

THE HARVARD
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TRAPPED IN
winter



Inside: Snow, Standish, and Stereotypes

The Harvard Independent

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The Indy is building an igloo!

Cover design by
Isabelle Blair '21

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As Harvard College's weekly undergraduate newsmagazine, the Harvard Independent provides in-depth, critical coverage of issues and events of interest to the Harvard College community. The Independent has no political affiliation, instead offering diverse commentary on news, arts, sports, and student life.

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Aidan Fitzsimons '20



A: On Monday, we had a snow day. We didn't have an actual snow day, but it snowed a lot, and we definitely had a day.

J: Snow slushing under my weary, somewhat raggedy boots, I made it to Pierce just before 9am, unwilling to risk a shuttle ride that sometimes left me a few minutes late for class.

A: I had a ton of reading to do, but I decided that I didn't want to let Harvard control all of my time, and I was missing that joyous feeling of waking up to a beautiful snowstorm knowing that school was cancelled. So I cancelled school for myself.

J: Nearly half the class was empty, I disappointedly noticed. I never understood the people who didn't go to class, snow or not; we're at Harvard, how could you possibly not attend class I hazily wondered...as I slowly nodded off in my cozy back corner of the room.

A: I had recently obtained an old US Post box, and I had the spontaneous thought that it was the perfect size for making snow bricks. In full winter gear, with my awkward boots and old snowpants, I trekked out to Widener Library with my box at five in the afternoon. After sledding a few times on the Widener Steps, I selected my spot and began to scoop snow with my box. I would kneel in the snow, drive the edge of the box into the thick snow, drag the box toward me, and smoosh the box full of packed snow. Then I'd settle it into shape, flip the box over, smack the sides to separate the block from the box, and boom, I'd laid a brick. After laying an ambitiously large circle of bricks, I began to build up my wall, piling bricks on bricks while filling in the gaps

with loose snow.

J: On the walk back, I stopped briefly to appreciate the crystallized ice on a nearby tree and to let the dramatic aura of Harvard, the science center, Annenberg, the Yard, and everything around it wash over me. I did that from time to time. I was attending the *Harvard University*, as I had to remind myself from time to time; not in a way that made me feel big and egotistical, however, but reminded me that I was small in comparison to those who've walked these paths.

A: I ate dinner, and returned to the site with my friend Kenneth. Kenneth brought a music speaker, and we had an amazing time building our fort (which we idealistically swore would eventually become a full igloo) together. Over the six total hours on Monday during which I labored on this fort, over a hundred people stopped to admire, take a picture, or offer words of encouragement and appreciation; a half-dozen or so even joined us to help for a while. I made a lot of new friends building that fort. By the time Kenneth and I finally left the site, after 11 pm, we had built a solid fort. It was a well-constructed oval that could fit at least a dozen people in it, and the smooth, strong walls reached three to four feet high. We left very proud, and ready to return to the task on Tuesday, after a long night of attempting to catch up on homework. Our backs ached and my knees were in startling pain, but it was undoubtedly worth it. We were going to make it the coolest igloo ever.

J: I paused while walking through the yard later that day, looking curiously at a half built igloo standing almost three feet high. A slight pang could be used to describe what I felt in that moment; nothing egregious or dramatic, but a slight twinge reminiscent of when I was young and I noticed the smallest bit of resigned envy. I reached down next to the igloo, placed a small handful of snow on the exterior, and neatly patted it down.

A: Tuesday morning, on the way to class, we discovered that some vandals had smashed

in two large segments of our beautiful wall. They apparently had tried to kick down more of it, but the packed snow was too solid, and they gave up; their extra minute of kicking was apparently not worth my hour of packing. They also took my trusty box. I was really sad to discover this destruction.

J: I stood by the broken igloo for a long time. For the briefest of moments, I was wildly upset and could feel the blood rushing through my ears. That quickly faded however, and what was left was an emptiness not quite unlike the hollow interior of the igloo.

