



Georgetown Prep Stuns No. 1 Landon

Andrew Brancaccio, left, and Tim Ricca exult after Brancaccio's overtime goal against Landon in the IAC lacrosse tournament final. **D9**



BY TONI L. SANDYS — THE WASHINGTON POST

Ryan Shuler, right, and the sixth-ranked Little Hoyas (17-5) let loose after winning at Landon (20-2) to compete a dramatic turnaround this season.

IAC Lacrosse Tournament Championship

Prep Tops No. 1 Landon in OT

Brancaccio's Goal Gives Little Hoyas a Share of League Title

■ Georgetown Prep 8, Landon 7

By JAKE SCHALLER
Special to The Washington Post

After an uninspired loss in late March — his team's second in a row and third in six games — Georgetown Prep boys' lacrosse coach Kevin Giblin was dejected, but still able to find a bright side for his young and injury-riddled team.

"I wouldn't want to play us at the end of the season," he said.

Yesterday evening in the Interstate Athletic Conference tournament final at arch rival Landon, Georgetown Prep showed why. Much healthier and clearly more mature than in the beginning of the season, the sixth-ranked Little Hoyas stunned the top-ranked Bears, 8-7, in overtime before a crowd of approximately 2,200 in Bethesda. With the victory, Prep (17-5) claimed a share of the IAC title with the regular season champion Bears (20-2).

"It's a great feeling, we've been through a lot," Giblin said.



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Georgetown Prep's Bray Malphrus, left, knocks the ball loose from Mark Kovler's stick. Landon had won 21 of the previous 23 all-time meetings.

"We were a shell of a team most of the year. We weren't a shell of a team today."

The biggest difference between the teams' regular season meeting — a 6-3 Landon victory — and yesterday was the presence of Georgetown Prep junior Andrew Brancaccio. The stand-

into overtime, off an assist from senior All-Met Danny Glading.

Landon had the ball first in overtime, but Prep goalkeeper Chris Casey made a save, and the Little Hoyas cleared the ball and called timeout. Off the restart, Glading (one goal, three assists) ran to the box and cut right, drawing a slide from the Landon defense. He then turned and threw back to Brancaccio, who faked right, then spun left and fired a left-handed shot into the cage.

Landon had won 21 of the teams' 23 all-time meetings before yesterday, including all seven that were decided by two goals or less. Landon had won four of those by one goal, including two in overtime of the IAC tournament final.

Prep also denied the Bears — considered one of the best teams in program history with 13 seniors bound for Division I programs — a school-record 21 victories.

"Nobody expected us to come close to this," Brancaccio said. "But this team never gave up."

out midfielder tore his right quadriceps muscle in the pre-season and did not return to the lineup until the Little Hoyas' final regular season game.

But yesterday he appeared to be at full strength, scoring a game-high three goals including the game-winner, 59 seconds