 20 seasons.

Recruiting is the key to success in summer college baseball. While the players come to Bethesda to improve their skills, our managers are well aware of the fact that if a college coach sends us a player and we try to change his mechanics and it doesn't work, we won't be getting another player from that college. Putting the right players on the field at the right time and inspiring them to believe in the importance of these summer games are absolutely critical, but recruiting is the key. Sal Colangelo has proven to be a master recruiter. After an exhausting summer of rising early to drive to Bethesda from his home in Lorton, VA to open summer camp five days a week and ending games at 10 p.m. or later six or seven nights a week and doing this for two straight months, Sal takes a well deserved family beach vacation. Except that he takes his cell phone. The core of the next year's roster is in place by mid-August. It is because of Sal's dedication to excellence that the Big Train has been able to maintain its winning tradition.

## 9. Where do the players stay during the Big Train season?

While recruiting is the key to success in summer college baseball, our host families have been our secret weapon. Over the two decades, the Big Train has had a fabulous group of host families. Our players have come here from different backgrounds and cultures from all across the United States. We pride ourselves in Montgomery County as a welcoming community, and our host families have year-after-year generously welcomed our players into

## Big Train Players Have Come From 139 Different Colleges

Florida Atlantic	27	High Point	6	East Carolina	3	Moorpark College	2	Christopher Newport	1	Gonzaga	1	Penn State	1	Trinity Christian HS	1
Maryland	19	Kent State	6	Jacksonville	3	New Mexico State	2	Coll. of San Mateo	1	Houston	1	Pitt. - Johnstown	1	Tusculum College	1
San Francisco	19	Michigan State	6	Lipscomb	3	North Carolina	2	Columbia	1	Indiana University	1	Pittsburgh	1	UC Santa Barbara	1
Saint Mary's (CA)	18	Mount St. Mary's	6	Maryland - Balt. Co.	3	Old Dominion	2	Columbus State (OH)	1	Kenyon College	1	Rutgers	1	US Naval Academy	1
Mississippi State	16	San Jose State	6	Radford	3	Rider	2	Connors State	1	Lewisburg JC	1	Sacred Heart	1	Va. Military Inst.	1
Middle Tenn. State	13	UNC - Wilmington	6	Tennessee	3	Saint Leo	2	Cornell	1	Louisville College	1	San Diego	1	Vanderbilt	1
Southern Mississippi	10	George Mason	5	Va. Commonwealth	3	Salisbury State	2	Davidson	1	Lubbock Christian	1	Seton Hall	1	Ventura	1
Virginia Tech	10	James Madison	5	Ark. - Fort Smith Col.	2	Tallahassee CC	2	Eastern Michigan	1	Maine	1	Shepherd	1	Vernon College	1
Kentucky	9	Morehead State	5	Belmont Abbey Col.	2	Alabama	1	El Camino College	1	Marshall	1	Sonoma State	1	Virginia	1
Miami (FL)	9	Princeton	5	Bryant	2	American	1	Evansville	1	Meridian College	1	South Carolina	1	Washington	1
San Diego State	9	Richmond	5	California - Berkeley	2	Appalachian State	1	Ferrum	1	Methodist (NC)	1	South Carolina - Aiken	1	Western Carolina	1
Stetson	9	Clemson	4	Creighton	2	Auburn	1	Findlay	1	Miami (Ohio)	1	South Eastern CC	1	Western Maryland	1
Tulane	9	Sacramento State	4	Duke	2	Belmont	2	Florida	1	Mont. College - Germantown	1	Southern	1	William & Mary	1
Jacksonville State	8	Santa Clara	4	George Washington	2	Big Bend Comm. Col.	1	Florida Southern	1	NC State	1	Stanford	1	Yale	1
UNC - Charlotte	8	Towson	4	Georgetown	2	Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo	1	Frederick (MD) CC	1	New Mexico JC	1	Texas	1		
Central Florida	7	Cal State Northridge	3	Hofstra	2	Cal State - Stanislaus	1	Frostburg State	1	Northern Illinois	1	Texas at Arlington	1		
Coastal Carolina	7	Campbell	3	Illinois	2	Centenary College	1	Furman	1	Occidental College	1	Texas State	1	TOTAL	436
Bowling Green State	6	Catholic	3	Liberty	2	Chesapeake	1	Georgia	1	Ozarks	1	Texas - Pan American	1		



their homes. Each year, we need to find housing for 20 to 25 players for all of June and July. This is no small task, and we are so grateful to all the host families and to our host family coordinators who have made this happen over the years — Joyce Semmes, Jami Deise, Laura Forman, Anne Fletcher, and Emily Waldman.



Host mom Becky Crowley with two of her boys — Hunter Renfroe (BT 2011-12) and Wes Rea (BT 2014) at the Carolina-California Single A All-Star Game in Wilmington, DE on June 17, 2014

I can say from personal experience that hosting a Big Train player is one of the joys of the youth of Bethesda. Our kids, Emily and Hugh, adored the players who stayed with us. For a summer, your child can have the coolest big brother in the neighborhood.

Some years, the Big Train wins championships by beating teams that have more raw talent and professional prospects. I am absolutely convinced that our host families are the reason. Many players who could move on to other summer

college leagues come back for a second or even third season with the Big Train because they love the atmosphere at Povich Field, the Bethesda community, and their host families. This gives us an edge in experience and commitment that no other team in our league can match. Hunter Renfroe (Mississippi State) helped lead the Big Train to the national championship of all of summer college baseball in 2011. Teams in the Cape Cod League would have loved to have had him in 2012. But he came back to Bethesda in significant part because he stayed with the MVP of host moms, Becky Crowley. Hunter returned for a second season and obliterated the Ripken League record books in virtually every slugging category. And it worked out pretty well for Hunter as he was selected in the first round of the major league draft the next summer.

## 10. Why do the college players use wooden bats in the summer?

As we have said from the very start twenty years ago, our goal has been to offer the fans of Big Train baseball at Povich Field baseball at its most genuine. Part of being genuine is using wooden bats. Maybe a better question would be “why do the NCAA Division 1 teams still use metal bats?”

Back in the day, bats were made of wood. During the 1970s, aluminum bats became the fashion. For young kids, the aluminum bats made sense as they were lighter and easier for kids to swing. College baseball adopted them in part because they were less expensive than wooden bats that break and need to be replaced much more frequently. So, what’s wrong with metal bats at the college level? Nearly everything. Aesthetically, no baseball fan prefers the pinging sound of a metal bat over the exquisite crack from a wooden bat. Money is far less an issue today as the modern aluminum bats now cost a small fortune. At the high school and college level, safety should be of foremost concern. The ball can come off a high quality aluminum bat at a frightening pace. In fairness, the bat manufacturers concerned about safety and about losing a valuable market have been working in recent years to make the ball come off aluminum bats in a manner that more closely resembles wood.

In addition to the issues of aesthetics, safety, and money, the switch back to wooden bats has been a huge part of the revival of summer college baseball. The Cape Cod League became the first collegiate summer league to reintroduce wooden bats in 1985 after a decade of using the aluminum bats. Hitting a baseball with an aluminum bat is a lot easier than with wood because the sweet spot is larger on the aluminum bats, and the ball has more spring off aluminum than wood. The MLB scouts like the summer collegiate wooden bat leagues for a very straightforward reason: they are trying to draft and sign players who will be swinging wood and pitching against wood. They want to see the real thing. With a metal bat, a hitter can fist an inside pitch over the

infield for a single. With a wooden bat, that same batter on that exact same pitch might be on his way back to the dugout with a stub of a bat in his hands. The Cape Cod League in 1985 and virtually all other top summer leagues in the decade following switched to wooden bats and reaped the benefits. Scouts want to see the wooden bat game. Good players want to be where the scouts can see them. And fans want to go where the best players are.

## 11. How many of the players go on to play professional baseball?

An amazing 41% of the 379 Big Train alumni who have finished their college careers have gone on to play professional baseball. Summer college baseball is a gateway to the major leagues. Most of the players endure the grind of a summer season on top of a grueling spring of classes and travel and games because they want to play professionally. They know that they need to play to get better. They know they need to be seen to get drafted. And they want to test themselves against the best with the wooden bats used at the next level. Thirteen Big Train alumni have worked their way through all the levels of professional baseball to the major leagues.

One of the great thrills of my experience with the Big Train is being able to watch our alumni progress through the ranks to the pinnacle of the sport. I remember walking into Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen in 2002 and seeing Jim Cooney (FAU, BT 1999-2000) signing autographs for young fans. He looked up with a big smile on his face and told me, “I learned to do this at Povich Field.” What a delightful surprise it was in 2013 at Marlins Park in Miami to see Mike Costanzo (Coastal Carolina, BT 2003) warming up in his Team Italy uniform for a World Baseball Classic game.



Brian Dozier (Southern Mississippi, BT 2006) added his name to ball signed by Big Train alumni in MLB at spring training in Fort Myers, FL March 5, 2014

I wish I had thought of this earlier, but a few years ago I started collecting on a single ball the autographs of our alumni who have made it to the major leagues. I ask each one to sign his name, number, and the date of his first MLB game. As of this spring, I have seven autographs on the ball: Allen, Bowman, Dozier, Garton, Hayhurst, McKenry, and Renfroe. I’ve got six to go and hope to have the opportunity to fill that ball.

## 12. What is the seating capacity at Povich Field?

750.

Our original idea was to use the aluminum bleachers already in place at Cabin John’s Field #1 and simply build a clubhouse with an improved press box, concession stand, and bathrooms. Minor league entrepreneur par excellence Peter Kirk convinced us that we



You never know who you might run into at Povich Field.

would not be able to attract return fans unless we provided real seats. That insight dramatically changed our original plans and exponentially increased the cost of our initiative. The brick and concrete grandstand that we built at Povich Field originally held 606 seats (a row of disability seats was removed a few years ago by Parks to add the flexibility to better accommodate wheelchairs). Our builders moved an aluminum bleacher from the third base side to beyond the grandstand down the rightfield line, increasing the seating capacity to 750.

## 20 QUESTIONS

As it has turned out, Povich Field has been just about the perfect size for the crowds we have attracted. With the exception of one crazy weekend in 2001 when 1,326 fans flocked to Povich Field on Friday July 20 after an extraordinarily favorable article in the weekend edition of *The Washington Post*, we have seldom had crowds significantly in excess of 1,000 fans at a game. Povich Field with a standing room only crowd of 1,000, as we often had in the heyday of the rivalry between the Big Train and Youse's Orioles in the early years of the Ripken League, is a terrific sports environment. With crowds averaging between 500 and 750 over the years, Povich Field almost always looks full or nearly so. Averaging about 13,000 fans per season, nearly 260,000 people have watched Big Train baseball at Shirley Povich Field since 1999. We didn't pick 750 seats because we were clairvoyant. Truth be told, we picked 750 seats because that was what we could afford.

### 13. How far is it to center field at Povich Field?

361 feet.

Field #1 was not built to accommodate some of the best players in Division 1 college baseball. Likely, the planners of county parks in the middle of the 20th century did not imagine many future major leaguers playing in their parks. The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) was established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1927 and soon began discussing plans for Rock Creek, Sligo, and Cabin John parks. Passage of the Capper-Cramton Act of 1930 provided federal funds to protect stream valleys in the national capital region. Montgomery County's population in 1940 was 84,000. The national trend of rapid suburban growth took off, and by 1970 the census reported 522,809 Montgomery residents. As a magnet for talented people from across the nation reacting to a call to serve in the federal government, Montgomery County attracted residents who demanded quality educational and recreational opportunities. Reacting to that demand, County officials stepped up their planning for parks and purchase of land in the 1950s. M-NCPPC bought the land for Cabin John Regional Park for \$1.9 million. Commission officials used local funds as well as federal Housing and Urban Development open space funds and Capper-Cramton dollars. There was also a land swap to support a "Save Our Scotland" campaign to redevelop an adjacent historically African American community that had a demonstration grant from the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency. Officials dedicated the Cabin John Regional Park on August 26, 1966 with a miniature train and a Noah's Ark. There were four ballfields, two of them lighted for night play.

For some reason, many of the original 90' diamonds in Montgomery County Parks were laid out with the fences relatively flat across the outfield. Field #1 has always been 330' down the left and right field lines. Major league ballparks average 333 feet to left and 328 feet to right. But center field in Field #1 was a paltry 345 feet. Major league ballparks average 404 feet to center. I was so embarrassed, I asked the Parks department to remove the 345' sign in center field for the groundbreaking ceremony on December 18, 1998. But there wasn't much we could do. A maintenance road runs directly behind the field from the left field foul pole past center field. Miller & Long built a berm along the road to allow us to push the fence from 345 to 361 feet in center field. Our only other option was to build a tall fence in the deepest part of center field. The fences down the lines are eight feet tall. The top of the train on our scoreboard is 20



Gelberg Signs crew hanging Hunter Renfroe's retired #11 on July 26, 2012







feet high. The fences on each side of the scoreboard are 16 feet high. The batter's eye — the hitting background in the batter's direct line of sight — is 20 feet tall. The fence in a typical major league ballpark is eight feet tall. Bill Hickman, the official Big Train statistician, calculates that a ball hit over the 20 foot fence that sits 361 feet from home plate will likely land 377 feet from home plate. To our surprise, very few home runs have been hit directly over the center field fence in the two decades of summer wooden bat baseball at Povich Field. The short fences do, however, pose a significant problem for the Georgetown Hoya games in the Big East Conference that are played with aluminum bats.

Look carefully high up on the light pole in left-center field where you will see a sign for the retired #11. Hunter Renfroe (Mississippi State) hit quite a few bombs high into and some beyond those beautiful evergreens when he played for the Big Train in 2011 and 2012.

### 14. What are those numbers on the fence in right field?

Bethesda Big Train baseball and BCC Baseball are dedicated to showcasing the great history of baseball and sharing this history with new generations of baseball fans. We named our team the Big Train after baseball's greatest pitcher, Walter Johnson. We named our ballpark after Shirley Povich, the Hall of Fame sportswriter with *The Washington Post*. The numbers on the right field fence have been retired by Bethesda Big Train baseball to honor baseball's most important barrier breakers — Roberto Clemente, Hank Greenberg, and Jackie Robinson. Clemente, Greenberg, and Robinson taught us that baseball (and life) is a better game when everyone gets to play. We have also honored Cal Ripken, Senior, after whom the league we play in — Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League — is named. In addition, we have honored two of the most significant players in Big Train history — Hugh Adams and Hunter Renfroe.



 <p><b>Hank Greenberg</b> A Hall of Famer who suffered physical and verbal abuse throughout his career because of his religion. Greenberg helped break stereotypes and change the opinion many Americans had about Jews. A two-time World Champion with the Detroit Tigers with a lifetime batting average of .313, Greenberg was American League MVP in 1935 and 1940. To honor one of baseball's most significant barrier breakers, the Big Train retired #5 in 2016.</p>	 <p><b>Cal Ripken, Senior</b> One of the major architects of The Oriole Way. "Perfect practice makes perfect," according to the Maryland native who began managing his way up the minor league system of the Baltimore Orioles at the age of 25. He left a legacy of excellence admired by all who love the game. In 2005, the Big Train joined with other teams to establish the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League to honor Ripken Senior. The Big Train retired #7 in 2015.</p>	 <p><b>Hunter Renfroe</b> Helped lead the Big Train to the National Championship of all of summer college baseball in 2011. Hunter holds most of the Big Train's slugging records, including 16 home runs and 53 RBI in 2012. An All American at Mississippi State in 2013, the power hitter was drafted in first round of the MLB Draft by San Diego Padres. The Big Train retired #11 in 2012. Hunter made his major league debut with the Padres on September 21, 2016.</p>
 <p><b>Roberto Clemente</b> The first Latin American and Caribbean player enshrined in the Hall of Fame. The Puerto Rican native was a 12-time All Star for the Pittsburgh Pirates and National League MVP in 1966. The two-time World Champion died in a plane crash in 1972 attempting to deliver emergency supplies to earthquake victims in Nicaragua. He got his 3,000th major league hit just three months before his death. To honor one of baseball's most significant barrier breakers, the Big Train retired #21 in 2009.</p>	 <p><b>Hugh Adams</b> The Bethesda native and product of BCC Baseball is the longest serving Big Train player (2006-2012). Hugh, who began his Big Train career as the batboy in the inaugural 1999 season, posted a career ERA of 1.72 over seven seasons. With 18 saves for Florida Atlantic University in 2013, he was named a third team All American. Hugh played professionally for the Saint Paul Saints. The Big Train retired #40 in 2012.</p>	 <p><b>Jackie Robinson</b> Broke baseball's color line and became the first black elected to the Hall of Fame. A World Champion with the Brooklyn Dodgers, Robinson was Rookie of the Year in 1947 and National League MVP in 1949. According to Martin Luther King Jr. "Jackie Robinson made my success possible. Without him, I would never have been able to do what I did." To honor baseball's most significant barrier breaker, the Big Train retired #42 following the lead of Major League Baseball.</p>



## 15. How does the Ripken League compare with the Cape Cod League and other summer leagues?

There is a broad consensus that the best league in summer college baseball is the Cape Cod League. With the exception of the members of the Team USA Collegiate National Team that attracts players for international competition, many of the nation's top prospects head to Cape Cod for the summer. Founded in 1885, the league was officially sanctioned by the NCAA in 1963. The league used aluminum bats from 1974 to 1984, but then switched back to wood in 1985. This decision increased the league's popularity with major league scouts and the league became a magnet for many of the most talented college players in the nation. Virtually all other top summer collegiate leagues followed the lead of the Cape to wooden bats. In 2017, there were 306 active major leaguers who had played in the Cape Cod League with more than 1,100 league alumni playing professionally.

In 2011, the Big Train was named the nation's top summer college team by Perfect Game USA. Last summer, the Collegiate Summer Baseball website ranked Bethesda number four in the nation behind the champions of the Cape Cod League (Brewster Whitecaps), Valley League (Charlottesville TomSox), and Golden State League (Top Speed Baseball). This was our third top ten finish in the last decade as our 2009 team was ranked ninth. In my view, these national rankings tend to distribute the top spots among multiple league champions, favoring teams with dominant records over the Cape Cod teams that battle top talent every night. Truth be told, as good as we were in 2011, we would not have been crowned national champions except that the standout teams during the regular season in the Cape Cod League and the Coastal Plain League were upset in their league championship playoffs that year.

The Collegiate Summer Baseball website reports that there are now more than 40 collegiate summer baseball leagues. In addition to Cape Cod, Coastal Plain, Ripken, and Valley leagues, strong summer leagues include Alaska, Jayhawk, MINK, New England, and Northwoods. The Ripken League is a member of the National Alliance of College Summer Baseball, twelve of the top summer leagues including the Cape and the Valley leagues. If you are traveling this summer and in need of a baseball fix, consider checking out some of these other leagues. Many of the collegiate summer teams have taken over classic minor league ballparks after the minor league team has left the city.

## 16. Are Homer and Bunt related?

Of course! Can't you tell?



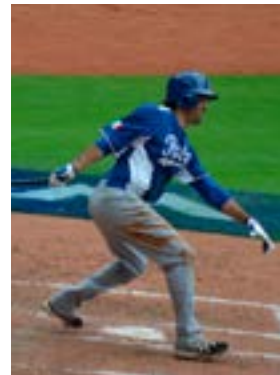
As every Big Train fan knows, Homer was the ancient Greek poet who created the first epic poems of western literature — the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. As the 17th century English philosopher Robert Burton described, Homer “did go from door to door and sing ballads, with a company of boys about him.” The Epic Home Run Race of 1998 between Sosa and McGwire brought him back to life after 2,800 years. Throughout the summer of 98, Homer kept hearing people calling out his name. “Homer!” they cried. “Homer!” But time had changed Homer. Instead of a long flowing white beard, he reappeared with long flowing brown ears. The Bible says the pools of Bethesda in ancient Jerusalem had the power to heal. Alas, neither the pools nor NIH could

turn this hound dog back into a wise man. But when he heard the citizens of Bethesda were building a stadium to honor another of the world's great storytellers, he knew Bethesda was where he wanted to be.

We don't know all the details, but sometime over the winter of 2005-2006 Homer had a son and named him Bunt. Bunt made his rookie appearance

at Povich Field on June 9, 2006. He recorded 1,000 hugs that first summer while eating 81 slices of Ledo Pizza and 224 Bean Bag cookies.

## 17. Does the Big Train have any international baseball connections?

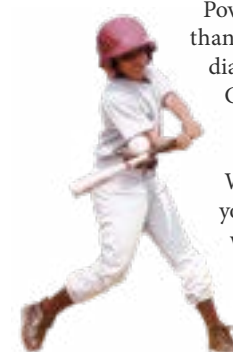


Mike Costanzo (Coastal Carolina, BT 2003) at World Baseball Classic in Miami March 12, 2013

In January 2001, my wife Peggy and I traveled with our daughter Emily to research an article about baseball in the Dominican Republic for *The Washington Post Magazine* of March 11. Our visit to Manny Mota's Campos de Sueno (Field of Dreams) in El Tamarindo led to the Big Train's first foray into international baseball. Manny and Margarita Mota were serving some of the most underserved children in the country, and we promised to help. We sent tons (literally) of sneakers, gloves, and baseball equipment donated by Big Train fans to the Motas over the next few years.

Twice the Ripken League has sent teams outside the continental United States — playing goodwill games in Puerto Rico in 2010 and Cuba in 2016. Three of the Big Train alumni who played in the major leagues played in the elite winter leagues of Latin and South America — Bobby Livingston (Trinity Christian HS, BT 2001) (Dominican Republic, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela), C.J. Jimerson (Miami, BT 1999) (Mexico and Venezuela), and Steve Schmoll (Maryland, BT 2000) (Venezuela). The well-travelled Livingston also played in Taiwan. Another former big leaguer Mike Costanzo (Coastal Carolina, BT 2003) represented Team Italy in the World Baseball Classic in 2009 and 2013. Carlos Gutiérrez (Miami, BT 2005) played in Puerto Rican Winter League and represented Puerto Rico in the 2009 World Baseball Classic. Chris Kelly (Jacksonville, BT 2001-02) played in the Puerto Rican Winter League. Justin Wright (Virginia Tech, BT 2008) played in the Venezuelan Winter League. Other Big Train alumni have played professionally in Australia, France, Germany, and Sweden. Former Big Train general manager David Ireland worked as an assistant general manager for a team in Brisbane, Australia. Big Train alumni have played for the British and Greek national teams.

## 18. How has the Big Train organization benefitted the community?



Povich Field was just the beginning. After making more than one million dollars of improvements to the 90' diamond in Cabin John Regional Park, the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club raised nearly \$600,000 to improve youth fields from Bethesda to Anacostia, Rockville to Takoma Park, and Germantown to Wheaton. In 2002, we built a miniature Povich Field for youth players in Cabin John Regional Park. I remember watching one of the first players walk through the gate and see that field and let out a “SW...E...E...T!” In 2003, Sharon Robinson joined Mayor Anthony Williams at Kimball Elementary School in Anacostia to dedicate Jackie Robinson Field in honor of her dad. This was the first of several abandoned fields we turned into community jewels in the District of Columbia to support the Fields of Dreams after-school baseball and character education program.

