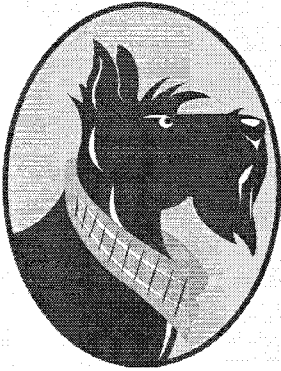


The Origin of the Bordentown Scottie



I have been often asked about the origin of our mascot, the Scottie. People want to know why we are associated with a small yappy dog that doesn't scare anyone. The other question I get is "Can we change the mascot to something more daunting, like a warrior or something. The fact of the matter is - I tried to change the mascot to "The Fighting Scots" over twenty years ago when I was the head football coach. I ran into a huge brick wall by the name of **TRADITION!**

In researching the origin of Scottie Mascot I found it originated around the time Bordentown High School was named William MacFarland High School (May 22, 1938). William MacFarland was the first official Principal/Superintendent of Bordentown Public Schools.

"The first high school course was formed through the efforts of Mr. William MacFarland, who received his education in the schools of South Jersey. An extremely learned man, Mr. MacFarland passed the State Teacher's Examination, although he had had no college education. He was superintendent of Bordentown public schools in 1882 and was loved by all of his students. At this time the school contained only eight grades. Mr. MacFarland offered to teach students after school, and the children came voluntarily and willing to learn. As the after school classes grew, Mr. MacFarland realized the need for a high school and in 1895 a third story, to be used for the high-school grades, was added to the original building.

In 1907 the Bordentown High School was approved as a three year high school. Approval as a four-year high school was granted the following year. In 1908 Mr. MacFarland died ..."

Excerpt from Fabella 1942

Sometime between the years 1939-1947 the Scottie mascot originated as a reference to William MacFarland's Scottish heritage. In the 1941 edition of the Fabella several of the sports teams were referred to as the "Terriers." Just the year before the teams were referred to as the "Bordens," clearly a nickname rather than a mascot. Shortly after that reference to the Scottish Terrier, the mascot became official.

A school that adopts a mascot places importance on its symbolic characteristics as setting a purpose and vision unifying a cause in the common interest of the school. We are a diverse community composing of people from many ethnic and religious origins. A mascot fosters and builds unity among the student population by focusing on the positive behavioral features and attributes that the mascot displays and we highlight this energy towards achieving the goals and objectives set by the school. We use the mascot to make us think alike and in many ways, that has led to many positive and creditable achievements.

I believe the students and community of Bordentown Regional embodies the almost seventy year old mascot. Scotties, like most terriers, are alert, quick and feisty — perhaps even more so than other breed. The breed is known to be independent and self-assured, playful, intelligent and has been nicknamed the 'Diehard' because of its rugged nature and endless determination

Besides, everyone knows who has ever competed, it's not the size of the dog in the fight that matters; it's the size of the fight in the dog. **Be proud to be a Bordentown Scottie.**