



THE DIAMONDBACK

2020-21
BIG TEN
BASKETBALL

SEASON PREVIEW

YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE
TO MARYLAND BASKETBALL

TABLE OF CONTENTS



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



JOE RYAN/THE DIAMONDBACK

4-5 WOMEN'S ROSTER
MEET THE PLAYERS FROM THE WOMEN'S TEAM

6-7 MEN'S ROSTER
MEET THE PLAYERS FROM THE MEN'S TEAM

8-9 SEASON SCHEDULES
A BRIEF OVERVIEW, PLUS GAMES TO WATCH

10-11 WOMEN'S TRANSFERS
THE NEW RECRUITS HEATING UP MARYLAND'S OFFENSE

12-13 2019-20 SEASON RECAP
A DAZZLING SEASON FROM BOTH BIG TEN CHAMPIONS

14 CHOL MARIAL
HOW HE'S PREPARING FOR THE SEASON AFTER INJURY

15 ANGEL REESE
THE FRESHMAN RECRUIT EMERGES AS AN EARLY LEADER

16-17 BALTIMORE ROOTS
DARRYL MORSELL ON HOOPS CULTURE BACK HOME

18-19 BIG TEN TEAM CHANGES
HOW CONFERENCE COMPETITORS STACK UP THIS SEASON

20-21 LOOKING FORWARD
AS STARS GO PRO, RECRUITS BRING FRESH TALENT

THE DIAMONDBACK

*Founded 1910,
independent
since 1971.*

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2020-21 UMD WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

#1 DIAMOND MILLER

SO. (6'3") - SOMERSET, NJ / FRANKLIN

Last season: 32 Games, 7.7 PPG, 40.9 FG%, 3.2 RPG, 1.8 APG.



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

#2 MIMI COLLINS

R-SO. (6'3") - WALDORF, MD / PAUL VI

2018-19 season (with Tennessee): 32 Games, 5.5 PPG, 51.0 FG%, 3.4 RPG, 0.3 APG. Sat out last season due to NCAA eligibility rules.



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

#3 CHANNISE LEWIS

R-JR. (5'8") - MIAMI, FL / MIAMI COUNTRY DAY

2018-19 season: 34 Games, 4.2 PPG, 38.4 FG%, 2.4 RPG, 5.4 APG.



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

#10 ANGEL REESE

FR. (6'3") - BALTIMORE, MD / ST. FRANCES ACADEMY

Ranked No. 2 overall player in the 2020 recruitment class and No. 1 wing player, according to ESPN. The highest-ranked player to ever commit to the Terps in program history.

#11 KATIE BENZAN

SR. (5'6") - WELLESLEY, MA / NOBLE AND GREENOUGH SCHOOL

Last season (with Harvard): 30 Games, 14.3 PPG, 38.7 FG%, 3.2 RPG, 4.2 APG.

#12 ZOE YOUNG

R-FR. (5'10") - DES MOINES, IA / WEST DES MOINES VALLEY

Ranked No. 32 overall player and No. 8 guard, according to ESPN. USA Today named Young the Iowa Player of the Year. Missed last season due to an ACL injury.



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#13 FAITH MASONIUS

SO. (6'1") - SPRING LAKE, NJ / MANASQUAN

Last season: 32 Games, 3.8 PPG, 42.1 FG%, 2.9 RPG, 1.3 APG.



CAM ANDREWS/THE DIAMONDBACK

#14 TAISIYA KOZLOVA

FR. (6'1") - MOSCOW, RUSSIA / ELEVATION PREP ACADEMY

Averaged 13.0 points, 2.0 rebounds and 2.3 steals per game in her first season in the United States at Elevation Prep Academy.

#15 ASHLEY OWUSU

SO. (6'0") - WOODBRIDGE, VA / PAUL VI

Last season: 32 Games, 12.0 PPG, 44.6 FG%, 3.8 RPG, 5.4 APG. Named second-team All-Big Ten and Big Ten Freshman of the Year in 2019-20.



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#55 CHLOE BIBBY

SR. (6'1") - WARRACKNABEAL, AUSTRALIA / ROWVILLE SECONDARY COLLEGE

Last season (with Mississippi State): 33 Games, 7.5 PPG, 40.4 FG%, 5.2 RPG, 0.9 APG.

2020-21 UMD MEN'S BASKETBALL

#0 MARCUS DOCKERY

FR. (6'2" / 170 LBS) - WASHINGTON, D.C. / BREWSTER ACADEMY

Three-star recruit and No. 6-ranked player out of Washington, D.C. Additionally, rated as the 18th-best combo guard in the nation, according to 247Sports.

#2 AARON WIGGINS

JR. (6'6" / 200 LBS) - GREENSBORO, NC / WESLEYAN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Last season: 31 Games, 10.4 PPG, 37.7 FG%, 4.9 RPG, 1.4 APG. Named 2020 Big Ten Sixth Man of the Year.



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#5 ERIC AYALA

JR. (6'5" / 195 LBS) - WILMINGTON, DE / IMG ACADEMY

Last season: 31 Games, 8.5 PPG, 35.8 FG%, 2.9 RPG, 2.5 APG. Has started 53 of his 65 games at Maryland.



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

#11 DARRYL MORSELL

SR. (6'5" / 200 LBS) - BALTIMORE, MD / MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH

Last season: 31 Games, 8.5 PPG, 43.1 FG%, 4.7 RPG, 2.1 APG. Has made 81 starts in 96 career games at Maryland.



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#12 REESE MONA

SR. (6'2" / 180 LBS) - LA PLATA, MD / ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HS

Last season: 10 Games, 3.0 MPG, 0.9 PPG, 0.2 RPG, 0.2 APG. He did not miss a single field goal attempt last season.

#13 HAKIM HART

SO. (6'6" / 200 LBS) - PHILADELPHIA, PA / ROMAN CATHOLIC

Last season: 18 Games, 6.2 MPG, 1.6 PPG, 0.6 RPG, 0.5 APG.

#14 CONNOR ODOM

FR. (5'11" / 155 LBS) - ANNAPOLIS, MD / ARCHBISHOP SPALDING

His father, Ryan, coached UMBC to its historic upset as a No. 16 seed against No. 1 Virginia in 2018.

