



THE BOYS' LATIN SCHOOL OF MARYLAND

this week at 



December 17, 2012

Pride & Tradition: J. Mather Wallis, Carey School for Boys graduate

Mather Wallis was born in New Orleans in 1852. Shortly after the Civil War he came to Baltimore to live with his uncle, **Severn Teackle Wallis**. His uncle (statue of S. Teackle Wallis stands in Baltimore's Mt. Vernon Place) was a wealthy businessman in Baltimore and insisted that his nephew go to the Carey School for Boys (Boys' Latin) headed by his friend George Gibson Carey.

After graduating from the Carey School he headed north to Stevens Institute in Hoboken, NJ, where he eventually graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering.

With his degree in hand he began his career as a fireman with the Pennsylvania Railroad. Having studied railroad locomotives in college, he was assigned to the company's division that manufactured train engines. Because of his love of train locomotives he decided he could put his talents to best use if he became an engineer to study for the company what we call today "best practices."

It was while he was an engineer that he put his inventive faculties to use. He noticed how the troughs that supplied the steam engines with water were always getting clogged with falling leaves and debris. Wallis invented a device which separated the leaves from the water as it was being sucked up by the engine. This device caught on and became part of the entire Pennsylvania Railroad system going forward.

Mather Wallis won praise from friends and railroad experts throughout the country. He was frequently promoted and spent some years back in Baltimore as a superintendent for the Pennsylvania Railroad. He retired in 1904 as the superintendent of motor power and continued to consult with the railroad maintaining an office in New York City.

He died at his home in East Orange, N.J., on April 4, 1912 after a short illness. He was just 60 years old.

Mather Wallis' nephew **Wallis Giffen**, graduated from Boys' Latin in 1904.

2012-2013 Annual Fund



Need a good reason why you might want to donate to BL's Annual Fund **BEFORE 12/31/2012?** Besides for 2012 tax purposes, here are just a few other reasons:

Fred Hahn, Okey O'Connor, William Morris, William Cooper, Pat Canavan, Jack Williams '38, Otis Read '55, Doris Regan, Brad Bradford, Marshall Bruce, Frank Chubb, Bill Harper, Pat O'Brien '65, Brad Bradford, Diane Lusby, Steve Early, Fernando Hidalgo, and Tom Kotras.

Gifts of every size mean everything!

BL Athletics

The 38th Laker Invitational Basketball Tournament (LIT) will take place **THIS WEEKEND** Friday, December 21 through Sunday, December 23, 2012. The teams participating this year will be Boys' Latin School, Severn School from Annapolis, The Avalon School from Gaithersburg, St. John's Catholic Prep from Frederick, Coppin Academy from Baltimore, St. Stephens and St. Agnes School from Alexandria, VA, Heritage Christian Academy from Prince George's County and Connexions School for the Arts.

The first game will take place on Friday at 3:00 between BL and Severn with three games to follow. The semi-finals and losers-bracket games will begin on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. with the runner-up game being played on Sunday at 12:00 noon and the championship game tip-off at 2:00 p.m.

Admission is \$3 per adult with everyone 18 and under admitted free of charge.

The LIT, created by former head coach **Hugh Gelston '56**, began play in 1971. In the first tournament Boys' Latin defeated Park School in the title game 78-53. Eight schools competed in the initial LIT sponsored by the Bata Shoe Company.

Todd Guntner '72 and **Scooter Dorney '72** were both named to the first LIT All-Tournament team.

Alumni Basketball Game



On January 11th at 5:30 the Alumni “Even” team will again take on the Alumni “Odd” team in the Annual Alumni basketball game. After the game, sandwiches will be served in the Gaines Room prior to the varsity basketball team taking on the Archbishop Curley Friars.

Mark your calendars and come out and play or to just cheer on the Alumni hoopsters!

Please let me know if you would like to play in the game!

110 Years Ago

The American League professional baseball team Baltimore Orioles left the city after only two years of play and moved to New York. The team became the New York Highlanders, now known as the New York Yankees. The ball park where the Orioles played, American League Park, was put into receivership and sold to longtime National League Baltimore Orioles manager Ned Hanlon. (The National League Orioles stopped play after the 1899 season. The American League Orioles began play in 1901.) The lawyer in charge of the sale of the ball park was John L. V. Murphy, father of **John Murphy '32**, **Brian F. Murphy '33**, and **Basil Murphy '37** and grandfather of **John Murphy '70** and **Kevin Murphy '73**.

The goal according to a January 2, 1903 *New York Times* article, was to have Hanlon put together a proposal to negotiate with the National League with hopes that the league would expand to Baltimore or agree to shift the Brooklyn team to Baltimore. The Brooklyn team never did come to Baltimore but stayed to become the Dodgers – now playing in Los Angeles.

80 Years Ago

On December 2, 1932 Boys' Latin opened its basketball campaign with a 30-15 victory over Annapolis High School. **Downman McCarty '33** led all scorers with 12 points. BL followed with two more wins over Franklin Day School and Tome School of Port Deposit. The three game winning streak was halted when Gilman beat the Latinists 28-17. BL was without its leading scorer McCarty in the Gilman loss and was never in the lead. **Jack Kelly '33** stepped in for McCarty at center and led the team in scoring with 8 points.

Many from the Class of 1932 were back home visiting the school on Brevard Street after completing their first term in college. The class of 1932 had thirteen graduates in the class. Four were attending Johns Hopkins University, two were at Dickinson College, two were attending Yale University, two attending St. John's College in Annapolis, and one each at Haverford College, University of Maryland, and Dartmouth College.

30 Years Ago

Hugh Gelston's varsity basketball team got off to a fast start. The Lakers won the opening game of the '82-'83 campaign over Pompeii 101-23. **Clay Opara '83** led the win with 21 points followed by **Ken Greco '84** with 14. **Mark Sterling '85** and **Mark Hunt '83** each chipped in with 12 points each.

A few days later the Lakers ran their record to 2-0 with a win over Arlington Baptist. BL ended Arlington Baptist's 54-game winning streak with a 53-50 win. Opara and **Kevin McCloskey '84** led the Maroon and White with a combined 31 points.

25 Years Ago

Jeff Ulehla '88 finished his brilliant BL soccer career. In his four years playing soccer, he was a champion all four seasons – one as a JV player and three on the varsity team. In 1987 Jeff broke the school's single-season scoring record with 29 goals and seven assists. His three year varsity totals were 49 goals and 17 assists.

At the conclusion of the 1987 soccer season, Jeff was named to *The Baltimore Sun's* All-Metro Soccer First Team.

