

PROGRAM

Selections *Montgomery Blair Orchestra*
Mr. Ernest E. Koch, Conductor

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance Larry Schultz, *Chaplain*
Montgomery Blair Student Government

Star Spangled Banner (3 stanzas) *Montgomery Blair Chorus*
Mrs. Mary Cross Huntley, Conductor

The Last Words of David (Randall Thompson) *Montgomery Blair*
Chorus

"He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God."
(2 Samuel, xxiii, 3, 4)

Welcome and Introduction of Guests Richard E. Wagner,
Principal

Greetings Hon. Blair Lee, III

Instrumental Selection *Montgomery Blair Orchestra*

Address Hon. J. Edward Day
Postmaster General of the United States

Selections *Montgomery Blair Orchestra*

Montgomery Blair Student Government

Mr. Myron B. Michaelson, Faculty Sponsor

Clifford O. Arnebeck, Jr., President

Montgomery Blair Stamp Committee: Henry A. Cohn, General Chairman;
Eileen Gendel, Art; Norman Sperling, Philatelic Chairman; Bob Arnebeck,
Eva Gevirtz, Ray Goldstein, Robert Greenberg, Karen Irvin, Joyce Kraft,
Karen Miller, Jeanne Snow, Chris Walker, Larry Walker, Barbara Witkin,

A STAMP MAY BE AFFIXED AND CANCELLED IN THIS SPACE

MONTGOMERY BLAIR (1813-1883) served as Postmaster General in the cabinet of President Abraham Lincoln. Blair is best known for initiating the International Postal Conference which was held in Paris on May 11, 1861. This conference established the policies that guaranteed international mail delivery.

During the Civil War, Blair invalidated the stamps used in the South, issued new ones, and ordered all employees to take a loyalty oath. In addition, he abolished the abused franking privileges of postmasters, inaugurated railroad mail cars, revised the system of registered mail, started free mail delivery, and established the postal money order. When Blair became Postmaster General in 1861, the department had been operating at a deficit. When he resigned in 1864, the deficit had been eliminated and the department was self-supporting.

In addition to his reform of the Post Office Department, Blair had an important part in the shaping of our history. He served as counsel for the Negro slave Dred Scott. As a cabinet member, Blair was the deciding factor in Lincoln's decision to retain Federal troops in Fort Sumter. Blair opposed Lincoln's issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation in July, 1862, because he felt that it was too early for it to be effective.

Montgomery Blair spent most of his adult life at Silver Spring, on the 1400 acre estate of his father, Francis P. Blair. Later this estate became a small town. In the last 30 years, Silver Spring has become one of the largest and most prosperous communities in the nation.