BIG GAME

Each of the two innings can be solved independently, allowing to teams to split up and parallelize their solve. The order of the sets of "fowl balls" is given for the intramural version of the puzzle, but the varsity version requires ordering the sets, so that logic will be included. Since every pair of athletes has one athlete whose equipment played contains a "fowl ball" letter and one athlete whose equipment played does not.

The solving grids are populated with non-given information in purple.

	FIRSTINNING		
	A THLETE	EQUIPMENT	
Face A / I	ANNIE OAKLEY	POMMEL HORSE	
Face B	GOMEZ ADDAMS	EIGHT BALL	
Face C	SANDRA MAGNUS	SHUTTLECOCK	
Face D	PRINCESS TIANA	HOME PLATE	
Face E	DAVID BOWMAN	SHUTTLECOCK	
FACE F	MARTHA STEWART	HOME PLATE	
Face G	YOSEMITE SAM	POMMEL HORSE	
FACE H	ELENA KAGAN	EIGHT BALL	

First Inning

For the first inning, the first ball is between ANNIE OAKLEY (playing as a POMMEL HORSE) and PRINCESS TIANA (playing as a HOME PLATE). The four sets of "fowl balls" are AIM, COG, GUT. and POT. Of those first letters, A appears only in HOME PLATE, C appears in neither, G appears in neither, and P appears in both. Therefore the first set of "fowl balls" are the letters in AIM.

The fourth ball is between DAVID BOWMAN (playing as a SHUTTLECOCK) and MARTHA STEWART (playing as a HOME PLATE). The remaining sets of "fowl balls" are COG, GUT, and POT. Of those first letters, C appears only in SHUTTLECOCK, G appears in neither, and P appears only in HOME PLATE. Since there are two candidates, the sixth ball must be considered (since the second letters of COG and POT are the same). It is between ANNIE OAKLEY (playing as a POMMEL HORSE) and PRINCESS TIANA (playing as a HOME PLATE). Of the third letters in COG and POT, G appears in neither, and T appears only in HOME PLATE. Therefore the second set of "fowl balls" are the letters in POT.

The seventh ball is between ELENA KAGAN (playing as an EIGHT BALL) and PRINCESS TIANA (playing as a HOME PLATE). The remaining sets of "fowl balls" are COG and GUT. Of those first letters, C appears in neither, and G appears only in EIGHT BALL. Therefore the third set of "fowl balls" are the letters in GUT, and the fourth set of "fowl balls" are the letters in COG, the only set remaining.

Final Round
MEGAMETAS

BIG GAME

The path of the M.V.P. is determined by just following along the edge between each sequential pair of athletes (and is in the below filled-out scorecard). Each scoring athlete is in bold. (As a bonus detail not needed for the solution, the athletes on the South End Celebs score seven times, and the athletes on the Back Bay Legends score five times. This inning, which the South End Celebs won 7-5, provides the identify of the M.V.P. on the South End Celebs.)

Fowl Ball Order	Fowl Ball Letter	Catching Player	Receiving Player	M.V.P. Base (starts on 1)	Low Base Letter	Middle Base Letter	High Base Letter
1	А	ANNIE OAKLEY	PRINCESS TIANA	5	1	1	3
2	I	ELENA KAGAN	PRINCESS TIANA	4	8	2	1
3	М	ELENA KAGAN	YOSEMITE SAM	6	7	6	2
4	Р	DAVID BOWMAN	MARTHA STEWART	2	8	7	5
5	0	ANNIE OAKLEY	GOMEZ ADDAMS	1	3	9	4
6	Т	ANNIE OAKLEY	PRINCESS TIANA	5	6	5	9
7	G	ELENA KAGAN PRINCESS TIANA		4	9	5	6
8	U	SANDRA MAGNUS YOSEMITE SAM		3	3	4	9
9	Т	MARTHA STEWART	ART YOSEMITE SAM		7	5	8
10	С	DAVID BOWMAN	MARTHA STEWART	2	2	6	7
11	0	ANNIE OAKLEY GOMEZ ADDAMS		1	1	8	2
12	G	GOMEZ ADDAMS	SANDRA MAGNUS	3	3	1	1

FIRST INNING SCORECARD

Extracting the letters noted from each athlete name and placing them on the bases results in the following:

SOLUTION (by Ata Gurpinar)



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LETTERS WRITTEN ON BASES

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1	PNENAM
2	ELSAKG
3	TSDHG
4	PGICAG
5	ILITABN
6	ЕОНКТО

Retracing the M.V.P.'s path backwards over the BAPHLball diamond, the following pairs of letters are removed from the bases in the following order, with the letter in bold kept:

Base 3	T S
Base 1	ΡΝ
Base 2	EL
Base 6	ΕO
Base 3	DH
Base 4	P G
Base 5	1 L
Base 1	ΕN
Base 2	S A
Base 6	ΗK
Base 4	C
Base 5	IТ
Base 1	ΑΜ

Reversing this letters gives the identify of the South End Celebs' M.V.P.: MICHAEL PHELPS, famous for having won the most Olympic gold medals of any athlete in history.