A: I spent another hour this afternoon trying to salvage the damage, by grafting the debris onto the strong parts of the wall in order to pivot towards a smaller half-igloo, but it didn't work very well. The packed snow and new snow didn't fuse easily, and the new snow was hard and clumpy by then anyway. It's looking like the fort may remain a beautiful ruin. It's still pretty impressive. Kenneth and I will return to it again this week to continue the operation however we can; it remains to be seen whether we will be able to accomplish our igloo dream, or whether we will have to resign ourselves to waiting for the next snowstorm. I remain hopeful, even if a little saddened by the setbacks. After all, building the snowfort allowed me to share a smiling connection with dozens of new and old friends.

J: I watched a guy around my age working to restore the igloo. After he had gone, I walked slowly up to the broken igloo and took a picture. I like looking at that picture, and I'm not really sure why. Some people might say it's a symbol for something, but all I know is that it feels good.

Aidan Fitzsimons '20 (aidan_fitzsimons@college.harvard.edu) likes Igloos.

Tushar Dwivedi '20 (tushar_dwivedi@college.harvard.edu) apparently does too.

INDY ARTS

A Symbol for Something

By AIDAN FITZSIMONS & TUSHAR DWIVEDI

So Close, yet So Far

A Peek Behind the Curtains on Harvard Snow Days

By TUSHAR DWIVEDI

As temperatures continue to drop and snow accumulates rapidly in massive mounds outside Widener and Annenberg, students can't help but reminisce about "the good ol' days of Spring 2016, when the snow days were honestly endless." This Winter season took its time in arriving however, with temperatures in the 50's and 60's not uncommon in November and December. After enjoying a lengthy (and oftentimes warm) winter break, however, students were greeted back in Boston and Cambridge with painfully strong winds and layers of snow on the ground.

This past Monday, however, brought an unprecedented level of snow and cold to Boston, with announcements proclaiming that the Boston Public Library, City Hall, Franklin Park Zoo, and the JFK Library were all closed. Meanwhile the 12-16 inches of snow also caused the state government to delay office opening until 11am, whereas the local Boston city office was closed for all non-emergency workers. Finally, the train systems were running significantly behind schedule, as reported by the MBTA.

As such, many students wondered as they went to bed Sunday night if "we'd get to enjoy a long weekend." The resulting email from the Harvard Administrative Office, however, disappointed many, and left students "quite frankly, stunned." When asked what they would most likely have done with a full day off classes, the list of responses was quite limited: sleep and study for midterms dominated, with a few students mentioning going into Boston or "just enjoying the snow."

In response to the questions, having been through their own heyday of snow-days back

almost two years ago, many Juniors and Senior couldn't help but wonder how exactly Harvard decides whether to cancel classes.

The Independent reached out to Leslie Kirwan, Dean for Administration and Finance at Harvard FAS, hoping to gain insight into the decision-making process. Dear Kirwan explains that the process is a challenging one, filled with significant nuance. While the administration takes into account information and announcements from the National Weather Service, local and state governments, MBTA, and nearby colleges and universities, a clear-cut decision to cancel school for a day really only occurs if the "Governor declares a travel ban, and/or the T announces a disruption or shutdown in service (as opposed to weather-related delays)." As such, even heavy snow days such as Monday require significant discussion and debate, given the lack of clear guidance from state officials.

As Kirwan explains, "At intervals, the University's CMT (Crisis Management Team) is mobilized for phone calls to discuss this across Harvard. We strive to make a decision for the University that is most appropriate and communicate it quickly, while allowing individual schools and offices within Harvard to give different guidance if needed. The Executive Vice President communicates the guidance to all of Harvard, and the individual schools and units follow up with local guidance." Thus,



while students are questioning and waiting whether the awaited snow-day school cancellation email will be sent out, each of the various departments and divisions across Harvard are in contact to make the proper decision. Making the decision even more complex is the presence of scheduled midterms, providing an additional logistical challenge.

Dean Kirwin emphasizes, however, that the administrations "trusts that students, staff, academic personnel, and faculty will use their best judgment about whether it is safe to come to work." While many professors did cancel class on Monday, students were left in a slightly more challenging position. *The Independent* surveyed several students as to whether they felt comfortable telling a professor they would not be able to make it to class because of the weather, and the overwhelming response was that "it seemed as if the expectation was for us to attend." Transparency in the process of understanding how decisions are made is just the first step for students in wait of a snow day; the next, and likely more important, is understanding if they have administrative support in making decisions best for them, or whether the decision remains a class-by-class and professor-by-professor decision.

