



HARVARD independent

THE STUDENT WEEKLY SINCE 1969

AT CAMBRIDGE IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSSETTS

THE PRESIDENT AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE HARVARD
INDEPENDENT, acting on the recommendation of the

and with the consent of the Executive Board and
Masthead, have conferred on

The Commencement Issue

In witness thereof, *by authority duly committed to us, we have hereunder placed
our names and the*

*Indy seal on this Sixth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord
two thousand and twenty-two, of The Harvard Independent the fifty third, of
this Masthead*

Issue Number Twenty

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MASTHEAD

May 6, 2022

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The Sustainers are a group of Independent alumni committed to supporting our mission by funding one month of office rent each year for at least five years.

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WILL RECKLER '99

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THE RED BUTTON

MY TIME AS PRESIDENT OF THE HARVARD INDEPENDENT

BY ARSH DHILLON '23

My heart rate quickened as the Zoom screen loaded to drop me into the meeting. I took a few shaky deep breaths, but they were cut short by the small screens of two men and my Editor-in-Chief, Mary Julia Koch '23 (affectionately "MJ"). It was our get-to-know-you and let's-see-if-you-have-the-vision-with-the-heads-of-the-Indy-Graduate-Board. A part of me was frustrated for being nervous—I did not even want to be President. And the other part, the creeping, natural part, wanted to prove that I was the right choice even if I was the only choice.

I became a member of the Indy after one of my best friends, the Indy recruiter, Annie Colloredo '23 introduced me to the previous President, Jilly Cronin '21, at a pregame. I was a lightweight rower looking for something else to which I would give my time, but I could not deal with the time commitment and constraints of being a new *Crimson* member. Jilly quickly convinced me to comp the Indy by fixing all the aforementioned problems: I could give any amount of time I wanted to give and I could do whatever I wanted even if that meant a mixture of business, design, and editorial. I craved fluidity and independence as being an athlete was so regimented and did not fulfill the creative side of myself that I had engaged with before college.

While I enjoyed working with the editorial side, journalism did not do much for me. I was far more interested in running the business side of the organization—it felt new and challenging and less established. Jilly and I could do whatever we wanted with it, and she entrusted me with the job as well. Over the months, however, I will admit that my commitment to the Indy teetered. When I became part of the Masthead, I began to do less and less until COVID hit and then we were off campus in the fall of 2020. I was suddenly promoted to Vice President, and it dawned on me that Jilly would be graduating the next spring. While she was slowly training me to do the job, I ignorantly assumed it would be someone else. When the time came, we were on a Zoom call together and she was talking to me about meeting with our Technology Director at the time, Michael Kielstra '22. I was confused why I would need to talk to him when it was not necessarily important for me to know our institutional memory about our website and passwords and google workspace, etc.

At the end of our Zoom, Jilly brought up the "P-word." I gulped down my *NO!* and just gave a slight nodding smile. She waited for my enthusiasm and jump, *YES! I'll do it.* After a moment of silence, my predecessor stated, *I hope you know it's yours now. It was always going to be.* With my knowledge now, I know the "It was always going to be" is somewhat bullshit, but I also know that it felt true for her then as it feels true for me now. My mouth lamely betrayed my internal thoughts and I responded, *Right, of course. Yes, I'm down.* If I could change anything in my time as President, it would be that one moment. I wish I had just said, *Fuck off, but okay, fine, I'll do it only if you're sure.* That would be far more in character.

Two months later, I found myself sharing my

screen to show MJ and I's vision for a digital Indy amidst the pandemic. They were excited and a little nervous. What we had in mind would uproot and change what the Indy looked and read like for years now. It would require a skillset that MJ and I did not have, but we would never let anyone on to that fact. Instead, we spoke with a silently agreed confidence—it was at this point that I knew we understood each other, complemented each other in what we would bring to the *Independent*. It was at this point that I realized we knew what the *Independent* should be, and as long as we held the same underlying vision, we could thrust this organization into the unknown.

Before our graduate board heads gave us their utmost trust, they introduced the "red button." They told us that we had the freedom to decide whether the Indy should even exist anymore. We



Pictured: The Editor-in-Chief and President (left to right) toasting the Indy

could dismantle this organization at any point in time. The shock of the red button made me stumble. I was extremely tempted to open this Pandora's box: *Did I actually want this job? Does it matter whether I do?*

The freedom to destroy the Indy meant we had the freedom to create the Indy. This organization belonged to us and no one else. Now, everything we did, every direction in which we took the Indy would mean that we did it willingly. It would mean that we wanted to keep this organization alive and growing and changing. It would mean we loved the Indy.

What a tactic this red button.

To realize our vision, I had to learn design. At this point, the Indy was just me, MJ, and Michael Kielstra running it, so we all had to take on extra work ahead of the launch of our first issue: "The Transition." I was running business and design, MJ ran editorial, and Michael ran tech. I say this with the utmost seriousness: learning design and how to use InDesign was traumatic. I remember opening a blank issue document and thinking, *I have my idea and there are an infinite number of ways to express it but only one that matches my and the Indy's aesthetic. Which the fuck is it?*

Designing the Indy has been handsdown the most challenging, rewarding thing I have ever done.

It has led to sleepless nights as I sit huddled over my computer screen, countless Pinterest boards, a new-found obsession with and skill of identifying fonts, and learning how to tell the story of each theme and each article all while taking up as much space as possible. I ended up knowing every inch of every issue to the point that I have not read a single published issue fully through during my time as President.

While running business and design for the Indy was invaluable to my time as President, I would have quit the job far long ago if it were not for those who make up the Indy:

To Our First Comp Class.

Carli, Kate, Noah (yes I count you as this class), Yasmine, Marbs, Grace, Oliver, Christian, Gogo, Lulu, Will. All of you annoy the shit out of me, and usually, you give me migraines. For that you must know that you all have a piece of my heart. You

have made this organization into a home for us and the rest of the comp classes. There would be no Indy without you, and I hope you know that I would not be able to nor would I want to run this organization without you. True leadership starts with the people willing to follow the two crazy women into the dark. Thank you for trusting me and MJ. Long live the cult of spring 2021.

To the Business & Design Boards.

Run with your craziest ideas, which means never the first idea that comes to mind. Craziness is partly gut and partly trained. Don't think about what any other organization does. Think about what the Indy should do. If that means you have to take a calculated risk, apologize later. Be weird and edgy as shit. I want to be confused and intrigued at all times. Piper, you know what you're doing. Stick to it.

To MJ.

I cannot really put to words what we've been through together, and I don't think I ever will. To all those every other 4am weeks finishing the issue, the silent looks we give to each other during exec meetings, everything we've never had to say or explain because we just get it, the complete redecorating of our space, the group that we have brought together, the organization we have created, I will never forget. We have endured all the the best, happiest, saddest, toughest, and worst moments of the Indy together. The most important gift the *Independent* has given me is a life-long friend. Thank you for looking after me at comp events, for helping me be patient and caring, and for letting me move all our exec meetings to Zoom when I'm afraid I'll melt in the rain. Here's to our insomnia and never pushing the red button.

To Noah Tavares.

I hope you know it's yours now. It was always going to be.

Long Live The Indy,

Arsh Dhillon
ARSH DHILLON '23

PRESIDENT '20-22
HEAD OF DESIGN '20-22
CO-DIRECTOR OF DBH '21-22
INDY SEXPERT '20-'21

A PAPER OF BELONGING

A SENIOR REFLECTION

BY MICHAEL KIELSTRA '22

Of everything I have written at the *Independent*, I am proudest of the longest and shortest pieces. The longest, a history of the Harvard Graduate Student Union, was probably the most “journalistic” piece I ever produced. The most “Indy” piece, though, was just five words, which I came up with during a late-night mid-pandemic brainstorming session with then-Editor-in-Chief Marissa Garcia '21. They now form the basis of the *Independent's* slogan.

We belong to no one.

Then and now, that autonomy is what I love most about the *Independent*. I arrived late my freshman year, fleeing the restrictive voice of another campus publication, and fell in love with the atmosphere of freedom. Each of us belonged to different social groups, had different passions, and felt differently about what was important for the campus to know. Each week's paper — we used to publish every week, if you young 'uns can believe it — reflected our diverse and personal loves and hates.

