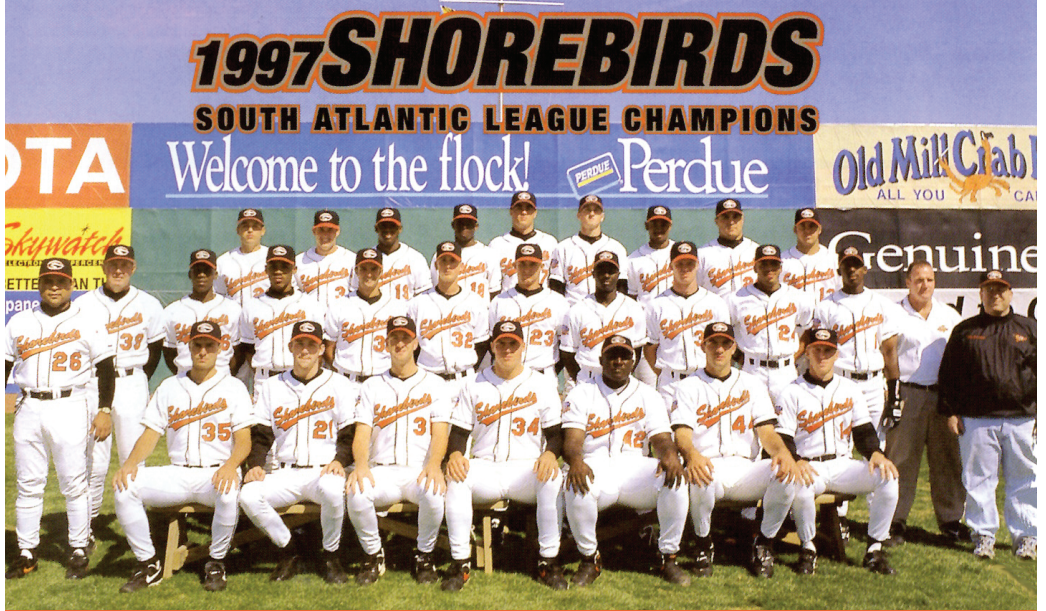


# DELMARVA SHOREBIRDS *Play Ball!*

Issue 8 July 19 - 22



# 2018



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***DELMARVA SHOREBIRDS OFFICIAL GAME DAY MAGAZINE***

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# HOMESTAND PROMOTIONS

## JULY 19 Thursday, 7:05 p.m. vs. Greensboro Grasshoppers

**Visor Giveaway** – The first 500 fans through the gates will receive an orange and black visor presented by Spicer Bros. Construction Inc.

**Maryland Pride Thursdays** – Back for a second season, the Shorebirds players will be wearing Maryland Flag themed jerseys each Thursday during the 2018 season. All fans are encouraged to wear Maryland themed gear and join the fun! The jerseys will be auctioned off at the end of the season.

**Kiss 95.9 Thirsty Thursday** – Enjoy 16 ounce cans of Miller Lite and Coors Light; as well as, 16 ounce Pepsi fountain drinks for just \$2. Thirsty Thursdays are presented by University Village.



## JULY 20 Friday, 7:05 p.m. vs. Greensboro Grasshoppers

**Mike Seidel Bobble Head Giveaway and Appearance** – The Shorebirds will be giving away Mike Seidel bobble heads to the first 1,000 fans through the gates presented by Real Hospitality Group. In addition Mike will be making a guest appearance at Perdue Stadium this evening. Mike Seidel is a meteorologist for the Weather Channel who covers severe weather conditions around the country. Mike Seidel is a native of Salisbury, MD.

**Q105 Fireworks** – Come out and watch the Shorebirds light up the sky with their ninth fireworks show of the season.

**Orange Fridays** – The Shorebirds players will be wearing orange themed jerseys each Friday during the 2018 season. All fans are encouraged to wear orange gear and join the fun! The jerseys will be auctioned off at the end of the season.

**Froggy 99.9 Big Beer Friday** – 32 ounce Miller Lite and Coors Light draft beers are only \$6.



## JULY 21 Saturday, 7:05 p.m. vs. Greensboro Grasshoppers

**Q105 Fireworks** – Come out and watch the Shorebirds light up the sky with their tenth fireworks show of the season presented by Market Street Inn and MoJo's.



**Christmas Jersey Auction** – The Shorebirds will be wearing special Christmas jerseys that will be auctioned off at the end of the season. All funds from the jersey auction will benefit the Shorebirds Community Fund.

**Brooke's Toy Closet** – The Shorebirds will be collecting unwrapped toys and activity books at the game. All donations will benefit Brooke's Toy Closet at PRMC.

## JULY 22 Sunday, 5:05 p.m. vs. Greensboro Grasshoppers

**Christmas Stocking Giveaway** – The Shorebirds will be wrapping up the Christmas holiday week-end by giving away a Shorebird Christmas stocking to the first 1,000 fans in attendance.



**Kids Club Game #4** – The Shorebirds have created a brand new kids club for the 2018 season.

Members of the club receive tickets to 5 games, a one-of-a-kind lunch box, lanyard, player autograph session, and whole lot more! The Kids Club is presented by Maryland Excels.



**Strike Out Hunger Sunday** – Bring two canned food items to the Shorebirds box office and receive an upper reserve ticket for \$3. All collected items will be donated to the local area food banks.