Tushar Dwivedi '21 (tushar_dwivedi@college.harvard.edu) awaits another snow day opportunity in the upcoming future.

News Briefs

Harvard Launches Pilot Pulse Survey

By MARISSA GARCIA

On the morning of Tuesday, March 5th, 2019, Harvard affiliates opened their university emails to discover an email sent from President Bacow, urging them to respond to the pilot Pulse survey. The motion of this survey was strongly recommended by the Presidential Task Force for Inclusion and Belonging of the previous year.

Within the various advertisements for the survey, there is a clear emphasis on its brevity. A placard advertising the survey, which can be found upon the tables within undergraduate dining halls, reads, “**10** questions. **3** minutes. **Your Voice.**” Not only does the bolded type of the final words emphasize the survey’s aim at understanding inclusion, but the bolded numbers underscore the small amount of time demanded by the survey. In its bottommost corner there is a QR code linking to the survey, increasing the accessibility of the survey to students. The placard’s setting of the dining hall gains traction upon the possibility that students will take a moment to take the survey while they are already eating their meals.

As soon as undergraduates log into their Canvas accounts, upon their dashboard they will find a banner about three times the size of a standard course widget. Embedded within the banner, which includes this same motto, is a link that directs students immediately to the survey.

Ultimately, the widespread and accessible nature of this survey, coupled with its brevity, caters toward the busy lifestyles of the Harvard community.

Survey participants are asked to answer questions on a scale from Strongly disagree to Strongly agree. The questions begin pertaining to themes of self and then transition into topics of interpersonal relationships, academic fulfillment, interactions within scholarly communities, and trust within the administration to handle issues such as harassment. The last question deviates in format; as an optional written response, it calls to its participants to outline one to two possible routes for concrete action the Harvard administration could take to improve inclusion. The diverse array of topics addressed within

the questions points toward how Harvard may define inclusion, which is not limited to social interactions but also expands to evaluating academic curriculum, contrary to presumptions that a curriculum is static.

This is in line with this year’s rise in student advocacy for the development of an Ethnic Studies concentration within the curriculum of the College. Students, however, question the efficacy of the survey and its ability to drive true change or thought. As Harvard Junior Awnit Singh Marta mentions, “I think that it’s a good step, but it’s way too late. This survey should have been launched closer to when the matter first began. Also, this survey is so general, it doesn’t seem to be specific to just this case. And I think there are many more issues on this campus that deserve a climate survey like this, such as divesting from prison investments.”

Marissa Garcia '21 (marissagarcia@college.harvard.edu) remains curious as to how the survey will translate its results into action within the community.

21st Annual Dr. Walter J. Leonard Black Arts Festival

By JILLY CRONIN

The 2019 Black Arts Festival titled “Envision: how we see ourselves, how we see the world, and how that affects what we can imagine for both” will host its two final events of the week today and tomorrow. Today’s event, “Drag as Black Imaginary Space” will be from 5:30 to 7:30 PM in the PBHA Parlor Room. This event will bring in Boston-based drag queens and a Harvard professor of Studies of Women, Gender and Sexuality for a discussion about identity, performance, and self-aestheticization.

The event tomorrow is a Capoeira

Workshop taking place in the Currier Dance Studio from 11 AM to 1 PM. Kuumba has already hosted three events for BAF 2019, including discussions with professors and guest speakers, a writer’s workshop, and an open mic night “celebrating the voices, stories, and experiences of Black women and femmes!”

This year’s festival marks the 21st annual Black Arts Festival hosted by the Kuumba Singers of Harvard College. The Black Arts Festival was founded by Philip Atiba Goff ’99 in 1998. Goff is now the Franklin A. Thomas Professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Regarding the purpose of the BAF, Goff believes that it serves to “remind

our artists of their points of origin and to share those origins with our audience.” This year’s festival co-chairs, Antonia Scott ’20 and Gabrielle Preston ’20, concur, writing on the BAF 2019 website that “BAF 2019 seeks to celebrate the artists, activists, and organizers that inspire us to see ourselves more clearly, imagine radical alternatives, and change our possibilities for the future.”