This has remained true to this day. Throughout the pandemic, the return to campus, a dramatic shift in publication format, and an even more dramatic increase in team size, I have watched the *Independent* maintain its mission of celebrating writers' individual voices. It is rare that pieces are edited beyond recognition. Even the Grad Board views its job as supporting the current students' vision for the paper, an impressive attitude when considered in the context of alumni groups' infamous conservatism across Harvard and beyond.

And yet, I felt uncomfortable with the direction the paper was taking by the beginning of my senior year. It no longer felt like “my” Indy. The shift to web publishing, the slower print schedule, and even the new styles of illustrations all seemed alien. I continued to write and lead comp meetings, but privately I wondered if I was working for the same paper that had welcomed me as a freshman.

The answer, of course, was no. All things change, and this was a new Indy. My mistake, however, had been assuming that “my” Indy had ever existed in the first place, that part of the Indy had ever been mine to command. The *Independent* does not belong to anyone, and that, I slowly

realized, includes me.

Let me be clear. I am not claiming that the *Independent* as it stands has no problems, or even that it has no problems not shared by the *Independent* of four years ago. All organizations have problems, and no change is perfect. That said, the problems I had with the *Independent* had become divorced from the problems that the *Independent* was actually, from a rational point of view, having. I was making the assumption that just because something was not how I remembered it being, it was a priori worse because of it. I was driven, in short, by arrogant nostalgia.

It took me a while to come to this realization. During the pandemic, I had



spearheaded the initiative to revamp the Indy's web presence. The site was going to be flashy and modern, use the latest open-source technologies, and look more like a newspaper rather than the my-first-blog aesthetic we had going at the time. I was proud of what I had built, and felt at the time that it would be my lasting gift to the Indy.

Not only was I not involved in the redesign that went live this academic year, I was not even told about it. I simply opened up harvardindependent.com one day and saw that it looked completely different than what I was used to. I was peeved for a mo-

ment, but that quickly vanished as I realized how much better, in almost every way, the new site was than the old. It looked more elegant. It ran faster. It was more easily navigable. Keeping my old site around would have indisputably made the paper worse.

Sooner or later, web technology will move on, and this site too will be consigned to the dustbin of tech history. Its creator has no greater claim to fame than I. Neither of our sites prove that the *Independent* belongs to us. Instead, they prove something far greater: that we belong to the *Independent*. I now look back on my own site not as an immutable monument but as ephemeral work I did to keep a great organization going. I have no other choice — and, honestly,

I wouldn't want one. This way, I get to be part of something genuinely big, rather than constantly trying to inflate my fundamentally small self. I have found, in the *Independent*, something more worthy of my pride than I. Thought of this way, being part of the Indy staff is a privilege, and even the smallest thing I did is worth looking back on with calm, unstressed joy. I am, finally, truly happy about what I did here.

To my fellow seniors: congratulations on making it through college! I certainly hope that each of you has found something that you feel this way about, be it a team, a club, or simply the great behemoth of the College itself. As long as your triumphs were in its service, then every one of its triumphs is in some way yours. To the Indy alumni whom I knew as a first-year, sophomore, and junior: thank you for doing the work when it was your turn so that I could have the pleasure of doing it when it was mine. And to the staff of the *Harvard Independent*: I love you all. You are what makes this paper great. I know you will lead it to wonderful things.

(But, if you fuck it up, remember that I was on staff when we signed the lease on the office. I know where to find you.)

Floreat.

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STRA@COLLEGE.HARVARD.EDU)
WROTE FOR THE INDEPENDENT.**

FIRST AND LAST IMPRESSIONS

REFLECTIONS FROM PRE-FRESHMEN AND DEPARTING SENIORS

BY MARY CIPPERMAN '25

Harvard is still alphabet soup to them. Comp, Tasty Basty, Expos, Securitas, Quaded, Blockmate, Berg, Veritaffle — not to mention CBE, RVH, PAF, UC, HUA, HUCP, HUFPI, JCR, and a host of other elusive acronyms. From April 24th to 25th, Visitas commenced in-person for the first time in two years, inviting the Class of 2026 to Harvard's campus where they will begin to learn its language in the fall.

On these same days, seniors posed on the cascade of the Widener steps, theses in hand. *"Analysis of Batch Effects in Cancer Mutational Signatures"* by Andrea River '22. *"Un Acto Revolucionario: A History of Health, Abjection, and Womanhood in the Maquiladoras of Ciudad Juarez, 1980-2001"* by Kendra Heredia '22. Not only are these seniors experts in their field of study, but they have become native speakers of the Harvard dialect over their four years.

Though pre-freshmen lack familiarity with the words and realities of Harvard life, after just three days of Visitas, they shared departing seniors' sentiments on the dichotomy between Harvard's intellectual intensity and inclusive community.

When asked to describe Harvard, seniors and pre-freshmen equally endorsed the breadth and depth of its academics. One student at Visitas, Yanna Bravewolf '26, commended the "Visitas Thinks Big" event, a panel in which several professors such as economist Raj Chetty presented their classes and research. Bravewolf also had the opportunity to attend a differential equations class. She says, much to her surprise, that it was "probably my favorite thing from the whole weekend." Visitas exposed new admits to Harvard's intellectualism through its breadth and depth.

As a parting reflection on his four years at Harvard, Eli Burnes '22 similarly emphasized

the intensity for academics at Harvard. He marked the quality of the teachers and students and a creative writing elective as his college highlights. He explained that each individual in his class expressed a love for writing that made Harvard's academic experience particularly fulfilling.

But while academic intensity was apparent to both pre-freshmen and seniors, students

well. She commented that "students want you to connect to other students, even when it's not them that share your interest." She explained that upperclassmen would introduce her to peers who might expand her academic and extracurricular goals and with whom she could collaborate in the future.

Bravewolf concurred: although she expected some snobbiness or pretention, she found the opposite to be true: the students she met were very welcoming. "I think that everybody is so talented and so incredible at Harvard, but at the same time, so down to earth, and so approachable and helpful," she said. Harvard is special for its "two aspects of great academics and just great people."

Based on these impressions, Harvard's return to in-person Visitas cemented pre-freshmen with the idea of community and involvement that underlay seniors' final thoughts. Bravewolf even said that she thinks an online Visitas would have failed to impart these impressions for her.

When asked to describe his four years at Harvard in one word, Burnes said, "fast." Indeed, the distance between the seniors and the incoming first-years in the Yard this April didn't seem so vast.

MARY CIPPERMAN '25 (MCIPPERMAN@COLLEGE.HARVARD.EDU) WENT TO VISITASTY FOR FIVE MINUTES AND DECIDED SHE WILL BE AVOIDING FRESHMEN ON WEEKEND NIGHTS IN THE FUTURE.

GRAPHIC BY SEATTLE HICKEY '25



unanimously commented on Harvard's community: its inclusivity, its passion, its cordiality.

Elysia Li '22 said that the biggest benefit of going to Harvard is "meeting a lot of people." She described her classmates as "interested": students are not only *interesting*, but more importantly, they are engaged and committed to their pursuits. Sarah Toth '26 offered this impression based on her Visitas weekend as

SCHOOLED

DISCUSSING THE FUTURE OF ACADEMIA WITH PROFESSOR LAIBSON AND STUDENTS.

BY CAROLINE HAO '25

Every May, graduation season hits as millions of high-school seniors decide where to attend college, and many college students graduate and enter the workforce. Higher education holds a critical role in shaping America's prosperity: an abundance of research suggests that strong higher-learning institutions greatly contribute to a country's economic strength and social wellbeing. Harvard and its peer institutions have become indispensable to our society.

However, the U.S. Labor Department reports that higher education institutions have lost more than 570,000 workers since the start of the pandemic. College enrollment, graduation rates, and tenureship has been in decline for decades. Is academia dying?

"There are a lot of silos in academe that have been weakening in the last century," said Economics Professor David Laibson. After graduating summa cum laude from Harvard College in 1988, Laibson received his master's degree from the London School of Economics and his PhD in Economics from MIT in 1994 and has been teaching at Harvard ever since.

