### April 2019 Pensacola Blue Wahoos Official Program

International States

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2-4 Blue Wahoos Join Twins Territory
- 6 Blue Wahoos Stadium
- **10-11** New Foods, New Views Concessions Storefronts
- 13 Promotional Calendar
- 15 Twins Affiliates/Road To The Show
- 16 Manager Ramon Borrego
- 17 Coaching Staff
- 20-24 Player Bios
- 26 Admiral Fetterman
- 27 2019 Schedule
- 28-29 Scorecard
- **32-35** Pass The Mic: Broadcaster Chris Garagiola
- 37 Southern League Teams
- **39-42** Devin Smeltzer: Helping Others Beat Odds
- 44 How Are We Doing?
- 48-49 SCI: Is Your Child Ready?
- 53 Community Initiatives
- 54 Community Spotlight: Chloe Channell
- 59 Ballpark Rules





2019 Official Program



Double-A Affiliate Minnesota Twins





in Cooperslown

**Jack Morris** Jim Thome Bert Blyleven Paul Molitor Kirby Puckett Dave Winfield Steve Carlton Rod Carew Rick Ferrell Harmon Killebrew George Sisler Bucky Harris Lefty Gomez

Early Wynn Stan Coveleski Goose Goslin Heinie Manush Sam Rice Joe Cronin Al Simmons Clark Griffith Ed Delahanty Tris Speaker Walter Johnson



Played for Minnesota Twins Played for Washington Senators



The Pensacola Blue Wahoos and the Minnesota Twins agreed to a two-year player development agreement for the 2019 and 2020 seasons. The new partnership will bring some of the most exciting prospects in the game to Blue Wahoos Stadium alongside the storied legacy of Twins baseball.

Twins history began in 1961 when Washington Senators president Calvin Griffith made the historic decision to move his family's team to the Midwest, settling on the Minneapolis/St. Paul area in Minnesota. The new team was named after the state's famous Twin Cities and began their inaugual season with a talented roster featuring Harmon Killebrew, Bob Allison, Camilo Pascual, and Jim Lemon.

Homegrown talents Jim Kaat, Zoilo Versalles, Jimmie Hall, and Tony Oliva combined with the Twins already potent nucleus to make the team a force to be reckoned with in the 1960s. Killebrew started a streak of nine straight All-Star appearances while Oliva won the Batting Title in his first two seasons and took home Rookie of the Year in 1964 .Versalles won the AL MVP in 1965.

The Twins won the American League pennant in 1965, but fell in a thrilling seven-game World Series to Sandy Koufax, who allowed just one earned run in three starts, and the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Two years later, the Twins gained a new superstar, 1967 Rookie of the Year Rod Carew. In his distinguished career, Carew went to 18 consecutive All-Star Games, won seven batting titles, and took home the league's MVP award in 1977.

After averaging nearly 90 wins per season in their first decade as a franchise, the retirements of Killebrew and Oliva and the departure of Carew in free agency led to a lengthy playoff drought that lasted into the 1980s.

Pensacola Blue Wahoos



That all ended in 1987 when rookie manager Tom Kelly guided an unlikely bunch of over-the-hill veterans and unheralded young players to an 85-77 record and the Twins first playoff berth since 1970. After beating Detroit in five games in the ALCS, the Twins won their first World Series title over the heavily-favored St. Louis Cardinals in seven games behind the arm of series MVP Frank Viola and the bat of young star outfielder Kirby Puckett.

Four years later, Kelly again guided the Twins to the World Series, this time bouncing back from a last-place finish in 1990 to win the AL West with a 95-67 record. After knocking out the Toronto Blue Jays in the ALCS, the Twins dueled with the Atlanta Braves in what is widely considered one of the most exciting World Series in the game's history.

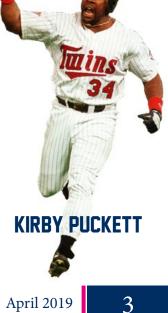
Five of the seven games in the 1991 World Series were decided by one run and the final two games went extra innings. Game 6 went 11 innings and was ended by a dramatic walk-off home run by Kirby Puckett.

The following night, Jack Morris took the mound for the Twins in Game 7 and delivered one for the record books: 10 shutout innings. Still locked 0-0 in the bottom of the 10th, pinch hitter Gene Larkin delivered a walk-off single with the bases loaded to give the Twins their second World Series championship.

Just 10 years later, with waning profits across baseball, the league considered eliminating a pair of teams and the small-market Montreal Expos and Twins were identified as likely candidates. After the 2001 World Series, MLB owners voted 28-2 (with the Expos and Twins being the only dissenting votes) to remove two teams. An injunction by the Minnesota Supreme Court forced the league to allow the Twins to play out the final season left on their ballpark lease, but the team entered 2002 knowing it could be the last season in franchise history.

Dubbed "the team that saved baseball" by ESPN, the 2002 Twins weren't going to go down quietly. They won the AL Central by 13.5 games and went to the ALCS, forcing the league to reconsider. With a host of young homegrown talent including Torii Hunter, Jacque Jones, Joe Mauer, A.J. Pierzynski, Johan Santana, and Justin Morneau, the Twins became one of the most dominant teams of the 2000s, making six playoff appearances in nine years.

Mauer, a Minnesota native, became the team's first true superstar since Puckett's career was cut short by an eye





injury in 1995, becoming the first American League catcher to win the batting title in 2006 at just 23 years of age. Two seasons later, he won his second batting crown, and in 2009 he took home his third in an incredible season during which he hit .365 with 28 home runs and was named league MVP.

Mauer wasn't the only Twin winning major awards. Morneau was the AL MVP in 2006. Santana became the first Twins pitcher to win the Cy Young since Viola had achieved the feat in 1988, winning the award in 2004 and 2006 along with three ERA titles. Hunter won the Gold Glove in centerfield every year from 2000-2009.

The Twins capped a decade of success in 2010 by opening Target Field, a stateof-the-art \$550+ million downtown ballpark in Minneapolis. After nearly three decades playing indoors on artificial turf at the Metrodome, Target Field offers 40,000 fans the opportunity to enjoy outdoor baseball, green grass, dazzling skyline views of the Twin Cities downtown, and world-class amenities at each game.

After an up-and-down strech of seasons, the Twins are poised to make noise in the AL Central again in 2019. With new manager Rocco Baldelli at the helm, a full cast of talented burgeoning stars like Jose Berrios, Eddie Rosario, Byron Buxton, and Miguel Sano, and one of the top-rated farm systems in the game, the Twins appear set to soon take over the division once again.