Jilly Cronin '21 (croninj@college.harvard.edu) writes news for the Indy.

Instagram Profiles to Warm the Cockles of Your Hearts

Harvard-Inspired Instagrams

By ALAYA AYALA

With the weather growing ever colder despite it now being March, most people are likely finding themselves spending an inordinate amount of time inside and bored out of their skulls. There's always plenty of content to be found on the internet to ease this boredom, but the truth of the matter is that what we find on the internet is often a lot of negativity that we don't need.

School is stressful enough without the harsh realities of the outside world glaring up at you from your newsfeed, so it only makes sense to occasionally want to take a break from the heartbreaking and seek out some wholesome content to mend your soul. That's where these Instagram profiles come in.

Personally, when I'm feeling a little angry at the college for whatever reason, be it yet another midterm or some other perceived injustice, I usually like to see my frustration echoed on meme pages dedicated to posting about Harvard or Ivy League institutions in general. It was to my surprise when I realized that wholesome content about Harvard existed outside of its official social media profiles, and this content also helped to make me feel better about being here when I wasn't feeling too great about it.

I had the privilege of speaking to the owners of two Instagram profiles dedicated to appreciating aspects of Harvard that we don't often think about.

The first was [@beautiful_berg_creations](#) which is currently being run by two first-year blockmates who wish to remain anonymous. The profile is headed with the name "HUDS praise" and the bio "anyone who feels the need to spew hate about Harvard grub can step off."

I had a really enjoyable time learning about their process for running the account and their goals for it in the future. It turns out that one of the first-years has had experience running food-praising accounts like this in high school, when they ran an account dedicated to photographing vegan food. They stated that they "had a lot of fun setting up the posts and gaining a following," and when they got to Harvard, "a friend said that my food looked

like something that HUDS would post." Thus, [@beautiful_berg_creations](#) was born.

The profile is certainly not the first among its kind on Instagram, but it is fair to say that it's pretty surprising to see an account dedicated to praising HUDS food, which is probably one of the least-well-liked and easiest-to-joke-about things on campus. One of the admins of the account even said, "it's very common culture to shit on d-halls here, that's why this is such a different and positive page."

When asked about the content of the account, the admins laughingly admitted that it has an "accidental theme" of vegetarian and vegan foods, mainly because that's the food they eat themselves and also because many of their friends are also vegetarians and vegans. They do have photos with meat-based meals though because their goal for the account is to generally post "colorful plates and high-quality photos."

Sometimes the food pictures that they post are their meals, and other times they are features submitted to them via direct messaging on the app. As far as goals for the account go, the admins have toyed with the idea of adding a "humans of new york" aspect to it and including stories and student bios with food submissions. For now, they plan on sticking with inspirational and witty captions and one day bringing in content from the d-halls in the houses.

The other Instagram profile that I was glad to learn more about was [@harvardhumans](#) a.k.a Humans of Harvard College. The bio on this account is simple and poignant, "Everyone has a story - a story worth sharing." The account was started this past February and features photos of Harvard Students captioned with bios that contain quotes from the students themselves.

Currently, the account is run by around 6 people who are part of a college-recognized organization dedicated to keeping the project going. I spoke to one of them who also wishes to remain anonymous for the sake of sticking to the vision of the account, which is to give voices to all of the people that attend the college.

This particular person has had history with a project similar to this in high school. They began a journalistic "humans of" project dedicated to documenting the students in the graduating class, and since this person has graduated, the project has continued as something of a new tradition.

This admin said that they "got a lot of fulfillment with the project in high school, and Harvard is such a melting pot of unique stories." Thus, this particular "Humans of Harvard" project was born. The goal of the page is "to provide a service to the community by posting these stories. A lot of students don't have time to get to know strangers, so this account is trying to pay some kindness and understanding forward."

The account has a pretty formalized process for each of its posts. Every week the team meets to decide who they want to interview and take photos of. Monday through Wednesday of the following week is then dedicated to reaching out to and interviewing the person. Generally, the interview process is very informal since the goal is to really get to know people in a short amount of time. The latter half of the week is dedicated to having a photo shoot with the person and getting the post ready. Before everything is posted, quotes from the interview and photos are run by the featured student. The profile generally posts every Sunday and Wednesday.

