

ISSUE 21

HARVARD

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independent

THE STUDENT WEEKLY SINCE 1969

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August 25, 2022

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THE CLASSES YOU NEED TO TAKE

HARVARD'S BEST OFFERINGS, A

BY ALEXANDRA F

AFVS 70: The Art of Film, taught by Laura Frahm

“The Art of Film was a highlight of my freshman experience. The class is structured around Tuesday night screenings in the historic Carpenter Center where I was introduced to some of my favorite films. Bi-weekly lectures walk students through different cinematic movements, supplying the brilliant images we watch on screen with important historical context. Section was a space to unpack film theory.

The Killer of Sheep's soundtrack is saved on my Spotify Playlists, thanks to this class. I highly recommend this course if you are interested in film history, would like to learn how to use softwares, such as Adobe Premiere, or just want an excuse to watch a great movie once a week!”

—Hannah Frazer '25

This class has a Q Guide score of 4.23. In this class, major assignments are not limited to just traditional essay structure! Students have the opportunity to analyze film through video blog posts, a film festival project (a collaborative assignment in which students create a concept for a film festival featuring 8-10 films), and visual essays that combine writing with multimedia. Many respondents of the Q Guide asserted that they walked away from this class with a newfound passion for film!

This class is offered in the spring term.

COMPSCI 51: Abstraction and Design in Computation, taught by Stephen Chong

“A classic, but one that you might not hear too often—CS51. It's a weird class in that it's a CS class that uses a language basically nobody ever uses. I was lucky enough to take it with Stephen Chong as the professor, who was just great—I actually got coffee with him once.

I totally recommend taking this class! It was the first time where CS was framed as an art rather than as a 'science'—where getting the correct output was one criteria, but getting a solution that was elegant, easy to understand, and (as some crazy people would say) beautiful, was just as important.” —Dan Ennis '25

This class has a Q Guide score of 3.69 and is definitely not for the faint of heart. One Q Guide respondent said to “be prepared to work hard, and if you do, you will learn an enormous amount of information” and “if you're prepared to do that, you'll come away very pleased.” If you're up for the challenge and passionate about computer science, Professor Chong is calling your name!

This class is offered in the spring term.

COMPSCI 32: Computational Thinking and Problem Solving, taught by Mike Smith

“This course offers an introduction to coding. However, unlike CS50, this class only uses Python. CS32 primarily focuses on styles of thinking and the 'big ideas'

of computer science, rather than syntax or tiny technical details, so it offers a nice, broad introduction to the field. Professor Smith also focuses on creativity and active learning: no exams, just p-sets and short, straight-forward quizzes. You can get a lot out of this course if you put in the effort and teach yourself some of the nitpicky details of writing code in various languages afterwards.” —Mary Cipperman '25

As fewer students are enrolled in CS32, Q Guide respondents describe this class as a more accessible introduction to computer science without the “flashy-ness” of CS50. This course is split into three “acts” or units (“expressing our creativity in code,” “elegantly managing the world's complexity,” and “understanding why things are the way they are”), each teaching students something new and unique about computer science languages. Act one introduces students to scripts, communities, and numbers. Act two teaches students about classical algorithms (search), limits, and languages. The final act introduces students to memory management and machine learning. There are five large grading components, each weighed equally at 20% — each “act,” the final project, and in-class quizzes.

This class is offered in the spring term.

ENG-SCI 94: Entrepreneurship and Innovation: Practical and Academic Insights, taught by Josh Lerner

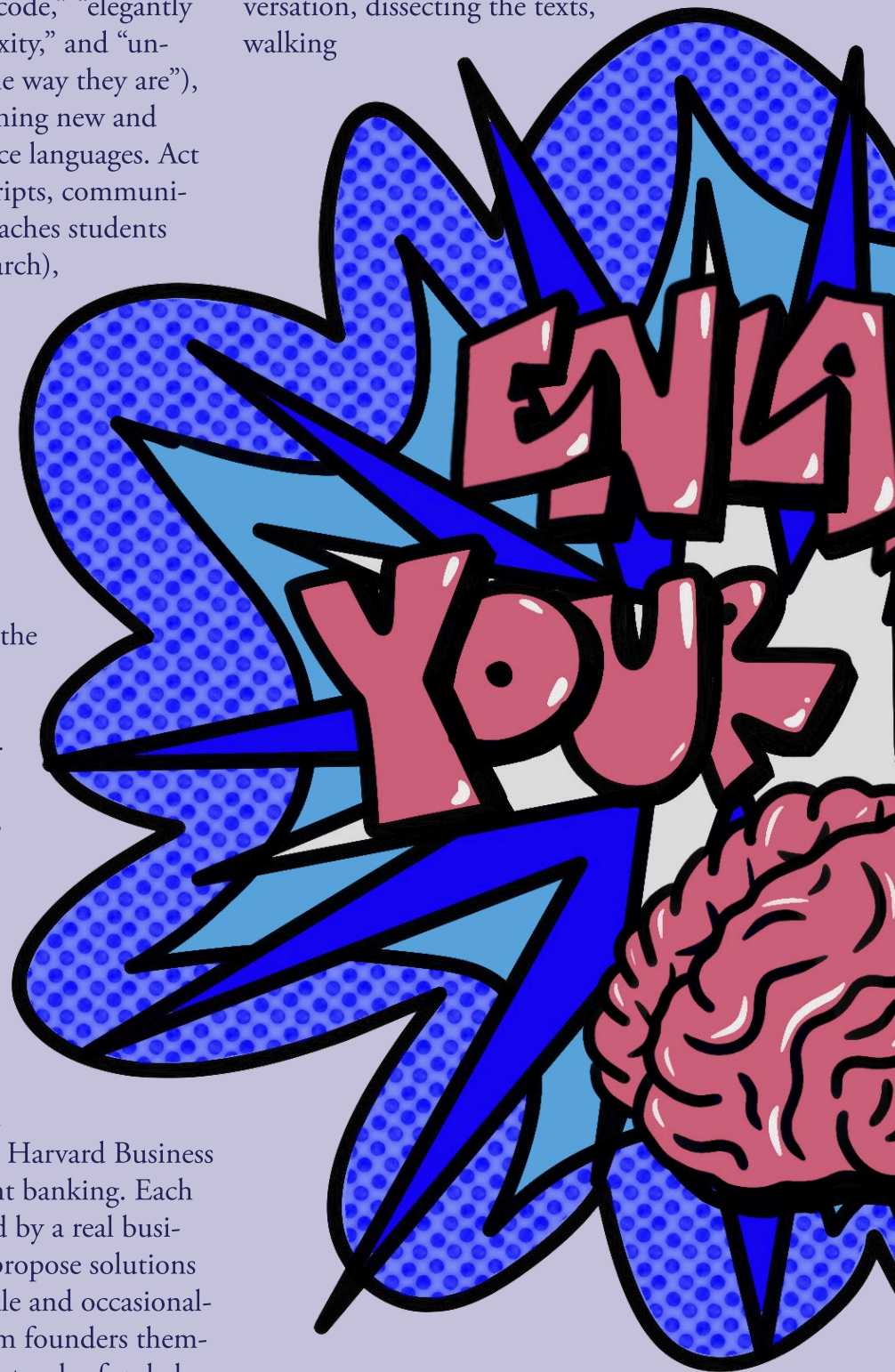
“You don't need to wait till you graduate and take the GRE to experience business school. Take Eng-Sci 94 at the massive Science and Engineering Complex in Allston and learn the case study method from a Harvard Business School professor of investment banking. Each class explores a real issue faced by a real business, welcoming students to propose solutions for startups to survive and scale and occasionally featuring guest lectures from founders themselves and the venture capitalists who funded them.” —Mary Julia Koch '23

The course culminates in a final project in which students comprehensively assess a company's potential for growth or pitch their own business plan—which might even become a reality beyond the classroom walls. Just ask the 82% of respondents to the Harvard Q Guide who said they'd recommend this HBS-style class with enthusiasm.

This class is offered in the spring term.

Expository Writing 20 248: Art of the Con, taught by Professor Ian Shank

“Art of the Con teaches students to enhance their writing skills through the lens of con artists. We spent the semester analyzing texts, including novels and films such as *The Talented Mr. Ripley*, *How Anna Delvey Tricked New York's Party People*, and *The Fyre Festival*, to learn how con artists expose truths about our society. This course owes a lot of its appeal to Professor Shank. Shank teaches with a real passion— not only for the subject matter, but also with care for his students' development as writers. We spent class time engaging in conversation, dissecting the texts, walking



through the writing process, and also getting to know one another better. I really enjoyed the small class size and Shank's stress on facilitating camaraderie between students. This is one of my favorite courses I've taken so far at Harvard.” —Ariel Beck '25

This class is split into three units, each culminating in a final paper. The first unit dives into what it means to be a con artist and allows students to create arguments in their defense. The second unit teaches students to analyze two comparative texts side-by-side.

DO IT BEFORE YOU GRADUATE, 2.0

ACCORDING TO INDY MEMBERS

FRIEDLANDER '25

For example, last year, students wrote about the key differences between the movie and book version of Highsmith's *The Talented Mr. Ripley*. In the final unit, students will have the opportunity to research a con artist of their choosing, creating an argument about how this person connects us to "one or more facets of American life," according to the class' syllabus. Expository Writing courses, by many, have the reputation of being dry and a requirement you just have to get through and complete; however, this class effectively allows students to learn all the critical writing skills needed to sustain college while relating to engaging topics.

This class is offered in the fall term.

in the SEC building (occasionally in a Harvard Business School classroom) each spring, providing first-year students with a change in scenery from the daily walks in and out of the yard.

Bringing this content to life, Ofek's infectious energy and charismatic zeal for marketing captivates and inspires hungry students to dive head first into the realm of consumer behavior. Utilizing the case study method, Ofek provided the tools to inquisitively dissect and rationalize questions while gauging the effect of strategies used by different industries ranging from sports to cosmetics. By the end of this course, students will have learned the intricacies and nuances behind marketing to navigate the consumer world from the "ultimate" insider perspective. Trust me, the 20 minute walk is

worth it!" –Alexandra Lenzo '25

With a glowing Q Guide score of 4.92, 92% of respondents recommend this class with enthusiasm! Being taught by an HBS professor is a truly unique experience, and Professor Ofek is clearly no exception. Every single student response radiated nothing but positivity. Unfortunately, because this class is a freshman seminar, it is only offered to first-year students.

This class is offered in the spring term.

GENED 1067: Creativity, taught by David Atherton

"Creativity taught me so much about myself. More importantly, the Gen Ed inspired critical thinking about the creativity of other humans, animals, and machines. We learned about creativity as a science and as an art, through readings and through practice.

This class required deep introspection. The "lectures" were less lectures and more similar to conversations that leave you feeling stimulated and motivated. This class was a reminder of how lucky I am to be able to learn in this place and from these people. I recommend it to everyone." –Ella Hilton '24

With an average Q Guide score of 4.68 and glowing responses, this Gen Ed is a must take! One respondent claimed with glee, "It's a classic gem, in that not only is it super manageable work-wise, but it is genuinely interesting and the assignments are fun to do." Seems like a win-win to me!

This class is offered in the spring term.

GENED 1114: Painting's Doubt: A Studio Course, taught by Matt Saunders

"When I tell people I took a painting class at Harvard, they're either really jealous or

really confused. Where else are you going to have the opportunity to spend 4+ hours a week with the best paints, brushes, and materials, and under the direction of such a renowned teacher and artist? This painting GenEd is such an amazing way to balance the workload of p-set or essay classes, while still growing my appreciation for art history and modern methods. I'm definitely no artist, but I wouldn't trade this class for the world!" –Marbella Marlo '24

Although this class does require a lot of time and effort,—with upwards of ten hours of painting each week—it definitely provides students with a new, unique, and creative type of learning, free of problem sets and traditional exams. This class has a Q Guide score of 4.52.

This class is offered in the fall term.

GOV 20: Foundations of Comparative Politics, taught by Steven Levitsky

"I took Gov 20 my freshman fall and learned the most I ever have in one semester from one class. Professor Levitsky creates full, engaging lectures that take you through theories and case studies from Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. Despite being a prominent Professor, Levitsky holds regular office hours and welcomes conversations with students. The TFs also host sessions on how to read and write for Gov 20, so don't let the 100-200 page per week or the exams deter you. There is a lot of support! If you learn how to get the main ideas without reading the full texts and pay attention in lecture and class, you'll be fine." –Hannah Davis '25

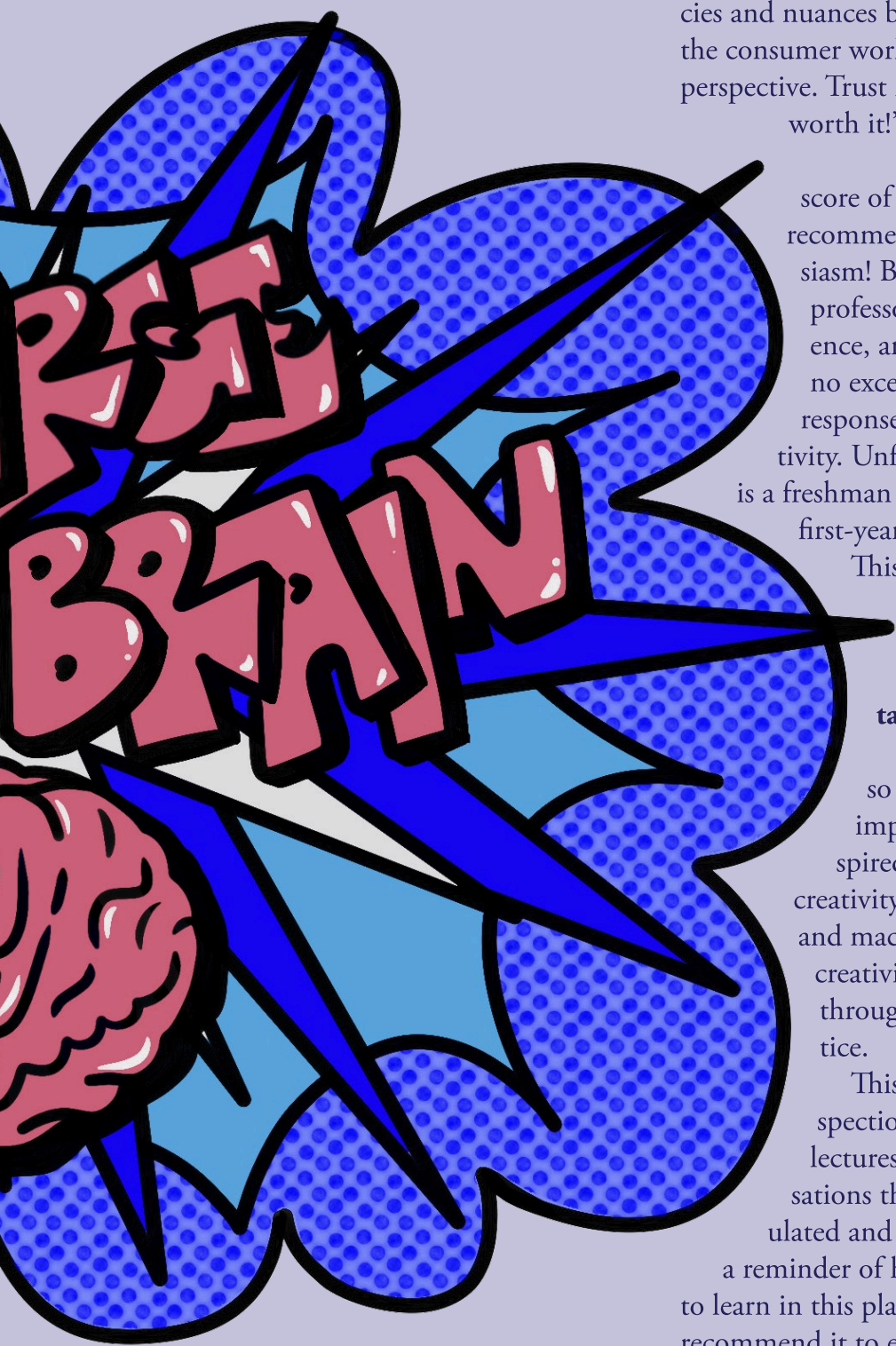
"Gov 20 balances the difficult task of discussing comparative political theory with application of case studies in a manner that engages and challenges students to think critically about the world around us. In my own opinion, one reason Gov 20 particularly sticks out as a valuable and important course is its incredible ability to leave students with a number of questions about our present and future, but also to equip them with the tools to answer those questions and possibly solve the problems of the present and future." –Oliver Adler '24

Taught by world renowned political scientist, Steven Levitsky's class has a Q Guide score of 4.21. Over half of the respondents recommend this class with enthusiasm!

