

FEATURES

From Princeton to the
Pentagon: The many
faces of Pete Hegseth '03



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Some of Hegseth's Princeton involvements include:

- Majored in **Politics** and wrote a thesis entitled "Modern Presidential Rhetoric and the Cold War Context."
- Member of the **Cap and Gown Club**
- Oversaw **The Tory**
- Participated in the faith-based group **Athletes in Action**
- Participated in the **Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps** and varsity basketball



“There was **nothing** in our somewhat shared path that would make me think of **allegations** of sexual assault or public intoxication.”

“Anything could happen ... but it’s not like he was a boozier and womanizer, assaulting or being inappropriate with women even 20 years ago.”

Cameron Atkinson '03

Fellow Cap and Gown member alongside Hegseth



At The Tory, Hegseth first laid the foundations for the **culture warrior ideology** he later championed on Fox.

In a regular column called **"The Rant,"** Hegseth and his fellow Tory editors notably argued that publishing same-sex marriage announcements could lead to a slippery slope of recognizing unions with animals, labeled the "homosexual lifestyle" as **"abnormal and immoral."**



“I think [Hegseth] saw a **role** to play here on campus as a **conservative**, and carved that out — he sort of took that role to the **fullest**.”

Josh White '03

Knew Hegseth from a distance



“Pete Hegseth is **wholly unqualified** from a personal and professional perspective.”

“His nomination is an **embarrassment** and a **disgrace** to all who have served, or will serve.”

Col. Matthew McCarville

*A former commander of Princeton's ROTC program,
wrote on Facebook*



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Caption: In 1999, Pete Hegseth 03 arrived at Princeton from Forest Lake, Minn. and promptly began campaigning for class senator, a position he secured. Over the next four years, Hegseth cemented himself as arguably one of the most vocal, staunch conservatives on campus. He climbed to the rank of publisher for The Princeton Tory, the campus foremost conservative publication, and sparked campus debate and outrage over his comments on diversity, feminism, and homosexuality. Now, Hegseth is in the running for U.S. Secretary of Defense after being nominated for the position by President Donald Trump in November. While Hegseth himself did not respond to multiple requests for comment, the Prince spoke to a number of his professors, classmates, and ROTC commanders. Tap the link in our bio for the full piece. Reporting by Sena Chang. Post design by @paige.walworth. Photo credit: Victoria Davies / The Daily Princetonian.

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