

upon your guard, and suffer not your selves to be vanquished."

Not all first-year/concentration marriages are as happy. My blockmate Leyla says bitterly: "At first they're like...oh so easy, so flexible, so wonderful, et cetera, et cetera. Then you find out all those hidden requirements, that there's very limited room for people to write a thesis, that basically if you do this concentration, you'll have zero flexibility." If others have misgivings about your concentration, *The Art of Making Love* suggests, you, too, should be cautious: "When one loves a fair [concentration] who hath forsaken another...he

hath reason to be disquieted at it; and how firmly establish so e're he be in the heart of that [concentration], yet he ought to fear his good fortune...and be afraid he may lose what he has gained, as well as the other."

Even Mrs. Jefferson admits that the perfect wife "lives very privately, some say 'tis at the sign of the Philosophers-Stone, in Phoenix Alley, in Non-such street; but" she continues encouragingly, "if you will but observe [these] Directions, and add thereto a competent dose of your own discretion, 'tis much to be hoped you may light upon one of her Sisters." There is no perfect concentration, and Harvard's cur-

ricular corset makes it difficult, initially, even to choose an acceptable match. But, absent better signposts, if we resort to the aid of Restoration-era courtship guides there is some hope we may light upon one of her Sisters with whom, as Leyla sighs, we can "tough out the hardships in the relationship to get to the good happy times, mainly when you can take courses in stuff you're really interested in." ▢

*Berta Greenwald Ledecy Undergraduate Fellow  
Phoebe Kosman, of Winthrop House, considers her engagement to history and literature a successful love match so far.*

## SPORTS

# A Satisfying Season

A WIPEOUT on the slippery Astroturf of the University of Pennsylvania's Franklin Field dished the football team's hopes of gaining a second consecutive Ivy League championship. Winless in Philadelphia since 1980, Harvard took a 44-9 licking from a formidable Penn squad that effectively grounded the record-setting aerial act of Crimson quarterback Neil Rose '02 ('03) and wide receiver Carl Morris '03. With a convincing win at Cornell the next weekend, the Quakers sewed up the Ivy title for the third time in five years. That same weekend brought Harvard the best possible consolation prize: a wind-swept 20-13 victory over Yale.

Played under wintry conditions before a near-capacity Stadium crowd of 30,323, the 119th iteration of The Game gave Harvard an Ivy record of 6-1 and second place

A chill wind, gusting to more than 40 miles per hour, made passing a risk in the Yale game. But in the third period, two long aeriels from reserve quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick to star receiver Carl Morris set up touchdowns that helped Harvard to a 14-point lead. Beating Eli cornerback Greg Owens (20, right), Morris hauled in the first of Fitzpatrick's throws for a 50-yard gain. For the second consecutive year, the acrobatic receiver was voted Harvard's most valuable player and Ivy League Player of the Year. A senior, Morris received invitations to play in the postseason East-West Shrine Game and the Hula Bowl.

in the final standings. Holding Yale's league-leading rushing attack to 86 yards, the Crimson defense had a red-letter day. So did sophomore backup quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick, who came on late in the first half to jump-start the offense. His running and passing generated a three-touchdown rally in the third period,

effacing a 6-0 Yale lead and putting Harvard ahead to stay. Touchdowns two and three were set up by long passes to Morris, an all-America candidate and the most accomplished receiver in Harvard football annals. A four-year letterman, Morris can list eight school records on his résumé when he interviews for a position in pro-



fessional football. In his valedictory season, he ranked second in the nation in receptions (9.0) and receiving yardage (128.8) per game.

Beating Yale helped salve the pain inflicted at Penn a week earlier. But while that rain-soaked washout had to be humbling—Harvard hadn't lost so lopsidedly since 1995 (Brown 47, Harvard 8), and its offense hadn't been held to single digits since the 1998 Yale game—the outcome, in hindsight, wasn't unthinkable. Penn's high-scoring offense had registered more than 40 points in four of the team's five Ivy victories; statistically, the Quaker defense was the nation's best. With home-field advantage and a 13-game Franklin Field winning streak, Penn was primed to avenge the 28-21 loss to Harvard that decided the Ivy title in 2001. Coming off the first undefeated-untied Harvard season in 88 years, this year's Crimson team was 5-0 in Ivy League play. But almost all of its games had gone down to the wire, and the team had let victory slip away in the final minute of two nonleague contests.