#15 CHOL MARIAL

SO. (7'2" / 230 LBS) - RUMBEEK, SOUTH SUDAN / AZ COMPASS PREP

Last season: 12 Games, 5.4 MPG, 0.8 PPG, 1.6 RPG, 0.2 APG. Was once rated the No. 1 center in his high school class by ESPN.



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#20 AIDAN MCCOOL

FR. (6'3" / 155 LBS) - CHARLESTON, SC / BISHOP ENGLAND HS

Part of Bishop England High School's 1,000-point club.

#22 JADE BRAHMBHATT

JR. (6'0" / 165 LBS) - OLNEY, MD / BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE HS

Last season (with Pacific): DNP.

#23 AQUAN SMART

FR. (6'3" / 200 LBS) - EVANSTON, IL / NILES NORTH HS

Three-star recruit and No. 8-ranked player out of Illinois. Named Illinois AP Second Team All-State.

#24 DONTA SCOTT

SO. (6'7" / 225 LBS) - PHILADELPHIA, PA / IMHOTEP CHARTER

Last season: 31 Games, 5.9 PPG, 43.9 FG%, 3.6 RPG, 0.5 APG.



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#25 JAIRUS HAMILTON

JR. (6'8" / 234 LBS) - CHARLOTTE, NC / CANNON SCHOOL

Last season (with Boston College): 24 Games, 9.5 PPG, 42.8 FG%, 4.3 RPG, 0.9 APG.

#30 GALIN SMITH

SR. (6'9" / 240 LBS) - CLINTON, MS / CLINTON HS

Last season (with Alabama): 31 Games, 3.1 PPG, 55.7 FG%, 2.5 RPG, 0.2 APG.

#31 ARNAUD REVAZ

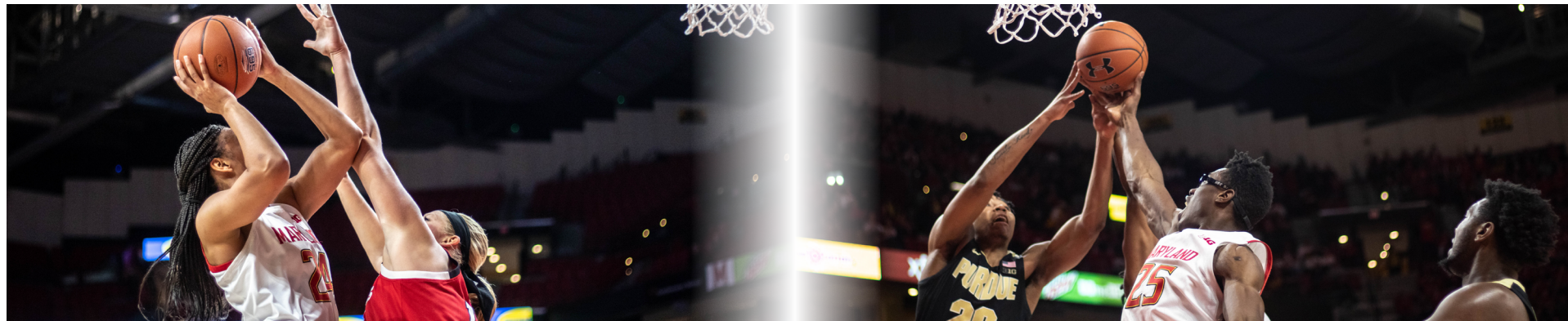
FR. (6'10" / 220 LBS) - SION, SWITZERLAND / BOURG-EN-BRASSE ACADAMIE

2019-20 season with JL Bourg (France): 19.9 MPG, 6.7 PPG, 3.5 RPG.

2020-21 SCHEDULES

WOMEN'S

NOV. 27 VS DAVIDSON	2:30 P.M.	
NOV. 28 VS MISSOURI STATE	5:30 P.M.	
NOV. 29 VS ARKANSAS	5:30 P.M.	
DEC. 3 VS TOWSON	TBA	H
DEC. 5 VS COPPIN STATE	TBA	H
DEC. 8 VS MOUNT ST. MARY'S	TBA	H
DEC. 14 VS RUTGERS	TBA	
DEC. 23 VS OHIO STATE	TBA	H
DEC. 31 VS PENN STATE	TBA	
JAN. 4 VS INDIANA	TBA	H
JAN. 7 VS MICHIGAN STATE	TBA	
JAN. 10 VS PURDUE	TBA	H
JAN. 14 VS MINNESOTA	TBA	
JAN. 17 VS WISCONSIN	TBA	
JAN. 21 VS IOWA	TBA	H
JAN. 25 VS OHIO STATE	TBA	
JAN. 28 VS RUTGERS	TBA	H
FEB. 4 VS WISCONSIN	TBA	H
FEB. 7 VS MICHIGAN	TBA	
FEB. 10 VS MICHIGAN STATE	TBA	H
FEB. 14 VS NEBRASKA	TBA	
FEB. 17 VS ILLINOIS	TBA	H
FEB. 20 VS MINNESOTA	TBA	H
FEB. 25 VS PURDUE	TBA	
FEB. 28 VS NORTHWESTERN	TBA	
MAR. 5/6 VS PENN STATE	TBA	H



WOMEN'S

GAMES TO WATCH

INDIANA HOOSIERS

Finishing 24-8 and returning four out of five starters from last season, the Hoosiers will be looking to improve upon a fourth-place finish in the Big Ten. Ali Patberg returns for her third season with Indiana after being a finalist for the Nancy Lieberman award last year. She averaged 15.6 points per game and also added 5.3 assists per game to help carry the load offensively. Joined by Grace Berger and Jaelynn Penn, the Hoosiers retain a large portion of their core from last season, which will likely help them in the opening stretch of this season and may set the pace for what Coach Teri Moren expects of her squad this season.

