



The Little Hoya

Reporting "New Prep" news since 1920

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FEATURE: 2022 PREP PRESIDENTIAL RACE PREVIEW

by Ethan Ristu '24
Staff Writer

Introduction:

Elections for Student Government will not take place until the middle of September. While there are eight positions up for election, the race for President and Vice President of the Yard is always the most closely watched. With the Class of 2023 eligible to run this year, many students have already found their Instagram notifications riddled with follow requests

from numerous "4theYard" accounts. With only 5 or 6 weeks to campaign at the beginning of the school year, most campaigns are unable to reach out to the entire student body. I reached out to and interviewed eight of these prospective campaigns so that students may hear some of these candidates' ideas and plans. Although these campaigns have already announced their intentions to run, keep in mind that

no campaign becomes official until the school administration receives application forms from candidates and releases the official list of candidates. More candidates may officially run for the yard, or some who have been interviewed may ultimately decide not to. Keep yourself updated by following the campaign news on the Daily Announcements!

A Letter From the Editor-in-Chief

Hello Prep,

Welcome to *The Little Hoya's* summer issue for the 2022-2023 academic year.

One of my most vivid junior year memories was conversing with an older friend who had graduated from Prep. I am now endowed with the role that he had assumed years prior, and he was sharing with me the most impactful lesson he had learned during his time with *The Little Hoya*.

“Our world resembles a star fruit. While we can adjust the angle from which we observe it to acquire the perfect star-shape, we must also keep in mind that it is the different viewing angles that complete the dimensions of our world.”

The analogy my friend described reveals the *raison d'être* of journalism and the mission of *The Little Hoya*: to

amplify all voices on all matters needing attention. The pieces in this summer issue aim to reflect the diverse perspectives Hoyas have on various topics at Prep and in our larger world. In his nine-part feature piece, Ethan Ristu, '24 delves into the candidates and their campaigns for the 2022 Prep President-of-the-Yard race. Jack Sullivan, '24 explores the meaning of “Hoya” and anecdotes around our school mascot. Teddy Kavanagh, '23, assesses the recent political trends and looks ahead to the upcoming 2022 midterm elections. Frank Anstett, '23 examines the isolationist foreign policy of the United States and its on-going expansion. Zeno Song, '24, takes us to the Formula One racetracks and looks at the latest development in the Redbull-Ferrari rivalry.

Welcome (back) to campus, and enjoy our summer issue of *The Little Hoya*.

Ziteng "Daniel" Xu, '23
Editor-in-Chief of *The Little Hoya*

Meet the Editors



Daniel Xu '23

Editor-in-Chief



Michael Henry '23

Managing Editor

Feature: 2022 Prep Presidential Race Preview

BowenMcKeon Campaign-@bowen_mckeon4yard

Luke Bowen, '23 and Kerry McKeon, '23 are running to revitalize Prep's community following the effects of the pandemic on school spirit. McKeon recalls attending Prep sports games as a middle schooler when his older brother, class of 2018, was still a student. Being a part of the packed student section with the electricity of the Prep brotherhood buzzing in the air was an experience that McKeon would never forget. The BowenMcKeon campaign is striving to bring back that atmosphere to Prep.

The BowenMcKeon campaign believes that they represent some of the diversity of the Prep student body. They point out that they have played six different sports and have taken classes at various levels during their time at Prep. They believe that their range of experiences at Prep will help them be a better President and Vice President, capable of understanding and acting based on the viewpoints of the entire community. Furthermore, McKeon, who has been part of Student Government since he was a sophomore, expounded on how the President and Vice President of the Yard played a large role in how much could get passed at Prep; he

believes that he has some insights into improving the Student Government to get it working more efficiently for the students.

As part of their administration, the BowenMcKeon campaign seeks to address various small and larger issues. Some short-term goals and plans they hope to accomplish at the beginning of their administration, if elected, include: opening up the George Cafe, ensuring fresh desserts and snacks for sixth lunchers, and bringing back the soda machine in the South Room. Beyond these issues, the BowenMcKeon campaign wants to build up activities that they see as defining the Prep community, like Ping-Pong tournaments, tailgates, and student sections. In addition to ensuring more campus-wide activities, they seek to improve student turnout and support for all the various events around campus.

The BowenMcKeon campaign is aware of presidential candidates losing a lot of steam once elected and seeming to give up on their promises; they claim they have no plan on slowing down once elected and will continue to give it their all throughout their administration if elected.

DuFourShaffer Campaign-@du4_shaffer4theyard

The DufourShaffer campaign has been brewing for many years, with their first appearance on the campaign trail four years ago for President and Vice President at Mater Dei. Now they are back running for the yard, believing that their administration can deliver many things for Prep students.