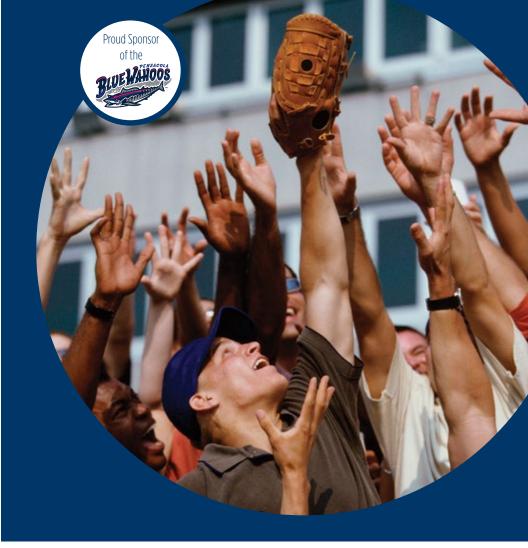
The Twins highly-ranked farm system has expectations soaring across Twins Territory, but should be most exciting in Pensacola where a duo of the game's most elite talent figure to spend at least part of 2019.

Outfielder Alex Kirilloff, the #9 overall prospect in the game according to MLB Pipeline, is considered one of the most advanced hitters in all of the minors after putting up an incredible .348/.392/.578 slash line with 20 home runs between Cedar Rapids (A) and Fort Myers (A+) in 2018. He's likely to begin the season with the Wahoos. Not far behind him will be 2017 1st overall draft pick Royce Lewis, a 19-year-old shortstop with true five-tool potential. Ranked as the Twins top prospect and the #5 overall prospect in baseball entering 2019, Lewis is likely to be a quick call-up to Pensacola after hitting 14 home runs and stealing 28 bags in 2018 with Cedar Rapids and Fort Myers.

For both the Twins and the Blue Wahoos, 2019 marks a thrilling new chapter in franchise history, the beginning of new history to be made, and the start of an exciting partnership.







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### **BLUE WAHOOS STADIUM**

Entering its eighth season, Blue Wahoos Stadium is widely considered one of the premier facilities in Minor League Baseball. Recently named the "Best View" in Double-A baseball, the ballpark has established itself as one of the best places to enjoy a Minor League Baseball game in the country. A threetime recipient of the Southern League Ballpark of the Year, Blue Wahoos Stadium welcomed over two million fans in its first seven seasons, finishing first or second in the league in attendance five times.

With a capacity of 5,038 fans, Blue Wahoos Stadium is the smallest in the Southern League, allowing fans to get closer to the players and the action than any other park in the league. Nestled alongside the water in Pensacola's Community Maritime Park, the field provides unbeatable views of the Pensacola Bay. The playing surface at Blue Wahoos Stadium was officially named Admiral Fetterman Field in 2015 in honor of the late Admiral Jack Fetterman, who was instrumental in the creation of Community Maritime Park for the Pensacola community.

Blue Wahoos Stadium and the surrounding Maritime Community Park were built to be used by the local community throughout the year, not just for Wahoos baseball games. Over 200 events were held at the stadium in 2018 with more than twice as many nonbaseball events held than baseball games, making it truly a stadium for the entire community to enjoy.







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# NEW FOODS NEW VIEWS

The Blue Wahoos are taking the culinary experience at the ballpark to a new level in 2019 with four brand new themed concession storefronts. Each storefront will bring a new vibrancy to the ballpark with authentic and artistic decorations both inside and out and delicious signature food items.

# £

## Hook, Line & Sinker

Enjoy the best the sea has to offer at the Hook, Line & Sinker coastal kitchen! Set up like a traditional fisherman's wharf, you'll be able to smell the sea salt and hear the waves crashing at this nautical-themed storefront. Chow down on the catch of the day with fresh mullet, calamari burgers, ceviche tacos, and crab mac-and-cheese dogs!



Head down to Fish & Hits for traditional pub fare. Pair your favorite tap beer from McGuire's with fish and chips, beer brats, and other traditional pub favorites. Cool down with Irish liqueur-infused soft serve ice cream. Travel the country with signature specialty fries with unique regional flavors including New Orleans Cajun, San Francisco Garlic, and Detroit Red Hot and Bleu.

# Casa de Kazöö

Trek down the first base concourse and across the border into the Casa de Kazoo Spanish cantina! With signature tacos, Cubano sandwiches, chile carnitas nachos, margaritas, and more, Casa de Kazoo is the spot for your favorite Spanish and Mexican foods at the ballpark.

# Wheelhouse Diner

Catch a trolley over to the Wheelhouse Diner for a full menu of Americana favorites. Put a new spin on ballpark classics with the Wheelhouse's line of signature foot-long hot dogs, gournet hamburgers, and specialty milkshakes. While there, be sure to try the Deep Fried Elvis!

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# **2019 PROMOTIONS**

### APRIL

10 OPENING NIGHT MAGNET SCHEDULE GIVEAWAY 12 HAT GIVEAWAY

ANCHORMAN NIGHT

**1** EASTER CELEBRATION

### MAY

STAR WARS NIGHT

CINCO DE MAYO TEAM PHOTO GIVEANAY

**6** BARK IN THE PARK

9 SPLASH DAY

HURRICANE PREP NIGHT

### JUNE

1 | FIESTA PENSACOLA JERSEY AUGTION 16 | MERMAID & PIRATE DAY 26 | SALUTE TO SERVICE 29 | GHOSTBUSTERS NIGHT

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### JULY

- **3** | INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
- **3** 805 NIGHT
- **6** MARDI GRAS NIGHT
- **26** CHRISTMAS IN JULY

### AUGUST

- 2 CLYDESDALE GIVEAWAY
- 🖌 | FIELD OF DREAMS NIGHT
- BARK IN THE PARK

6 MARGARITAVILLE NIGHT

SUMMER OF '69

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Rochester Red Wings Frontier Field One Morrie Silver Way Rochester, NY, 14608 (585) 454-1001 Manager: Joel Skinner

Triple-A Affiliate of the Minnesota Twins -



Fort Myers Miracle Hammond Stadium 14400 Six Mile Cypress Parkway Fort Myers, FL 33912 (239) 768-4210 Manager: Toby Gardenhire

- High-A Affiliate of the Minnesota Twins -



Elizabethton Twins Joe O'Brien Field 208 N. Holly Lane Elizabethton, TN 37643 (423) 547-6551 Manager: Ray Smith