As he'd done the previous season, with good results, head coach Tim Murphy had preached ball security at his squad's practice sessions. Until the Penn game, Harvard had yielded the fewest turnovers (less than one per game) of any NCAA 1-A/1-AA team. But ironically, turnovers were the Crimson's undoing in both nonleague defeats. At Lehigh, in the season's third game, Harvard held a 35-21 lead in the fourth quarter, lost the ball on an errant lateral, and gave up two late scores that allowed the scrappy Mountain Hawks to salvage a 36-35 win. At the Stadium two weeks later, with Atlantic 10 power Northeastern leading 17-14 and two minutes left to play, Harvard stormed downfield on an 80-yard drive, only to fetch up eight yards short of the goal-line when another lateral went awry. Hard lines, but worse happened at Franklin Field, where Penn's wrecking crew capitalized on a pair of early fumbles to begin the de-



Linebacker and captain-elect Dante Balestracci has been the Crimson defense's top tackler for three straight seasons—and has been named to the all-Ivy first team in each of those years. Above, he menaces Yale's league-leading rusher, Robert Carr.

construction of Harvard's title aspirations. More about that in a moment.

THE PENN GAME aside, this year's team played exciting and sometimes spectacular football. Rose and Morris tore up opposing defenses, along with much of the Harvard record book. When a spinal disc injury sidelined Rose, Fitzpatrick filled in brilliantly. Rodney Byrnes, another sophomore, emerged as a breakout pass receiver, kick-return specialist, and sometime running back. The offensive line, led by all-Ivy tackles Jack Fadule '03 and Jamil Soriano '03, fronted the Ivy League's best all-around attack. On the other side of the ball, all-Ivy captain-elect Dante Balestracci '04; his linebacking sidekick John Perry '03; end Michael Armstrong '03; and cornerback Chris Raftery '04 were defensive standouts.

Rose, a first-team all-Ivy and all-New England selection a year ago, was elected captain—the first quarterback to be so honored since Carroll Lowenstein '52—at the end of last year's bravura season. Hav-

ing sat out his sophomore year with a broken foot, he qualified for a medical waiver and returned this fall as a fifth-year senior. Though his back injury caused him to miss two full games and parts of two others, Rose continued to set records, completing his third and final season as a starter with Harvard career records for pass completions, pass attempts, passing yardage, total-offense yardage, pass-completion percentage, and touchdown passes.

Rose started the season in fine form, hitting on 19 of 22 passes—three of them for touchdowns—in the opener against Holy Cross. His completion percentage of .864 tied a Harvard single-game record set by Vin Ferrara '95. When Rose took a jarring hit to the head in the second half, Fitzpatrick stepped in and ran off a late, clock-killing ground drive that preserved a 28-21 victory. The versatile Morris was also in form, snaring 11 passes, scoring twice, and running the ball for a vital first down that kept the late drive alive.

In the team's first Ivy League game, a 26-24 win at Brown, Rose had clicked on five of five early pass attempts when a Bruin tackler upended him and his right leg "seemed to freeze." Relieving him, Fitzpatrick directed three consecutive scoring drives that obliterated an 18-7

## THE FINAL STANDINGS

*Ivy and overall records; points for/against*

Pennsylvania	7-0	9-1	363	132
HARVARD	6-1	7-3	267	230
Yale	4-3	6-4	257	188
Princeton	4-3	6-4	226	236
Cornell	3-4	4-6	216	281
Brown	2-5	2-8	222	279
Dartmouth	2-5	3-7	247	295
Columbia	0-7	1-9	161	295

Brown lead. The hard-running sophomore, a former Arizona high school all-star, passed for two touchdowns and became the first Harvard quarterback in a decade to have a 100-yard-rushing day, racking up 137 yards on 22 carries. Despite limited playing time, Fitzpatrick would end the season as the team's leading rusher.