In addition to providing great baseball at affordable prices right near home, the Big Train organization has been committed to serving the community in other ways. Big Train players have collected 12,158 pounds of food for the Manna Food Center in the eight years of the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League's Feed the Hungry Challenge. Players from the four Ripken League teams in Montgomery County have collected nearly 22 tons of food for our

## 20 QUESTIONS

neighbors in need through this annual event. Big Train fans donated literally tons of baseball equipment to Manny Mota's Campos de Sueno (Field of Dreams) in the Dominican Republic.

Montgomery County is the special place it is today because of our wonderful nonprofit organizations. Each season, the Big Train showcases about four dozen local nonprofits. Each group is given 100 free tickets, provided a table at the ballpark entrance, and an opportunity to pitch their group to



the fans just before throwing out a first pitch before the game. For the last decade, our Big Train Nonprofits of the Night program has been supported by the Jim and Carol Trawick Foundation. From our very first season, the Big Train has donated family passes to local schools and community groups to support their fundraising. Homer and Bunt attend community events and Miracle League games and support the county's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service each January and Community Service Week each October.

### 19. What is the connection between the Big Train and BCC Baseball?

If there had not been a BCC Baseball, there would not have been a Bethesda Big Train. That was my message every year when I would introduce BCC Baseball founder Denise Gorham to throw out a first pitch at BCC Baseball night at Povich Field. The conventional wisdom was that summer college baseball could not be successful in a busy place like Bethesda with all the entertainment options we have here. Summer college baseball tends to thrive in places like Chatham, MA, Edenton, NC and New Market, VA. Suburban Washington, DC was an unlikely place for summer college baseball to succeed. While I would warn our founding members and supporters about this, I told them that I thought we could make it work here because of the strong youth baseball program we had in BCC Baseball. The families of BCC Baseball were the market that gave us the confidence to defy conventional wisdom.

After 13 seasons, in May of 2012, our founders officially dissolved the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club and turned the assets over to BCC Baseball. After one international economic meltdown and five seasons of trying to lead the organization while holding a more than full-time job as Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett's director of community partnerships, it was time for me to hand the Big Train over to an organization with the capacity to sustain it for decades to come. BCC Baseball was the obvious choice.



A note from Big Train founder Bruce Adams: I want to express my special appreciation to Bill Hickman. As our volunteer coordinator starting in our third season in 2001, Bill helped establish our Big Train culture of service. As our statistician keeping track of Big Train records and our Big Train alumni in professional baseball, Bill has been our keeper of memories. For this piece, Bill was indispensable. He is responsible for all the fun facts. I alone am responsible for any errors. Please email me at [bruce@greaterwash.org](mailto:bruce@greaterwash.org) with any corrections. If you have memories and/or photos of Cabin John Regional Park and especially Field #1 from the 1960s or 70s, please share them with me so I can share them with our Big Train fans.

BCC Baseball was founded by Denise Gorham in 1993 to give local youth an opportunity to play baseball at all levels and learn the value of sportsmanship. The soul of the organization is its recreational league where friends, neighbors, and classmates play together on teams coached and managed by parent volunteers. In addition to the 2,500 recreational players, BCC Baseball has 24 select teams, six travel teams, three high school showcase teams, and two collegiate teams. BCC Baseball shares the Big Train's commitment to improve youth fields. BCC Baseball has invested in excess of \$3 million in maintaining more than twenty school and parks fields. For more information about BCC Baseball, go to [www.bccbaseball.com](http://www.bccbaseball.com).

### 20. How can we get involved with the Big Train?

I think we struck a cord here right from the start. I still remember the young fan in that first season in 1999 with a prized foul ball in hand telling me excitedly: "This was the best day of my whole life." He's probably 30 years old now. I hope he still loves the game and remembers fondly his days at Povich Field. Maybe he has already brought his child or soon will to a Big Train game. Another fan told co-founder John Ourisman that first summer: "When I'm here at a Big Train game, I feel like I live in a small town." A father of one of the players on the inaugural team told me: "Mark Twain said every boy is entitled to a great summer. And, now, my boy has had his." On July 4, 2006, Marc Fisher of *The Washington Post* wrote a spectacularly inspiring piece that called Big Train baseball at Povich Field "the ultimate small-town fantasy."

So, I know you are asking, "how can I help?" Spread the word. We don't have a budget for publicity. Word of mouth is how people learn about our community jewel. Bring your friends. Join our email list. Buy a season pass. Become a part of Povich Field by buying a seat plaque to show your support of Big Train or honor a coach or parent or child. Look for Anne or Emily at the ballpark, and ask them about being a host family. Join our Booster Club. If you want to get involved, contact us at [faninfo@bigtrain.org](mailto:faninfo@bigtrain.org).

Big Train baseball was possible only because so many people stepped up and volunteered their time, talent, and treasure. Since our inaugural season in 1999, under the leadership of Bill Hickman who served as our volunteer coordinator from 2001 to 2011, more than one thousand volunteers have helped make Big Train baseball such a special experience for our fans. Many of our young volunteers received their Student Service Learning (SSL) hours for their work at Povich Field. I remember John Ourisman saying in the early years, "If the adults walked away, the middle-schoolers would run this place." Eighty-eight of these volunteers are included on the John Ourisman Big Train Volunteer Honor Roll in recognition of five or more years of volunteer service. Another 69 supporters have received the Randy Schools Big Train Outstanding Service Awards in recognition of extraordinary contributions to our Big Train community. The outstanding service award is named in honor of the remarkable Randy Schools who chaired our Big Train Booster Club since the inaugural season.



Growing up at Povich Field, Luke Schauer celebrating his fifth birthday in 2007 and pitching for the WCAC champion St. John's Cadets in 2018.



# OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS

Big Train baseball at Shirley Povich Field doesn't just happen. Bethesda Community Base Ball Club Founders John Ourisman and Bruce Adams envisioned a community-based organization staffed largely by volunteers. Because so many community residents have stepped up to help out as volunteers, we have been able to contribute over \$600,000 to improve baseball and softball fields for kids. Since our inaugural season in 1999, under the leadership of our original volunteer coordinator Bill Hickman, more than one thousand volunteers have helped to make Big Train baseball a special experience for local baseball fans. We recognize our most outstanding volunteers and supporters in two ways. Since 2002, 69 community heroes have received the Randy Schools Big Train Outstanding Service Awards. Since 2003, 88 volunteers have been included on the John Ourisman Big Train Volunteer Honor Roll in recognition of five years of volunteer service to Big Train baseball.



Bill Hickman & Randy Schools

## Randy Schools Big Train Outstanding Service Awards

### 2002

John Ourisman, Founder  
Chris Renshaw, Text Design  
Joyce Semmes, Host Family Chair  
Snapshot, Washington Capitals Mascot

### 2003

Brian Haven, Raffle Maestro  
Bill Hickman, Volunteer Chair  
Keyote, Frederick Keys Mascot  
2004  
Derek Hacopian, Manager  
Elda Hacopian, General Manager  
Debra Brett & Michael Morgenstern, Equipment Collection for Campo de Suenos  
Orioles Bird, Baltimore Orioles Mascot  
Randy Schools, Booster Club Chair

### 2005

Gary Mowl, Montgomery County Department of Parks  
Michael Renshaw, Text Design  
Screech, Washington Nationals Mascot  
Alex Thompson, General Manager

### 2006

Pat Haggerty, Auctioneer  
Beth & Jeff Haven, Raffle Team  
Louie, Bowie Baysox Mascot  
Glenn Orlin, Official Scorekeeper

### 2007

Tom DiMisa, Raffle Team  
Peter Kirk, Ballpark Advisor  
Ben O'Hara, Volunteer  
Don Seaman, Volunteer

### 2008

Mike Denker, Hopkins & Porter  
Michael Groeneman, Assistant General Manager  
David Ireland, General Manager

Mimi Kress, Sandy Spring Builders  
Tim Kurkjian, ESPN  
Phil Leibovitz, Sandy Spring Builders  
Mike Lenkin, Miller & Long  
Richard Mandel, Sandy Spring Builders  
John McMahon, Miller & Long  
Rob Rubin, Ledo Pizza & Pasta  
Guy Semmes, Hopkins & Porter  
Mark Whipple, Volunteer

### 2009

Sal Colangelo, Coach and Manager  
Jeff Devlin, Montgomery County Department of Parks  
Lisa Kammerman, Official Team Photographer  
Bryan Oringer, Assistant General Manager  
Sue Ray, Povich Field Gardener  
Linda Tabach, Volunteer  
Mitchell Wool, Manager of Food Services

### 2010

Alan Alper, Athletic Trainer  
Meghan Bennett, Text Design  
Blaskopf-Segerman Family, Host Family  
Becky Crowley, Host Family  
Jami Deise, Host Family  
Coordinator, Host Family & Director of Marketing  
Michael Dunlow, Assistant Coach  
Gazette Newspapers  
Karen Kuker-Kihl, Volunteer  
Weingardt-Srour Family, Host Family

### 2011

Denise Gorham, BCC Baseball  
Jordan Henry, General Manager  
Bob Johnson, Voice of the Big Train  
Danielle Klope, Assistant GM  
Amy Miller, Volunteer  
Rock Creek Sports Club, Official Training Facility

### 2012

Robby Brewer, Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd  
Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd.  
Lawrence Rosenblum, Grossberg Company LLP  
Grossberg Company LLP  
Lou Novick, Volunteer  
Teddy, Washington Nationals Mascot

### 2013

Bart Lamberman, Assistant GM  
Bruce Mackey, EU Services

### 2014

Adam Dantus, Former Big Train GM and President

### 2015

Laura Forman, Host Family Chair  
Mary Beth Richards, Volunteer

## John Ourisman Big Train Volunteer Honor Roll

The Big Train volunteers have been listed on the John Ourisman Big Train Volunteer Honor Roll in appreciation for five years of volunteer service to the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club and the fans of Bethesda Big Train baseball. The award is named in honor of John Ourisman in appreciation for his leadership in establishing the Bethesda Community Base Ball Club and building Shirley Povich Field.

### 2003

John Ourisman	Elliott Byrne	Josh Frank	Phil Leibovitz	Sue Ray	Randy Schools	Myron Uman
Bruce Adams	Elaine David	Gina Grieb	Julie MacCartee	Chris Renshaw	Phil Schwartz	
Emily Adams	George DeBakey	Michael Grieb	Caren Novick	Michael Renshaw	Don Seaman	
Hugh Adams	Mike Denker	Jim Hartley	Lou Novick	Skip Rideout	Joyce Semmes	
Robert Brewer	Peggy Engel	Bill Hickman	Glenn Orlin	Rob Rubin	Mike Shannon, Sr.	

### 2004

Diana Deem	Bob Hatzes	Beth Haven
Brian Haven	Jeff Haven	Bill Miller
Michael Morgenstern	Anna Phelan	Mark Whipple

### 2005

Karen Kuker-Kihl	Anne Swindale	Ron Weber
Zach Papillo	John Thompson	

### 2006

Barbara Bauman	Elyssa Bosco	Emily Bosco
Hy Bronrott	Christopher DiMisa	Brett Morgenstern
Ben O'Hara	Nick Papillo	Charlotte Tyran
Garry Tyran	Keith Tyran	

### 2007

Andrew Alikhani	Michael Morgenstern	Anna Phelan	Mark Whipple
Anna Alikhani	Bob Hatzes	Beth Haven	
Brian Haven	Jeff Haven	Bill Miller	

### 2008

Elizabeth Campbell	Brendan Cassidy	Paul Cassidy
Michael Castiglione	Josh Fanaroff	Nichole Witten

### 2009

Alex Campbell	Lisa Kammerman	Amy Miller
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### 2010

Jonathan Abramson	Jami Deise	Keith Havens
Jim Linde	Alex Ting	

### 2011

Elliott Byrne	Phil Schwartz
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### 2012

Jacob Adler	Bob Johnson	Jared Saltzberg
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### 2013

Nina Schidlovsky
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### 2014

Seth Ross
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### 2015

Matthew Kupferschmid
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# BIG TRAIN 2ND DECADE ALL-STAR TEAM

By Bill Hickman

As one aspect of celebrating the twentieth year of Big Train baseball, we have selected a second decade roster containing the most outstanding Big Train players deserving of recognition since the first such All-Star team was assembled just before the tenth season began. The second decade team was constructed by a committee consisting of manager Sal Colangelo, general manager David Schneider, and team historian Bill Hickman. Big Train players who have made their major league debuts since the formation of the previous All-Star team were placed on this team automatically.

**LUKE ADKINS, OF** (2006, '08-09) was a co-MVP of the Big Train team in 2009. That year he hit .380 with 52 hits and 37 RBI in 41 games. He was on the All-League team in 2006, 2008, and 2009. Over his three years with Big Train, he averaged .350 and collected 188 total bases, the highest career total in the team's history. The 28 doubles and 7 triples during his Big Train career also stand as team records. He ranks second in three additional categories among team career records: Games Played, Hits, and RBI. He attended Southern Mississippi and Mississippi State Universities.

**ELI BOIKE, OF** (2007-09) was another co-MVP of the Big Train team in 2009. He was also the League MVP that year. He hit .371 with 56 hits, 44 runs scored, 34 RBI, and 18 stolen bases in 41 games. In three years with Big Train, he averaged .291 with 134 total bases. He signed with the Toronto Blue Jays. His highest level of minor league play was with Lansing of the Midwest League in 2011. He attended Michigan State University.

**LOGAN FARRAR, OF** (2013-16) hit .301 over his four-year career with Big Train and is the second highest run-scorer in team history with 81 runs. He was also named Most Outstanding Defensive Player on the team in 2014. He was on the League All-Star team in 2014, 2015, and 2016. He was among the top prospects and best tools of the Ripken League in 2015 as stated by Perfect Game. He began playing professional ball in the Athletics system in 2017. He did well, hitting .486 in 17 games for the AZL Athletics and .320 in 45 games for the Vermont Lake Monsters. Logan attended Virginia Commonwealth University.

**JAMES OUTMAN, OF** (2017) hit .341 with 45 hits, 9 HR, 36 RBI, and 38 runs scored in 37 games for the 2017 Big Train team which was ranked 4th in the nation. For this performance, he was both the League MVP and the team MVP. He was named Summer Collegiate Player of the Year by Perfect Game. In high school, he was on the all-West Coast Athletic League second team twice. At Sacramento State, as a sophomore, he led his team in doubles and tied for the lead in homers.

**HUNTER RENFROE, OF** (2011-12) must be considered the best player the Big Train has had. He was selected higher in the major league draft than any other, going as #13 in the first round, being taken by the San Diego Padres. In two years with Big Train, he hit .339 with 24 HR and 83 RBI in 65 games. His number 11 was retired in 2012 and is one of the numbers respectfully displayed on the Povich Field right field wall. He was named the Most Outstanding Hitter on the 2011 Big Train team which was ranked #1 in the nation. He was named the MVP of the 2012 team. He holds the Big Train records for HR, RBI, Total Bases, and Slugging Percentage. In professional baseball, he was named MVP of the Pacific Coast League in 2016. He made his major league debut with the Padres on Sept. 21, 2016. He enjoyed an

impressive rookie year with the Padres, slamming 26 HR with 58 RBI in 122 games. He holds the Padres' all-time rookie record for home runs. He attended Mississippi State University.

**ADAM BARRY, 3B** (2011-12) was another key figure in the success of the 2011 team which soared to the top of the national rankings. He hit .414 with 67 hits (a team record which still stands) and 38 runs scored in 42 games. He was both the Big Train MVP and the League MVP that year. He led the league in batting average that year, and he remains third all-time among league hitters with respect to batting average. He went into professional baseball and played with the Trinidad Triggers of the Independent Pecos League and the Fort Worth Cats of the Independent United League. He returned to Big Train as an assistant coach in 2015. He is a graduate of Cal State Northridge and went on to graduate school at High Point.

**BRENDAN HENDRIKS, 3B** (2012) hit .400 with 64 hits, 40 RBI, and 38 runs scored in 40 games in 2012. His 17 doubles continue to be the team record. He was named the Big Train Outstanding Hitter, and Perfect Game USA ranked him #3 among Ripken League Top Prospects. Held the school RBI record in high school, and hit over .400 his senior year. With the University of San Francisco, he was on the West Coast All-Conference Freshman Team in 2012 and All-West Coast Conference Honorable Mention in 2014.

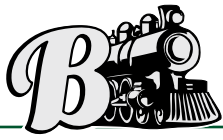
**JARROD PARKS, 3B** (2009-10) hit .366 with 45 hits and 41 runs scored in 39 games in 2009. He hit 6 HR and drove in 27 runs. His On Base Percentage of .526 that year remains the Big Train record. He was named the team's Most Outstanding Hitter that year. For his Big Train career, he hit .346 with 62 hits in 59 games. He earned All-State honors in high school. He went on to Meridian (MS) Community College, where he received All-Region honors. At Mississippi State University, Jarrod had a banner year in 2011, leading his team to the NCAA Atlanta Regional Championship. He hit .363 in 62 games, and topped his team in hits, walks, triples, and on-base percentage. He signed with the Anaheim Angels, and ascended to High A with Inland Empire of the California League.

**STEPHEN ALEMAIS, SS** (2014) hit .320 with 48 hits in 35 games, while displaying the versatility to play

## The Second Decade All-Star Team (Names In Alphabetical Order Within Positions)

<b>Outfield</b>	Luke Adkins, Eli Boike, Logan Farrar, James Outman, Hunter Renfro
<b>Third Base</b>	Adam Barry, Brendon Hendriks, Jarrod Parks
<b>Shortstop</b>	Stephen Alemais, Brian Dozier
<b>Second Base</b>	Clayton Daniel, Brandon Lowe
<b>First Base</b>	Vinny Esposito, Chris Lewis, Danny Stienstra
<b>Catcher</b>	Mason Morioka, Justin Morris
<b>Starter</b>	Jordan Beistline, Matt Bowman, Bubba Derby, Ryan Garton, Dirk Hayhurst, Cameron Love, Ty Madrigal, Joe Mantiply
<b>Reliever</b>	Hugh Adams, Martin Agosta, Cody Allen, Bryan Hamilton, Mike Matta
<b>Closer</b>	Matt Heiserman, Stephen Shoch
<b>Utility</b>	Logan Driscoll, Kevin Milam, Tim Yandel





## 2ND DECADE ALL-STAR TEAM

second base as well as shortstop. He was named the Most Outstanding Hitter on the 2014 team. Taken by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the third round of the 2016 draft, he has gone into professional baseball and has already risen to the High A level, where he hit .317 in 30 games with the Bradenton Marauders of the Florida State League. He attended Tulane University.

**BRIAN DOZIER, SS** (2006) hit .258 with 31 hits in 33 games as a shortstop for Big Train in 2006. But he will be forever known as the first Big Train player to appear in a major league All-Star Game. He made his major league debut with the Minnesota Twins on May 7, 2012. He has proceeded to become one of their star players year after year. In 2016, he led all major league second basemen in homers and WAR. In 2017, he led American League second basemen in fielding percentage and was second in OPS. He led the Twins in hits, homers, RBI, and total bases. He is one of only two second basemen in major league history to hit at least 150 homers and steal at least 90 bases over a five-year period (Alfonso Soriano was the other). He attended Southern Mississippi University.

**CLAYTON DANIEL, 2B** (2016) hit .348 with 55 hits in 40 games in 2016. He was named Big Train's Most Outstanding Hitter. He was also First Team All-League in the Ripken League. Hit .465 in high school. At Jacksonville State University, in 2015 he earned Freshman All-American honors. In 2016, he moved on to third team regular All-American with a .372 average in 58 games. In 2017, he hit .328 as a junior in college. That summer he played in the Cape Cod League, and hit .316, landing a place in the League's All-Star Game.

**BRANDON LOWE, 2B** (2014) hit .329 and scored 24 runs in 26 games, clearly providing a spark when he joined the team about a third of the way into the 2014 season. For that reason, he was named the Team's MVP. He was also the League All-Star Game MVP. In addition, he was named First Team All-League. At the University of Maryland, he was a first-team Freshman All-American by Perfect Game USA and *Baseball America*. As a sophomore, he hit .331 and led Maryland in hits, walks, runs, and doubles. After that, he was drafted by the Tampa Bay Rays in the third round. He has moved up to play with the AA Montgomery Biscuits of the Southern League.

**VINNY ESPOSITO, 1B** (2016-17) seemed to take home every honor in his first year with Big Train. He was the Perfect Game Ripken League Player of the Year; the League Most Outstanding Player; the League Championship Series Most Outstanding Player; and Big Train's own MVP. He batted .321 with 7 homers and 37 RBI in 38 games. His batting average waned a bit when he returned in 2017, but he still contributed 26 RBI, and his versatility helped by his moving to second base to keep his bat in the lineup. At Sacramento State University in 2017, he hit .300 with 10 HR and 52 RBI in 59 games. He was

named to the All-West Coast Athletic Conference Second Team.

**CHRIS LEWIS, 1B** (2014-15) over his two-year period with Big Train hit .294 with 10 homers and 55 RBI. It was in his second year, 2015, that he really made headlines. He batted .306 with 7 homers and 37 RBI in 40 games and was named the League's Most Outstanding Player. He had fourteen more RBI than his nearest competitor in the League. He led the league in Runs Created, a measure which reflects a hitter's contribution to his team. Over the two years, he was highly versatile, playing all three outfield positions, plus first base and shortstop. At Sacramento State University, he twice earned West Coast Athletic Conference All-Tournament Team honors.

**DANNY STIENSTRA, 1B** (2008-10) hit .391 with 50 hits in 39 games in 2008. He came back and hit .350 with 55 hits in 40 games the following year. For his Big Train career, he averaged .350 and chalked up 152 hits (a team record) with 74 RBI and 84 runs scored (also a team record). His 116 games played stands as a team record as well. Another versatile player, after serving exclusively as a first baseman in 2008, he also played at second and third base in 2009 and 2010. He was the Big Train Outstanding Hitter in 2008, and the co-winner of the Big Train MVP award in 2009. He was a Freshman All-American at San Jose State University. He was drafted in 2011 by the St. Louis Cardinals, and rose to play with the Palm Beach Cardinals of the High A Florida State League.

**MASON MORIOKA, C** (2009-11) was a team leader throughout the 2010 season when Big Train would take the Ripken League Championship. As a result, he was named the Team MVP that year. He hit .270 with 16 RBI in 32 games. As manager Sal Colangelo said: "Mason was our silent leader on and off the field all season long." He was also the League Championship MVP. In the final game which won the championship series for the Big Train, he had two hits and two RBIs. For his three years with Big Train, he hit .257 in 76 games. He was League MVP in high school. Was a solid player at the University of San Francisco, and enjoyed a perfect fielding percentage at catcher his senior year while playing in every one of his team's scheduled games. He went into professional baseball, playing with five independent league teams.