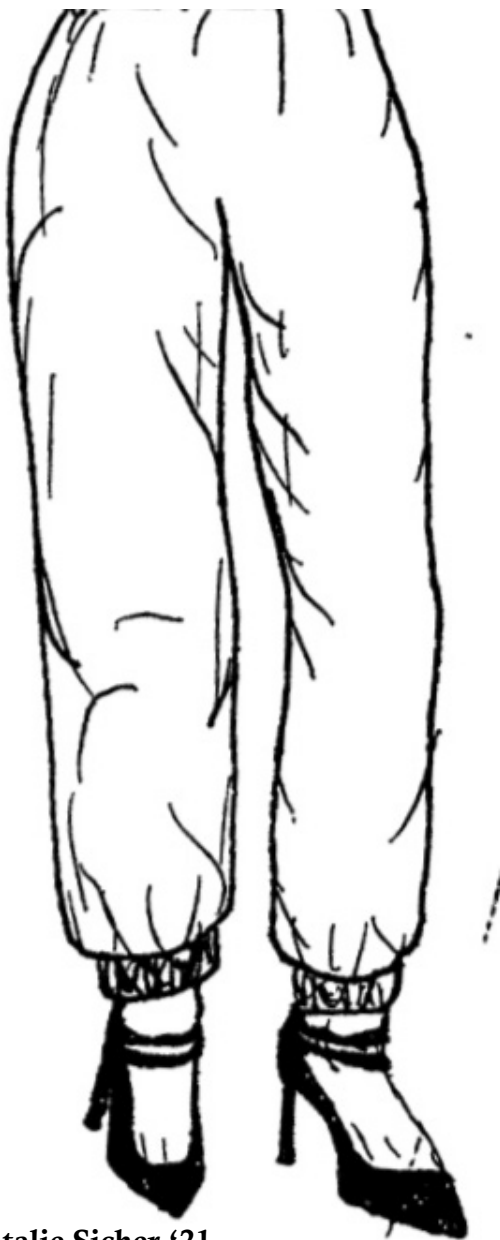
The future goals for the account include making it something that lasts after the original group graduates. There have been other humans of Harvard accounts like this in the past, but they stopped posting after a while. The hope with this account and the purpose of making it into an officially recognized organization is to retain the process of gathering content and posting it. Eventually, the group would like to feature content from faculty and other Harvard Affiliates. They can be reached through Instagram and via email at humansofharvardcollege@gmail.com

Alaya Ayala '21 (alaya_ayala@college.harvard.edu) really likes browsing through Instagram for good memes and even better feel-good content.

Style Without a Sweat

*The Third Installment of Fashion Advice
Column for Busy College Students*

By GRACE TWOREK



Natalie Sicher '21

Can fashion trends really be cool and comfortable?

What I learned the fastest at Harvard wasn't what I was reading in my Spanish textbook or taking away from my Math p-set, but rather how the students at Harvard really approach style. Not only do they have style, but they are consistently popping out for class day after day... even if that means wearing four-inch booties through a snow-covered Harvard Yard.

Ivy League style is more than just polo shirts and preppy sweaters, and I picked up on this pretty quickly. The world of fashion is constantly changing so pinpointing specific pieces from your closet and implementing them into your "class" wardrobe can be a challenge. This leads me into a trend that will make you feel like Hailey Baldwin as you walk into Emerson for that dreaded Econ class.

Who would have thought dressing up sweatpants could not only be a thing - but actually a stylish thing?

That's right, the trend of dressing up sweatpants and comfy clothes has been a total hit this fashion season. Now that we know that our mom might actually not scold us for wearing sweats out of the comfort of our own home, we must understand how to really pull this look off.

Start with the perfect pair of baggy, but not too baggy sweatpants... a pair that screams "I didn't sleep in these, but I could if I wanted to". Now the fun part comes in... How exactly do we dress them up? For me, the easiest way to do this is by pairing them with my favorite healed bootie or a

pair of my coolest sneakers. Keep it crisp and simple- a pair of fresh Nike Air Forces or a sleek pair of neutral tone booties if you want to make the look more sleek.

