Sun shines on gloomy Baltimore opening

MR. PRESIDENT: Starts game and bad luck

ALL TURNED OUT: handicapped helped swell record crowd of 52,292 on ideal day

AFRO photos by Keith Godbolt

ACTION: Wiggins' tag just missed pickoff of Tribe's Franco

LOVERS: When team's losing, may as well do a little smooching

NON-ACTION: O's reserve pitchers boring 6-4 inaugural loss

RARE MOMENT: Brief Oriole rally is cause for celebration

BUDDIES: Not the happiest day out of school

But later joy arrived in Birdland

The Orioles fell short in their effort to overtake the early lead built by the Indians on opening day, succumbing 6-4 on a brilliant afternoon with a record-breaking crowd of 52,292 in the stands.

But there was some belated consolation 48 hours later when the hometeam rallied for a 4-3 victory and brought sheer joy to Birdland.

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And while there were fewer than 14,000 in hand in Wednesday's cold and miserable day, jubilation spilled out from the stadium to embrace the entire city.

Jubilation that was triggered by the dramatic fashion in which Juan Bonilla's 2-out double scored two teammates to erase a 3-2 Cleveland lead.

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Tonight (Friday) the Birds begin a six-game road trip in Arlington, Texas, opposing the Rangers through the weekend.

AND ANOTHER: But dame enjoys the cameraman more than the game