



THE BOYS' LATIN SCHOOL OF MARYLAND

this week at 



March 19, 2012

Pride & Tradition: Christopher McNair Speed, Class of 1914

C. McNair Speed '14 was born in Baltimore on July 28, 1896. Known as “Mac”, he was just 12 years old when he entered BLS as a seventh grade student (Form II) in the fall of 1908. He was an excellent student usually ranked in the top five in each of his classes. Mac didn't shy away from the tough course taking Latin, French, German, and Physics. According to the transcript there is one dubious distinction on Mac Speed's record: during the spring term of his senior year he was late for school 52 times.

By the time he graduated in 1914, Mac Speed was ranked in the top three in his class and was named as honorable mention “head boy” of the class at the June 1914 Commencement Exercises.

Mac Speed also excelled on the athletic field. Mac was a running back and quarterback for the Latinists' football team for three years from 1911-1913. During that three year run BL's team were nearly invincible winning Baltimore Prep School championships in 1911 and 1912 and losing to Gilman 14-7 in the 1913 title game.

In 1911 the team went 7-0 outscoring its opponents 147-0. In 1912 the team again went undefeated with a 7-0 record and outscored its opponents 272-6 including an 82-0 win over Gilman. Mac Speed was named second team All-Maryland at quarterback. His teammate and brother **Will Speed '15** was named first team All-Maryland at end. Speed also lettered in baseball - BL's only other interscholastic sport at the time. According to *The Baltimore Sun* Speed “was known as a clean, hard player and a thorough sportsman, both in football and in other athletic events.”

After graduating from BLS, Mac Speed headed north to attend Cornell University. During his second year in Ithaca Mac earned a spot on the Big Red football team.

The United States entered World War I in April of 1917 and during the summer of that year while home on vacation from school, Mac Speed entered the Navy Air Service and began training in Pensacola,

Florida. He was commissioned an Ensign and assigned to the naval air forces in Scotland. Prior to engaging in the fighting in France Mac Speed returned to Baltimore on leave in the best of health. While traveling home to Baltimore he attracted influenza, which developed into a severe case of pneumonia.

Ensign C. McNair Speed died from complications of pneumonia in early January 1919, while still serving in the United States Navy. He was just 22 years old. Mac was survived by two other brothers who attended Boys' Latin: **Harold Speed '16** and **Lee Speed '21**. His cousin **Robert Speed '14** was also a graduate of BLS.

Mac Speed was buried at Woodlawn Cemetery near his home on Clifton Avenue in west Baltimore. He was buried with full military honors. According to *The Baltimore Sun* there was a rifle salute at his funeral while "navy planes flew low overhead dropping clusters of American Beauty roses with many of them falling on the coffin itself."

C. McNair "Mac" Speed is also honored for his service to his country on a plaque in front of BL's Alumni House.

Homecoming 2012



Homecoming 2012 is set for May 4th and 5th. The Reunion years of x2 and x7 will have their reunion get-togethers that weekend. This year we are also having Parents of the Classes of 2002 and 2007 Reunion.

Here is a breakdown of festivities:

Friday May 4th

11:30 - Alumni Luncheon in the Alumni House – 2012 Distinguished Alumni will be **Brooke P. Cottman '48**, **Otis B. Read '55**, and **David W. Meese '55**; Hodges Cup for dedication to BL – **Duff Hughes '76**; the Jack Kerns "Clearly Evident" Award to **Jimmy Currie '73**; Honorary Alumni – longtime teacher **Ab Logan** and past BL Trustee **Warner Mason**

To register to attend the luncheon please RSVP to mkennedy@boyslatinmd.com

4:00 - Varsity lacrosse game against Gilman – J. Duncan Smith Field
5:30 – Alumni Cocktail party in the Alumni House

Saturday May 5th

6:00 Homecoming Gathering in the Alumni House to honor **Dyson Ehrhardt's** 50 years of service to BL

There are LOTS of reasons for coming to honor Dyson...pick your best one!

All Alumni and friends are invited to attend. To make reservations for Saturday night's affair go to www.boyslatinmd.com and click on the "Dyson" Homecoming icon under "Quick Links."

BL Annual Golf Outing

The Boys' Latin Golf Outing is scheduled for Friday, April 27th at the Elkridge Golf Course – just blocks from BL on North Charles Street. Once again the event will start in the morning and after golf lunch will be served. The cost will remain the same as last year - id="mce_marker"50 per golfer (\$600 per foursome.)

We are also hoping that members of the BL family will consider helping the tournament by sponsoring a hole. The cost is id="mce_marker"50 per hole sponsor.

Please make checks out to the BL Alumni Association along with the names of your foursome.

Mark your calendars and spread the word. The golf outing is open to everyone in the BL family!

All net proceeds of the BL Annual Golf Outing go to the Boys' Latin Alumni Association scholarship fund.

BL Night at Oriole Park at Camden Yards



The BL Alumni Association and the BL Parents' Association are sponsoring a night at the ballpark to see the Orioles play the Boston Red Sox. The date is Monday, May 21st at 7:05. The seating will be in an upper reserve section of the stadium and tickets that normally sell for \$27 will be on sale to the BL community for just id="mce_marker"5. Boys' Latin will receive \$5 for each ticket sold.

Let's turn a section of the stadium maroon and white root on the home team!

Tickets may be purchased now. Please send in your money to my attention here at BL asap and make checks out to the BL Alumni Association. This is open to EVERYONE in the BL family!

Boys' Latin Athletics

The baseball season opened the season last week. The varsity Lakers played a talented Pallotti team and lost 3-1. **Mike Gillespie '12** pitched most of the game giving up just 4 hits while striking out five. The Panthers also defeated MIAA "A" Conference power Loyola Blakefield 5-4. On Wednesday BL lost to John Carroll, another "A" Conference team, by a score of 10-1.