The top is where you can get creative. Since the bottom half of the look is more on the looser side, the top half can be something more fitted- like a simple tank top, bodysuit, or cropped sweatshirt. This look is all about effortlessness styled in a way that looks put together with a sense of ease and simplicity.

Yeah, you might be wearing sweatpants, but you also might look like you walked right off the Yeezy runway and right into class if done right. Sweatpants are often tied to the idea of someone not having their shit together and sometimes at Harvard this can be a hard truth for some to accept.

My advice- put those sweats on, style them with ease, grab your coffee, head to class and for once during your time at Harvard accept the fact that maybe you don't have your shit together... but at least you're rocking it with style.

Grace Tworek '21 (gtworek@college.harvard.edu) loves giving fashion advice.

The People We All Love To Hate

The Stereotypes of Harvard Students

By Mimi Tarrant



It's pretty fair to say that Harvard is one of the quirkiest Ivies out there, so it should come as no surprise that the people here are just as strange. What even is Harvard if it's not filled to the brim with some of the strangest, most pretentious and often-times-oblivious people that the world has to offer? A name like Harvard attracts people from all walks of life, and by this point in the semester, you must be able to recognize the typical tropes that people here tend to fall into. If not, you either don't have any form of social life at Harvard or even worse, you're one of the stereotypes yourself. You have been warned.

The Ivy Geek: If you didn't come to Harvard fully prepared to do academic battle against the Ivy League Geek™, the most socially awkward of all college nerds, then most probably you were already one of them. The goal of this person is to walk away from their Ivy League education with at least a 4.0 GPA (yes, they are aware that technically the system doesn't go higher than that, and yes, they will still get that A even if it kills them). If this person isn't awake at 4 a.m. furiously scribbling away at a P-Set or some essay for that uber-prestigious law school class they're taking, you're worried for their safety. If this is you, congratulations on fulfilling the classic Harvard stereotype, the reason why we say we 'go to a school in Boston' whenever someone from home asks. Here's to your nerdiness messing with the curve in some gen-ed that everyone was hoping would be a gem; didn't you know that just getting into Harvard is enough?

The 'Wanna-Be' Athlete: Look, exercise is great, and we all know athletic-wear is even better. But if we're being real, Harvard students wear sweats so often that it's hard to tell athletes and "NARPs" apart, leading to confusion about who actually plays a varsity sport. No, just because you lift twice a week

in Palmer Dixon does not mean you can start to mix with sports teams. Neither does it mean that you can pull the athlete card on your TF to get out of that assignment. Luckily, Harvard Athletic's new Nike deal has helped solve the problem. If you're not wearing a big black Nike coat, you're not really an athlete. Here's looking at you, club sports.

The Final Club Guy: Usually noticeable by their loafers and Patagonia sweaters with the zip just a little too low to show their bare chest, the Final Club Guy is hard to miss. Check them moving around in packs as if they can't function alone, and count yourself lucky if one of them actually makes eye-contact with you. Yes, they are that important - even mere eye-contact with them should be seen as a privilege. After all, Daddy didn't teach them how to assert authority over all of the "lower class" people for nothing. Harvard may be trying to shut the Final Club Guy down, but there's surely nothing that a little bit of money won't fix? Drew Faust wasn't having any of it, but word on the street is that Larry used to be one of them, so maybe the trust fund will come in handy once again.

The D-Hall Traffic-Stopper: If you know, you know. It could be that person who decides to spread their peanut butter on their bread meticulously, using the peanut butter knife and jamming up the whole spread area with their inability to just take and go. Or that one who decides that they would rather put each pea on their plate one at a time, just because they can take their sweet, sweet time. Not forgetting the person who decides to see how loud they can talk in the morning, as everyone within a five mile radius should definitely hear their story about how they once ate a raisin (!) thinking it was a raisin (!!) but it was actually a raisin (!!!) and it was life-changing. Trust me, the story is even more exhilarating at 8 in the morning. Everyone has their d-hall nightmare, and if

you don't, well then you are most definitely someone else's.

