

Crimson in Congress

Harvard Square erupted in historic fashion on November 4 when Senator Barack Obama, J.D. '91, of Illinois, the first black

president of the *Harvard Law Review* (see page 63), was elected the forty-fourth president of the United States. In January, at least 38 other alumni (defined for this exercise as graduates of or matriculants in a degree program at the University) will be in Washington as members of the 111th Congress.

Democrats remain firmly in control of the Harvard contingent on Capitol Hill. Overall, the Crimson ranks will increase from the group of 35 who sat in the 110th Congress to a contingent of 38. This total includes 35 Democrats (up six from the tally in the last session), but only three Republicans (down three), including Representative Thomas E. Petri '62, LL.B. '65, of Wisconsin, who remains the sole Republican member of the House to have graduated from Harvard. The University's eight new faces include Senate Democrat Mark R. Warner, J.D. '80, of Virginia (see "We Need a Win," September-October 2007, page 78), as well as House Democrats John Adler '81, J.D. '84, of New Jersey; Gerry Connolly, M.P.A. '79, of Virginia; Bill Foster, Ph.D. '83, of Illinois; Alan M. Grayson '78, M.P.P.-J.D. '83, G '87, of Florida; Jim Himes '88, of Connecticut; Dan Maffei, M.P.P. '95, of New York; and Walter C. Minnick, M.B.A. '66, J.D. '69, of Idaho. (The Democrats' total will rise by one if Al Franken '73, of Minnesota, wins his race for the Senate against incumbent Norm Coleman; an automatic recount was incomplete at press time.)

Three of Harvard's congressional losses came in Senate races that went against Republicans. Elizabeth Dole, M.A. '60, J.D. '65, of North Carolina, lost her seat, as did John E. Sununu, M.B.A. '91, of New Hampshire. (Sununu was defeated by Jeanne Shaheen, whom he beat in 2002; Shaheen, former director of the Harvard Kennedy School's Institute of Politics, served three terms as her state's first female governor and is its first elected female senator.) And once the final ballots were counted on November 18, Ted Stevens, LL.B. '50, of Alaska, the longest-serving Republican in the history of the Senate, had lost his seat. (He was convicted on seven felony counts eight days before the election.) Elsewhere, Democrat Thomas H. Allen, J.D. '74, of Maine, gave up his House seat to run for the Senate, but lost to incumbent Susan Collins; in Louisiana, Democrat William Jefferson, J.D. '72, who is under federal indictment, was beaten on December 6 in a storm-delayed contest.

The line-up at press time (asterisks mark newcomers):

Senate Republicans: Michael D. Crapo, J.D. '77 (Id.); David Vitter '83 (La.).

Senate Democrats: Jeff Bingaman '65 (N.M.); Russ Feingold, J.D. '79 (Wisc.); Edward M. Kennedy '54 (Mass.); Herbert H. Kohl, M.B.A. '58 (Wisc.); Carl Levin, LL.B. '59 (Mich.); John F. (Jack) Reed, M.P.P. '73, J.D. '82 (R.I.); John D. Rockefeller IV '58 (W. Va.); Charles E. Schumer '71, J.D. '74 (N.Y.); *Mark R. Warner, J.D. '80 (Va.).

House Republican: Thomas E. Petri '62, LL.B. '65 (Wisc.).

House Democrats: *John Adler '81, J.D. '84 (N.J.); John Barrow, J.D. '79 (Ga.); *Gerry Connolly, M.P.A. '79 (Va.); James H. Cooper, J.D. '80 (Tenn.); Artur Davis '90, J.D. '93 (Ala.); Chet Edwards, M.B.A. '81 (Tex.); *Bill Foster, Ph.D. '83 (Ill.); Barney Frank '61, G '62-'68, J.D. '77 (Mass.); *Alan M. Grayson '78, M.P.P.-J.D. '83, G '87 (Fla.); Jane Harman, J.D. '69 (Calif.); Brian Higgins, M.P.A. '96 (N.Y.); *Jim Himes '88 (Conn.); Ron Kind '85 (Wisc.); James R. Langevin, M.P.A. '94 (R.I.); Sander M. Levin, LL.B. '57 (Mich.); Stephen F. Lynch, M.P.A. '99 (Mass.); *Dan Maffei, M.P.P. '95 (N.Y.); James D. Matheson '82 (Utah); *Walter C. Minnick, M.B.A. '66, J.D. '69 (Id.); John P. Sarbanes, J.D. '88 (Md.); Adam B. Schiff, J.D. '85 (Calif.); Robert C. Scott '69 (Va.); Joseph A. Sestak Jr., M.P.A. '80, K '82, Ph.D. '84 (Pa.); Bradley J. Sherman, J.D. '79 (Calif.); Christopher Van Hollen Jr., M.P.P. '85 (Md.); David Wu, M '81 (Ore.).



Mark R. Warner

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more, including eight of \$10 million or more).

Invoking Harvard's fifteenth president, Josiah Quincy, on the occasion of his dedication of Dane Hall as HLS's new home, in 1832, Faust said he had "hailed the members of the legal profession for what he called their 'noble exertions and personal sacrifices...in the interests of the age and of society.'" That spirit, she said, still animated the school as it produced attorneys general, solicitors general, members of Congress, governors, and Supreme Court justices, among others.

Beyond formal government service, Faust said, graduates have been involved in the whole realm of public-interest law, representing the indigent, leading non-profit organizations, and encouraging pro bono practice within commercial law firms. Similarly, faculty members "include leaders in shaping our understanding not only of American constitutional law, but of constitutional principles in societies as diverse as South Africa and Iraq." She cited professors' work on economic and racial justice, on corporate governance, on human rights, and on reconciling civil liberties with security, among other fields. And she noted students' engagement with 29 legal clinics that pursue problems in child advocacy, war crimes, human rights, and tenants' rights.

In support of such work, Faust said, the law school has dual responsibilities: "It's critical that [students] leave here with habits of mind and an understanding of legal concepts and methods essential to productive careers in the law. It's no less critical that they leave here with a vivid sense of the law not just as an occupation but as a calling." The school, she said, owes students "not only an education in parsing precedent and interpreting doctrine and mastering techniques of advocacy—but an education that helps them see how, in Quincy's words, 'noble exertions' can advance 'the interests of the age and of society.'"

In closing, Faust invoked alumnus Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., who described law as the "branch of human knowledge... more immediately connected with all the highest interests of man than any other which deals with practical affairs." She particularly emphasized that juxtaposi-