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LIFE

THE WEDDINGS

- A Kennedy Gala
- A Royal Pageant

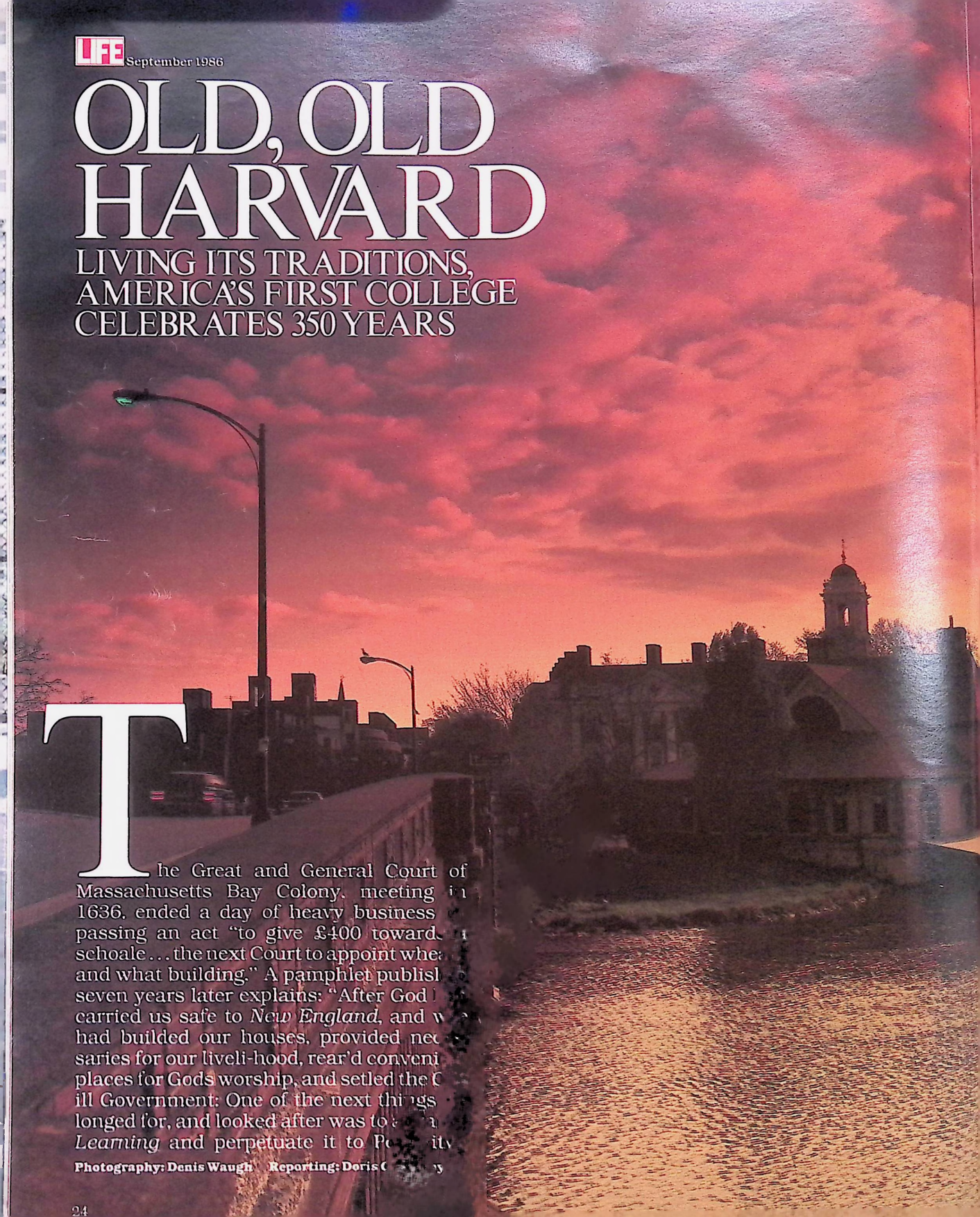


Memorable
Moments



OLD, OLD HARVARD

LIVING ITS TRADITIONS,
AMERICA'S FIRST COLLEGE
CELEBRATES 350 YEARS

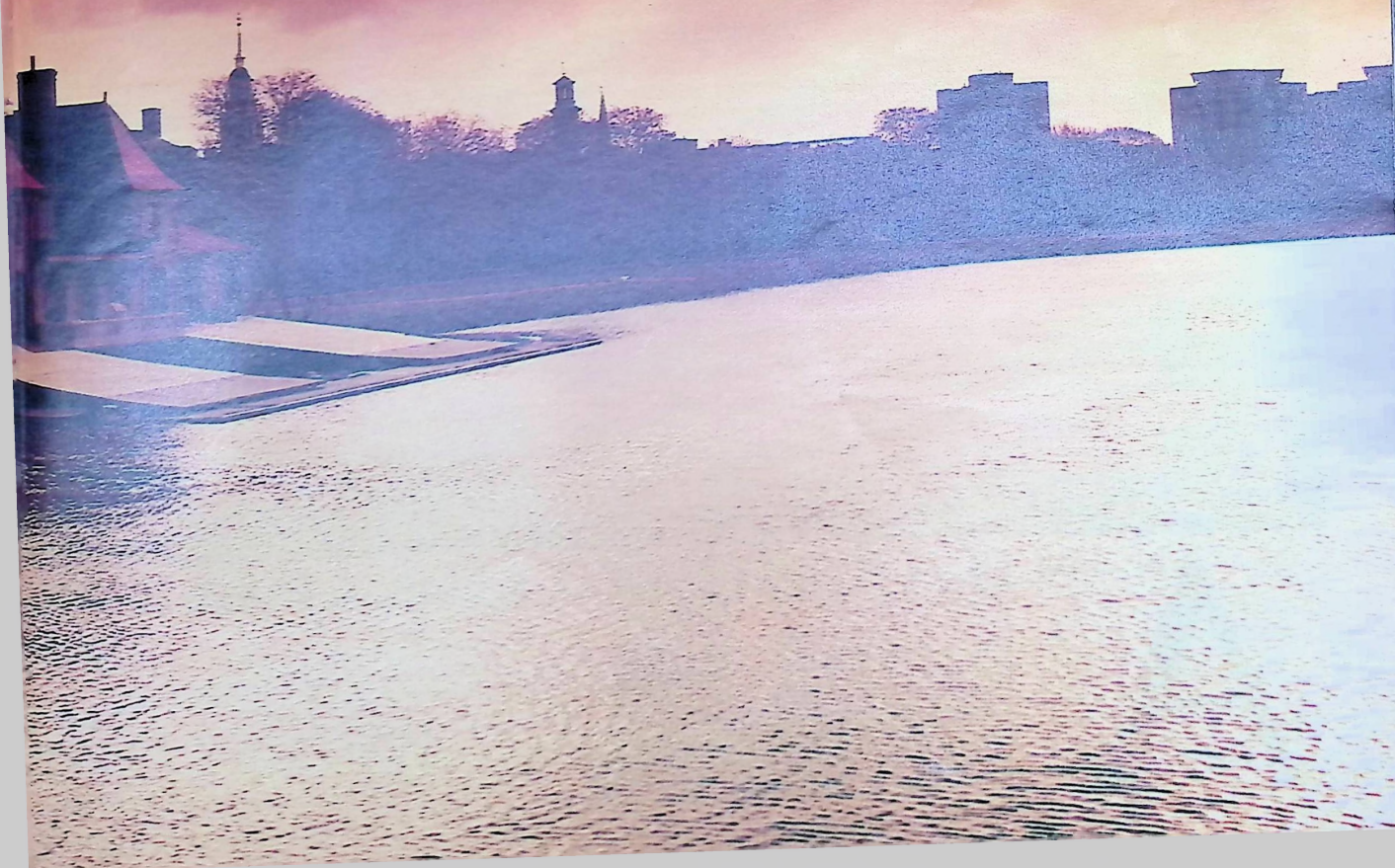


The Great and General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony, meeting in 1636, ended a day of heavy business passing an act "to give £400 toward schoale...the next Court to appoint where and what building." A pamphlet published seven years later explains: "After God carried us safe to *New England*, and we had builded our houses, provided necessaries for our liveli-hood, rear'd convenient places for Gods worship, and settled the Civil Government: One of the next things longed for, and looked after was to *Learn* and perpetuate it to Posterity."

Photography: Denis Waugh Reporting: Doris C. ...

1636

Just 16 years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, a school was established—on the banks of the Charles River in a new town called Cambridge. Two years later, minister John Harvard willed his 400-book library to the college and it was named for him.





1771

Irish poet Seamus Heaney, 47, currently holds a Harvard professorial chair endowed 215 years ago by Boston merchant Nicholas Boylston. Heaney follows such men as John Quincy Adams and Archibald MacLeish in the post, which gives him "the right to pasture a cow in the Cambridge Common." As resident scholar at Adams House, he counsels students and enjoys dining with them. Says one, "When Seamus reads poetry, he makes it come alive."

AN ANCIENT ENDOWMENT KEEPS A POET IN RESIDENCE



1643

In the 17th century tutors were young Harvard graduates, poorly paid but occasionally rewarded with gifts of silver tankards from grateful seniors. Today's tutors—advisers in students' major fields—include such luminaries as William Alfred (above), a poet and playwright (Hogan's Goat), who has taught English at Harvard for 32 years. One of his 14 fortunate tutees is Eliseo Neuman, a junior from Argentina, with whom he discusses Yeats and Auden. "I sit here and students tell me about things," says Alfred. "They do all the work."