"Academia, like anywhere else, is a tricky place, and the pandemic has only exacerbated the challenges of being in it," said Aishani Aatresh '24, who is currently pursuing a self-designed concentration in Complex Biosocial Systems. "Though I wouldn't quite say academia is dying. I do think it is going through a reckoning," she added.

"From what I understand, the market for jobs in academia is intensely competitive, and the number of applicants vastly outnumbers job openings," said Dominique Luongo '17, who is now a second-year Harvard Law student. She argues that limited job prospects may underlie the decline in graduate school enrollment. Without the security of post-graduation employment, most students wanting to pursue higher education are incredibly passionate about what they plan to study. Thus, undergraduates interested in academia, graduate students, and professors all share a great love and enthusiasm for their respective fields of study.

"I explored many different areas, and while I had a great time in that exploration, I discovered that I loved economics most of all," said Laibson. "If you don't love what you're doing, others in your field are going to be more productive and generative than you... having a passion for the activity is critical," he advised.

Aside from loving what you plan to study, Laibson also emphasized the importance of having a certain aptitude for the field you plan to pursue. "I also discovered that I was much better at economics than I was at other fields," he said. "I liked analyzing world literature, and that was a great pas-

sion of mine, but I wasn't good

at it in a way that would make you succeed as a scholar of the field."

Aatresh and Luongo had similar attitudes. "My reasoning behind wanting to go to graduate school is because I really do love learning... and I believe it provides the necessary space and time to truly grow as a thinker, designer, and human being. Grad school is the right way at this stage in my life," Aatresh said.

"There are few fields quite as exhilarating as the pursuit of justice," said Luongo when asked why she decided to pursue law.

To improve academia, Aatresh suggested examining and revitalizing it from a teaching standpoint. "We need to understand where students are getting disillusioned and why or how reflexivity and critical thinking are getting lost in education. Reshaping academia to institutionally revive, cement, and share the grown-up but childlike wonder, optimism, and potential would be a wonderful thing," she said.

While Aatresh suggests an institutional approach, Laibson advocated for more flexibility between academic fields. "One of the things that I have emphasized in my career is crossing boundaries that separate disciplines," he said. "We would be better as an intellectual community if we were more open to hybridized experiences where we interact with people who come with different perspectives, priorities, life experiences, methodologies, and questions. That kind of cross pollination will improve our scholarship and teaching and ultimately make us happier in our careers."

For those unsure if they want to pursue academia — or their career path in general — Laibson encouraged students to adopt an open mindset. "Explore widely during your time at Harvard or wherever you are. You have the opportunity to go on a journey of self discovery and figure out where your passions and abilities lie and where there are opportunities for you in the world," he advised. "Through

that rich exploration, you will emerge with an understanding of what you want to do next."

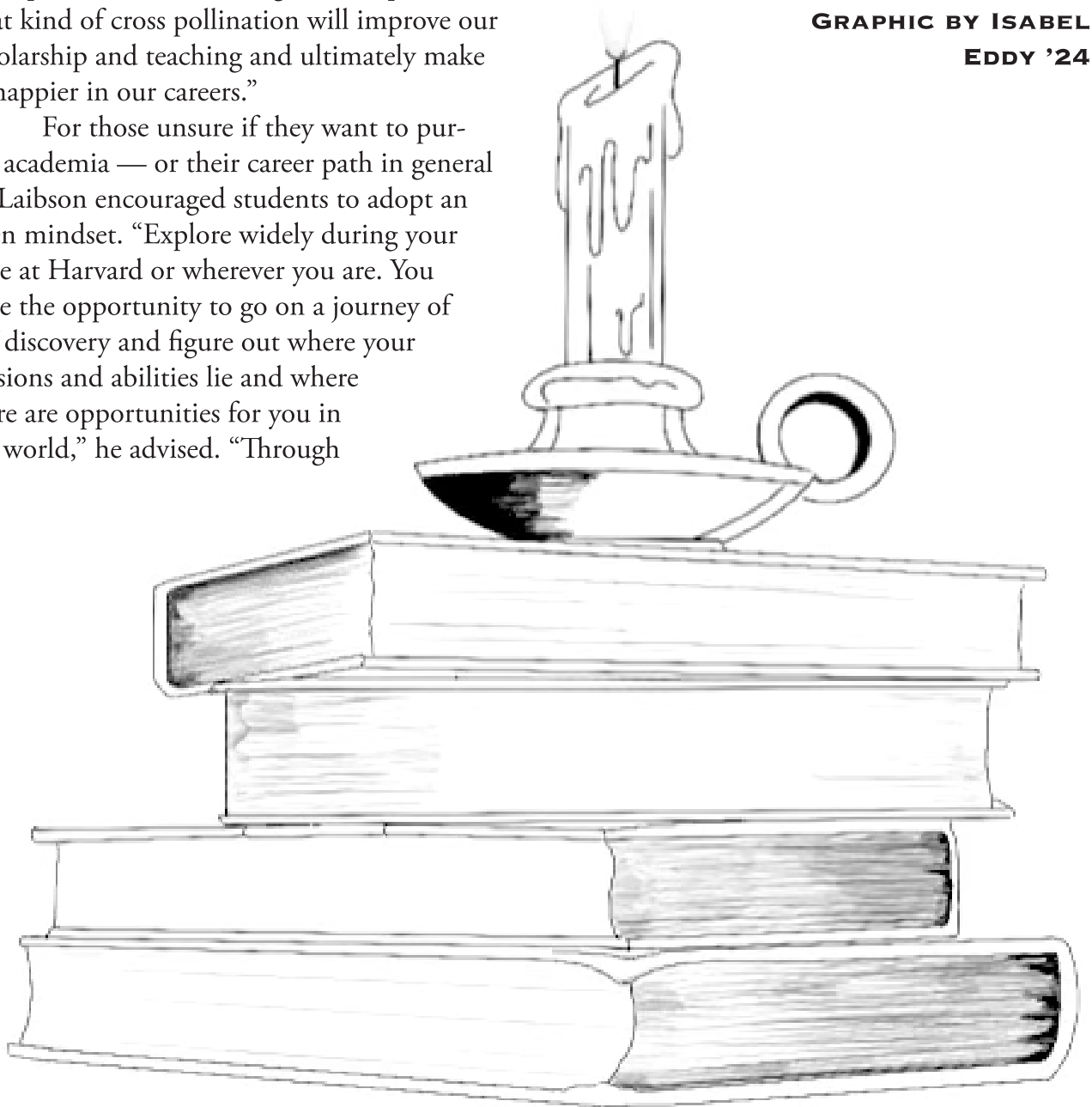
"And don't get trapped: There are a lot of things in life, including at Harvard, where you join some organization or commit to some intellectual pursuit and discover later that it's not really something you love," Laibson added. "Don't be afraid to cut your losses and move onto the next activity. Don't let momentum carry you forward in some activity that doesn't really excite you or energize you."

Moving forward, it appears that there is much we can do to inspire and reinspire learners everywhere — from encouraging them to explore and pursue fields of their choice to pushing them to incorporate other disciplines into their studies. Academia, in its most perfect form, is a place for those curious enough to question the world around them and those bold enough to try and find the answers. These are certainly beautiful things to aspire to.

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GRAPHIC BY ISABEL EDDY '24



WILEY BECKETT'S FINAL CAMBRIDGE SHOW

A HARVARD STUDENT'S JOURNEY AS A MUSICIAN

BY ANDREW SPIELMANN '25

On May 1st, Wiley Schubert Reed '21-22, who performs as Wiley Beckett, stepped on stage at the Middle East Restaurant and Club in Cambridge to play his final show as a Harvard undergrad. His friends, who have been loyal supporters over the past five years, clustered in front of the speakers. His parents stood behind the crowd, having traveled from their home in Brooklyn, New York, to see him perform. The intimate venue allowed everyone a close-up view of the stage: Wiley stood at the front, guitar in hand, singing what he describes as indie pop, backed by another guitarist, a bassist, cellist, keyboardist, and drummer.

Wiley started with a set of original songs, culminating in an emotional rendition of "Los Angeles", the first song he released on Spotify. He moved on to play five covers, something he doesn't usually do. Wiley explains that he wanted people to be able to sing along and have fun, although perhaps he underestimated the loyalty of his crowd, who sang along enthusiastically to his originals, too.