While Rose's back mended, Fitzpatrick started the next two games. Against Lehigh he connected on 22 of 36 passes and rushed for 59 yards; the following weekend, against Cornell, he hit on 24 of 32 passes for 353 yards and three touchdowns, rushing for 66 yards and another touchdown. Morris had another 11-catch day, streaking down the Stadium sideline to score on a 54-yard pass from Fitzpatrick. Rodney Byrnes chipped in with an 89-yard kickoff return for a touchdown, and later scored on a short run. For his central role in Harvard's 52-23 rout of the Big Red, Fitzpatrick was named Ivy League Offensive Player of the Week.

Returning to action, Rose started the Northeastern game, but had only 6 completions in 19 pass attempts and gave way to Fitzpatrick in the second quarter. Harvard's normally sure-handed receivers were not at their best in the 17-14 loss, dropping nine or 10 catchable passes.

Fitzpatrick started at Princeton a week later, but this time it was Rose who came off the bench to get the team moving. Checking in with the score tied, 7-7, in the second period, he made good on 13 of 19 passes and engineered scoring drives on three of his first four possessions. The Crimson defense forced five turnovers, and tailback Nick Palazzo '03, rebounding from a shoulder injury, ran for three touchdowns. Harvard's 24-17 win, its seventh straight victory over Princeton, bumped the Tigers out of a tie for first place in the Ivy standings.

Rose and Morris put on a stunning show at Dartmouth the next weekend. Rose threw 50 passes; his 36 completions, 443 passing yards, and 449 yards of total offense broke records he'd set as a junior. Morris caught an astonishing 21 passes—eight more than the previous Harvard record—before leaving the field with a concussion in the fourth quarter. Two of his catches went for touchdowns, and his 257-

yard day set another Harvard record. Holding off a late Dartmouth surge, the Crimson left town with a 31-26 victory.

A 28-7 defeat of a struggling Columbia team that had lost its last six games gave Harvard its twelfth consecutive Ivy win. After yielding an early touchdown, the Crimson defense kept the Lions off the scoreboard for the remaining 54 minutes of play. Rose connected on 25 of 35 passes, and an unheralded tailback, Ryan Tyler '06, provided a surprise bonus. Standing in for the reinjured Palazzo, Tyler scored the team's first touchdown and gained 120 yards in 19 carries, becoming Harvard's first freshman back to attain a 100-yard rushing game.

Then came the Penn debacle, a Philadelphia version of Grand Guignol played out in a cold rain before 18,630 spectators. Harvard got in wrong on its first possession, when a hard hit parted Rose from the ball and Penn cashed in with a field goal. On the Quakers' next series, Harvard defensive end Brian Garcia '04 sacked Penn quarterback Mike Mitchell in his own end zone for a safety: Penn 3, Harvard 2. Close game? No such luck. Less than two minutes later, Penn defenders mobbed Rose as he tried to pass, the loose ball bounced into the hands of defensive end Chris Pennington, and Pennington ran 51 yards for a touchdown. The Quakers hadn't yet made a first down, but after less than five minutes of play they'd put 10 points on the scoreboard. The Penn offense now took charge, as the strong-armed Mitchell unloaded three scoring passes within a six-minute span in the second period. Up 34-2 at halftime, Penn padded its comfortable lead with one more aerial touchdown and a field goal. Fitzpatrick, replacing Rose in the third quarter, made the score slightly less ignominious by throwing a late touchdown pass, his eighth of the season, to tight end Matt Fratto '04.

Penn's commanding performance left no doubt about its right to the Ivy title. The Quaker offense played almost error-

free football. Shifting defensive alignments tested Rose's usual skill at making line-of-scrimmage adjustments, and double coverage held Morris to three harmless catches for 16 yards.

Unhappily for Harvard, the trouncing came in the wake of an unprecedented wave of hype. For the first time, ESPN chose to air its *College GameDay* pregame show from a Division 1-AA venue, broadcasting from a canopied stage set up in the horseshoe curve of Franklin Field. The two-hour show earned the highest rating in the program's 16-year history: it was seen in an estimated 1.524 million TV

households, topping the record 1.494 million that tuned in two years earlier, before the Florida-Florida State game.

#### ALL'S WELL THAT...

With a second straight win over Yale, Harvard ended its 7-3 season on an upbeat.