Rookie Affiliate of the Minnesota Twins -

#### **Minnesota Twins**

Target Field 1 Twins Way Minneapolis, MN 55403 (612)-659-3400

General Manager: Thad Levine Manager: Rocco Baldelli Coaches: Derek Shelton, James Rowson, Rudy Hernandez, Wes Johnson, Jeremy Hefner, Tommy Watkins, Tony Diaz, Bill Evers



Pensacola Blue Wahoos Blue Wahoos Stadium 351 West Cedar Street Pensacola, FL (850) 934-8444 Manager: Ramon Borrego

- Double-A Affiliate of the Minnesota Twins -



Cedar Rapids Kernals Perfect Game Field 950 Rockford Road SW Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 (319) 363-3887 Manager: Brian Dinkelman

- Single-A Affiliate of the Minnesota Twins -



Gulf Coast League Twins Lee County Sports Complex 14110 Six Mile Cypress Parkway Fort Myers, FL 33912 (239) 479-6401 Manager: Robbie Robinson

- Rookie Affiliate of the Minnesota Twins -





64 players have advanced to the Major Leagues through Pensacola.

#### 2012

Mike Costanzo Henry Rodriguez **Didi Gregorius** Pedro Villarreal Tony Cingrani 2013 Justin Freeman Donald Lutz **Curtis Partch** Donnie Joseph **Billy Hamilton** 2014 Tucker Barnhart Miguel Rojas

Yohan Pino **Carlos Contreras** Daniel Corcino **Ryan Dennick** Yorman Rodriguez 2015 Rev Navarro Michael Lorenzen Josh Ravin Jon Moscot Josh Smith **Keyvius Sampson** Kyle Waldrop Ryan LaMarre 2016

Robert Stephenson Sal Romano Drew Hayes Tim Adleman Layne Somsen Steve Selsky Daniel Wright Codv Reed Patrick Schuster Tony Renda Wandy Peralta 2017 Barrett Astin Rookie Davis Amir Garrett Jesse Winker

Phillip Ervin Ariel Hernandez Ben Lively Luis Castillo Kevin Shackelford Jackson Stephens Aleiandro Chacin Tyler Mahle Chad Wallach Zach Vincei Fabio Castillo Deck McGuire Keury Mella 2018



April 2019

# Short Profiles Ramon Borrego

After seven seasons in the minor leagues, Ramon Borrego faced the same unfortunate fact that almost all minor leaguers are forced to confront at some point in their career. He was never going to make it to the major leagues. He had made it to Triple-A the previous season, but his promotion was more out of necessity than skill. With a batting average near the Mendoza Line and a pregnant wife back home in Venezuela, he knew it was time to stop bouncing around the country on minor league buses.

The Twins, however, weren't willing to let Borrego go. While his batting average wasn't impressive, he possessed traits that wouldn't show up on the back of his baseball card that were much harder to find in a minor league prospect. His competitive fire, his knowledge of the game, and his willingness to put the team before himself were all assets that the organization didn't want to lose.

"They asked me, do you want to work with us?" Borrego recalls of his retirement conversation with the Twins. They left him with an offer. "Do you want to be a field coach or scout?"

Becoming a coach was an easy choice, but he wanted to be home with his wife. However, the Twins had no job opening at their academy in Venezuela.

Unwilling to let his skillset go, they created a new coaching position at their Venezuelan Summer League program near his hometown of Maracay specifically for him.

Now 15 years later, Borrego has rewarded their loyalty with success. He will arrive in Pensacola in 2019 as an accomplished minor league manager with a résumé that includes the 2018 Florida State League championship, work with numerous current big leaguers including Twins mainstays Jose Berrios, Miguel Sano, Jorge Polanco, Max Kepler, and Byron Buxton, and experience coaching over half of the Twins current top 30 prospects list.

"Ramon has amazing passion for what he does and is really committed to developing our players not only as baseball players but as people," said Jeremy Zoll, the Twins director of minor league operations. "His ability to connect with everybody in the clubhouse, whether it's Latin American players or American players, is really special."

In a game measured by wins and losses, the role of a minor league manager can be challenging. To the major league affiliate, a minor league team's place in the standing often means next to nothing. The development of star prospects into quality major leaguers is more important. Borrego, however, has never been able to turn off his competitive fire.

"Ramon is awesome. He's as competitive a manager as you will find," said Marshall Kelner, the Fort Myers Miracle broadcaster. "He really wants to establish players who are competitive that want to win as well. He considers that a big part of development. He believes if guys learn how to win in the minor leagues, it will carry over to the big leagues."

Many of the same top prospects that helped Borrego lead the Miracle to the title last year will join him in Pensacola this season, giving him the opportunity to continue to do the two things he excels at as a manager: develop great players and win a lot of games.



#### **Ramon Borrego-Manager**

Ramon Borrego has coached in the Twins organization for 14 seasons, including 10 as a manager. After reaching Triple-A in a seven-season playing career with the Twins, Borrego has become one of the most successful managers in their minor league system. He joins Pensacola in 2019 after winning the Florida State League Championship with High-A Fort Myers in 2018 with a resume that includes work with numerous big league stars and over half the Twins top prospect list.



Steve Singleton joined the Twins organization as a coach in 2017, serving as the hitting coach for the Fort Myers Miracle for the past two seasons. During his tenure with the Miracle, Fort Myers finished as the fourth highest-scoring offense in the Florida State League and went to the playoffs both seasons. A three-time Minor League All-Star, he hit .281 and reached Triple-A in a six-season playing career spent mainly in the Twins system.



#### **Cibney Bello-Pitching Coach**

Cibney Bello pitched professionally for eight seasons before retiring in 2010 to become a pitching coach intern for the Arizona League (Rookie) Mariners. He took over as their main pitching coach for the 2012 and 2013 seasons and was promoted to Single-A Clinton for the 2014 and 2015 seasons. In 2016, he joined the Twins to serve as the Gulf Coast League (Rookie) Twins pitching coach for two seasons before joining Cedar Rapids in 2018.



#### **Justin Willard-Pitching Coach**

Justin Willard joined the Twins system in 2018 with Cedar Rapids, his first season as a pitching coach in affiliated baseball. He pitched for Northern Oklahoma Junior College and Concord University during his playing career before working for Radford University as an assistant coach for five seasons prior to being hired by the Twins.