Wiley sought to represent his time at Harvard with his cover selections. He included two songs by Lorde, one of his favorite artists and inspirations. His version of "Ribs" was imbued with a rock feel. "It's cool to do covers but totally reimagine the way it sounds and play a song I care about but do it my way," Wiley said. "Ribs", a song about getting older and moving on, was a fitting and powerful choice for his final show.

After the concert, Wiley and I discussed his musical journey and his time at Harvard, as well as his plans to continue with music after graduation.

Wiley's parents were musicians, so he grew up around music: he played piano from age four, taught himself drums and guitar, and learned "a bunch of things to a mediocre level" before going to college. At Harvard, he knew he would study physics and thought he might pursue a career in that field. However, being a Harvard student can be stressful, and Wiley found that music was a way to escape.

"Freshman Fall I got beat down by a lot of things and at the end of every day I would come back to my room and take a guitar out and play a little bit as a way to decompress," he said. "I started to write some songs, which I had never done before, but it was the most mentally clarifying thing ever. I would feel better while I was doing it, and it helped me process a lot of stuff, so I realized I should pay attention to the fact that I really love doing this."

During the second half of his freshman year, Wiley recorded a few songs back in New York, which he released before he "realized how bad they were" and subsequently took them down. (Wiley has done this a few times over the years.) He enjoyed making music with his best friend at the time, with whom he played a few shows but they were "never that good."

Sophomore year was more formative, giving Wiley the opportunity to join an upperclassmen band whose guitarist had just graduated. "I lowkey didn't play guitar, but I could play it well enough to play rhythm guitar in a band. So I joined the band with them and that is when I really fell in love with music. We had our first big performance at this bar called The Cantab in Central Square, where I had never played before, and it was the best night of my life. You're making something that tons of people are enjoying and really excited about. People are in the audience feeling something, and coming out and dancing."

It was playing his own songs with this band that inspired Wiley to consider solo work. Quarantine during late Junior year was an important time for the realization of this idea. At the time, Wiley was taking a Harvard class that required him to write a song each week. "I didn't love most of the stuff I wrote, but I liked having

industry: "I didn't want to be in music, I wanted to make music."

He abandoned that album from quarantine, and that professional path, treating them as learning experiences. Instead, Wiley moved to New York for summer 2021, put a band together, and played shows. These shows started in his parents' basement. People came through and loved them. He ended up getting a manager and playing a series of successful shows at venues in New York, inspiring Wiley to do music his way.

In November 2021, he played for a crowd of almost 300 at the Mercury Lounge in New York, his first experience with a crowd that wasn't composed solely of people he knew. He recalled looking out at the audience and thinking, "these were real people who I don't know, enjoying my music. I can and will keep doing this."

Wiley emphasizes that live shows are the best part of making music for him. He explains that they cultivate a shared experience between him, the band, and the audience. "Music gets people out to an experience together and transports you to a different place."

This January, Wiley went to a professional studio to record what will hopefully become his first official album. Although this album feels like the beginning of a new musical journey, Wiley

also looks at it in the context of his past five years: "I had to try and fail and try and fail a bunch of times until now I have stuff that I've recorded that I like and feel good about and am excited to release."

Five years after his first experiences writing songs in his freshman dorm, Wiley continues to use songwriting as an avenue for emotional processing. His current project describes his experience growing up and leaving his childhood behind. Even though Harvard didn't make him a musician, Wiley said that his music is inextricable from his college years: "Everything that I have in music went through Harvard in some capacity. There's no version of me that didn't do that." From originals to covers to the audience filled with his loved ones, Wiley's set at the Middle East was a testament to these five years of coming of age.

Wiley Beckett plans to release his first album later this summer. He will be in New York in the meantime, where he will continue to play shows.

ANDREW SPIELMANN '25 (ANDREWSPIELMANN@COLLEGE.HARVARD.EDU) CONDUCTED THIS INTERVIEW OVER WILEY'S FIRST EVER PLAYA BOWL.

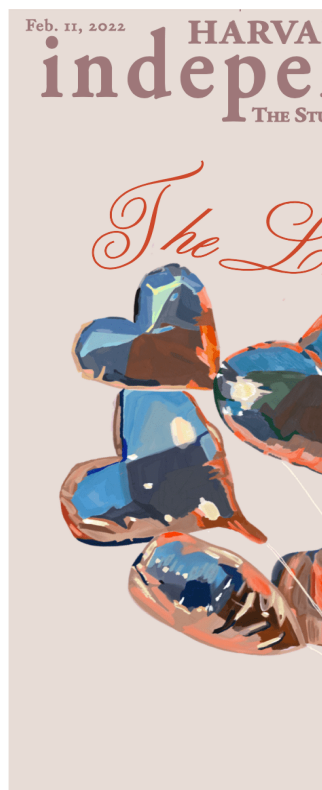


to do it because it made me think about the creative process differently, it made me actively think about writing," he explained. Afterwards, he had a slew of material that he compiled into an album over six months during a gap year. "That was when I was like, okay, I'm gonna try to do music."

After releasing a couple of those songs, Wiley became focused on publicizing them by posting on social media, making music videos, and getting his music added to playlists. However, he soon realized that he hated that side of music. With that experience, as well as having worked at a music marketing company in Sophomore summer, he decided that he didn't like or care about the music

THAT'S A

The Issues of Fall 20

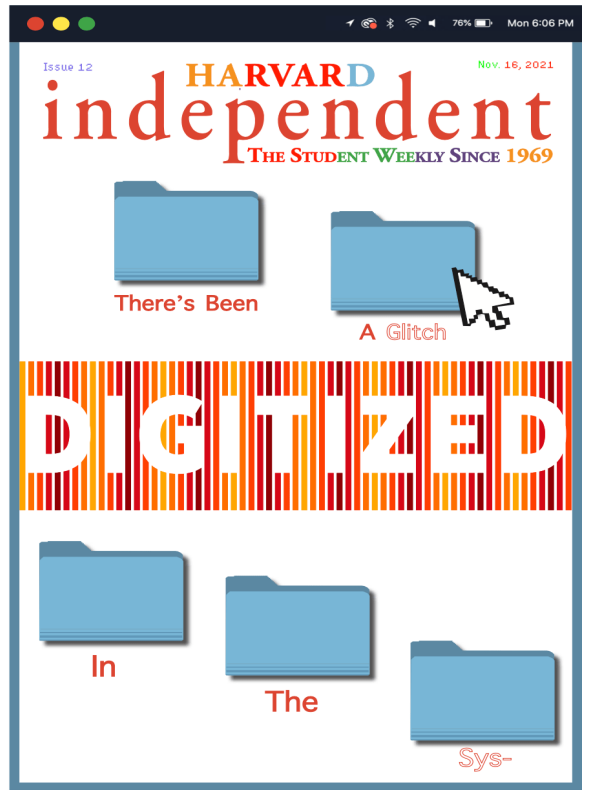


Issues 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20
By Arsh Dhillon '23



A WRAP

2021 to Spring 2022



Issues 15, 18, 19
By Piper Tingleaf '24

“THE QUAD IS THE NEW RIVER”

HOUSING AND THE INVISIBLE TRACES OF COVID-19

BY PROOF SCHUBERT REED '25

Last semester, as I was talking to a super senior about her time at Harvard, a notable void emerged where her experience and mine misaligned. Reminiscing about first-year traditions, she recounted opening days and reveled in the nostalgia of all the classics: Berg, Housing Day, the Yard, the Igloo — *Wait, the Igloo?* That’s where our similarities stopped. *What the hell was the Igloo?* I had never heard of it before.

The senior explained that most weekends of her first semester at Harvard, she and her friends would load onto the Quad shuttle and walk to a claustrophobic space in the basement of Pfoho House that, due to its propensity to accumulate human condensation, had at some point been dubbed “the Igloo.” Occasionally, if first-years got bored of the Igloo, she said, they would go party at the Cabot Aquarium instead.

