

MARYLAND SPORTS BLOG

WEEKLY MAGAZINE

VOLUME 2026

ISSUE 40

WEEK OF

SEP 27 - OCT 4, 2026



COVER STORY

The Week in Maryland Sports

By Brian Hradsky Three weeks into the 2026 NFL season, the league already looks considerably different than it...

BALTIMORE ORIOLES

Frederick Keys Name Branden McGee General Manager After...

BALTIMORE ORIOLES

Norfolk Tides Promote Ethan Anderson and Aron Estrada Fr...

BALTIMORE ORIOLES

Frederick Keys Baseball Announce 2027 Season Ticket...

BALTIMORE ORIOLES

Orioles Finish 2026 at 79-82: Pete Alonso, Coby Mayo and...

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

35 STORIES

5 SECTIONS

21 MSB TAKES

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FEATURED THIS WEEK



NFL Power Rankings After Week 3: Bills, 49ers Lead the Pack as Raiders Make Massive Jump...

By Brian Hradsky Three weeks into the 2026 NFL season, the league already looks considerably different than it did...

BY THE NUMBERS

35 STORIES

5 SECTIONS

21 MSB TAKES

BRIAN'S NOTEBOOK

THE WEEK THAT WAS

Brian's Take recaps 21 MSB opinion takes published during the week. These are the key conclusions from MSB's reporting, analysis and game coverage....

1

Orioles Finish 2026 at 79-82: Pete Alonso, Coby Mayo and Young Core Provide Bright Spots in Disappointing Season...

The 2026 Orioles were disappointing, but this season was not a complete disaster. Pete Alonso was outstanding. Baltimore finally spent major money on a legitimate middle-of-the-order hitter, and Alonso responded with 43 home runs, 113 RBIs and one of the best power seasons by an Oriole in years. Coby Mayo might be the most encouraging development for the future. Th...

2

Ravens Add Veteran Center Andre James, Promote K Von Wallace Amid Roster Shuffle...

Signing Andre James is a logical response to a position that has been hit unusually hard by injuries. Losing one starting center is difficult. Losing three players capable of handling the position before Week 4 forces a team to search outside the organization, and Baltimore found one of the more experienced options available. The biggest question will be how quic...

3

NFL Power Rankings After Week 3: Bills, 49ers Lead the Pack as Raiders Make Massive Jump...

Three weeks have created far more questions than answers, but Buffalo and San Francisco have done enough to earn the top two spots in the Maryland Sports Blog rankings. Kansas City remains Kansas City, Minnesota continues winning, and Las Vegas has officially gone from September curiosity to one of the NFL's most interesting stories. For Maryland fans,...

4

New in the MSB Team Store: Sundays For Ravens Unisex classic tee

The MSB Team Store continues to grow with new Maryland Sports Blog merchandise. Visit the product page for available sizes, colors, current pricing and ordering information.

AROUND THE STATE

THIS WEEK IN MARYLAND SPORTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

Frederick Keys Name Branden McGee General Manager After Franchise-Record 2026 Baseball Season...

THURSDAY, OCTOBER

Norfolk Tides Promote Ethan Anderson and Aron Estrada From Double-A Chesapeake...

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER

Frederick Keys Baseball Announce 2027 Season Ticket Packages After Franchise-Record 83-Win Season...

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER

Orioles Finish 2026 at 79-82: Pete Alonso, Coby Mayo and Young Core Provide Bright Spots in Disappointing Season...

SATURDAY, OCTOBER

Preview: Ravens Looks For First Home Win in Over 300 Days

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER

Ravens Add Veteran Center Andre James, Promote K Von Wallace Amid Roster Shuffle...

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



Our fans showed up in record numbers for the Frederick Keys during our 2026 return to affiliation with the Baltimore Orioles, and that franchise-record season is...

UPCOMING WEEK

More Maryland sports coverage, schedules and breaking news are ahead.

