



Georgetown Prep Overpowers Gonzaga in Season Opener

by [Jamie Lovegrove](#) 3/13/2010

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The Georgetown Prep Little Hoyas could not have asked for much more from their season opener at home on Saturday afternoon, as they dominated the Gonzaga Purple Eagles from start to finish, pulling away for the 14-2 victory. Although the Hoyas showed some moments of early season frustration, they kept their foot on the pedal throughout the affair, and sent out an early message to their competition in the area.

"I was very pleased with the way our guys played," said Prep Head Coach Kevin Giblin on his team's performance. "I thought we played hard, made some good decisions with the ball, and our kids played with a lot of hustle. It's always nice to open up the season with a rival game against a well-coached team like Gonzaga."

Following a few possession changes early, Bobby Gribbin got the Little Hoyas on the board first. His opening goal was followed shortly after by an impressive solo effort from teammate Fernando Murias, whose bounce-shot hopped up into the top-right corner. Gribbin's second tally of the game a few minutes later increased Prep's lead to 3-0 going into the second.

Although Prep goalie Ford Martin had not been tested much early, he was solid in front of net when called upon, which was happening in increasing frequency as Gonzaga's offense improved through the first half. On offense, the Little Hoyas continued to find success with their execution, as Conor Shanahan and Mike Pirone netted two more to put their side firmly in the driver's seat.

Gonzaga's faceoff-man Chris May was expected to be a big factor in keeping the Eagles close, but although he was personally playing well from the face-offs, the Eagles struggled to maintain the possession he was earning for them. The Eagles finally got on the board after going down by six, as Max Planning received a pass with his back to goal, but span around and netted one low past Martin in goal.

Gonzaga's tally merely acted as further incentive for the Hoyas, however, as Cory Dobyms and Pat Glading scored in quick succession, before Gribbin scored his third a few seconds later. Perhaps Prep's most impressive goal of the game came a little while later, as Murias made moves past multiple defenders all the way down the field, before eventually passing to Shanahan who scored his second.

At 10-1 going into the fourth, the result of the game was undoubtedly already decided, but that did not stop Prep from continuing the pressure. After two more early goals, Bob Sheehan's falling shot from far out found the net again, further energizing the Prep fans that had braved the cold, rainy conditions. The Eagles scored their second a few minutes later as senior Conor Kenny scored one, but by that point it was far too late.

There were some questions coming into the season about how well Prep would be able to replace the youngest of the Kemp brothers, John, in goal this season, after he left for Notre Dame following his senior year. But Coach Giblin said after the game that the team gave Ford Martin the game ball, after his formidable performance between the sticks.

"He did a real nice job when we need him tonight," said Coach Giblin on his new starting goalie. "We have been blessed to have three different Kemp boys over the years, all have been high-school all-Americans, and so we obviously have high expectations in goal. We have a history of making good goalies though, and our defensive play will be very important to our success this season too."

Media Links

Photos: [Boys Lacrosse: Gonzaga vs Georgetown](#)

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The Hoyas face a tough test next week, as they host nationally ranked Gilman from Baltimore, always an exciting matchup. Coach Giblin stressed the difficulty of their early season schedule as important in preparation for the ever-tough IAC in-conference play, starting in just less than a month.

While the loss was a taxing one for the Eagles, they will hope to turn their fortunes around quickly, as they travel for another tough matchup against Severn next Tuesday.

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

Georgetown Prep Goal (8:50): Bobby Gribbin, 1-0

Georgetown Prep Goal (7:37): Fernanda Murias, 2-0

Georgetown Prep Goal (3:22): Bobby Gribbin, 3-0

Second Quarter

Georgetown Prep Goal (10:10): Conor Shanahan, 4-0

Georgetown Prep Goal (6:46): Mike Pirone, 5-0

Third Quarter

Georgetown Prep Goal (10:06): Matt Collins, 6-0

Gonzaga Goal (9:02): Max Planning, 1-6

Georgetown Prep Goal (8:17): Cory Dobyms, 7-1

Georgetown Prep Goal (7:53): Pat Glading, 8-1

Georgetown Prep Goal (7:45): Bobby Gribbin, 9-1

Georgetown Prep Goal (3:51): Conor Shanahan, 10-1

Fourth Quarter

Georgetown Prep Goal (9:40): Mike Pirone, 11-1

Georgetown Prep Goal (7:50): Kyle Shanahan, 12-1

Georgetown Prep Goal (7:02): Bob Sheehan, 13-1

Gonzaga Goal (4:52): Conor Kenny, 2-13

Georgetown Prep Goal (2:11): Matt Collins, 14-2

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