The three core themes of the DufourShaffer campaign are “fun, school spirit, and reaching out to all groups [on campus].” When it comes to having fun, Patrick DuFour, '23 and Luke Shaffer, '23 are already brimming with ideas. They revealed some events they want to bring back or create, including a pie eating contest, cornhole tournaments, and even a faculty wing eating contest. When it comes to school spirit, the primary focus of the DufourShaffer campaign is the sports games. They remember the insane energy at games during their freshman year, with students practically pouring out of the stands and cheering on our teams. They want to bring back the energy that Covid took away from Prep. Finally, the DufourShaffer campaign wants to include differ-

ent groups, such as the boarders, the theater group, and other clubs, in planning activities.

When asked why Prep should elect them, Dufour and Shaffer appealed to their love of Prep. Ever since they were freshmen and through the thick of their years here at Prep, they both stated they have hosted a deep love for Prep and its community. But more than appreciating the school, the DufourShaffer campaign insisted that they were very serious about the office. They claimed that, if elected, they have actual ideas they want to bring to Prep and work hard at; they do not just want to be elected for the title.

Finally, the DufourShaffer campaign believes that they will truly be able to deliver the promises they make. They said that they've already begun discussing ideas with various members of the faculty and staff to figure out what is and is not possible. Dufour and Shaffer are determined to spread their dream for Prep across campus and hopefully turn it into a reality.

KeeganRose Campaign-@keegan_rose4dayard

Watching the different elections, speeches, and campaigns of previous years' candidates, Will Keegan, '23 had dreamed of running for the yard since he was a sophomore. However, it wasn't until Keegan and Isaiah Rose, '23 went on their summer service trip that the two decided to run together.

Both Keegan and Rose insisted that they are not running just for the seniors or the upperclassmen, but for the entire Prep community. They stated that the focus of their campaign is to break

down the walls that appear to separate the classes. They want to create a Prep where a student can feel comfortable in any circle around any group of guys, and with any grade.

According to the KeeganRose Campaign, they want all the voices at Prep to be amplified. They particularly empathized with the feelings of underclassmen, remembering their feeling of incredulousness as freshmen themselves that their voices would be heard among students three or four years older than them.

The KeeganRose campaign believes that being a good President and Vice President of the Yard entails more than simply meeting expectations. They believe that the candidates that Prep needs should deliver a level beyond the standard promises of every campaign, such as panini presses and spelling bee contests.

Though the KeeganRose campaign plans to unveil most of their plans and ideas at the official start of their campaign, they have revealed their overall vision for Prep. They plan to oversee a

revitalization of school spirit at Prep. They point out that one of the school's biggest selling points for new students is that no one on campus leaves right after school, which has become less true in the previous few years. They want to see the games more hyped, the plays more packed, and the clubs more active. And the KeeganRose campaign is determined to prove that it will be them to bring this version of Prep to fruition.

Feature: 2022 Prep Presidential Race Preview

LongO'Day Campaign-@longoday4theyard

With two of their own bulldogs, the LongO'Day campaign came not only with its own mascots but also with a grand vision for Prep's future. Quincy Long, '23 and Luka O'Day, '23 decided to run for the yard in order to bring back the culture that they believe Prep lost as a result of Covid. Energy is definitely not lacking in their campaign. A big part of their vision for their campaign, if elected, is to reinfuse Prep's school spirit with the energy they believe Covid has robbed the student body of.

Furthermore, both Quincy and Luke point to their seemingly natural affinity for the office. "Luka is one of the nicest guys I know," Quincy remarked of his Vice President, suggesting a kind of Big

Brother figure underclassmen could look up to.

The LongO'Day Campaign went into more detail on what they meant by restoring Prep to its former level of school spirit and brotherhood. A heavy area of focus will be sports games: the campaign shared that they were champions of creating more traditions, getting even more boys out to the games, and rebuilding the wild atmosphere that we lost due to the pandemic. Lastly, the LongO'Day campaign states that they're not running for the yard for personal fame or power. They say that their only objective is to revitalize school spirit and get Prep up and invigorated again for everyone to enjoy.

MarinoColley Campaign-@marinocolley4theyard

Neither Ryan Marino, '23 nor Gibril Colley, '23 had plans to run for the yard when they first came to Prep. Despite this, the two continuously came up with ideas for plans and events throughout their time at Prep. It wasn't until this summer, when Marino reached out to Colley, that they realized what they could do together as President and Vice President of the Yard.

As Marino and Colley pointed out during our interview, the senior class was the only class to know what Prep was like before Covid. Even still, they only experienced a fragment of the year. The MarinoColley campaign stated that one of their goals is a return to normalcy at Prep, which they insist feels nothing like a typical school day experience. They recounted memories of students playing pickup basketball in the fieldhouse, going wild at sports games, and enjoying a snack at the George Cafe. Marino and Colley both feel like they understand the life of an average Prep student. They point out that they both know what it is like to struggle or succeed in classes or play on sports teams without necessarily being stars. Furthermore, they both say that they strive to reach out to all students, especially underclassmen, regardless of whether or not they play the same sports or are in the same clubs. As Gibril Colley said, "I don't care what grade you're in; I'm going to say hi."