My first semester of freshmen year looked remarkably different. I had been to the Quad once — to try to locate the rock climbing wall, which to my chagrin, I realized was closed upon arrival. After all, Covid-19 restrictions banned any gatherings of over ten people on Harvard’s campus. Even if I had known where or what the Igloo was, the lingering effects of the pandemic would have made it impossible to take advantage of the space.

As mask mandates and testing restrictions have loosened and lifted, the tangibles of the pandemic are receding further into the past. We are moving toward normalcy — that elusive place we spent so much of the pandemic reaching toward — only to realize it doesn’t

really exist. While the pandemic may be leaving us, its shadow remains. It hangs over us, or more aptly, hovers beneath

us, continuing to haunt and crystallize in little and surprising ways.

When upperclassmen started descending on dorms on Housing Day, first-years frantically texted each other wondering why so many were being housed in the Quad. “We totally thought it was a joke when we saw the polar bears walking to Holworthy from the window on Housing Day,” said one future Pforzheimer resident. However, her blockmate added, “When the polar bear knocked on our door, we knew it was over.”

When the blocking group across the hall was placed into Cabot House, they all suspected it was a massive prank. But indeed, a larger portion of the class of 2025 compared to other classes were placed in Quad housing. While the College has not published official information about how upperclassmen housing was decided and the Dean of Students Office did not provide official numbers, students have speculated that the trend is because more first-years had to be placed in Pfoho, Cabot and Courier to accommodate the amount of transfers of sophomores and juniors living in the Quad and the unusually large size of the class of 2025.

While many students were initially disappointed, most have quickly become enthusiastic and hopeful about what they describe as “a culture shift” to the Quad, given the amount of students that will be living there.

“I think there’s a ton of stigma surrounding the Quad,” said Rick Li ’25 of Cabot House. “Sure, the walks in the snow will be rough. But at the end of the day, everyone in the quad is already forming a community, and

that’s what really matters to me.”

Future Courier House resident Corinne Furey ’25 summed it up nicely: “The quad is the new river. Mark my words.”

While a Quad takeover may be in store next fall — and perhaps a return to the Igloo, as well — the shift in first-year social spaces since pre-pandemic remains.

Tasty Burger in Harvard Square became a popular spot at the beginning of the school year for first-years who had nowhere else to socialize. A current manager at Tasty Burger commented on the huge surge in students renting out the space since returning in the fall. “People are renting out the place on Tuesdays,” she said. “It’s impossible to book.”

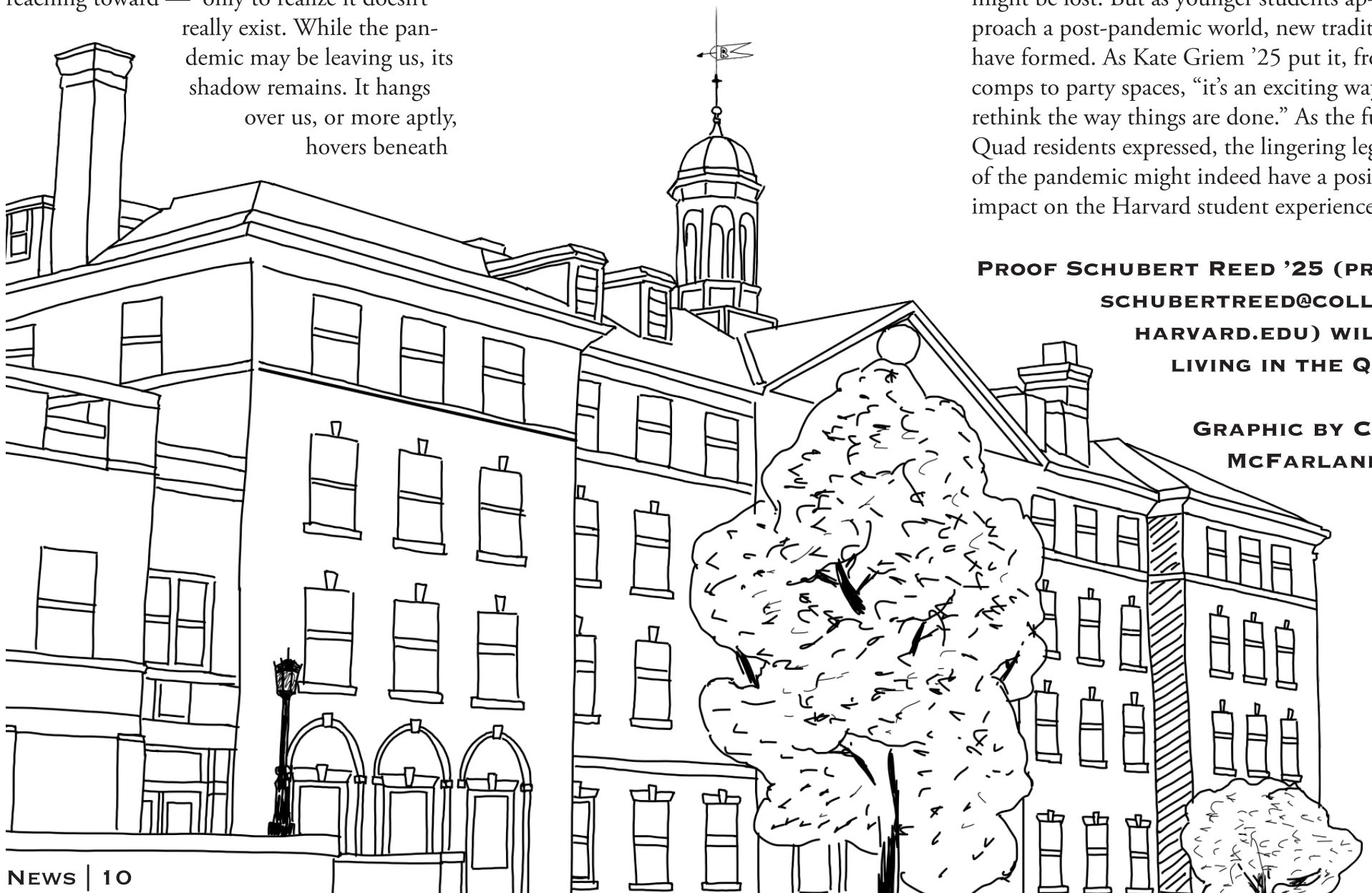
Over Visitas weekend, as prospective freshmen toured Harvard’s campus, some students hosted a “VisiTasty” party to welcome incoming freshmen to Harvard.

Tasty Burger is not the only off-campus spot where students have found themselves hanging out. Alexi Carolan ’24 said when she was living in Harvard housing during the pandemic, many students turned to outside spaces to hang out. “Because we couldn’t hang out inside, we had to find other places to spend time, and weirdly the River became the place to be for a while,” she remarked. This trend continued for the class of 2025 — the Igloo might not have been as accessible, but the River always was. In the warm weeks of the fall, clumps of freshmen often gathered by the water to socialize.

As the students who knew Harvard before Covid-19 approach graduation, traditions might be lost. But as younger students approach a post-pandemic world, new traditions have formed. As Kate Griem ’25 put it, from comps to party spaces, “it’s an exciting way to rethink the way things are done.” As the future Quad residents expressed, the lingering legacies of the pandemic might indeed have a positive impact on the Harvard student experience.

PROOF SCHUBERT REED '25 (PROOF-SCHUBERTREED@COLLEGE.HARVARD.EDU) WILL BE LIVING IN THE QUAD.

GRAPHIC BY CRAIG MCFARLAND '24



WASHED UP

HARVARD'S LAUNDRY REMAINS MILDLY ACCEPTABLE

BY RYAN GOLEMME '23

Harvard tosses and turns its students through the rolling cycle of school and social life. However, sometimes the most turbulent cycle is a more literal one: Harvard's laundry services. For students who do not use third party services, such as the large network offered by Harvard Student Agencies, Harvard's laundry machines are the only option, with arrangements and student opinions varying across campus.

When it comes to Harvard's laundry services, most students are content at best, and even these individuals are quick to note that they have heard others complain about the laundry facilities. Throughout the complaints, the overriding pattern is the vast variation of the services across dorms.