Holy Cross	w	28-23
at Brown	w	26-24
at Lehigh	L	35-36
Cornell	w	52-23
Northeastern	L	14-17
at Princeton	w	24-17
at Dartmouth	w	31-26
Columbia	w	28-7
at Pennsylvania	L	9-44
Yale	W	20-13

HAD PENN LOST its last game—a virtual impossibility—a victory over Yale would have yielded Harvard a share of the Ivy title. In actuality, The Game was a showdown for second place. It was a war of defenses until mid-

way through the second period, when Yale mounted a 76-yard scoring drive, missing the extra point when the snap from center went offline. Fitzpatrick then replaced Rose, who'd had just three completions in nine pass attempts, and the Harvard offense picked up the pace. As the second half started, a fumble by Yale's punter gave the Crimson a scoring opportunity, and Fitzpatrick soon went in on a keeper. Anders Blewett '03 kicked the point to make it Harvard 7, Yale 6. Fitzpatrick's strong running pressured the Yale secondary and freed up Morris, who pulled in passes of 50 and 39 yards to set up two more third-period touchdowns. Fitzpatrick ran for one, sprinting into the end zone untouched on what started out as a passing play. Palazzo, with a fine second effort, scored the other from one yard out.

With seven minutes left in the final quarter, a 24-yard scoring pass from Eli quarterback Jeff Mroz to wide receiver Ron Benigno cut the Harvard margin to 20-13. But Yale's chance of a Merriwell

finish ended when Harvard cornerback Ben Butler '04 made an interception at midfield with 22 seconds to play.

The loss to Penn notwithstanding, a 6-1 record in Ivy League play has to count to-

ward a satisfying season. N.B.: Since the start of formal Ivy competition, in 1956, Harvard has enjoyed 6-1 seasons in 1961, 1966, 1974, 1975, and 1987. In each of those years, a 6-1 record was worth a champi-

onship or co-championship. Not this time.

And how's this for parity? In games played since the Ivy League was formed, the Harvard-Yale series now stands at 23-23-1. ~ "CLEAT"

## Seven-Week Itch

COACHES AND ATHLETES throughout the Ivy League gnashed their teeth this fall over a new policy that the Ivy presidents put in place last June—the "seven-week rule." The policy requires that intercollegiate athletes have a seven-week "rest" period during the academic year—a time when they are barred from working out as a team or being mentored by their coaches. No one can stop students from working out on their own, of course, but the rule "reinforces the voluntary nature of that activity," says Carolyn Campbell-McGovern, senior associate director of the Council of Ivy Group Presidents. Growing out of concerns that varsity athletics loom too large in the lives of student-athletes—concerns sharpened by the controversial 2001 book *The Game of Life*, by James L. Shulman and former Princeton president William G. Bowen—the seven-week rule attempts to ensure that *all* undergraduates have a life away from the playing field.

Instead it has sparked protests and criticism that the rule is both ineffective and disadvantageous to Ivy League teams. In October, several Ivy crews rowing in the Head of the Charles Regatta replaced their college jerseys with black shirts bearing a crossed-out number seven on the back. Many athletes and coaches feel the large chunk of downtime handicaps them against non-Ivy competitors, who have no such restrictions. Stephanie Wriede Morawski '92, head coach of women's swimming and diving, notes that after her team completes its regular season at the end of February, several athletes may compete in the U.S. nationals at the end of March. "But I won't be able to talk with them," she reports, "because I had to list March as my rest period."

The rule does not affect all games equally. Football, for example, ends its season in November—Ivy football has no postseason—and the athletes can easily take seven weeks off before spring practice sessions begin. The rule particularly

affects "two-semester" sports, like basketball and ice hockey, and those that demand year-round training, like swimming, rowing, and cross-country. (Rowing has received a partial exemption—crews need only take a 33-day break, because a full seven weeks off would impinge on their regular-season competition.) "We're an endurance sport," says swim coach Morawski. "You've got to keep your stamina up. You can't just stop for seven weeks."

Ivy coaches may now be at a disadvantage in recruiting, as well. "Some coaches will feel the impact on seniors considering Ivy versus non-Ivy colleges," says Frank Sullivan, head coach of men's basketball. "The student-athletes may turn toward other colleges, out of concern about the softening up of their improvement in the Ivies." Morawski adds, "Most of the athletes here chose Harvard or another elite school because they want to excel in *both* academics and athletics. They've been swimming year-round since they were eight or 10 years old—it's been a choice."

