

Service Project

BY ELI DILLARD

What: BCF Tennis Challenge, December 8 and 9, 2009.

Do Your Bidding: Held at The Tremont Grand the night before Pam Shriver's annual celebrity tennis tournament, the "Let it Rip" Reception and Auction featured silent and live auctions boasting more than 50 prizes ranging from "Wimbledon VIP" (a three-night stay at the tournament and center court seats) to "Ace of Cakes" (a personalized cake from the shop). Entertainment was provided by the Bryan Brothers, who, in addition to being the world's number one men's doubles team, also play in their own band.

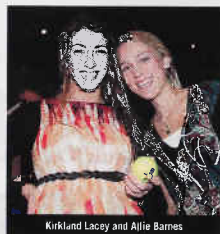
Full Court: The next day's celebrity matches saw tennis champs Lindsey Davenport, John McEnroe, and Melanie Oudin mix it up with Orioles Jeremy Guthrie and Brad Bergensen in light-hearted competition. Proceeds benefit the Baltimore Community Foundation, the third largest grantmaker among Maryland's charitable foundations.



Melanie Oudin and John McEnroe



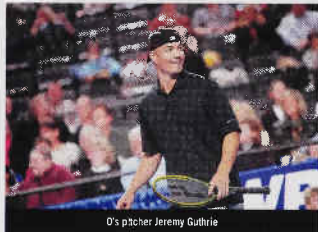
Pam Shriver, Margot Shriver, Margie Busko, and Lisa Busko Johnson



Kirkland Lacey and Allie Barnes



Shannon Boswell and Cory Waller scope out auction items



O's pitcher Jeremy Guthrie



The Bryan Bros. band with Mike on drums and Bob on keyboards



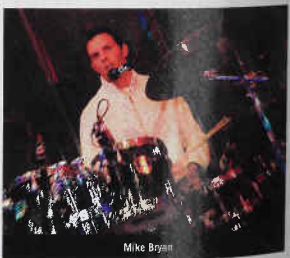
John Isner poses with a fan



Meghann and Brian Malene



John McEnroe signs autographs for fans



Mike Bryan

Diamonds and Divas

BY AMY MULVIHILL

What: Renée Fleming at The Lyric Opera House, Thursday, December 17, 2009.

The Soprano: The famed diva performed an engaging set of arias, pausing to give the audience background about the composer, the opera from which the piece was taken, and the lyrics, which, she wryly noted, often deal with women who are either "very, very good or very, very bad."

Diamonds Are An Opera House's Best Friend: Fleming's performance was buttressed by receptions for major donors, one of which included a silent auction for an 18-karat white gold and diamond pendant necklace donated by Nelson Coleman Jewelers and Hearts on Fire. Proceeds from the evening will go toward future opera programming at the Lyric and educational programs.



Elizabeth Buck, Renée Fleming, and Winston Haythe



18-karat white gold and diamond pendant



Barbara Brody, Dr. Cindy Jones, and Dr. Jesse Harris



Patricia and Art Modell

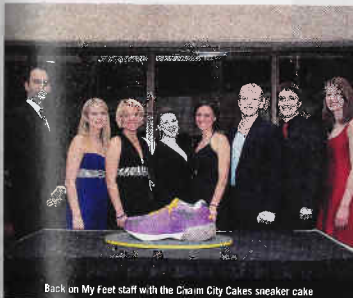
A Running Start

BY JOHANNA ANDERSON

What: Inaugural Back on My Feet Baltimore Bash, Thursday, December 10, 2009.

Setting the Pace: The dress code for the running club's fundraiser was cocktail attire and casual kicks, meaning the 250 attendees wore sneakers with their classy couture. Duff Goldman of Charm City Cakes donated a sneaker-shaped cake, presented as cameras rolled on an episode of *Ace of Cakes*. Founder and President Anne Mahlum honored supporters with awards and an emotional speech, after which partygoers danced to music by JD the DJ.

Significant Strides: The Bash raised around \$20,000 for Back on My Feet, which builds confidence among the homeless through its running program. Guests mingled with BOMF volunteers and residential members from the Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training and Baltimore's Helping Up Mission.



Back on My Feet staff with the Charm City Cakes sneaker cake



Robert Aulich, Michael Williams, and George Hall



Jackie Truncelitto and Joshua Wiago



Paola Cerrato with Kristie and Dan Durr