The New Yorker: Despite a large overlap with 'The Final Club Guy', the term 'New Yorker' refers to a specific subset of the elite. You can try to fake it 'till you make it, but the truth is that unless you're actually from the city of all cities, you'll get caught out somehow. These are the people who don't even know what HUDS tastes like, for god forbid that they actually have to eat in such a common place as the dining hall. Also easily distinguishable by their Instagram feeds, the New Yorker has a disproportionate number of followers for their actual popularity on campus and regularly posts about their trips to Europe. We get it, you're rich. Now go back to your mansion and leave us all in peace.

The "What are you doing this summer?" people: There are only two circumstances where the question of "What are you doing this summer?" can be acceptable. First, if you are being held at gunpoint, your life depends on it, and your hostage demands that you answer the question. Alternatively, it may be permitted if you are the person's mother. All other circumstances are just unnecessary, a un-subtle way of flexing your amazing internship in that amazing city with its amazing pay. Let's not lie, we know Daddy just pulled some strings to get you in on it. Next time you want to show off by glorying in other people's lack of connections, just speak to some of the BU girls in the PSK on a Saturday night.

Mimi Tarrant '21 (ameliatarrant@college.harvard.edu) has decided that we are merely living in a simulation despite what the physicists argue. They can be added to 'The Geeks'.

Standish Library

A Poem

By AIDAN FITZSIMONS

There is a tall clock on the front wall
Facing all of Standish Library
Does not tick or seem to move at all
It does when you don't look
But the time is often off

A giant sun shape
Brass, gold, dull, heavy, painted, fake
The clock is as long as me
But it never expands or shines or changes or burns
Which is how you know it is not me
And not the sun, see

Even though I know it's fake
It feels imperial, definitive
Its rays radiate evenly pointing
In rectangles imperfectly integrating
Striving to define an unreachable sine
The edge of time

There is only one time on the clock in Standish Library,
And it is the wrong time

Time is on the shelves in Standish Library
Time is hidden in underlines within the hundreds of books
Lining the walls that do not face the clock
There is lots of time here
I wish I had time to live it all

I know time when I feel myself severed from it
I know messianic time when I feel myself saved from it, now
Sharply, from then, in painful shards
There are shards of messianic time hidden away from the golden clock
Effacing all of Standish Library
And maybe I will find them
If I can find the time
There might not be enough
For me to save, for
In time, I will die.

What does it mean,
The suicide, or murder, of Walter Benjamin?
I wonder if the lost manuscript, destroyed by history or himself,
Is findable again, by my mind mining
Hourglass grains of unshining sand in sand
Scattered here, in Standish Library,
Shattered to pieces.

Aidan Fitzsimons '20 (aidan_fitzsimons@college.harvard.edu) has lots of time left.

A Successful Split

Women's Water Polo take on the Harvard Invite

By JP VIEIRA

Coming from a successful Bison Invite, where the Harvard women's Water Polo team went undefeated, expectations were high for the Harvard Invite in Cambridge. The women's water polo team was off to an unprecedented start, the best in the school's history at 9-0. The first game on their schedule was against Brown, on Friday March 1st. This would be their first Ivy League match of the season and the Crimson were more than ready for it.

After a relatively uneventful first period, sophomore attacker Quinne Pursell put the Crimson up 1-0. As they entered the second period, junior Mathilde Ribordy doubled Harvard's lead. Heading into the half, Brown managed to bring the game to a tie at game at 3-3. Shortly after the beginning of the third period, Mathilde Ribordy netted her hat-trick, putting the Crimson up over the Bears once again. In the last period, the game was pretty close, but Harvard ultimately pulled away with goals from freshman Evan Tingler and senior Kristen Hong. In the end, Harvard won 7-6 and extended the best start in school history to 10-0.

The 15th ranked Harvard's next game was on March 2nd against another Ivy League rival; this time the 18th ranked Princeton Tigers. Like the Brown game,

both teams went into the half tied at three, with two goals from freshman Grace Thawley and a goal from junior Lana Gorlinski. Heading into the second half, both teams seemed evenly matched. In the closing minutes, senior Kristen Hong managed to give the Crimson a 6-5 lead, only to see the Tigers tie it up once again. The first four periods ended in a draw and the game went into overtime. Unfortunately, after an amazing battle on both sides, the Crimson fell 7-6, ending the win-streak and bringing their record to 10-1.