**Kids Run the Bases** – All kids get to run the bases after the game presented by Chili's Grill & Bar.

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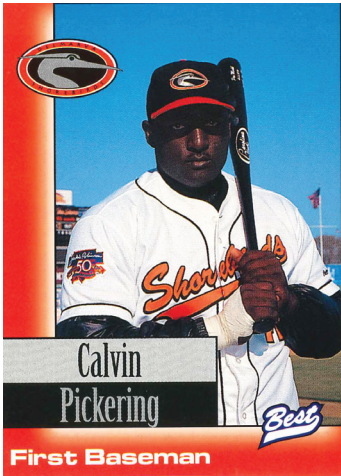


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## SHIELDS' RETURN STIRS MEMORIES OF '97 CHAMPIONSHIP



During the Shorebirds' series against Hagerstown on June 8-10, Nationals minor league field coordinator Tommy Shields served as acting manager for the Suns, as regular skipper Patrick Anderson was away on family business. For Shields, the weekend was no regular fill-in stint. Shields managed in Delmarva in 1997, the year the Shorebirds brought their first South Atlantic League championship home to Perdue Stadium.

The '97 Shorebirds were coming off an inaugural season that featured 83 wins and a runner-up finish. With a new manager and an entirely new cast of characters – '97 was the first year the team played under the Baltimore Orioles umbrella – the Shorebirds took aim for another shot at the crown.

Eastern Shore lore most remembers Delmarva's Bash Brothers from that season. First baseman Calvin Pickering batted .311 with 25 home runs and 79 RBIs, establishing a franchise home run record that stands to this day. Third baseman Ryan Minor finished

one homer shy of his corner infield mate, batting .307 with 24 big flies and 97 RBIs; his 42 doubles that season, like Pickering's dingers, still stand as Shorebirds records.

While everyone remembers the Minor-Pickering one-two punch, Delmarva had little additional offense to back them up. The team relied heavily on blistering speed and stout relief pitching. Centerfielder Darrell Dent stole a franchise-record 60 bases, and five others swiped at least 15 bags. Ryan Kohlmeier saved a league-high 24 games, headlining a bullpen that featured lockdown arms in Scott Eibey (1.83 ERA), Maximo Heredia (2.13), and Gabe Molina (2.18).

"We benefited from not moving anybody," said Shields. "We had Eibey in the seventh and Molina in the eighth and Ryan Kohlmeier in the ninth. We could really shorten games.

"I think, you'd have to look back, but we must have played a dozen extra-inning games over 14 innings because we struggled to score, believe it or not, but that bullpen would knock it down."

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## MEMORIES OF '97 CONT...

The '97 Shorebirds faced their share of tribulations. They lost out on a first-half championship on the final day of the opening session, but finished second in both halves and earned a Wild Card berth with a 77-65 record.

In those days the South Atlantic League featured three rounds of postseason play. Delmarva opened against the Hickory and swept the Crawdads 2-0. The semifinal round brought a nail-biting matchup against the Charleston (WV) AlleyCats, but the Shorebirds sweated out a 2-1 series win to move into the finals.

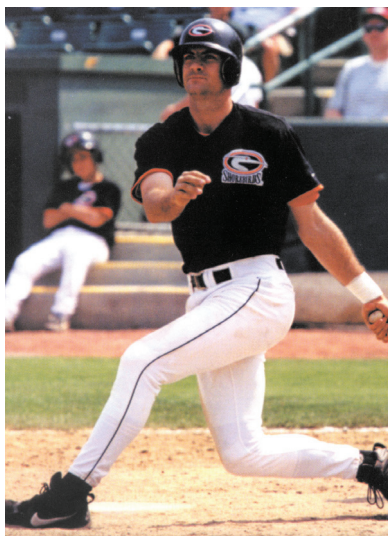
Delmarva met the Greensboro Bats, then a Yankees farm team, in the SAL Championship Series. Staring down an opponent that featured longtime future major leaguers Cristian Guzman and Nick Johnson, the Shorebirds never blinked, sweeping the Bats 2-0 to claim the crown.

"It was a thrill," said Shields. "I won one as a player in Triple-A [Iowa Cubs, '93], but I think winning one as a manager is even more rewarding. To see the kids go through a long season, ups and downs, all we went through, to finally escape and be on top of the mountain, it was a huge thrill."

There would be even sweeter rewards down the line as 14 members of the '97 Shorebirds made it to the major leagues. Outfielder Luis Matos lasted the longest of the bunch, appearing in 508 games and batting .255 over parts of seven seasons in The Show. John Parrish and Josh Towers each pitched parts of seven years in the bigs. Minor, of course, had his moment in the sun at the end of Cal Ripken's Iron Man streak and eventually became the longest-tenured manager in Shorebird history.

While 1997 may have been the beginning of the baseball journey for most of those Shorebirds, it provides a constant source of satisfaction for all involved.

"Baseball, they say, it gives you more than you give it back, and that's true," said Shields. "I've really enjoyed the ride. I've scouted, I've coordinated, I've managed...and over 21 years it's never been boring. The people I've met along the way, the kids I've met who keep me young. My body may be failing, but the kids keep me young."