BALTIMORE RAVENS

BALTIMORE RAVENS



FEATURE STORY

NFL Power Rankings After Week 3: Bills, 49ers Lead the Pack as Raiders Make Massive Jump

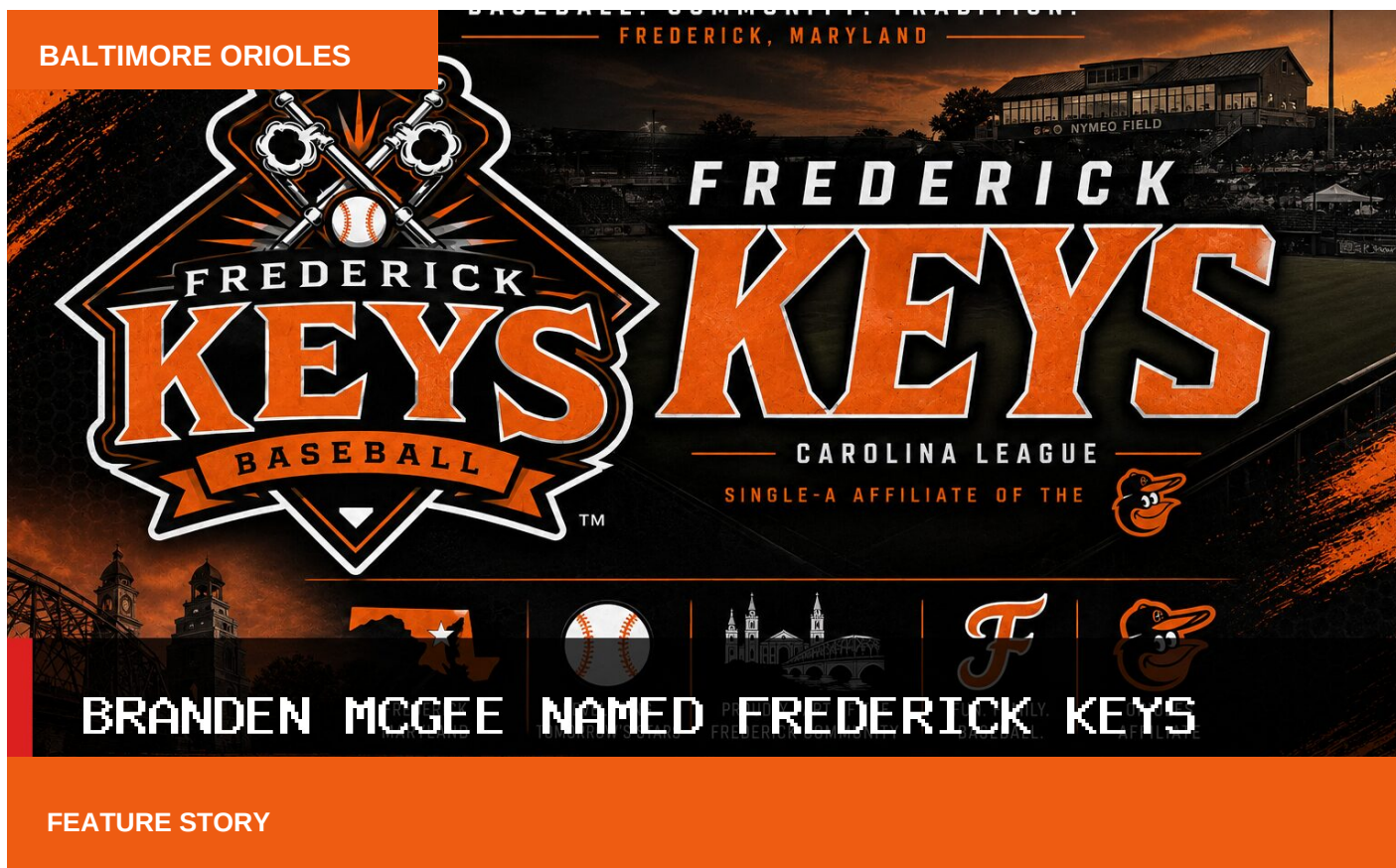
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BALTIMORE ORIOLES

