



THE BOYS' LATIN SCHOOL OF MARYLAND

this week at 

### Pride & Tradition: Howard R. Simpson '44



**Howard Simpson '44**, father of **John '69** and **David '73**, passed away last Thursday after a long illness. He was 83.

Howard was born in Newark, New Jersey and moved to Baltimore in 1936. His father, Howard E. Simpson, was President of the old B&O railroad here in Baltimore. Howard first arrived at BLS as a sophomore in 1941 after completing the 9th grade at Roland Park Public School on Roland Avenue. He was well liked by his classmates winning "most versatile," "most responsible," and "most studious" in the class of 1944 poll published in the *Maroon and White* and was elected President of his Senior Class for the 1943-1944 academic year. Howard was an excellent student and ranked number one in his class' language courses. He studied Latin (97 average,) French (95 average,) and German (97

average.) In English under **Mr. William Morris**, Howard consistently scored in the low 90s. He was also a member of the varsity basketball and lacrosse teams winning a letter in each sport his senior year.

After graduating from BL Howard enrolled at Williams College in Massachusetts but he left after his first semester freshman year and enlisted in the Army. He was sent to post-war Germany, and because of his German language skills, he was assigned the task of interviewing German soldiers to determine their suitability to work for the American occupation. After his service in the military he returned to Williams and graduated in 1950.

He had a 50 year career in the securities bond business - the last years with Baker, Watts, & Company here in Baltimore. Howard had a life-long interest in railroads and enjoyed riding trains in the U.S. and Europe.

In 2004 he was honored with the Boys' Latin Distinguished Alumnus Award. He was a member of BL's Esse Quam Videri Society - including Boys' Latin in his estate planning - and served two terms as a member of the BL Board of Trustees.

Boys' Latin School has lost one of its best friends. Howard loved BL and BL loved him back. He will be greatly missed. **Sam Thomas '73** a friend of **David Simpson '73** wrote about Howard: "He was not only a gentleman but a kind and caring father to his children and to their friends. He always wanted to know how you were doing and what you were doing. He has left all of us better for having known him!" **John Bacot '69** a friend of **John Simpson '69** wrote: "An outstanding individual, alumnus, father, and friend who has set a bar for us all to aspire to, but will definitely be hard to surpass, has been lost. He contributed significantly to all of our lives, if not directly, then certainly indirectly, and most significantly in abundance to BL, and he was a rock for his family as well. Not only will he be missed, he will be forever remembered by all those who knew him and knew of him."

At his request there will be no services. The family suggests contributions in his name to Gilchrist Center for Hospice Care, 11311 McCormick Rd., Suite 350, Hunt Valley, MD 21031, or the Boys Latin School, 822 W. Lake Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210.

BL sends its deepest sympathies to everyone in the Simpson family.

## **Alumni Soccer Game 2010**



The Alumni Soccer Game against the BL Varsity soccer team will take place on Saturday, August 21st at 10:00. **Butch Maisel H'09** will again lead the alumni squad. The series is tied at two games apiece with last year's game won by the Laker Varsity 5-3. **Please let me know if you are interested in playing in this year's game asap.** Lunch will again be provided by longtime BL supporter **Jim Hense**.

## Boys' Latin Athletics

**Don Rickels'** varsity soccer team started practice last week. The Lakers will have two home scrimmages - Thursday, August 19 versus McDonogh at 10:00 a.m. and Saturday, August 21st against the Alumni at 10:00 a.m. The season opener will be against Towson High School on August 31st at BL at 4:00 p.m. with MIAA "B" Conference league action starting with an away game against Severn on September 7th. Coach Rickels will have a solid core of returning starters including goalkeeper **Zach Davis '11**, **Anthony Rose '12**, **Wells Stanwick '11**, **Andrew Dempsey '11**, **Trevor Kiddy '11**, **Jimmy Peacock '12** and **Jake Sachse '13**.

For all athletic scheduling please go to [BL Athletic Schedule](#).

## Homecoming 2011

Homecoming 2011 will take place the weekend of **April 29th and 30th**. The Homecoming luncheon on Friday the 29th will be followed by a varsity lacrosse game be against MIAA rival St. Mary's of Annapolis. At the luncheon BL will recognize and honor all of the school's valedictorians from the past. We hope to have a great crowd. .

The x1 and x6 graduating classes will be celebrating their reunion years. The Brevard Street Alumni will once again have a reception dinner in the Alumni House on April 30th, 2011. Mark your calendars for the entire weekend.

The 2010-2011 academic year will be a special one as Boys' Latin celebrates its 50th Anniversary on Lake Avenue. Stay tuned!