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# 2018 ORIOLE PARK PROMOTIONS

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PRESENTED BY WEIS MARKETS • ALL FANS 14 & UNDER
- 22 EARTH DAY TOTE BAG**  
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- 29 YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL DAY**  
PRESENTED BY MARYLAND 529 • PRE-REGISTERED YOUTH TEAMS



MAY

- 9 ORIOLES T-SHIRT**  
ALL FANS
- 11 FRIDAY FIREWORKS**  
POSTGAME, ALL FANS
- 12 ORIOLES CAR EMBLEM**  
PRESENTED BY E-ZPASS MARYLAND • FIRST 25,000 FANS 15 & OVER
- 13 MOTHER'S DAY PASHMINA SCARF**  
FIRST 20,000 FANS 18 & OVER
- YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL DAY**  
PRESENTED BY MARYLAND 529 • PRE-REGISTERED YOUTH TEAMS
- 16 FIELD TRIP DAY**  
PRESENTED BY WJZ-TV • PRE-REGISTERED STUDENTS
- 28 ORIOLES MEMORIAL DAY T-SHIRT**  
ALL FANS
- 30 ORIOLES COOLER BACKPACK**  
FIRST 20,000 FANS 15 & OVER • PRESENTED BY VISIT SARASOTA



JUNE

- 1 FRIDAY FIREWORKS**  
POSTGAME, ALL FANS
- 12 DYLAN BUNDY BOBBLEHEAD**  
FIRST 25,000 FANS 15 & OVER
- 15 ORIOLES FLOPPY HAT**  
PRESENTED BY MILLER LITE • FIRST 20,000 FANS 21 & OVER
- FRIDAY FIREWORKS**  
POSTGAME, ALL FANS
- 17 FATHER'S DAY NECK TIE**  
FIRST 20,000 FANS 18 & OVER
- 25 BUCK "SNOW" ALTER SNOW GLOBE**  
FIRST 25,000 FANS 15 & OVER
- 29 FRIDAY FIREWORKS**  
PRESENTED BY MARYLAND CREDIT UNIONS • POSTGAME, ALL FANS
- 30 BIRDLAND HAWAIIAN SHIRT**  
FIRST 35,000 FANS 15 & OVER

JULY

- 13 FRIDAY FIREWORKS**  
POSTGAME, ALL FANS
- ORIOLES MARYLAND FLAG SCRIPT REPLICCA JERSEY**  
PRESENTED BY MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY • FIRST 35,000 FANS 15 & OVER
- 26 ORIOLES T-SHIRT**  
ALL FANS
- 27 FRIDAY FIREWORKS**  
POSTGAME, ALL FANS
- 28 TREY MANCINI BOBBLEHEAD**  
FIRST 25,000 FANS 15 & OVER
- 29 BIRDLAND SUMMER GARDEN GNOME**  
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AUGUST

- 10 FRIDAY FIREWORKS**  
PRESENTED BY THE HARTFORD • POSTGAME, ALL FANS
- 11 EXCLUSIVE ORIOLES CARD PACK**  
PRESENTED BY TOPPS • ALL FANS
- 12 RETRO TALKING ALARM CLOCK**  
PRESENTED BY UNITED CONCORDIA DENTAL • ALL FANS 14 & UNDER
- 15 ORIOLES T-SHIRT**  
ALL FANS
- 24 FRIDAY FIREWORKS**  
POSTGAME, ALL FANS

SEPTEMBER

- 13 ORIOLES T-SHIRT**  
ALL FANS
- 15 ORIOLES LIGHTWEIGHT HOODIE**  
FIRST 35,000 FANS 15 & OVER
- 16 ORIOLES CAP**  
PRESENTED BY DAP • FIRST 20,000 FANS 15 & OVER
- 28 ORIOLES COASTER SET**  
FIRST 20,000 FANS 15 & OVER
- 29 ORIOLES PUFFY VEST**  
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- 30 ORIOLES DUFFLE BAG**  
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### JULY 21TH:

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SHARPTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OCEAN CITY JEEP CLUB  
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### JULY 22TH:

FRONTIER TOWN CAMPERS  
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# PROMOTIONAL SCHEDULE

## July

- 31 **Bark in the Park**  
Sponsor - Johnson-McKee Animal Hospital

## August

- 3 **Fireworks #11**  
Sponsor - Pohanka of Salisbury  
**Money Giveaway**  
Sponsor - Bank of Delmarva
- 4 **Fireworks #12**  
Sponsor - Mountaire Farms
- 5 **Summer Reading Night (DE/VA)**  
Sponsor - McDonalds of Eastern Shore
- 16 **MD Pride Hat Giveaway**  
Sponsor - Spicer Bros. Construction Inc.
- 17 **Human Cannonball**
- 18 **Fireworks #13**  
Sponsor - Allen Harim  
**Delmarva Scrapple Night**
- 19 **Float for the Fund**  
Sponsor - Georgeo's/Mug Root Beer  
**Summer Reading Program (MD)**  
Sponsor - McDonalds of Eastern Shore
- 21 **Bark in the Park**  
Sponsor - Johnson-McKee Animal Hospital
- 30 **Fan Appreciation Night**

## WEEK DAY PROMOTIONS



### 47 ABC 2 BUCK MONDAY

Enjoy \$2 upper reserved tickets, \$2 Hot Dogs, and \$2 fountain Pepsi Products all game long! Sponsored by Wicomico Heating & Air Conditioning.



### SILVER SLUGGERS WEDNESDAY

Play baseball bingo and win prizes courtesy of Peninsula Home Care Maryland & Peninsula Home Care at Nanticoke.



### KISS 95.9 THIRSTY THURSDAY

16 ounce cans of Miller Lite & Coors Light beer and 16 oz. fountain Pepsi products are just \$2.00. Presented by University Village



### FROGGY 99.9 BIG BEER FRIDAY

32 ounce Miller Lite & Coors Light draft beers are only \$6.