**JUSTIN MORRIS, C** (2014-17) hit .287 with 35 hits and 25 RBI in 2016 for a Big Train team which won its division and the League championship. In 2017, he came back to play a key role in the Big Train League Championship repeat victory, and he was named the League Championship MVP. When the final game had been scoreless, he broke through with a 3-RBI double in the fourth inning. Those runs held up for a 4-2 Big Train win. His hit was his sixth of the playoffs. He was also named the catcher on the

All-League team. For his four years with Big Train, he hit .267 with 81 hits, 47 RBI, and 51 runs scored in 93 games. He played first base and outfield in addition to catcher. His college is the University of Maryland.

### Starting Pitchers

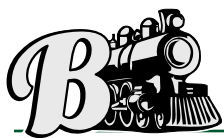
**JORDAN BEISTLINE, P** (2009-10) had a 5-2 record in 2009 with a 1.95 ERA and a 4-1 record in 2010 with a 2.73 ERA. His nine-win total for the two years stands fourth all-time among Big Train pitchers. He was co-winner of the team's Most Outstanding Pitcher award for 2009. In his four years at Jacksonville State University, he won 19 and lost only 8.

**MATT BOWMAN, P** (2009-11) had a 6-3 record with 2 saves and a 1.00 ERA in his three years with Big Train. With the 2011 team which was ranked the #1 club in the nation, he was 5-2 with a 0.82 ERA and was named the team's Most Outstanding Pitcher. During his three years with Big Train, he also played shortstop, second base, and first base. In high school at St. Albans, he was named an All-Met player. At Princeton University, he earned second team all-Ivy at shortstop in 2011 and honorable mention all-Ivy at both pitcher and shortstop in 2012. He made his major league debut with the St. Louis Cardinals on April 6, 2016. He led the Cardinals' pitching staff in holds in 2017.

**BUBBA DERBY, P** (2013) had a fantastic season with the Big Train in 2013 when he won six and lost two, with a 0.76 ERA. He struck out 56 while walking only 14. He captured a fistful of honors: Ripken League MVP, Big Train MVP, First Team All-League, and Perfect Game Summer Collegiate First Team All-American. While at San Diego State University, he was named to the All-Mountain West Conference First Team. Drafted by the Oakland A's in the 6th round of the 2015 draft. Now in the Brewers' system. Has played at the AAA level with the Colorado Springs SkySox of the Pacific Coast League.

**RYAN GARTON, P** (2011) started five games for the Big Train in 2011 and achieved a low ERA of 1.90 in nineteen innings pitched. He was among the Big Train players sent to the League All-Star game that year. At Florida Atlantic University, he was ace of the pitching staff when only a sophomore. He slumped a bit during his junior season, but came back strong with a 9-3 record and 3.09 ERA his senior year. He was drafted in 2012 by Tampa Bay and made his major league debut with the Rays on May 26, 2016. He joined the Seattle Mariners in 2017, and had a record of 0-0 and an ERA of 1.54 in 13 games with them.

**DIRK HAYHURST, P** (2001) holds two Big Train all-time records related to strikeouts. He struck out more batters in a season (69) than any other pitcher. He struck out more batters in a single game (18) than any other hurler. In his sole season with the Big Train, he had a 2-0 record with one save,



## 2ND DECADE ALL-STAR TEAM

and a 2.62 ERA in eight games. At Kent State, he blossomed his junior and senior years. In his junior year, he went 8-4 with a 3.29 ERA, and in his final year, his record was 6-2 with a 3.10 ERA. In 2003, he was drafted by the San Diego Padres. After a lengthy journey through the minors, he made his major league debut with the Padres on August 23, 2008. In 2009, he pitched for the Toronto Blue Jays. He has perhaps become better known as an author than as a baseball player. His books are *Out Of My League*, *Bullpen Gospels*, *Bigger Than The Game*, and *Wild Pitches*.

**CAMERON LOVE, P** (2009-11) has started more games and won more games than any other Big Train pitcher. With 23 starts, he had a 15-3 record with a 2.67 ERA over his three years with the team. His 98 strikeouts stand second to Adam Redd's for a Big Train career record, as is also the case with his number of innings pitched. His winning percentage of .857 in 2009 when he went 6-1 is a Big Train record shared only with one other pitcher (Seven decisions are needed to qualify for the title in this category). He was named the co-winner of the Big Train Most Outstanding Pitcher award in 2009 and the sole winner of that award in 2010. He was second team All-State in high school. He performed well at University of San Francisco, particularly in his final two years. As a junior, he had a team-best ERA of 2.60 among pitchers with at least 10 innings pitched. In his senior year, he led his team again with an even lower ERA of 1.53 in 18 appearances.

**TY MADRIGAL, P** (2017) was the Ripken League leader in ERA in 2017 with a miniscule 0.55 number among the qualified pitchers. He was named the Big Train Most Outstanding Pitcher. He had a 5-1 record, striking out 34 in 32 and 2/3 innings pitched. He was also in the League All-Star Game. Perfect Game named him to its First Team All-Summer Baseball lineup. In his senior year in high school, he had a 9-3 record with a 1.62 ERA. As a freshman at St. Mary's College in California, he had a 3.43 ERA in 20 appearances. His ERA rose his sophomore year, but he struck out 60 in 58 innings, and he had a 5-3 record.

**JOE MANTIPLY, P** (2010) started seven games for the 2010 Big Train team and had a 3-0 record with a 3.21 ERA. He earned a place on the Ripken League All-Star Game squad that year. Joe had a dominating career in high school, going 33-2 with a 1.00 ERA. Consequently, he was a huge prospect at an early age. He was the first Virginia Tech Hokie to be drafted three times (once out of high school). He pitched all four years at Virginia Tech, but really displayed his talent his senior year when he went 6-1 with a 2.85 ERA. He was drafted by the Detroit Tigers in 2013, and made his major league debut with them on September 3, 2016.

### Relievers

**HUGH ADAMS, P** (2006-12) was the longest-serving Big Train player, chalking up seven seasons with the team. His uniform #40 was retired in 2012 and is on display on the right field wall of Povich Field. His Big Train career began as a bat boy in the inaugural year of 1999. He posted a career ERA of 1.72 over his seven seasons. He had an 8-3 record with two saves. He ranks second all-time in pitching appearances on the Big Train team with 38. In 2009, he was named to the Ripken League All Star team. He led the Sunbelt Conference in saves and was named to the All-Conference First Team in 2011 and 2013 and was named Third Team All-American in 2013. After graduation, he went on to play professional baseball with the St. Paul Saints of the independent American Association.

**MARTIN AGOSTA, P** (2011) had a 4-0 record with a paltry 0.99 ERA in his single year with the Big Train. He was named to the Ripken League All-Stars and the Mid-Atlantic Classic All-Stars that summer. With his eleven appearances on the mound, he was a key contributor to the team which ended up being ranked #1 in the United States. In his sophomore year at St. Mary's College in California, his record was 7-6 with a 2.81 ERA. He had a spectacular junior year, with a 9-2 record and a 2.18 ERA. The San Francisco Giants then drafted him in the second round. He ascended as high as the Sacramento River Cats of the AAA Pacific Coast League before falling prey to an injury and then retiring.

**CODY ALLEN, P** (2008, 2010) was a starting pitcher for Big Train in 2008, going 3-3 with a 4.00 ERA, but he was more effective as a reliever on his return in 2010. In the latter year, he was 3-2 with a 3.19 ERA. He spent his freshman year in college at Central Florida University and his sophomore year at St. Petersburg Junior College. His prospects improved when he transferred to High Point for his junior year, and he put up a 4-6 record with a 3.12 ERA with 89 strikeouts in 83.2 innings and showing great control. He was drafted for the second time by the Cleveland Indians that spring (2011) and he signed. He made his major league debut on July 20, 2012, which was the fastest rise through the minors a Big Train player has had. He took over the closer role for the Indians in 2014 and has performed superbly in it ever since. In 2016, he became the first Big Train player to reach the World Series.

**BRYAN HAMILTON, P** (2010) was a lights-out reliever in 2010 with a 0.42 ERA and eight saves in 18 appearances. He had a 2-1 record. He was named the Big Train Most Outstanding Pitcher and he was on the Ripken League All-League First Team. *Baseball America* had him listed among their ten top prospects from the Ripken League. He was an excellent pitcher at the University of North Carolina - Charlotte, where his career record was 17-3 with a 3.17 ERA.

**MIKE MATTA, P** (2007, 2009) was particularly dominant in 2009 when he made 16 appearances with

an ERA of only 0.34. He had a 3-0 record with 3 saves. He received the Big Train Most Outstanding Relief Pitcher award and was on the Ripken League All-League team. In his four years at Mount Saint Mary's College in Maryland, he had a 19-14 record and 24 saves, with a 3.61 ERA.

### Closers

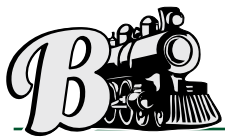
**MATT HISERMAN, P** (2007-08) holds the ERA record for the Ripken League and Big Train because he had an ERA of 0.00 in 2008 and he met the qualification for minimum innings pitched. In 18 appearances, he had a 3-0 record with 10 saves. He pitched in 33 and 2/3 innings, fanning 37 and walking only 2. His 10 saves remain the Big Train single season record, shared with one other pitcher. His 18 appearances are also the Big Train record, shared with two others. His 12 career saves stand alone as a career record. He was named the Big Train MVP in 2008. He was on the Ripken League All-League team that year. In college, he pitched one year for Santa Clara University and three for the University of San Francisco. He returned later to USF as a baseball coach.

**STEPHEN SCHOCH, P** (2016-17) is another closer with a 0.00 ERA, but he had too few innings pitched to qualify for the League record. In 2017, he anchored the Big Train bullpen by making 16 appearances and posting a 1-0 record with 4 saves and an ERA of 0.00 in 26 and 1/3 innings pitched. He did not issue a walk in the regular season. He received the Big Train Most Outstanding Relief Pitcher award. Manager Sal Colangelo was quoted as saying that Schoch was "the best pitcher in the League." He was no slouch in 2016, either. His record then was 2-1 with 3 saves and a 2.87 ERA in 10 appearances. All told, for his two years with Big Train, his ERA was 1.07, and he struck out 47 while walking only 3 in 42 innings pitched. His colleges have been Appalachian State and University of Maryland - Baltimore County.

### Utility Players

**LOGAN DRISCOLL, C/1B/3B** (2017) was named the Big Train Most Outstanding Hitter in 2017. He batted .323 with 52 hits, seven homers, and 34 RBI in 39 games, leading the team in number of games played. By being flexible on his position, the 2017 Big Train team was able at times to use another .300 hitting catcher, Justin Morris, from this All-Decade Team. He was named First Team All-League in the Ripken League. Was an All-State catcher while in high school, as well as Patriot Conference Player of the Year. In his freshman year at George Mason University, he hit .323 with 54 hits and 38 RBI in 43 games.





## 2ND DECADE ALL-STAR TEAM

**KEVIN MILAM, P/1B** (2017) provided the kind of flexibility to the 2017 Big Train team which enabled it to excel and become ranked the #4 summer collegiate team in the nation. Consequently, he was given the recognition of receiving one of the major team year-end awards – the Big Train Utility Man of the Year. On the mound, he was 3-1 with one save and an ERA of 2.88 in 9 appearances. At bat, he hit .340 (for fourth in the league) and clubbed four homers, driving in 19 runs, as he played in a total of 29 games. In high school, he was named the Bay Valley Area League MVP. At St. Mary's College of California, he was named Freshman of the Year in 2017 as he hit .313 with 12 HR and 55 RBI, while pitching to a 3-1 record with a 2.27 ERA. On Athlon Baseball Yearbook's 2018 All-America Team.

**TIM YANDEL, P/3B/2B/1B/OF** (2013-15) seemed to play everywhere during his three years with the Big Train. His play was at an excellent level, and he earned the Big Train MVP award in 2015. That year, he hit .253 and drove in 22 runs in 24 games. He also served as a starting pitcher, beginning eight games and gaining a 4-1 record with a 1.32 ERA. He was First Team All-League in the Ripken League that year. For his pitching career with Big Train, he was 6-1 with one save and a 1.69 ERA in 64 innings pitched. He played on Tulane's baseball team for three years, serving both as a pitcher and at a variety of positions in the field. Had a number of highlights, such as Conference Pitcher of the Week and Area Pitcher of the Month.

### THE FIRST DECADE ALL-STAR TEAM

[NAMES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER WITHIN POSITIONS]:

<b>Outfield</b>	Nick Cleckler, Casey Gilvin, Charlton Jimerson, Johnnie Knoble, Matt Long
<b>Third Base</b>	Mike Costanzo, Jon Karcich
<b>Shortstop</b>	Pat Boran
<b>Second Base</b>	Greg Lemon, Bert Smith
<b>First Base</b>	Brian LaNinfa
<b>Catcher</b>	Michael McKenry
<b>Starter</b>	Byron Binda, Gus Hlebovy, Matt Kleweno, Bobby Livingston, John Maine, Keith Moreland,
<b>Reliever</b>	Brian Anderson, Chris Cullen, Adam Redd, Steve Schmoll
<b>Closer</b>	Wyatt Stewart

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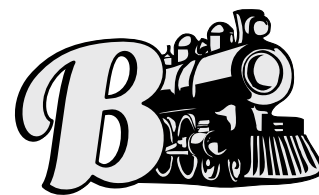
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Miami Marlins



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Cincinnati Reds



**Steve Schmoll, '00**  
Los Angeles Dodgers



**Cody Allen, '08**  
Cleveland Indians



**Charlton Jimerson, '99**  
Houston Astros  
Seattle Mariners



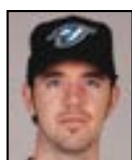
**Matt Bowman, '10-12**  
St. Louis Cardinals



**Bobby Livingston, '01**  
Seattle Mariners,  
Cincinnati Reds



**Ryan Garton, '11**  
Tampa Bay Rays,  
Seattle Mariners



**Dirk Hayhurst, '01**  
San Diego Padres,  
Toronto Blue Jays



**Joe Manti, '10**  
Detroit Tigers



**Michael McKenry, '04**  
Colorado Rockies  
Pittsburgh Pirates  
St. Louis Cardinals



**Hunter Renfroe, '11-12**  
San Diego Padres



**Brian Dozier, '06**  
Minnesota Twins



Acors, Bo RHP '99  
Adams, Hugh RHP '06-12  
Adams, John L. F. RHP '04  
Adkins, Luke OF '06, '08-09  
Agosta, Martin RHP '11  
Albir, Marcelo RHP '03  
Aldrete, Michael SS/RHP/3B '11  
Alemais, Stephen 2B/SS/DH '14  
Alkire, Jack RHP '17  
Allen, Cody RHP '08, '10  
Allen, Tanner 2B/OF '17  
Anderson, Brian RHP '06-07  
Appling, Landon OF '11  
Bajger, Dan RHP '05  
Baldwin, Bruce SS '01  
Ballesteros, Adrian C '02  
Baron, Casey LHP '04  
Barry, Adam 3B/1B/OF '11-12  
Barry, Sean RHP '16  
Bass, Michael 2B/SS '11-12  
Battle, Aaron SS/2B '02  
Beamer, Ken SS '05  
Bechtold, Andrew 3B/SS/1B '15  
Beistline Jordan RHP '09-10  
Bernatz, Connor OF '09-10  
Billingsley, Jacob RHP '14  
Binda, Byron RHP '02  
Boessen, Todd RHP '00  
Boike, Eli OF '07-09  
Bollar, Avondre OF '12  
Boran, Pat 2B/SS '00  
Bottoms, Michael RHP/1B/3B '09  
Bowman, Matt RHP/1B/2B/SS  
Boyle, Michael LHP '13  
Brennan, Jackson OF '02  
Briggs, Cory INF '08  
Brown, Andrew 3B '14  
Brown, Cody OF/DH '14-16  
Brown, Grant OF/DH/RHP '14  
Brown, Kris RHP '08  
Brown, Rusty 3B '01  
Bruce, Harrison OF '13  
Burt, Jim Jr. 1B/OF '01  
Caldwell, Derek LHP '05, '07-08  
Calvert, Alex RHP/3B/DH '14-17  
Cargill, Collin RHP '07  
Carlson, Jon LHP '12  
Carson, Drew OF '04-05  
Celenza, Mike 1B/3B '09  
Ceretani, John RHP '17  
Charpie, Trevor RHP '13  
Cipolla, Michael 3B '08  
Clark, Burt LHP '01  
Clarkson, Matt C '03  
Cleckler, Nick OF '04-06  
Cobb, Zach RHP '04  
Cohn, Andrew LHP '01  
Colangelo, David OF '00  
Cole, Johnny 1B '13-14  
Collazo, Luis LHP '13-15  
Collins, Ryan OF '10  
Cooney, Jim LHP '99-00  
Costanzo, Mike 3B/P '03  
Covington, Tyler 1B/OF '10  
Crawford, Harrison 1B/3B '15  
Cruz, Gaby C/1B/3B/DH '17  
Cuevas, Trey C '04-05  
Cullen, Chris RHP '06

Culpepper, Rob RHP '01  
Cuneo, Cameron LHP '12  
Cunningham, Pat OF/DH '99  
Damiano, Kevin LHP '00-01  
Daniel, Clayton 2B/OF '16  
Daugherty, Cam OF/3B '16  
Davies, Greg OF/1B '99-00  
Davis, Justin "J.D." RHP '00  
Dawson, James RHP '99  
DeBold, Luke RHP '99  
Delean, Blair RHP '10  
Del Grande, David OF '13  
Derby, Bubba RHP '13  
Diaz, Victor RHP/OF '11  
Dietz, Josh 1B '06  
DiLeo, Tony C/DH '14-15  
Dini, Greg C '03  
Dokoupil, Tony OF '00  
Donahue, Tucker RHP '11  
Donohoe, Ryan RHP '09  
Doran, Ryan RHP/3B '12  
Dozier, Brian SS '06  
Driscoll, Logan 1B/3B/C '17  
Duffy, Chris 3B '07  
Durfee, Russell RHP '04-05  
Easter, Chuck 1B '99  
Easterly, Tyler RHP '09  
Eberhart, Chris RHP '05  
Elder, John 3B '99  
Eldridge, Ryan 1B '02  
Emodi, Michael C/DH '16-17  
England, Chris RHP '04  
Eppard, Nash RHP '17  
Esposito, Vinny 1B/2B/OF '16-17  
Ewert, Quinn RHP '07-08  
Farber, Drew C/IF '10-11  
Farrar, Logan OF/2B/DH '13-16  
Fay, Steve C '05-06  
Feight, Nick C/OF/DH '14-15  
Feldman, Gabe RHP '06 & 08-09  
Fitzgerald, Todd LHP '08  
Fontaine, Jeff OF '03  
Foster, Andrew OF '07  
Foster, Matt LHP '02  
Frakes, Andy RHP '14  
France, J.P. RHP '14  
France, Tyler 3B/1B/DH '13  
Frank, Michael RHP '11  
Frederickson, Evan LHP '06-07  
Freeman, Cody C '09-10  
Friedland, Evan 1B '07  
Fury, Nate RHP '10  
Galvin, Mark '01  
Garcia, Ahmed LHP '09  
Gardner, Chase LHP '16  
Garton, Ryan RHP '11  
Gasaway, Jason SS '99  
Gibson, Ian 1B '03  
Gibson, Kalen RHP '03  
Gilbert, Logan RHP '16  
Gilvin, Casey OF '01-02  
Glass, Brady SS '01  
Gordon, Jeff RHP '07  
Graham, Jason OF '99  
Green, Matt OF/RHP/C/DH '17  
Grieb, Matt OF '11  
Griffith, Matthew RHP '00  
Griset, Ben LHP '12