This class is offered in the fall term.

Alexandra Friedlander '25 (afriedlander@college.harvard.edu) is currently struggling to finish enrolling in her first semester classes.

Graphic by Candace Gardner '25



FRSEMR 40D: The Transformation of Marketing, taught by Elie Ofek

"This highly competitive, sought after seminar aims to redefine the concept of Marketing within any business sector—after all, the my.harvard course guide identifies "FRSEMR 40D," as the Transformation of Marketing. I alongside 11 other students had the honor of undertaking a course that unveiled the different factors that drive people to click and purchase. Harvard Business School Professor, Elie Ofek, hand picks people to fill his classroom located

SEVEN FIRST-YEARS YOU NEED TO MEET

BOASTING EDUCATION ACTIVISTS, ACCLAIMED ARTISTS, AND AIR FORCE VETERANS, THE CLASS OF 2026 IS MORE INTERESTING THAN EVER.

By ELIZA KIMBALL '25 AND MARY CIPPERMAN '25

On August 25th, 1,950 first-years began to burst through Johnston Gate. They represent a record-low number of admitted students—3.13 percent of all applicants—featuring record-high numbers of women, Asian Americans, and first-generation college students. After facing a series of disruptions to the college application process, including Harvard’s decision to make standardized test scores optional, “the Class of 2026 has demonstrated great promise for the future at a time of pandemic and economic uncertainty,” Dean of Admissions William R. Fitzsimmons ’67 said in a press release.

These first-years excel in their leadership and activism.

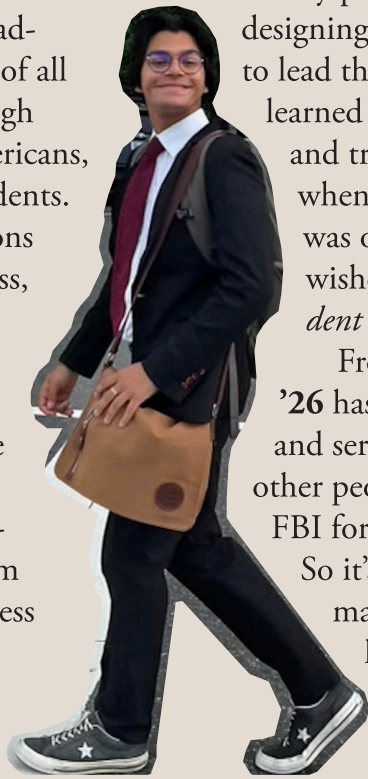
Kashish Bastola ’26, from Frisco, Texas, works to dispel ignorance and correct misinformation about critical race theory. “It’s been a very long, tough, and emotional battle trying to fight all of the misinformation and propaganda that a lot of parents in my community are putting out that really harm teachers and students,” he shared. “It’s just nice to see how even in like the most misinformed areas of the country, public schools are finding ways to innovate and be there for their teachers and students in ways that will have an impact for generations.”

Bastola appreciates Harvard’s commitment to rectifying its history of racial discrimination. Harvard has cultivated a teaching staff diverse in race, ethnicity, and field of study, and developed more inclusive course offerings, as seen in the administration’s consideration of ethnic studies as a new concentration.

Bastola is not the only change-maker. In high school, **Maggie Chiappetta-Uberti ’26**, from Los Angeles, California, sought to expand access to education and mitigate economic inequality amongst students by founding a free online tutoring company, Online Academia. At Harvard, she plans to research the lingual commonality between English and neuroscience, pursue journalism, sing a capella, and join the marathon club.

Hailing from Tampa, Florida, **Asher Montgomery ’26** was

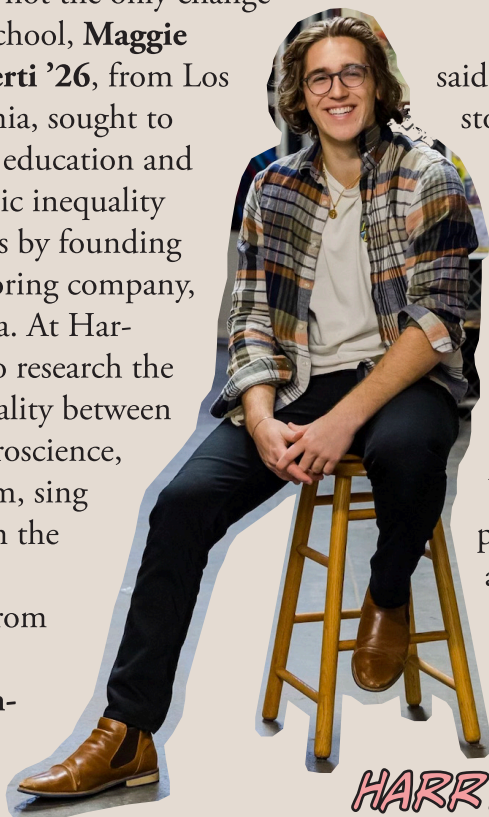
NEWS 16



KAHISH



MAGGIE



HARRY

editor-in-chief of her school newspaper with a particular interest in conducting student and faculty profiles. Though she had no experience designing a yearbook spread, she was elected to lead the yearbook committee as well. “I learned a lot about working with people and trying to cover a high school in a time when COVID-wise half of our school was online,” she explained. Montgomery wishes to write for the *Harvard Independent* and play on the club rugby team.

From Cincinnati, Ohio, **Harry Warfel ’26** has a passion for art, environmentalism, and service. “I’ve always had a desire to help other people,” he said. “My dad was in the FBI for twenty years; my mom was a nurse. So it’s always a joke in my house that no matter what I do, we’ll have someone to help.” After enjoying the art of Zentangle in the fifth grade, he drew extensively on his own and sent his work to three art clubs and galleries, including the Cincinnati Art Club, where he became its youngest member. At Harvard, Harry will explore the Egyptology Department, which offers advanced projection and 3-D modeling of the pyramids of Giza.

With a team of international high school and college students, **Eshan Vishwakarma ’26** worked for a nonprofit documentary studio in his hometown of Richmond, Virginia to develop short-form climate change documentaries. His studio, the Outspoken Editor, shifted from focusing its films on politics and culture to specializing in issues of climate change. It has now partnered with Adobe to “educate the next generation of climate change filmmakers,” Vishwakarma said. “The true stories and most important stories are in the climate change field.”

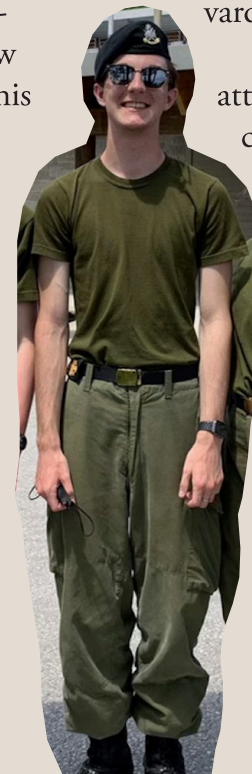
While serving for the Canadian Army Cadet Program, **Hudson Bosch ’26** earned the highest-ranking positions of Regimental Sergeant Major and Chief Warrant Officer. He was one of twenty high school students in Canada to receive the 2020 Vinny Pilgrimage Award. Explaining his qualifications, he said, “I’m bilingual in English and French, [and] I prove that I’m able to produce concise and accurate research projects regarding World War and Canadian history.” As a reward, Bosch embarked on a ten-day education trip to World War sites in France and Belgium directly before moving to Harvard Yard.

The Class of 2026 features fourteen veterans. **Kevin Fischetto ’26**, an Air Force veteran and former Montana ranch hand, emigrated to the United States from Korea at twelve years old and grew up in Brewster, New York. “There was no typical day to day,” Fischetto said of his time as an airman. “Sometimes it was jumping out of a plane, sometimes diving, and lots of working out.” Now a 25-year-old first-year, Fischetto looks forward to finding the same bond he found in the military within Harvard’s Rugby team.

Fischetto admitted he was attracted to Harvard College because its determined, driven, and selfless personalities mirrored those he encountered in the military. Once on campus, Fischetto looks forward to meeting curious minds. “From what I gather, I think everyone has a unique story here.” From documentarians, artists, and veterans, unique stories will not be in short supply this year in Harvard Yard.



ESHAN



HUDSON

Mary Cipperman ’25 (mcipperman@college.harvard.edu) wandered, rather unfortunately, into Visitasty last semester and now hopes to avoid first-years on the weekends this year.



KEVIN

REPORTING IN THE REAL WORLD

CLEAN COPY, CLEAR QUESTIONS, AND CONVICTION: LESSONS FROM MY SUMMER IMMERSION IN JOURNALISM

BY MARY JULIA KOCH '23

“What’s your headline?” a voice asked me from a rectangular Zoom window during a 10 AM editorial meeting for a daily New York City newspaper.

I had only prepared a pitch—how the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* would impact college students’ abortion access—not a *headline*. Our meetings didn’t run that way at the Harvard Independent. I used the spare seconds it took to unmute myself and clear my throat to scramble to condense my preliminary research on the topic into a clear thesis.

“Panic... Grips College Campuses in the Post-Roe Era,” I ventured, speaking frenetically for fear of taking up too much time amongst a dozen seasoned reporters. I was the youngest person on the call and the newest addition to the team.

The editor-in-chief allowed a moment of silence, then responded slowly, deliberately.

“Now, that’s a story,” he said, with a slight smirk beneath his signature flat cap. I couldn’t help but smile.

“But please, Mary Julia, speak one word a second.”

I nodded and smiled even wider, the way any intern would to affirm their enthusiasm to their boss on day two of a junior summer internship. “Got it!” I quickly responded, then immediately corrected myself with a laugh: “Got... It...”

“Great!” chimed our associate editor, acknowledging that my pitch had earned our chief editor’s stamp of approval. “Ok, who’s next?”

This is how the real world of journalism works, I realized at that moment. To sell your story to senior leadership before you’ve even written it, you must identify its precise angle, its headline—and if you don’t have one in mind, you’ll be forced to procure it on the spot (aided by the luxury of speaking one word a second, of course).

“You really have to form your ideas fully before even approaching the editor of a newspaper,” noted Marissa Garcia ’20, the former editor-in-chief of the Independent, who is now a freelance journalist for the Wash-

ington Post’s Climate Solutions column.

At the Independent, our weekly storyboards progress more casually, with staffers rolling around in office chairs as we bite into Otto pizza and chew over bits of campus gossip that could culminate into an article not yet published by the Crimson. I expect our writers to bring fresh pitches to the newsroom, but in hopes of lowering the conversational threshold to welcome bold ideas from quieter voices, I don’t call on each one of them or demand a headline. We’re unpaid college students doing this mostly for fun, not trained reporters with a host of bylines in national newspapers.

But writing for the Independent prepared Garcia to freelance for a national newspaper. “Because we celebrate independence so much, your editors aren’t telling you what to do,” she said of the Independent’s philosophy. “You are walking around with that self-initiative that we breed so much, and you are designing the story yourself.”

“Freelance is something I believe everyone at the Indy is capable of,” expressed Garcia. “It’s very much ‘find your own opportunity,’ though. You are the one responsible for pitching your own ideas, for cultivating your ideas and harnessing those ideas into the stories they could become, and selling them as such.”

While the practice may be effective, the arena is undeniably smaller. When reporting on the world beyond the gates of Harvard Yard, your ability to find a novel story in the oversaturated media marketplace is put to the test. The seeds for an investigation could lie in the third paragraph of a rant on Substack, the questions raised by a local journalist’s Twitter post, or the tenth bill of a legislative package passed by your governor last week. But if the New York Times already published a similar headline, forget it.

“Don’t react to the Times, be ahead of the Times,” one of our writers asserted in a meeting. Being first is the currency of journalism.

And when another reporter does beat you to the punch, go further than the “first-day lead,” my editor told me. Scrutinize a surface-level narrative and interrogate simple details in a “second-day lead.” Tackle a hot topic like abortion in an unconventional

way. Look ahead in the United States’ government calendar and investigate a case that will soon be heard by the courts.

Almost as much as the angle of your article, the nitty-gritty details matter, too. “We need clean copy,” my editor would always say. My bible for the summer became our Twelfth Edition Reporter’s Handbook and Manual of Style. I learned to not capitalize the “t” in titles of publications except our own. To exclusively write Mr., Ms., or Mrs. after the first mention of a full name. To include no more than five sentences per paragraph in news stories. To never use the word “reveals”—a second-nature verb to any humanities major like myself—for “God reveals, man discloses,” my editor wrote in the margins of one of my submissions.

But more than the savvy to craft headlines or the tools to clean up my copy, this summer cultivated in me a curious confidence.

“What was most intimidating was that this was my first time ever doing it completely by myself, being my own independent reporter,” Garcia recalled of the first article she wrote for the Post.

I, too, felt intimidated before delivering my first pitch, speaking at an almost indecipherable pace. But few of the people I interviewed for articles—ranging from constitutional law experts, orthodox rabbis, and tenured professors to Afghan resistance fighters—knew I was a 21-year-old college intern. If I spoke with enough self-assurance, my age didn’t matter.

