



Loyola students at battle of Charles Street

Welcome To Houndtown

By Billy Malone

Do you think Loyola doesn't have what it takes to have an action-packed athletic event? If you think that, you are mistaken. One of the most hyped-up moments on campus in the spring semester is the battle of Charles Street, a matchup of Loyola Maryland and Johns Hopkins, an action-packed matchup that has been happening since 1994. With both Loyola and Hopkins having their schools bordering Charles Street, the name of the game was developed. This has been a majority one-sided battle with Hopkins winning many of the games. The location of the game changes every year—from Hopkins' Homewood field to Ridley Athletic Complex—and peaks the interest of both teams' fans. This game is usually one of the first games of the season in February. There may be a little nip of cold winter weather in the air, but the people gathered cheering for their teams bring the temperature right up.

"The crowd was electric between all the Loyola and Hopkins fans where the energy has never been matched in a game prior."

***-Dylan Jock
Loyola***

This year...the chatter on campus the week leading up the game was all about whether you would be attending the game this weekend. Loyola and Hopkins were some of the top teams in the nation after their first matchup of the season. Of course, the students knew how traditionally good Loyola's lacrosse team is so they knew how competitive of a game it would be. The week before, both teams had a big matchup versus teams ranked higher than they were. Loyola matched up against the reigning national champ, Maryland, another rival of ours. This was a hyped-up game at Ridley Athletic Complex that Loyola ended up winning. It was a huge win and season opener game that gained national attention. Hopkins the week before was also matched up against Georgetown, a number three seed at the time. Hopkins pulled off the win and pulled an upset gearing the teams up for a head-to-head battle.

Being involved in Loyola's campus events is how the community will have the comradery everyone wants. I was not able to attend the Maryland game the week before, but all the kids I know who attended said the atmosphere was action packed and they couldn't wait for the battle of Charles Street. They said the student section was standing the whole time cheering and celebrating when Loyola scored all their goals. They said they couldn't imagine how the student section would be the next weekend. Hearing this, I couldn't wait to step foot into Ridley and experience the Hounds in action.



Two friends ready to win

Best Part Of The Whole Game

This year Loyola allowed tailgating before the game again. This brought cars and trucks lined up in an open field across from the lacrosse stadium. My parents had decided to come down this weekend to visit. My parents were so ecstatic after the game at Ridley and loved the chance to tailgate. They loved being able to meet all my brothers' and my friends, seeing firsthand how everyone in the Loyola community is so respectful. It was a great event for my whole family and for my parents to experience with my brothers and me. My two older brothers attended Loyola, also, so the whole family gathered, grilled and got excited. My brothers said how they loved this day and

never had anything like this tailgate before during all their years at Loyola. People from all grades were there just having fun with friends ready to support their fellow classmates. During the tailgate you could see the cars and trucks piling in slowly as gametime approached. As the teams began to warm up, the music started to blare, and you could feel the bass in your chest.

Energy Inside Ridley

My friends and I made our way down to the front of the stadium, trying to find our buddies who saved us seats in the jumble of the crowd. When we found our spot, the game started, and you could feel the instant change in the atmosphere. The cheers and screams shadowed the sound of the game. The ref's whistle could hardly be heard. Loyola opened with a goal in the first minute and the crowd went wild. They then followed up with another a couple seconds later and the fans knew we were in for a show. The comradery I saw at that moment was why I decided to come here. Hearing about the moments my brothers experienced and finally being in the situation myself, I knew my next four years were going to be amazing.

Entering Houndtown

Walking into the stadium, you'll see herds of people tried to storm through the gates. When your ticket is scanned, you enter Houndtown. Loyola Green is everywhere. At this game, the Hopkins fans made sure to keep their distance from the Loyola student section knowing how rowdy our fans can get during a game. It has been stated in the sports world that Loyola fans have been the X factor in their first win versus Maryland. The energy wasn't matched by Hopkins fans, and I couldn't imagine a better weekend with friends and family. Loyola ended up winning this game 13-8, a score that showed the greyhounds' dominance that day. This was all a result of the Loyola students coming together for the desire to bring the winning culture back to Loyola.

Be Involved

Being a Loyola student, when the big games do arise, I suggest that you and your friends attend the games loud and proud supporting your fellow greyhounds. Don't just attend the game and watch. Make sure you cheer for the team and talk to the people around you; only if it's not too loud! Makes plans for after the game. Fully immerse yourself in Loyola athletics and a history of winning. I hope later this season the Loyola community will be able to gather at Ridley once again for a big playoff game.

All Around Greyhound Win

For me, this was a moment of realization—the Loyola community joins together for big events. When Loyola students hear a big event is happening, they will always make sure to show up in full force. The days leading up and the actual game weren't the whole reason this tradition is so great. It's all about the past, present and future greyhounds gathering for the reason to win the battle of Charles Street. Loyola students aren't in the college experience for themselves: they are there for others and the success of others. If you ever feel alone, know that someone is ready to help you be the best version of yourself; like the greyhounds supporting greyhounds during the battle of Charles Street.



My Dad grilling

"Loyola pride and spirit was on full display at this year's Battle of Charles Street. Students, alumni and families enjoyed a beautiful day at Ridley watching the Hounds take it to John Hopkins." -My Dad



Cross Country Team at tailgate