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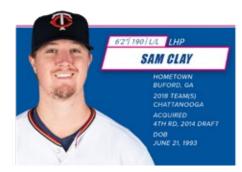
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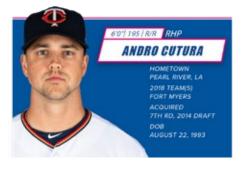




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Projected Opening Day roster may vary from actual Blue Wahoos roster.

April 2019









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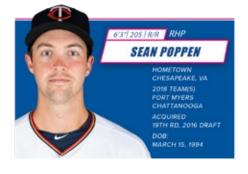
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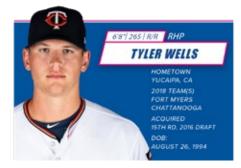












#### Pensacola Blue Wahoos

24



# Season Membership

Deep Sea Membership									
Full Sea	80 N	70 Gan	nes	Pric	e	Sa	avings		
BOX SEAT	BOX SEATS \$735 SAVE \$455								
RESERVED	RESERVED \$595 SAVE \$455*								
HANCOCK WHITNEY CLUB \$2695 SAVE \$115							IE \$1155*		
REGIONS	CLUB			\$945			VE \$595*		
	Min	i Me	mbe	rshi	p				
	NEEKENDER	FIRENORKS	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDA	١Y	SUNDAY		
GAMES	35	17	11	11	11		10		
BOX SEATS	\$470	\$221	\$132	\$154	\$154	4	\$120		
RESERVED	\$400 \$400	\$187	\$110 844E \$33	\$132 \$132	\$132 HAVE #1	2	\$100 SATE \$34		

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Membership level	Deep Sea		1	Mini Mem	berships		
Number of Games	FAL SEASON(79)	NEBRONGER(35)	FERENEN(11)	THURSEAT(11)	FREDAT(11)	\$4708241(11)	SURGET(18)
Total Cost (vect to real a set start)	\$735	\$470	\$221	\$132	\$154	\$154	\$120
FULL SEASON ADMISSION	•						
OPENING DAY	•	•					
JULY 3RD FIREWORKS GAM	e 🔸	•	•				
SAME SEAT LOCATION FOR ALL PACKAGED GAMES	•	•	•	٠	٠	•	٠
PRIORITY OPTION ON POSTSEASON GAME	•	•	•	•	٠	•	•
TICKET RESELL PROGRAM FOR NEXT SEASON TICKET	s •	•	•	•	٠	•	•
18% TEAM STORE DISCOUN	r 🔸						
PERSONALIZED SEAT NAME	•						
SEASON TICKET CONCIERS	ε 🔸	•	•	•	•	•	•
REMARDS PROGRAM	•						
PREFERRED ENTRANCE	•						
ACCESS TO THE BETTER HOMES & GARDEN MAIN STREET PROPERTIES LOUN	GE						
SEASON MEMBERSHIP EVEN	its 🔸	•	•	•	•	•	•

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### HONORING ADMIRAL FETTERMAN

On September 23, 2015, the field at Blue Wahoos Stadium was officially renamed Admiral Jack Fetterman Field. It honors the memory of Fetterman, a three-star Vice Admiral in the U.S. Navy who retired in Pensacola and became a prominent civic leader, dedicating himself, alongside his wife Nancy, to preserving Pensacola's history.

A strong advocate for the construction of Maritime Community Park and Blue Wahoos Stadium, Fetterman passed away on March 24, 2006 at the age of 74 and was never able to see his vision of a waterfront stadium become reality. Although he never watched the Wahoos play at the ballpark, his memory is honored at each game played on the field bearing his name.

As you enjoy today's game at Blue Wahoos Stadium, please take a moment in your own way to thank Admiral Fetterman for his contributions to the city of Pensacola and the United States military.

A Pennsylvania native, Fetterman graduated from college in 1954 and enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He made his first trip to Pensacola soon after to attend the Aviation Officer Candidate School at Naval Air Station Pensacola.

He rose in rank and was appointed Rear Admiral and then Vice Admiral, assuming command duties of the U.S. Naval Air Force Pacific Fleet in San Diego, a capacity he served in until 1990.

In 1991, Fetterman returned Pensacola to where his Naval career began and assumed duties as Chief of Naval Education and Training before retiring from active duty in 1993. During his illustrius Naval career, he formulated and produced the Core Values Training program, earning him the title of "Father of Navy Ethics."

He then became president and CEO of the National Naval Aviation Museum at NAS-Pensacola. Under his leadership, the museum grew in capacity and scope, making the facility one of the largest air and space museums in the world.

In addition to his work at NAS-Pensacola and with other U.S. Navy roles, Fetterman served his community in roles that included being Chairman of the Pensacola Mayor Community Core Values Board. He was also Chairman of the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce.

The Blue Wahoos are proud to honor Fetterman's service to our nation, along with his legacy and efforts to make Pensacola the greatest place to live on earth.

# BUERA **2019 SCHEDULE**

MTG

MTG

					N	LAY
53	101	14	10	1	.01	MT 4
			BLX	BLX	BLX	BLX
5	6	2	8	1	28	11
BLX	MIS	MIS	MIS	MIS	MIS	CHA
12	3	24	25	26	11	18
CHA	CHA	CHA	CHA	MOB	MOB	MOB
19	28	н	22	23	26	20
MOB	MOB	OFF	TNS	TNS	TNS	TNS
14	51		- 23	38	**	
THS	OFF	MIS 5:35 PT	HIS 6:10 PT	MIS 6:15 M	MIS 5 30 PM	