“I’m a reporter on an end-of-day deadline,” my cold-call solicitations began. “If you could speak to me, sir, I’d only need ten minutes of your time.”

With each pitch, with each call, my voice became clearer, *slower*, my inquiries more probing. I could sow enough trust into the voice on the other end of the line that they would answer my tough questions. Or I could push back and hit them with the cold, hard truth of a convincing counterargument.

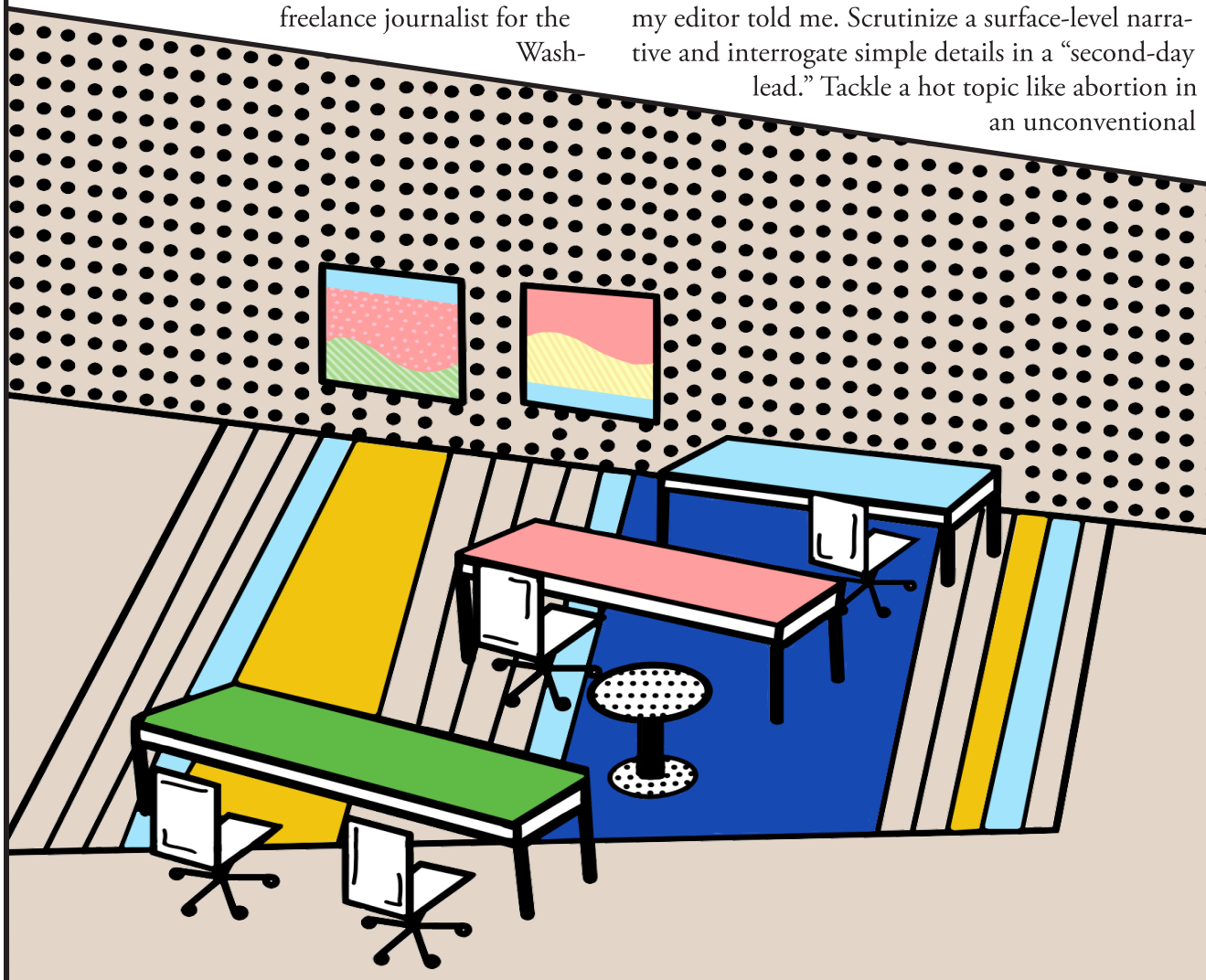
“When you walk into the room, you’re smarter than anyone you interview,” my editor assured me before I spoke with the man leading the affirmative action case against Harvard. Perhaps he was just wielding his signature dry humor, puffing up a young rookie before her first at bat. But by the time I left the newsroom, 18 bylines on highly contentious issues in tow, I came to see how that confidence could serve the story, pushing me to trust my instincts in conversation.

Returning to the Independent this fall, my last semester as your editor-in-chief, I hope to fuel the same fire in our writers. Although the Harvard Independent’s 2022 Style Guide is less pedantic on the proper use of “reveals,” the conviction that any story can be our story if we chase it hard enough exists all the same.

In our first storyboard meeting on campus, I won’t be able to help but ask: “What’s your headline?”

Mary Julia Koch ’23 (editorinchief@harvardindependent.com) asks her writers to speak just one word a second.

Graphic by Piper Tingleaf ’24



THE PURSUIT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PREDECESSOR

THE HARVARD COMMUNITY HAS HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR BACOW'S REPLACEMENT.

BY MARBELLA MARLO '24

Since Harvard University President Lawrence S. Bacow announced his decision to step down from his five-year post next June, community members have advocated for a leader that will not only maintain Harvard's role as a global leader, but also ignite change on campus.

President Bacow's announcement accompanied the official departure of three other University board members, all of whom served Harvard for more than a decade. Bacow's presidency only lasted five years, marking him one of Harvard's shortest serving presidents, and his predecessor has yet to be found.

A month after Mr. Bacow's email announcement, Penny Pritzker, who assumed Mr. Lee's role just days before, invited Harvard community members to send their "thoughts on the search for the next president of Harvard University."

Pritzker requested community input on the selection of their next president as the search gathers steam. A survey sent to students and faculty inquired about priorities for the future of Harvard's leadership, in order to "develop an increasingly robust and nuanced picture of Harvard, its current trajectory, and its future aspirations."

Officially governed by the Harvard Corporation since 1650, University leadership has depended heavily on the values and management of seven individuals: the president, the treasurer, and five other fellows. Recent history of Harvard's presidential search includes the transition between Harvard's first female president, Drew Gilpin Faust, and Larry Bacow in 2017. Not only did this shift coincide with the Harvard Campaign's scheduled conclusion, but it also gave the Corporation adequate time to prepare for their next presidential nominee.

In contrast, Bacow's announcement came as a "big shock" to faculty members, said Harvard Divinity School Professor Jacob K. Oupona, also referencing a number of nationwide higher education leaders who recently announced their departures. While the seven month search to find Bacow narrowed over 700 candidates down to one, it is expected that finding Bacow's forerunner will take at least a year.

"It's a really difficult job because you're taking a leadership position not just with the University, but with higher education as a whole. It's important to give plenty of time for a smooth transition," said James H. Stock, the Harold Hitchings Burbank Professor of Political Economy and Vice Provost for Climate and Sustainability. "I would imagine that's one of the considerations he took into account."

The process to find the next University President includes delibera-

tions from members of the Harvard Corporation, Board of Overseers, and faculty, students, and staff that form three advisory committees. All members of the Presidential Search committee refused to comment.

Lylena Estabine '24, Co-President of the Undergraduate Association, fears that the current presidential search will exclude student sentiment.

"Travis [Allen Johnson] and I have been working in our capacity as HUA Co-Presidents with the DSO to try and secure student representation within this process," she noted. "Though we understand the need for the Harvard Corporation to make the final decisions, students are key stakeholders in the academic



mission of the College, and should be treated as such."

Michael Cheng '22, president of the former Harvard Undergraduate Council (UC) before it was replaced by HUA, has worked with President Bacow on a variety of matters, including COVID-19 policies, undergraduate social life, and free speech. In Harvard's next president, Cheng wants a figure more eager to enact change.

"Overall, Bacow was honorable and competent, and faced a once in a century pandemic that no one could've planned for," Cheng remarked. "But given Bacow's institutional experience and the crisis of purpose at modern universities, I wonder whether Bacow could've done more to launch a bold vision for Harvard's future."

This "crisis of purpose" Cheng alluded to has plagued the field of higher education for years. Magnified by a divisive pandemic, universities have faced intensifying inequality in the range and quality of employment for graduate students, continued public divestment, augmenting student debt, and countless other sources of external pressure. Harvard specifically suffers from issues of financial and socioeconomic division.

"One thing at Harvard College that I was really disappointed by was how you have a community that is more diverse than ever but also more segregated than ever," Cheng noted, "where people from different backgrounds or points of youth don't really talk or engage with each other at a genuine level."

To combat institutionalized segregation, Harvard has consistently pushed to protect its affirmative action policies, an issue under fire from Student for Fair Admissions (SFFA). In regard to Bacow's oversight of the lawsuit, Michael Cheng noted "the Supreme Court is likely to rule Harvard's current admissions process unconstitutional next year. That will be disappointing for many, but it is also an opportunity to reevaluate what our values are, and I'm not sure Bacow has publicly engaged our community in a conversation about that."

Universities' role as trusted intermediaries between academia, research, and the general public heightens pressure on institutions and their students from the public.

"Right now, more than any other time, there's so much skepticism about the value of our education," Professor Stock noted, in regard to the "substantial internal management challenges" that Harvard as an institution has faced in recent years. He alluded to the difficulties of the pandemic, the lawsuit against SFFA, issues regarding enrollment eligibility for international students, Harvard's recent slavery report, and several examples of student dissent against the University's policies.

"Despite these various external challenges," Stock continued, "President Bacow was still able to keep an eye on what really matters in terms of moving the University forward."

As Harvard enters its second year back from the pandemic, several other matters of contention still abound. With a little over ten months to find his replacement, maybe President Bacow will use his remaining time to do more than maintain a conservative response to these issues and more.

Marbella Marlo '24 (mmarlo@college.harvard.edu) wants President Bacow to read the Independent.

Graphic by Arsh Dhillon '23

NEW BUILDING, SAME BURRITO

THE NEW—AND MORE SPACIOUS—EL JEFE'S SEEKS TO AMELIORATE THE RAUCOUS 2 AM BURRITO LINES.

BY SEATTLE HICKEY '25

It's 2 AM on a Saturday night. Harvard students are packed into El Jefe's Taqueria, shouting out to friends further in line in hopes of purchasing their favorite bean and cheese burrito a few minutes faster. The tables and chairs are pushed into the corner of the restaurant in a failed attempt to create enough space for the raucous congregation of students.

This scene is no more.

On August 11th, 2022, El Jefe's moved slightly closer to Harvard Yard and right next door to Felipe's, its top competitor for late-night Mexican eats. In the recently renovated Abbot building at the intersection of Brattle and John F. Kennedy Street, the new location maintains El Jefe's metal awning, wooden panel accents, and signature kitschy slogans highlighting available food options, like "picante" above a display of all their hot sauces. But it now features an upgraded facade, an upper mezzanine for extra seating, and two en-

trances, one on JFK Street for dining, and one on Brattle Street for delivery, which can be converted into a second ordering queue during busy hours.

At the previous location on the Garage at 83 Mount Auburn Street, workers "were on top of each other, trying to prepare an order while trying to greet a customer," said El Jefe's regional manager John Eller. He anticipates that the new design "will speed up the ordering process," improve the customer experience, and ameliorate the raucous 2 AM burrito lines.

After the renovation of the Garage was announced, the management team at El Jefe's management was "left scrambling to find a new space," but the vacancy in the Abbot building suited their needs to accommodate extensive foot traffic.

Not all students have been pleased with the move. "Aw hell nah they gen-trified Jefe's," commented David Kennedy-Yoon '23 on Twitter. Concerned that an affordable eating venue will be replaced by

a tourist trap, he told the Independent, "Jefe's should be a place where you can go at 1 am... and get a delicious burrito for cheap. Now that they have exposed brick and those metal stools, I'm not excited to pay \$15 for tacos." However, at this point, the food prices, the atmosphere, and the expected clientele of the new location remain unchanged.

"I'm going to miss the old location," said Robert Lawrence '25 when he visited the new restaurant after hearing rumors of its opening. "But I feel like I can still have a pretty rowdy time here, and maybe actually have space to eat inside."

The day the new Jefe's opened its doors, the old Jefe's was still open. The staff at served their last customers the Garage with free extras as they tried to use the remaining ingredients in store. But with fajitas already on the grill at the new location in preparation for a big night of service, El Jefe's will continue to fulfill the promise of its motto: "come for breakfast, stay for dinner, 7 days a week!"

picante



Seattle Hickey '25 (seattlehickey@college.harvard.edu) hopes El Jefe's stops charging for extra queso.

Graphic by Seattle Hickey '25



DARLING!