Grisham, Ben 3B/RHP '03-04  
 Griswold, Cheyne OF '99  
 Gross, Jordan LHP '12  
 Guinn, Parker C '13  
 Gum, Brandon SS/DH '12, '15  
 Guth, Zach LHP '17  
 Gutierrez, Carlos RHP '05  
 Haines, Jeff 2B/SS '99-00  
 Hale, Austin C/3B/DH '16  
 Hamilton, Bryan RHP '10  
 Harclerode, Austin 1B/RHP '10  
 Harris, Will RHP '10  
 Harrison, Torik RHP '99  
 Harst, Chance C '07  
 Hayes, David RHP '04  
 Hayhurst, Dirk RHP '01  
 Hendriks, Brendan 3B/1B '12  
 Hepler, Wes LHP '99  
 Hepner, Justin RHP '13  
 Herold, Mitch LHP '07  
 Herzog, Matthew RHP/DH '16  
 Hester, Seth RHP '09  
 Heyer, Luke 3B/DH '17  
 Hildreth, Casey C '99  
 Hinkle, Austin RHP '06  
 Hiser, Charles "P.J." OF/RHP '02  
 Hiserman, Matt RHP '07-08  
 Hlebovy, Gus RHP '02  
 Hoeflich, Brett 1B '05  
 Hoehn, Connor RHP '07-08  
 Holden, Ricky RHP '12  
 Holloway, Trey LHP '03  
 Hopkins, Luke 1B '04  
 Horseman, Shay LHP '03  
 Hose, Terry Lee "T.J." RHP '04  
 Hudak, Alex OF/DH '11  
 Hughes, David B. SS '02  
 Hunley, Brandon 2B/SS '15  
 Hurry, Jake LHP '02  
 Hurst, Jason OF '01  
 Hutton, Derek 2B/RHP '02  
 Jagers, Nate 3B/2B '02  
 Jancarski, Zach OF '17  
 Jimerson, Charlton OF '99  
 Johnson, Richie SS '10  
 Jones, Andrew "AJ" RHP '17  
 Jones, Ben OF '08  
 Jones, John A. "Ja" RHP '04  
 Jones, Marcus OF '05  
 Jones, Tyler OF '03  
 Judge, Michael RHP '13  
 Kalfus, Brenden OF/SS '11  
 Kanagy, Arick P '04  
 Kantakevich, Joe RHP '04  
 Kapothanasis, Costa RHP '07  
 Karcich, Jon SS/3B '07  
 Keane, Patrick RHP '10-11  
 Keen, Austin RHP '17  
 Kelly, Chris R. OF '01-02  
 Kelly, James C. LHP/1B '05  
 Kent, Mike RHP '10-12  
 Kidd, Robbie RHP/1B/DH '12  
 Kim, Zach OF '08  
 King, Joey LHP '99  
 King, Jordan 2B/RHP '08-09  
 Kirtley, Zach SS/2B/DH '15  
 Kish, Colin OF '12  
 Klaczkiwicz, Matt RHP '09  
 Kleweno, Matt LHP '00  
 Kline, Steve LHP '01  
 Knoble, Jonnie OF '04-05  
 Koos, Jacob OF '17  
 Kueber, Garrett SS/2B '16-17  
 Labsan, LHP/OF/DH '14, '16  
 Lafin, Blaine RHP '16  
 Lambert, Gunnar DH '16  
 Lambert, Ray RHP '14  
 Lane, Cory 2B '06  
 LaNinfa, Brian 1B/OF '03-04  
 Largent, Kelly SS '04  
 Larson, Brock RHP '12-15  
 Leach, Steven SS/3B/2B '06-08  
 Lee, Drew SS/2B '08-09  
 Lemon, Greg 2B '04-05  
 LeNoir, Bobby SS '01-02  
 Lever, Jeff RHP '00  
 Lewis, Chris 1B/SS/OF/DH '14-15  
 Lewis, Josh RHP '03  
 Little, Jeff RHP '99  
 Livingston, Bobby LHP '01  
 Logan, Bo LHP '12, '14  
 Long, Matt OF '06  
 Loomis, Devon RHP '14  
 LoPresti, James RHP '09  
 Loptien, Tyler RHP '15  
 Love, Cameron RHP/DH '09-11  
 Lowe, Brandon 2B '14  
 Lowe, Ron LHP '05  
 Lumpkins, Stephen RHP '10  
 Mackey, Jeff OF '99  
 Madrigan, Ty LHP '17  
 Maine, John RHP '00  
 Mansfield, Brian RHP '03  
 Mantiply, Joe RHP '10  
 Manzella, Cody OF '14  
 Marcelino, Brad OF '02  
 Marcus, Jeff RHP '02  
 Marman, Kyle RHP '16  
 Marsili, Matt RHP '16  
 Martin, Eric RHP '12, '14  
 Martin, Justin C '04  
 Martinez, Peter "P.J." RHP '99  
 Massari, Alex C/IF '06  
 Mast, Nolan 2B '03  
 Matienzo, Danny C/1B '00  
 Matta, Mike RHP '07 & 09  
 McAfee, Dan RHP '00-01  
 McBryde, Mike OF/RHP '04  
 McClaskey, Kris C '03  
 McClurg, Brandon RHP '08  
 McCullough, Justin C/RHP/DH '12  
 McKay, David RHP '15  
 McKenry, Michael C '04  
 Meagher, T.F. 2B/SS '00  
 Melgosa, Markus OF/RHP '10  
 Meyer, Mack RHP '16  
 Michael, Brian C '05  
 Middleton, Brennan SS/2B/3B '10-12  
 Miedzianowski, Mike 3B/2B/OF '12-13  
 Milam, Kevin RHP/1B/DH '17  
 Miller, Ethan RHP '12  
 Miller, Joel A. OF '03  
 Minogue, Pat OF '07  
 Mizelle, Cody RHP '13  
 Mobley, Chris RHP '02  
 Monaco, Chris RHP/DH '15-16  
 Monaghan, Jimmy 1B/DH '16  
 Mooney, Danny RHP '13  
 Morales, Mitch SS/2B '12  
 Moreland, Keith P. RHP '04, '06-07  
 Moreland, Kenny RHP '05  
 Morioka, Mason C/3B/RHP '09-11  
 Morris, Justin C/1B/OF/DH '14-17  
 Morris, Zach LHP '13  
 Mosbacher, Jack OF '09  
 Mulligan, Ryan C '08-09  
 Murphy, Billy RHP '08  
 Murphy, John RHP '16-17  
 Nahas, Joe RHP '17  
 Neal, Cam OF/2B '12  
 Norris, Darryl 1B/RHP '11  
 Norton, Cole OF '12  
 Nowatnick, Mark RHP '15  
 O'Dell, Chris OF '02  
 Oliva, Chad C '99  
 Oreglia, Ben RHP '02  
 Outman, James OF '17  
 Overton, Brad RHP '00  
 Owens, Travis C/OF '07  
 Page, Jahsan RHP '01-02  
 Parenti, Joe OF '00  
 Parks, Jarrod 3B/SS '09-10  
 Pease, Dustin LHP '05-06  
 Pehrson, Preston C '06  
 Pepe, Alex LHP '06  
 Permison, Drew RHP '10  
 Peters, Matt OF/RHP '02  
 Pilkington, Tyler LHP '09  
 Pillsbury, Chris RHP '01  
 Plummer, Adam OF '06  
 Poppert, John C '00  
 Pulley, Mike RHP '99  
 Pulos, Matt RHP '17  
 Quiery, Tim OF/1B '11  
 Raczkowski, Joey LHP '03  
 Randolph, Zachary C '12  
 Rea, Wes 1B '14  
 Reaver, David SS '00-01  
 Redd, Adam RHP '02-06  
 Reed, Jimmy LHP '10  
 Renfro, Hunter OF/C/P/DH '11-12  
 Rescigno, Michael RHP/1B '15  
 Resnick, Will LHP/DH '12-14  
 Rhoades, Chris RHP '04  
 Rhodes, Brandon LHP '14  
 Riley, Nick RHP '10  
 Rodriguez, James RHP '02  
 Rodda, Nick SS/2B '09  
 Rogowski, Nick RHP/DH '11  
 Roldan, Justin 2B/SS '09  
 Roof, Eric C '07  
 Rose, Jimmy RHP '03  
 Rowland, Tom RHP '00  
 Rudman, Nolan RHP '09  
 Russo, David W. LHP/DH '10-12  
 Ryan, Bobby C '01  
 Sanderson, Blake RHP/DH '17  
 Santiago, Ricky SS/3B/2B '13  
 Saris, Jimmy RHP '06-07  
 Scheetz, Kit LHP '13-14  
 Schildt, C. J. LHP '16  
 Schmoll, Steve RHP '00  
 Schneeberger, Nick 2B/OF '10  
 Schneider, Josh RHP '10-11  
 Schneider, Scott RHP/IF '08  
 Schoch, Stephen RHP '16-17  
 Schulte, Blaine OF '01  
 Secrest, Kelly LHP/1B '11-12  
 Semones, Fox SS/3B/2B/DH '16-17  
 Sergeant, Jordan OF/LHP '17  
 Sheller, Walker RHP/DH '15  
 Sidwell, Kirk OF '17  
 Sims, Justin OF '00  
 Sisson, Henry LHP '14  
 Skoczlas, David RHP '01-03  
 Smalley, Brett RHP '07  
 Smith, Andrew C. RHP '08  
 Smith, Andrew L. 3B/SS '04-05  
 Smith, Bert 2B '07  
 Smith, Blake RHP '15  
 Smith, Chase RHP '11  
 Smith, Jonathan L. C '99  
 Smith, Michael SS/2B '16  
 Smith, Tyler RHP '17  
 Smithson, Robby RHP '05-06  
 Smoot, Allen 3B/2B/SS '16  
 Sorrels, Peyton OF '16  
 Spano, Josh C/DH '13-14  
 Sparkman, Kyle RHP '99  
 Starr, Alexander "Shooter" RHP '00  
 Stephens, Brent OF '01  
 Stephenson, Riley RHP '13  
 Stewart, Wyatt RHP '04-06  
 Stienstra, Danny 1B/2B/3B '08-10  
 Stiles, Tayler LHP '14  
 Stone, Stephen C. RHP '05  
 Strotman, Drew RHP '15-16  
 Sufczynski, Mike P '04  
 Sussman, Nick SS/2B/3B '02  
 Sweeney, Mike 1B/LHP '01  
 Swope, Matt OF '99-00  
 Sylve, Derrick RHP '12  
 Tatum, Kevin OF/2B/3B '13-14  
 Taylor, Chris C '06  
 Taylor, Marcus OF '03  
 Taylor, Sammy LHP '06  
 Teller, Rhett 1B '05  
 Terpak, Dan OF '05  
 Thomas, Bryan 2B/3B '05-06  
 Thomas, Jesse OF '00  
 Thomas, Steve 2B/OF '99  
 Thomas, Tyler 1B/RHP '12-13  
 Thorne, Josh RHP '14-15  
 Tidball, Adam C '00  
 Tidball, Brett LHP '05  
 Tigert, Chase RHP '08  
 Tiller, Mike RHP '02  
 Tobin, Tucker 1B/C/OF/DH '11-13  
 Tobin, Tyler RHP '15  
 Tomlin, Andrew RHP '04  
 Tonneson, Dylan C '08  
 Tootle, Ben RHP '07  
 Toscano, Matt OF/DH '15  
 Trevett, Miller RHP '15  
 Tritz, John "Noah" RHP '03  
 Valdes-Fauli, Shawn RHP '02  
 Valdez, Jake RHP '14  
 Valdivia, Alex 2B '03  
 Vander Tuig, Ryan RHP '09-10  
 Van Voorhees, David RHP '08  
 Vassar, Cameron "Cam" RHP '17  
 Vickerson, Nick 3B '10  
 Villalobos, Nelson RHP '01  
 Wagner, Ray RHP '99  
 Wald, Jake SS '00  
 Waldichuk, Ken LHP '17  
 Wallace, Rich C/3B/1B '00  
 Warmoth, Tyler RHP '15  
 Waterman, Elliott LHP '11  
 Wechter, Jonathan "J.P." 3B/OF '03  
 Weigle, Kurt C '02  
 Weiss, Albee C '14  
 Welsch, Chris SS/2B '01  
 Wernicki, Kyle OF/2B '13  
 White, Chris J. LHP '01  
 Whittemore, Clay OF '07  
 Wickswat, Matt LHP '06  
 Wiebke, Erik RHP '16  
 Wilkins, Ryan 1B '08  
 Willard, Ryne SS/3B/OF/DH '13-15  
 Willcutt, Brad C '01  
 Williams, Seth C/RHP '08-10  
 Wilson, Mitchell RHP/3B '17  
 Wise, Tim 1B/OF '11  
 Wolff, Josh OF '04  
 Woodley, Dan SS '99  
 Wright, Justin LHP '08  
 Yandel, Tim 3B/2B/1B/OF/RHP '13-15  
 York, Johnny LHP '16  
 York, Tyler C/1B '13

BIG TRAIN COMMUNITY NIGHTS SPONSORED BY

J I M   A N D   C A R O L

**TRAWICK**  
F O U N D A T I O N



**More than just a ballgame... *we're building community every night.***

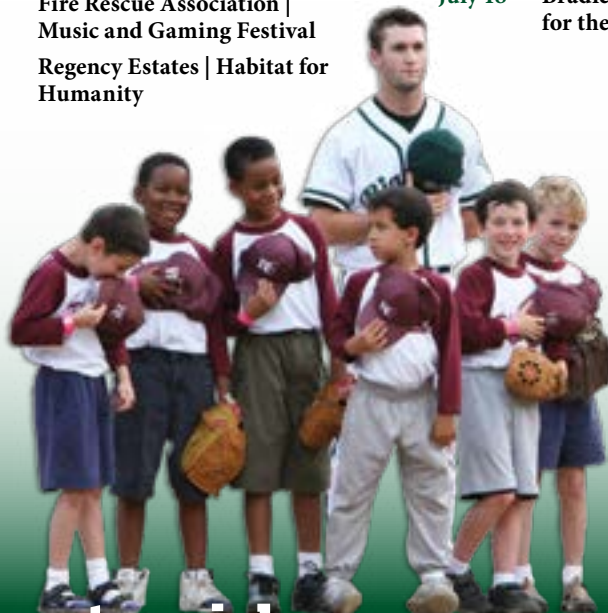
The Jim and Carol Trawick Foundation assists local health and human service and arts nonprofit organizations in Montgomery County, Md. The Foundation awards grants for specific projects that will make a demonstrable impact on the local community by reaching people in need and encouraging and sustaining creative activities.

*Montgomery County's community serving nonprofit organizations will be honored at Big Train games again this summer thanks to the support of the Jim and Carol Trawick Foundation. Come out to the ballpark and support the nonprofits that make Montgomery County special.*

**June 2** League of Women Voters | Eagle Battalion Booster Club  
**June 3** Miracle League  
**June 6** Jewish Council for the Aging | Community Ministries of Rockville | Maryland Youth Pipe Band  
**June 9** KID Museum  
**June 11** Heart of Maryland Chorus | Shepherd's Table  
**June 15** Lollipop Kids Foundation | DC Diaper Bank | Bethesda Fire Department  
**June 17** Open Door Sports | Conflict Resolution Center | Gamer Symphony Orchestra  
**June 18** interPLAY Orchestra | Bargain Box  
**June 20** Link Generations | Girls on the Run | KindWorks

**June 22** Special Olympics | Cornerstone Montgomery | Family Services  
**June 23 (Game 1)** Rockville FARE | Target Community and Educational Services  
**June 23 (Game 2)** UMTTR | Treatment and Learning Centers  
**June 25** Main Street Connect | Metropolitan Washington Ear | Montgomery County Muslim Foundation  
**June 28** Wyngate Neighbors Helping Neighbors | Imagination Stage  
**June 29** Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Rescue Association | Music and Gaming Festival  
**July 2** Regency Estates | Habitat for Humanity

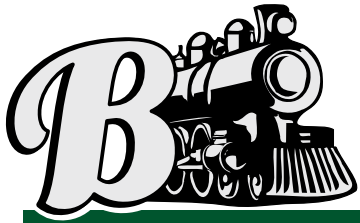
**July 6** Great and Small Therapeutic Riding | PetConnect Rescue  
**July 7** BCC Rescue Squad | Literacy Council  
**July 8 (Game 1)** Down Syndrome Network | Temple Shalom  
**July 8 (Game 2)** KEEN | MANNA Food  
**July 12** House of Hope | Friends of the Library  
**July 13** Community Bridges | National Foundation for Cancer Research  
**July 14** Bethesda Metro Area Village | Comfort Cases  
**July 18** Bradley Hills Village | Coalition for the Homeless



**www.trawick.org**

*Bethesda Big Train is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.*





# BETHESDA BIG TRAIN BASEBALL

## 2018 Schedule Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League

Date	Opponent	Field	Time
Sat., 06/02/18	Gaithersburg Giants	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Sun., 06/03/18	BCC Little Train	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Tue., 06/05/18	@ D.C. Grays	Nats Baseball Academy	7:00 PM
Wed., 06/06/18	Gaithersburg Giants	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Thu., 06/07/18	@ Loudoun Riverdogs	Rockridge HS	7:00 PM
Fri., 06/08/18	@ Alexandria Aces	Frank Mann Field	7:00 PM
Sat., 06/09/18	Rockville Express	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Sun., 06/10/18	@ Baltimore Redbirds	Carlo Crispino Stadium	6:30 PM
Mon., 06/11/18	Baltimore Dodgers	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Wed., 06/13/18	@ FCA Braves	Alan McCulloch Field	7:00 PM
Fri., 06/15/18	D.C. Grays	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Sat., 06/16/18	@ SS-T Thunderbolts	Blair Stadium	4:00 PM
Sun., 06/17/18	Rockville Express	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Mon., 06/18/18	Loudoun Riverdogs	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Wed., 06/20/18	Baltimore Redbirds	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Thu., 06/21/18	@ Alexandria Aces	Frank Mann Field	7:00 PM
Fri., 06/22/18	Baltimore Dodgers	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Sat., 06/23/18	FCA Braves	Povich Field	4:00 PM
Sun., 06/24/18	@ Gaithersburg Giants	Kelley Park	7:00 PM
Mon., 06/25/18	SS-T Thunderbolts	Povich Field	7:00 PM

Date	Opponent	Field	Time
Wed., 06/27/18	@ D.C. Grays	Nats Baseball Academy	7:00 PM
Thu., 06/28/18	Loudoun Riverdogs	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Fri., 06/29/18	Alexandria Aces	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Sat., 06/30/18	@ Baltimore Redbirds	Carlo Crispino Stadium	6:30 PM
Sun., 07/01/18	@ Rockville Express	Knights Field	5:00 PM
Mon., 07/02/18	Baltimore Dodgers	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Thu., 07/05/18	@ Loudoun Riverdogs	Rockridge HS	7:00 PM
Fri., 07/06/18	FCA Braves	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Sat., 07/07/18	Baltimore Redbirds	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Sun., 07/08/18	Alexandria Aces	Povich Field	4:00 PM
Mon., 07/09/18	@ D.C. Grays	Nats Baseball Academy	7:00 PM
Wed., 07/11/18	CRCBL All-Star Game	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Thu., 07/12/18	Baltimore Dodgers	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Fri., 07/13/18	SSS-T Thunderbolts	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Sat., 07/14/18	Gaithersburg Giants	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Sun., 07/15/18	@ Loudoun Riverdogs	Rockridge HS	7:00 PM
Wed., 07/18/18	D.C. Grays	Povich Field	7:00 PM
Thu., 07/19/18	@ Gaithersburg Giants	Kelley Park	7:00 PM
Fri., 07/20/18	@ FCA Braves	Alan McCulloch Field	7:00 PM

## 2018 CRCBL Ballparks

- ◆ Annandale High School, Annandale VA – FCA Braves
- ◆ Blair Stadium at Blair HS, Silver Spring, MD – SS-T Thunderbolts
- ◆ Carlo Crispino Stadium at Calvert Hall HS, Towson, MD – Baltimore Redbirds
- ◆ Frank Mann Field at Four Mile Run Park, Alexandria, VA – Alexandria Aces
- ◆ Kelley Park, Gaithersburg, MD – Gaithersburg Giants
- ◆ Knights Field at Montgomery College, Rockville, MD – Rockville Express
- ◆ Rockridge High School, Ashburn, VA 20148 – Loudoun Riverdogs
- ◆ Shirley Povich Field, Cabin John Regional Park, Bethesda, MD – Big Train
- ◆ Washington Nationals Youth Baseball Academy, Washington, DC – DC Grays

Please support your Big Train team on the road.

Directions to the fields for our away games are on page 56.

## CRCBL 14th Season

WEDNESDAY JULY 11

CRCBL All-Star Game at Povich Field!

Home Run Derby at 5 p.m. First pitch – 7 p.m.

SATURDAY JULY 21 - Monday July 30

Possible CRCBL Playoff Games  
at Povich Field. Time & Location TBD.



For information, log onto [www.calripkenleague.org](http://www.calripkenleague.org).

The Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League has a license agreement with the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation for the use of the name Cal Ripken, Sr. and is not affiliated with nor sponsored by the Foundation or Ripken Baseball.



# GAME NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

BETHESDA BIG TRAIN ★ CAL RIPKEN COLLEGIATE BASEBALL LEAGUE ★ SHIRLEY POVICH FIELD ★ GATES OPEN AT 5:30 P.M. ★ FIRST PITCH AT 7:00 P.M.

## PRESEASON COMMUNITY NIGHTS

**SATURDAY, JUNE 2** - vs. Gaithersburg Giants. Free admission for all fans.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 3** - vs. BCC Little Train. Free admission for all fans.

## 2018 CRCBL REGULAR SEASON GAMES

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6** - vs. Gaithersburg Giants. **Opening Night.** First 250 fans will receive t-shirts commemorating Big Train's back-to-back league championships. **Sponsor: Miller & Long.**



**SATURDAY, JUNE 9** - vs. Rockville Express. **20th Season Celebration!** Come celebrate 20 seasons of baseball at Povich Field as we honor the team's history and those who helped create the organization back in 1998. 20th Season souvenir programs will be distributed and 20th Season T-shirts will be unveiled. David Povich and George Solomon will be in attendance.

**\$5 MONDAY, JUNE 11** - vs. Baltimore Dodgers. **\$5 Monday.** All fans, regardless of age, can purchase tickets for \$5 (Kids 5 and under still get in free).

**FRIDAY, JUNE 15** - vs. D.C. Grays. **Washington Nationals Night.** Nats fans, wear your Nationals gear out to the park, as Abe Lincoln, the Racing President, will be in attendance. **Sponsor: Washington Parent,**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 17** - vs. Rockville Express. **Father's Day.** There's no better way to show dad some love than by taking him and the whole family to a great night of baseball at Povich Field. From 6-6:20 p.m., fathers and their kids will be allowed to play catch in the outfield. **Sponsor: Buffalo Wild Wings.**

**\$5 MONDAY, JUNE 18** - vs. Loudoun Riverdogs. **\$5 Monday.** All fans, regardless of age, can purchase tickets for \$5 (Kids 5 and under still get in free of charge).

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20** - vs. Baltimore Redbirds. **Star Wars Night.** May the force be with you! Dress up as your favorite Star Wars character and get free admission. **Sponsor: SPC Financial.**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 22** - vs. Baltimore Dodgers. **Baltimore Orioles Night.** O's fans, make sure you come to the park in your O's gear, as the Oriole Bird and the Lemonade Shaking Guy will be in attendance.



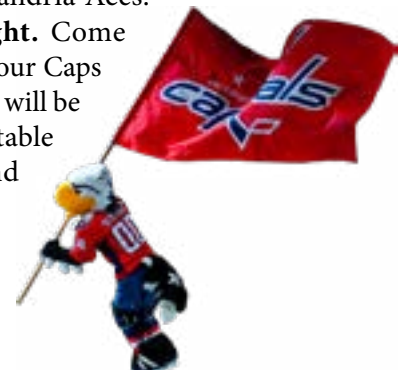
**SATURDAY, JUNE 23** - vs. FCA Braves (doubleheader). **Jersey Night.** Two games for the price of one! Fans of all ages who wear their favorite jersey, no matter the sport, get free admission!

**\$5 MONDAY, JUNE 25** - vs. Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts. **\$5 Monday.** All fans, regardless of age, can purchase tickets for \$5 (Kids 5 and under get in free).

**THURSDAY, JUNE 28** - vs. Loudoun Riverdogs. **80's Night.** Come to the ballpark decked out in headbands, scrunchies, parachute pants and prepare to rock out to Guns N' Roses, Bon Jovi and The Police. Those in properly themed attire will be admitted for free. **Sponsor: Buffalo Wild Wings.**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 29** - vs. Alexandria Aces.

**Washington Capitals Night.** Come out to the game decked in your Caps gear, as the Caps Street Team will be in attendance with an inflatable hockey game, cornhole and awesome prizes.



# WWW.BIGTRAIN.ORG



**\$5 MONDAY, JULY 2** - vs. Baltimore Dodgers. **\$5 Monday/Military Night.** All fans, regardless of age, can purchase tickets for \$5. (Kids 5 and under get in free of charge). With July 4 coming up, we honor all active, reserve and retired military members with free admission. **Sponsor: Johns Hopkins Community Physicians and Buffalo Wild Wings.**

**FRIDAY, JULY 6** - vs. FCA Braves. **Player Family Night.** We would like to welcome all of our players' families out to the ballpark.

**SATURDAY, JULY 7** - vs. Baltimore Redbirds. **Alumni Night.** Calling all alumni to Povich Field! As part of our 20th Season celebration, we want to honor all of our past players that have made Big Train the special organization it is today.