The Ivy presidents, too, made a choice, but like all choices, it is subject to review. At this writing, the presidents were scheduled to meet again on December 10, perhaps to consider whether the scratch is causing more trouble than the itch.

## Winter Sports

### Women's Ice Hockey

By early December, the icewomen (7-1, 4-0 ECAC) were ranked first in the nation. Powered by recent Olympians Jennifer Botterill '02 ('03), Angela Ruggiero '02 ('04), and Julie Chu '06—who own, collectively, five Olympic gold and silver medals—the Crimson showed its firepower early. Harvard blew out its first two Ivy opponents, Dartmouth, 9-2, and Cornell, 8-0, then edged Brown, 3-2. Only an early 4-3 loss to Minnesota marred their record.

### Men's Ice Hockey

The men's team (7-3, 7-2 ECAC) handled most early opponents well, losing only in road games at Brown, Cornell, and Boston University. Juniors Tyler Kolarik and Tim Pettit led scorers with 13 points

apiece, followed by seniors Brett Nowak and Dominic Moore, at 12 each.

### Men's Basketball

The hoopsters (2-1) started well, led in scoring by seniors Patrick Harvey and Brady Merchant, who averaged 15.0 and 14.3 points apiece through three games.

### Women's Basketball

The women's team (3-1) looks poised to retain its Ivy title. At the First Tennessee tournament, Harvard took an 84-44 drubbing at the hands of host Vanderbilt, but bounced back with a 69-58 win over Central Michigan. That victory was the three hundredth at Harvard for coach Kathy Delaney-Smith, now in her twenty-first season, and is the most ever recorded by any Harvard basketball coach.

## Hoops, Eastern European-style

FITTINGLY, Emina and Haso Peljto had their first date at a basketball game. The Yugoslavian couple married and had two children, both of whom play the game—and the younger is a star for Harvard.

Born in Sarajevo, Hana Peljto '04 fled with her family to Slovenia to escape the war at home, which began in 1992. There, the lanky 10-year-old learned the hoop trade, dribbling and shooting for hours



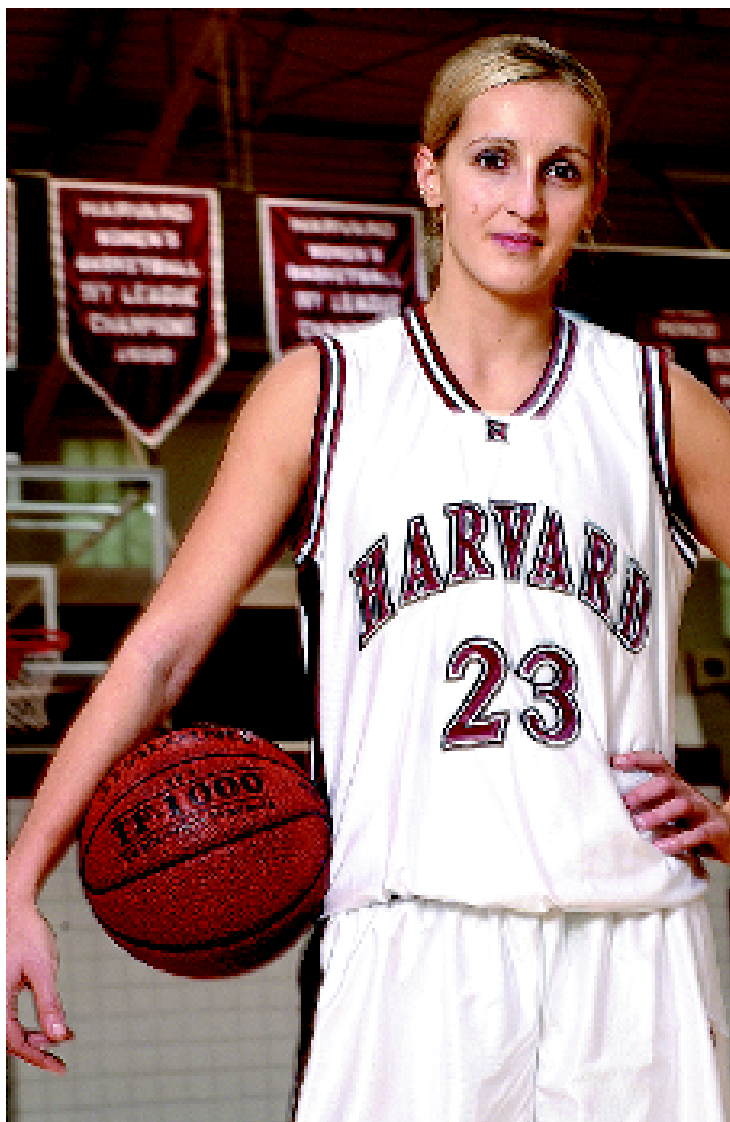
each day. Now, as a 6-foot, 2-inch, power forward for the Harvard women's team, she has brought European-style play to the Ivy League with a vengeance.