OHIO STATE BUCKEYES

Returning five starters from the end of last season, Ohio State is shaping up to be another of the top teams in the Big Ten in the 2020-21 season. Led by junior Dorka Juhász, who led the Buckeyes in points and rebounds in her freshman and sophomore season, Ohio State has continuity in a time of high uncertainty. Returning such a large part of their 2019-20 team will bode well for the Buckeyes as games begin. Their chemistry could help them to best some of the other teams who experienced more roster turnover, including the Terps, who only have two seniors this season — both of whom transferred to Maryland following the end of last season.

NORTHWESTERN WILDCATS

One of only four teams to beat the Terps last season, Northwestern — coming off a program-best 26-4 season — is expected to be among the Big Ten elite again this season. Led by Lindsey Pulliam and Veronica Burton, who together scored almost 31 points per game last season, Northwestern will once again have high expectations. After claiming their first Big Ten title in 30 years, the Wildcats seem primed to be one of the biggest challenges for the Terps in the conference.

MEN'S

GAMES TO WATCH

IOWA HAWKEYES

Iowa is set to be one of the best teams in the conference, with returning star Luka Garza and mostly all of his supporting cast. Garza averaged 23.9 points per game and 9.8 rebounds per game, while also blocking almost two shots a game. The Terps had mixed results against Garza and the Hawkeyes, splitting the season series 1-1, winning the second matchup thanks in part to Garza's multiple fouls. Jalen Smith grabbed 14 rebounds for the Terps, and Anthony Cowan Jr. scored 31 points to help Maryland seal the win. With Smith and Cowan both departed after the 2020 season, Garza could be primed for big games against a Maryland team that lacks height, as they only have two players 6'10" or taller.

WISCONSIN BADGERS

The Badgers, who joined the Terps and the Michigan State Spartans in earning a share of first place in the Big Ten this year, look to be just as formidable in the 2020-21 season. Returning Nate Reuvers and Micah Potter, their two leading scorers from last season, the Badgers aren't expected to have much of a dropoff in talent, if any. They also had momentum on their side when last season ended, reeling off eight straight wins to clinch a share of first place. In a season with a lot of uncertainty due to the pandemic, this chemistry and momentum could be a huge factor early on.

ILLINOIS FIGHTING ILLINI

Illinois is projected to be the best team in the Big Ten this season, returning Kofi Cockburn, Trent Frazier and Ayo Dosunmu, along with a deep roster overall. Winners of five of their last six games in 2020, the Illini were a bit of a surprise story, going 13-7 overall in the conference. They aren't going to take anyone by surprise this season, but they probably won't have to, fielding one of the most talented teams in the Big Ten.

MEN'S

NOV. 25 VS OLD DOMINION	2 P.M.	H
NOV. 27 VS NAVY	3 P.M.	H
NOV. 29 VS MOUNT ST. MARY'S	2 P.M.	H
DEC. 1 VS MONMOUTH	7 P.M.	H
DEC. 4 VS GEORGE MASON	3 P.M.	H
DEC. 9 VS CLEMSON	TBA	
DEC. 14 VS RUTGERS	TBA	H
DEC. 22 VS LA SALLE	TBA	H
DEC. 25 VS PURDUE	TBA	
DEC. 28 VS WISCONSIN	TBA	
DEC. 31 VS MICHIGAN	TBA	H
JAN. 4 VS INDIANA	TBA	
JAN. 7 VS IOWA	TBA	H
JAN. 10 VS ILLINOIS	TBA	
JAN. 16 VS NEBRASKA	TBA	H
JAN. 19 VS MICHIGAN	TBA	
JAN. 23 VS MINNESOTA	TBA	
JAN. 30 VS WISCONSIN	TBA	H
FEB. 2 VS PURDUE	TBA	H
FEB. 5 VS PENN STATE	TBA	
FEB. 8/9 VS OHIO STATE	TBA	H
FEB. 14 VS MINNESOTA	TBA	H
FEB. 17 VS NEBRASKA	TBA	
FEB. 21 VS RUTGERS	TBA	
FEB. 28 VS MICHIGAN STATE	TBA	H
MAR. 3 VS NORTHWESTERN	TBA	
MAR. 7 VS PENN STATE	TBA	H

FRESH FACES

New transfer recruits bring experience, offensive power to the Maryland women's team

By Jacob Richman | @JacobHRichman | Senior staff writer

1,889 points.

That's last season's scoring contribution from players no longer on Maryland women's basketball's roster.

After Kaila Charles and Stephanie Jones graduated last year — and Shakira Austin and Taylor Mikesell unexpectedly departed — the Terps were facing a void of offensive firepower. But this summer, things started to look up.

Although the transfer portal has been a foe for the defending Big Ten champions in the past, it could also make all the difference this season, as No. 12 Maryland brings in a well-seasoned unit of transfers set to make an impact.

“Our new reality is the transfer portal,” coach Brenda Frese said. “Kids come and go and they do what's best for their unique situations. As a program, you have to do what's best for your program.”

What resulted was the introduction of senior guard and forward Chloe Bibby, grad transfer Katie Benzan, freshman guard Taisiya Kozlova and grad transfer Alaysia Styles.

Bibby comes to the Terps from Mississippi State, where she helped lead the team to No. 9 in the final AP poll of 2020 before the sudden cancellation of the season due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She averaged 7.5 points, 5.2 rebounds and shot 40.4 percent from the field last season.

On Nov. 8, this university announced Bibby had received a waiver from the NCAA to make her immediately eligible for this season.

Benzan, who had been recruited by Maryland out of high school, was a standout at Harvard for three years, earning First Team All-Ivy honors each season. During her career for the Crimson, she relied on her lethal 39.5 percent average from outside the arc, putting her tenth all-time at Harvard.

The 5-foot-6 guard gives more depth at a shallow position for the Terps. She had planned to take her talents to Texas. However, following a coaching change, she opened her recruitment back up.

“I just wanted to find a competitive program [where] everyone was passionate and loved the game,” Benzan said.



GUARD/FORWARD CHLOE BIBBY drives to the rim during Mississippi State women's basketball's 78-57 win over Lubbock Christian on Nov. 4, 2019. MARY GEORGIA HAMILTON/THE REFLECTOR

“I wasn't necessarily focused on my role but more of the competitive environment that I wanted to spend my last year [in].”