The MarinoColley campaign has already started strong: they point to their official MarinoColley4theyard Instagram account, which proudly displays a 23-point list of different ideas and events they promise to strive for if elected. Some proposals include: a Blue and Gray Field Day, underclassmen Olympics, tailgates before big games, and more student speakers at convocations. The MarinoColley campaign pointed out how it seemed as though all of the previous administrations redid the same events year after year; they genuinely wanted to leave their mark on Prep by coming up with ideas that could show off all of Prep's spirit and abilities.

And finally, the Marino-Colley campaign wants to break down the walls separating the administration, the student government, and the student body. They want every student to feel confident in voicing their concerns and ideas to their President and Vice President, and for the President and Vice President to be able to have every student's ideas taken seriously by the administration.

O'ConnorHall Campaign-@oconnor_hall4theyard

Ever since he was a freshman, Timothy O'Connor, '23 knew he wanted to run for the Yard. Coming into Prep, he only knew one other student. When freshmen met their Big Brothers, then President-of-the-Yard Peter Connolly, '20 noticed Timmy, and made sure to introduce him to the other kids and make him feel accepted. The power of a President to be that welcoming force for incoming students and help complete the community made O'Connor realize he wanted to be the President for others. Similarly, during freshman year, when Harrison Hall, '23 saw how his energetic and fun Big Brother, then Vice-President-of-the-Yard, was able to help his community, Hall knew he wanted to be our Vice President one day. The two seemed destined for each other and agreed to campaign together during their Kairos trip.

Both O'Connor and Hall insist that they would work harder than any other campaign if elected. They insist that they truly want to be hands-on leaders: they would be seen around campus greeting freshmen, actively raising money at fundraisers, and be present at almost every school event. Furthermore, they point out that they both have younger brothers at Prep, giving them a broader perspective at Prep and another reason to work hard to leave a better legacy behind them if elected.

A significant goal of the O'ConnorHall campaign is to solve Prep's separation issue. They point out that too many students leave campus right after school ends if they have nothing to do. The O'ConnorHall campaign recognizes that some progress has been made in the past year including the volleyball and spikeball nets. But they say that they want to create more events and activities to bring together different grades and keep them on campus longer. Another issue that the O'ConnorHall campaign touched upon in their interview was the absence of mixers in the past years because of Covid. They point out that without such events with our sister school, many underclassmen are robbed of fun activities and the ability to expand their social circle, particularly for students from abroad or outside the DMV community.

The O'ConnorHall campaign is centered around a theme they call "Hoyaness". They describe the theme as something that used to be alive on campus before Covid. It was what hordes of Prep students would feel as they cheered on their team at sports games, it was the feeling of brotherhood that existed between classes, and it was what made spending a day at Prep barely feel like school. The O'ConnorHall Campaign seeks to bring back Hoyaness to Prep while leaving their own mark.

PerrottaRoldan Campaign-@perrottaroldan4theyard

It was during last year's IMG Baseball Trip that Antonio "Toe" Perrotta, '23 and Tommy Roldan, '23 first decided to run for the yard together. What started as sort of a joke between the two eventually became more serious, and by the end of the baseball trip, the two had cemented their campaign.

When asked about the core themes of their campaign, the two stated that a lot of the PerrottaRoldan campaign focuses on bringing back the Prep experience that most of the school has missed. The two pointed out that the Class of 2023 is the last to experience a Covid-free Prep, and they want to bring back the Prep with assemblies and school events that cement friendships and school spirit. Toe ended on the note that "We have the responsibility [to show them] this is what Prep is like."

Perrotta and Roldan are both celebrated players on the Prep baseball team, and they pointed to their extensive leadership on the team when asked why Prep students should vote for them. A close relationship with Dean

Rod, the baseball team coach and Student Government administrator, coupled with already present leadership experience, are some of their selling points.

A big part of the Perrotta-Roldan campaign is engaging the classes in deciding on school activities. They don't want to be a President and Vice President who automatically dictate what the student body wants. Some of their ideas include setting up a Google Forms suggestions box with QR Codes in the hallways or some sort of open floor panel so they can hear what the students want.

Toe and Roldan made sure to emphasize that, if elected, they won't be an administration catering to a certain demographic of students: seniors or baseball players or whatever. Instead, the PerrottaRoldan campaign plans to involve all grades through original campaign ideas in order to shape Prep into a school for all, because inevitably, it will be the lower grades stepping up to the plate once the Class of 2023 is gone.