While all of the upperclassmen houses have their own laundry rooms, only select first-year dorms have them, meaning that many first-year laundry rooms serve students from multiple dorms. While Thayer's room is accessible with a quick elevator trip, Stoughton's laundry room is outside of the dorm and through the side entrance of a neighboring building.

Though these arrangements do not usually require long walks, there are other concerns about the rooms that are used by multiple dorms. "I think more machines [in Thayer] would be good, just because kids from Weld and Grays use it since they don't have machines," said Emily Hanson '25 of Grays. Even in bigger dorms, there's some discontent around the combined use. "Matthews is a big dorm, and we only have one laundry room with eight washers and dryers for a lot of students," said Omar Zedan '25 of Matthews.

Some upperclassmen said they have better arrangements in their houses compared to their first-year dorms. "I lived in Wigglesworth Hall and didn't like those, but now in Lowell I'm fine with it. I lived in a separate building from the machines, so I'd have to go down three flights of stairs, go outside, and go down another flight to do laundry, and when I got to the machines, most of them were used or taken, and many of the machines were older, broken, or not working," said Carolyn Ge '22 of Lowell.

However, even among the Houses there are differences. While Houses like Eliot and Winthrop have wide rooms with multiple tables stretched across, others like Quincy's New Quincy and Leverett's McKinlock are left with tight spaces and few machines in each room. Students sometimes have to go at odd hours to find available machines.

The age of the machines also varies, with the machines in the Yard generally being older than the ones in the Houses. "I wish the ma-

chines were a bit more updated, since they're pretty old, even though they replaced some of these. I know a lot of people who can't use pods in the machines because they don't work with them," said M.C. Haniffee '25 of Stoughton. The most commonly cited issues were payment malfunctions and ineffective drying. However, one constant is the instruction posters in the laundry rooms feature Blackberry-style mobile phones and copyright dates from 2010.

Some students noted mild discontent with the payment system. "It costs \$1.50, which isn't the worst. It'd be much better if they didn't charge for laundry, but I'm not complaining, honestly," said Issac Tang '25 of



Weld. Other students echo this tone of begrudging acceptance. "When it comes to pricing, it'd be preferable to be free, but it's not the end of the world for it to be \$1.50. Overall, I don't think it's too bad, but it could probably be better," said Sebastian Ramirez '25 of Hollworthy.

Others defend the payment barrier as a way of preventing laundry from becoming even more of a free-for-all, but they also noted that there were probably better ways of handling the issue. "If there was a thing to remedy about it, it would be to have a weekly amount of money that the university gives you to spend on laun-

dry. That way, you don't have overflow, but at the same time you wouldn't have to pay unless you need to do more than what you're given," said Josiah Meadows '23 of Winthrop.

Laundry etiquette varies somewhat by House. However, two practices remain universal: students leaving completed laundry loads sitting in the machines for extended periods of time, and other students removing said loads to start loads of their own. Some Houses provide bags for forgotten laundry, but peoples' clothes usually end up stacked on top of the machines, with socks occasionally falling to the floor.

Students generally accept the unspoken rule of removing their peers' clothes. "It would be great if people could move in and out of laundry quickly, but sometimes I understand that people are busy around here. If you toss their clothes in a bag and put it somewhere else neatly, that's fine with me," said Andrew Shen '23 of Quincy.

However, other students are less than thrilled, especially when it seems like there is a rush to remove clothes as soon as they are done. "I've had my clothes taken out as soon as the dryer stops. I've walked in and seen people taking my own clothes out. I don't know if they're taking them out early or not, but it is frustrating," said Ben Weatherwax '24 of Eliot.

Though etiquette generally remains at a tacit compromise, drama occasionally spills over into wider discussion. Debates have broken out in House group chats and email lists over how long laundry should rest in a machine before it is fair game to remove. In a notable case, a Leverett senior sent a profanity-laced email to the House list, claiming that someone had taken out his clothes halfway through a dryer cycle and more generally cursing out the class of '24. This spawned a long back-and-forth of questions, memes, and insults until another student claimed they had removed the laundry because the dryer had never started in the first place.

While these concerns are shared among students, they do not amount to much beyond that. The UC had offered applications for \$20 laundry subsidies, but it is unknown what any such effort would look like under the new HUA. With a mix of contentment and frustration, Harvard's laundry looks like it will continue on the same cycle, rinse and repeat.

RYAN GOLEMME '23 (RYANGOLEMME@COLLEGE.HARVARD.EDU), REALIZED IN REPORTING THIS STORY THAT THE OTHER HOUSES HAVE MUCH COOLER BASEMENT AREAS THAN LEVERETT DOES.

GRAPHIC BY ALMA RUSSELL '25

FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

WHY SPEND SO MUCH TIME WITH SOMETHING SO UN-FRUITFUL?

BY MARBELLA MARLO '24

Harvard students' careers are often measured and oriented toward their outcomes. Each class, club, meeting, and activity is essentially regarded as a stepping stone to the next benchmark, and is ultimately valued by the products it yields. With this outcome-oriented theory, then, why do so many students engage in activities that might not lead to another accomplishment? Nearly a quarter of students at Harvard College play a varsity sport — sacrificing endless hours practicing, lifting, and competing for something that they likely will not play after they graduate. In the class of 2020, 83 of the 203 seniors who were previously varsity athletes, quit their sport; a surprisingly high number with influence likely from Covid-19.

Yet the choice to pursue a varsity sport at Harvard itself is unique. Unlike most Division 1 schools, where athletic pursuit at the college level often trumps academic obligations, student athletes at Harvard must be prepared to sacrifice a number of athletic efforts in the name of achieving Harvard's famed education.

Daniel Abraham '22, a senior on the football team, explains the "40 not 4" phrase that dictated his choice of college, referring to the number of years for which he was planning ahead. "It basically means that in addition to maximizing your playing career, you are deliberately choosing to allocate more thought towards life after college," he notes. Abraham chose to play football at Harvard instead of at a more sports-oriented school. At Harvard, he says, "there is an understanding that sports are not the be-all and end-all, or they do not have to be."

Yet upon graduation, unless they decide to play professionally, most student athletes are forced to shift their entire life's focus. This reality contradicts the previous outcome-oriented theory about Harvard students and which activities they choose to pursue. Hours spent at practice will turn into hours spent at the office. Teammates will turn into coworkers. The ultimate identity as a student athlete will fade into one likely governed by corporate pressure.

Yet many athletes stick with their sport for all four years of college, regardless of their likelihood to succeed in it post-college. They describe sports as an "escape," an opportunity to relieve the stress of their academic responsibilities. But the freedom that sports can bring is only a portion of the incentive for pursuing sports all four years.

For Abraham, football "is a game of overcoming adversity, which I think translates very well over to life. I appreciate the team bonding, especially the little moments whether it be in the locker room, on the bus, or in a hotel room."

Owen Moore Niles '22 on the lightweight rowing team reflects that his justification for staying on the team for all four years was his drive to exercise, and less so his love of the sport. "When I first got to college, I loved rowing. I got immense satisfaction from working to perfect my technique, and to a lesser extent, my fitness and reaping

the benefits of that hard work when I got in a boat that felt smooth and fast," he recounts. "When I came back to school for my senior year [after a year off], it felt stupid to spend so much time intentionally choosing to row instead of hang out with friends, eat, or get outside the Harvard bubble. But the reason why I continued to row was that I had gained some perspective on how important exercise was to my mental and physical health and how difficult it was to force myself to exercise without a structured practice schedule."

again after they graduate, or at least not at the same level of competition.

But there are benefits of meeting like-minded individuals that extend beyond the playing field. After mentioning his plans to play football at Villanova next year while pursuing an MBA, Abraham affirms that "playing football has allowed me to create bonds and meet people that will be friends for life. The support systems that are made because of playing the game are some of the strongest that I have in my life today."

For others, athletics give an opportunity to foster additional skills. "I think that rowing has allowed me to practice leadership skills in a controlled environment," Niles asserts. "This year, I have found myself thrust into a position of some amount of power, whether I liked it or not. By being in this position, I have learned how easy it is to make my teammates feel like I care about them and how important it is for leaders to make the people they are leading feel like they care about them."