Both Bibby and Benzan have already brought a veteran presence in the early stages of practice for Maryland. Frese has praised their level of maturity during the preseason. For a team with three returning players who logged minutes last season, wisdom is a welcome sight for the Terps.

“We come with experience under our belt,” Benzan said. “We've been a leader on the floor just sharing our basketball experience and our basketball IQ.”

With such an inexperienced squad, growing pains are to be expected. Still, the team has expressed their excitement for a fresh start. Bibby said being so young makes the team more adaptable.

Flexibility has been the name of the game for the incoming transfers.

Frese said one of the strangest parts of the offseason was the way transfers had to make their decisions largely based on interactions online. For a player like Bibby, who was in her hometown of Warracknabeal, Australia, the entire process was virtual.

Benzan had been able to make an official visit in fall 2019 so when she opened her recruiting back up, Maryland already had its foot in the door.

Established relationships also helped the Terps pick up Alaysia Styles.

She brings more high-level experience transferring after three years at California. She averaged 8.4 points her junior season with the Golden Bears.

Maryland recruited the 6-foot-3 forward out of high school, but she elected to stay closer to home in San Diego. While she has committed to join the Terps, Styles won't arrive until December as a spring 2021 transfer.

Despite their youth and ongoing development, expectations are high for Maryland. The Terps have brought in experienced transfers who have tasted similar success to that of the defending champs. Now the team just has to put the pieces together.

“There is no reason why we can't win a national championship,” Bibby said.



FORWARD ALAYSIA STYLES during California women's basketball's 74-70 loss to UCLA on Feb. 9, 2020. JOSH KAHEN/THE DAILY CALIFORNIAN

BIG TEN CHAMPS

WOMEN'S 2019-20 RECAP

The Maryland Terrapins women's basketball team was absolutely dominant during the 2019-20 season, posting a 28-4 record and winning the Big Ten regular season title and Big Ten Tournament prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It's quite possible that Brenda Frese's team would've been a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament, considering they finished as the No. 4 team in the final AP Poll. Yet, just as with the men's basketball team, Maryland fans will forever wonder how far this team could've gone.

The Terps finished the season with a 17-game winning streak and only lost one game at Xfinity Center all season, to No. 8 South Carolina. Recent WNBA draftee Kaila Charles was the all-around leader for Maryland last season as she led the team



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



CAM ANDREWS/THE DIAMONDBACK

with 14.3 points and 7.3 rebounds per game.

Other contributors to the Terrapins' success were Shakira Austin, Ashley Owusu, Stephanie Jones and Taylor Mikesell, all of whom averaged over 10.0 points per game. Austin and Mikesell transferred from Maryland to Ole Miss and Oregon, respectively, after the season ended.

Most of the team's games were blowouts last season, as Maryland was truly in its own class last season. The team did have some exciting games during the Big Ten Tournament and had a narrow win against Northwestern, their biggest competition in the conference, on January 26.

Last season may have been the best chance for Maryland to win the national title as now, without Charles, Austin and Mikesell, the team has lost plenty of firepower. The depth that helped the Terps throughout their 2019-20 season will surely be tested during the 2020-21 season.



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

The 2019-20 Maryland Terrapins men's basketball team will forever be remembered as Big Ten champions, yet we'll never know how far they could've gone in the NCAA Tournament had the COVID-19 pandemic not begun.

The Terps finished the regular season with a 24-7 record and split the Big Ten title with the Wisconsin Badgers and the Michigan State Spartans. Maryland ultimately finished as the No. 12 team in the final AP Poll.

Led by senior point guard Anthony Cowan Jr. and sophomore big man Jalen Smith, the Terps looked destined for their highest NCAA Tournament seeding in over a decade. Cowan Jr. led the team with 16.3 points and 4.7 assists per game while Smith averaged a double-double with 15.5 points and 10.5 rebounds per game.

The Terps also received heavy contributions from sophomore guard Aaron Wiggins, sophomore guard Eric Ayala, freshman forward Donta Scott and junior guard Darryl Morsell en route to a Big



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

Ten title. Morsell undoubtedly had the shot of the season for Maryland when he nailed a go-ahead three pointer from way beyond the arc as Maryland came from behind to defeat Minnesota 74-73.

Other memorable moments from the 2019-20 season included Cowan Jr.'s dominant Thanksgiving weekend against Temple, Harvard and Marquette, a 15-point second-half comeback against a feisty Illinois team at Xfinity Center, a comeback win on the road against Michigan State on College GameDay and the Senior Day game where Cowan Jr. and Smith helped clinch a Big Ten title just days before the coronavirus pandemic shut down the country.

Nevertheless, the 2019-20 season was a success and helped breathe new life into the Maryland men's basketball program. The Terps garnered plenty of national attention and even hosted College GameDay for the first time in over a decade. While Terps fans will forever wonder what

could've been, they should remember the success and memories that the Terps provided during an incredibly fun season.



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

BETTER EVERY DAY

After a battle with injuries, center Chol Marial prepares for a promising season

By Kevin F. McNulty | @kmcnulty_219 | Senior staff writer

Midway through the first half against Bryant University on Dec. 29, 2019, Chol Marial ripped off his warmup shirt and ran to the scorer's table at Xfinity Center. The Maryland crowd stood and cheered as the 7-foot-2 center stepped onto the floor as a Terp for the first time.

Marial's journey to Division I basketball was different from most. He was raised in Rumbek, South Sudan, and came to the United States for the first time when he was 14.

During his first two years of high school, he drew interest from college coaches across the country. Then, the injuries came. Ongoing shin splints left him in constant pain and kept him out of high school games. He played in fewer than a dozen games during his senior year at AZ Compass Prep before coming to play for coach Mark Turgeon at Maryland.

Marial underwent surgery to repair stress fractures in both legs in September 2019, which caused him to miss the first 12 games of his freshman season. In his debut, he played 14 minutes and notched six points and five rebounds, but those all turned out to be season-highs.