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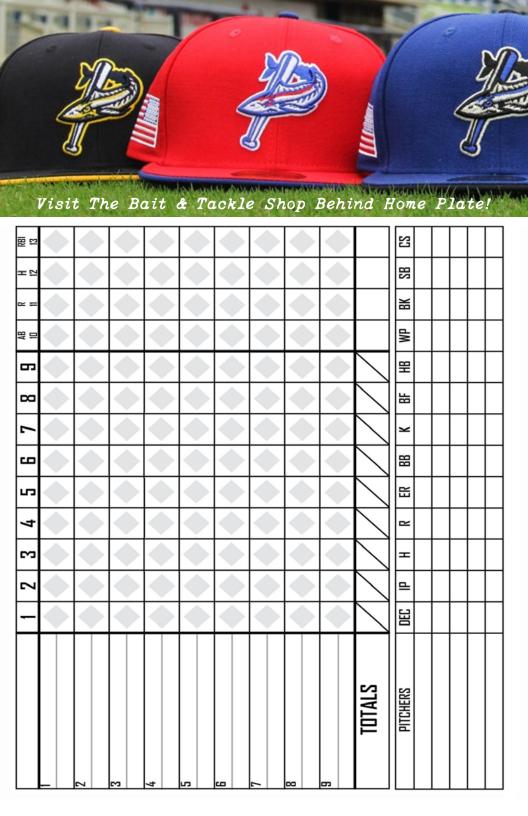
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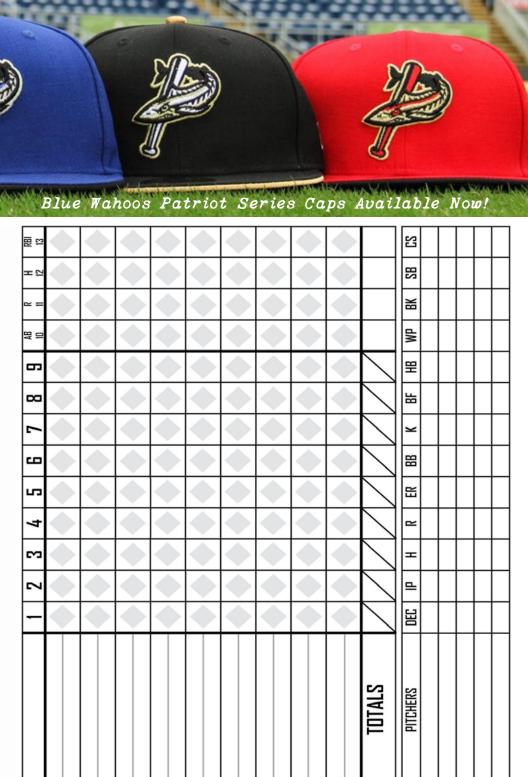


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# PASS THE MIC

# CHRIS GARAGIOLA STEPS INTO THE SPOTLIGHT AS WAHOOS LEAD BROADCASTER IN 2019

Once he became burned out playing baseball, Chris Garagiola searched for a new passion.

He didn't grow up dreaming of following his famous grandfather, Joe Garagiola, who went from a major league playing career (1946-54) to becoming an American icon as a baseball broadcaster and television host.

And, really, who could imagine following that path?

Rather, it was circumstance that led Chris to even try broadcasting.

His college, Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, had a broadcasting studio that tempted a look.

"I learned we had this really cruddy live streaming service," he said. "I started broadcasting football and I was just awful. I had no experience, no guidance, but I was just having the time of my life doing it."

Now, a far grander, even more joyful experience awaits.

Garagiola, 26, the youngest of four siblings, was the easy choice to become the Pensacola Blue Wahoos new broadcast voice.

He replaces his mentor, Tommy Thrall, hired by Fox Sports Ohio to work with another baseball announcing legend, Marty Brennaman, in a variety of roles on Cincinnati Reds broadcasts.

The past two seasons, Garagiola and Thrall worked in tandem at Blue Wahoos games giving him the opportunity to get to know Blue Wahoos fans. And vice versa.

Catch Chris all season long on the Blue Wahoos flagship radio station 94.5 ESPN Pensacola!



"It is obviously the biggest moment of my professional life," said Garagiola, who grew up in Phoenix, Arizona where he advanced from travel ball baseball as a youth, then pitching in high school, then playing at Trinity.

"I didn't go to, say, a Syracuse (University, nationally renowned for its broadcasting major) or the Walter Cronkite School of Broadcasting," he said. "I just went to a small school in San Antonio and tried to see how far I could take it. A young Chris Garagiola with his father



The day he decided to pursue broadcasting, he met with his parents. His father, Joe Garagiola Jr., has worked in Major League Baseball since being the Arizona Diamondbacks general manager when the franchise launched in 1998 with Century native Buck Showalter as manager. In that role, he was the architect of the Diamondbacks 2001 World Series winning team and continues to work for the franchise as a special advisor to the team president.

His parents knew that the family name would set lofty expectations for their son's career and the potential pitfalls of any such comparison. No one else in the family chose a broadcasting career.

"My parents never pushed me to play baseball, never pushed me to any certain career, and I'm grateful for that," Chris Garagiola said. "When I said I want to do this, they asked, 'Why?'

"Because I like sports and I like public speaking and it was fun," he said, recalling the moment. "For my dad and my mom, that was a good enough reason.

"I think if I had said, 'Oh, because of my last name and I want to be famous,' they would have sat me down and said, 'That's not a great way to go about living life.' And they would have been exactly right."

His grandfather was the pioneer in a now common world of ex-professional athletes or coaches turning into TV personalities.

Joe Garagiola Sr. did it an era long before ESPN and the proliferation of sports television. He was one of a kind with the innate ability to be a funny storyteller and yet informative on what was taking place in a baseball game.

He teamed with Curt Gowdy each Saturday on NBC Sports Baseball Game of the Week, drawing consistently massive audiences.

Joe Garagiola's commentary added color to living rooms in America that still had black-and-white TVs. It eventually led to him being enshrined in 1991 into the National Baseball Hall of Fame as a broadcaster and winner of the Ford C. Frick Award.

Chris has been able to get a tape or two of his grandfather's broadcasts.

"The thing that stood out, he made it look so natural, so effortless," he said. "When you watch him on screen, there is just this enthusiasm and this sense of genuiness that made it through the TV. He came across as kind, not a know-it-all. He was fun, but didn't try to be funny."

Chris has tried to develop his own style on Blue Wahoos broadcasts and will continue honing the skill as he enters this new role.

"The thing to me is that Chris doesn't take for granted his family history at all," said Thrall, who was the Blue Wahoos' broadcast voice since their inaugural 2012 season. "I think he almost wants to work harder to overcome the stigma of his name. However far he gets and his goal is to reach the top of the mountain, he doesn't want anybody to think he got there because of his name.

"He has improved tremendously since his first year. He is a sponge when it comes to taking advice. He listens really well, especially when it comes to how to be a better broadcaster."

When Garagiola started college at Trinity, he was on the baseball team but quickly found himself losing interest in the sport.

"By that point, I was just burned out," he said. "I didn't really like baseball that much. The players on the team were arrogant, it was a toxic environment and it just wasn't fun anymore."

He rekindled his love for the game in the broadcast booth.

During his junior year in 2014, he became sports co-anchor for a student run newscast. He took initiative to pitch to faculty leaders an even bolder leap for the school's broadcast studio.

