

BLAKE HOMECOMING  
LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION BREAKFAST  
SEPTEMBER 25, 1992

(Notes for introduction of Jack Edie, Alumni Faculty  
Member Of The Year, by Charles Silverson '55)

This breakfast acknowledges leadership. Each of the students here this morning has played a leadership role in one or more athletic or co-curricular activities at Blake. It is a pleasure to be here and be a part of this recognition process.

The Alumni Faculty Member Of The Year award is presented by the Alumni Association annually to a retired faculty member or a current faculty member with more than 20 years of teaching experience. The awardee has distinguished himself or herself not only in the classroom but also through significant involvement in one or more coaching or co-curricular activities over a sustained period of time.

Over the years both Blake and Northrop have been blessed with many extraordinary teachers. A number of them are in the room today. One of them is this year's winner, Jack Edie. Jack joined the Blake school staff 51 years ago in the fall of 1941. Except for the World War II years, he served steadily in many capacities at Blake until his retirement in 1978.

It is difficult to introduce Jack in a few words or to give those of you who have not been his students a feel for the breadth and depth of his contribution to our school community. He was nominated for this award both by fellow faculty members and former students.

One former student said in his nominating form: "Jack made a life-long commitment to excellence. He was a superb history teacher with a genuine passion for the subject matter. He was an outstanding debate coach with competitive success to prove it. He was a successful baseball coach with a feel for the players and the game. He was a courageous Head Master (during the 1971-74 period) in the face of tumultuous transition of the school merger. He was a speaker/advisor on various international issues throughout his career. He was a true professor including the quirks. Incredibly honest and straightforward. Always treated students on an adult level. His discipline was not via fear and power but through intensity of educating."

Throughout his years at Blake he has been a Jack of all trades and a master of all of them. Jack's 1953 debate team created the Edie Cup to honor the most improved upper school debater. Current students may best know of Jack for the mammoth pre-Christmas invitational debate tournament - one of the largest in this part of the country with teams coming from five states. In 1979 the tournament was named after Jack to reflect the high quality he promoted in the field of debate.

As one of his long ago students in Minnesota and United States history, I am proud to introduce to all of you the 1992 Alumni Faculty Member Of The Year, my friend Jack Edie.