Feature: 2022 Prep Presidential Race Preview

TomanWozniak Campaign-@tomanwozniak4yard

The inspiration for the TomanWozniak campaign comes from previous Prep presidential campaigns. As a freshman, John Toman, '23 remembers watching a presidential campaign video filmed by some upperclassmen on the metro. Then, following the presidential speeches of the 2021 elections, coupled with the various losses of Prep culture and traditions because of Covid, Toman, and Ignacy Wozniak, '23 cemented their decision to run together and created their presidential Instagram

account, which they continued to update throughout the year. The TomanWozniak campaign claims that it is built on longevity and practicality. They don't want to rise to the yard on inflated promises and only fulfill a few promises at the beginning of their administrations. The TomanWozniak campaign says they want to focus on ensuring that issues that ordinary Prep students want to see solved are addressed. Furthermore, they promise to remain active throughout the school year.

Emphacizing that they are genuine candidates, the TomanWozniak campaign pointed out how they have been publicizing their campaign since early last year. Furthermore, they stress how they want to address important day-to-day issues of Prep students, such as getting the bells back and working in the George, keeping volleyball on campus all year, and opening up quiet rooms for students to use. In addition to these goals, the TomanWozniak campaign wants to continue the process of bringing

Prep back to how it was before the pandemic took away much of the spirit and fun on campus. Finally, the TomanWozniak Campaign believes their openness and willingness to communicate with the student body distinguishes them from the competition. They emphasized in their interview that they will always keep their Instagram DMs and Snapchat open for students to notify them of any issues they have or changes they'd like to see at Prep.

Current Events/Opinions

Red vs. Blue: The Stories Behind the 2022 Midterm Elections

Teddy Kavanagh '23

2022 has dealt its fair share of crises to American citizens. Consumer prices have risen 9.1% in what has become known as the "worst inflation" in 40 years. The environmental impact of climate change has been seen through heat waves, floods, and other natural disasters that have hit areas unacquainted with extreme weather conditions. And today, American citizens are growing discontent with how President Biden is handling these issues, with 57% of them saying that they disapprove of his job performance in a Reuters/Ipsos Poll. Nevertheless, while these issues have not defined Biden's incumbency thus far, one question determines the future of Washington's policies and their impacts on the lives of U.S. citizens: Who will win in this year's midterm elections, and will the majority party in the House, the Senate, or both flip?

As gubernatorial, House, and Senate races take shape, it is becoming clear where there lies the potential for flips not only in party but also in position. Most notably, this idea pertains to the Republican primaries that have occurred over the summer, all of which were filled with complexities. Specifically, ten House Republicans voted to impeach Trump at his second impeachment trial for the January 6th insurrection. Of those ten representatives, only two remain as GOP candidates in their upcoming races this fall. The other eight have either decided to retire or have lost their primaries. But why

is this happening to them? Why are they losing or giving up their positions? Because the tides have turned against them. Liz Cheney, a key leader in the January 6th congressional hearings against Trump, lost her primary in Wyoming's at-large congressional district to Trump-backed candidate Harriet Hageman. Adam Kinzinger, a representative from Illinois's

16th congressional district, has decided to retire after receiving death threats from people who are against the role that he played in Trump's second impeachment trial. Similarly, the stories of the other six defeated Republican representatives mirror these two: Three are retiring because of death threats, and three others have lost their primaries to Trump-backed candidates. Thus, the trend is now evident: the Republican party is a battleground being overtaken by Trump and the candidates he endorses, and they will continue to dominate the GOP primaries. As

a result, with new far-right candidates on the ballot, there will be a flip in position—from a Republican House with ten powerful anti-Trump "Republicans in Name Only(RINOs)" to one with only two. With these RINOs gone, nearly all Republican House members now have a connection to Trump, thus cementing his legacy in the Washington "swamp." As a result, the focus now turns given Republican politicians the opportunity to pin the blame on Democrats: they have capitalized on the idea that inflation occurred with a Democrat-controlled House, Senate, and presidency in power—and that it will not stop with a majority-Democrat coalition. As everyday Americans affected by the price increases are buying into this narrative, this may push them to vote for Republicans in November. In turn, Democrats will need to refocus their campaign strategies and work to bring voters back on their side. Still, with Trump's strong, lingering presence in Republican politics fueling GOP candidates to win their primaries, it is uncertain whether such a comeback by the Democrats will be enough to keep their left-leaning majority in Congress. But even as the divisions between parties grow further with extremism on both sides, it all comes down to what issues voters care about the most and who

they feel will best serve them. For many middle-class Americans, this may mean taking a chance on a candidate they would not have considered voting for in 2020. Thus, in this case, they are likely to vote for a Republican, as many of them voted for Biden with the sole intention of getting Trump out of office. By the time November 8th rolls around, we will see if this "vote for Democrat" mentality has vanished along with the Democrats themselves, all of whom have tried to avoid the return of a right-wing majority in Washington.



Photo Source: PBS Wisconsin

to whether or not Democrats can maintain their majority in the House and Senate, but as mentioned, key issues the nation faces could cost them. Among all problems, one that has especially stood out in the eyes of American citizens is the inflation of gas prices. This summer, gas prices soared to over five and six dollars a gallon in cities such as Vegas and Los Angeles, and many other cities across the nation have experienced similar trends. Even though costs have dropped over the past thirty days, this instance of inflation has

Current Events/Opinions

The Future of US Foreign Policy: Neo-Isolationism?

