



## Washington, D.C. – The Nation’s “Sports Capital”

The next time someone says politics is the only sport in town in Washington, D.C., feel free to correct that very mistaken notion.

The fact is, athletics in and around the Potomac River have been such a vital part of life in the nation’s capital, that the case can be made that sports, not politics, are the real sports in Washington, D.C.

While other cities tout their teams and stadiums, few of them feature the rich tapestry of Washington, D.C. With the addition of the EagleBank Bowl to the sports landscape in December 2008, the nation’s capital is the only city to host a college football bowl game and have a team in each of these six U.S. professional sports leagues – NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL, WNBA and MLS.

For more than 100 years, some of the greatest names in professional sports have been written into the record books from addresses all over the Washington area. Their heroic efforts have led to a host of league or world championships and conference titles along with decades of lasting memories.

However, success and enthusiasm for sports is not limited to the professional stage. Championship programs on the collegiate and high school level in the D.C. area have garnered international acclaim in both men’s and women’s sports. Homegrown athletes have contributed to successful programs around the globe and earned accolades on the highest level.

While innumerable sports legends have graced the Washington stage in longstanding sports, recent expansion into tennis, lacrosse, softball, roller derby and indoor football leagues have diversified the D.C. sports scene. Fans in the District have an exceptional list of sports entertainment options and the list keeps growing.

*Washington, D.C. is the only U.S. city that hosts a Bowl game and has a team in these six U.S. professional sports leagues: NFL, NBA, MLB, NHL, MLS & WNBA.*

**The Nation’s “Sports Capital”**



The Washington area is home to some of the nation's most diverse and passionate fans, who dance and chant through soccer matches and basketball games, not to mention sing the most well-known fight song in U.S. professional sports, "Hail to the Redskins."

Washington-area fans are fortunate to have some of the country's most modern and historic facilities in which to cheer on their favorite professional teams. Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium, the home of the D.C. United and the EagleBank Bowl, remains a trendsetter among American sports venues, as it approaches its fifth decade of operation.



Meanwhile, buildings such as the Verizon Center and Nationals Park, have garnered acclaim from fans as well as those in the building design community for their functionality and accessibility. During the summer months, Kastles Stadium comes to life in downtown Washington, D.C. as fans across the region come to enjoy outdoor tennis and the lively social scene.

Local colleges and universities have enjoyed success at the highest levels of competition. Schools throughout the region have captured national titles in a variety of sports, including men's and women's basketball, field hockey, men's and women's lacrosse and men's soccer.

College football fans cheer each Saturday for programs at Georgetown, Howard, Maryland, Navy, Virginia and Virginia Tech. The Georgetown and Howard football programs battle each other annually for the "DC Cup" and city bragging rights.

Politics may be a way of life in Washington, D.C. But fans of all political stripes and on both sides of the proverbial aisle can agree on at least one thing - that Washington, D.C. is a championship city.