Two years ago, Peljto crashed the Ancient Eight as a freshman sensation: she was Rookie of the Year and First Team All-Ivy and outshot the rest of the league with a .497 field-goal percentage. Last year, as a mere sophomore, she was unanimously voted Ivy League Player of the Year after leading Harvard to the league championship. Her scoring average of 20.1 points per game was second in the Ivies, and the third highest in Harvard history, topped only by the stellar junior- and senior-year numbers—21.6 and 28.5 respectively—of Allison Feaster '98, currently with the WNBA's Charlotte Sting.

"I like doing it all," says Peljto. "Here [in the United States] they specialize early—they separate post players from guards—but in Europe you learn all the skills right from the beginning." Peljto has breathtaking versatility. Last year she led the Crimson not only in scoring but also rebounding (averaging 9.5 per game), and was second on the team in steals (40) and free-throw percentage (.840). In the team's first game against Dartmouth, she poured in a career-high 36 points, and in the final league contest stung the Big Green again, pulling down 21 rebounds for another personal best. "You cannot pick a way to stop Hana," says her coach, Kathy Delaney-Smith. "She will find another way to score. She can post up, she's a slasher [cutting across lanes in transition]—and no forward runs the floor better than Hana."

Peljto, a psychology concentrator, has a heritage as diverse as her athletic skills. "I'm a Muslim, but I have everything in my family," she explains. During their two and a half years in Slovenia, her family

faced severe discrimination: Hana and older brother Mirza were shepherded to refugee schools. Seeking better educational opportunities, the family migrated to Ottawa, then moved on to Minneapolis, where Peljto's father was hired as a software engineer. Financially, it was another hard time: since visa restrictions prevented her mother from working for three years, she volunteered as a math teacher at a school for Bosnian refugees.



Though she calls him "an inspiration and role model like no other," Hana Peljto's uniform number was not chosen to match Michael Jordan's.

Peljto's parents are both engineers with athletic leanings: her father played soccer, her mother ran cross-country. Playing one-on-one basketball against her brother (who was on the St. Olaf's varsity) strengthened Peljto's game. So did school

games in Ottawa, where the 13-year-old held her own against girls three and four years older—"a real confidence booster," she says. At Osseo High School outside Minneapolis, she set nearly every school scoring and rebounding record, won a state championship as a senior, and was player of the year in Minnesota.

"I've always been a hustle player," she says. "Rebounding is my strength. I run the floor, and do a lot of things that require effort—working hard." Delaney-Smith notes Peljto's "absolutely incredible passion and intensity. She's never had a bad practice. And her work ethic is the same, whether we are drilling her favorite or least-favorite part of basketball."

Naturally, Peljto's multi-threat game inspires double- and even triple-teaming, but Harvard's well-balanced attack makes that strategy risky. Point guard Dirkje Dunham '04 has stepped confidently into the large shoes of Jen Monti '02, who graduated with Harvard's all-time assist record. Shooting guard Rochelle Bell '05 is a fine defensive player, and captain Kate Ides '03 will see action at center—along with Reka Cserny '05, a 6-foot, 3-inch, talent from Budapest who was last year's Ivy Rookie of the Year. "She plays a lot of European style—it's very easy to click with Reka," Peljto says. "She's an awesome passer, a great defender, and can shoot from anywhere. It's nice having Reka there, because her player can't double-team me, and vice versa."

The pair of East Europeans in the front line are giving Crimson opponents a lot to contend with. College women's basketball, like the professional game, is becoming a global sport. And no zone defense can stop this trend—or its leading exemplars in Cambridge.

~CRAIG LAMBERT