### Q105 FIREWORKS SATURDAY

Stick around for the fireworks show after the game!



### STRIKE OUT HUNGER SUNDAY

Bring two canned food items to the Box Office and receive a upper reserved ticket for just \$3.

## PLANTING SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE

Community gardens are on the rise in the Lower Shore region. From 2011-2014, CFES granted \$3,450 to two community gardens. Since 2015, CFES has granted \$24,570 to eight different gardens, and more projects and grants are in the foreseeable future.



*The Wor-Wic Community College garden is part of their "Food for Students" initiative, which includes a community garden and a food pantry staffed by student groups and employee volunteers. The goal of the initiative is to serve 100 economically disadvantaged students per month.*

Thanks to local founders, these community gardens create a vital resource for the area. Children and adults alike learn the skills needed to grow their own food, and area shelters and low-income services are able to provide healthy, local, and fresh produce. These gardens also improve dietary habits through education, increase obesity awareness, boost mental health and promote relaxation.

We are excited to see what the 2018 growing season brings to our area gardens. We hope you will join us in supporting these budding community resources, or support The Delmarva Shorebirds and the Community Foundation to support area food pantries and other need-based initiatives!

---

*The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore connects people who care to causes that matter. We are a 501c3 nonprofit and have provided more than \$65 million in grants and scholarships to the local community since 1984. We collaborate with individuals, families, and businesses to match their charitable interests with community needs and strengthen nonprofits through grants and resources. To learn more visit [CFES.org](http://CFES.org) or call 410-742-9911.*



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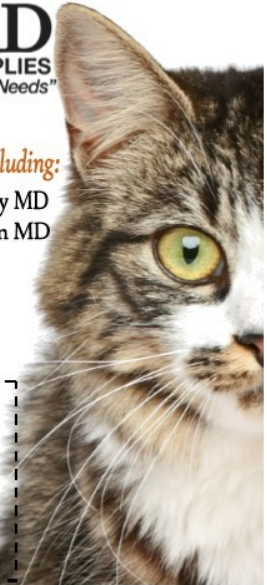
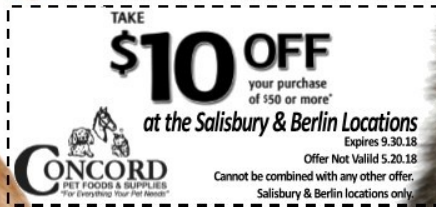
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## SEASON TICKET HOLDER

Don, Patti, and Mike Fentress are this week's ticket holders in the spotlight. Attending Shorebirds games as mini plan holders since 2006, the Fentress family are huge fans of the Shorebirds and Orioles. Especially Mike, who rarely misses a Shorebirds or Orioles radio broadcast, home or away. When the Shorebirds are home he always brings his radio to stay up to date on the Orioles.

Don recently retired after 37 years at Atlantic Smith Cropper & Deely, while Patti has worked with Piedmont Airlines and the Worcester County Ocean Pines Library. The Fentress family currently resides in Berlin, while Mike attends the Worcester County Developmental Center, and enjoys horseback riding at Four Steps Therapeutic Riding Program.



Mike is a devoted Delmarva Shorebirds fan for the last 15 years. His favorite players this year are first baseman Ryan Ripken and pitcher Zac Lowther (who is now with the Frederick Keys). He closely follows the progression of all players from the Shorebirds to Baltimore Orioles.

In 2008 they started a tradition each year to visit the Orioles in Sarasota for Spring Training. "Mike is a huge fan of Orioles manager Buck Showalter, and we've been able to catch up with him a few times in Florida, or at the Shorebirds Hot Stove banquet (pictured)," said Don. "Every time we do Mike makes sure Buck knows he's always listening to Orioles broadcasts, and Buck is especially impressed with him listening during games on the West Coast."

When the Shorebirds and Orioles are out of season in the fall and winter, the Fentress family doesn't slow down their support of local athletic teams, as they closely follow the University of Maryland Eastern Shore Hawks and Salisbury University Sea Gulls. Especially basketball, as Mike has been able to catch up with Shorebirds radio broadcasters over the last few years while they call Hawks basketball games.

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**13**



# SHOREBIRDS ROSTER

 <b>#32</b> Alex Katz	 <b>#39</b> Ben Breazeale	 <b>#4</b> Branden Becker	 <b>#27</b> Brenan Haniffee	
 <b>#38</b> Tim Naughton	 <b>#30</b> Cameron Bishop	 <b>#21</b> DL Hall	 <b>#18</b> Nick Gruener	
 <b>#2</b> Chris Shaw	 <b>#16</b> Jean Carrillo	 <b>#7</b> Kirvin Moesquit	 <b>#1</b> Mason McCoy	
 <b>#20</b> Luis Perez	 <b>#29</b> Max Knutson	 <b>#26</b> Nick Vespi	 <b>#47</b> Reed Hayes	
 <b>#35</b> Ryan Ripken	 <b>#37</b> Ryan Wilson	 <b>#25</b> Scott Burke	 <b>#3</b> Cadyn Grenier	
 <b>#6</b> Max Hogan	 <b>#36</b> Cameron Ming	 <b>#19</b> Trevor Craport	 <b>#11</b> Wagner Ramirez	
 <b>#14</b> Will Robertson	 <b>#48</b> Jhon Peluffo	 <b>#10</b> Zach Jarrett	 <b>#12</b> Buck Britton	
 <b>#17</b> Cameron Kneeland	 <b>#43</b> Justin Lord	 <b>#23</b> Bobby Rose	 Adrian Gonzalez	 Kevin Mixon