## Alumni Notes

**Jay Brown '78** writes: Boys' Latin was an enormous changer for me - I came out of a public school background (never really fit there). Three people changed my live outlook when I arrived at BL - Jack Williams, who will forever be a hero of mine, Frank Chubb - a great teacher and a gentleman's gentleman, and J. Marshall Bruce - who fed my love of words. A lot of seniors and juniors took his vocabulary course because it was said to be a helper on SAT scores. I took the course because I LOVE to read; so did Mr. Bruce. I remember walking the hallways once, a copy of a J. D. Salinger book in hand. Mr Bruce inquired - "Mr. Brown - how do you like that book you're reading there, are you enjoying it..?"

My reply, "Titillated Sir." Mr Bruce, with a somewhat disappointed look on his face said, "Merely titillated"? My reply: "Deliciously so sir." He replied not in word, but with that peculiarly wonderful Mr Bruce half smirk, half smile, and that twinkle in his eye.

He was uniquely wonderful. He once one heck of an instructor. Those who had the fortune to pass his way at BL were witness to a real treat.

Rest in peace Mr. Bruce....rest in peace Sir.

## 85 Years Ago

The BL football team under the leadership of coach **Andy Kirkpatrick** was getting ready for the coming season and included the following returning lettermen: team captain **William Swope '26, Leo McCormick '26, Brunt Riepe '26, William Robins '26, Stuart Woodward '26, Richard Lee '26, Robert Dobbin '28, and Ralph Procter '27**. The fullback Riepe was to be heavily counted upon and was to be the catalyst for the Latinist's offense.

Coach Kirkpatrick left BL after the season and began a long time career as a lacrosse coach and official. He was also a sports columnist for the *Baltimore Sunday American* for 20 years. A graduate of St. John's College in Annapolis, he was inducted into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 1958.

## 75 Years Ago

Boys' Latin School was gearing up for another season of football. The schedule was set with games against School of Printing, Franklin Day School, Friends, Charlotte Hall, Gilman, St. Alban's, and St. Paul's. During the 1935 football season, coach **Okey O'Connor** was also experimenting with six-man football. Okey knew how the game was expanding in the mid-west high schools with small rural populations and he told the *Baltimore Sun* he was going to play the game with his intra-mural program. *The Sun* reported that BL would be the first school in the east to give six-man football a try. Franklin Day School accepted Okey's request to play a demonstration game between the halves of the varsity BL-Franklin Day game at Mt. Washington.

## 70 Years Ago

**A. Mason "Mace" LeBrun '33** was hired as a full time athletic instructor at Boys' Latin. Since 1934, Mace had served as a part-time coach and gym instructor. Mace worked at BL full time from 1940 until 1978.

## 50 Years Ago

Boys' Latin School, with its new location on Lake Avenue, announced that **Claxton J. "Okey" O'Connor**, who spent 30 years as the school's athletic director, had resigned from the position and that **A. Mason "Mace" LeBrun '33** would become the new A.D. *The Baltimore Sun* also reported that eleven-man football would replace the six-man version with **Robert Godfrey**, a recent graduate of The Citadel, at the coaching helm. Godfrey was from Detroit and had played football for The Citadel. He would also be teaching in the BL Lower School.

*The Sun* wrote that O'Connor had severed all connections with the school. Reached at his summer home in Vermont, "Okey" squelched the rumor that he was going to coach lacrosse at Lower Merion School in Philadelphia and that he had no definite immediate plans.

New Headmaster **Bill Cooper** told *The Sun*, "We will have eleven-man football this fall but have no schedule yet. We hope to arrange for some practice games and scrimmages, but that will probably be it for this season. We plan to have our first full schedule next year.....There are no immediate plans for additions to the existing program. We do plan, however, to set up an extensive intra-mural program, and also a youth fitness program in accordance with Operation Fitness U.S.A., sponsored by President Eisenhower.....In lacrosse, though, we hope we can play on our own property. We hope to have two full athletic fields ready by this spring. There is space for three."

For the 1960-1961 academic year BL was expecting to have an enrollment of over 200 students with 80 in the upper school grades.

## 40 Years Ago



Headmaster **Jack Williams '38** spoke to the school's Parents Association:  
[mail.google.com/a/boyslatinmd.com/?...](mailto:mail.google.com/a/boyslatinmd.com/?...)

"I like to believe that despite numerous innovations and changes in recent years, including the relocation of the School, and its expansion to over twice its previous size, we have held fast to its basic purpose and values. These I take to be a concern for the individual student and his development of self-worth.....I have no doubt that in my case at least, the old School achieved this purpose. I well remember my strong sense of identification with that institution and with the men on its faculty. As a student at that school, there was never any question in my mind that I was valued, that my opinions counted, and my actions in the classroom and on the athletic field, or just generally in the life of the School, could produce desirable results. Whether this sense of security has also produced a self-knowledge I am unable to judge, but the opportunity was certainly given me by my School."



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