Now 14 months after his operation, Turgeon says his center is 100 percent pain-free in his left leg and only sometimes experiences pain in his right leg. Though he spent much of the offseason in Arizona away from the team, the Terps believe Marial is poised to become an impact player in Maryland's frontcourt.

"He's starting to look like the Chol that I remember coming out of high school a few years ago, so it's exciting," Turgeon said. "And he's got a great attitude."



CENTER CHOL MARIAL contests a layup during Maryland men's basketball's 75-59 win over Indiana on Jan. 4, 2020. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

While the team hasn't entirely put last year's Big Ten championship season behind it, Marial would like to forget a lot of the struggles he went through as a freshman.

As pain continued to run through his legs, Marial didn't play more than 10 minutes in a game after his debut against Bryant, and he scored just four points during the conference slate. He didn't even see the floor when Maryland clinched the Big Ten title against Michigan on March 8.

Marial was hoping to help the Terps in the Big Ten and NCAA tournaments, but he never got the chance after the season was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"Last season was really hard," Marial said. "When I came back, I was not really ready. Then when I started getting ready, they shut the season down. But now, we're ready."

Turgeon, once a point guard at Kansas, said he treats his centers the same way he treats his point guards. He expects them to work hard and challenge themselves every time they step onto the floor.

Without former Maryland big man Jalen Smith to challenge him during practice, Marial had to push himself more than ever. He said he wants to do his best to fill the void left by "Stix" in the Maryland paint.

"He got me ready, and I got him ready,"

Marial said. "To have that experience with him last year was really fun, and I think I learned a lot from him even though he left. We're just trying to fulfill what he did for us last year."

Although he was away from Maryland's training staff this spring and summer, Marial continued to rehab his legs following a routine with individual drills, lifting and other workouts, including conditioning in the Arizona desert. He also had the support of former teammates from AZ Compass Prep, with whom he ran pick up games over the summer.

Marial said he still felt a little rusty around his teammates when he returned to College Park. But veteran Terps such as junior Aaron Wiggins said they saw a player who looked a lot healthier and more confident than the last time he practiced at Xfinity Center.

And since, they've seen him display offensive and defensive skills that were lacking in an unfit Marial.

"It's been incredible watching his growth and progress over time," Wiggins said. "Even in the last month that we've been together, he's grown. He continues to show flashes of his potential and his ability to make plays."

While Marial won't debut this season in front of a roaring crowd, expectations for the former four-star recruit are arguably just as high. Marial doesn't think those expectations put too much of a burden on his shoulders, and with stronger legs under him, Marial trusts himself to take the next step for the Terps.

"I don't really feel any pressure, I just got to do my thing," Marial said. "When you feel pressure, you're nervous, but I'm not nervous to play. I just want to play right now."

BEYOND HER YEARS

Freshman Angel Reese is ready to bring her competitive edge to College Park

By Katie Manganelli | @KatieManganelli | Staff writer

Angel Reese grew up playing basketball against boys.

“My mom would coach, and I would be the only girl on the team . . . and it was always competitive because no one wanted to lose to a girl, but I wanted to prove to the boys that I was actually good,” Reese said.

Years later, Reese left St. Frances Academy in Baltimore as the second-best high school basketball player in the country, according to ESPN.

Now, she’s proving her talent on the practice court as a guard on the Maryland women’s basketball team. She’s the highest ranked recruit in program history.

“Angel is beyond her years,” said coach Brenda Frese. “The way she takes care of the team and builds up her teammates, you would think she’s a junior by the way she plays and talks.”

Reese’s competitiveness and ability to take control have shone through since her

first practice with the Terps.

“It’s expected at this point . . . if [Reese] doesn’t come out and compete, we’re like, ‘OK, what’s wrong with you, let’s pick you up,’” said guard and Mississippi State transfer Chloe Bibby.

Reese stepped into a leadership role for the Terps right away, a rare feat for a freshman. She uses her knowledge and confidence to speak her mind in practice — and she demands excellence in return. But those insurances have helped her teammates improve, Frese said.

“[If] she sees someone struggling with their shot, the next time they knock down a shot she’s going to celebrate it,” Frese said. “She wants to win so badly that she understands how to breathe life and confidence into her teammates, and you don’t get that from freshmen.”

Competitiveness and support run in Reese’s family. Reese credits her mother, also named Angel, for her fierce ambition

and desire to win.

“My mom is a single mom, so she always has been the type to be an independent woman, and she’s taught me to always go out and fight for everything I have,” Reese said.

Reese’s younger brother, Julian, also has basketball in his blood: He signed on to play for the Terps in 2021. Julian stands at a towering six-foot-nine, six inches taller than his sister.

But that does not stop Angel from trying to be the better player. The Reeses grew up playing one-on-one against each other on a basketball court in front of their house. Eventually, they removed the court because they squabbled too much.

“Of course he doesn’t want to lose to a girl, and I don’t want to lose to my little brother, so it’s always been competitive,” Reese said.

Even though they compete against each other, family is incredibly important to the

Reese siblings. They both wear no. 10, the same figure their mother used to wear when she played basketball at University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Reese’s grandparents have come to every one of her games — with their proximity to College Park standing as a primary reason why Reese chose to play for the Terps.

But she also came to College Park to bring a championship back to the state she loves. Reese attended Maryland basketball games throughout her high school career — and the Terps spent years recruiting her. That chance to win at home, in front of her close-knit family, was too good to pass up.

And she plans on making good on that pledge.

“I came to Maryland because I want to win a national championship, especially because I’m from here, I want to bring one back home,” Reese said, “I’ve always had the drive to just win everything, and it doesn’t matter what it is, I just want to win.”



MARYLAND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL huddles during its 66-51 win over Indiana on March 7, 2020 at Bankers Life Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

BALTIMORE'S FINEST

Darryl Morsell is using the lessons he learned in Baltimore to become a leader for Maryland men's basketball

By David Suggs | @David_Suggs3 | Senior staff writer

There's a lot to like about Baltimore, Darryl Morsell says. It's a city filled with passion and camaraderie. It has a dialect — and culture — all its own.

But those traits rarely draw attention. Baltimore is under constant surveillance, subject to criticism by those who don't walk its streets, people who will never see what Morsell sees: a city teeming with life.