# SHOREBIRDS ROSTER

#	PITCHERS	B/T	HT	WT	AGE	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
	Dariel Álvarez (DL)	R/R	6-2	180	11/7/88 (29)	Camaguey, Cuba	FA (7/24/13)
30	Cameron Bishop	L/L	6-4	215	2/14/96 (22)	Brea, CA	26th Rd. (2017)
25	Scott Burke	R/R	6-3	200	6/2/94 (23)	Glendora, CA	20th Rd. (2017)
	Kory Groves (DL)	R/R	6-1	200	9/2/94 (23)	Mesa, AZ	34th Rd. (2015)
18	Nick Gruener	R/R	6-0	185	5/16/95 (23)	Miami, FL	22nd Rd. (2016)
21	DL Hall	L/L	6-0	180	9/19/98 (19)	Warner Robins, GA	1st Rd. (2017)
27	Brenan Hanifee	R/R	6-5	180	5/29/98 (19)	Harrisonburg, VA	4th Rd. (2016)
47	Reed Hayes (DL)	R/R	6-3	185	3/17/95 (23)	Bristol, TN	13th Rd. (2017)
32	Alex Katz	L/L	5-11	195	10/12/94 (23)	Manhasset, NY	Trade (5/20/2017)
29	Max Knutson	L/L	6-2	205	4/1/95 (23)	Minneapolis, MN	12th Rd. (2016)
36	Cameron Ming	L/L	6-2	205	4/1/95 (23)	Minneapolis, MN	12th Rd. (2016)
38	Tim Naughton	R/R	6-3	195	11/14/95 (22)	Goldsboro, NC	34th Rd. (2017)
48	Jhon Peluffo	R/R	6-3	140	6/16/97 (20)	Cartagena, COL	FA (5/30/2014)
20	Luis Perez	R/R	6-0	175	5/3/95 (23)	Palenque, DR	FA (6-3-2016)
26	Nick Vespi	L/L	6-3	215	10/10/95 (21)	Miami, FL	18th Rd. (2015)
37	Ryan Wilson	L/L	6-1	190	11/6/96 (21)	Oceanside, CA	33rd Rd. (2017)
#	CATCHERS	B/T	HT	WT	AGE	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
39	Ben Breazeale	L/R	6-0	208	10/21/94 (23)	Louisville, TN	7th Rd. (2017)
16	Jean Carrillo	R/R	6-0	200	6/16/97 (20)	Panama City, PAN	FA (11/26/2013)
11	Wagner Ramirez (DL)	R/R	5-11	170	12/11/94 (23)	San Jan de la Maguana, DR	FA (6/18/2015)
2	Chris Shaw (DL)	R/R	6-0	215	4/25/94 (23)	Winnipeg, MB	15th Rd. (2015)
#	INFELDERS	B/T	HT	WT	AGE	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
4	Branden Becker	L/R	6-1	175	9/13/96 (21)	Redlands, CA	17th Rd. (2015)
19	Trevor Craport	R/R	5-11	201	8/12/96 (21)	Norcross, GA	11th Rd. (2017)
34	Seamus Curran (DL)	L/R	6-6	245	9/6/97 (20)	Springfield, MA	8th Rd. (2015)
	Clay Fisher (DL)	R/R	6-1	165	3/31/96 (22)	San Diego, CA	12th Rd. (2018)
3	Cadyn Grenier	R/R	5-11	188	10/31/96 (21)	Henderson, NV	1st Rd. (2018)
6	Max Hogan	L/R	5-11	195	9/24/93 (24)	Belton, TX	32nd Rd. (2017)
17	Cameron Kneeland (DL)	R/R	6-1	195	6/23/90 (27)	Rowley, MA	FA (11/5/2013)
1	Mason McCoy	R/R	6-0	175	3/31/95 (23)	Peoria, IL	6th Rd. (2017)
7	Kirvin Moesquit	S/R	5-8	165	3/10/95 (23)	Willemstad, CW	24th Rd. (2015)
35	Ryan Ripken	L/L	6-6	205	7/26/93 (24)	Hunt Valley, MD	FA (3/31/2017)
#	OUTFIELDERS	B/T	HT	WT	AGE	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
3	Frank Crinella (DL)	R/R	5-11	188	6/9/94 (23)	Springfield, MA	39th Rd. (2015)
10	Zach Jarrett	R/R	6-4	220	12/8/94 (23)	Hickory, NC	28th Rd. (2017)
14	Will Robertson	R/R	6-2	190	3/2/95 (23)	Greenville, SC	30th Rd. (2017)

**COACHING** #12 **Buck Britton**, Manager (1st Season)

#43 **Justin Lord**, Pitching Coach (3rd Season)

**STAFF** #23 **Bobby Rose**, Hitting Coach (1st Season)

**Adrian Gonzalez**, Athletic Trainer (1st Season)



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July 25	MAMMA MIA, Toby's Dinner Theatre, Columbia, MD
August 4	Family Fun Tour - Back to School Outlet Shopping
August 4	NEW SHOW "JESUS", Sight & Sound, Lancaster, PA & Hershey Farms
August 11	Shenandoah Caverns and More
August 11	New York Shopping On Your Own
August 11	Family Fun Tour - Adventure Aquarium
August 25	Baltimore Orioles vs. New York Yankees @ Camden Yards
October 6	Family Fun Tour - Jack Hanna, Into the Woods, Lancaster, PA