Second Inning

	A THLETE	EQUIPMENT
Face I	ROLAND DESCHAIN	POMMEL HORSE
Face J	MICHAEL KORS	EIGHT BALL
Face K	MAJOR NELSON	SHUTTLECOCK
Face L	JAMIE OLIVER	HOME PLATE
Face M	GUION BLUFORD	SHUTTLECOCK
Face N	SWEDISH CHEF	HOME PLATE
Face O	JESSE JAMES	POMMEL HORSE
Face P	DRACO MALFOY	EIGHT BALL

For the second inning, the first ball is between JESSE JAMES (playing as a POMMEL HORSE) and MAJOR NELSON (playing as a SHUTTLECOCK). The four sets of "fowl balls" are BUG, CAR, SPA, and TAG. Of those first letters, B is in neither, C is only in SHUTTLECOCK, S is in both, and T is only in SHUTTLECOCK. Since there are two candidates, the third ball must be considered (since the second letters of CAR and TAG are the same.) It is between DRACO MALFOY (playing as an EIGHT BALL) and GUION BLUFORD (playing as a SHUTTLECOCK). Of the third letters in CAR and TAG, R appears in neither, and G appears only in EIGHT BALL. Therefore the first set of "fowl balls" are the letters in TAG.

The fourth ball is between GUION BLUFORD (playing as a SHUTTLECOCK) and ROLAND DESCHAIN (playing as a POMMEL HORSE). The remaining sets of "fowl balls" are BUG, CAR, and SPA. Of those first letters, B appears in neither, C appears only in SHUTTLECOCK, and S appears in both. Therefore the second set of "fowl balls" are the letters in CAR.

The third set of "fowl balls" cannot be determined from the athletes engaged with the seventh through ninth balls, so it will be the set left over after the fourth set of "fowl balls" is determined.

The tenth ball is between GUION BLUFORD (playing as a SHUTTLECOCK) and SWEDISH CHEF (playing as a HOME PLATE). The remaining sets of "fowl balls" are BUG and SPA. Of those first letters, B appears in neither, and S appears only in SHUTTLECOCK. Therefore the fourth set of "fowl balls" are the letters in SPA, and the third set of "fowl balls" are the letters in BUG, the only set remaining.

The path of the M.V.P. is determined by just following along the edge between each sequential pair of athletes (and is in the below filled-out scorecard). Each scoring athlete is in bold. (As a bonus detail not needed for the solution, the athletes on the South End Celebs score five times, and the athletes on the



Back Bay Legends score seven times. This inning, which the Back Bay Legends won 7-5, provides the identify of the M.V.P. on the Back Bay Legends.)

SECOND INNING SCORECARD

Fowl Ball Order	Fowl Ball Letter	Catching Player	Receiving Player	M.V.P. Base (starts on 4)	Low Base Letter	Middle Base Letter	High Base Letter
1	Т	JESSE JAMES	MAJOR NELSON	3	5	7	6
2	Α	JESSE JAMES	SWEDISH CHEF	6	1	3	4
3	G	DRACO MALFOY	GUION BLUFORD	5	4	4	7
4	С	GUION BLUFORD	ROLAND DESCHAIN	2	2	5	1
5	А	GUION BLUFORD	SWEDISH CHEF	6	9	8	1
6	R	JESSE JAMES	SWEDISH CHEF	3	3	9	8
7	В	MAJOR NELSON	MICHAEL KORS	1	8	9	3
8	U	JAMIE OLIVER	MAJOR NELSON	4	1	8	9
9	G	DRACO MALFOY	JESSE JAMES	6	1	5	2
10	S	GUION BLUFORD	SWEDISH CHEF	2	4	7	4
11	Р	GUION BLUFORD	ROLAND DESCHAIN	5	4	3	1
12	А	JAMIE OLIVER	ROLAND DESCHAIN	1	6	7	5

Extracting the letters noted from each athlete name and placing them on the bases results in the following:



LETTERS WRITTEN ON BASES

1	RKMO
2	SUHOO
3	EECSCL
4	NCESDAL
5	ONOLLE
6	DAGSMROR

Retracing the M.V.P.'s path backwards over the BAPHLball diamond, the following pairs of letters are removed from the bases in the following order, with the letter in bold kept:

Base 1	R K
Base 5	O N
Base 2	SU
Base 6	DA
Base 4	N C
Base 1	ΜΟ
Base 3	EE
Base 6	G S
Base 2	H O
Base 5	0 L
Base 6	M R
Base 3	CS
Base 4	E S

Reversing this letters gives the identify of the Back Bay Legends' M.V.P.: SCROOGE MCDUCK, known for swimming in a vault of gold on the show *Duck Tales*.