That liveliness is particularly evident on the basketball courts that dot the Charm City landscape, canvases of joy where constructs such as age and experience wash away in favor of intangibles such as grit and toughness.

It's in this environment that Morsell became the player — and person — he is today. And as he enters his final season with Maryland men's basketball, the senior guard is hoping to channel that intensity fostered on the courts of his youth to help lead the Terps through a difficult, condensed season.

"Darryl Morsell has probably grown as a leader more than any player I've ever had," coach Mark Turgeon said. "It's just a natural thing for him."

Much of Morsell's leadership stems from his Baltimore roots, which provided a platform for young talents to test themselves in a physically draining environment. The city has produced a number of household names on the hardwood, none bigger than perennial all-star Carmelo Anthony.

The city has also made a sizable mark in the college game. Jalen Smith starred at Mount Saint Joseph with Morsell before making the switch to College Park. Former Kentucky guard Immanuel Quickley and Rutgers guard Montez Mathis are also from the city, part of a growing contingent of Baltimore-based hoopers making their presence felt on the national stage.

"It's really like one big community," Morsell said. "In Baltimore, we embrace each other as a basketball community."

Morsell said he felt that sense of belonging at a young age, often turning out for sports teams filled with players much older than him. He's always had the physicality — his eight years of youth football took care of that.

In those years, Morsell's mentality took shape. Sharing the court with older players helps foster a certain level of maturity, one that, when coupled with Baltimore's physical brand of basketball, creates a sort of resolve for younger athletes.



GUARD DARRYL MORSELL rises to the rim during Maryland men's basketball's 72-70 win over Nebraska on Feb. 11, 2020. (JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK)

"[It's] toughness, that's all I can say," Mathis said in March. "We just [bred] different ... Baltimore basketball is [some] of the best basketball in the country."

Morsell has brought that physical toughness to College Park since he arrived, establishing himself as one of the best defenders in the Big Ten.

But it's those mental tools that stand out to Turgeon, tools rooted in Baltimore's basketball culture that have only sharpened under his tutelage.

"All the players know that he really, truly cares about them," Turgeon said. "His leadership has been great."

Often, it's Morsell's voice that rings loudest along the Xfinity Center walls during practices, his competitive spirit fueling him and his teammates. It can make for some terse encounters at times, Turgeon said.

But, these traits have also made Morsell such an integral piece of Turgeon's squad over the past three seasons. They were evident on Feb. 26 when the then-

junior, a career 27.2 percent three-point shooter, sank a game-winner from five feet beyond the three-point line to lift the Terps over Minnesota, 74-73.

And they're evident now, nine months later. This time, Morsell is looking to lead a squad that saw its two best players — along with three more rotation pieces — depart over the offseason; a team that enters this season with more questions than answers for the first time in a while under Turgeon.



GUARD DARRYL MORSELL celebrates during Maryland men's basketball's 72-70 win over Nebraska on Feb. 11, 2020. (JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK)

Now, Morsell is the mentor, looking to impart wisdom on Maryland's youth — just as those older players did for him back in Baltimore.

And the early signs are promising.

"Darryl's been a big inspiration to me," guard Marcus Dockery said. "Starting off in the first workout just to ... work extremely hard and to not focus on any of the errors you make but to focus on doing better the next play."

When he takes the Xfinity court as a senior, Morsell will be representing more than just his team or his family. He'll be carrying the legacy of Baltimore, a city of joy; a place bursting with energy and delight — and a passion for basketball unlike any other.

"It's a great feeling," Morsell said. "Usually, all the media, all the publicity Baltimore gets is bad stuff ... It's great to promote some positivity out of that city."

BIG TEN TEAM UPDATES

WOMEN

ILLINOIS

The Fighting Illini are losing three of their top scorers from a year ago, with Ali Andrews and Brandi Beasley graduating and Petra Holešinská transferring to UNC. They bring in three freshmen in Aaliyah Nye, Aaliyah McQueen and Erika Porter, but the losses they suffered should outweigh the additions.

INDIANA

Indiana did not bring in any notable high school recruits for the upcoming season, but two transfers should make an impact for the Hoosiers this year. Danielle Patterson, the transfer from Notre Dame, is eligible after sitting out a season, and Nicole Cardano-Hillary transferred in from George Mason. Add in four returning starters and the Hoosiers look to have a good team in 2020-21.

IOWA

Iowa possibly brought in the best recruit in the Big Ten after Angel Reese. Freshman Caitlin Clark was rated as the fourth-best recruit in her class according to ESPN, and she could spearhead the Hawkeyes. The loss of Kathleen Doyle will hurt the Hawkeyes, but Monika Czinano should step up and fill her shoes.

MICHIGAN

The Wolverines return much of their team from a year ago, with two-time All-Big Ten recipient Naz Hillmon leading the way. Michigan also retains Hailey Brown and Amy Dilk while adding ESPN top-100 recruit Cameron Williams and Nebraska transfer Leigha Brown.

MICHIGAN STATE

Taryn McCutcheon's graduation will leave a large hole for the Spartans to fill this season, but the return of Nia Clouden

will help. Michigan State also brings back much of its key depth pieces in Moira Joiner, Kayla Belles and Julia Ayrault, while adding ESPN top-100 recruit Kendall Bostic.

MINNESOTA

Minnesota's biggest loss of the offseason came when star player Destiny Pitts entered the transfer portal and eventually landed at Texas A&M. However, the Gophers return star freshman Jasmine Powell and bring in ESPN top-100 recruit Erin Hedman, but the loss of Pitts will definitely hurt Minnesota.

NEBRASKA

Nebraska lost last season's top scorer as Leigha Brown transferred to inter-conference foe Michigan. Hannah Whitish and Nicea Eliely's graduations leave the Cornhuskers shorthanded; they'll need players such as Sam Haiby and Kate Cain to step up this season.

NORTHWESTERN

Northwestern split the regular season title with Maryland a year ago, and it should be in the conversation again this year. Lindsey Pulliam returns for her senior season, and Veronica Burton should take a big step up this season. The losses of Abi Scheid and Abbie Wolf will hurt the Wildcats, but incoming ESPN top-100 recruit Anna Morris could make an instant impact.