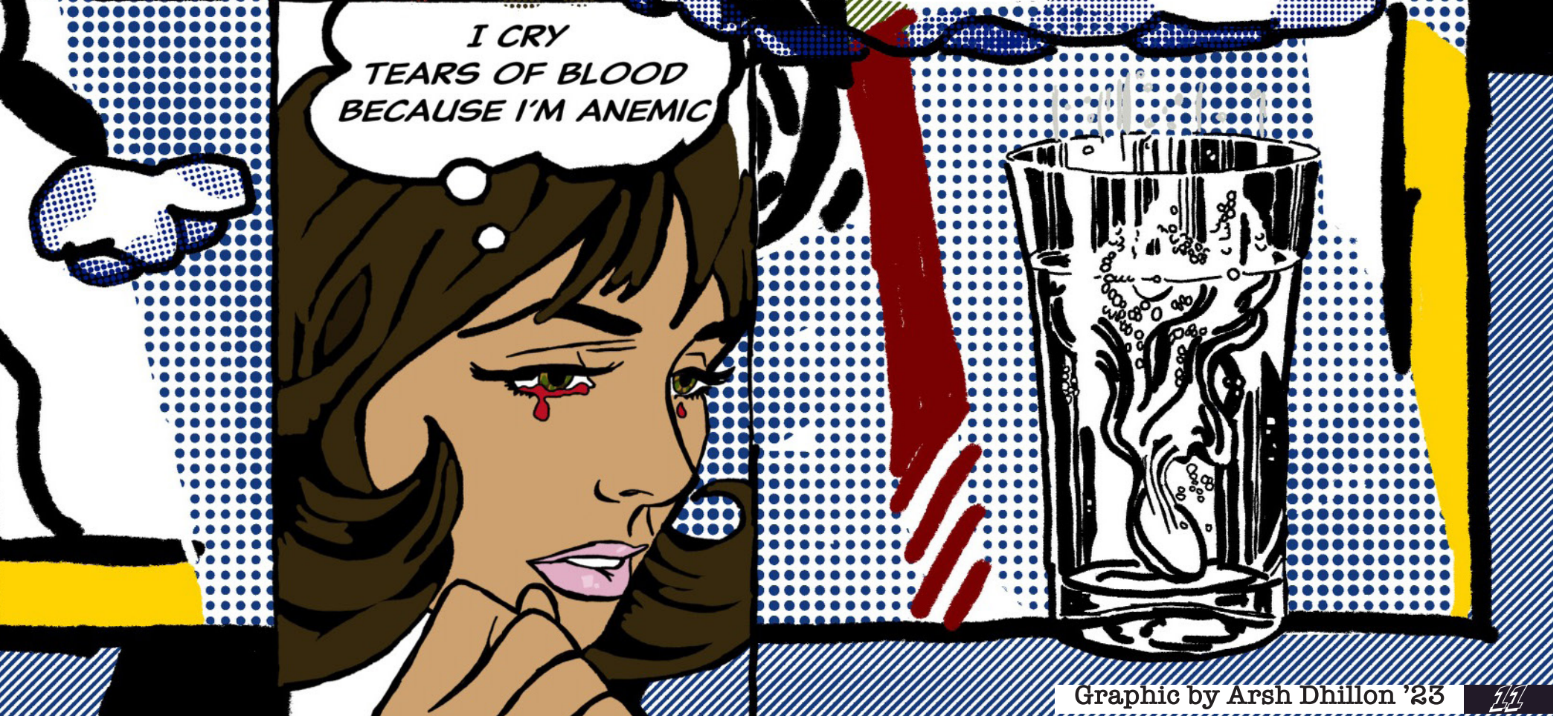
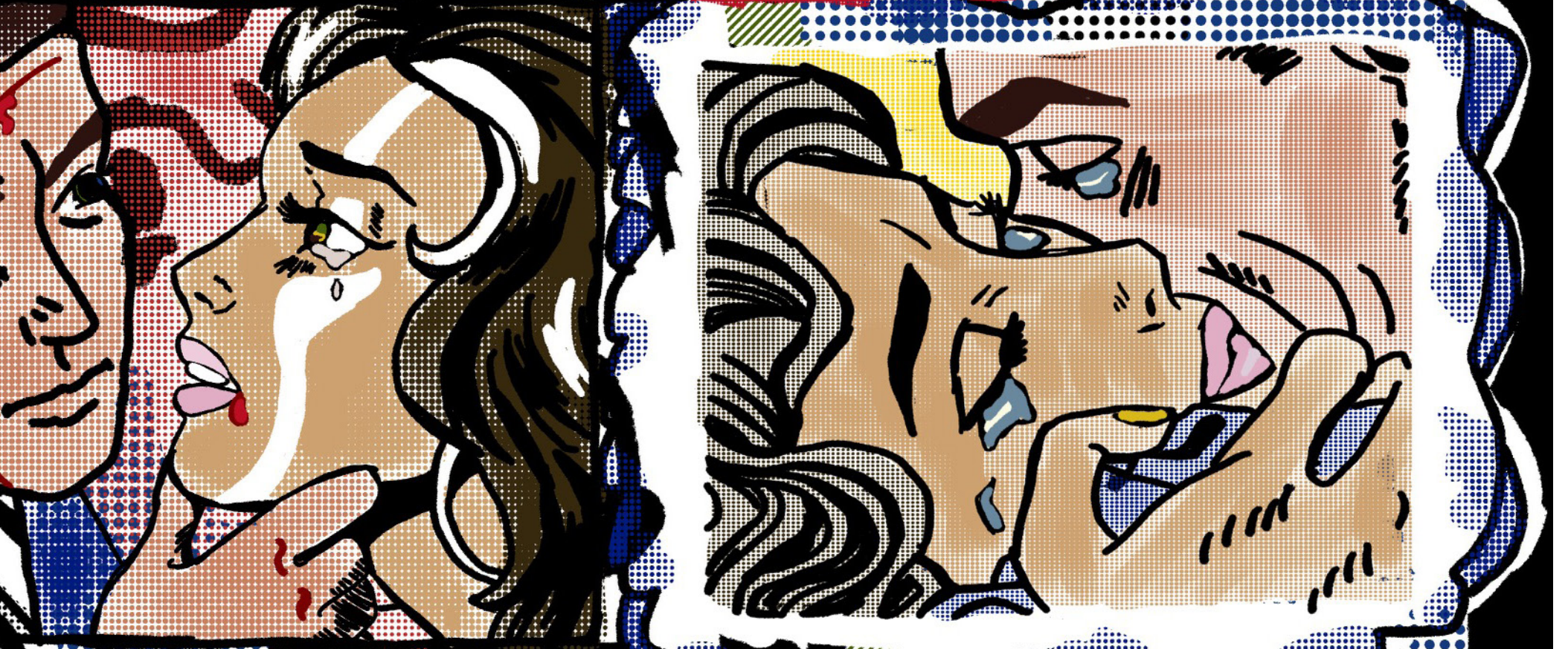
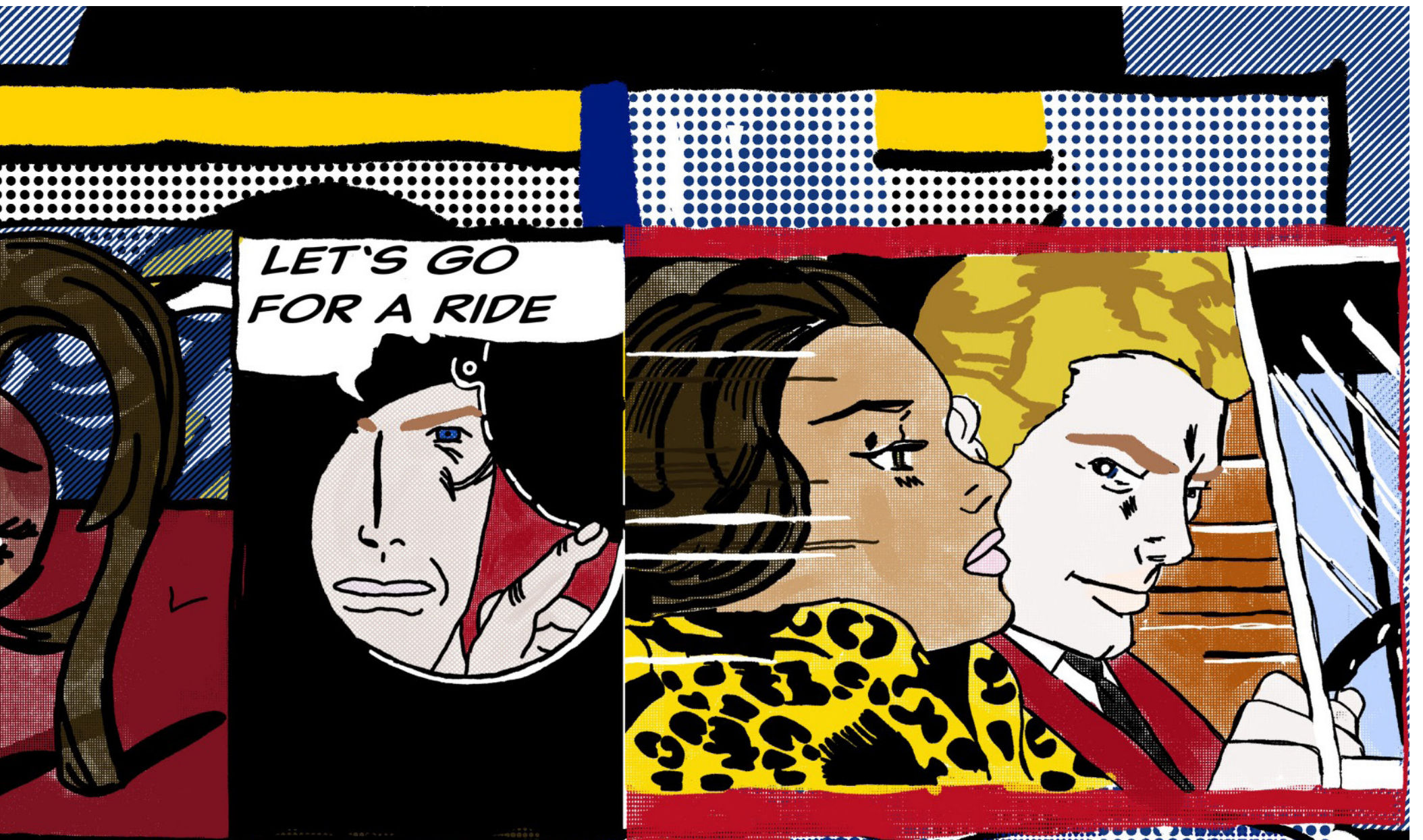
SWEET
DREAMS
DARLING!

CRASH

POW!

IF ONLY IT WERE
SO SIMPLE

ANOTHER BAD DREAM?
TAKE YOUR IRON, DEAR



HARVARD AFTER ROE: UNTOUCHABLE, OR NOT QUITE?

WITH ROE OVERTURNED, THERE IS A GROWING DIVIDE IN ABORTION ACCESS NATIONWIDE. BUT LEGAL AND HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS HAVE A MESSAGE: NO ONE SHOULD TAKE THEIR RIGHTS FOR GRANTED.

BY PROOF SCHUBERT REED '25

In February 1981, a senior living in Lowell House walked into the university's infirmary holding a positive pregnancy test. She had been having protected sex with a long-term boyfriend, but her contraceptive pills had failed.

"I remember being totally freaked out," said the alumna, who wished to remain anonymous. She was not ready to have a baby. But she did not feel desperate. An abortion was the obvious course of action—no question about it. Health services referred her to a clinic in Boston. She and her boyfriend drove to the appointment. The procedure went smoothly. "I have never regretted it," she said. "I've never thought a second time about it."

Eight years prior, *Roe v. Wade* granted women in Massachusetts, and nationally, access to legal abortions. Over the last fifty years, the state has steadily expanded abortion protections, with recent legislation mandating that insurance companies cover access. That is not the case across the nation.

When the Supreme Court's draft decision overturning *Roe* leaked last spring, Anna Dean '25 found that "being at school was hard. It was really hard." Dean recalled conversations in Annenberg with indifferent peers: "People were like, 'Oh, yeah, that's tough, but like, I live in a good state, right?'" That weekend, Dean went home to Arkansas to find her town posterized with statements celebrating the end of *Roe*.

After the formal decision of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* in June, Arkansas was one of 12 states that enacted "trigger laws"—bills pre-written to ban abortions when *Roe* no longer applied. Mathilde Fox-Smith '25, who grew up in Louisiana where one such ban exists, explained *Dobbs* did not change her day-to-day life at home or school, but she was still emotional: "It was like a light going out."

Even before *Dobbs*, women across the country had restricted abortion access. Dr. Cheryl Hamlin, an OB-GYN at Mount Auburn in Cambridge, has spent the last five years commuting to Mississippi to perform abortions at Jackson Women's Health, dubbed "the Pink House"—the red-bricked clinic at the heart of *Dobbs*. She said when *Dobbs* was leaked, no one was surprised. "We all just gave each other a hug and got back to work."

The Pink House was the last clinic to close in Mississippi before the state's trigger ban went into motion. Through her last day providing abortions, patients were "coming out of the woodwork," Hamlin said. "I was definitely cutting corners. Giving people meds that I might not have otherwise. Like, 'take this, call your doctor if it doesn't work.' That's all I could do."

When the clinic shut its doors, people were crying. "It was hard to just get on a plane and go home."

Hamlin said people in Massachusetts do not realize the nationwide picture of abortion access. Recently, she recalled a patient in Attleboro who got annoyed waiting for her abortion: "She was all huffy, like, 'You made me wait too long. I'm leaving.' I just thought, 'You have no idea. You clearly don't get it.' This wouldn't happen in Jackson. No one would ever leave an abortion."

Dean was also at the Pink House when it closed. She spent the summer researching domestic violence in the Mississippi Delta,

and spoke with patients who received abortions for pregnancies from incest, for which Mississippi's ban does not make an exception. She stressed how difficult it is for women in the South to access abortions. "Women in poverty and women of color are going to be sought out to be persecuted, not necessarily a Harvard student," Dean said.

Students are confused as to how *Dobbs* may affect them. Harvard University Health Services (HUHS) released a statement on June 24th reiterating their commitment to reproductive health care. Yet the case law is confusing. "What happens when you seek abortion care in your college town and then come back to the state where it's outlawed?" said Dean.

Professor Mary Ziegler '04, UC Davis Law professor and *Roe* historian, emphasized this legal ambiguity. "I think part of what's tricky as people navigate this landscape is they don't know what the law is going to be. They don't know whether things that would be okay at one moment in time won't be later," she said.

"I feel safe as of right now," said Liz Benecchi '25 from her home in Georgia, where abortions are only legal in the first six weeks of pregnancy—before most women know they are pregnant. Benecchi underscored her privilege, but stressed the uncertainty she feels. "Who knows? Who knows, in five years, if that changes? Who knows what they can legislate and what they can't? You know, I don't know."

Ziegler said students living between states may be better protected than individuals who travel out-of-state solely for abortions. But she urged that even in Massachusetts, students are not untouchable.

"The message, in part, of the *Dobbs* decision is that something that would have been legally or politically unthinkable two years ago happened," she said. "I think that the lesson there is that you can't take rights for granted."

Hamlin criticized complacency in Massachusetts, particularly in the "double bubble" of Cambridge. "There's a growing storm of people that want to make [abortion] illegal in the whole country," she explained. "I think people just need to be aware that we can't just sit back like we're fine. I don't think we are."

Differing perspectives exist on Harvard's campus, too. After *Dobbs* leaked, both pro-choice and pro-life groups held rallies outside Harvard Hall. In 2019, Harvard Right to Life, a pro-life student group, called for HUHS to refund the abortion costs on students' health insurance plans. Harvard Right to Life did not respond to requests for comment.

Ziegler said when she studied at Harvard in the early 2000s, there was greater apathy around abortion on both sides. The alumna from Lowell agreed, saying it was a "non-issue." "I'm very freaked out, like all women nowadays, at the thought that this could become a whole thing," she said.

Ziegler said access to contraception and same-sex marriage and intimacy will likely be threatened in the future. She also urged students, particularly those from conservative states, to protect their personal data. "Students in places like Massachusetts are thinking that when they're in Massachusetts, it's okay. But their data could be scrutinized when they're in Massachusetts, too," she said. "Go online now and read about digital privacy."

Students and alumni maintain hope. Janet Singer '84 is a founding member of Midwives for Choice and Crimson Goes Blue, a coalition of Harvard alumni mobilizing to elect Democrats. Singer said she is optimistic about the future. She explained that young people do not see "the full arc of history"—when she was a student, gay marriage seemed impossible—but that they have to have hope. "If you don't have any hope, you just can't work on what we need to work on, and you don't see a way for things to get better."

