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Glading growing on and off the field for Bayhawks

All-Star midfielder took part in program at White House to educate children on lacrosse

By Robbie Levin, The Baltimore Sun

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Danny Glading has made a name for himself as a one-man offensive showcase.

In high school, the Bethesda native set Georgetown Prep records with 274 points and 156 assists. In his first year at Virginia, Glading was the only freshman in the country to score 20 goals and 20 assists, in the process earning ACC Rookie of the Year honors and helping lead the Cavaliers to a National Championship. Glading went on to accumulate 223 points in his career at Virginia, placing him fifth in school history.

This year, Glading's 15 goals are good enough for fifth in the MLL.



Suffice it to say there isn't much Glading hasn't done on the lacrosse field. Still, a few weeks ago the Bayhawks' third-year star put on an offensive display the likes of which not even he had accomplished before. And Glading did it on the White House lawn, no less.

On July 11 Glading took part in an event for Native American kids at the White House. Let's Move!, a program organized by First Lady Michelle Obama to fight childhood obesity, teamed with leaders from the Onondaga Nation along with current and former lacrosse stars to teach Native American children about the sport their ancestors cherished. Glading, along with former Maryland star Jenny Collins, showcased the basics of throwing and passing.

"It was a great experience," Glading said. "I grew up in D.C., and I've obviously driven by the White House many times, but I've never been so close. The fact that we were there playing lacrosse for underprivileged kids in the area ... I was just really happy to be a part of it."

In between his visit to the White House and his second-consecutive All-Star appearance, Glading is having a career year for the Bayhawks (5-3). The Bethesda native leads the Bayhawks and ranks sixth in the MLL with 26 points, matching his total from the entire 2010 season. While Glading hasn't taken as many shots as other leading attackers, he has made the most out of his attempts. Among players with at least 30 shots, Glading ranks second with a 42.9 shooting percentage.

Last week Glading spurred the Bayhawks' come-from-behind victory over the Nationals, tallying four points

on two goals and two assists. Following the effort, Glading was named MLL Offensive Player of the Week. On a Chesapeake squad heralded for excellent midfield play, Glading along with fellow attackers and former Virginia teammates Ben Rubeor (Loyola) and <u>Brian Carr</u>oll (Gilman) are becoming one of the league's most dangerous units.

"Glading seems to have really stepped up his game this year, quarterbacking the team while playing from the X," said Long Island coach Jim Mule, whose Lizards (3-5) take on the Bayhawks Saturday. "We'll have to make sure we match up well on [Glading, Rubeor and Carroll]."

This week, against Long Island and their All-Star goalie Drew Adams, the Bayhawks will need as much offensive production as they can get. The last time the two teams squared off, Chesapeake managed just three second-half scores in a 14-11 loss. One week later, the Canons held the Bayhawks to a season-low 10 goals.

But Chesapeake's offense appears to have rebounded since then, with Glading, Rubeor and Carroll playing their best lacrosse of the year. The trio of attackers has turned in two eight-point performances in the past two games, making it their most productive two-game stretch of the season.

"If we can keep playing like that it really becomes an issue for the defense to key on one guy," Glading said. "That's a luxury that hopefully we'll continue to have."

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