Frank Anstett '23

President Trump and President Biden agree on something: America needs to change its foreign policy completely, and it's time to leave the Middle East. Compared to the rest of the West, the United States of America is quite unique. We have stronger birth rates, a more religious population, and are one of only two western states in North America. No other western country, however, can match the uniqueness of historical American foreign policy: its blatant inconsistency. As many of you will no doubt learn or have learned in junior year, the US has struggled with shifting between isolationism and imperialism (ignoring foreign conflicts or picking sides, respectively) for centuries. Part of the reason may lie in our inherently democratic government, which often succumbs to public opinion on foreign policy (as it should).

The issue, though, is that the American public itself has grown tired of conflict countless times. Our (very uncostly) war against Spain in 1898 provided enough war exhaustion so that Americans refused to join WWI until the last years of suffering, only because Germany dared Mexico to attack us. Following WWI, the US submerged into a deep period of isolationism again until we were more than just threatened with an attack on Pearl Harbor. So, while it may feel as if the semi-monopolistic military corporations like Lockheed Martin or General Dynamics have made America a war-mongering nation, the reality

is that Americans are largely isolationist and prefer not to intervene overseas. Even when we appeared to maintain our interventionist policy (imperialism by another name) during the Cold War, actual American troop contributions to anti-communist causes decreased significantly after Vietnam; public opinion simply was not on the



government's side. Following the Cold War, there was certainly an easing of involvement. However, the full onset of isolationism was blocked by the wars in Yugoslavia, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Libya. But something has changed recently: the war on terror has begun to lose popular support, and general interventionism now takes on a negative connotation for many Americans. Journalists, politicians, and newscasters often tout that "foreign policy does not win elections," but that's exactly what happened in 2016. Trump likely won that election by appealing to the average

American worker with his "America First" policy. He blamed the loss of manufacturing jobs and the decline in quality of life on other nations that took advantage of the US world systems and resources, such as our umbrella military protection, free trade, and unfair trade deals. Even though these systems have their pros, Trump's rhetoric still resonated with his supporters

and triggered a new stage in American foreign policy: a return to isolationism, or neo-isolationism. The significance can't be overstated that President Trump was the first president since Carter who did not ask Congress for an authorization of military force or a "new war." He made new levels of efforts to pull out of the Middle East, sometimes to the detriment of our allies (the Kurds). In addition, he signed new trade deals, such as the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement(USMCA), which changed the public perception in favor of isolationist

policies. And even when the populist president was replaced by an establishment politician, President Biden, he refused to continue the war in Afghanistan, for better or worse, and has continued much of Trump's neo-isolationist foreign policy. But that's not to say it was the smoothest transition.

Under Biden, the US rejoined the WHO, proclaimed the UN's efficacy, and reaffirmed its pro-NATO stance, especially in light of the ongoing war in Ukraine. Nonetheless, Biden continued along the path of neo-isolationism, especially much more so than he would have done when he was Vice President. This new isolationism's major differentiating factor is our definite sphere of influence. Before the Spanish-American War or in the interwar period, the United States maintained a firm grip on the Western Hemisphere, as outlined by the Monroe Doctrine and Roosevelt Corollary. The idea was that this did not contradict our policy of isolationism as the Americas were viewed as our rightful domain.

Today, belief about the Americas has expanded the US domain to include the Pacific, the entire Western Hemisphere, and possibly East Asia. The difference between the isolationism of old and of today lies in what we believe to be the definite domain. Future events, conflicts, and demographic changes are hard to predict for the time when this policy may fully solidify, 15 years down the road. So I leave it to you, dear reader, what will the future of US foreign policy be?

Robinhood's Boom and Decline, Explained

Peter Karaki '25

For decades, JPMorgan Chase, Citigroup, HSBC, and Charles Schwab have dominated the financial landscape, until a small startup barged onto the scene in 2013. Robinhood Markets, Inc. (Robinhood) became a wildly successful fintech (financial technology) company with over 15 million users before its fall from grace. To gain a better picture of Robinhood, one has to understand the stock trading landscape in the early-2010s. To increase revenues, big firms charged fees and commissions for stock trading. Additionally, financial investment in the stock market was limited due to a general lack of knowledge about its inner workings. When Robinhood was founded in 2013, it offered fee-free stock trading and investment and an accessible app that allowed ordinary people, not