**SUNDAY, JULY 8** - vs. Alexandria Aces (doubleheader). **Scout Night.** Two games for the price of one! Kids who come to the stadium in their Boy/Girl Scout uniforms will be admitted free of charge — scout's honor!

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 11** - **CRCBL All-Star Game.** Come watch your favorite Big Train players compete in the league All-Star game at Povich Field. Scout Day and the Home Run Derby will precede the game.

**THURSDAY, JULY 12** - vs. Baltimore Dodgers. **70's Night.** Join us at the ballpark as we rock out to the Bee Gees, Led Zeppelin and Fleetwood Mac. **Sponsor: Washington Parent.**

**FRIDAY, JULY 13** - vs. Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts. **Superhero Night.** We encourage fans to grab their capes and hone their superpowers as we host your favorite superheroes at the ballpark.



**SATURDAY, JULY 14** - vs. Gaithersburg Giants. **Host Family Appreciation Night.** Without host families, Big Train would not get so many players from all over the country. We would like to honor the host families on the field before the game with first pitches and pictures.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 18** - vs. D.C. Grays. **Fan Appreciation Night.** On the last home game of the regular season, we will honor the most important members of the Big Train community — you, our loyal fans! Players will sign autographs and take pictures before the game to cap off another terrific summer. **Sponsor: Buffalo Wild Wings**

## Get Your Big Train Season Pass Today!

Passes may be purchased at the Big Train box office at any game, or log onto the Big Train website.

### Bethesda Big Train

Shirley Povich Field  
Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League

#### Individual Season Pass

20<sup>th</sup> Season  
**2018**

*[Signature]*  
Booster Club President



## THE BIG TRAIN MERCHANDISE STORE



Purchase Big Train Apparel, programs,  
& broken bats at the Merchandise Store  
located on the concourse

# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# 2018 PICNIC PARTY PACKAGES

To sign-up for your party package  
call Nicole Kittay at (301) 385-7587 or [kittaynicole@gmail.com](mailto:kittaynicole@gmail.com)



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**Birthday Parties** 🎯 **"Team of the Night"** 🎯 **Corporate Outings** 🎯 **Family, Friends & Neighborhood Picnics**



Enjoy the excitement of a Big Train picnic party at Povich Field! What better way to celebrate a birthday, a successful baseball season, or any occasion than by joining Homer and the Big Train for a night of fun, food and baseball at Povich Field?



All parties receive reserved space in the picnic pavilion and stands as well as a visit from Homer. A representative gets to throw out a first pitch, and kids run out with the Big Train players to their positions during introductions and stay there for the National Anthem.

## Food & Drink Options

**Two Options for the same low prices!**

**Adults: \$16 | Kids 12 & under: \$13**

### **Option 1** **Classic Barbecue**

Cheeseburger, hot dog, chips, and a drink per person

### **Option 2** **Povich Pizza Party**

Two cheese slices, chips, and a drink per person.

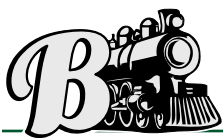
## Reserve your party now!

Space in the pavilion and in the grandstand is available on a first come, first serve basis, and many dates are starting to sell out!

For more information, call Nicole Kittay at (301) 385-7587 or [kittaynicole@gmail.com](mailto:kittaynicole@gmail.com)

**[www.bigtrain.org](http://www.bigtrain.org)**





# BIG TRAIN THROUGH THE YEARS

## 1999

### Bethesda Big Train Inaugural Season

**MANAGER:** Derek Hacopian

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE OVERALL:** (23-14)

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE FIRST ROUND:** Third Place (11-9)

**JULY 4 HARDBALL CLASSIC:** Champions

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE SECOND ROUND:** Second Place (12-5)

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE SECOND PLACE PLAYOFF:** Won (2-0)

**NABF COLLEGE WORLD SERIES:** Third Place



With Shirley Povich's family in the stands for the opening night ceremony on June 4, 1999, the Bethesda Big Train jumped on the AAABA national champion Arlington Senators with five runs in the first inning and cruised to a 7-2 victory. The Big Train won 8 of its first ten games to

take first place at the midpoint of the Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League's first round of play. But with four straight losses at the end of June, the Big Train tumbled out of first place. Bethesda captured the Ledo Pizza July 4 Capital Hardball Classic with three solid wins in the sizzling heat of the holiday weekend. The red-hot Senators lost only once in July to capture the league championship and went on to repeat as AAABA national champions. The Big Train swept the Southern Maryland Battlecats two games to none to claim second place and a spot in the National Amateur Baseball Federation College World Series. Three victories got the Big Train to the semifinals before a 5-3 loss to the eventual champion, Swann Insurance.

#### Bethesda Big Train 1999 Honors

**MVP:** Gregg Davies (1B/OF, Towson)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Bo Acors (RHP, Virginia Commonwealth)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTERS:** Chuck Easter (1B, Maryland)

Steve Thomas (3B, South Carolina)

#### 1999 Final Regular Season Standings

First Round	W	L	PCT	GB
Arlington Senators *	13	7	.650	-
Southern Maryland Battlecats	13	7	.650	-
Bethesda Big Train	11	9	.550	2
Vienna Mustangs	9	11	.450	4
Reston Hawks	4	16	.200	9

\* Arlington won one game playoff.

Second Round	W	L	PCT	GB	Overall	PCT
Arlington	18	1	.947	-	31-8	.795
Bethesda	12	5	.706	5	23-14	.622
Southern Maryland	7	11	.389	10.5	20-18	.526
Vienna	6	11	.353	11	15-22	.405
Reston	1	16	.059	16	5-32	.135

## CREATIVE + REFRESHING

Text Design has been a proud supporter  
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Our objective is to present your small business,  
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# 2000

## 2000 Big Train Posted Best Record of First Decade

**MANAGER:** Derek Hacopian

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE OVERALL:** (29-11)

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE FIRST ROUND:** Second Place (14-6)

**JULY 4 HARDBALL CLASSIC:** Second Place

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE SECOND ROUND:** Second Place (15-5)

**NABF COLLEGE WORLD SERIES:** Second Place

### 2000 Big Train Posted the Best Regular Season Record of the First Decade



Our 2000 team posted the best regular season record of the Big Train's first ten seasons at 29-11 and the best overall record in the Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League, but it was a year of near misses. After winning its first eight league games, the Big Train slumped in mid-June and

lost the Griffith League's first round by one game to the Arlington Senators. After finishing second in our Fourth of July tournament, the Big Train fell one game short of the Vienna Mustangs in the second round of Griffith League play. Playing its best baseball of a great summer, the Big Train won five straight games to capture a spot in the championship game of the NABF College World Series. The team ran out of pitching and lost in the final game to the Ohio Warhawks. Big Train MVP Pat Boran (SS, Princeton) led the league in hitting at .318 while Matt Kleweno (LHP, Campbell) led the league with an ERA of 1.03. Reliever J. D. Davis (RHP, Old Dominion) set a Griffith League record with ten saves.

### Bethesda Big Train 2000 Honors

**MVP:** Pat Boran (SS, Princeton)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Matt Kleweno (LHP, Campbell)

**MOST OUTSTANDING RELIEF PITCHER:** Justin Davis (RHP, Old Dominion)

### 2000 Final Regular Season Standings

First Round	W	L	PCT	GB
Arlington Senators	15	5	.750	-
Bethesda Big Train	14	6	.700	1
Vienna Mustangs	9	9	.500	5
Reston Hawks	7	11	.389	7
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	2	16	.111	12

Second Round	W	L	PCT	GB	Overall	PCT
Vienna	16	4	.800	-	25-13	.658
Bethesda	15	5	.706	1	29-11	.725
Arlington	6	10	.375	8	21-15	.583
Reston	6	10	.375	8	13-21	.382
Silver Spring-Takoma	0	14	.000	13	2-30	.063

# 2001

## Big Train Set New Attendance Records

**MANAGER:** Derek Hacopian

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE OVERALL:** 20-20

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE FIRST ROUND:** Sixth Place (8-12)

**JULY 4 HARDBALL CLASSIC:** Co-Champions

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE SECOND ROUND:** Second Place (12-8)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** First Place (10-4)

### In 2001, the Big Train Drew its Largest Crowds Ever, and Casey Gilvin was MVP



Despite struggling in June and ending the Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League season with a record of 20-20, the 2001 season was notable for impressive individual achievements and the largest crowds in franchise history. After finishing the Griffith League's first round in next-to-last place, the Big Train shared the championship of the rain-shortened Ledo Pizza July 4th Capital Hardball Classic and won nine of its last eleven games. Jim Burt (OF, Miami) hit a game-winning grand slam home run in the sixth inning of

the season's final game to avoid what would have been Bethesda's first and only losing season. Dirk Hayhurst (RHP, Kent State) led the league with 69 strikeouts and set a new Griffith League single-game strikeout record fanning 18 Reston Hawks on June 12. Kevin Damiano (LHP, Penn State) and Mark Galvin (RHP, Kentucky) tossed no-hitters. MVP Casey Gilvin (OF, Morehead State) hit .322, the third highest average in the league. On July 20, a Povich Field record 1,326 fans watched left handed hurler Bobby Livingston defeat the Thunderbolts.

### Bethesda Big Train 2001 Honors

**MVP:** Casey Gilvin (OF, Morehead State/Kentucky)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Steve Kline (LHP, Middle Tennessee St.)

### 2001 Final Regular Season Standings

First Round	W	L	PCT	GB
Arlington Senators	15	5	.750	-
Vienna Mustangs	11	7	.643	3
Fauquier Gators	10	9	.526	4.5
Germantown Black Rox	8	8	.500	5
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	7	10	.412	6.5
Bethesda Big Train	8	12	.400	7
Reston Hawks	5	13	.278	9

Second Round	W	L	PCT	GB	Overall	PCT
Fauquier	14	6	.700	-	24-15	.615
Bethesda	12	8	.600	2	20-20	.500
Arlington	11	8	.579	2.5	26-13	.667
Vienna	9	9	.500	4	20-16	.556
Silver Spring-Takoma	8	11	.421	5.5	15-21	.417
Germantown	7	11	.389	6	15-19	.441
Reston	5	13	.278	8	10-26	.278

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# 2002

## The Year of the Pitcher

**MANAGER:** Derek Hacopian

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE OVERALL:** 27-14

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE FIRST ROUND:** Second Place (14-7)

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE SECOND ROUND:** Second Place (13-7)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Tied for First Place (7-5)

**2002 was the Year of the Pitcher, and Byron Binda and Gus Hlebovy were Bethesda's Best**



Big Train fans got their money's worth in 2002 with a season full of exciting games and late-inning heroics. Fifteen of the Big Train's 27 Griffith League wins were by a single run, including 11 of the 17 wins at home at Shirley Povich Field. Seven of the season's home victories were won in the home half of the final inning. But our Boys of Summer couldn't seem to carry the Povich Field magic with them on the road.

The team that compiled a masterful 17-4 home record was a mediocre 10-10 on the road. Despite splitting the six head-to-head contests, the Big Train finished second to the Arlington Senators in both the Griffith League's first and second rounds. For the Big Train, it was the year of the pitchers. Byron Binda (RHP, Coastal Carolina) and Gus Hlebovy (RHP, Kent State) each won six games and were named team co-MVPs. Binda, with a league best ERA of 1.16 and a perfect 6-0 record, was named the Griffith League's Most Outstanding Pitcher.

### Bethesda Big Train 2002 Honors

**CO-MVPS:** Byron Binda (RHP, Coastal Carolina) & Gus Hlebovy (RHP, Kent St.)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTERS:** David B. Hughes (2B/SS, Morehead State) & Derek Hutton (2B, Florida Atlantic)

### Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Byron Binda (RHP, Coastal Carolina)

#### 2002 Final Regular Season Standings

First Round	W	L	PCT	GB		
Arlington Senators	16	5	.762	-		
Bethesda Big Train	14	7	.667	2		
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	11	8	.579	4		
Vienna Mustangs	10	9	.526	5		
Reston Hawks	9	9	.500	5.5		
Fauquier Gators	8	12	.400	7.5		
Baltimore Pride	6	14	.300	9.5		
Germantown Black Rox	5	15	.250	10.5		
Second Round	W	L	PCT	GB	Overall	PCT
Arlington	16	5	.762	-	32-10	.762
Bethesda	13	7	.650	2.5	27-14	.659
Vienna	10	10	.500	5.5	20-19	.513
Baltimore	10	10	.500	5.5	16-24	.400
Germantown	10	10	.500	5.5	15-25	.375
Silver Spring-Takoma	9	12	.429	7	20-20	.500
Fauquier	8	13	.381	8	16-25	.390
Reston	6	15	.286	10	15-24	.385

# 2003

## Costanzo Sets Records for Hitting & Pitching

**MANAGER:** Derek Hacopian

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE OVERALL:** Fifth Place (22-18)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Third Place (3-7)

### 2003 MVP Mike Costanzo Sets Records for Hitting & Pitching



Maybe the baseball gods were getting even after the 2002 Big Train won 15 one-run victories. In 2003, Bethesda finished 22-18 with nine one-run losses, including three of their first four games and four of their five losses to the eventual champion Arlington Senators. An extraordinary number of early season rainouts caused the league to drop the traditional format and play a single season with the top four teams qualifying for a playoff. This was particularly tough on a Big Train team that was 4-10 on June 25. Marcus Taylor (OF, Middle Tennessee State) tied a Griffith League record held by Mark Teixeira when he hit three home runs, including an eleventh-inning game winner, in a single game on June 26 in Herndon. The Herndon win was the first of eight in a row as Bethesda made a gallant bid to overcome a horrid start. The Big Train won five of their final six games to fall just one game short of the playoffs. MVP Mike Costanzo (3B/RHP, Coastal Carolina) set all-time Big Train season records with a .340 batting average and an earned run average of 0.58. According to Manager Derek Hacopian: "Mike is a real gamer. Every time we needed it, we could count on him for a clutch hit or a key pitching performance. He has the potential to become a Major League third baseman."

### Bethesda Big Train 2003 Honors

**MVP:** Mike Costanzo (3B/RHP, Coastal Carolina)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Shay Horseman (LHP, Middle Tennessee State)

### Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

**Mike Costanzo** (3B/RHP, Coastal Carolina) **Tyler Jones** (OF, Mississippi St.)

**Brian LaNinfa** (1B, Mississippi State)

#### 2003 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Arlington Senators	30	10	.750	-
Fauquier Gators	25	15	.625	5
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	24	16	.600	6
Vienna Mustangs	23	17	.575	7
Bethesda Big Train	22	18	.550	8
Herndon Braves	20	20	.500	10
Germantown Black Rox	17	23	.425	13
Reston Hawks	10	30	.250	20
Baltimore Pride	9	31	.225	21



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# 2004

## League Champs with Best Team ERA in History

**MANAGER:** Derek Hacopian

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE OVERALL:** First Place (29-13)

**GRIFFITH LEAGUE PLAYOFFS:** Champions (3-1)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Second Place (3-4)



The Bethesda Big Train captured the Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League crown for the first time in our sixth season of play. After compiling the league's best regular season record, Bethesda defeated the Herndon Braves three games to one in the league playoffs. The Big Train led the Griffith League in hitting with a .266 batting average. Big Train pitchers set a new all-time league record with a team earned run average of 2.08, including nine shutouts and a no-hitter by Keith Moreland (RHP, UNC Charlotte). In

the opening game of the All-American Amateur Baseball Association championship in Johnstown, PA, the Big Train took a one-run lead over the defending national champion Youse's Orioles into the bottom of the ninth only to lose on a two-out, two-run walk-off home run. Manager Derek Hacopian, winning the Griffith League championship in his final season as the Big Train skipper, named Jonnie Knoble (OF, San Francisco) and Greg Lemon (2B, Salisbury) as the team's Most Valuable Players: "These two guys represent everything that is great about the game. They are all hustle, all the time. A championship team needs leaders on the field and in the dugout."

### Bethesda Big Train 2004 Honors

**CO-MVPS:** Jonnie Knoble (OF, San Francisco) & Greg Lemon (2B, Salisbury)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Keith Moreland (RHP, UNC Charlotte)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Brian LaNinfa (1B, Mississippi State)

**HUSTLE AWARD:** Adam Redd (RHP, Virginia Tech)

### Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**LEAGUE ALL-STAR GAME MVP:** Michael McKenry (C, Middle Tennessee State)

**LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES MVP:** Drew Carson (OF, Southern Mississippi)

### Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

Drew Carson (OF, Southern Mississippi), Brian LaNinfa (1B, Mississippi State), Michael McKenry (C, Middle Tennessee State) & Keith Moreland (RHP, UNC Charlotte)

### 2004 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Bethesda Big Train	29	13	.690	-
Herndon Braves	28	14	.667	1
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	26	15	.634	2.5
Vienna Senators	23	19	.548	6
Fauquier Gators	19	22	.463	9.5
Baltimore Pride	15	27	.357	14
Reston Hawks	6	36	.143	23

# 2005

## Inaugural Season of Cal Ripken Sr. League

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRSCBL REGULAR SEASON:** First Place (25-15)

**CRSCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Co-Champions

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** First Place (10-6)



The inaugural season of the Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate Baseball League began with a June 10, 2005 face-off between the reigning AAABA national champion Youse's Orioles and our 2004 Griffith League champion Big Train. The two teams battled all summer for the Ripken crown with each team winning four times in their head-to-head contests. The Big Train lost four in a row in late July to fall two games behind the Orioles, and found themselves needing to win the last three regular season games to capture the inaugural season

crown. The cardiac kids pulled it off with two exciting extra-inning victories and a solid win in the season's finale for a record of 25-15. Second baseman Greg Lemon (Salisbury) hit .336 and was named team MVP. This Bethesda team holds the league record for ERA at an amazing 2.10. The Big Train won three games in the League Championship Series and were declared Co-Champions with the Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts when heavy rains washed out the championship game. Outfielder Jonnie Knoble was named Series Co-MVP.



### Bethesda Big Train 2005 Honors

**MVP:** Greg Lemon (2B, Salisbury)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Adam Redd (RHP, Virginia Tech)

**MOST OUTSTANDING FIELDER:** Nick Cleckler (OF, Jacksonville State)

**LEADERSHIP AWARDS:** Jonnie Knoble (OF, San Francisco) &

Andrew Smith (SS, San Francisco)

### Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**CO-MVP LEAGUE ALL-STAR GAME:** Greg Lemon (2B, Salisbury)

**CO-MVP LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Jonnie Knoble (OF, San Francisco)

### Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

OF: Jonnie Knoble (San Francisco) 2B: Greg Lemon (Salisbury)

3B: Bryan Thomas (Virginia Tech)

### 2005 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Bethesda Big Train	25	15	.625	-
Youse's Maryland Orioles	24	16	.600	1
Rockville Express	19	20	.487	5.5
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	18	19	.486	5.5
College Park Bombers	17	23	.425	8
Maryland Redbirds	14	24	.368	10



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Adam Plummer (BT '06)  
Nick Clecker (BT '07)  
Brian Anderson (BT '08)  
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Jordan King (BT '09)  
Cody Freeman (BT '09-10)  
Nick Vickerson (BT '10)

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Victor Diaz (BT '11)  
Daryl Norris (BT '11)  
Zack Randolph (BT '12)  
Adam Barry (BT '12-13)  
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Cody Brown (BT '14-16)  
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Blake Smith (BT '15)  
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# 2006

## Repeat as Regular Season Champs

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRSCBL REGULAR SEASON:** First Place (28-12)

**CRSCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Third Place

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** First Place (11-5)



The 2006 Big Train got off to a strong start with an opening night win over the AAABA national champion Youse's Orioles and held onto first place through most of June. As in 2005, the Orioles and Big Train battled for the league lead throughout most of the season with the Big Train gaining the edge this season by besting the Orioles seven times in eight contests. The difference in 2006 was an amazing stretch run by the Rockville Express. The Big Train clinched the championship by beating the Express in Rockville just three days from the season's end. Despite losing four of

their first five games to the last place Maryland Redbirds, the 2006 Big Train posted an impressive 28-12 record and placed five players on the All-League Team. Outfielder Matt Long (Santa Clara) hit .342 and was named CRSCBL Co-MVP. This Bethesda team set the league record for hits with 352. The League Championship Series produced an improbable result with the fifth-seeded Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts defeating all four higher seeds to capture the crown.

### Bethesda Big Train 2006 Honors

**MVP:** Matt Long (OF, Santa Clara)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Chris Cullen (RHP, Michigan State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Luke Adkins (OF, Southern Mississippi)

**MOST OUTSTANDING FIELDER:** Cory Lane (2B, UNC Charlotte)

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD:** Adam Redd (RHP, VA Tech)

### Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**CO-MVP:** Matt Long (OF, Santa Clara)

### Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate Baseball League

#### All-League Team

**OF:** Luke Adkins (Southern Mississippi), Matt Long (Santa Clara)

**DH:** Preston Pehrson (Texas)

**PITCHERS:** Chris Cullen (RHP, Michigan State) & Evan Frederickson (LHP, VA Tech)

### 2006 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Bethesda Big Train	28	12	.700	-
Rockville Express	25	15	.625	3
Youse's Maryland Orioles	23	17	.575	5
College Park Bombers	20	20	.500	8
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	14	26	.350	14
Maryland Redbirds	10	30	.250	18

# 2007

## Narrowly Miss Third Straight Championship

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRSCBL REGULAR SEASON:** Third Place (24-18)

**CRSCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Second Place (2-2)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Co-Champions (9-5)



Three impressive win streaks of six, five, and four games in late June and July propelled the Big Train team to the brink of its third straight regular season championship. But it was not to be as the Big Train dropped back-to-back doubleheaders on the final weekend of the season, and fell into third place, three games out. In the postseason championship series, the Big Train carried the battle all the way to the championship game, and lost to the Rockville Express by the thinnest of margins, 4-3.

Second baseman Bert Smith (Jacksonville State) was the team's Most Valuable Player. Bert broke the League record for runs scored with 39. He also batted .301 and stole 20 bases. According to Manager Sal Colangelo: "Bert was electrifying, hardworking and one of the most exciting players I saw all summer. Each night he set the tone." The starting pitchers were led by Brian Anderson (3-1 with a 2.63 ERA) and Keith Moreland (4-0 with a 3.11 ERA), while the relief corps was led by Matt Hiserman's 1.39 ERA in 12 games.