"Trinity has a really good Division III athletic program," Garagiola said. "I said, this is what we should sell. We should make it more glitz and glamour instead of this horrendous streaming service.



"Out of nowhere, some donor came along and gave the athletic department a bunch of money and we bought these new cameras, new microphones and built what we now call the Tiger Network.

"I'm incredibly proud. It looks now like an ESPN studio. And it is student run. This is where I got started and my big goal is to keep working with the university and hopefully one day we can offer a broadcasting degree here at Trinity."

A young Chris Garagiola with his grandfather Joe Sr.

His grandfather's health was failing, but Chris was able to tell him about the Tiger Network and about his desire to make a career in broadcasting.

Joe Garagiola smiled and told him how wonderful it was to hear. He died on March 23, 2016 at age of 90.

As a kid, Chris would listen as his grandfather playfully quizzed him on baseball situations. What about this play? That pitch? This baserunning decision?

"And I had no idea what the right answer was," Chris said, laughing.

One day two years ago, when Pat Kelly was the Blue Wahoos manager, Garagiola asked a similar question on decision making.

Kelly willingly explained.

"That was kind of my Ah-Ha moment. It was like, now I get it!" Garagiola said.

His only lament now is that he can't pick up the phone and call his grandfather. He can't ask Joe Garagiola to lean back in a recliner, listen to Chris' broadcast of the Blue Wahoos and critique it.

But he hopes in heaven, his grandfather hears.

"I am sure he would be proud of the progress I have made."

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#### **BY BILL VILONA SENIOR WRITER**



Devin Smeltzer (right) poses with manager Ramon Borrego (center) and teammate Tyler Wells (left)

Underneath the bill of his baseball cap, pitcher Devin Smeltzer writes names indelibly sealed in his heart.

They were kids just like him. Kids with cancer just like him.

They were ones he met in 2005 when he was nine-years-old, undergoing pediatric cancer treatment at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia.

The difference? They never left the hospital. They never got to pursue their own dreams.

This is why Smeltzer, 23, who is set to begin this season with the Pensacola Blue Wahoos and continue his new career with the Minnesota Twins organization, always keeps baseball in perspective with life.

"The game is important to me," Smeltzer said. "Because I know there may not be a tomorrow.

"Every day I step between those lines, I look at it like it could be my last," said Smeltzer, who recently married his high school sweetheart from New Jersey and is living in Fort Myers, where the Twins hold their Spring Training camp.

"Because you don't what's going to happen and it's a blessing to step out there at the level I am at and the level I am going," Smeltzer said. "I leave every bit of heart and soul on the field and do everything I can for my team and the city I am in and the organization."

Smeltzer was one of three players the Twins acquired at the 2018 trade deadline in a deal with the Los Angeles Dodgers for All-Star second baseman Brian Dozier.

"To be honest, that day was one of craziest days of my life," he said. "No one saw it coming. It was a roller coaster, but I knew it was part of the game."

## **Devin Smeltzer: Helping Others Beat Odds**

As stressful as being traded, switching teams, and going from National League to American League was, Smeltzer knows it paled in comparison to his baseball childhood.

While playing in youth league, he suddenly found he constantly needed to go to the bathroom. After numerous doctor visits and tests, it was believed he had a urinary tract infection.

But the condition continued to get worse. He was admitted to St. Christopher's Hospital where it was discovered he had a grapefruit size tumor pressing against his bladder.

"The biggest thing in diagnosing me is that it doesn't happen with kids that young, so it never even crossed their minds to even check it," Smeltzer said.

"It sounds crazy no one thought to give an MRI, but it was so rare that it never occurred to do it."

What followed was an agonizing year of constant chemotherapy and radiation treatments. It left Smeltzer so frail that he lost all his hair and his weight dipped to just over 50 pounds.

"The treatments were gruesome," he said. "They wanted me to keep eating, but every time I tasted food I got nauseated or it had no taste to me.

"Finally, the nurses and doctors said, 'Look, this is your bottom weight. And if you go below, you'll need a feeding tube and you won't be able to play ball.' So that's when I really started making sure I ate."

His meals were "three-cheese croutons, Slim Jims, and Doritos."

He stuffed himself on those items, along with protein shakes. A year into treatment, he went into remission. Five years later, as a young teenager, he was declared cancer free.

"Baseball is not just a game to me. It is what got me through my tough times," Smeltzer said. "The doctors today still don't know how I played through it, how I am doing what I am doing today with the treatments I have been through. But again, God has a plan and I played through it."

10-year-old Smeltzer's Little League player card



During his treatments, he met All-Star pitcher Cole Hamels *(below)*, then a star with the Phillies. He also spent time with his boyhood hero, former star infielder Chase Utley.

There were pictures of both players with Smeltzer as he was going through treatments. Smeltzer and Utley met again in a surprise visit a year ago while both were with the Dodgers.

"We just talked about baseball," he said. "He didn't look at me different.



"He didn't look at me like a sick kid. He treated me like a baseball player and that had a huge impact on me."

As Smeltzer got past the treatments, got stronger, and began growing taller, baseball became his passion.

He spent nights at an indoor baseball training facility near his home of Voorhees Township, New Jersey. While peers were going out on weekend nights, Smeltzer was working out.

"I really started to catch stride my sophomore year of high school," he said. "I was always a good ballplayer, but I was always a kid that had to work super hard and it really started paying off.

"From the time I was sick, during everything I went through, I had my sights set. God has a plan and His plan for me was to keep growing and give me the platform to give back.

"Baseball is literally just that. And I love it. And it's my whole life. I love competing and all."

He met his future wife, a star softball player, while the two were at Bishop Eustace Prep School in New Jersey. Both got scholarships at Florida Gulf Coast University near Fort Myers.

After one season, Smeltzer left for junior college in order to make a quicker leap into the MLB draft.

On their wedding day, November 17 in Fort Myers, Smeltzer came out to the church altar for the ceremony. His main nurse who treated him was there.

All of a sudden, he was stunned to see his doctor, Greg Halligan, who essentially helped save his life.

Halligan had told Smeltzer he couldn't make the wedding due to his physician commitments. But he caught a plane to Fort Myers, then traveled back the same day.

"I scanned over the church pews and saw his face and I just lost it. I was bawling," Smeltzer said. "He literally flew in, an hour or two before the wedding.

"When the ceremony was over, he snuck around the back gave me a big hug and said, "I love you bud, I'm on call, I have to get back."