Benecchi maintains that with "constant action," change will happen. She emphasized voting in local elections, flagging offices like attorney general, who enforces laws at a state level. "I don't think we're stuck here."

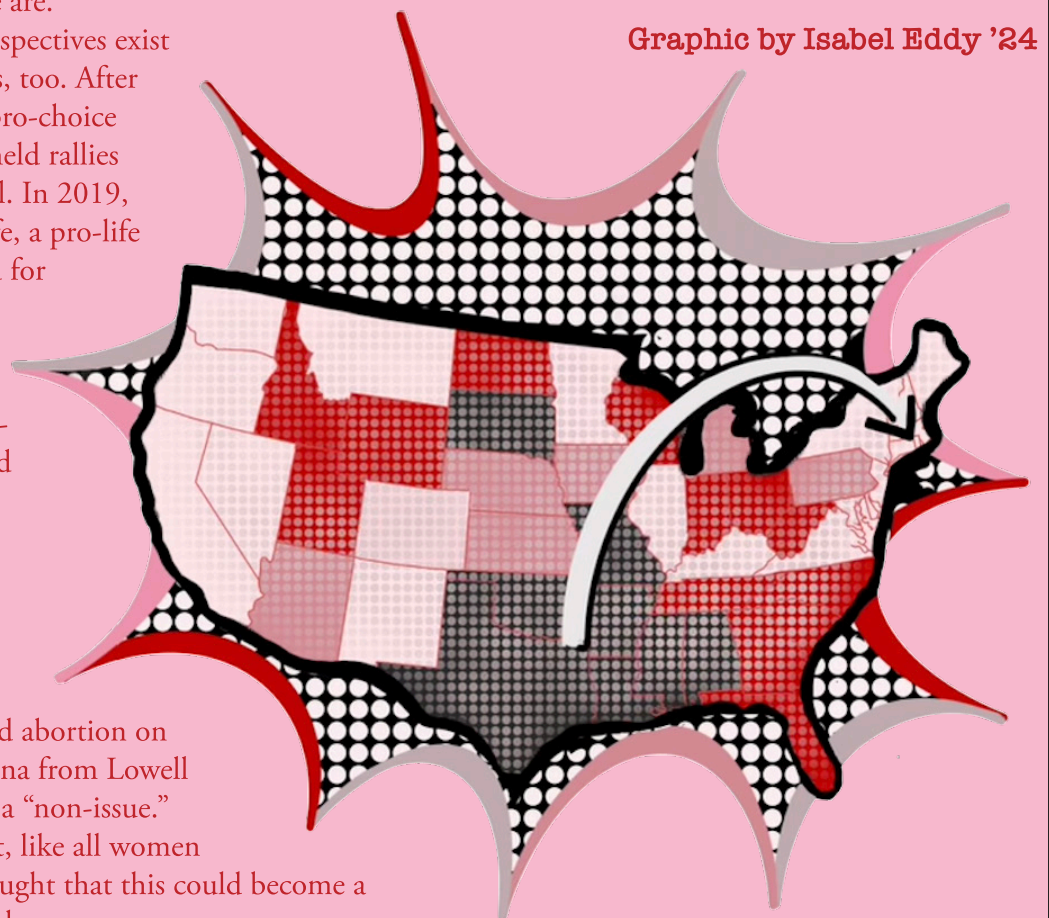
Dean is committed to working in the South. "No one's coming to save us," she said. "No one from Boston is coming to Arkansas to try to fix abortion legislation. That's our job."

As long as women need abortions, Hamlin will keep fighting. The Pink House recently moved to Las Cruces, New Mexico, where she's helping get the clinic running. Since *Dobbs*, she has also seen more women seeking out-of-state abortions in Boston.

"I never thought that this was going to be where my life was headed," she said, reflecting on the past few years. "Until I feel like the country is turned around and they don't need me anymore, I think I'm in it for the duration. And even if I'm a little old lady, I can still write prescriptions for abortion pills."

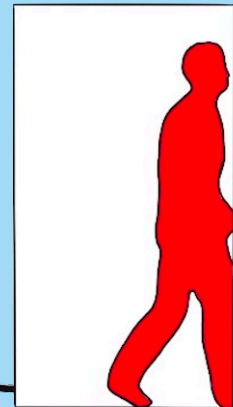
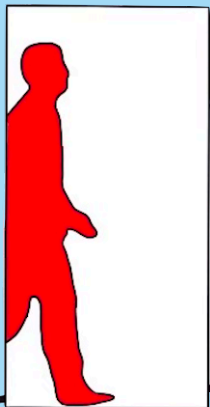
Proof Schubert Reed '25 (proofschubertreed@college.harvard.edu) is a sophomore living in Pforzheimer House.

Graphic by Isabel Eddy '24



OUT WITH THE OLD,

IN WITH THE NEW.



"SAY YES TO EVERYTHING," ADVISES THE CLASS OF 2022 TO THE CLASS OF 2026.

BY ALEXANDRA LENZO '25

On Thursday, May 26th at 6:45 AM, the Class of 2022 flooded through the formidable gates of Harvard Yard and entered the packed Tercentenary Theater for one last time as undergraduates. The atmosphere was frenetic as Harvard University President Lawrence S. Bacow commemorated each student for earning their undergraduate degrees. Under crimson flags bearing crests of each House, students filed into endless rows of white folding chairs lining every inch of the Yard.

This fall, a new class will claim those white folding chairs from Commencement for their Convocation ceremony. The Class of 2026 have existed within a waiting room of uncertainty about what to expect from their first steps on campus. Some incoming students will scavenge the internet for articles on the "freshman experience" and YouTube videos showcasing "A Day in the Life of a Harvard Student," while others cling to every word on Harvard's countless emails on "student resources."

Though one can simply Wikihow "How to Get into Harvard," a question lingers once students have earned their spots: Now what?

During her first year, Georgia Messinger '22 wished she "would have been more open to all sorts of experiences and people. It's easy to shut out certain people or keep your head down. It can feel like everyone knows each other or already has found their place. Reality check: all new freshmen are in the same boat! Everyone is experiencing all this craziness for the

first time together." Messinger encouraged incoming freshmen to "say yes to everything, and to not be afraid to put yourself out there."

Olly Gill '22 expressed, "I would give anything to go back and tell myself, 'Do not stress about what everybody else is doing.'" Having served as the captain of the lacrosse team, she voiced that "being in such a high-achieving, demanding environment is an incredibly, amazing opportunity, but it can feel overwhelming as you often compare yourself to others. The best thing you can do for yourself is to try to make decisions dependent upon your personal beliefs and aspirations."

Harvard provided Gill with the space to confidently explore campus activities "without a buddy," such as Harvard Student Agencies tutoring, Lowell Tea, and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. Balancing sports, a job, and academics, Gill urged freshmen to "figure out where you align at Harvard and have trust in your abilities to make independent choices. You are equipped to handle more than you think you are capable of!"

Incoming freshmen are introduced to multifaceted individuals, possessing not only intelligence but grit, passion, creativity, and curiosity. Gill appreciated "the unique and enriching experience of being a part of and learning from such an incredible, diverse student body comprised of scientists, artists, athletes, and musicians."

"Meet as many other freshmen as possible in the opening days," reiterated David Pines '22. "Try to at least introduce

yourself and be friendly. It is the best time to meet the people you will see for the next four years."

Harvard's plentiful libraries around campus facilitate both animated collaboration and shared spaces of silence for students knee-deep in their textbooks and laptops. Pines' classic study spot was Lamont Library, where he enjoyed late-night trips to the vending machines that save tired students from running out of steam. Messinger recommended the more secluded study atmosphere of Jenny's Cafe within the Harvard Art Museum.

To the Class of 2026: Your acceptance letter is an open invitation for spontaneity, for exploration in uncharted territory by stretching your interests and seeking new faces. In the face of novelty, embrace the infectious unease of the unpredictable.

Alexandra Lenzo '25 (alexandra.lenzo@college.harvard.edu) enthusiastically recommends Sweetgreen on JFK Street to all incoming freshmen.

Graphic by Marina Zoullas '23

The housing process is a hallmark of the Harvard experience, connecting students to a new community that will remain constant for three years. But many sophomores are now getting shuffled into side buildings with separate communities, forced into the college's ever-growing overflow housing.

To accommodate the large number of students in the Class of 2026, every House—except the largest, Leverett—is overflowing into additional buildings this year, including several Houses requiring additional space for the first time.

The Dewolfe buildings (Mather, Quincy, Dunster), the Prescott buildings (Kirkland and Eliot), Hampden (Adams), and the Harvard Inn (Adams) are now mainstays of dorm life. Ridgely (Lowell) and Fairfax (Winthrop), located on top of many Cambridge storefronts, will also be occupied. The Cronkhite Center (Cabot, Currier, Pforzheimer), formerly a graduate student dorm that was converted into a Covid-19 ward during the pandemic, is Harvard's newest overflow destination.

Although overflow students are still considered House members, they remain physically separated from their peers, especially for those already distant from the primary part of campus in Quad dorms.

Each overflow building tends to form its own distinct communities, much smaller than that of the main House. Some even have amenities not present in their corresponding Houses. DeWolfe's suites are more apartment-like than traditional dorms, including full kitchens and air conditioning units. The Inn features a full lobby, carpeted floors, and one of the most modern designs among student housing.

Yet the ultimate separation from the physical House undercuts one of Harvard's main selling points: its close-knit upper-classmen communities, with students often notified of their exclusion from this tradition only a month prior to move-in. Carina Myteveli, the Director of Housing and Residential Operations for Harvard College, stated that integrating these students is up to each individual House. "[The Houses] have been planning carefully for their expanded physical footprint in terms of programming, housing assignments, and community-building projects," she said. "They are eager to work with and to hear from students about their experiences in these spaces."

The ongoing renovations on each House are usually cited as the primary contributor for requiring overflow units. As the University continues cycling through updates on each House with more modern amenities and increased space, large sections of the old Houses are closed off, necessitating more buildings to house the remaining students. The current renovations of Adams House and Randolph Hall, ongoing since 2019, have forced several Adams students to relocate to overflow housing for the past few years. Myteveli also cited increased gap years due to COVID as a factor behind recent large classes. "These students, approximately 300, returned to campus at the same time in addition to the incoming First-Year class," she said. "This created an usually large class that will be going through the Houses in the next three years."

However, Harvard's admissions policies have also contributed to the increased housing demand. An increase in applicants and fewer available admitted spots have led to a lower acceptance rate in recent years, yet the College still struggles with larger-than-expected class sizes. Even before the rapid increase in Covid-induced deferrals, the rate of students accepting their admittances was rising, with the last few years of attendance rates higher than most of Harvard history.

The Harvard Gazette has highlighted the yield for the Class of '26 as "historically strong" due to the wide range of opportunities and programs drawing in more people. Harvard's recent financial aid and first-generation recruitment initiatives ease the decision to accept for many. While these incentives have helped individual students, it has also led to difficulties with accommodating them.

Harvard must scramble each year to provide necessary amenities as these larger classes progress into higher grades. Some former renovation-induced displacement housing from 2021 was

OVERFLOWING HOUSING

HARVARD'S TEMPORARY SOLUTION TO STUDENT HOUSING LOOKS INCREASINGLY PERMANENT

BY RYAN GOLEMME '23

converted into general overflow housing for the larger Class of 2025, many of whom deferred enrollment in 2020, representing the first freshman class on campus after the pandemic hiatus. First-year proctors reported feeling increased stress and burnout as they struggled to manage and mentor so many assigned students.

If Harvard's yield rates continue to rise as many more students apply to the school, overflow housing may have to adapt to something more permanent to handle the increase in students. Myteveli says that while Harvard is not looking to add more facilities or change its approach, any new additions "will depend on our housing needs given House Renewal and the size of future first year classes." Harvard has added Houses to its system before, and the renovations have been able to diminish some of the demand. As it stands now, overflow housing operates as an increasing quasi-House for many students compared to the temporary arrangement as it was pitched years ago.

Next year, the anticipated large Class of 2027 may require even more expanded housing if trends continue. In the meantime, students will adapt to their new separate enclaves, while the University continues to expand its increasingly permanent temporary solutions to accommodate them. The limbo of student housing for future classes will continue, one converted building at a time.

Ryan Golemme '23 (ryangolemme@college.harvard.edu), who got the exact same room two years in a row, writes News for the Independent.

Graphic by Seattle Hickey '25

WHERE AM I GOING TO LIVE?



THE MOMENT A HARVARD STUDENT NEVER FORGETS...

PLAINTIFFS OR PAWNS? ASIAN-AMERICANS & AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

ASIAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS AT HARVARD FIGHTING TO PRESERVE RACE-CONSCIOUS ADMISSIONS

BY MADELINE PROCTOR '25

“The primary victims” of race-conscious admissions “are now Asian Americans,” claims the Students for Fair Admissions in a supplemental brief filed to the Supreme Court in December asking the high court to ban colleges that consider applicants’ race from receiving federal funding. However, a growing number of Asian American students at Harvard are spearheading efforts to defend affirmative action at Harvard and throughout higher education.

The Harvard-Radcliffe Asian American Society’s Education and Political Committee is one of 25 Harvard student and alumni organizations that have filed an amicus brief urging the Supreme Court to uphold race-conscious admissions. Chelsea Wang ’25 and Kylan Tatum ’25, co-chairs of AAA, are organizing university-wide educational efforts in collaboration with Harvard graduate student Asian American organizations, as well as a protest in Washington on the day of the Court’s oral arguments.

“It’s disingenuous for Edward Blum to use Asian Americans as pawn pieces,” Wang argued, referencing founder and president of SFFA’s comments that he “needed Asian plaintiffs,” according to a video released by the NAACP’s Legal Defense Fund. “He has been against affirmative action for a very long time, and he didn’t seem to be interested in the perspectives of Asian Americans until very recently, when he lost a similar case with a white plaintiff.”

“We don’t want to be used like that,” Wang said of AAA’s opposition to Blum’s case. “We believe in diversity and racial justice. And we believe in solidarity and helping other people of color.”

Although the theme of racial solidarity, the cooperation by one community of color in support of another, underlies many Asian American student and alumni organizations support of affirmative action, Wang explained that “historically, Asian Americans have been used as a wedge between other people of color. We are pointed to as examples of self-made success.”

AAA co-chair Kylan Tatum ’25 described this “weaponization of Asian American socioeconomic and educational success against other ‘problem minorities’ as the ‘Model Minority Myth,’ which has been criticized as harmful to students of color by depicting “the social position of other minority groups through frameworks of laziness or inherent inferiority instead of as a product of institutionalized barriers to success.”

Tatum sees the difference between supporters and opposers of affirmative action as a question of equity versus equality. Pro-

ponents of equality in admissions advocate for identical policies in the applicant considerations, while proponents of equity would argue that equal consideration of applicants does not suffice when applicants are afforded unequal opportunities. Under the notion that equality was the original goal of affirmative action, SFFA argues that race-conscious admissions lead to a racial overbalancing that harms certain racial groups.

