

The 1990's



As Blair's specialized Magnet and CAP programs expanded, the student enrollment, swelled by the earlier addition of 9th graders to the school population, began to tax the physical limits of the buildings. With some buildings now nearly 60 years old, and students already going to classes in temporary facilities, the inevitable discussions began: "Is it time for a new Blair?"

Early discussions centered around renovating the existing facility, something that Montgomery County had been doing with other high schools in recent years. However, Blair's unique make-up and the growth projections of incoming students made staying at the existing location more difficult. The decision regarding "what to do about Blair" became the focal point of daily life for the administrators of Montgomery County's Schools.

While the future of Blair was being debated county-wide, Blair students and faculty moved ahead with making Blair the best it could be.



Thanks, in part, to the CAP program, Blair's theatrical productions maintained their high quality and received outstanding critical reviews. Innovative programs like Blair's radio and television stations

gave students hands-on experiences and opportunities to dream of careers in communications and media.

Blair traditions were still there, too. Homecoming was still, well, Homecoming. Blair's athletic teams continued the 50-year tradition of county, regional, and state champi-



onships, bringing home the crowns in Girls' Basketball, Girls' Soccer, Boys' Tennis, and Girls' Tennis, and Swimming and Diving.

Finally, after years of discussion, the decision came down: Blair was moving. It wasn't moving very far, but the original campus on Wayne Ave. would be closed after the 1997-1998 school year, with the new Blair to open the following fall. On May 8, 1998 the Blair Alumni Association sponsored a Farewell to Blair at Wayne Ave., a day-long program that attracted over 2,000 Blair grads and numerous media outlets. It was the end of an era, but not of Blair traditions.