"He is amazing. We are his family, we are his kids."

The staff at St. Christopher's who treated Smeltzer have stayed in touch.

"I always have my phone number with the nurses," he said. "They will call and say we have a new kid, he is struggling a little bit, can we give him your number?

"My answer is always yes. It is usually talking about things with the kids. My biggest thing is not being treated like a sick kid. You are just a kid going through a tough time."

It's something Smeltzer will forever relate.







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We can't be successful at making your gameday experience the best without your input.

To find out what you liked and what you didn't like at today's game, we might ask you a few questions either during the game, on your way out of the stadium, or by email in the next few days. Your input is incredibly valuable and will help guide how we make tomorrow's game even better.

Every morning after a home game, our staff sits down and reviews the fan comments, feedback, and surveys we received the day before. We use that information to make adjustments constantly, correcting and improving things you want to see changed and rewarding and recognizing employees highlighted by fans for great service.

For instance, fans in our outfield party decks told us they couldn't see the main scoreboard located directly above them. So, we had an additional scoreboard installed behind home plate to ensure the fans sitting in the outfield would have a great experience.

Your feedback make changes like this and many others possible.

If we approach you at today's game or send you an email afterwards, know that we greatly appreciate the time and thought you put into giving us feedback and your recommendations will be listened to by our staff.

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Pensacola Blue Wahoos



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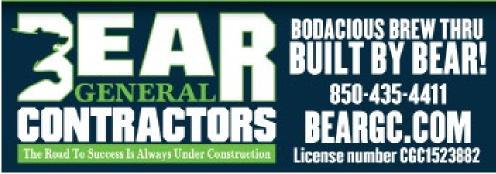
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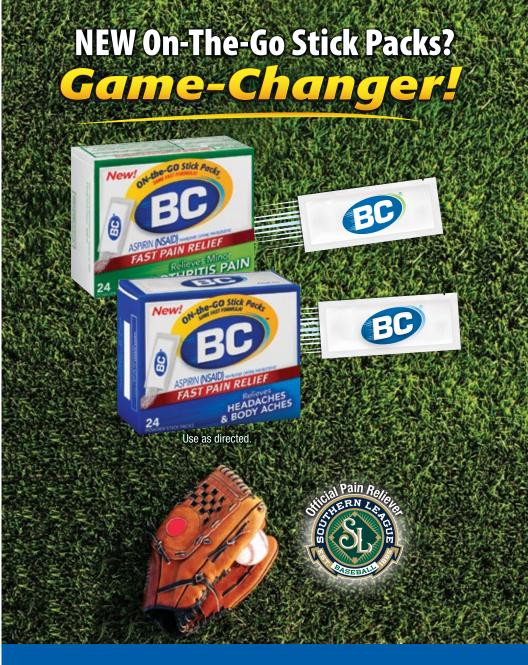
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### **BASEBALL CAMPS**



Every Blue Wahoos star started as a youth baseball player and the team wants to help ensure kids across Pensacola have access to the game. During the 2019 season, Wahoos players and coaches will host clinics to help teach the game to local youth!

### **KAZOO IN THE COMMUNITY**



Kazoo loves being a part of the Pensacola community and can be spotted at events across Northwest Florida throughout the year. In 2018, Kazoo made 118 different apperances in the community and has even more planned for 2019!

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## BLUEWAHOOS.com



It's a long way from Blue Wahoos Stadium to Hollywood.

Local singer Chloe Channell made that very trip to continue her burgeoning music career after passing the first round of auditions for the 17th season of American Idol in March.

The Pace High School junior recently wowed judges Luke Bryan, Katy Perry, and Lionel Richie with her rendition of Stupid Boy by Keith Urban, earning an emphatic yes from each and a golden ticket to continue to the next round in Hollywood.

Prior to appearing on national TV, Channell appeared under the lights at Blue Wahoos Stadium, singing the National Anthem and God Bless America at Wahoos games and competing in Pensacola's Got Talent.

"Even though I had performed the National Anthem a lot of times before that day, it was the first one I had done in an actual stadium," Channell said about her first performance at the ballpark. "Honestly, it is a lot cooler to sing in a stadium like this. Because it feels like there are way more people and it's before a game. I think that makes it cooler and more important."

Channell hopes her success can serve as inspiration for other talented young singers in her hometown.

"I know tons of people who sing, and I know tons of girls who have been doing the same things I have been doing. It's crazy to think how many people from this area are really talented. Usually, you would think it's one in a million, but there are tons of people here who are so talented."

At 17, Channell has already accomplished a great amount in her career, appearing on stage with national acts like Rodney Adkins, Little Big Town, and Craig Morgan, finishing as a semi finalist on America's Got Talent, and now advancing through the opening round of American Idol.

The sky is clearly the limit for the career of the young country star and Pensacola will be cheering her on each step of the way!



54





Pensacola Blue Wahoos

Know someone from Pensacola who should be featured in the Community Spotlight? Contact Bill Vilona at bvilona@bluewahoos.com.



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## Juliet DeCampos, M.D.

Medical Director of the Pensacola Blue Wahoos

In 2011, orthopaedic surgeon and sports medicine specialist Dr. Juliet DeCampos was handpicked by Dr. Tim Kremchek, medical director of the Cincinnati Reds, to serve as the medical director for the Pensacola Blue Wahoos. Her expertise in sports medicine, her training with physicians for the Los Angeles Dodgers and Los Angeles Angels at the Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic, her previous experience as the medical director for the Pensacola Pelicans, and her love of baseball were key factors in the selection. Concurrent with the Blue Wahoos 2012 inaugural season, Dr. DeCampos began attending spring training with the Reds medical staff in Goodyear, Arizona, to perform physicals on minor league players and to familiarize herself with her fellow minor league physicians. This year, she was proud to join with the Minnesota Twins medical staff in Fort Myers, FL to help perform minor league physicals. She has assembled a talented team of baseball loving local medical specialists, many from the Andrews Institute, to provide exceptional care for the players and staff of the Blue Wahoos/Twins organization.

Recruited to Pensacola by team owner Quint Studer, then President of Baptist Hospital, Dr. DeCampos is proud to be part of Andrews Institute, joining legendary orthopaedic surgeon James R. Andrews, M.D. in providing world-class care and assisting him with the Andrews Institute fellowship program. A board-certified orthopaedic surgeon with added qualification in sports medicine, she specializes in shoulder and knee arthroscopy, sports injuries, and overuse injuries. Dr. DeCampos is also proud to be the team physician for Pine Forest High School.