just financial experts, to understand and profit from the stock market. To attract users, Robinhood offered a free stock to anyone who signed up—a stroke of PR genius. To new investors, Robinhood seemed like the fintech company to trust with its status as a pro-investor corporation, its \$0 commission fees, and millisecond trading on the stock market. These events culminated in Robinhood's Initial Public Offering(IPO) on July 30, 2021, with a stock price of \$35.15, which rose to its peak of \$55.01 on August 6, 2021. After all the excitement about Robinhood declined, so did its stock price, which fell from \$55.01 to \$10.17 (Aug 18, 2022). Robinhood's backslide was brought about by several forces, both internal and external. The first component was Robinhood's user

base, which was generally young and inexperienced and therefore traded the riskiest stocks more significantly than other firms. As the New York Times puts it, "They [Robinhood users] also bought and sold eighty-eight times as many risky options contracts as Schwab customers, relative to the average account size, according to the analysis." Options trading is one of the market's riskiest investments due to its zero guarantees, making it possible to lose all the assets invested. By encouraging and facilitating risky trading, Robinhood's status as a pro-investor grew tarnished, leading to a decline of 1 million users in the past year. The big firms on Wall Street hammered the last nail in Robinhood's coffin. Robinhood's main selling point was its \$0 commission fees on stock trading. So when companies like Charles

Schwab and TD Ameritrade eliminated their commission fees, they also got rid of Robinhood's only advantage over them, leveling the playing field. As more and more customers left Robinhood or became more cautious in trading on the stock market, Robinhood's revenues fell, leaving investors in the company's own stock to believe that it would never generate a profit. Robinhood went from a garage startup company to a stock market unicorn worth over 8 billion dollars. Though Robinhood is reaching the end of its golden reign, it brought changes to the entire fintech world by taking away commission fees and making the stock market accessible to all. A noble accomplishment.

Prep Life

Mr. Dybicz: Latin Teacher, Amateur Photographer, and Founder of the St. Ignatius High School Chariot Races

Quinn Snyder '24

Prep has a new Latin II teacher and personality on campus, Mr. Dybicz (Di-bitz). He will join the likeness of Dr. Hendren, Dr. Brewer, and Mr. Danver and is on his journey to inspire Prep students to become Latin Scholars. Mr. Dybicz has the teaching philosophy and imagination to energize any student with the prospect of learning Latin.

Mr. Dybicz had a special connection with Prep's Jesuit education philosophy even before he stepped onto Prep's campus. Mr. Dybicz's familiarity with the Society of Jesus started when he attended the Jesuit high school, St. Ignatius, in Cleveland, Ohio. He then went on to receive his bachelor's degrees at Holy Cross College, another Jesuit institution. After a stint as a teacher at the elite all-girls school Hathaway Brown, Mr. Dybicz returned to his alma mater, Saint Ignatius, to teach Latin for 11 years. "I really thought I would be there for the rest of my life. I thought I would retire from there," commented Mr. Dybicz. However, when he got married to his longtime girlfriend in June, he made the move to Washington, D.C., where she had been living for the past 12 years. While searching for a job in the DMV during the planning stages of the wedding, Mr. Dybicz was notified of an opening in our Classical

Language Department. He knew he had to take advantage of the opportunity. "[Prep] just seemed to me like a very excellent academic institution with very high standards, but also one that seemed personable and friendly," observed Dybicz.

When I sat down with Mr. Dybicz in front of the St. Ignatius statue at the center of our campus, I asked him the age-old question every Latin teacher has been asked at least a thousand times. "Why

is it important for us to still learn Latin?" To which Mr. Dybicz replied, "I think the most important thing about learning Latin is that it just makes you a better learner, a better thinker, and a more logical and rigorous reasoner." As Mr. Dybicz pointed out, Latin, similar to math, requires us to use logic uniquely in order to decode the writing that is put in front of us. Alongside this philosophy, Mr. Dybicz has drawn students into Latin with a tradition at St. Ignati-

us known as "The Chariot Races." This tradition was created by Mr. Dybicz when he was a freshman at St. Ignatius. This tradition (which I hope Prep eventually adapts) involves students building home-made chariots and racing them around campus. One boy pulls the chariot while the other sits in it, and these teams of two race against each other one at a time. "It always

felt like the Super Bowl," Mr. Dybicz laughed. Over 400 students participate in the races during this all-day affair as hot dogs are grilled, chariots are crashed, and money is raised for patients with cancer. The tradition is one of the best ways to inspire students to study Latin. However, don't take my word for it and search "St. Ignatius Chariot Races 2019" on Youtube. You will not be disappointed.