OHIO STATE

The Buckeyes finished sixth in the Big Ten last year and had no major losses in the offseason. They return most key contributors from a year ago, including forward Dorka Juhasz and added ESPN top-100 recruit Kateri Poole.

PENN STATE

Penn State had a rough season last year, finishing 1-17 in conference play. Things got worse for the Nittany Lions when star guard Kamaria McDaniel transferred to Baylor and Siyeh Frazier graduated. There will be high expectations for ESPN top-100 recruit Leilani Kapinus and Wisconsin transfer Niya Beverley, but Penn State has massive holes to fill this year.

PURDUE

Purdue lost two of its leading three scorers, with both Ae'Rianna Harris and Dominique Oden graduating. The Boilermakers return Karissa McLaughlin and added two ESPN top-100 recruits in Madison Layden and Ra'Shaya Kyle, who should help offset those losses.

RUTGERS

The Scarlet Knights return their top two players, Arella Guirantes and Tekia Mack, from their fifth-place team. They also brought in one of the best recruiting classes in the Big Ten, with three ESPN top-100 recruits in Chyna Cornwell, Sakima Walker and top-10 recruit Diamond Johnson.

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin's last season was rough, and the team lost four of its six leading scorers from a year ago, most notably Abby Laszewski and Niya Beverley. However, Imani Lewis and Sydney Hilliard returning is good news to the Badgers, and they are joined by ESPN top-100 recruit Halle Douglass.



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

ILLINOIS

Illinois' biggest roster moves both came in the form of players returning to school. Standouts Ayo Dosunmu and Kofi Cockburn both elected to return to Illinois, making them a team to watch in the Big Ten. Alan Griffin did transfer to Syracuse, but incoming freshman Adam Miller should help alleviate his absence.

INDIANA

Indiana brought in the second-highest-rated recruiting class in the Big Ten, headlined by five-star point guard Khristian Lander, according to 247Sports. The class also notably included four-star wing Jordan Geronimo. The Hoosiers bring back Third Team All-Big Ten recipient Trayce Jackson-Davis, who could wind up being one of the best big men in the country.

IOWA

Iowa returns the crux of its 20-11 squad from last year, including Big Ten Player of the Year, Luka Garza. Garza's return, along with the returns of Joe Wieskamp, CJ Frederick, Joe Toussiant, Patrick and Connor McCaffrey and Jordan Bohannon's return from injury make Iowa one of the best teams in the entire country in 2020-21.

MICHIGAN

The Wolverines welcomed the Big Ten's highest-rated recruiting class according to 247Sports and brought in key transfers to replace leaving players. Despite the losses of Zavier Simpson and Jon Teske, Michigan could be in a better place this season than last. Isaiah Livers, Franz Wagner and Eli Brooks form a good returning trio, and transfers Chuandee Brown and Mike Smith should make a big impact. Add in freshmen Hunter Dickinson, Zeb Jackson and Terrance Williams and Michigan had a productive offseason.

MICHIGAN STATE

The Spartans will have to replace Cassius Winston, one of the best players in school history, and Xavier Tillman Sr., the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year from last season. Aaron Henry, Joshua Langford and Rocket Watts make a solid trio of returning players for the Spartans to build upon. Marquette transfer Joey Hauser is eligible to play this season, and Mady Sissoko and AJ Hoggard were both four-star recruits.

MINNESOTA

Minnesota lost superstar center Daniel Oturu to the NBA Draft, but Marcus Carr should be in the mix for Big Ten Player of the Year, and Gabe Kalscheur offers a steady veteran presence. Minnesota's key offseason addition was Both Gach, a transfer from Utah whom Maryland also heavily recruited.

NEBRASKA

Nebraska lost all three of its top scorers from a year before, both to transfers and graduation, but it did bring in multiple replacements. Most notably, the Cornhuskers brought in Trey McGowens, a transfer from Pitt, who should add immediate impact. The other notable addition is Teddy Allen, who was dismissed from Wichita State in 2019.

NORTHWESTERN

Northwestern had a very light offseason, with Pat Spencer being the only player of note to leave the program. The return of key players such as Miller Kopp, Ryan Young and Boo Buie among others should lead Northwestern to a better season than last.

OHIO STATE

The Buckeyes had a hot start to last season that fizzled out as the season went on, and they had an offseason with a lot of roster turnover. DJ Carton and Luther Muhammed both transferred, Andre Wesson graduated



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

and Kaleb Wesson declared for the NBA Draft. Incoming transfers Seth Towns and Justice Sueing should bolster the roster, along with a few returning key contributors: Duane Washington, CJ Walker and EJ Liddell.

PENN STATE

The Nittany Lions had a very tumultuous offseason, with a head coaching change and the graduation of one of the best players in school history. Pat Chambers spent the last nine seasons as Penn State's head coach, but he resigned this offseason after an investigation into allegations of inappropriate conduct toward players. Lamar Stevens' graduation leaves Penn State in a rough spot this season, with no major impact players coming in.

PURDUE

The Boilermakers return their three leading scorers from a year ago in Trevion Williams, Eric Hunter Jr. and Sasha Stefanovic. However, they lost a lot of key depth pieces to graduation and transfers. Jahaad Proctor and

Evan Boudreaux both graduated while Matt Haarms and Nojel Eastern transferred to BYU and Howard, respectively. True freshmen Jaden Ivey and Ethan Morton should both have an instant impact this season.

RUTGERS

Rutgers was one of the surprise stories in the Big Ten a year ago and should be a key player in the conference again this season. The Scarlet Knights return most of their team from a year ago, headlined by Ron Harper Jr. and Geo Baker, and add four-star center Clifford Omoruyi.

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin surprised much of the country last year by eight straight wins to end the season and claim a share of the Big Ten title. The Badgers return their key contributors from the title team in Brad Davison, D'Mitrik Trice, Nate Reuvers, Aleem Ford and Micah Potter. They also added four-star freshman Ben Carlson.