BALTIMORE ORIOLES



The graphic features the Frederick Keys Baseball logo on the left, which includes crossed keys and a baseball. To the right, the text 'FREDERICK KEYS' is prominently displayed in a large, orange, stylized font. Below this, it says 'CAROLINA LEAGUE' and 'SINGLE-A AFFILIATE OF THE' followed by the Baltimore Orioles logo. At the bottom, a banner reads 'BRANDEN MCGEE NAMED FREDERICK KEYS'. The background shows a baseball field at dusk with stadium lights and a building labeled 'NYMEO FIELD'.

FEATURE STORY

Frederick Keys Name Branden McGee General Manager After Franchise-Record 2026 Baseball Season

The Frederick Keys named Branden McGee general manager after a franchise-record 2026 baseball season, while Slater Fuchs became executive vice president of Attain Sports.

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BALTIMORE ORIOLES

BALTIMORE ORIOLES



FEATURE STORY

Norfolk Tides Promote Ethan Anderson and Aron Estrada From Double-A Chesapeake

The Norfolk Tides promoted Ethan Anderson and Aron Estrada from Double-A Chesapeake on Sept. 15, 2026, in conjunction with the Baltimore Orioles.

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BALTIMORE ORIOLES

BALTIMORE ORIOLES

FREDERICK, MARYLAND

FREDERICK KEYS
BASEBALL

FREDERICK KEYS

CAROLINA LEAGUE
SINGLE-A AFFILIATE OF THE

FREDERICK KEYS BASEBALL 2027 TICKETS

FEATURE STORY

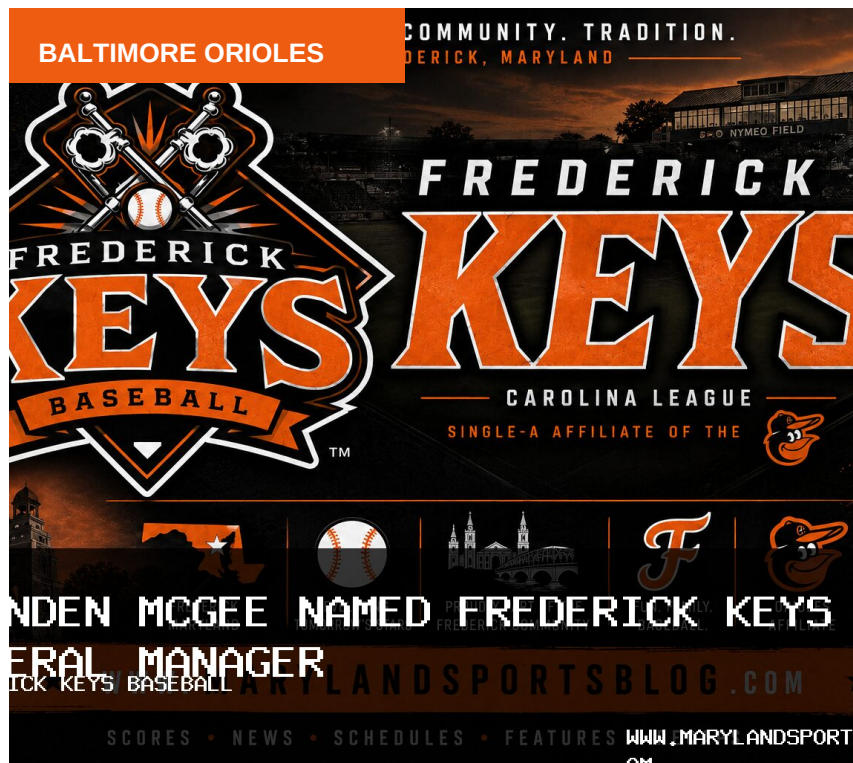
Frederick Keys Baseball Announce 2027 Season Ticket Packages After Franchise-Record 83-Win Season

The Frederick Keys announced 2027 season ticket packages after a franchise-record 83-win season and two South Atlantic League North Division titles.