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By: Will DeBoer



## MEISINGER MAKES MOST OF SURROUNDING SITUATION

When a major league ball club falls on hard times, as the Baltimore Orioles have in 2018, one needs to find silver linings in order to keep things interesting. One of the hidden benefits of when the big club struggles, of course, is that it sends a jolt of awareness through the rest of the farm system: right now, anyone can make this team. Recognizing such an opportunity, relief pitcher Ryan Meisinger rose to the occasion and, last month, became the first 2016 Delmarva Shorebird to make it to The Show, and 106th overall.

After a stellar three months split between Double-A Bowie and Triple-A Norfolk, Meisinger received “The Call” on June 29. That same day, the 24-year-old right-hander got into the game against the Los Angeles Angels. In an inning and two-thirds, Meisinger gave up one run on two hits, walking one and striking out one. While he did give up a double to future Hall-of-Famer Albert Pujols and solo home run to Martin Maldonado, Meisinger danced out of trouble in the seventh, getting Ian Kinsler to ground into a 6-4-3 double play to escape a men-on-the-corners jam. By the end of the night, Meisinger had signed his name in that immortal book of major leaguers.

Born in Prince Frederick, Meisinger grew up close to Camden Yards, graduating from Baltimore’s Northern High School. After he caught his hometown team’s eye with three top-

*Continued on page 23*

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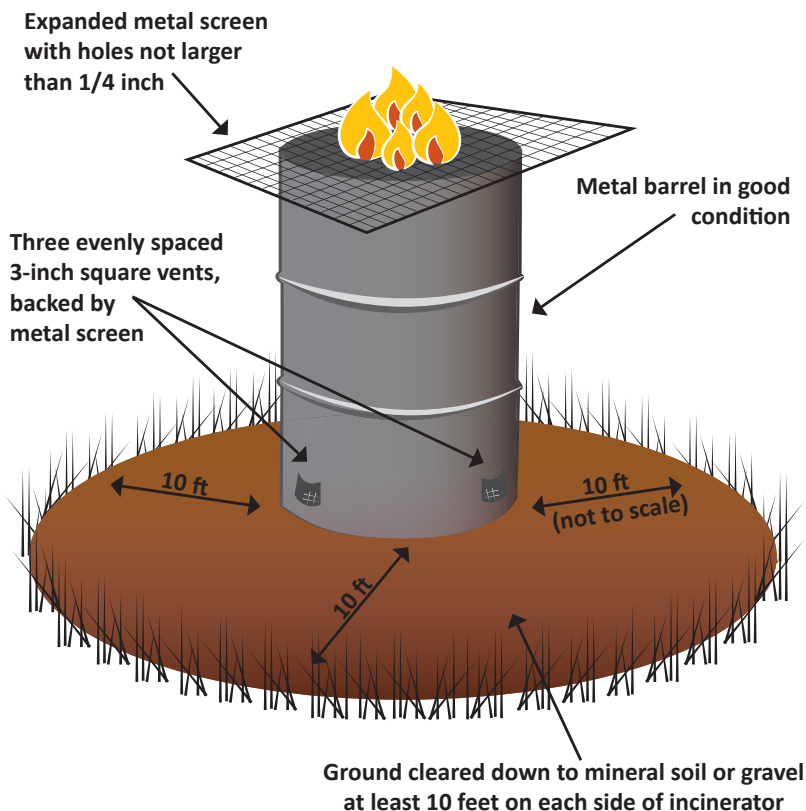
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# GREENSBORO ROSTER

#	PITCHERS	B/T	HT	WT	DOB	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
34	Aiello, Vincenzo	R/R	6'3	220	08/06/94	Staten Island, NY	28th Rd., '17
39	Bautista, Nestor	L/L	6'3	210	05/13/92	New York, NY	32nd Rd., '14
28	Cabrera, Edward	R/R	6'4	210	04/13/98	Santiago, DR	Free Agent, '15
31	Castano, Daniel	L/L	6'4	230	09/17/94	Orlando, FL	19th Rd., '16
27	Castellanos, Gabriel	L/L	6'1	165	12/28/93	Santo Domingo, DR	Free Agent, '10
14	Guenther, Sean	L/L	5'11	194	12/29/95	Atlantia, GA	7th Rd., '17
40	Hock, Colton	R/R	6'4	220	03/15/96	Bloomsburg, PA	4th Rd., '17
25	Mertz, Michael	R/R	6'2	220	09/24/93	Newark, DE	14th Rd., '16
41	Miller, Brandon	R/R	6'4	220	06/16/95	Ephrata, PA	Trade, SEA '17
30	Neubeck, Travis	L/R	6'2	220	04/13/95	Hugo, MN	7th Rd., '15
29	Ovalle, Jeremy	R/R	6'3	185	01/17/97	Santo Domingo, DR	Free Agent, '13
26	Rogers, Trevor	L/L	6'2	160	11/13/97	Carlsbad, NM	1st Rd., '17
38	Sebald, Scott	L/L	6'5	230	06/16/94	Cincinnati, OH	Free Agent '18
#	CATCHERS	B/T	HT	WT	DOB	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
33	Allen, Will	R/R	6'3	220	03/25/92	Gainesville, FL	Rule 5, '17
17	Hernandez, Michael	R/R	5'10	195	05/24/95	Miami, FL	Free Agent, '17
#	INFIELDERS	B/T	HT	WT	DOB	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
18	Ayarza, Rodrigo	L/R	5'8	145	02/20/95	Changuinola, Panama	Free Agent, '18
10	Brown, Micah	R/R	6'2	200	05/09/96	Medford, OR	19th Rd., '17
2	Devers, Jose	L/R	5'11	150	12/07/99	Samana, DR	Trade, NYY '17
8	Lara, Garvis	L/R	6'1	170	05/19/96	Bani, DR	Free Agent '13
11	Rivera, Marcos	R/R	6'1	160	05/13/95	Bani, DR	Free Agent, '14
#	OUTFIELDERS	B/T	HT	WT	DOB	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
7	Céspedes, Ricardo	L/I	6'1	205	08/27/96	Bronx, NY	Trade NYM '17
23	Dinicola, Harrison	L/R	6'0	195	04/28/97	Kemah, TX	27th Rd., '18
12	Jones, Thomas	R/R	6'4	195	12/09/97	Laurens, SC	3rd Rd., '16
21	Santos, Jhonny	R/R	6'0	160	10/02/96	Puerto Armuelles, Panama	Free Agent, '13
15	Soto, Israel	L/L	6'0	190	11/02/96	Bani, Peravia, DR	Free Agent, '13