LOOKING FORWARD

WOMEN



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

As confetti billowed around Bankers Life Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on March 8, all coach Brenda Frese could do was smile: Maryland women's basketball had secured its Big Ten title, the program's first in three seasons.

For a program of Maryland's prowess, three years is an eternity. And even in the midst of those frenzied celebrations, that sense of relief was tangible.

"I'm glad we finally won it," then-senior Kaila Charles said. "I've been here four years and we lost the last two, and it hurt."

Expectations are heightened in College Park. And while the Terps are expected to compete atop the Big Ten this season, Frese and her staff are working to ensure Maryland's recruiting pipeline continues to pay dividends in 2021 and 2022.

Frese's squad has already secured high-profile commitments in its 2021 class. Four-star guard Shyanne Sellers announced her intention to join the Terps back in April. The No. 22 prospect in her class, per ESPN, the 6-foot Sellers looks poised to bring length and versatility to a Maryland backcourt

already teeming with talent.

The Terps are also slated to bring in vaunted Swiss prospect Emma Chardon, who committed in June. Chardon, a 6-foot-3 forward from Geneva, she has impressed at Geneve Basket in Switzerland's SB League, notching 11.8 points and 7.9 rebounds per game on 65.5 percent shooting last season.

Chardon has also excelled at the international level, dominating the FIBA's U16 Women's European Championship two years ago. Chardon averaged 18.4 points and 11.3 rebounds per game in the tournament, including a 30-point, 12-rebound display against Kosovo and a 25-point, 14-rebound showing against Romania.

Meanwhile, Frese's 2022 class is coming together, albeit at a slower pace. In July, Mila Reynolds pledged to join the program — Maryland's first 2022 piece. Reynolds, a 6-foot-2 guard, is the No. 32 player in her class, per ESPN. And while Reynolds has some ways to go before making her bow for the Terps, her commitment serves as another reminder of Frese's dedication to bringing long, dynamic tal-

ents to College Park.

As well as bringing young stars into Maryland, Frese has helped turn top college players into bona fide WNBA talent over the course of her nearly 20-year career with the Terps.

Charles was the latest Maryland star to make the leap — the Connecticut Sun selected her with the No. 23 pick in this summer's WNBA draft. She joined the likes of Kristi Toliver, Alyssa Thomas and Brionna Jones as former Terps who have made their presence felt in the pros.

Maryland will look to keep that tradition alive. Chloe Bibby, a 6-foot-1 forward who recently transferred from Mississippi State, impressed during her three seasons in Starkville. As a sophomore, Bibby notched 11.9 points and 4.1 rebounds in 18 games before a knee injury derailed her season.

And while her scoring dropped as a junior, the Warracknabeal, Australia, native still finished the season with 173 rebounds, the second-most rebounds of the Bulldogs.

Further down the line, both Angel Reese and Ashley Owusu could make waves as potential WNBA prospects. Owusu impressed as a freshman, capturing the Big Ten tournament's Most Outstanding Player honor. As for Reese, the Baltimore-based forward/guard was ranked the No. 2 prospect in the country by ESPN.

Regardless, the pipeline that has served Maryland so well during Frese's tenure is continuing to churn out highly rated recruits. The program looks set to continue competing at the upper echelon of college basketball — a place it has occupied for much of the past 20 years.

And for Frese and the Terps, that's certainly something to smile about.



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

With the departures of Anthony Cowan and Jalen Smith, Maryland men's basketball finds itself with two crater-sized voids to fill in its lineup.

It's proven to be difficult to shore up those positions — point guard and forward — in one offseason. While head coach Mark Turgeon has brought in a handful of fresh faces via recruiting and the transfer portal, growing pains are likely, if not expected, as the Terps look to adjust to losing stalwarts like Cowan and Smith.

However, with talented recruits poised to join Turgeon's squad in 2021 and 2022, the Terps are hopeful that these growing pains will be short-lived as they aim to replicate their recent success.

It all starts with Julian Reese, a 6-foot-9 forward from St. Frances Academy in Baltimore. The No. 83 ranked player in his class per 247Sports, the four-star will be a helpful addition when he joins the team in 2021, projecting to potentially slot alongside Boston College transfer Jairus Hamilton in the frontcourt.

James Graham, another four-star recruit, will join Reese in Maryland's 2021 class. He brings size from the wing, standing at 6-foot-8. He caught the eye of numerous programs, receiving offers from Iowa, Michigan State and Wisconsin, but announced his commitment to the Terps in August.

Rounding out Turgeon's 2021 crop is another four-star prospect, Ike Cornish. The 6-foot-6 guard is the No. 103 player in the nation according to 247Sports. He averaged 13.3 points and 3.6 rebounds per game as a junior at Legacy Early College



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

in Greenville, South Carolina. Cornish received scholarship offers from Georgetown, Xavier and Virginia Tech.

The trio of four-star recruits serves as a vast improvement from Maryland's thin 2020 class and reflects a return to normalcy for Turgeon, whose tenure in College Park has featured a number of high-profile classes, including the ones that brought in Cowan and Smith. The class currently ranks No. 19 in the country.

The future also looks bright for Turgeon's 2022 class, which will welcome four-star guard Paul Lewis. Already a standout at Bishop O'Connell High School in Arlington, Virginia — Melo Trimble's alma mater — Lewis received an offer from Villanova, among others. While it'll be hard to match Trimble's production in College Park, Lewis looks poised to make an instant impact for the Terps come 2022.

While these reflect promise for the future of Maryland men's basketball, the Terps will need current players to stay competitive in a difficult Big Ten slate. Junior Aaron Wiggins may be shouldering that burden, as he has the skill set and scoring chops to make himself a bona fide NBA prospect — especially given his suspected expanded role in the offense.

The biggest key to Wiggins' hopes will be dialing in his biggest strength: three-point shooting. As a sophomore, his field goal percentage dropped 10 points, to a modest 31 percent from behind the arch. Maryland will rely more heavily on Wiggins to create his own shots this year, and will need him to knock down shots from behind the arc. He also showed promising athleticism when driving to the rim last season. The Terps need a big season from him to compete, and he needs to improve for a chance to leave school a year early for the NBA.

MEN