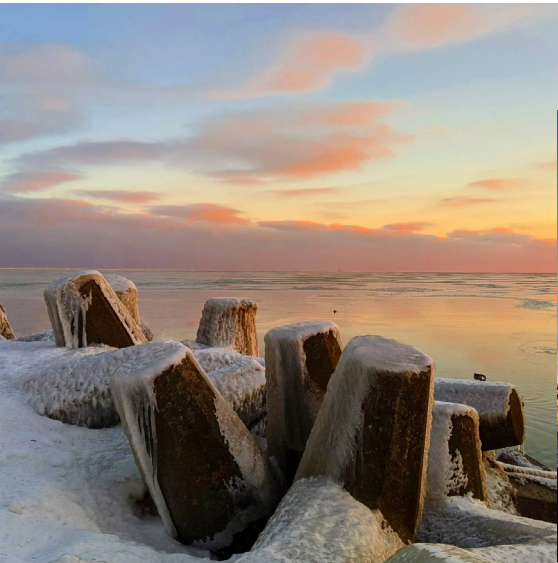
When Mr. Dybicz is not teaching Latin or organizing the thrilling tradition of chariot racing, he enjoys taking walks around

downtown Washington, D.C., and taking pictures of the unique city right outside of where we go to school. Mr. Dybicz is a self-described history buff; his favorite DC monuments are the Lincoln Memorial and the Capitol Building. "Most governmental buildings in DC are based on either actual Greek or Roman temples or have the same style," noted Dybicz. This connection between the architecture of our Federal Government buildings and the architecture of ancient Roman or Greek civilizations has drawn Mr. Dybicz to learn more about the monuments and history present in our city. Mr. Dybicz's extensive knowledge of Greco-Roman culture allows him to see statues such as the one of James Garfield outside the Capitol in different ways others may not be able to understand. He can point out the Roman influences taken into account during the statue's construction in no time.

Mr. Dybicz has proven himself to be an interesting and thoughtful man when I spoke with him. The Prep community is lucky to have him, and everyone should take the time to welcome him to our community and learn more about him. *The Little Hoya* wishes Mr. Dybicz a long and fruitful career here at Prep.



Some of Mr. Dybicz's favorite photos he has taken as an amateur photographer



Prep Life

What is a Hoya?

Jack Sullivan '24

From the Horned Frogs and Hilltoppers to the Fighting Okra or Banana Slugs, school mascots come in a range of shapes and sizes. Georgetown Prep is fortunate to have a particularly special mascot that stands out.

What exactly is a Hoya? The term “hoya” comes from the Georgetown University chant “Hoya Saxa,” which very roughly translates as “What Rocks.” This could be a reference to the 1893 football team’s strong defense or to the stone wall that surrounds the campus to this day. “Hoya” is Greek for “what,” and “saxa” is Latin for “rock.” Nevertheless, “Hoya Saxa” most likely began as a meaningless chant and was retroactively assigned the Latin and Greek meanings.

Because Hoya essentially acts as a placeholder word, Georgetown University and Georgetown Prep have had a number of physical mascots over the years. Originally, Georgetown athletics jerseys featured the Georgetown Hilltopper. Since then, several breeds of dogs have served as mascots at sporting events, from Bull Terriers to Great Danes. When students began bringing Jack the Bulldog to games, the bulldog became the mascot of the Georgetown University football team in 1964. Since then, the



Jack the Bulldog on Georgetown University's Campus

bulldog has been the most common mascot for the Georgetown Hoyas and the Georgetown Prep Little Hoyas, appearing on a variety of jerseys right below the HOYAS emblazoned in all caps. However, there is a notable exception. The Georgetown Prep wrestling team’s logo is in fact a Sharknado. The idea was originally created by Prep wrestling and lacrosse coach and Latin teacher Mr. Kubik in 2011 (two years before the movie of the same name came

out!) The lacrosse team has since dropped the Sharknado in favor of the traditional bulldog.

Evidently, this explanation of the definition of a Hoya has not reached Landon. In hallways and in classrooms on Landon’s campus, the word “Hoya” is whispered with fear and

reverence. Current reports indicate that the Landon student population believes the Hoya to be a ten-foot-tall behemoth wolf with enormous arms perfectly suited for hunting bears. Other Landon folktales tell of a muscled warrior wielding a lacrosse stick and a baseball bat who appears to score fourth-quarter goals and bomb ninth-inning home runs.

So to conclude, what is a Hoya? A Hoya is whatever we make it to be!

Sports

Formula One 2022: Blue vs. Red

Changze "Zeno" Song '24

As the 2022 Formula One championship progressed, drama unfolded as Ferrari transformed its obvious mechanical advantage into the worst nightmare in motorsports. Despite initial DNFs thwarting Max Verstappen’s title bid, the masterminds at Red Bull soon resolved the RB22’s unreliabilities and hunted down the Scuderia, which had experienced multiple power unit failures since Spain. Coupled with his own mistakes, Charles Leclerc despairingly witnessed his lead dwindle to an 80-point deficit by the summer break.

Adding to this woe was Ferrari's pit wall’s inability to deliver proper strategies that matched the F75’s sheer speed. For example, Ferrari inflicted upon



themselves a fiasco in Hungary, as astonished fans and commentators witnessed Leclerc’s car being fitted with hard-compound tires, which had already proven to be the last resort. Thus, Verstappen still passed Leclerc despite spinning at the

penultimate corner. As a result of the most heralded F1 team’s numerous blunders, not only is Ferrari’s bid for the world title diminishing, but Leclerc’s championship hope is also fading rapidly.