## COACHING STAFF

#53 Todd Pratt, *Manager*  
#24 Frank Moore, *Hitting Coach*

#44 Mark DiFelice, *Pitching Coach*  
Eric Reigelsberger, *Athletic Trainer*



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## ALUMNI UPDATE CONT...



notch seasons at Radford University, the Orioles spent their 11th-round pick in 2015 on Meisinger. He made an immediate splash in Aberdeen, sporting a 1.99 ERA and earning a New York-Penn League All-Star nod.

In 2016, Meisinger broke camp in Delmarva and proceeded to take Perdue Stadium by storm. He baffled Sally League competition for the first two-plus months, at one point earning wins in three straight relief outings to the tune of seven scoreless innings. He went the entire month of May without allowing a run, surrendering just three earned in the first half. By the time the All-Star Break rolled along, Meisinger boasted a 3-2 record with a paltry 0.78 ERA, four saves, nine walks, and 48 strikeouts over 34.2 innings. As the shutdown reliever for a Shorebirds squad that finished half a game out of

first, Meisinger was as close to a unanimous All-Star as one can be in Class-A.

Like a magnificent comet streaking across the sky, though, there would come a time when Meisinger soared out of view. That came immediately after the midway point with his promotion to High-A Frederick. He kept up his blistering pace with the Keys, turning in a 2.25 ERA over 19 appearances on the way to Orioles Postseason All-Star laurels.

Even greater achievements awaited Meisinger in the 2017 season. As an Eastern League rookie for the Double-A Baysox, the youngster held his own against career minor-leaguers, posting a 4-3 record and 3.00 ERA, plus six saves, over 41 outings. By the end of the summer, Meisinger opened enough eyes to earn a slot in the famed Arizona Fall League, making four shutdown appearances for the Salt River Rafters.

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## Q & A w/COACH CAM KNEELAND

*Before a recent game in Greensboro, Shorebirds radio voice Will DeBoer sat down with Shorebirds assistant/first base coach Cam Kneeland. After beginning his career in the independent Can-Am League, Kneeland signed a minor league deal with the Orioles on November 5, 2013. He played three seasons in the Baltimore system, including all of 2015 with Delmarva, before becoming a coach with the Frederick Keys in 2017.*

**WD:** Think way back, if you can, to the first time you really got bitten by the baseball bug.

**CK:** As in when I first started to really love it? It really started to hit me in high school. I was talking to my high school coach, and he wanted me to go play in college. I wanted to go play golf, but he kind of pushed baseball on me from there, and playing ball professionally was the end goal.

**WD:** And now that you're a coach, you get that perfect mix: work in baseball, and more time for golf.

**CK:** Oh yeah. I definitely enjoy the coaching aspect, always wanted to do that, and then having the golf there now too, it's fun. You have golf your whole life. That's the one thing my high school coach said to me: you've got to go play baseball, because you can golf basically until you're dead.

**WD:** What was it like to finally sign with a major league organization?

**CK:** I remember that day, I'm pretty sure it was late October. I flew down to Baltimore and I worked out and they asked me if I wanted to be an Oriole. I remember I got a little choked up, and it was a good day, cause I had my dad [John] there, and it was a great feeling.

**WD:** What do you remember about your playing year with the Shorebirds in 2015?

**CK:** I had a fun time that year, and I'm still friends with a lot of those guys. Steve Wilkerson was on that team and he's in the big leagues now, so that's cool. It was just a good year. Ryan Minor was the manager, he's a great guy, and [current Orioles assistant] Howie Clark was the hitting coach, and he's so knowledgeable about hitting and it was great to learn from him.

**WD:** When did you get the sense that you'd be transitioning from player to coach sooner rather than later?

**CK:** I always wanted to be a coach, and I remember sitting down and talking to Brian Graham during players' meetings one spring training. I told him that if baseball doesn't work out I always wanted to get into coaching. And I think that helped, it probably got into his head, "Maybe we can ask Cam if that spot opens up." I love the game, I like passing on the knowledge I learn to help guys try and make it to the big leagues.