[READ MORE ONLINE](#)

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BALTIMORE ORIOLES



SECTION LEAD

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BALTIMORE ORIOLES



Orioles Finish 2026 at 79-82: Pete Alonso, Coby Mayo and Young Core Provide Bright Spots in...

By Brian Hradsky The Baltimore Orioles 2026 season officially ended without a Game 162. Baltimore s scheduled regular-season...

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Delmarva Shorebirds Athletic Trainer Maggie Hunt Selected as 2026 Carolina League Athletic...

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)

BALTIMORE RAVENS



BALTIMORE RAVENS

SECTION LEAD

Preview: Ravens Looks For First Home Win in Over 300 Days

The Baltimore Ravens return to M&T Bank Stadium for Week four as they host the Tennessee Titans in their second home game of the 2026 season. The Raven...



Ravens Add Veteran Center Andre James, Promote K Von Wallace Amid Roster Shuffle...

By Brian Hradsky The Baltimore Ravens made several roster moves Wednesday as they attempt to stabilize an offensive line hit...



NFL Power Rankings After Week 3: Bills, 49ers Lead the Pack as Raiders Make Massive Jump...

By Brian Hradsky Three weeks into the 2026 NFL season, the league already looks considerably different than it did...

BALTIMORE RAVENS



Ravens Win Thriller in Rio

The Baltimore Ravens and Dallas Cowboys delivered an instant classic in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Sunday as the Ravens somehow are coming back...

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New in the MSB Team Store: Sundays For Ravens Unisex classic tee

New MSB Team Store merchandise: Sundays For Ravens Unisex classic tee.

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WASHINGTON CAPITALS AND HERSHEY BEARS



SECTION LEAD

Slow Start Costs Capitals in 3-1 Loss to Lightning

The Washington Capitals could not overcome a difficult opening period Saturday night, falling 3-1 to the Tampa Bay Lightning at Benchmark International...



Hershey Bears enter 2026-27 season with intriguing mix of proven veterans, top Capitals prospects...

The Hershey Bears begin their 89th season in the American Hockey League with a roster that looks considerably different from...



Capitals Look to Stay Perfect Against Lightning in Tampa

By Brian Hradsky The Washington Capitals could not have asked for a much better start to the 2026-27 season. Less...

WASHINGTON CAPITALS AND HERSHEY BEARS



Alex Tuch Scores Twice as Capitals Open Season With 5-2 Win Over Hurricanes...

By Brian Hradsky The Washington Capitals opened the 2026-27 season in impressive fashion Friday night, defeating the defending Stanley Cup champion Carolina.....

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



Capitals Open 2026-27 Season With Major Test Against Defending Champion Hurricanes...

By Brian Hradsky The Washington Capitals will not get an easy introduction to the 2026-27 NHL season. Washington opens its season Friday night against...

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



South Carolina Stingrays Announce Rock Festival Giveaway for October 30 ECHL Game...

The South Carolina Stingrays will give away two tickets to a four-day Daytona rock festival, along with airfare and hotel accommodations, during Emo Night.....

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



Hershey Bears Sign Veteran Goaltender Cal Petersen to AHL Contract...

By Brian Hradsky The Hershey Bears added significant experience to their crease Tuesday, signing veteran goaltender Cal Petersen to an American Hockey League contract.....

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)

WASHINGTON CAPITALS AND HERSHEY BEARS



South Carolina Stingrays Add Eight Hershey Bears Loans and Four Released Tryout Players...

The South Carolina Stingrays added eight players on loan from the Hershey Bears and four players released from training camp tryouts.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



Washington Capitals 2026-27 Season Preview: An Aggressive Offseason Sets Up a Fascinating Year in...