Heading into the summer break, Red Bull possesses a healthy lead over Ferrari in both points and team cohesion. Verstappen and Red Bull have become an impregnable combination, with some commenting that “even Verstappen’s mistakes are perfect.” Ferrari seems to have mastered the hardware side of racing but has absolutely failed in the software. No one, no team, has ever recovered from such a point deficit in history, so it is only plausible that Verstappen will claim his second crown. However, not all hopes are lost as F1 proceeds into the summer break, when teams may improve or slack off.

As the saying goes, it’s never over until the race ends.

Sports

Zeno-to-Sixty: The Spinning Dorito, Pt 4: Mazda Empire

Changze "Zeno" Song '24

Following the Cosmo, Mazda released the Familia Rotary, or R100, in 1968. It sported the 10A engine, which produced 100 horsepower. In 1971, Mazda introduced the Grand Familia, better known as its export name, the RX-3. However, due to fuel economy woes colliding with the 1973 energy crisis, it was never sold in the US. However, the true Mazda spirit pressed on with the improvement of the rotary engine.

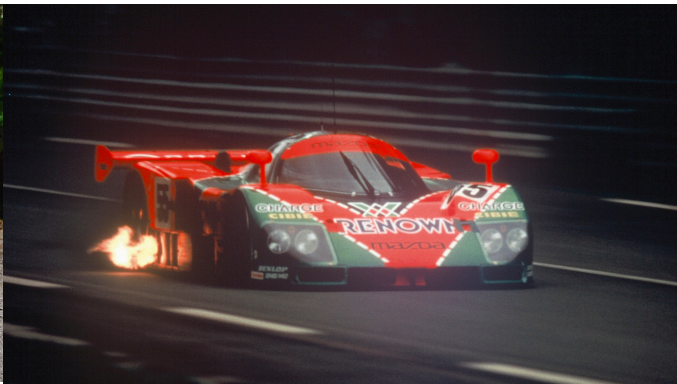
In 1978, Mazda bestowed upon this world the RX-7, arguably the most regarded rotary automobile in the world. Unlike its predecessors, the RX-7 was front-mid engine, lending it fantastic balance and thus sportiness. Additionally, its 12A rotary screamed at a mind-blowing 7000 rpm. What’s more, owners were suggested by Mazda to shift at redline to rid the combustion chamber of carbon residues. Its 1.2L displacement circumvented the extra tax on displacement while sustaining sufficient power. The RX-7 evolved multiple times, culminating in the infamous FD form and its 13B engine.



Mazda RX-7 FD

To prove its genuine performance potential, Mazda entered the RX-7 into the IMSA GTU Sportscar Championship series in 1979, and it could often be seen in podium spots until 1986. In 1990, Mazda entered IMSA again, but this time with a four-rotor RX-7 that bellowed out 600 horsepower at 8500 rpm. Truly astonishing.

In 1991, Mazda took advantage of rule changes at Le Mans and entered the 787B. At the heart of this beautiful machine rested the R26B, churning out 700 horsepower at 9000 rpm from its four rotors, each with three spark plugs. Not only did its reliability astound its rivals, but the alien-like exhaust notes also stupefied audiences. Its one and only win at Le Mans endurance-focused sportscar race that year cemented it as the first Japanese manufacturer to ever win the prestigious race.



Mazda 787B

Following the cult-like success of the RX-7 and a hiatus from the “Lost Decade of Japan,” the RX-8 arrived with multiple reliability issues and low popularity. It seemed like the rotary had fallen out of fashion by the early 2000s. Mazda fitted variations of the engine on concept cars and even experimented with a hydrogen version, but all roads led to a dead end. As the rotary disappeared from the market and IC engines soon followed, the doriyo’s once shining components had genuinely tarnished, apart from petrolheads who still polished them tirelessly to restore its glory. Transitioning into a new era in which electrification and the environment are the cardinal concerns, we must not dismiss those preceding us: brave manufacturers willing to move away from convention and who bequeathed us legendary engines like the 13B and R26B. May the dorito keep spinning, spinning, spinning ... in the world hereafter!



The Little Hoya

Reporting “New Prep” news since 1920


We Are Recruiting!

Please reach out to faculty moderator Ms. Hepburn(lhepburn@gprep.org) or Editor-in-Chief Daniel Xu, '23(zxu1@gprep.org) if you are interested in joining *The Little Hoya* editorial team.

Two Ways to Participate:

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This issue of *The Little Hoya* was made possible by the hard work of our editorial team and staff writers.

Here at The Little Hoya, we strive for truth and integrity. Any mistakes are unintentional. Reach out with questions or concerns by email to the newspaper faculty moderator, Ms. Leah Hepburn: LHepburn@gprep.org

Thanks for reading.

Hoya Saxa!