### Bethesda Big Train 2007 Honors

**MVP:** Bert Smith (2B, Jacksonville State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHERS:**

Brian Anderson (RHP, San Francisco)

Keith Moreland (RHP, UNC Charlotte)

**MOST OUTSTANDING RELIEF PITCHER:** Matt Hiserman (RHP, Santa Clara)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Jon Karcich (3B, Santa Clara)

**MOST OUTSTANDING FIELDER:** Evan Friedland (1B, Michigan State)

### Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

Bert Smith (2B, Jacksonville State), Jon Karcich (3B, Santa Clara)

Brian Anderson (P, San Francisco)

### 2007 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Youse's Maryland Orioles	26	14	0.650	0
Rockville Express	27	15	0.643	0
Bethesda Big Train	24	18	0.571	3
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	19	19	0.500	6
Herndon Braves	19	22	0.463	7.5
College Park Bombers	15	24	0.385	10.5
Maryland Redbirds	12	30	0.286	14

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# 2008

## Big Train Ties Season Wins Record with 29

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRSCBL REGULAR SEASON:** Second Place (29-13)

**CRSCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Third Place (1-2)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Champions



The 2008 team was a powerful one both on offense and in terms of pitching. However, they finished second in League standings because Youse's Orioles posted a record-setting season of their own. In postseason play, the Big Train won one game and lost two, being eliminated just prior to the championship game.

The Big Train team broke League and team records for batting average (.278), on-base-percentage (.380), and hits (366). The group set team records for home runs (22), RBI (205), total bases (512), slugging percentage (.389) and walks. With 320 strikeouts, the pitching staff set a new mark in that regard. Drew Lee (Morehead State) tied the League home run record with 7.

Relief pitcher Matt Hiserman (San Francisco) was named Big Train's Most Valuable Player. Matt won 3 games and chalked up 10 saves (a League record). He had no losses and he surrendered no earned runs (another League record). His .148 opposing batting average set a new record. First baseman Danny Stienstra was the team's Most Outstanding Hitter, batting .391 with 50 hits. Among the starting pitchers, Scott Schneider went 6-0 with a 2.27 ERA and Andrew Smith went 5-0 with a 3.38 ERA.

### Bethesda Big Train 2008 Honors

**MVP:** Matt Hiserman (RHP, San Francisco)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Danny Stienstra (1B, San Jose State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING FIELDER:** Ryan Mulligan (C, St. Mary's (CA))

**MOST OUTSTANDING 2-WAY PLAYER:** Scott Schneider (RHP, St. Mary's (CA))

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD:** Steven Leach (SS, Jacksonville State)

### Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

Danny Stienstra (1B, San Jose State) Luke Adkins (OF, Mississippi State)

Matt Hiserman (RHP, San Francisco)

### 2008 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Youse's Maryland Orioles	35	7	0.833	0
Bethesda Big Train	29	13	0.690	6
College Park Bombers	24	18	0.561	11
Herndon Braves	18	24	0.429	17
Alexandria Aces	16	24	0.400	18
Rockville Express	15	25	0.375	19
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	15	26	0.366	19.5
Maryland Redbirds	13	28	0.317	21.5

# 2009

## League Champions & Ranked #9 in Country

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRSCBL REGULAR SEASON:** First Place (31-10)

**CRSCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Champions (3-0)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Champions (11-1)



The 2009 Big Train team was a powerhouse which gained national recognition, being ranked #9 in the nation by Perfect Game Crosschecker. The team won 31 regular season games, more than any other season in Big Train's history to date. Then they swept through the postseason championship series with a 3-0 record.

The team set eight new League team records, including batting average (.305), hits (411), RBI (256), slugging % (.405), on-base % (.401), doubles (73), runs scored (284), and total bases (547). Jarrod Parks set League records for on-base % (.526) and hit-by-pitch (21). Connor Bernatz set League marks for runs scored (45) and doubles (16). Danny Stienstra set a new League total for RBI with 40. Eli Boike tied the League record for hits with 56. Parks, Bernatz, Stienstra and Boike, plus Luke Adkins and Cameron Love all set new Big Train records in various categories. The starting pitching staff was led by Jordan Beistline (5-2 with a 1.95 ERA) and Cameron Love (6-1 with a 2.59 ERA). Mike Matta anchored the bullpen with a 3-0 record, 3 saves, and a miniscule 0.34 ERA in 16 appearances.

Because of the remarkable team effort, three veteran Big Train players – Luke Adkins, Eli Boike, and Danny Stienstra – shared the Most Valuable Player Award. Outfielder Luke Adkins hit .380. Outfielder Eli Boike hit .371. First baseman Danny Stienstra hit .350, and also saw playing time at second and third base.

### Bethesda Big Train 2009 Honors

**MOST VALUABLE PLAYERS:** Luke Adkins (OF, Mississippi State)

Eli Boike (OF, Michigan State), Danny Stienstra (1B/2B, San Jose State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Jarrod Parks (3B/SS, Mississippi State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING FIELDER:** Connor Bernatz (OF, San Francisco)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHERS:**

Jordan Beistline (RHP, Jacksonville State), Cameron Love (RHP, San Francisco)

**MOST OUTSTANDING RELIEF PITCHER:** Mike Matta (RHP, Mount St. Mary's)

### Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**LEAGUE MVP:** Eli Boike (OF, Michigan State)

**LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES MVP'S:**

Mike Celenza (1B/3B, Salisbury), Seth Hester (RHP, So. Mississippi)

### Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

Danny Stienstra (2B, San Jose State), Jarrod Parks (SS, Mississippi St.)

Luke Adkins (OF, Mississippi St.), Eli Boike (OF, Michigan St.)

Jordan Beistline (SP, Jacksonville St.), Mike Matta (RHP, Mount St. Mary's)

### 2009 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Bethesda Big Train	31	10	0.756	0
Youse's Maryland Orioles	29	12	0.707	2
Maryland Redbirds	24	18	0.571	7.5
Herndon Braves	19	22	0.463	12
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	18	24	0.429	13.5
Alexandria Aces	17	25	0.405	14.5
College Park Bombers	17	25	0.405	14.5
Rockville Express	11	30	0.268	20



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# 2010

## Big Train Repeat as League Champs

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRCBL REGULAR SEASON:** Third Place (26-16)

**CRCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Champions (3-1)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Champions (9-3)

Big Train led the League in regular season play in early July, but finished in third place just three games behind the winning Youse's Orioles. In the championship series, the Big Train beat the Baltimore Redbirds, then the Orioles, then lost to the Redbirds, setting up the final championship game against the Redbirds. The Big Train won that to take the title and gain a national ranking of 28th in the US.

Catcher Mason Morioka (San Francisco) was the team's Most Valuable Player. According to Manager Sal Colangelo, "Mason was our silent leader on and off the field." Mason was also the League Championship Series MVP. Outfielder Ryan Collins hit .292 and set a new Big Train record for triples with 6. First baseman Austin Harclerode hit .308 and drove in 22 runs. Infielder Danny Stienstra hit .315. The starting pitchers were led by Cameron Love (5-2, with a 2.57 ERA) and Jordan Beistline (4-1, with a 2.73 ERA). Bryan Hamilton was the major force in the bullpen with a 2-1 record, 18 saves, and a 0.42 ERA.



### Bethesda Big Train 2010 Honors

**MOST VALUABLE PLAYER:** Mason Morioka (C, San Francisco)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Bryan Hamilton (RHP, UNC Charlotte)

**MOST OUTSTANDING STARTING PITCHER:** Cameron Love (RHP, San Francisco)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Austin Harclerode (1B, Towson)

**MOST OUTSTANDING FIELDER:** Connor Bernatz (OF, San Francisco)

**BIG TRAIN HUSTLE AWARD:** Ryan Collins (OF, Michigan State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**LCS MVP:** Mason Morioka (C, San Francisco)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

**FIRST TEAM:** Austin Harclerode (1B, Towson) Bryan Hamilton (RP, UNC Charlotte)

**SECOND TEAM:** Danny Stienstra (2B, San Jose St.) Ryan Collins (OF, Michigan St.)

### 2010 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Youse's Orioles	29	13	0.690	0
Baltimore Redbirds	28	14	0.667	1
Bethesda Big Train	26	16	0.619	3
Herndon Braves	22	20	0.524	7
Rockville Express	19	22	0.463	9.5
Alexandria Aces	17	25	0.405	12
Southern Maryland Nationals	14	28	0.333	15
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	12	29	0.295	16.5

# 2011

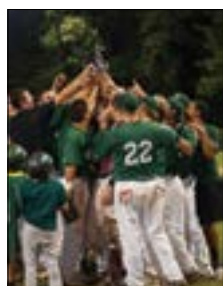
## 2011 Big Train Ranked #1 in the Country

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRCBL REGULAR SEASON:** First Place (33-9)

**CRCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Champions (3-0)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Champions (10-2)



The 2011 season was probably the most unforgettable one in the team's history. The bar was set in its highest position. At the end of the summer, Perfect Game USA, which does the only ranking of summer collegiate baseball teams, placed Big Train in the number one spot among all the summer teams.

Big Train dominated the Ripken League during the regular season with a 33-9 record and swept through the League Championship Series with a 3-0 record. 3B/1B Adam Barry was named the

team's and the League's Most Valuable Player. Adam set new League records for batting average (.414), hits (67), and RBI (43). He set a team record for total bases (90). Catcher Hunter Renfroe set a team record for home runs with eight, and batted .310. Outfielder Brendan Kalfus hit .314. Among the starting pitchers, Matt Bowman was 5-2 with a 0.82 ERA, Kelly Secrest was 4-2 with a 0.97 ERA, and Cameron Love was 4-0 with a 2.92 ERA. Out of the bullpen, Michael Aldrete made 9 appearances with a 0.00 ERA and Martin Agosta made 11 appearances with a 0.99 ERA.



### Bethesda Big Train 2011 Honors

**MOST VALUABLE PLAYER:** Adam Barry (3B/1B, Cal State Northridge)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Hunter Renfroe (C/OF, Mississippi State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Matt Bowman (RHP, Princeton)

**MOST OUTSTANDING RELIEF PITCHER:** Michael Aldrete (RHP, San Jose State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**CRCBL MVP:** Adam Barry (Cal State Northridge)

**CRCBL MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Matt Bowman (Princeton)

**MARYLAND STATE AMATEUR COACH OF THE YEAR:** Sal Colangelo

**CRCBL LCS MVP:** Michael Aldrete (RHP/SS, San Jose State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

**Hunter Renfroe** (C, Mississippi State) **Adam Barry** (1B/3B, Cal State Northridge) **Matt**

**Bowman** (SP, Princeton), **Kelly Secrest** (SP, UNC-Wilmington) **Michael Aldrete** (RHP, San Jose State)

### 2011 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Bethesda Big Train	33	9	0.786	0
Southern Maryland Nationals	24	16	0.600	8
Youse's Orioles	24	16	0.600	8
Baltimore Redbirds	23	19	0.548	10
Vienna Riverdogs	18	23	0.439	14.5
Rockville Express	17	24	0.415	15.5
Alexandria Aces	16	25	0.390	16.5
Herndon Braves	16	26	0.381	17
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	13	26	0.333	18.5

# Big Train

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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Again this year, the Bethesda Big Train are deeply appreciative of the strong financial support we have received from throughout the community. We have been able to focus on our organizational mission of improving youth fields at schools and in parks where our young people learn the basic skills of baseball, softball, and citizenship. We have invested more than \$600,000 in improving fields for our kids, and we thank those generous donors who have supported our “Kids Deserve Better Fields Campaign.”

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# 2012

## Hunter's Homers Lead 2012 Team

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRCBL REGULAR SEASON:** Third Place (25-16)

**CRCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Second Place (3-2)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Second Place (5-4)



Outfielder Hunter Renfro's offense played a large role in Big Train's 2012 season. Hunter hit .366 with 16 homers and 53 RBI. He set League records for homers, slugging % (.866), runs scored (47), RBI, and total bases (116). He set a team record for OPS (1.342). The Big Train team as a whole established new League team records for runs scored (319), RBI (271), doubles (101), homers (42), total bases (653), and walks (233).

All these records, except team home runs, still stand at the beginning of the 2018 season.

In a special ceremony on July 26th, Hunter's Big Train number 11 was permanently retired. Also retired was the number 40 of Hugh Adams, the relief pitcher who registered a career ERA of 1.72 over a record seven seasons with Big Train.

For the 2012 season, Perfect Game USA ranked Big Train number 42 in the country because it had talent beyond Hunter. Brendan Hendriks hit .400 with 64 hits, the second highest hit ever in the league. Adam Barry, who holds the league's hit record, was back with the team and contributed 27 RBI. Brennan Middleton hit .326 and stole 19 bases. Michael Bass hit .303 and stole 18 bases. Avondre Bollard hit .309 and Colin Kish batted .301. On the mound, Bo Logan was 5-1 with a 3.13 ERA and Ben Griset was 3-0 with a 1.77 ERA.

### Bethesda Big Train 2012 Honors

**MOST VALUABLE PLAYER:** Hunter Renfro (OF, Mississippi State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Brendan Hendriks (3B/1B, San Francisco)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Bo Logan (LHP, Florida Atlantic)

**BIG TRAIN HUSTLE AWARD:** Brennan Middleton (SS/2B/3B, Tulane)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**LEAGUE MVP:** Hunter Renfro (Mississippi State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

**FIRST TEAM:** Ryan Doran (San Diego State) Brendan Hendriks (San Francisco)

Hunter Renfro (Mississippi State)

**SECOND TEAM:** Bo Logan (Florida Atlantic)

### 2012 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Rockville Express	30	11	0.732	0
Baltimore Redbirds	28	13	0.683	2
Bethesda Big Train	25	16	0.610	5
Vienna Riverdogs	23	18	0.561	7
Youse's Orioles	20	20	0.500	9.5
Alexandria Aces	20	21	0.488	10
DC Grays	18	21	0.462	11
Herndon Braves	15	24	0.385	14
Southern Maryland Nationals	15	26	0.366	15
Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts	9	33	0.214	21.5

# 2013

## Dominant Showing Throughout Regular Season

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRCBL REGULAR SEASON:** First Place (30-14)

**CRCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Second Place (2-2)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Champions (10-2)



Big Train jumped to the league leader position by winning four of its first five games, and never looked back. With an expanded league of twelve teams, Big Train sat on top for virtually the entire season. The team was ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the US in late July but dropped from that high ranking after losing the championship game to the Redbirds, finishing 25<sup>th</sup> in Perfect Game's final rankings.

The team was led by strong pitching contributed by such as Bubba Derby, who recorded six wins and

was the team's MVP. Michael Boyle received the Most Outstanding Pitcher Award, going 5-1 with a 0.77 ERA. Danny Mooney hurled in nine games and kept his ERA at 1.56. Cody Mizelle made 5 appearances and yielded no runs. Ty France was the team's Most Outstanding Hitter with a .331 batting average and an 0.814 OPS.

"The 2013 season was special," said manager Sal Colangelo. "We didn't have that one superstar on the roster, but our roster was the deepest in the league. All of the guys were dedicated to the game and committed to winning. These players exemplified what Big Train is all about."

### Bethesda Big Train 2013 Honors

**MVP:** Bubba Derby (RHP, San Diego State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Michael Boyle (LHP, Radford)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Ty France (3B, San Diego State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING FIELDER:** Ryne Willard (SS, Tallahassee CC)

**BIG TRAIN HUSTLE AWARD:** David Del Grande (OF, Sacramento State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**LEAGUE MVP:** Bubba Derby (RHP, San Diego State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

**FIRST TEAM:** Bubba Derby (RHP, San Diego State)

**SECOND TEAM:** Michael Boyle (LHP, Radford) Ty France (3B, San Diego St.)

David Del Grande (OF, Sacramento St) Ryne Willard (SS, Tallahassee CC)

### 2013 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Bethesda Big Train	30	14	0.682	0
Alexandria Aces	27	17	0.614	3
Gaithersburg Giants	26	18	0.591	4
Rockville Express	25	19	0.568	5
Youse's Orioles	25	19	0.568	5
Baltimore Redbirds	25	19	0.568	5
Vienna River Dogs	23	21	0.523	7
Southern Maryland Nationals	23	21	0.523	7
D. C. Grays	23	21	0.523	7
Presstman Cardinals	14	30	0.318	16
Silver Spring - Takoma Thunderbolts	13	31	0.295	17
Herndon Braves	10	34	0.227	20



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# 2014

## A Runaway Season For Big Train

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRCBL REGULAR SEASON:** First Place (31-9)

**CRCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Second Place (3-2)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Champions (9-3)



2014 was a year in which the Big Train team was so excellent that it won the regular season championship by six games ahead of the second place team, finishing with a 31-9 record. "The 2014 season was special," reflected manager Sal Colangelo. "The season started with a bang at 18-1." The team was an offensive powerhouse with 280 runs scored in 40 games. That number remains the third highest in Ripken League history. The team also drove in 233 runs, which at the time, ranked it fourth in League history in that category.

In the Championship Series, Big Train beat the Alexandria Aces, Rockville Express, and Baltimore Redbirds once, but the Redbirds topped the Big Train twice to win the overall championship.

The team was led by second baseman Brandon Lowe, its MVP, who batted .329 and topped the League in RBI with 29. Shortstop Stephen Alemais led the League in hits with 48 and stolen bases with 26 while batting .320. Outfielder Logan Farrar hit .304 with 45 hits. On the mound, Kit Scheetz was the ace, with a 5-1 record and a 1.89 ERA. From the bullpen, Josh Thorne made 12 appearances, chalking up a 4-0 record with a 1.98 ERA.

### Bethesda Big Train 2014 Honors

**MVP:** Brandon Lowe (2B, Maryland)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Kit Scheetz (LHP, Virginia Tech)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Stephen Alemais (SS, Tulane)

**MOST OUTSTANDING DEFENSIVE PLAYER:** Logan Farrar (OF, Virginia Commonwealth)

**BIG TRAIN HUSTLE AWARD:** Cody Brown (OF, Mississippi State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**LEAGUE MVP:** Brandon Lowe (2B, Maryland)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

**FIRST TEAM:** Brandon Lowe (2B, Maryland) Stephen Alemais (SS, Tulane)

Logan Farrar (OF, Virginia Commonwealth)

**SECOND TEAM:** Cody Brown (OF, Mississippi State)

Kit Scheetz (LHP, Virginia Tech)

### 2014 Final Regular Season Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Bethesda Big Train	31	9	0.775	0
Baltimore Redbirds	25	15	0.625	6
Rockville Express	24	16	0.600	7
Gaithersburg Giants	23	17	0.575	8
Alexandria Aces	23	17	0.575	8
Vienna River Dogs	18	22	0.450	13
Youse's Orioles	18	22	0.450	13
FCA Herndon Braves	17	23	0.425	14
D. C. Grays	15	25	0.375	16
Silver Spring - Takoma Thunderbolts	13	27	0.325	18
Baltimore Dodgers	13	27	0.325	18

# 2015

## Big Train Wins Regular Season in First Year of Divisional Competition

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRCBL REGULAR SEASON:** First Place, South Division;

Co-Winner, League (29-11)

**CRCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** Second Place (2-2)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Champions (8-4)



For the first time in 2015, League competition was divided into five teams competing for the divisional championship of each half of the league. Big Train took the Southern title. The Big Train went into the championship series as the #1 seed. The Baltimore Redbirds won the series by beating Bethesda twice in a row, including squeaking out a 15-inning heartbreaker played out over two days.

Big Train's star of this year was Chris Lewis. He had a .306 batting average, 7 home runs, and 37 runs driven in. His RBI total was 14 higher than his next rival within the league. He was named the League's Most Outstanding Player and Big Train's Most Outstanding Hitter. The team had other notable hitters, including Outfielder Logan Farrar (.290), Shortstop Zach Kirtley (.285), and Outfielder Matt Toscano (.281).

The mound staff was superb and established an ERA of 2.29, which stands as third best in League history. Its Batting Average Against of .197 ties for the League record as the lowest. The ace was Drew Strotman, who had a 4-2 record and 2.62 ERA in 8 starts. Tim Yandel was given the MVP award for his combination of pitching (4-1, 1.32 ERA) and utility work at four different positions while driving in 22 runs in 24 games.

### Bethesda Big Train 2015 Honors

**MVP:** Tim Yandel (RHP, Tulane)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Chris Lewis (OF, Sacramento State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING RELIEF PITCHER:** Miller Trevvett (RHP, Radford)

**BIG TRAIN HUSTLE AWARD:** Brandon Hunley (2B, Sacramento State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**LEAGUE MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER:** Chris Lewis (OF, Sacramento State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

**FIRST TEAM:** Chris Lewis (OF, Sacramento State) Tim Yandel (RHP, Tulane)

Walker Sheller (RHP, Stetson)

**SECOND TEAM:** Harrison Crawford (3B, Creighton)

Logan Farrar (OF, Virginia Commonwealth) Zach Kirtley (SS, St. Mary's, California)

### 2015 Final Regular Season Standings

NORTH DIVISION	W	L	PCT	GB
Baltimore Redbirds	29	11	0.725	0
Silver Spring - Takoma Thunderbolts	20	20	0.500	9
Rockville Express	18	22	0.450	11
Baltimore Dodgers	13	27	0.325	16
Gaithersburg Giants	13	27	0.325	16
SOUTH DIVISION	W	L	PCT	GB
Bethesda Big Train	29	11	0.725	0
Vienna River Dogs	21	19	0.525	8
Alexandria Aces	19	21	0.475	10
D. C. Grays	19	21	0.475	10
Herndon Braves	19	21	0.475	10



# 2016

## Big Train Takes Fifth League Championship

**MANAGER:** Sal Colangelo

**CRCBL REGULAR SEASON:** First Place, South Division;  
Second Place, League (28-12)

**CRCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:** First Place (4-1)

**MONTGOMERY CUP:** Champions (8-4)



After losing to the Baltimore Redbirds in the championship game for four years in a row, 2016 marked the year when the terms were reversed and the Big Train captured the title. It was the usual tough competition in the championship series, as Bethesda topped Baltimore 6-3 in their first meeting, Baltimore edged Bethesda 7-6 in the second, and the Big Train squeaked out the championship win 4-3. After the season ended, *Collegiate Summer Baseball* ranked the team #14 in the nation.

First baseman Vinny Esposito was the offensive star of the team, and he took the Most Valuable Player award. He hit .321, with 45 hits, 7 homers, and 38 RBI in 39 games.

Clayton Daniel hit .348 with 55 hits in 40 games, and was named the team's Most Outstanding Hitter. Other contributors with the bat were Outfielder Cody Brown (.333), Outfielder Logan Farrar (.325), Third Baseman Allen Smoot (.293), and Catcher Justin Morris (.287).

Logan Gilbert earned the title of the team's Most Outstanding Pitcher. Starting five games, he posted a 3-0 record with a 1.70 ERA. Sean Barry, another fine starter, had a 4-0 record and a 2.17 ERA. Mack Meyer was named the Most Outstanding Relief Pitcher. He made 10 appearances, gaining a 1-0 record with 3 saves, and a stingy 1.35 ERA.