By Brian Hradsky The Washington Capitals enter the 2026-27 season looking almost nothing like the team that narrowly missed the...

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Jets Claim Clay Stevenson Off Waivers From Capitals, Ending Four-Year Run in Washington...

By Brian Hradsky The Washington Capitals lost a piece of their organizational goaltending depth Monday when the Winnipeg Jets claimed goaltender...

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)

MARYLAND COLLEGE SPORTS



SECTION LEAD

Salisbury University Women's Field Hockey Wins 7-1 as Layla Kent Scores Twice...

Layla Kent scored twice and added an assist as Salisbury University women's field hockey defeated SUNY Morrisville, 7-1, at Drake Field....



UMBC Women's Swimming and Diving Opens 2026-27 With Wins Over American and VMI...

University of Maryland, Baltimore County Women's Swimming and Diving defeated American and VMI in its season-opening double dual meet, with...



Maryland Collapses After Fast Start in 48-23 Loss to Nebraska

Maryland looked like it might deliver a major road victory for much of the first half Saturday afternoon. Instead, another...

MARYLAND COLLEGE SPORTS



Towson Suffers Heartbreaking 41-40 Loss to Monmouth as Defensive Breakdowns, Costly Penalty Prov...

The Towson Tigers scored 40 points, converted nine third downs, went a perfect 6-for-6 in the red zone and scored what...

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



Frostburg State University Men's Football Falls to Concord 41-31 After Fourth-Quarter Lead...

Frostburg State University men's football took a 31-27 fourth-quarter lead, but Concord scored twice late to win 41-31 on Oct. 3, 2026.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



Cameron Edge Leads Morgan State Past Villanova in 38-35 Thriller

Morgan State quarterback Cameron Edge delivered one of the greatest passing performances in program history and scored the game-winning touchdown with 36 seconds remaining.....

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



Navy Falls Short Against Air Force, 14-9, in Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Op...

The Navy Midshipmen could not turn a strong second-half defensive performance into a comeback Saturday afternoon, falling to the Air Force Falcons 14-9 at.....

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)

MARYLAND COLLEGE SPORTS



Bowie State University Football Defeats Shaw 34-29 Behind Daniel Coles Jr....

Bowie State University football overcame a 10-0 deficit to defeat Shaw 34-29 as Daniel Coles Jr. accounted for 121 rushing yards and two touchdowns.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



Stevenson University Women's Soccer Drops MAC Commonwealth Opener 5-0 to Messiah...

Stevenson University women's soccer opened MAC Commonwealth play with a 5-0 loss to Messiah on October 3, 2026, at Shoemaker Field.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



Mount St. Mary's University Men's Soccer Draws Merrimack 1-1 as Lincoln Bauer Scores in 75th...

Lincoln Bauer scored a 75th-minute penalty kick as Mount St. Mary's University men's soccer drew Merrimack 1-1 in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)

MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS



SECTION LEAD

Girl Scout Unit 58 Meeting Set for November 20, 2026, at Hammond High School Media...

Girl Scout Unit 58 will meet at Hammond High School Media Center on November 20, 2026, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.



Towson Generals Boys Varsity Football Shut Out Chesapeake 12-0 at Home...

Towson Generals Boys Varsity Football secured a 12-0 shutout victory over Chesapeake at home on October 3, 2026, showcasing strong...



Reservoir High School to Host SGA General Assembly on May 26, 2027

Reservoir High School will host its Student Government Association General Assembly on May 26, 2027, fostering student leadership and community...

MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS



Guilford Park Panthers Girls Soccer to Host Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on October 7...

Guilford Park Panthers girls soccer team will hold a spaghetti dinner fundraiser at Guilford Park High School cafeteria on October 7, 2026, at 6...

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)



Parkville Knights Mixed Varsity Badminton Falls 2-9 to Western School of Technology...

Parkville Knights mixed varsity badminton team was defeated 2-9 by Western School Of Technology in their latest match.

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