

NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Liz Wainger for David M. Schwarz Architects (301) 340-6831 / (301) 461-3780 liz@waingergroup.com

## AS ORIOLES' EXHIBITION SEASON OPENS, WASHINGTON'S DAVID M. SCHWARZ ARCHITECTS CELEBRATED FOR LANDMARK DESIGN OF TEAM'S FLORIDA FACILITIES

(Washington, D.C.—March 1, 2011) As the Baltimore Orioles open their 2011 exhibition season, the team's newly renovated Florida home, which was designed and redeveloped by the Washington, DC firm of <u>David M. Schwarz Architects</u>, is scoring a home run. The "new" <u>Ed Smith Stadium</u> is already winning recognition as a landmark that "just may be the finest spring-training facility\*" in Florida.





THEN

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Based in the nation's capital, David M. Schwarz Architects (DMSAS) is best known for an award-winning portfolio of such diverse projects as the Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Performance Hall in Fort Worth, Southlake Town Hall, in Southlake, TX, Yale Environmental Science Center in New Haven, American Airlines Center in Dallas, Disney's Wide World of Sports in Lake Buena Vista, FL, and Texas Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, TX.

The renovated Orioles' facilities pay homage to Florida's distinctive architectural heritage, from the Mediterranean revivalist roots of the stadium to the training facilities that reference Sarasota's modernist traditions. In one of the most distinctive features created by DMSAS, as many as 9,000 fans—up from the old park's capacity of 6,500—will be welcomed on game day through a home plate entrance that opens on a stunning panorama of the diamond.

"There was a very deliberate goal on the part of the architects to make certain that it had an

image that was worthy of the kind of sophisticated, cultural architecture that is representative of Sarasota's civic buildings," says Janet Marie Smith, the Orioles' vice president of planning and development.

"We pride ourselves on creating places that people love. We wanted to deliver a design that is welcoming and makes for an exciting and comfortable experience. We responded to the Oriole's and their fans' desire for better amenities, more seats closer to the field and a comfortable environment with lots of shade," said Michael Swartz, Principal and Project Manager at David M. Schwarz Architects.

The program, which put between 130 and 150 workers on the construction site daily since last June, has produced a new two-level concourse with amenities including luxury suites, specialty concessions, landscaped berms and picnic areas. The rebuilt training facilities incorporate 15,000 square feet of additions and 46,000 square feet of renovations for the park's two clubhouses, eight practice fields, and newly enclosed batting tunnels.

David M. Schwarz Architects collaborated with the architect of record, Sarasota-based Hoyt Architects on the project.

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