Dr. DeCampos is a graduate of the University of Southern California School of Medicine. She completed her residency training at USC before completing her fellowship at Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic. She is actively involved with the Arthroscopy Association of North American (AANA) as an associate master instructor for shoulder arthroscopy and a frequent contributor to the AANA newsletter as part of the Communications and Membership Committees. For the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, she is a frequently invited instructor and a member of the Public Relations Committee. She has served as medical staff president/chief of orthopaedics for Baptist Hospital and is a past president of FORUM (elite national orthopaedic sports organization). She has been involved with elite athletes at USC, the 1996 Olympics and the Olympic Training Center, US Judo, Pensacola Power & Pelicans (medical director for both), and Woodham High School. She has represented the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons as a spokesman for the STOP Sports Injuries program. Dr. DeCampos and her husband Keith are proud parents of Kourage and Diandra.

Dr. DeCampos would like to thank Andrews Institute physicians Michael Milligan, M.D., CAQSM, Brett Kindle, M.D., CAQSM, RMSK and Steve Jordan, M.D., as partners in providing sports medicine coverage for the Pensacola Blue Wahoos.

Follow her on Twitter and Instagram @DrDeCampos

Baptist Medical Park – Nine Mile Address: 9400 University Parkway, Suite 309, Pensacola, FL 32514 Office: 850.479.3320

# <u>Legal Counsel</u>



### Scott A. Remington, Esq.

Scott Remington of the Clark Partington law firm has had the good fortune of representing the Pensacola Blue Wahoos since Quint and Rishy Studer acquired the team. This representation included a successful negotiation of the ten-year agreement for use of Pensacola's Bayfront Stadium by the Wahoos as their home field and the addition of Bubba Watson as a minority owner.

In addition, Scott actively represents local and national businesses and individuals in transactions, serious injury matters, and complex litigation. Scott has been recognized by his peers as an "AV Preeminent" rated lawyer in the Martindale-Hubbell directory and was selected to Florida Trend Magazine's "Legal Elite" list and Florida "Super Lawyers."

Scott is committed to making the Pensacola community a better place for all residents. He was Chairman of the Escambia County Area Transit Citizens Advisory Board (2007-2008) and presently sits on the ECAT Mass Transit Advisory Committee. As the co-founder of the Political Action Committee, Escambia All For One, P.C., Scott was responsible for organizing a group of citizens who worked to consolidate local governments into a more cohesive and efficient structure

Scott is on the Board of Directors for Autism Pensacola, Inc., a group dedicated to improving the lives of families living with autism in Northwest Florida and serves on the Board of Directors for Northwest Florida Professional Baseball, LLC, the parent company of the Blue Wahoos.

Scott divides his working time between the practice of law and serving as the President of Clark Partington. As President, Scott is responsible for day-to-day oversight of the firm's five offices and approximately 100 employees between Orange Beach, Alabama and Tallahassee, Florida.

A graduate of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. Scott played football at Sewanee and was a member of the 1990 CAC Co-Championship Team earning a varsity letter playing nose guard. After Sewanee, Scott attended law school at Florida State University where he was an Associate Editor of the Law Review and a member of the Moot Court Team.

In his free time he enjoys reading, fishing, and tennis. Most weekends you can find Scott with his wife Amie and their three children (Virginia, Tom & Harry) participating in youth sports events or chasing their beloved Boykin Spaniel ("Molly") around Cordova Park.



Address: CLARK PARTINGTON

Business Phone: Cell

125 West Romana Street, Suite 800 Pensacola, Florida 32502 850-434-9200 850-384-4364





# **BALLPARK RULES**

We want every game at Blue Wahoos Stadium to be an enjoyable and memorable experience for every fan. To make that possible, the following rules are enforced.

Foul/abusive language and/or rowdy behavior will not be tolerated and will be cause for ejection and/ or arrest. Violators may also have their season tickets revoked. Notify the nearest guest services or safety/security representative immediately if actions of this type occur near you.

Entering the playing field without authorization or throwing objects onto the field is a violation of ballpark rules and may hazardous. Offenders will be ejected and subject to arrest and prosecution.

All tobacco and electronic cigarettes are prohibited in Blue Wahoos Stadium which includes the seating sections, concourses, and stairwells.

Keep aisles clear at all times; emergency situations require that stairways be kept clear. Guests sitting or standing in the ballpark aisles jeopardize the safety of others.

For your safety and the safety of those around you, please sit in your assigned seat to avoid inconveniencing other guests.

Drunk and disorderly behavior as well as violation of any alcohol policy will result in ejections from the ballpark without a refund and could result in the loss of season tickets.

Umbrellas are allowed in the stadium. Please be courteous of those around you when using an umbrella.

The Blue Wahoos ask that no one solicit contributions or distribute literature on stadium property without written approval of the team.

Flags and banners without poles are permitted. Flags must be event related and may not cover any ballpark signage. All flags or banners deemed inappropriate by stadium management are subject to removal.

Gates will open 60 minutes (1 hour) prior to the start of the game for admission into the stadium. We strongly encourage guests to enter the stadium as early as possible to avoid delays.

All guests entering the stadium are subject to search. Refusal may be grounds to prohibit admission.

Guests may ask players for autographs before or after, but not during the game.

The following items are prohibited from entering the stadium: bottles, cans, coolers, containers, fireworks, flares, pets or animals of any kind (with the exception of service animals), weapons, water guns, toy/replica weapons, squirt bottles, soap bottles, balloons, brooms, skateboards, roller blades or skates.

Handheld radios and televisions are allowed as long as guests listen with an earpiece or headphones. Guests should be considerate of their neighbors when using these devices.

Outside food and beverages are not permitted inside the stadium. Concession stands are conveniently located on both sides of the concourse for your food and beverage needs.

All fans must comply with requests from stadium staff regarding stadium policies and emergency response procedures. Be safe. Have fun!



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> ALZHEIMER'S Reduces the risk of Alzheimer's and dementia

HEART HEALTH Reduces heart disease/ stroke risk and lowers blood pressure

DIABETES Protects against Type II diabetes and metabolic syndrome

MENTAL HEALTH Improves emotional wellbeing and lessens depression HEALTHY BONES Fights osteoporosis by preventing calcium loss



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Andrews Institute - Milton 5750 Berryhill Road, Milton, FL 32570

**Baptist Medical Park – Airport** 5100 North 12th Ave., Pensacola, FL 32504

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