The Lakers left on Thursday for a trip to Florida.

The lacrosse Lakers traveled to Philadelphia to play Penn Charter School. The Quakers were coming off an earlier 8-7 loss to Baltimore's Loyola-Blakefield and were eager to take out their revenge on the MIAA and defeat BL. Boys' Latin outscored their hosts 5-2 in the third quarter to break a 3-3 halftime tie but Penn Charter fought back to tie the game at the end of regulation. Laker Midfielder **Michael Lynch '13** ended the game just over a minute into OT when he rifled an unassisted shot into the enemy's goal to give the Lakers the 9-8 victory. Lynch finished the day with 3 goals. **Tally Bruno '13** scored 2 goals and **Colin Heacock '13** handed out 3 assists.

The Lakers left yesterday for their spring trip to Florida.

The Laker lacrosse schedule can be found at www.highschoolsports.net/team/Boys-Latin-School-Baltimore-MD/Lacrosse/Varsity/Boys

75 Years Ago

The Boys' Latin lacrosse team scored all of its goals in the first half and defeated the BL Alumni 4-3 at Mt. Washington. **Joe King '37** led the winners with 2 goals. **Jack Williams '38** and **Everard Larned '37** each added single tallies. **Joe Galloway '34** of St. John's College led the alumni with two goals. The alumni team did not have many substitutes. Other graduates who played in the game were **Ferdie Passano '36**, **Bill Vickers '35**, **Harry Primrose '35**, **Dick Green '36**, **Littleton Johnson '34**, **Oscar Nevares '36**, **Rogers Bartlett '31**, **Page Edmonds '34**, and **George Gelston '31**.

65 Years Ago

"Often the bridesmaid, never a bride" best described the lacrosse situation at BL in the spring of 1947. Since winning the championship in 1934 the Latinist stickmen usually finished in second or third place every year. In 1947 head coach **Okey O'Connor** envisioned a chance to break the 7-year dominance of St. Paul's. The two Maryland Scholastic Association (MSA) divisions were shifted slightly with Gilman and St. Paul's now pitted against each other in Division I along with McDonogh, Severn, Forest Park and new member Southern High School. BL's Division II opponents were Poly, Mount St. Joe, City, Park, and Friends.

BL had the four “Dons” returning from the second place '46 team: **Hahn '47, Stegman '47, Linville '47,** and **Clausen '47,** along with **K.C. Miller '48, Bill Crane '47, Bill Miller '47,** and **Pat Walker '47.** Walker was a tough and gritty player who in the fall awards ceremony won the 6-man team tackling award. In addition, **Joe Sollers '47** returned for his senior year after completing his services in the Navy. **Dave Senft '47** also was back in Baltimore from the service and a member of the team. Senft, prior to the war had a few years of experience at Poly.

It was written by a young John Steadman of *The Baltimore News Post* that BL was a team to watch. Steadman wrote that O'Connor was not willing to admit how good this team was. “We play our first game Friday with Sparrows Point. We will know more about the team’s chances when we can watch them under fire”, Steadman quoted O'Connor as saying.

50 Years Ago



Fifty years ago in May, **Dyson Ehrhardt '59** was completing his first year as the assistant coach with the BL varsity lacrosse team. The number one song on the pop charts at the time was “Soldier Boy” by the Shirelles.

40 Years Ago

In the spring of 1972 Boys' Latin was touted by many as one of the teams to beat in the MSA “A” Conference but the Laker head coach **Mace LeBrun '33** wasn't interested in talking title prior to the season. “Apparently a lot of people are more optimistic than I am.” Mace told *The Baltimore Sun*. “I lost my whole defense and am experimenting a lot at midfield. Right now it is hard to tell what we're doing this year.” **Dyson Ehrhardt '59** was again back to coach LeBrun's defense. The MSA maintained its single division “A” Conference.

Returning were talented attackmen **Scooter Dorney '72** and **Morris Murray '72** joined by **Mark Deering '72** and sophomore **Mark Dorney '74**, Scooter's younger brother. Team captain **Brandon Gaines '72** headed up the Laker midfield along with **Tom Kidd '72** and **Jim Cahill '72**. The defense, however, was inexperienced. LeBrun realized BL could have a good year if the defense could jell quickly. Seniors **Rick Heldrich '72, Todd Guntner '72, Frank Betley '72,** and **David Kennedy '72** along with juniors **Duncan Smith '73** and **Buzzy Sheain '73** were to vie for defensive spots with **Chris Christmas '73** and **Bryant Waters '74** fighting for the goalie job.

Frank Betley was coming off an historic winter for BL sports. During the '71-'72 wrestling season Betley became the first Laker in school history to place first in his weight class in the annual MSA wrestling tournament.

5 Years Ago

BL's baseball team got off to a great start. In the Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) "B" league opener, **Mike Bordick's** BL nine defeated AACS 15-0 and the following day defeated out of conference opponent Long Reach 5-4. **Austin Knight '08**, the starting pitcher, hit a home run in the Long Reach victory.

The following week the team hosted Sts. Peter & Paul and won 11-1. **Knight** pitched a one-hitter. The later in the week the Lakers traveled to Laurel to play Pallotti. The Lakers beat the two-time defending "B" conference champions 10-5. Knight and **Josh Winter '08** each hit triples in the victory. **Devon Jerrard '08** was the winning pitcher with **Matt Warheim '07** pitching two innings of relief.

"This School has caused a revolution in private school methods. It is the only boys school in the city conducted in a building especially designed for teaching; it has always stood for something positive and definite; it has always been opposed to educational fads and experiments at the expense of the boys, and it keeps the parents in constant contact with the School through reports...." 1915 BLS School Catalog