

A Man for One Season

Quarterback Andrew Hatch returns to the Harvard fold.

IT WAS THE BEST OF TIMES, it was the worst of times. With new quarterback Andrew Hatch ably managing the offense, the football team looked invincible in its opening game, a 34-6 rout of Holy Cross. Harvard then lost to Brown, 29-14, and played so ineptly that the prospect of a championship season seemed fanciful.

Harvard won the Ivy League title outright in 2007, shared it with Brown in 2008, and was favored to win it a year ago. But the 2009 team lost to Penn and finished second to the Quakers. This year, for the fourth time in the past five seasons, a preseason media poll had the Crimson finishing first, ahead of Penn, Brown, and Yale. Head coach Tim Murphy said the ranking was undeserved, and his team's poor showing in the Brown game—a farrago of turnovers, botched plays, and costly penalties—suggested that the coach was not being coy.

Murphy was fortunate to have Hatch, of Henderson, Nevada, and Leverett House, as his quarterback pro tem. A transfer from Louisiana State University, he'd been expected to back up Collier Winters '12, a hard worker who had made second team all-Ivy in his first season as a starter. But Winters tore hip and groin muscles in a preseason scrimmage, and Hatch got the starting assignment. In his varsity debut he directed the Crimson offense with aplomb, completing 20 of 25 passes against Holy Cross. Early in the second quarter he threw the first of three touchdown passes, a 26-yarder to receiver Marco Iannuzzi '11. Chris Lorditch '11, the team's top receiver, caught second-half touchdown passes of eight and 43

Stadium Sonnet

Adam Kirsch's review of *The Art of the Sonnet* ("Echo Chamber—and Amplifier," July-August, page 17) delighted Philip M. Williams '57, of Falmouth, Massachusetts, who wrote that the form is "a fine tool, just like the sharpening steel that whets one's knives." The former cross-country runner was moved to share his homage to Harvard Stadium stair climbers, which we have held for publication now, during the height of the football season.

~The Editors

Song to the Stadium Stair Climber

Drag, oh stair climber, those heavy legs.
Let burn, those lungs, each deep drawn breath.
Look down upon each concrete tread that begs
The failing will to quit. But nay, that's death
To high achievement. Up, up, up!
Oh climb another riser. Once more
Again. Each brings thee close to sup
With ancient heroes. Feel the muscles sore,
As players in the field, as runners on
The long gone cinder track. Let soar
The beating heart. The whistling breath, in song
To endless pain, will gain the greatest height.
And when you heave your failing body, right
Next the colonnade, behold the sight.



yards, giving Harvard a 34-0 lead midway through the final period. The Crimson defense kept the visiting Crusaders off the scoreboard until the game's final minute.

Hatch threw the ball with precision, connecting on 12 of 14 first-half passes. When he had to scramble, he showed speed and mobility for a man of his size (he stands six-four and weighs 225).

A week later the team journeyed to Providence for the first night game ever played at Brown Stadium. Brown's swarming defenders put relentless pressure on

Hatch and stopped the Crimson rushing attack in its tracks. Hatch took a stinging helmet-to-helmet shot on Harvard's first offensive play, and was later found to have received a concussion. He con-

tinued to play and was lucid on the sideline, completing 11 of 23 passes for 128 yards but throwing two interceptions that led to Brown scores.

The Bruin offense dictated the course of the game from the outset, keeping Harvard's defense on the field for 39 minutes of play. A moment of uplift came late in the first half, after a Brown scoring drive had staked the Bears to a 23-0 lead. A squibbed kickoff gave Harvard the ball at midfield with just 29 seconds to play, and Hatch needed only three throws to move his team 45 yards, rifling a 21-yard scoring pass to Iannuzzi in the Brown end zone. Iannuzzi then caught the second-half kickoff and returned it 95 yards for a second Harvard touchdown.

In a span of 36 seconds, Harvard had cut Brown's lead to 23-14 and was seemingly back in contention. But Hatch threw his second interception of the game on the Crimson's next series, and Brown capitalized with a 44-yard field goal by freshman Alex Noroce. Another offensive misplay led to Brown's final score, after an errant center snap sailed over the head of punter Jacob Dombrowski '13. The Bears retrieved

Quarterback Andrew Hatch's forte is passing, but Brown's defenders kept him on the run in a 29-14 blowout.