### Bethesda Big Train 2016 Honors

**MVP:** Vinny Esposito (1B, Sacramento State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER:** Clayton Daniel (2B, Jacksonville State)

**MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER:** Logan Gilbert (RHP, Stetson)

**MOST OUTSTANDING RELIEF PITCHER:** Mack Meyer (RHP, San Francisco)

**BIG TRAIN HUSTLE AWARD:** Cody Brown (OF, Mississippi State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Honors

**LEAGUE MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER:** Vinny Esposito (1B, Sacramento State)

### Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

**FIRST TEAM:** Vinny Esposito (1B, Sacramento State) Sean Barry (RHP, San Diego), Clayton Daniel (2B, Jacksonville State) Cody Brown (OF, Mississippi State) Logan Gilbert (RHP, Stetson) Johnny York (LHP, St. Mary's, California)

**SECOND TEAM:** Allen Smoot (3B, San Francisco) Justin Morris (UTIL, Maryland) Logan Farrar (OF, Virginia Commonwealth) John Murphy (RHP, Maryland)

### 2016 Final Regular Season Standings

NORTH DIVISION	W	L	PCT	GB
Baltimore Redbirds	29	11	0.725	0
Silver Spring - Takoma Thunderbolts	20	20	0.500	9
Gaithersburg Giants	19	21	0.475	10
Rockville Express	17	23	0.425	12
Baltimore Dodgers	15	25	0.375	14
SOUTH DIVISION	W	L	PCT	GB
Bethesda Big Train	28	12	0.700	0
Vienna River Dogs	23	17	0.575	5
Alexandria Aces	18	22	0.450	10
D. C. Grays	17	23	0.425	11
Herndon Braves	14	26	0.350	14

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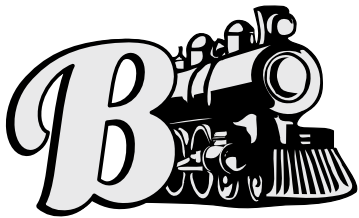
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# BETHESDA BIG TRAIN BASEBALL

## 2018 Front Office Staff

### President and General Manager, David Schneider



David Schneider is in his second year as President and General Manager of Bethesda Big Train. This is his fifth season at Big Train, having served one year as Assistant General Manager and two summers as an Intern. During his time with Big Train, David has enjoyed expanding the Internship program and partnering with nonprofits and sponsors in the community where he grew up.

David Schneider graduated from the honors college at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst with a business degree from the Mark H. McCormack Department of Sport Management. During David's time at school, he was a student manager of the UMass Men's Basketball team for two years, and worked in the Special Collections and University Archives where he organized and filed the correspondence of Mark McCormack, the first big time sport agent. While an undergraduate, David also interned with the Washington Redskins as a Premium Sales and Marketing Intern.

David was born, raised and currently resides in Chevy Chase, Maryland. He attended Bethesda Chevy-Chase High School, where he earned an International Baccalaureate diploma. As a lifelong DMV native, he is a huge D.C. Sports fan (Redskins, Wizards, Nationals, Capitals, DC United).

### Chris Rogers – Assistant General Manager



Chris Rogers is returning for his fourth season with Big Train, first as the Assistant General Manager. Chris has previously worked as the Volunteer Coordinator for two summers and will continue to lead that initiative. He is in charge of scheduling in game entertainment, anthem singers, and our wonderful volunteers. Chris will help in all facets of the operations of the organization and will be in charge of most digital graphics.

Chris is a senior journalism major at the University of Maryland, and is passionate about all sports, especially baseball. Chris is the Director of Media for Maryland Baseball Network.

### Nicole Kittay – Picnic and Party Coordinator



Nicole K. Kittay returns for her third season with Big Train and will be in her first year as the Picnic and Party Coordinator. Nicole previously spent summers as the Official Big Train photographer and acted as a mentor to new interns. During this season as well as last, Nicole assists with Operations which includes everything from volunteering at community events to game day preparation and activities.

Nicole is a rising Junior at Syracuse University in the David B. Falk School of Sport Management and Human Dynamics. At Syracuse, Nicole is the Basketball Manager for the Men's Basketball team.

Nicole grew up in Potomac, Maryland and attended Bullis High School. She is an avid Big Train fan.

## 2018 INTERNS

**Josh Abramowitz** – University of Michigan

**Doug Alfaro** – Baylor University

**Mollie Belson** – St. Mary's College of Maryland

**Josh Bernstein** – Indiana University

**Alex Blackman** – University of South Carolina

**Niamh Brennan** – Wilson High School

**Madeleine Collier** – University of South Carolina

**Ellie Cross** – University of Georgia

**Taylor Dennison** – George Washington University

**PJ Glasser** – University of Alabama

**Anthony Gonzales** – Xavier University

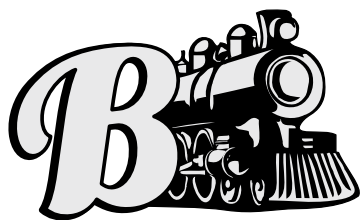
**Owen Krucoff** – Missouri University

**Paige Leckie** – University of Maryland

**Melinda Starin** – University of South Carolina

**Sam Taskey** – Tampa University

**Max Wolpoff** – Boston University



# BETHESDA BIG TRAIN BASEBALL

## 2018 Coaching Staff

### Sal Colangelo, Manager



Sal Colangelo brings a wealth of playing and coaching experience to his eighteenth season with the Big Train. In 2005, he led the Big Train to a Cal Ripken, Sr. Collegiate League Regular Season Championship in his first year as manager. His team also finished in first in the regular season in 2006. From 2009-2011, Colangelo led the Big Train to a threepeat of Cal Ripken Sr. Collegiate League Championships. In addition, the Big Train were ranked #1 in the country (out of about 350 teams) by Perfect Game USA. He was named Maryland State Amateur Coach of the Year by the Maryland State Association of Baseball Coaches for leading the Big Train to the 2011 National Championship. Sal has won the 2016 and 2017 CRCBL Championships and boasts a 407-169 career record at the helm of Big Train.

Colangelo is a graduate of Potomac High School in Woodbridge, Virginia and is currently the activities director at C.D. Hylton High School in Woodbridge, Virginia. Previously, Sal served as the assistant activities director, assistant principal, assistant varsity baseball coach, and head golf coach at Potomac High School in Dumfries, Virginia. In addition, he is a baseball instructor at the Chuck Faris Baseball School in Reston, Virginia. Colangelo served as the assistant coach for the Big Train from 1999-2004. From 1995-97, Colangelo served as the assistant baseball coach at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia. From 1991-1995, Colangelo played baseball and football for Virginia Tech. An outstanding baserunner, Colangelo stole over 100 bases in high school, including 52 in an 18-game span. Sal lives in Lorton, Virginia with his wife Alison and their daughters Emma and Abigail.

### Galvin Morris, Pitching Coach



Galvin Morris returns to Big Train for his third summer. He is in his second season with the Oakton baseball program. Morris has coached the varsity team's catchers this season. He previously served as the varsity head coach at South Lakes High School in Reston, Virginia from 2000-2014, and as an assistant coach at the school for four years prior to becoming head coach. Morris was named the 6A Conference 6 Coach of the Year in his final year with the Seahawks. Morris also has coached several summers in the Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Baseball League. He serves as a hitting and catching instructor at MVP Baseball. Morris works in Special Education at South Lakes and resides in Reston with his daughters, Davilyn (9) and Grace (8).

### Mario Porto, Assistant Coach



Coach Porto returns to Bethesda for the summer of 2018. Porto is currently the head baseball coach at Moorpark College in Moorpark, California. He has held that position with the Raiders for more than a decade. Prior to his current position, Porto was the head coach at Moorpark High School in Moorpark California. He was previously a hitting coach with the Rockville Express.

Porto attended Hueneme High School in Oxnard, California where he was an All-League third baseman for the Vikings. Porto went on to play at Ventura College in Ventura, California where his play for the Pirates caught the eye of a coach from Division III powerhouse, Cal-State Stanislaus. Porto went on to play for and graduate from Cal-State Stanislaus in Tullock, California. While Porto played at Cal-State Stanislaus, the Warriors were NCAA Division III Champions in 1976 and 1977.

Coach Porto and his wife, Julie, live in Thousand Oaks, California along with their two daughters Katie and Kellie.

### Bill Sizemore, Assistant Coach



Coach Sizemore returns to Big Train for summer 2018 with eight years of CRCBL experience under his belt. Sizemore retired after a 33-year teaching career in 2013.

Following his retirement, Sizemore was the pitching coach for Bethany College in Bethany, West Virginia. He is currently the Assistant Coach at Gilmer County High School in Ellijay Georgia. Sizemore brings years of coaching experience to the Big Train, having coached high school, college and professional baseball. He has served as the Head Baseball Coach at both Burroughs High School (his alma mater) and Thousand Oaks High School. His professional experience includes scouting for Seattle, Florida, and Pittsburgh. He has also been a minor league pitching coach for Seattle, Major League Baseball, and most recently with the Florida Marlins. Sizemore graduated from Burroughs High School in Ridgecrest, CA. He continued his baseball career at West Hills College in Coalinga, CA, and Cal State Stanislaus where he was a teammate of Coach Porto, playing on National Championship teams in both 1976 and 1977.

### Zach Morris, Assistant Coach



Zach comes to Bethesda for his first year on staff while previously playing for the Big Train in 2013. Graduate of DeMatha Catholic High School in 2011. 3x All County, 2x All Met, 2x Pre-Season and Post-Season All State. Went on to University of Cincinnati, led team in Innings Pitched and ERA as a freshman. Named NCBWA Freshman All American finalist. Transferred to University of Maryland, and went on to win 2 regional championships. Finished college career with a 2.91 ERA in 145 Innings Pitched throughout 3 seasons. After the 2015 season, drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies in the 24th round. Compiled a 15-6 record with 8 saves with a 3.02 ERA throughout 3 minor league seasons. Summer All Star for the 2013 Bethesda Big Train. Currently finishing American Studies degree at the University of Maryland, and coaching at DeMatha Catholic High School.

### Kristi Voigt, Athletic Trainer



Kristi Voigt ATC, LAT is returning for her 5th summer as the Athletic Trainer for the Big Train.

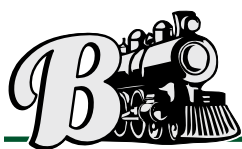
She is a 2009 graduate of Lock Haven University in Lock Haven, PA. Kristi earned

her Bachelors of Science in Athletic Training and minored in

Sports and Exercise Psychology. Kristi also completed her Masters of Science in Sport Psychology from Lock Haven University in 2015. In addition, she is a certified AHA CPR Instructor.

She is currently employed with Montgomery College in Rockville and Germantown, and also spends time working with Mount St. Marys Mens and Womens Rugby. Kristi has a special interest in sport psychology and enjoys helping athletes in all aspects of their well being and recovery.





# BIG TRAIN LINE UP

## Carter Bach

39

POSITION: LHP

6'7" 220

BATS: R

HOME: Clifton, VA

DATE OF BIRTH: 2/14/1998

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

THROWS: L

CLASS: Junior



**SPRING STATS:** Bach has made 12 appearances (eight starts) this season in 26.2 innings. He has the strikeout stuff working, whiffing 28 batters.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Preston and Kathleen Bach; majoring in communication. At Centreville High School, he was named Pitcher of the Year as a senior in 2016. Received Perfect Game All-American Honorable Mention honors. As a freshman at Wake Forest, posted a 2-0 record and 3.26 ERA in 18 appearances, fanning 19 batters in 19.1 innings. His favorite MLB team is the Astros and favorite player is Gerrit Cole. Off the field, Bach enjoys golfing and video games.

## Alec Burleson

41

POSITION: LHP/1B

6'1" 215

BATS: L

HOME: Stanley, NC

DATE OF BIRTH: 11/25/98

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

THROWS: L

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Burleson has starred as a two-way player early in his college career at ECU. He is 4-1 with a 3.83 ERA in 16 appearances (five starts). He has whiffed 41 in 41.1 innings, while walking just nine opponents. At the plate, he is hitting .238 with 14 RBIs.

**PERSONAL:** Two-sport athlete (baseball, basketball) at East Lincoln High School; four-time All-Conference baseball selection. Struck out eight times total in his last three years of high school. Was All-State three times. He posted a 0.45 ERA his senior year. Named Rawlings-Perfect Game All-American in 2017. Son of Betty and Jason Burleson; has one brother, Bradley. His favorite MLB team is the New York Yankees, and his favorite player is Randy Johnson.

## Hunter Brown

32

POSITION: RHP

6'3" 200

BATS: R

HOME: St. Clair Shores, MI

DATE OF BIRTH: 08/29/98

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

THROWS: R

CLASS: Junior



**SPRING STATS:** In 13 appearances (three starts), Brown has posted a 3-2 record with a 4.33 ERA. He has struck out 31 and walked just 14 in 35.1 innings of work.

**PERSONAL:** Majoring in exploratory physical sciences and math; son of Kevin and Kimberly Brown; has three sisters: Madison, Morgan and Taylor. As a senior at Lakeview High School in 2016, hit .438 with 22 RBI while posting a 1.54 ERA and 70 strikeouts in 50 innings pitched. Named the utility man on the 2016 Michigan All-State Division I second team for prep high schoolers.

## Chris Clarke

44

POSITION: RHP

6'7" 225

BATS: R

HOME: West Village, California

DATE OF BIRTH: 05/13/1998

UNIVERSITY OF SO. CALIFORNIA

THROWS: R

CLASS: Junior



**SPRING STATS:** Clarke has pitched 51.2 innings this year for the Trojans both as a starter and in relief totaling 16 appearances. He has struck out 42 batters compared to only 18 walks and holds a 6.27 ERA.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Greg and Gaye Lampert; lists the Los Angeles Dodgers and his favorite team and Domingo Ayala as his favorite player. His brother Zander plays outfield at UC San Diego, and other brother Zach plays SS at Claremont-McKenna. Chris is majoring in Business Administration. Chris played four years of varsity baseball at Newbury Park HS. In 2016 he was named a Rawlings-Perfect Game Honorable Mention All-American and was a California All-Region First Team Selection.

## Bryan Diaz

34

POSITION: OF

6'1" 195

BATS: L

HOME: Miami Lakes, FL

DATE OF BIRTH: 2/24/1999

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIV.

THROWS: R

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Diaz is hitting .208 in 31 games (20 starts), with a double, two triples, a home run and 12 RBIs. He is a perfect 3-for-3 on the bases, and sports a .333 on-base percentage.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Tania Mendez and Jose Diaz; majoring in exercise and sports science. Graduated from Monsignor Edward Pace High School in 2017, where he hit a home run on senior night. Hit .400 with an enormous .534 on-base percentage. Ranked 9th on Prospect Select regional Top 20 list for right fielders. His favorite MLB team is the Red Sox and his favorite player is David Ortiz.

## Quinn Flanagan

35

POSITION: RHP

6'4" 205

BATS: R

HOME: Chandler, AZ

DATE OF BIRTH: 05/12/1999

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

THROWS: R

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** He has not appeared this spring.

**PERSONAL:** A 2017 graduate of Corona Del Sol High School in Tempe, Arizona, where he earned Second Team All-State and First Team All-Conference honors. He also earned Perfect Game All-American Honorable Mention and West All-Region Team. Son of Cary and Monica Flanagan. His favorite MLB team is the Arizona Diamondbacks, and his favorite player is Max Scherzer.

## John Glenn

27

POSITION: 1B

6'0" 225

BATS: L

HOME: Thousand Oaks, CA

DATE OF BIRTH: 2/13/1998

CALIFORNIA BAPTIST UNIV.

THROWS: L

CLASS: Junior



**SPRING STATS:** Glenn has appeared in 49 of Cal Baptist's 50 games this season, posting a .333/.388/.522 slash line. Through May 17, he has hit nine doubles and eight homers while driving in 48 runs and scoring 36.

**PERSONAL:** Earned PacWest Freshman of the Year honors in 2017 after hitting .321 with 12 doubles, five homers and 38 RBI. Earned Offensive Player of the Year in his final three seasons at Thousand Oaks High School (2014-16). Son of Jacquie and Vince Glenn; brother of Adrian, Chris and Vinnie. His favorite MLB team is the Los Angeles Angels and his favorite player is Ken Griffey Jr.

## Brock Guffey

25

POSITION: LHP

6'0" 185

BATS: B

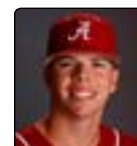
HOME: Hoover, AL

DATE OF BIRTH: 04/17/98

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

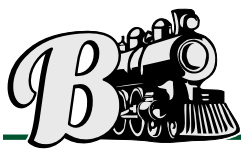
THROWS: L

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Guffey has made 19 appearances for Alabama through May 17, pitching to a 4.05 ERA and 1-2 record. In 26.2 innings, he has struck out 23 and walked 10.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Freeman and Angie Guffey; lists his favorite MLB team as the Texas Rangers and favorite player as Clayton Kershaw. Ranked the No. 9 left-hander in Alabama out of high school after pitching 86 innings with 111 strikeouts and a 0.57 ERA his senior year. He led Hoover High School to the 7A state championship as a senior, earning MVP honors and 2017 Super All-State Team honors, and was named Alabama Sports Writers Association 7A Pitcher of the Year.



# BIG TRAIN LINE UP

## Gavin Hinchcliffe

9

POSITION: RHP

5'11" 200

BATS: R

HOME: Pottsville, PA

DATE OF BIRTH: 12/15/1998

VIRGINIA TECH

THROWS: R

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Hinchcliffe has made two appearances this season.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Steve and Heather Hinchcliffe; graduated from Pottsville High School, where he earned First Team All-Region and Perfect Game Atlantic First Team as a senior in 2017. That year, he struck out 63 batters in 38 innings and posted an ERA of 0.30. His brother, Connor, plays baseball for La Salle. At Virginia Tech, Hinchcliffe is majoring in conservation sciences.

## Aaron Husson

16

POSITION: RHP

6'2" 200

BATS: R

HOME: Hawley, PA

DATE OF BIRTH: 12/26/1998

UMBC

THROWS: R

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Husson has a 5-1 record with a 5.90 ERA in 15 appearances this spring, 12 of which have come in relief. He has struck out 23 batters and walked 12 in 29 innings of work.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Coleen and Gary Husson; graduated from Wallenpaupack High School where he earned All-League and All-Region honors. In 2017, he led his team into the playoffs with a 5-0 record and a 2.27 ERA. Lists his favorite MLB team as the Pittsburgh Pirates and his favorite player as Tim Lincecum. Majoring in environmental science at UMBC.

## Jarret Krzyzanowski

30

POSITION: RHP

6'1" 175

BATS: R

HOME: Cedar Park, TX

DATE OF BIRTH: 01/08/1999

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIV

THROWS: R

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Krzyzanowski has made 12 appearances (four starts) this season, going 4-0 with a 6.68 ERA in 33.2 innings.

**PERSONAL:** Graduate of Vista Ridge High School in Cedar Park, Texas, where he earned Perfect Game All-American and Texas Region Honorable Mention as a senior in 2017. Son of Ron and Susie Krzyzanowski, and is majoring in marine biology.

## Carlos Lomeli

22

POSITION: RHP

6'0" 190

BATS: R

HOME: La Habra, CA

DATE OF BIRTH: 03/19/99

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF CALIF

THROWS: R

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Lomeli is 0-2 with a 4.21 ERA in 11 appearances this season, including five starts. He has struck out 23 in 36.1 innings, and has picked up a save this year.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Anita and Carlos; majoring in accounting. Was All-Region First Team in 2017, as he went 3-0 with 3 saves and a 3.08 ERA for his senior year at St. John Bosco High School. His favorite MLB team is the Los Angeles Angels, and his favorite players are Mike Trout and Kike Hernandez. Off the field, he enjoys playing golf and video games.

## Ben Martz

17

POSITION: C

6'0" 200

BATS: R

HOME: Thousand Oaks, CA

DATE OF BIRTH: 10/16/98

CAL STATE NORTHRIDGE

THROWS: R

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Martz had a homer and six RBIs in 31 at bats this year in 18 games.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Doug and Karrie Martz; majoring in business economics. As a senior at Thousand Oaks High School, hit .452 with eight home runs, 12 doubles, and a .556 on-base percentage, and was named first-team All-State. His favorite MLB team is the Los Angeles Dodgers, and his favorite food is the In-N-Out 4x4 burger. In his free time, he reads, listens to music, and plays minecraft.

## Jacob McCarvel

18

POSITION: RHP

6'4" 185

BATS: R

HOME: Riverside, CA

DATE OF BIRTH: 2/25/1999

CALIFORNIA BAPTIST UNIV.

THROWS: R

CLASS: Freshman



**SPRING STATS:** McCarvel made 10 appearances, striking out eight batters in 10.1 innings.

**PERSONAL:** A 2017 graduate of Canyon Springs High School in Moreno Valley, California where he played shortstop and pitched. He was named California All-Region Honorable Mention by Perfect Game. Son of Mark and Nicole McCarvel. Majoring in kinesiology. His favorite MLB team is the Pittsburgh Pirates and his favorite player is Javier Baez.

## Conor McCormack

14

POSITION: INF

6'0" 170

BATS: R

HOME: Boca Raton, FL

DATE OF BIRTH: 11/07/97

LAKE-SUMTER STATE COLLEGE

THROWS: R

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** In 29 games this spring, McCormack had a double and 8 RBIs.

**PERSONAL:** Son of John and Katrina; graduated from Boca Raton Community High School. His favorite MLB team is the Marlins and his favorite player is Derek Dietrich. Outside of baseball he enjoys collecting and trading pins and fishing.

## Ryan Metz

15

POSITION: RHP

6'1" 190

BATS: R

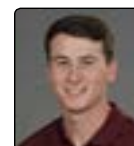
HOME: Fishers, IN

DATE OF BIRTH: 8/7/98

VIRGINIA TECH

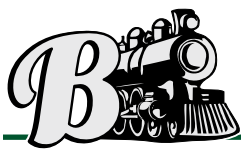
THROWS: R

CLASS: Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Metz has made seven appearances in relief this season, allowing eight earned runs in 4.1 innings pitched.

**PERSONAL:** Majoring in mechanical engineering with a minor in aerospace engineering. As a senior at Fishers (Indiana) High School, he went 7-0 with a 0.83 ERA in 50.2 innings pitched, helping the team to the state regional finals. He set school records in wins while pitching to a 1.68 career ERA.



# BIG TRAIN LINE UP

## Kent Morrison

31

**POSITION:** RHP  
**6'3" 185**  
**BATS:** R  
**HOME:** Herndon, VA

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 01/06/98  
**SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Morrison had two scoreless appearances this spring.

**PERSONAL:** As a senior at Flint Hill School, struck out 47 batters in 32.2 innings with a 0.86 ERA. Son of Rich and Elissa Morrison, and brother of Rachel. Off the field, he enjoys snowboarding, hunting, fishing and going to the beach. His favorite MLB team is the Washington Nationals, and his favorite pitcher is Max Scherzer.