Muskaan Arshad ’25, an Asian American supporter of affirmative action and intern for the Coalition for Diverse Harvard, argues that equity trumps equality. “If certain racial groups and people have been overwhelmingly oppressed for centuries, you can’t pretend everything’s equal and everyone’s on an equal basis. That’s a complete lie,” she said.

Wang, Tatum, and Arshad argued that affirmative action policies could even help Asian Americans in the college admissions process.

“Sometimes it’s easy to forget that Asian Americans aren’t a monolith,” Wang said. “There are a lot of low-income Asian Americans, multiracial Asian Americans, Asian Americans with diverse ethnic backgrounds—who actually are helped by affirmative action.”

“I think one of my favorite things about being Asian American is that our cultures are so collectivist,” Wang added, expressing that affirmative action policies recognize and honor her Chinese culture. “I think if we don’t support affirmative action, we are giving that up. We’re becoming individualists. We’re trying to push down others for our own benefit.”

Tatum argued that the SFFA has abused the label “Asian American” in an attempt to portray them “as a monolithic group universally disadvantaged by affirmative action policies.” She explained that “certain subgroups that fall under the umbrella term of ‘Asian American’, such as low income or multiracial groups, are severely underrepresented in institutions of higher education.”

According to the NAACP’s Legal Defense Fund, using socioeconomic factors to designate certain applications as “disadvantaged” helps combat the monolithing of Asian American applicants. AAA’s brief states that “being Asian American within the disadvantaged category is correlated with a greater likelihood

of admission (a pattern that is absent or only minimally present for Black or Latinx applicants, respectively).”

Wang, Tatum, and Arshad pointed to a lack of evidence in application scoring techniques as the primary reason they oppose SFFA, which introduced very few admissions files as evidence.

The ultimate benefactor from the lawsuit would be white people, “people who have historically had a space in this school,” added Arshad. According to the NAACP’s Legal Defense Fund in an amicus curiae brief, the result would actually widen the gap “by disproportionately benefitting white applicants and discriminating against some Asian American applicants... As a result, the gap between the white and Asian-American shares of the admitted class would widen if race-conscious admissions were eliminated.”

Considering how a ruling against affirmative action would affect higher education, Arshad thought of “all the people that are benefited from admission that are just so smart, so intelligent—from diverse spaces and races and ethnicities—just not having the chance to get that education. I think that it would be a huge detriment to America, to the world, to Harvard.”

**Madeline Proctor ’25 (maddieproctor@college.harvard.edu) edits
News for the Independent**

Graphic by Craig McFarland ’25



1. Go to Annenberg alone.
a. Sit next to strangers. There is an 8-10 week period where this is socially acceptable. Take advantage of it.
b. Someone is wearing pants you like? Introduce yourself. Be bold.
c. Into athletes? No need to fear approaching the pack. Complement the 3 glasses of chocolate milk on their trays and say hello.
d. Don't ask your dinner partners about their major—sorry, *concentration*—unless you truly are yearning to know. Try a more distinguished question to break the ice.

i. “What do you think of the moon landing?” Wait for their answer, then respond, “Yeah, that’s what they want you to think.”

ii. “o you have any hot takes?” You’re surrounded by 1,950 Harvard students from around the world. They must have some flaming-hot opinions, well-informed and eloquently spoken.

iii. If they have a British accent, guess where they went to school, and before they have a chance to respond, start firing off the likely answers: Eton, Westminster, St. Pauls...

2. Avoid 9 AM classes.

a. You tell yourself you can wake up that early—class started much earlier in high school, anyway. But within the first

few weeks, you will lose all faith in your ability to respond to your wake-up alarm. However, it is true that no matter when class meets, you will skip it at least once. Probably more.

3. Meet upperclassmen.

a. Join clubs. Enroll in a wide variety of classes. Take the shuttle to the Quad just to chat people up.

b. Even if you’re unsure, go to the introductory Comp meeting. The least you can get out of it is free pizza.

c. If you are double-booked, guess what, you will probably be double-booked for your entire Harvard experience. Over stimulation is a natural part of your first year, and it gives you less time to feel homesick.

5. Find someone who has a mobile hotspot (a printer is an extra bonus). The WiFi will not work.

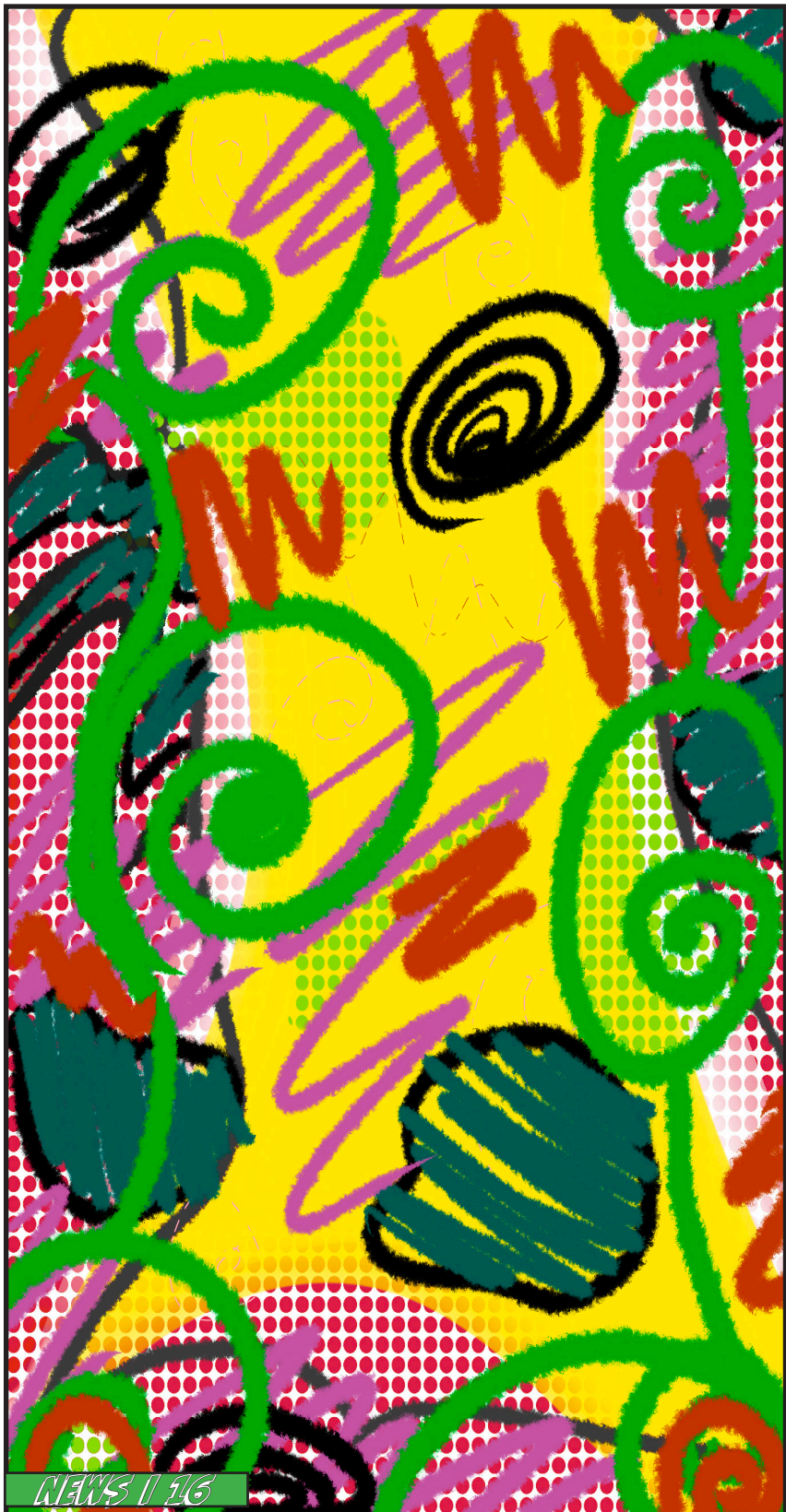
a. You only have one minute to Duo-push your Gradescope on your phone to submit an LS 1B problem set, and the teaching staff has no empathy when it comes to late work.

b. Speaking of printers: Conquer the Harvard printing system before you actually need to print.

**HOW TO HARVARD :
YOUR FIRST YEAR**

**FINDING FRIENDSHIP,
FULFILLMENT, AND FREE
PIZZA.**

BY BECCA ACKERMAN '25



6. If you are dating your highschool sweetheart, break up. It will happen at some point. Might as well get a head start.

7. If you hate procrastinating, complete the so-called Harvard ‘tasks’ your first year:

i. Jump off Weeks Bridge early on. The Charles River will be warm from the summer, so while you might get a mysterious disease from the water, at least you won’t get hypothermia.

ii. Pee on John Harvard at night with a friend or two. Someone will inevitably see you in action, but at this early stage in your Harvard career, all your classmates are doing it, too.

iii. Pregame Primal Scream for liquid courage and a little warmth. Everyone is naked and no one is looking (except the creepy tourist). Grab your friends and run, but be cautious not to get trampled by the stampede.

iv. Dora Explorer into Widener Stacks and go deep. Wear something that allows for easy access and plan for mayday.

8. Seek help.

a. Ask for the extension. Send the email. Plead in office hours. Chances are, your classmates are doing the same.

b. Share a problem set. You might need one in return.

c. Make friends in your classes. You aren’t expected to get through this alone.

d. Find someone with a doctor parent so you can b-line all your medical

questions while you wait for HUHS to be useless.

9. Indiana Jones-style search for a good spot to cry on campus. Or if you are unable to cry, like myself, somewhere to scream. I recommend the alleyway next to HSA Cleaners.

10. Don’t be too hard on yourself.

a. Did something stupid? Amazing, it’s good for the plot!

b. Failed a midterm? It builds character!

c. Someone saw you having sex in the Stacks? Hopefully you put on a good show!

11. Find your Veritas.

a. Surround yourself with things that enrich you, whatever that means to you. Take that random class that doesn’t follow your concentration plan—it will likely change, anyway. Join a club that is outside your comfort zone. And get Felipe’s margaritas on a Tuesday if that’s what the doctor prescribed.

Becca Ackerman '25 (rackerman@college.harvard.edu) believes Cabot Library is the 7th circle of hell.

Graphic by Piper Tingleaf '24

NEW YEAR, NEW STUDY SPOTS

AN INCOMPLETE GUIDE TO THE BEST AND WORST PLACES TO WORK FOR EACH ASSIGNMENT TYPE

BY HANNAH DAVIS '25

New year. New classes. New study spots. Whether you're a first-year searching for a quiet corner on campus to make your own, or a super-senior looking to shake things up, explore the most iconic, forgotten, and depressing places to work on campus.

MOST SOCIAL:

Cabot second floor

No other study spot treads the line between studying and social hour more than Cabot's 2nd floor at 10 p.m. Yes, you get your noise-canceling headphones kids curled up in the cubicles on the side, who on a rare occasion can be caught with a pillow for all-nighter naps. But mostly, Cabot's 2nd floor is for seeing at least a dozen people you know and completing thirty minutes of work over two hours—the perfect social study nightcap to a long day. For a different side of Cabot's 2nd floor, go in the afternoon, sit by the window as the afternoon glow seeps into the space, and you can work on anything in peace.

MOST CASUAL:

Boylston Hall Ticknor Lounge

A great spot for student org events and also casual studying. Ticknor is ideal for when you have extra time before or after a class held in Boylston—nothing special but good when you want a change in scenery or are already in the building. The room is often near empty, so you usually have your pick of comfortable chairs.

Buckminster Peet's

If you want somewhere to spend your BoardPlus and need a quick snack or caffeine break before class, Buckminster Peet's is for you. The mildly uncomfortable hard wooden chairs force efficiency—it's a great place for a pit stop and a short work stint but less optimal for larger projects.

MOST COMFY:

Smith Center

"If you're like me and can't study without some background noise and need a more relaxed vibe than a library, the Smith Center is the spot," described Betsey Bennett '24. With three main sections, the Smith Center building offers something for everyone. The first two levels feature various tables, chairs, and couches. If you're lucky enough to get a spot during peak hours, settle in and soak up the natural light seeping through the big windows. Toward the back of the second floor, you'll find the Collaborative Commons, equipped with study rooms, large tables and couch areas perfect for group study sessions. The best for last: Smith's 10th floor, which requires student ID swipes for entry, features open-concept rooms off the main hallway, including one with high tops and a pool table. The sunset view is spectacular, but be careful: it's easier than it seems to nod off while p-setting in the oversized couches and chairs.

Life Alive

Life Alive came to Harvard Square last spring and brought with it phenomenal (albeit overpriced) food, and a cozy basement study spot. Life Alive welcomes students and Cambridge residents alike, creating coffee shop energy but with real food and later hours (until 10 p.m.!). For longer studying sessions, the lower level is the place to be. Stake out a table, order some food or drinks, and nestle up in their chairs or booths.

MOST PRODUCTIVE:

Innovation Lab:

Near the Business School, less popular, and full of amenities, the I-Lab feels like it's reserved

for the future Mark Zuckerbergs of the world. To an extent, this sentiment holds. However, all Harvard students can access the space. The I-Lab just requests that students work on projects or ventures instead of school. Once inside, you can use their free coffee and soda machine and pick from various comfortable perches or desks. One of the walls lists start-ups seeking assistance, making it great for students interested in joining a start-up, not just current founders. If you're curious about the entrepreneurial world or know someone involved, the I-Lab is definitely worth the trek to the Allston campus.

Science and Engineering Complex

A mile walk or quick shuttle ride from the Yard takes you to an often forgotten study spot: the Science and Engineering Complex (SEC) in the Allston campus. "I only went to the SEC twice, but I made complete day trips out of both," said Jaden Bharrara '25. "It's the perfect place to hunker down and work for a long time. It's enormous, so you'll always be able to find a small or large space to work in. The views are super nice from the top floors. There are kitchen stations with fridges and ovens, and there are ping-pong tables for when the procrastination kicks in. A fantastic finals-cramming spot."

Loeb Music Library

The evergreen wallpaper, dark wood finishes, and stained glass windows hidden in the second floor of the Music Building give the Loeb Music Library a traditional academic atmosphere in an intimate setting. There are two main tables and a couple of chairs and couches for working. This room is one of my favorite places to go when I want to hide away and do some work but don't want to hole up in Lamont.

Lamont Woodberry Poetry Room:

I hated Lamont until I discovered the Woodberry Poetry Room. Unlike the rest of Lamont's yellow lighting and depressed wooden chairs, Lamont's poetry room is cozy with blue furniture accents. Books line the walls and collect on the coffee tables, reminiscent of a kindergarten school room more than a library. The two four-person tables near the back come with charging outlets and lamps, perfect for everyone to spread out and read, write, or work on a problem set. Unfortunately, the room closes at 10 p.m. each night and doesn't open at all on Sundays. Sometimes the deadline is exactly what I need to avoid procrastination, but other times it forces an early retreat to my dorm or another part of Lamont Library, often Farnsworth.