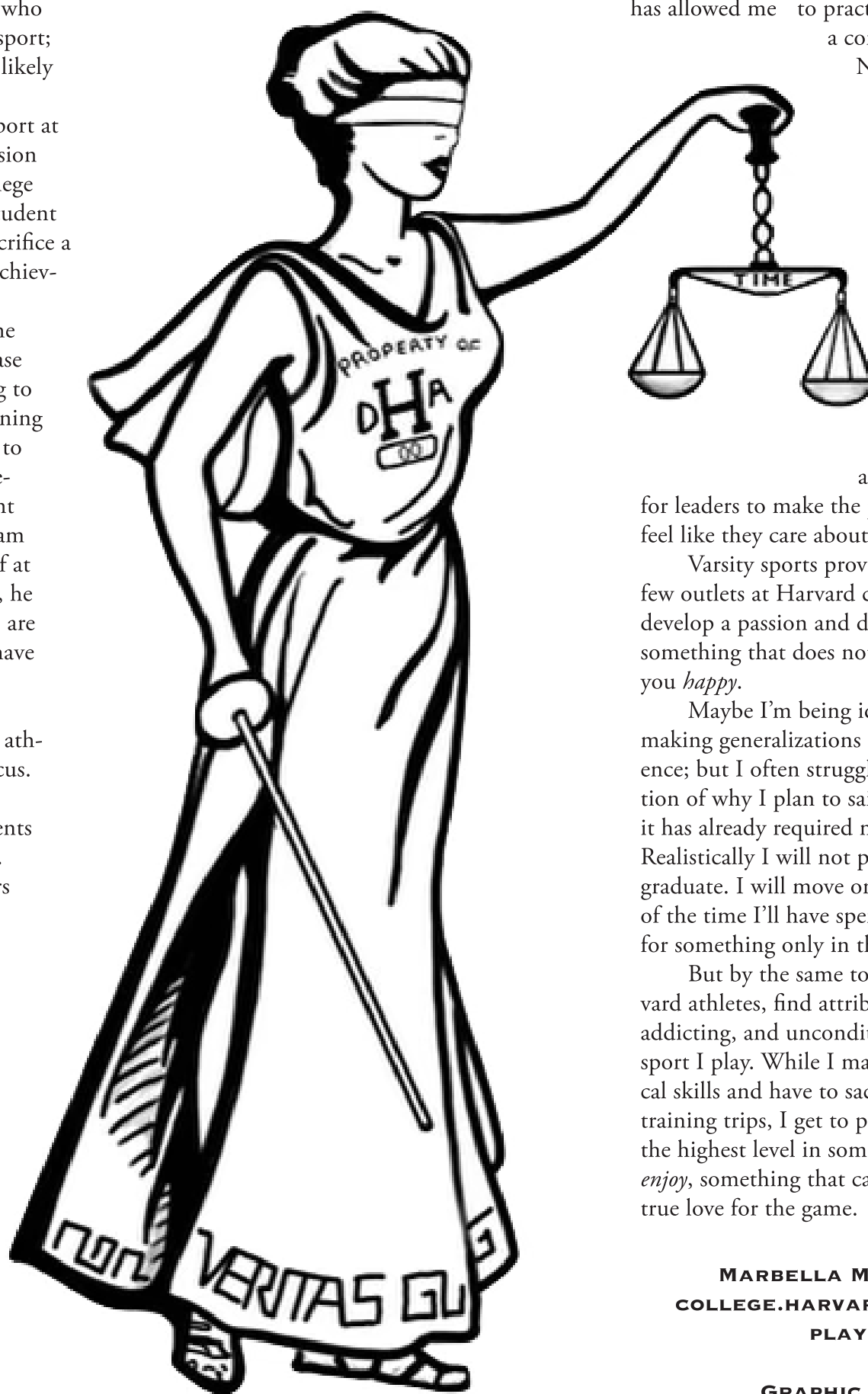
Varsity sports provide something that few outlets at Harvard can: the opportunity to develop a passion and dedicate your efforts to something that does nothing more than make you *happy*.

Maybe I'm being idealistic, or maybe I am making generalizations from personal experience; but I often struggle to answer the question of why I plan to sail for all four years when it has already required me to sacrifice so much. Realistically I will not play my sport after I graduate. I will move on, get a real job, and all of the time I'll have spent on my sport will be for something only in the past.

But by the same token, I, like most Harvard athletes, find attributes uniquely thrilling, addicting, and unconditionally satisfying in the sport I play. While I may not learn any technical skills and have to sacrifice vacation time for training trips, I get to practice and compete at the highest level in something that I genuinely *enjoy*, something that can only be found with a true love for the game.

MARBELLA MARLO '23 (MMARLO@COLLEGE.HARVARD.EDU) WISHES SHE PLAYED A COOLER SPORT.

GRAPHIC BY ISABEL EDDY '24



Ultimately, choosing to play the same sport, be with the same team, and commit to the same routine for four years requires a degree of passion that is distinct from any other activity on campus. Unlike other pre-professional organizations, classes, or networking opportunities, the practical value of varsity sports does not typically manifest into a larger result after graduation. Most athletes will never play their sport

CONFLICTS WITH COMMENCEMENT

How Seniors Choose Between Commencement and Final Athletic Competitions

BY HANNAH DAVIS '25

Con Thursday, May 26th, Harvard will host its first in-person Commencement since 2019. While most students will celebrate one final tradition after a pandemic-warped college experience, for some student athletes, graduation represents a final conflict between two parts of their collegiate identity: school and their sport. Both Sailing Nationals for women's fleet racing and Track & Field Regionals occur on the 26th. How do seniors choose between the culmination of two endeavors they have dedicated four years to?

Each athlete is grappling with this difficult decision in their own way. Emma Kaneti '22 from the Sailing Team chose to attend Nationals. Jada Jones '22 on Track & Field chose Commencement. Sharelle Samuel '22 on Track & Field is still deciding.

After consulting their peers, teammates, coaches, and family, these students, as well as a handful of other unlucky spring athletes whose sports conflict with graduation, must ultimately decide which they value more. Samuel even conducted an Instagram poll. Unsurprisingly, responses varied a lot across fellow student-athletes, students, and coaching staff. While these athletes generally felt supported through their decision-making process, the inevitable repercussions of their choices extend beyond the student. The choices are individual but directly impact people they care about.

Jones' choice to attend graduation impacted her team, "This [graduation versus regionals] decision only affected the relay teams. I felt like I was letting my teammates down [by missing the race] and I felt bad about that. But, they were extremely understanding and luckily my coach was a little disappointed but not angry."

Commencement is a bittersweet time for most seniors, but student athletes face another goodbye. For many seniors, their spring season is their last opportunity to compete in their sport before moving into a full time job. With the pandemic disrupting two spring seasons, most senior athletes only truly got to experience two full sports seasons, further heightening the severity of the choice.

"How could I be fully committed to something and shed blood, sweat, and tears for something and be apart of something for four years and then just not finish it?" Kaneti said. "I think it is really upsetting to miss the ceremony, Commencement, and everything. But, I still will be here for part of senior week, and I have my friends from college for life. So, it doesn't feel like I'm missing out on so much, whereas if I don't compete at nationals, it is my last chance to sail in college."

Other senior athletes apply this same logic to their academic careers as Harvard students. Samuel helped with Spring dorm cleanup her freshman year and remembers the class of 2019's Commencement and their celebrations. She says, "I think [those memories are] why I hold this idea of graduation in my mind so highly at the moment...I essentially lost two years of my college experience, and graduation is a huge milestone and huge celebration and huge moment for our class. Missing so much of other prior experiences due to Covid-19 has made me really want to have this graduation moment."

Despite this challenging decision and the frustration it creates, these student-athletes do not view Harvard or their sport any less favorably. They recognize neither Harvard nor their sport bears responsibility, and that uncontrollable sports scheduling is to blame.

Students' decision-making reflects the balance between these emotional and logistical factors.

For Jones, her lost seasons during Covid-19 grant her extra eligibility, so she can run in graduate school. "I decided to attend graduation because I figured I'd make regionals again, but I would only graduate from Harvard once." Despite added years of eligibility, future competition is never guaranteed nor always feasible.