## Josh Nelson

2

**POSITION:** RHP  
**5'11" 185**  
**BATS:** R  
**HOME:** Ann Arbor, MI

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 01/07/1999  
**WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Junior



**SPRING STATS:** Nelson ranks second on the Warriors with 10 starts this season, and 52 innings pitched. He tossed three complete games.

**PERSONAL:** Majoring in finance and management; son of Patrick Nelson and Trachette Jackson. He lettered for two years at Saline High School, and earned First Team All-Conference and All-District as a senior in 2016. His senior year, he posted an 11-0 record with a 0.47 ERA and a 0.60 WHIP. Posted a 2.88 ERA in 12 appearances for Wayne State in 2017.

## Scott Parker

1

**POSITION:** LHP  
**5'8" 175**  
**BATS:** L  
**HOME:** Laguna Niguel, CA

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 04/03/1996  
**UNIV. OF SAN FRANCISCO**  
**THROWS:** L  
**CLASS:** Redshirt Senior



**SPRING STATS:** His 24 appearances rank second on the team. In 23.2 innings, he had 22 strikeouts.

**PERSONAL:** Majoring in business administration; son of Perry and Lori Parker. His uncles, Stacy and Cory both played professional baseball. In his free time, he enjoys playing golf, going to the beach, and playing the ukulele. His favorite MLB team is the Los Angeles Angels and his favorite player is Marcus Stroman. Graduated from Dana Hills High School in Dana Point, California. In 2017, he had a 5-1 record and a 2.95 ERA with the University of San Francisco. He appeared in 32 games for the Dons, which was the second greatest number of appearances in school history.

## Anthony Piccolino

13

**POSITION:** LHP  
**5'10" 182**  
**BATS:** L  
**HOME:** Bronxville, NY

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 05/10/99  
**JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY**  
**THROWS:** L  
**CLASS:** Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Has not appeared for James Madison this spring.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Anthony and Kim Piccolino; majoring in psychology. At Iona Prep, earned First-Team All-State honors in 2016 and 2017, and was named LoHud player of the Year and Hudson Valley Player of the Year as a senior in 2017, hitting .382 for the year. His favorite MLB team is the New York Yankees, and his favorite player is Marcus Stroman. Outside of baseball, he enjoys playing Xbox, volleyball, and biking.

## Jordan Poore

20

**POSITION:** LHP  
**6'0" 185**  
**BATS:** L  
**HOME:** Muncie, IN

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 10/03/96  
**FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIV.**  
**THROWS:** L  
**CLASS:** Junior



**SPRING STATS:** In 16 appearances (two starts), Poore owns a 2.49 ERA with 20 strikeouts in 25.1 innings.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Michelle and Eric Poore; majoring in business management. Earned All-Conference honors all four years at Park Vista High School. His favorite professional athlete is Andrew McCutchen, and in his free time he enjoys fishing. Had a 1.13 ERA in 44 innings pitched over his high school career.

## Benji Post

12

**POSITION:** RHP  
**6'2" 185**  
**BATS:** R  
**HOME:** Rolling Hills, CA

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 12/02/96  
**UNIV. OF SAN FRANCISCO**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Senior



**SPRING STATS:** Made 11 appearances (2 starts), pitching 9.2 innings.

**PERSONAL:** Majoring in international business. Favorite baseball team is the Los Angeles Dodgers, and favorite player is Zack Greinke. Son of Dan and Hillary Post. Graduate of Loyola High School in Los Angeles where he was Honorable Mention All-Region in 2015. With University of San Francisco in 2017, he had a 7-2 record with a 3.29 ERA and he was ranked among the West Coast Conference's top-10. His uncle, Tim Coffin, was a three-time national champion pitcher at University of Southern California in the 1970s. Off the field, he enjoys watching movies, meditation, going to the beach, and traveling.

## Nick Prather

28

**POSITION:** RHP  
**6'1" 200**  
**BATS:** R  
**HOME:** Zionsville, IN

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 11/12/97  
**FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIV.**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Junior



**SPRING STATS:** Prather made eight appearances (four starts) through May 17.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Jeff and Krista Prather; majoring in business. At Zionsville High School, he was named the Indiana Player of the Year after going 11-0 with a 0.81 ERA and 76 strikeouts in his senior season. His favorite MLB team is the Chicago Cubs, his favorite food is steak, and he likes listening to country music.

## Tyler Reis

3

**POSITION:** INF  
**5'9" 185**  
**BATS:** L  
**HOME:** Verona, PA

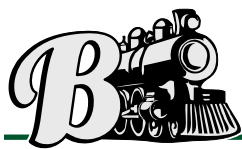
**DATE OF BIRTH:** 10/28/96  
**WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Senior



**SPRING STATS:** Tyler Reis has led the Waynesburg offense this year. Through May 17, he paces the team in average (.342), on-base percentage (.463), slugging (.690), homers (7), doubles (8), RBIs (24) and walks (24).

**PERSONAL:** Son of Glenn and Lori Reis; majoring in business management. Named two time second-team All-Section at Penn Hills High School. His favorite MLB team is the Pittsburgh Pirates, and favorite player is Bryce Harper. Hit .337 his freshman year at Waynesburg University, and improved to .371 as a sophomore, scoring 42 runs in 39 games.





# BIG TRAIN LINE UP

## Fox Semones

24

**POSITION:** Utility  
**5'11" 170**  
**BATS:** R  
**HOME:** Woodbridge, VA

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 12/03/97  
**JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Junior



**SPRING STATS:** Semones has been a sparkplug for the Dukes, hitting .294 with a team-high seven homers and .469 slugging percentage. He also has notched eight doubles, 29 RBIs and 28 runs scored while going 6-for-8 on the basepaths.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Kimberly and Charles; majoring in engineering. Lists his favorite team as the New York Yankees and favorite players as Derek Jeter and Robinson Cano. At Hylton High School, earned All-Conference and All-Region Player of the Year honors, and as a freshman at JMU in 2017, earned Collegiate Baseball Freshman All-American honors, hitting .306 and driving in 21 runs. Returning for his third summer with Big Train, after hitting .333 with an .895 OPS in 16 games last summer.

## Andrew Shebloski

6

**POSITION:** OF  
**5'11" 180**  
**BATS:** R  
**HOME:** San Diego, CA

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 03/18/98  
**ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF CALIF.**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Junior



**SPRING STATS:** Shebloski has made just 13 appearances and three starts through May 17, but has impressed in his limited playing time, hitting .304 with a double and four runs scored.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Shannon and Steve; majoring in kinesiology and sport management. At Madison High School, he was a three-time team MVP and two-time Western League Player of the Year. He hit .397 in his four years of varsity high school baseball, and hit .310 in 26 games during his freshman year at St. Mary's. His favorite MLB player is Bryce Harper, and his hobbies include video games, listening to music, and going to the gym.

## Zach Sherman

19

**POSITION:** RHP  
**6'2" 180**  
**BATS:** R  
**HOME:** Ramona, CA

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 06/20/1998  
**UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Sherman has been a horse out of the Wildcat bullpen this year, sporting a 2.55 ERA in 14 outings. He has whiffed 23 hitters in 17.2 innings and opponents are hitting just .194 off the right hander.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Mark and Loralee Sherman; majoring in sports and society. Earned First Team All-League honors at Ramona High School, and was part of the 17U National Team Development Program. Also knowing what to do with a bat, he hit .406 in 101 AB's as a high school junior while playing third and first base. His favorite baseball player is Mickey Mantle.

## Jacob Southern

33

**POSITION:** C  
**6'0" 210**  
**BATS:** R  
**HOME:** Mt. Dora, FL

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 02/09/1998  
**JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Southern leads Jacksonville in the power categories this year, with a .463 slugging percentage and seven homers. The freshman is hitting just .236 but boasts a lofty .387 on-base percentage thanks to his 26 walks.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Laura and Paul Southern; majoring in computer science. A 2016 graduate of Apopka High School, where he earned All-Metro Conference Catcher honors in 2015. hitting .438 that year. His favorite MLB team is the Red Sox and favorite player is Yadier Molina. Off the field, he enjoys computer programming, playing video games, fishing and boating.

## Udie Summerall

29

**POSITION:** 1B  
**6'3" 230**  
**BATS:** L  
**HOME:** Lake Park, FL

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 07/30/98  
**FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIV.**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Sophomore



**SPRING STATS:** Through May 17, Summerall has appeared in 41 games, starting 26 this spring for the Owls. He has slashed .211/.306/.400 with five homers and 13 RBIs.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Willie Daniels and Lisa Summerall; majoring in biological sciences. His favorite MLB team is the Miami Marlins and his favorite player is Eric Hosmer. At Palm Beach Gardens High School, he played for three district champion teams, and was named Second Team All-Conference. Hit .380 for Delray Beach last summer in the South Florida Collegiate Baseball League.

## Carson Taylor

8

**POSITION:** C  
**6'1" 190**  
**BATS:** B  
**HOME:** Duluth, GA

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 06/02/99  
**VIRGINIA TECH UNIVERSITY**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Freshman



**SPRING STATS:** Has not appeared for Virginia Tech this spring.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Jeff and Ashley Taylor; plans to major in marketing. His favorite baseball team is the Atlanta Braves and his favorite player is Nolan Arenado. Lettered in baseball for four years at Greater Atlanta Christian School, and holds the school record for RBIs. He was named All-County in Gwinnett County at two different positions, catcher and third base. In his free time, he enjoys sports, hunting and fishing.

## Tuck Tucker

26

**POSITION:** LHP  
**6'4" 225**  
**BATS:** L  
**HOME:** Mineola, TX

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 07/08/1997  
**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND**  
**THROWS:** L  
**CLASS:** Junior



**SPRING STATS:** In 11 appearances (seven starts) for New Mexico Junior College this spring, Tucker is 3-1 with a 4.58 ERA. He has overpowered hitters with 49 strikeouts in 39.1 innings, while walking just 18. He has both a save and a complete game under his belt this year.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Billy and Jennifer Tucker. Was named Perfect Game All-American Honorable Mention and Texas All-Region First Team in 2016 while at Mesquite Poteet High School in the Texas city of the same name. His favorite MLB team is the Seattle Mariners and his favorite player is Jon Lester. Off the field, he enjoys fishing, hunting and working on his truck.

## Cam Vassar

10

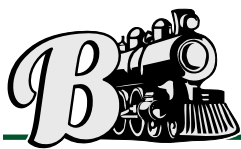
**POSITION:** RHP  
**6'2" 180**  
**BATS:** R  
**HOME:** Charlotte Court House, VA

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 11/10/97  
**JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY**  
**THROWS:** R  
**CLASS:** Junior



**SPRING STATS:** Vassar has made two appearances this spring.

**PERSONAL:** Son of Greg and Cheryl Vassar, majoring in sport and recreation management. His favorite MLB team is the Boston Red Sox, and his favorite player is Dustin Pedroia. Outside of baseball, he enjoys fishing and hunting. He made 11 appearances with Big Train in 2017, posting a 3.14 ERA. As a freshman at James Madison in 2017, tallied a 2-1 record while fanning 32 batters in 26 innings.



# BIG TRAIN LINE UP

## Tyler Villaroman

36

**POSITION:** OF

**6'1" 195**

**BATS:** R

**HOME:** San Mateo, CA

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 04/19/98

**UNIV. OF SAN FRANCISCO**

**THROWS:** R

**CLASS:** Junior



**SPRING STATS:** Appeared in 43 games, making 36 starts. Hitting .236 with four doubles and 17 runs scored, and his 11 stolen bases rank second on the Dons. (As of May 17)

**PERSONAL:** Played baseball at Junipero Serra High School, earning first-team All-WCAL as a senior and helping the Padres to West Catholic Athletic League regular season and tournament titles. Earned MVP honors at the 2016 American Legion Regionals in Colorado. Lists his favorite MLB team as the San Francisco Giants, and favorite player as Troy Tulowitzki. Son of Dave and Sheila Villaroman; majoring in business administration. With University of San Francisco in 2017, his 89 percent stolen base percentage was the 10th best for one season in the school's history, as he stole 16 bases.

## Justin Wylie 23

**POSITION:** OF

**5'10" 185**

**BATS:** R

**HOME:** Chandler, AZ

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 08/26/96

**UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA**

**THROWS:** R

**CLASS:** Senior



**SPRING STATS:** Has not appeared this spring.

**PERSONAL:** Son of John and Cheryl Wylie; majoring in journalism. Transferred to Arizona from San Diego State, where he hit .269 in 116 games over three years, and was named to the 2015 and 2016 Mountain West Conference All-Tournament Teams. At Hamilton High School in Chandler, he hit .357 in 31 games played for his team, which was ranked Number 3 in the nation.

## Elliot Zoellner

37

**POSITION:** RHP

**6'3" 200**

**BATS:** R

**HOME:** Annapolis, MD

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 11/29/1997

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND**

**THROWS:** R

**CLASS:** Junior



**SPRING STATS:** Zoellner is 1-2 in 15 appearances (one start) this season for the Terps. He has struck out 11 hitters.

**PERSONAL:** Majoring in government and politics. At St. Mary's High School in Annapolis, earned All-County and All-Conference honors three times each, as well as earning All-Met honors once. As a high school junior, he posted a 7-0 record with a 2.91 ERA, while striking out 60 batters in 43.1 innings. Named top ranked RHP in Maryland by Perfect Game and Prep Baseball Report. His favorite MLB player is Max Scherzer and his favorite team is the Nationals.

## Join the Big Train family... Host a Player!



If you love to watch baseball, have kids who play baseball, or are a die-hard Big Train fan, you can join the Big Train family and host a player for the 2018 season. We are looking for dedicated families to share their homes with a Big Train player during the upcoming 2018 season. Players stay with families from late May through late July or early August.

Your family will experience the joy of watching your very own player come up to bat or pitch in a game. With your own player, your family will have a personal interest in the team that you've never felt before.

**Most of the Big Train players have their own transportation and many of them work our summer camp as a summer job.**

If you want to learn more about how you can get involved, please contact our Host Family Coordinator Emily Waldman at [waldmanemily@gmail.com](mailto:waldmanemily@gmail.com) or Anne Fletcher at [fletch428@gmail.com](mailto:fletch428@gmail.com).

# BALLPARK DIRECTIONS

## Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League



### Shirley Povich Field

#### *Bethesda Big Train*

Povich Field is located at 10600 Westlake Drive, Bethesda MD in the Cabin John Regional Park near Westfield Montgomery.

**From the East:** Prince George's County and Silver Spring. Take the Beltway (I-495) west toward Bethesda. Take Exit 35 onto I-270 and go north toward Frederick 1.7 miles.

Take Exit 1B and go just less than one mile on Rockledge Drive (note: there is a full right turn required to stay on Rockledge). Turn right on Westlake Terrace and go one-half mile. Turn right on Westlake Drive. In 1/10 of a mile, turn left into Cabin John Regional Park.

**From the North:** Take 270 South. Exit 4B — Montrose Road West. Left on Seven Locks Rd. Left on Tuckerman Lane. Right onto Westlake Drive. After the power lines, Povich Field is on the right.

**From Virginia & the West:** Take I-495 East, stay left at the I-270 split. Right on Democracy Boulevard West. Pass Westfield Montgomery. Right on Westlake Drive. Go one-half mile, Povich Field is on your left.

### Annandale High School

#### *FCA Braves*

Annandale High School, 4700 Medford Dr, Annandale, VA (17 miles from Povich Field)  
Take I-270 Spur South. Merge onto I-495 South. Stay on 495 South until Exit 52A-52B for Little River Turnpike/VA-236 toward Fairfax/Annandale. Merge onto VA-236 E/Little River Turnpike. Turn right on Heritage Drive. Turn left onto 4 Year Run and the school is on your right.

### Blair Stadium at Montgomery Blair High School

#### *Silver Spring – Takoma Thunderbolts*

51 University Blvd East, Silver Spring, MD (9 miles from Povich Field)

From I-495 (Washington Beltway) — Take the Colesville Road exit off the Beltway going north. Go one block and take a right on University Boulevard. Turn into the school on your right. The field is beyond the school buildings.

### Carlo Crispino Stadium at Calvert Hall HS

#### *Baltimore Redbirds*

8102 Lasalle Road, Towson, MD (57 miles from Povich Field)

From I-495 (Washington Beltway) — Take exit 27 to merge onto I-95 N toward Baltimore. Take exit 64 I-695 E toward Essex. Keep left at fork and continue toward I-695 W and merge onto I-695 W. After 6 miles, take exit 29-A/29-B for MD-542 S/Loch Raven Blvd and merge onto MD-542 Loch Raven Blvd S. Turn right at E Joppla Rd. Turn left at Lasalle Road into Calvert Hall High School Facility.

### Frank Mann Field at Four Mile Run Park

#### *Alexandria Aces*

3700 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria, VA (21 miles from Povich Field)

From I-495 (Washington Beltway) — Take exit 43 for George Washington Memorial Parkway towards Washington. Head south 10 miles on GW Parkway and take the exit toward Arlington Cemetery. Turn left at the stop sign onto Memorial Drive and then take an immediate right onto the VA-110 South ramp to US 1 South (Jefferson Davis Highway). Take US 1 South about 3.5 miles (the Pentagon will be on your right). After you pass South Glebe Road, take a right at the third light onto East Reed Avenue. Turn right onto Commonwealth Avenue. The ballpark is on your left just past Cora Kelly School. Park in the lot behind the right field fence.

### Kelley Park

#### *Gaithersburg Giants*

400 Victory Farm Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (13 miles from Povich Field)

Take I-270 North towards Frederick. Take exit 11 to merge onto MD-124 N/Montgomery Village Ave. Turn right onto MD-124 N. After 1.5 miles, turn right onto Saybrooke Oaks Blvd. Go about 1/3 miles and make a left onto Victory Farm Drive. Kelley Park will be on your left.

### Knights Field at Montgomery College-Rockville

#### *Rockville Express*

51 Mannakee Street, Rockville, MD (7 miles from Povich Field)

Take I-270 North towards Frederick. Exit on 6A, Route 28, W. Montgomery Ave./Rockville (1/4 mile north of Montrose Road exit). Follow Montgomery College sign through traffic light (road becomes Nelson Street). Go to first traffic light at Mannakee Street; turn left. The campus is 1 1/2 blocks on the left.

### Rockridge High School

#### *Loudon Riverogs*

43460 Loudoun Reserve Dr, Ashburn, VA (28 miles from Povich Field)

From I-495 (Washington Beltway) — Take exit 45a and merge onto VA 267 toward Dulles Airport. Take exit 7 for Loudoun County Parkway toward VA-607. Turn left onto Loudoun County Parkway. Turn left on Evergreen Ridge Drive. Turn left onto Loudoun Reserve Drive.

### Washington Nationals Youth Baseball Academy

#### *DC Grays*

3675 Ely Place SE, Washington, DC 20019 (23.7 miles from Povich Field)

From I-495 (Washington Beltway) — Take exit 43 for George Washington Memorial Parkway towards Washington. Continue for 11 miles and exit onto I-395 N toward Washington. Merge onto I-395. Keep left to continue on I-695 for 1.9 miles. Take the exit onto District of Columbia Highway 295. Take the Pennsylvania Avenue E exit toward Andrews Air Force Base and merge onto Pennsylvania Avenue. Turn left onto Minnesota Ave. SE and continue for 1 mile. Turn right onto Ely Place SE.



**Ninth Annual  
Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League's**

# **FEED THE HUNGRY CHALLENGE**

**Saturday June 30 • 10am-2pm**



TXTDISEIGN

In Montgomery County, more people than you can imagine struggle to put food on the table. In these challenging times, 3,300 families rely on the Manna Food Center for food each month. This summer, you can help our neighbors in need by supporting the Ninth Annual Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League's Feed the Hungry Challenge.

**Each family that donates two or more cans or boxes of food will receive a free family pass for four to a regular season game this June or July in your favorite Cal Ripken League ballpark.**

The team whose fans donate the most food will win the Annual Challenge Cup.

**Since 2010, Ripken  
League players have  
collected nearly  
22 tons of food for  
Manna Food Center.**



**Visit one of the 12 Giant Food stores listed  
below on June 30 to not only support Manna  
but cheer on your favorite team.**

## **SUGGESTED SHOPPING LIST**

### **WHOLE GRAINS**

Whole wheat pasta  
Brown rice  
Plain oatmeal packets & canisters

### **PROTEINS**

Dried beans  
Canned beans (7-14.5 oz.)  
Canned chicken, tuna & salmon  
Nut butters (just nuts & salt)

### **VEGETABLES**

7-14.5 oz. canned, low-sodium or no added salt

### **FRUIT**

Cans & cups packed in fruit juice



### **Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts:**

Arliss Street Center- 8750 Arliss St  
Blair Park- 1280 East West Highway  
White Oak- 11221 New Hampshire Ave.

### **Rockville Express:**

Montrose Crossing- 12051 Rockville Pike  
Kentlands- 229 Kentlands Blvd.  
Rockville- 625 Hungerford Drive

### **Bethesda Big Train:**

Bethesda Row West- 7142 Arlington Rd,  
Georgetown- 10400 Old Georgetown Rd.  
Cabin John- 7919 Tuckerman Lane

### **Gaithersburg Giants:**

Goshen Crossing- 20044 Goshen Road  
Flower Hill- 18250 Flower Hill Way  
Shady Grove- 16837 Crabbs Branch Way



### **Bethesda Big Train**

Shirley Povich Field  
10600 Westlake Drive, Bethesda MD  
in the Cabin John Regional Park  
[www.bigtrain.org](http://www.bigtrain.org)



### **Gaithersburg Giants**

Criswell Automotive Field  
400 Victory Farm Drive  
Gaithersburg, MD  
[www.gaithersburggiants.org](http://www.gaithersburggiants.org)



### **Rockville Express**

Knights Field  
Montgomery College-Rockville  
51 Mannakee Street, Rockville, MD  
[www.rockvilleexpress.org](http://www.rockvilleexpress.org)

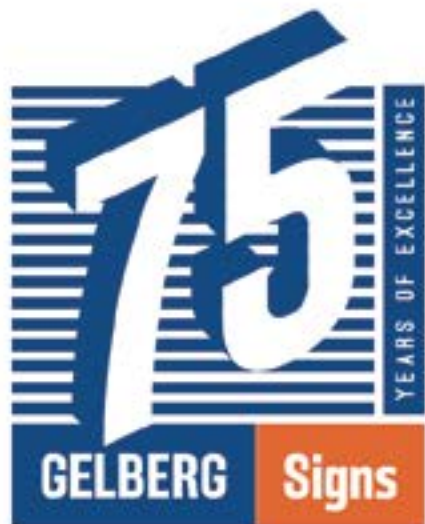


### **Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts**

Blair Stadium  
Montgomery Blair High School –  
51 University Blvd East, Silver Spring, MD  
[www.tbolts.org](http://www.tbolts.org)

[www.calripkenleague.org](http://www.calripkenleague.org) [www.mannafood.org](http://www.mannafood.org)

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