Lamont's Henry Weston Farnsworth Room:

Tucked in the back corner of the third floor, it's easy to miss Farnsworth. There are only a few desks inside and a couple of couches and chairs, creating a cozy, living room feel that distinguishes it from

the main parts of Lamont. Whenever I need to finish a paper on Sunday night, I turn to Farnsworth: 24-hour access, relaxing, quiet.

MOST DEPRESSING:

Lamont Library:

Lamont's reputation holds: "Lamonsters" might be depressed, but they're also often productive. As one of Harvard's only 24-hour libraries, Lamont attracts the most stressed and determined students in the late hours of the night. I'm a fan of the Farnsworth and Poetry rooms, two of the more comforting spots in Lamont, but the one night I really needed to crank out a paper, I ventured to the first floor study alcoves instead. That night, I left Lamont with a backache from the uncomfortable chairs and a deep sense of despair, but I wrote half of my paper. Luckily, I wasn't alone. No matter how many items remain on your to-do list, you and Lamont's other residents are all ready to settle in and disengage. Ella Deans '25 described the library: "If I need to read some theory or case study, or if I am grossly behind on a paper I need to bang out, I'll head to the depths of Lamont. It feels like being locked away but in a nice, productivity-inducing way."

Cabot basement study room

Cabot basement is to STEM kids what the Widener Stacks are to humanities kids: a cry for help. Don't get me wrong, the group study rooms' whiteboard walls provide useful study organization and visualization for anything from working on p-sets to outlining final essay concepts. But the lack of natural light and eerie fluorescent lights make 3 a.m. and 3 p.m. indistinguishable. My friend and I spent hours and days in the main study room for one final last fall, affectionately calling it our "war room." I avoid returning.

MOST ICONIC:

Widener's Loker Reading Room

Widener's famous reading room screams iconic Harvard and traditional academia. The white and blue ceilings, dark wood counters and great lighting create the perfect atmosphere for pensive but not dispirited studying. Long tables equipped with lamps and charging outlets line the room with smaller tables and larger chairs in two smaller sections on either end. While I'm a big Widener proponent now, I admit it terrified me at the start of my first year. I feared dropping a pencil would warrant the death sentence from the future and current Einsteins I imagined frequented that space. I've since learned I was wrong. Students go both alone and with friends, mind their business, and enjoy the beautiful atmosphere. Although I don't recommend dropping your Hydroflask in Widener (dozens of eyes have never settled on me so fast with so much frustration), I do recommend the Loker Reading Room.

From Lamonsters to Cabot socialites, there's a spot for everyone on campus. In a few days, we get to rediscover them.

Hannah Davis '25 (hannahdavis@college.harvard.edu) is constantly rotating between these places and looking for new ones.

Graphic by Marina Zoulas '23



THE INDY'S WELCOME BACK PLAYLIST

SONGS TO BUMP WHILE YOU GET BACK INTO THE SWING OF THINGS.

BY MATT SAKIYAMA '25 AND CAROLINE HAO '25

If you have ever moved into a dorm room, played spikeball with new friends in the Yard, or said hi to old ones at the Indy house, you know one thing is key: a soundtrack to play behind it all. As we all begin to settle into the new year, the *Independent* has you set with a playlist for all your back-to-school needs. Here are the songs to listen to as you get back into gear.

Playboi Carti, "Long Time - Intro"

What better song to awaken us from our summer slumber than "Long Time?" Just remember that "No cap and gown, I ain't go to class" is not meant to be taken as advice.

Kanye West, Chris Martin, "Homecoming"

As much as you might hate to admit it, Cambridge is your home away from home. You probably had a lot of fun during your fancy New York internship, but the summer's over and it's time to come home for the next nine months.

Kim Petras, SOPHIE, "1,2,3 days up"

This exuberant pop song perfectly encapsulates the relaxed joy of the first few weeks of the semester. You aren't swamped with work yet, you're excited to see your friends, and you feel like you could go out every day of the week. Or three of them, at least.

Kero Kero Bonito, "Trampoline"

The beginning of a new year brings with it the dread of facing problem sets, papers, and final exams. "Trampoline" acknowledges that life can get hard, but you'll be back on your feet in no time. Just "don't forget to bounce."

The Outfit, "212 vs. Bust A Move"

If you need something to play as you move into your dorm, we have you covered. This song from the "Pitch Perfect" soundtrack played as Anna Kendrick's character moved into college, and it's upbeat enough that you might actually enjoy carrying your boxes up the stairs of Canaday. Who knows: maybe you'll get scouted by the Opportunes right then and there!

Meghan Trainor, "Lips Are Movin'"

This song is old but gold; seven years later, it still resonates as a hot girl summer anthem. Keep in mind that your mindset doesn't have to change just because school is starting, so go ahead and have yourself a hot girl autumn with Meghan Trainor playing in the background.

Dorian Electra, "Career Boy"

In "Career Boy," Dorian Electra pokes fun at the stereotypical Harvard student who's addicted to the grind and can't stop working. It's a good reminder to stop being a square and have some fun.

Charli XCX, "Trophy"

Forget everything we just said, because "Trophy" will make you want to work night and day to chase that trophy. Leave your friends

and enemies in the dust and let them know: "B*tch I'm here to f*ck you up."

LMFAO, "Yes"

If you're Trophy-ing right, you'll have your fair share of successes this semester. At least, we hope so. When it's on and poppin', and the party's rockin', there's no better song to help you celebrate than "Yes."

Lil Pump, Lil Uzi Vert, "Multi Millionaire"

Harvard's most illustrious dropout Lil Pump takes a well-deserved spot in our welcome back playlist with "Multi Millionaire." This song gives off a braggadocious energy that perfectly matches the hope and excitement we feel at the beginning of the fall semester. Just maybe don't follow Lil Pump's lead until you have a hit song of your own.

Kanye West, "Hold My Liquor"

Chief Keef can't handle his liquor, and unfortu-

Whethan, midwxst, Yeat, Matt Ox, "LOCK IT UP"

Perhaps one of the most eclectic collections of rappers ever comes together on Whethan's "LOCK IT UP." Yet, each verse exudes the swagger that one can only feel when five drinks deep, breathing in the brisk autumn air and ready to have a night.

Bridgit Mendler, "Ready Or Not"

On "Ready Or Not," Bridgit Mendler is confident and unbothered, setting an example for how we should approach the coming school year. Seize the day, whether they're ready or not.

Earth, Wind & Fire, "September"

A groovy, Earth, Wind & Fire classic—need I say more? Just mark the 21st night of September in your GCals now and make sure it's one you'll remember.

The Wind and The Wave, "Young Folks"

"Young Folks" played in the back of Gossip Girl's iconic pilot episode. Channel your inner Serena van der Woodsen as you step foot into the Yard for the first time.

Steve Lacy, "Bad Habit"

We all have our bad habits: skipping Econ lecture because you'll just *watch the recording*, the occasional drunk cig, the high school ex we can't shake. Here's to kicking all those and going to the gym for a change.

umru, Tommy Cash, 645AR, "check1"

Industrial production from umru along with boastful vocals from Tommy Cash and 645AR combine to create an alien atmosphere in "check1." The performances of all three artists are unapologetically unique and set the tone for you to chart your own course in fall 2022.

Vince Staples, "Party People"

This is a groovy track from Vince Staples that hits hard and fast. Even while he's grooving, he asks questions that dig deep, like: "How I'm supposed to have a good time / When death and destruction's all I see?" Whether you're Philosophy or Applied Math, there's some food for thought for all ye worldshaking Harvard students.

Tay-K, Blocboy JB, "Hard"

As Tay-K once said: "School was very hard." Yeah.

Matt Sakiyama '25 (msakiyama@college.harvard.edu) has bad music taste.

Caroline Hao '25 (carolinehao@college.harvard.edu) writes for the *Independent*.

Graphic by Candace Gardner '25



nately neither can a lot of you. "Hold My Liquor" encapsulates both the regret you feel when waking up with a hangover and the can't-care attitude that got you there in the first place. Know your limits, first-years.

Pusha T, Kanye West, A\$AP Rocky, The-Dream, "M.P.A."

The fact that you've never sold coke doesn't make the gospel Pusha T preaches in "M.P.A." any less applicable to you. "Money, p*ssy, alcohol"; the collection of artists featured on this track is as qualified as any to tell you that those are the vices to watch out for.

Carnage, Lil Yachty, "Mase in '97"

As far as theme goes, this song actually has nothing to do with the theme of this playlist at all. But "Mase in '97" is Lil Boat at his peak; let him inspire you to reach for your best this semester.

ATHLETE, INTERRUPTED

STUDENT-ATHLETES SUFFERING FROM LONG COVID-19 HAVE BEEN FORCED TO CONSIDER QUITTING THE SPORTS THEY LOVE.

BY LULU PATTERSON '24

The whirl of erg wheels drowned out my coughing and my teammates cheering behind me. My vision went in and out as I struggled to maintain an average split I easily held just a month ago.

Slower than ever, I completed my 5k, collapsing into a coughing fit and clutching my chest. Between gasps, I managed to mutter to my coach, "I think something is really wrong." My Christmas spent with Covid-19 last month ran through my head as a potential root of this problem. No, it couldn't be—I am young and healthy. Yet no number of skipped workouts could explain such a rapid deterioration of my athletic abilities.

The following weeks, I missed several classes to visit Massachusetts General Hospital and reiterate my symptoms to countless specialists, who administered x-rays, stress tests, breathing evaluations, bloodwork, and an MRI. I am told to refrain from any physical exercise, a difficult adjustment from my eleven weekly practices.

The third doctor I saw finally gave me answers. Though my heart scan was clean, my breath tests showed that my oxygen efficiency is 60 percent of the normal levels. I felt like I was breathing through a straw and needed to take extra inhaled to receive enough oxygen.

"Are you sure you didn't have asthma before this?" the doctor asked.

"I'm sure," I responded. How could I not know for my 21 years of life if I had asthma?

The doctor prescribed me a steroid inhaler to take twice a day and a regular inhaler to use before exercise to minimize the "obstructions" in my lungs that Covid-19 created. I was allowed to bike for ten minutes two weeks later, which sounded far more exciting to me than it should have. But the doctor was still not sure why I had sharp chest pain, which could not be explained by my breathing problems or any test results.

Now, eight months since having

Covid-19, the feeling of a knife in my chest has not gone away. More doctors, more tests, and I do not have any answers.

I'm not alone. Division one athletes, a group of individuals in tip-top physical shape, never imagined they might experience long-Covid-19 themselves. This medical anomaly is primarily discussed in regard to people of older age or with weakened immunity. After all, college students seemingly put their bodies through much worse while drinking on a Saturday night.

But youth and physical fitness do not render athletes immune to the long-term challenges of Covid-19. Although only 4% of college athletes have developed long Covid-19 symptoms at this time, the consequences of the virus will continue to crystalize in coming years. One women's lacrosse player left her team because her lungs were so damaged after catching the virus she could not run. Another quit because her heart rate randomly spikes and persistent migraines impact her vision. A lightweight men's rower was put on the bench last spring as a result of myocarditis.

For Adam Dwyer '23, contracting Covid-19 exacerbated his prolonged bronchitis symptoms. "I had an elevated heart rate and lung weakness during very basic physical exercise, and even walking up the stairs would skyrocket my heart rate to an alarming number," he explained. Harvard's sports medicine trainers and MGH doctors helped diagnose him with myocarditis, an inflammation of the heart and lung muscles. Dwyer took a medical leave of absence last spring to focus on these issues, which ultimately forced him to exit the team during his senior year.

Away from the boathouse, "I no longer have an elevated heart rate and can return to moderate endurance and strength training," Dwyer said.

Yet the road to rebuilding his fitness is a steep challenge. "In order to return to a level of performance that would make me a valued teammate, I would need to devote numerous hours outside of practice to training," Dwyer said, explaining that a senior thesis and other extracurricular responsibilities would not allow for such a recovery. "It's been a hard emo-

tional realization that I would have to say goodbye to competitive rowing and a team I have loved and have been honored to be a part of during my time at Harvard."

Shea Jenkins '23, who has been playing lacrosse her whole life, was not as sick as Dwyer when she first had Covid-19 in November of 2021, but when she got it again in May, she started having migraines that impaired her vision. "I was really, really tired, and kind of had a little cough and didn't have a lot of energy," Jenkins recalled. During her internship this summer, Jenkins felt dizzy everyday as if she could pass out at any moment.

In addition, "my heart started acting up," Jenkins recalled. "It would increase at weird moments. Walking up a flight of stairs it would go to 100 BPM. I'd do a workout and it would reach almost 200. I guess it was pretty scary for me for a while trying to manage my symptoms."

These health struggles, combined with her strenuous job, caused her to suffer from anxiety. "I was having panic attacks, trouble falling asleep, and my heart was pounding at night to the point where I couldn't get to sleep," she said. "I had this overwhelming fear around me, this sense of impending doom where my heart started racing and I would feel nauseous or I would start twitching."

Entering her senior year, Jenkins is nervous about how her final lacrosse season will unfold.

"It's been really hard trying to get back into shape for lacrosse after what I endured and the symptoms I was having," she explained. "My heart's feeling a little bit better everyday, and I'm in touch with a neurologist and a cardiologist, so it's day by day getting better."

Leaving the rowing team was never an option I previously considered, having played and loved sports all my life. But as my summer training plan ramped up and I lay awake for the third night in a row holding my chest, I asked myself if chronic chest pain at the premature age of 21 was worth it. The more I trained, the more my chest hurt. The pain no longer only occurred while I was working out. Even while eating dinner, I would grimace and move into slow, deep breathing.

I don't want to quit. I love standing with my teammates in the boathouse, our average height a proud 5'11. My first week at school, I'll go to MGH for a CT scan of my chest and hope that one of the best pulmonologists in the country can give me an answer that will return me to the team and sport that I love.

Lulu Patterson '24 (lpatterson@college.harvard.edu) is very tall.