Kaneti likely will not continue sailing competitively after graduation, tipping the scales of her student-athlete equation. "This year, it became more apparent to me how much I really missed in terms of sailing — and that really weighed into my decision a lot — whereas I was still a student last year just remote," she said. "I feel like in terms of being a Harvard student I've had more time than being a Harvard student athlete... I'll always be a Harvard graduate, but I won't always have the chance to sail in college."

Being a student-athlete requires constant sacrifice, and evidently, graduation is no exception. Regardless of their choices, the students are finding ways to celebrate their time at Harvard and on their teams. Jada Jones is finding ways to compete after college. Emma Kaneti is trying to get her own cap and gown to celebrate while at nationals. They will always be both students and athletes, representing Harvard in whatever form they select.

HANNAH DAVIS '25 (HANNAHDAVIS@COLLEGE.HARVARD.EDU) WILL BE ATTENDING NEITHER NATIONALS NOR COMMENCEMENT.

GRAPHIC BY ISABEL EDDY '24



THE HARVARD CAME YEAR VARD BACK

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

August 28: First Year Fling
To celebrate the first week of college, 300 awkward freshmen gathered in the Yard for a night of live music. The class of 2025 stood aside one another as strangers, wondering how often they would actually do their laundry.

September 24: Harvard-Brown Football Game
Brown bravely ventured up to Cambridge only to lose by a score of 49-17. The game marked the largest gathering for the college since the COVID era began.

October 22-24: Head of the Charles
250,000 spectators flocked to the Charles River to watch the Harvard jocks — the rowing team. Dozens of well-imbibed students cheered for the wrong boat.

October 22-24: Head of the Charles
250,000 spectators flocked to the Charles River to watch the Harvard jocks — the rowing team. Dozens of well-imbibed students cheered for the wrong boat.

November 18: Sophomore Concentration Declaration Day

Eliza still can't make up her mind on today's outfit, but congratulations to the sophomores who have figured out their life trajectories.

November 20: Harvard-Yale Game

Harvard's superiority complex prospers once again. At the Harvard tailgate, a sea of crimson cheered in unison atop pickup trucks. Yalies conceded that Harvard's party was better than their own. Harvard Football won the game 34-31.

November 24: Thanksgiving

The week all home-sick first-years have been waiting for. Many finished their first stretch of college with the intimacy of a home-cooked meal while the pounding hangover from the football victory lingered for days.

December 8: Primal Scream

Hundreds of students sprinted naked around Harvard Yard the night before finals began. Many students found that this nude liberation was a needed jumpstart to survive the next week. The Indy interviewed a sex tourist excited to join in.

March 10: Hungover Housing Day

The anticipation ends, and "Lowell, Lowell, Lowell... is your sister house." Rumor has it that if you get Quadded, you are allowed to projectile vomit on the upperclassmen while they stand cheering in your doorway.

March 9: River Run

Securitas really put the "gate keeping" in gatekeeping. First-years increased their Housing lottery luck by visiting every River House before midnight. Despite their keys being deactivated, many winners tested their persuasion skills on Securitas, among other things...

March 14: Spring Break

Midterms concluded and the long-awaited break for students returned as a replacement for the sporadic wellness days implemented during remote learning last year. Athletes endured 6 am wake-up calls in Hampton Inn Hotels throughout the East Coast to falsify their relaxation.

March 26: H Goes Maskless

Upon return from Spring Break, Harvard removes its mask mandate in public spaces and classrooms. Mask requirements are now left up to individual professors' discretion. It became difficult to recognize anyone who you've only known nose-up.

April 3: The UC Disbands

The UC, known to spend a huge budget to accomplish nothing (except a line on a resumé), is now the HUA. UC president Michael Cheng '22 led the abolishment of Harvard's 40-year-old student government, 75% of student's votes in favor of the dissolution.

April 10: Yard Fest

Swae Lee had Harvard Yard bumping on a Sunday and reminded us all about the importance of staying in school. "Somebody come get herrrr..."

April 24-25: Visitas

The pre-frosh looked shellshocked in their red lanyards. I accidentally sent one of them in the wrong direction to the SEC. Does anyone actually know where that is?

April 29: Thesis Deadlines for Senions


We cannot imagine what that's like. You must be masochists, but hey, congratulations on your theses.

BY ELIZA
KIMBALL '25


AND HANNAH
FRAZER '25

ELIZA KIMBALL '25
(ELIZAKIMBALL@COLLEGE.HARVARD.EDU)
ARGUES HER DOG PEEING IN WIDENER SHOULD HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE CALENDAR.


HANNAH FRAZER '25
(HANNAHFRAZER@COLLEGE.HARVARD.EDU)
DANCED ON THE WIDENER TABLES WHILE BLASTING FUNKY TOWN TO CELEBRATE THE END OF READING PERIOD.




TO LIFE



THE 2021 - 2022



ACADEMIC YEAR, WRAPPED



Fri	Sat	Sun	Notes
<p>October 27-30: HGSR Strikes Harvard Graduate Students Union lined the entrances to the Science Center to protest against sexual harassment and uncompetitive wages. Many classes were canceled for three days due to missing Teaching Fellows.</p>	<p>October 31: Halloween Unnamed roommate vomited all over the floor of El Jefe's Taqueria.</p>	<p>November 13: Indy Fuck Fest With penis-shaped straws in mouths, members of the <i>Independent</i> and SHEATH club hosted a party to promote sexual health and education. One phrase from the night remains plastered on the Indy office door: "I came to fuck fest and it wasn't an orgy."</p>	<p>LONG</p>
<p>January 24: Snow Day Wet toes, snow ball fights, Annenberg trays violently tumbling down the Widener steps: A Winter Wonderland! Completed by hot cocoa and backgammon, this day could have been the heartwarming trailer for Love Story meets Animal House.</p>	<p>February 4: BeReal The new social media platform attempts to differentiate who is real and who is fake. Now we can actually judge who is fake because they took three takes on their BeReal post. BeReal super-spreaded at a Tasty Basty launch party.</p>	<p>February 9: Bus Crashed into Tasty Burger Bent awnings and shattered glass everywhere: It was tragic. Almost as tragic as a senior getting IDed at Tasty Basty Basement.</p>	<p>LONG</p>
<p>March 28: Ukraine Protests Hundreds of students stood beside the John Harvard Statue and in front of the Widener Library steps. A Ukrainian flag now hangs above John in solidarity. Harvard stands with Ukraine.</p>	<p>March 30: Sidechat Takes Over Finally, an anonymous forum where wit and reality meld. The Brits are getting payback for their haircuts and accents. Not to mention the personalized shoutouts to frequent Econ10 participants and the Beef Fajita Fettuccine at Berg.</p>	<p>April 1: The Fifth State of Grief. Acceptance. Students accept they will only wash their bedding once a month (or every three).</p>	<p>The MDN</p>
<p>May 5: Econ Final Hordes of stress-sweating first-years flooded the Annenberg doors. It's the Ec10b final. If you didn't take it, you know at least ten students who did. "Sorry, the correct answer was actually C: raising the interest rates in the United States increases the cost of borrowing for countries who peg their exchange rates onto the Dollar." Well, fuck.</p>	<p>May 26: The Class of 2022 Graduates After the latter half of their college experience was tampered by remote learning and capacity restrictions, the Class of 2022 emerges as the first class to have an in-person graduation since 2019. Their commencement speaker will be New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, an advocate for climate change, gender equality, and COVID aid.</p>	<p>May 29: The Classes of 2020 and 2021 graduate Two classes will graduate simultaneously: an extraordinary moment in Harvard's 300-year history. After anti-climactic zoom graduations, the classes of 2020 and 2021 make their long-awaited return to Tercentenary Theatre.</p>	<p>2021-2022, Wrapped.</p>
<p>GRAPHIC BY ALMA RUSSELL '25</p>			

COVER DESIGN &
CENTERFOLD BY
ARSH DHILLON '23
LAYOUT BY PIPER
TINGLEAF '24

WE BELONG
TO NO ONE
BUT
OURSELVES

THE HARVARD INDEPENDENT PUB-
LISHES EVERY TWO WEEKS DURING
THE ACADEMIC YEAR BY THE HAR-
VARD INDEPENDENT, INC., 2 GAR-
DEN STREET CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138