Later that afternoon, Harvard faced No. 24 California Baptist and the Crimson were looking to bounce back from a hard-fought loss to the Princeton Tigers earlier that day. Freshman Grace Thawley once again opened up the scoring for Harvard, followed by goals from sophomore Olivia Price and junior Lana Gorlinski. The teams headed into the half with Harvard leading 9-7. In the second half of play, senior Kristen Hong put the game away, ultimately scoring 5 goals and adding in 4 assists. Goal-tender Sam Acker helped Harvard maintain the lead in the final minutes, as the Crimson would go onto win by a score of 14-13.

The next day, March 4th, Harvard would start off their double-header by facing their highest ranked opponent so far this season: No. 11 UC Davis. Junior

Sofia Carrera-Justiz put Harvard up early in the first period and again in the second period after the Aggies had tied it up 3-3. Ultimately, the Crimson went into the half down 8-5. In the second half, the Aggies ramped it up, going up 11-6 on Harvard. Unfortunately, despite an amazing run, Harvard felt just short of what would have been a miraculous comeback, losing 11-10.

Later that afternoon, for their final game of the Harvard Invite, the Crimson squared off against No. 24 ranked Bucknell. Harvard's offensive fire power seemed to overwhelm Bucknell in the first half, as Carrera-Justiz, Hong, Pursell, and Bowe all scored, putting Harvard up 6-3 before the second half began. The Crimson's offense continued to flow in the third period, as they added two more goals to their tally. Harvard ultimately won 8-6, moving to 12-2 on the season.

The Harvard Invite was overall a great learning experience for the Harvard Women's Water Polo team, cementing their position as one of the top teams in the nation. They square off next against UC Davis on Saturday, March 16th in California.

JP Vieira '21 (jvieira@college.harvard.edu) is excited for the Water Polo team to continue its strong play.

Nearing the Finish Line

Weekend of Wins for Harvard Men's Basketball

Buy ELIZABETH GUMMER

The Harvard Crimson showed the Quakers and the Tigers whose house they were playing in this weekend at Lavietes Pavilion, playing at home for the last time this season. Closing out with two wins — and the top ranking in the Ivy League — Harvard is set for success at the Ivy League tournament at Yale on March 16th.

Game one started slow on Friday night. With a score of 0-0 and six missed shots in the first two minutes, students patiently gnawed at free pizza until a Harvard freshman made the first basket of the night, with a two-point layup, setting the tone for the first half of the game — there were only three shots sunk in the first five minutes.

While Danilo Djuricic showed promise with back to back 3-pointers, star player Bryce Aiken had a tough first half, missing four of his five attempted 3-point shots and both attempts at a jump shot. Closing out the half down four points at 22-26, Harvard fans were holding their breaths until the second half began.

Taking back the lead quickly, Rio Haskett and Mason Forbes score two points each, taking the lead for Harvard. The Crimson men took the win with a final score of 59-53, losing the lead

only once in the second half.

On Saturday night Harvard honored their graduating players for their annual Senior Night in their game against Princeton. The starting lineup featured seniors Balsa Dragovic, Weisner Perez, Tommy McCarthy, Corey Johnson, and Robbie Feinberg. The first four points of the game were appropriately earned by Corey Johnson from two easy jump shots.

The Tigers held a marginal lead through the second half, but were overcome in a last minute shot by junior Chris Lewis which brought the score to 23-22 for Harvard.

The second half was dominated by the Harvard Crimson, who were only overtaken by the Tigers by a singular point, and for seven seconds, before Aiken took it back with a layup. The score closed out with a Harvard win of 66-58.

The same night Yale played Columbia in New Haven, CT and lost, bringing their conference record down to 9 wins and 3 losses. This loss knocked them down from the first place standing and brought them even with the Harvard team, whose win also gave them a 9-3 record this season.

Next weekend will be Harvard's last game of the regular conference season.

They will be playing at Cornell Friday night and Columbia on Saturday.

*Elizabeth Gummer '21
(elizabethgummer@college.harvard.edu)
will continue to cheer loudly in front of
her computer for next weekend's games.*

the independent



Back when everything wasn't frozen

By ISABELLE BLAIR