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Dobyns, Prep Find Late Surge to Top Gilman

by Jamie Lovegrove 3/17/2010

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An impressive start and a phenomenal finish to Georgetown Prep's performance against Gilman on Wednesday were enough to cancel out some anxious periods of play in between. After pushing out to an early two-goal lead to start the game, the Little Hoyas fell behind for a predominant portion of their matchup against the similarly nationally ranked Gilman Greyhounds. A 5-0 run in the third and fourth quarters, however, spurred an action-packed come-from-behind 10-8 victory for the Hoyas.

"We always play Gilman early in the season, and it's a good test to see where we are, and it looked pretty good out there today," said Georgetown Prep head coach Kevin Giblin after the game. "They're going to be a good team, and hopefully we are going to be a good team. While it is a young team from Gilman this year, they are always a great program, so while it's not an end-all, be-all game for us, it's a nice early season win to pick up."

Prep's Cory Dobyns, who would go on to have a tremendous performance for the Hoyas, got his side started early, as he capitalized on a defensive mistake to grab a lead 40 seconds in. A goal from Bobby Gribbin shortly after had the Hoyas off to a flying start, but once the Greyhounds' defense settled down, Ben Hearn and Paul Danko tied the game back up before the end of the quarter.

It did not take long for Gilman to find their first lead of the game, as less than a minute into the second quarter, future UNC Tarheel Duncan Hutchins found the back of the net on a snipe into the top-left corner. A close-range finish from Jack Matthews a few minutes later extended the lead. While Pat Glading was able to get one back for the Hoyas, an under-pressure finish from Conor Doyle from Gilman with 20 seconds left had the Greyhounds up 5-3, and the Little Hoyas slightly deflated heading into the half.

Prep's struggles continued into the start of the third, as Ryan Tucker slipped another goal low under the stick of Ford Martin in the Prep goal. The offensive difficulties seemed to stem more from not creating opportunities than not finishing them, as Gilman's admirably resilient defense kept a tough core throughout the middle period of the game.

Although it took a while, the spark finally came for the Hoya's offense, and it came from none other than Cory Dobyns. In a highlight reel level effort, Dobyns scooped up a groundball a few feet from the crease, and flicked it behind his back, past two defenders and Jack McClamrock in goal to etch one back for the Hoyas, and noticeably lift his team's energy.

While another Dobyns goal shortly after brought the Little Hoyas closer, it took a while to truly regain control. The game changed in the span of 35 seconds. First, Fern Murias tied the game up for Prep on a turnaround finish, then after winning the faceoff and calling a timeout, Gribbin took the lead for the Hoyas. To top it all off, a remarkable solo effort from defenseman Taylor Morgan pushed the Hoyas to an 8-6 lead, as he won the ensuing faceoff, ran down the entire field, and bounced a shot into the top-left.

Danko's second goal of the game made it close again less than a minute later, but Dobyns' fourth and fifth tallies of the affair a short while later put the game out of doubt. A consolation goal for Danko's third drew the final score to 10-8.

"Cory [Dobyns] is just a natural scorer for us, he's your prototypical left-handed finisher, and he finished well for us today," said Coach Giblin on his forward's outstanding game. "I couldn't be

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happier for him, he's a great player. He made a few mistakes early on, so I'm glad to see he was able to respond from those and rise to the occasion."

"It definitely gives me a lot of confidence going forward," said Dobyns on his five-goal performance. "To play one like that against such a strong side like Gilman, and to score five goals feels great, and I want to keep rolling with it. We have a lot of high goals this season, and I think we can do it, and I'm looking forward to helping with that."

Georgetown Prep's schedule does not get any easier from here, after their 2-0 start. Games against some of the top squads in the country will continue to challenge the Little Hoyas before the start of IAC play, including matchups against St. Paul's and Delbarton. Gilman faces a similarly tough schedule as the early season continues to develop, and will hope to improve their 2-1 record over the next few weeks before a matchup against the other IAC co-champion Landon on April 3rd.

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

Prep Goal (11:20): Cory Dobyns, 1-0

Prep Goal (9:50): Bobby Gribbin, 2-0

Gilman Goal (4:30): Ben Hearn, 1-2

Gilman Goal (1:17): Paul Danko, 2-2

Second Quarter

Gilman Goal (11:02): Duncan Hutchins, 3-2

Gilman Goal (7:34): Jack Mattews, 4-2

Prep Goal (5:38): Pat Glading, 3-4

Gilman Goal (0:20): Conor Doyle, 5-3

Third Quarter

Gilman Goal (10:34): Ryan Tucker, 6-3

Prep Goal (7:53): Cory Dobyns, 4-6

Prep Goal (5:02): Cory Dobyns, 5-6

Fourth Quarter

Prep Goal (5:55): Fern Murias, 6-6

Prep Goal (5:34): Bobby Gribbin, 7-6

Prep Goal (5:20): Taylor Morgan, 8-6

Gilman Goal (4:26): Paul Danko, 7-8

Prep Goal (3:27): Cory Dobyns, 9-7

Prep Goal (2:52): Cory Dobyns, 10-7

Gilman Goal (0:05): Paul Danko, 8-10

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