Graphic by Isabel Eddy '24



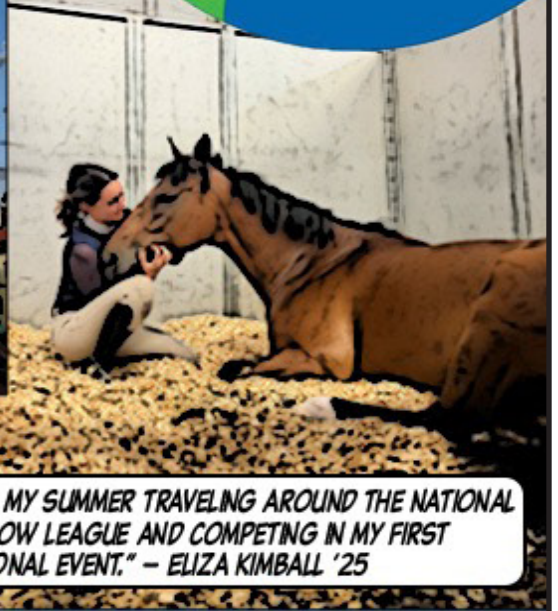
INDY GOES GLOBAL! SUMMER COLLAGE

COMPILED BY PROOF SCHUBERT REED '25



"I HIKED 10 MILES IN GLACIER NATIONAL PARK TO ICEBERG LAKE WITH MY DAD. SO LIT!" - HANNAH FRAZER '25

"I WAS LIVING IN PRAGUE FOR JUNE AND JULY STUDYING CZECH!" - LAUREN MURPHY '25

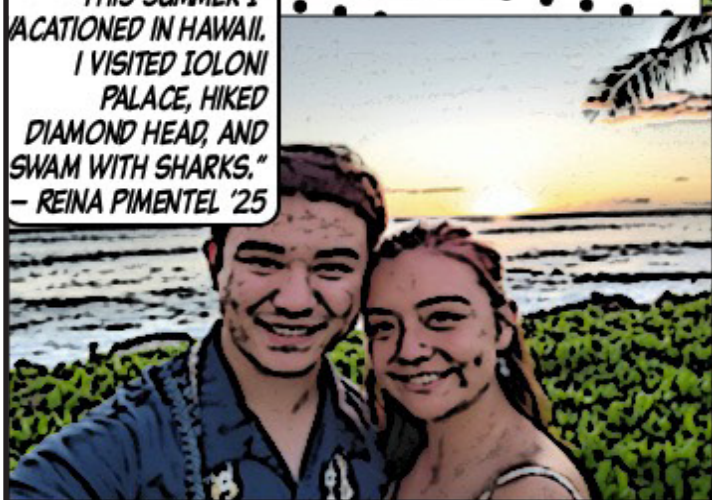


"I SPENT LOTS OF TIME THIS SUMMER TRAVELING WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY. HERE'S A PICTURE FROM OGUNQUIT, MAINE OVER FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND!" - MARY CIPPERMAN '25

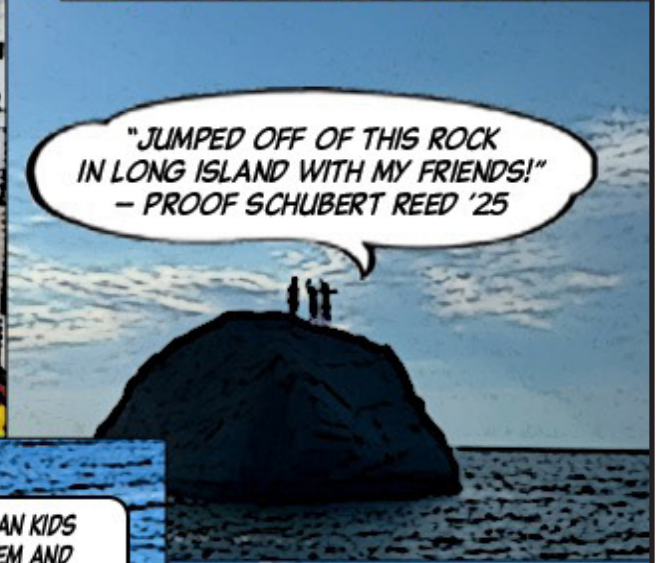
"I VISITED MY FAMILY IN THEIR NEW HOUSE IN ALABAMA AND GOT TO HANG OUT WITH OUR GOATS, CHICKENS, DOGS AND CATS." - SEATTLE HICKEY '25

"I SPENT MY SUMMER TRAVELING AROUND THE NATIONAL HORSE SHOW LEAGUE AND COMPETING IN MY FIRST INTERNATIONAL EVENT." - ELIZA KIMBALL '25

"THIS SUMMER I VACATIONED IN HAWAII. I VISITED IOLONI PALACE, HIKED DIAMOND HEAD, AND SWAM WITH SHARKS." - REINA PIMENTEL '25



"JUMPED OFF OF THIS ROCK IN LONG ISLAND WITH MY FRIENDS!" - PROOF SCHUBERT REED '25

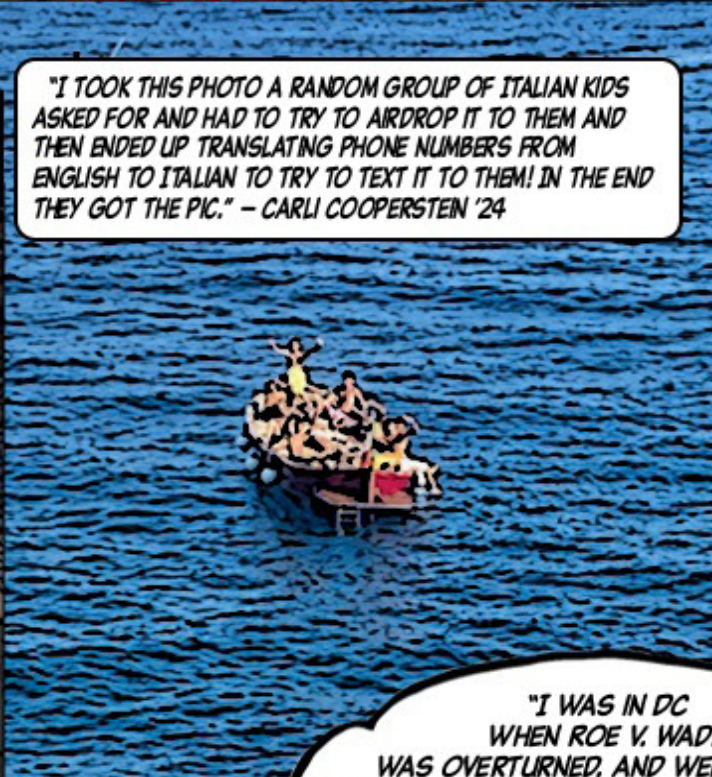


"I TOOK THIS PHOTO A RANDOM GROUP OF ITALIAN KIDS ASKED FOR AND HAD TO TRY TO AIRDROP IT TO THEM AND THEN ENDED UP TRANSLATING PHONE NUMBERS FROM ENGLISH TO ITALIAN TO TRY TO TEXT IT TO THEM! IN THE END THEY GOT THE PIC." - CARLI COOPERSTEIN '24

"LATE NIGHT WALK IN ROME" - CAROLINE HAO '25



FINDING PLACES TO SIT AROUND COPENHAGEN" - CANDACE GARDNER '25



"THIS SUMMER I STUDIED ABROAD AND I ATTENDED THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS!" - ALEXANDRA LENZO '25



"ON A BOAT!" - PIPER TINGLEAF '24



"THIS SUMMER, I PLAYED MANY GAMES OF (AMATEUR, PURELY SOCIAL) VOLLEYBALL WITH FRIENDS, A WEEKEND RESPITE FROM ALL OUR INTERNSHIPS. HERE I AM AT THE NET, ATTEMPTING TO BUMP, SET, SPIKE!" - MARY JULIA KOCH '23

"I WAS IN DC WHEN ROE V. WADE WAS OVERTURNED, AND WENT TO THE SUPREME COURT TO PROTEST THE DECISION. IT WAS A REALLY EMOTIONAL SETTING, BUT SO COOL EXPERIENCING HISTORY AND LISTENING TO PEOPLE WHO WERE SO PASSIONATE ABOUT THEIR BELIEFS." - MARBELLA MARLO '24

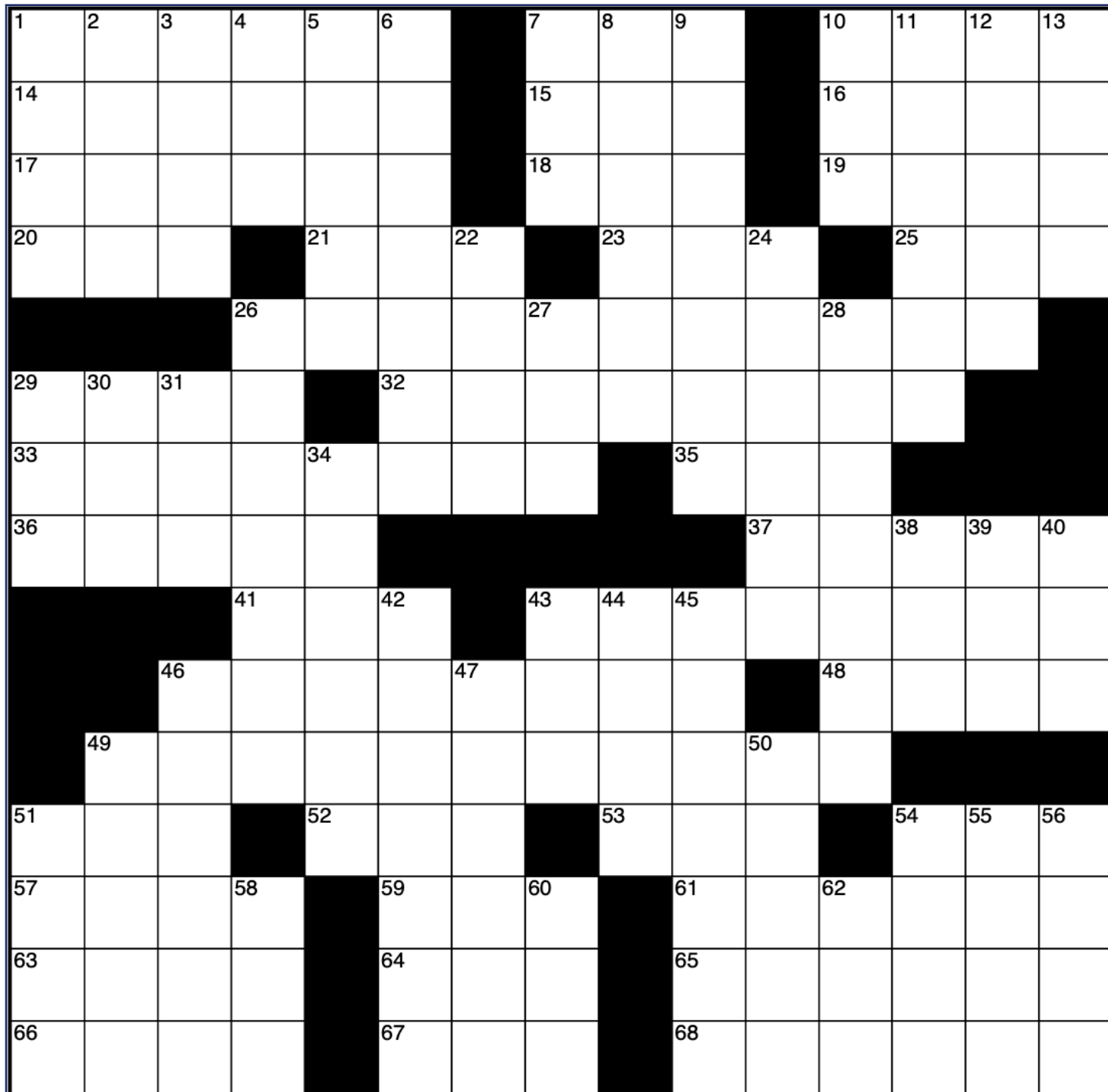
"I SPENT MOST OF THE SUMMER AT HOME WITH MY FAMILY IN COLORADO, TRAVELING, AND ENJOYING TIME IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS." - MADDIE PROCTOR '25



OUT WITH THE OLD,

IN WITH THE NEW

BY **PETER**
LASKIN '23



10 Nickname that's missing a trice?

11 Brand with eponymous boots

12 Alter, as the constitution

13 Option next to italic

22 Reaction to a relatable meme, perhaps

24 Hordes

26 Osmosis measurement

27 Preposition in "The Star-Spangled Banner"

28 Mother-lovin'?

29 Assn RNC

30 Derisive laugh

31 Female in a flock

34 Remains

38 Not too bright

39 Environmental prefix

40 In medias ____

42 Almond scent producer, in a murder mystery

43 Logic gate that inverts a signal

44 Instrument for Min Hui-fen

45 Grids finished at breakfast?

46 One joking around in court

47 Humidor contents

49 Loaded chip

50 Huskies' home

51 Bedtime for vampires

54 Island 67-Across of Oahu

55 SZA album that's entirely on a keyboard?

56 Spots

58 Caspian ____ (body of water that's geographically a lake)

60 Born in Bourdeaux

62 Farmshare abbr.

ACROSS

- 1 Invites for, like a promposal
7 Nickname for Berlin, maybe
10 Tell all
14 Government department
15 Kennedy Library architect
16 Only nonhuman to testify before Congress
17 Lebanon's largest city
18 Suffix for an enzyme
19 One getting stoned in Genesis
20 YouTube annoyances
21 Tire gauge measurement
23 Touchdown prediction
25 Wind down
26 *Current paving project
29 "U2, Syngman ____, Payola and Kennedy" ("We Didn't Start the Fire" lyric)
32 Agreement from the choir
33 *Rookie clock operator

- 35 Mediocre, slangily
36 Some characters in "The Bear"
37 Duck down
41 Inc
43 *KFC's 12th ingredient, perhaps
46 Mets coach whose brother manages the Red Sox
48 "Famous" cookie purveyor
49 *Recent converts
51 ____ Racist ("Combination Pizza Hut and Taco Bell" group)
52 Star Trek sequel, to fans
53 MMA org.
54 Hammer and Escher, for two
57 Plays one's part
59 Author McEwan or musician McDonald
61 Pinpoint

63 Exclamation at Six Flags, maybe

64 Dr

65 Make certain

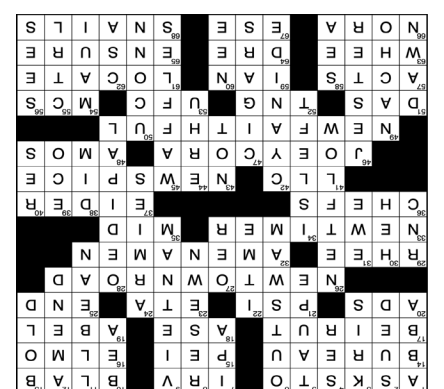
66 "Wallflower at the Orgy" writer Ephron

67 Oahu to 54-Down dir.

68 They never fully come out of their shells

DOWN

- 1 "SOS" quartet
2 Went after legally
3 Kristofferson of "A Star is Born" (1976)
4 Title in "Game of Thrones"
5 "The audacity of ____" (2014 headline regarding Barack Obama's suit)
6 Bested like Katie Ledecky
7 Brewpub abbr.
8 Mended, as a seam
9 Country east of the Mekong



WE BELONG
TO NO ONE

BUT
OURSELVES