*Part II of this interview with Cam Kneeland will be published in PlayBall! Issue 9*

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By: Drew Williams



### CRAPORT MAKING MOST OF ALL-STAR SEASON

You don't have to go back too far to see that Trevor Craport is enjoying his Delmarva Shorebirds tenure.

During batting practice before a recent game against Kannapolis, a pitch was thrown that bounced off the ground, up toward home plate, and Craport singled it straight into the outfield off the hop. Craport walked out of the batting cage with a million dollar smile.

This season with the Shorebirds has given Craport plenty to smile about too. Through 76 games, the

Norcross, Ga. native is hitting at .264 clip with 10 home runs, and 52 RBIs, continuing to build on those numbers.

Craport received the call from the Orioles back in 2017, drafted in the 11th round out of Georgia Tech, and found his stride in professional baseball quickly. In 52 games for the Aberdeen IronBirds, Craport batted .302 with 15 doubles, three triples, and 30 RBIs.

Coming into his first season with the Shorebirds, Craport said his experience has been an enjoyable one. Craport also said the arriving on Delmarva has been an adventure, especially since a couple of other 'Birds made the flight to Salisbury with him.

"It's been a lot of fun so far and I get to see a new part of the county in the Northeast," said Craport just after the second half began last month. "Just playing with the same group of guys again from Aberdeen for the most part has been great, and I'm looking forward to the next 70 or so games we have left."

Midway through the season, Craport got to add something to his professional resume for the first time. The slugging third baseman was among four Shorebirds players named to represent the team at the South Atlantic All-Star Game on June 19 in Greensboro. During the game, Craport went 3-for-4 and belted a two-run home run to cap off a three-RBI performance. A sign of things to come, eight days later in the same ballpark he hit two home runs as part of a 20-2 Shorebirds romp.

"It was crazy," said Craport of his All-Star Game blast. "It was off another Greenville pitcher, and I've had a lot of success against Greenville here, and the Greenville closer comes in so I hit a home run off him. It's just a funny coincidence."

For Craport, getting named to the All-Star roster was a surreal moment for him and one that won't leave his mind anytime soon.

"The fans and everything that they had there was really special and a lot of fun," said Craport. "I certainly won't forget it."

Not only was it special for Craport to make the All-Star team, he also had the opportunity to break the news to his family in person.



## PLAYER FEATURE CONT...

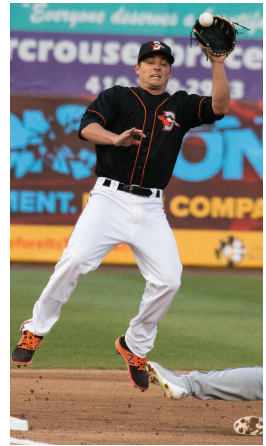
"They were really happy for me, especially after I had a really good month of May," said Craport. "I told them, 'When it warms up, I'm gonna hit like .800.' And I didn't quite get there, so my dad still lets me hear about it!"

Razzing over unfulfilled boasts aside, Craport's family has been there since the beginning, continuing to support him as his baseball career has flourished. Earlier in June, parents Wil and Sherrie had a baseball adventure, following the team around for two weeks to watch their boy continue to make a name for himself.

"It was a lot of fun to get to see and catch up with them," Craport said. "They finally get to see the games in person instead of me just calling and telling, 'Hey, this is what happened,' whether they believe me or not. This league has allowed my family to come around and see the games."

Baseball is always a tough grind at any level, but especially in the minors, where off days are few and far between. First guess would be Craport would want to use his days off to do what normal 21-year-olds would do. But, sometimes off days are strictly that: days of doing absolutely nothing.

"I've learned to completely shut off on my days off," Craport said. "I'll still take batting practice and take care of my maintenance, but other than that I'm shutting it down on an off day."



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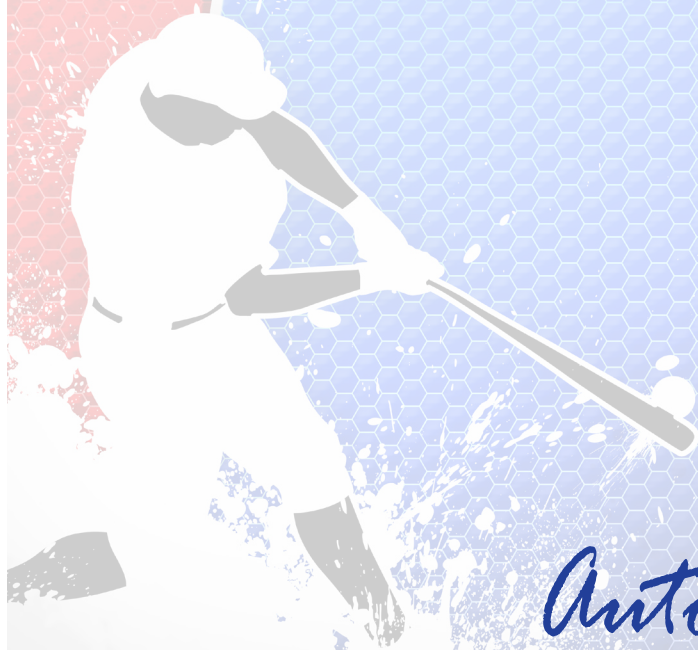
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The Cambridge Cannons baseball team opening day 1925



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