

VOLUME XXIII, NUMBER 4

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**MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH  
SCHOOL  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**



***ALUMNI NEWS***

***INSIDE:***  
***Special 75<sup>th</sup>***  
***Anniversary***  
***Celebration Weekend***  
***Review***

## WHAT'S INSIDE

# 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend Review

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### EDITORIAL

### Q & A

The questions are pretty obvious:

Was it worth it?

Was the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend worth more than a year's work; more than a year's worry; more than a year of going to meetings, and pestering school officials and police officials and Strathmore management and dozens and dozens of Blair grads?

Was it worth losing all that sleep, all that praying that enough people would show up so the Strathmore wouldn't look empty?

Was it worth worrying about the very real possibility that, after going through the Hall of Fame selection process and publicly telling everyone who was selected, none of the honorees would agree to show up?

Was it worth trying to reach back and get support for the weekend from classes from the 30's and 40's all the way through to students who are still at Blair?

The answer, of course, is just as obvious. Yes, it was worth going through all of that, and more. It was worth it to see more than 100 Blair grads show up in the cold

and rain to play golf with friends they hadn't seen in 50 years (or more). It was worth it to have 1,500 grads and guests representing every decade of Blair's history fill the Strathmore Concert Hall for our ceremony and party. It was worth it to see maybe a thousand MORE grads visit both the Wayne Ave. location and the "new school" on Saturday.

But to be honest, if none of those things had been as successful as they were, it would have all been worth it because of two things.

1) Thousands of people in the Blair family got to meet and know Tom Norris, our Medal of Honor winner. As our MC Ben Stein asked me many months ago, "If we have Tom Norris as our first inductee into the Alumni Association Hall of Fame, why are we inducting anyone else?"

2) On Saturday at the Open House at the "new" school, a woman came up to me and asked if I was the one who organized the weekend. When I said I was, she said "My sister graduated from Blair in the 50's, and she died just a short time after graduating. When I was in the gym looking at the 50's display I met a woman who said she had been a close friend of my sister. She told me things I never knew about her, and we talked and laughed about my sister for quite a while. This was the first time in more than 40 years I've had anyone to talk to about my sister, and it hadn't been for this event I would never have had that chance. Thank you, so much, for making this possible."

Yeah, it was worth it.



**Blair's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend**  
**October 16-17, 2009**  
**Friday, October 16**  
**Alumni Association Golf Tournament**  
**Hampshire Green Golf Course**



Golf outing organizer Bob Windsor (61) and one of the Washington Redskins Hoettes give over 100 golfers their final instructions



Montgomery County Police Chief Tom Manger ('72,) and Joe Pavlock ('70) plan their team's strategy just before teeing off.



1958 Classmates Bob Warfield, left, and Bill Turner getting ready to compete in the Putting Contest.



L-R: Rob Mason (61), Bill Mason (62), Don Robertson (62) and Walter Robertson (63) were among the hearty grads who ignored the rain to enjoy a round of golf among family and old friends.

**Friday, October 16, 2009  
75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and  
Alumni Association Hall of Fame Induction  
The Music Center at Strathmore**

**The All-Class Reunion**



Fran Belair Wimbush (57) and Betty Jane Clarke Cummings (58) catch up on old times at the pre-program reception



Leonard Levin (62) and Carol Brimberg Schulman (62) wait for the Concert Hall doors to open for the big ceremony.



Blazers from the classes of the 1930's and 1940's had a "private" party in the Strathmore's Comcast Lounge area.



'79's Agnes Zbiegiewicz, Linda Josey Hayes, and Norman Hayes enjoy the company of friends from 30 years ago.

# Blair's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration & Hall of Fame Ceremony

Alumni Association President Mark Levin and Master of Ceremonies/HOF Inductee Ben Stein  
Present Inductees With Their Awards



Sonny Jackson



Carl Bernstein



Tom Brown



Tom Norris



Morgan Wootten



Bob Windsor



Chris Sullivan



Vince Pugliese



David Pittle



Connie Chung



(l-r) David Pittle; Tom Brown; Chris Sullivan; Bob Windsor; Connie Chung; Vince Pugliese; Morgan Wootten; Tom Norris; Sonny Jackson; Carl Bernstein; Ben Stein



CNN News Anchor Kiran Chetry ('92)



Maury Povich introduces his wife, Connie Chung



Nearly 1,500 Blair grads and guests fill the Concert Hall of the Music Center at Strathmore



The stars from four decades of Blair productions of "The Music Man" reunited to open the program.  
(l-r) Donna Hollis ('66); Jaime Fuller Amundson ('77); Jenny Helmbold ('95): and Bill Gise ('66)



### Wayne Avenue Parade

On Saturday morning Wayne Ave. was the site of an old fashioned Homecoming Parade. Marching past the original school were the Blair Marching Band (above, left); the Blair Pom Pom squad (above right, all wearing, appropriately, number 75); and classic automobiles from every Blair decade (a 1934 roadster, left)

### Blair Open House

Hundreds of Blair grads and their families toured the University Ave. campus on Saturday afternoon ®. Each decade had a display area filled with memorabilia from that decade, including photos, yearbooks, programs, and cultural artifacts depicting life at Blair over the last 75 years.



### Saturday Night Parties

Saturday night of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend was set aside for class and multi-class parties. The classes from the 1960's held a Sock Hop in the Boys Gym at the Wayne Ave. campus (l). Other parties were held at area restaurants, including a combined 1930's & 1940's get-together at the Blair Mansion Inn in Silver Spring.