1817

A tradition of oratory dates back to Harvard's earliest days, and the Boylston speaking prizes, established by the nephew of the man who endowed the Boylston chair, to 169 years ago. To compete for the \$100 first place, students deliver "memorized selections from English, Greek or Latin literature." Recent finalists included senior Paolo Di Rosa (left, center), who recited the "First Oration of Cicero Against Catiline" in Latin, and junior Walter Graham (left), who gave a rousing rendition of Jonathan Edwards's "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God." Neither won.



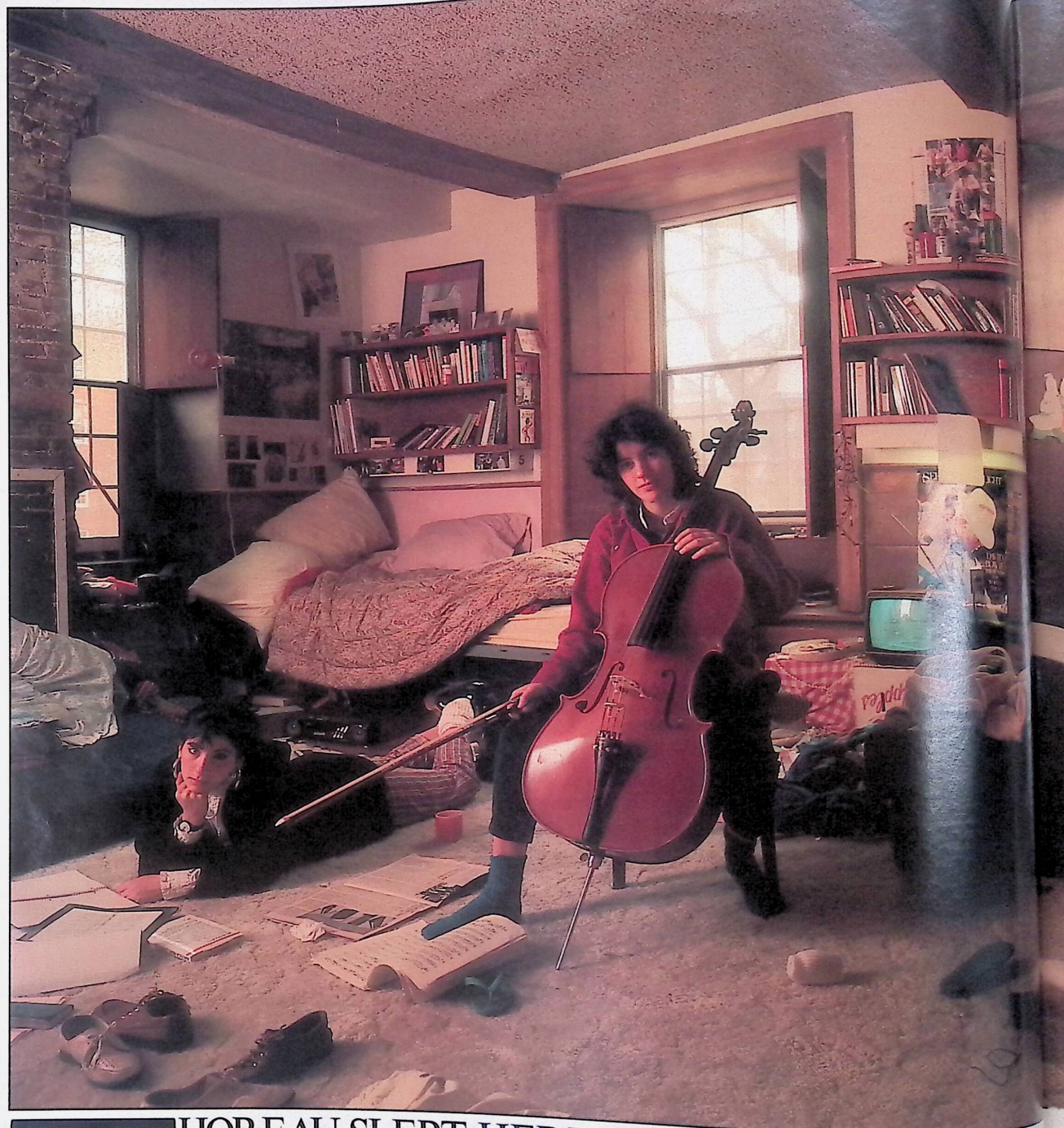
STUDENTS GET A KICK OUT OF CHORUS LINE DANCE



1795

The Hasty Pudding Club was founded "to cultivate the social affections and cherish the feelings of friendship." In its early days, members performed sacred music after they ate their pot of pudding. The shows, with men playing the

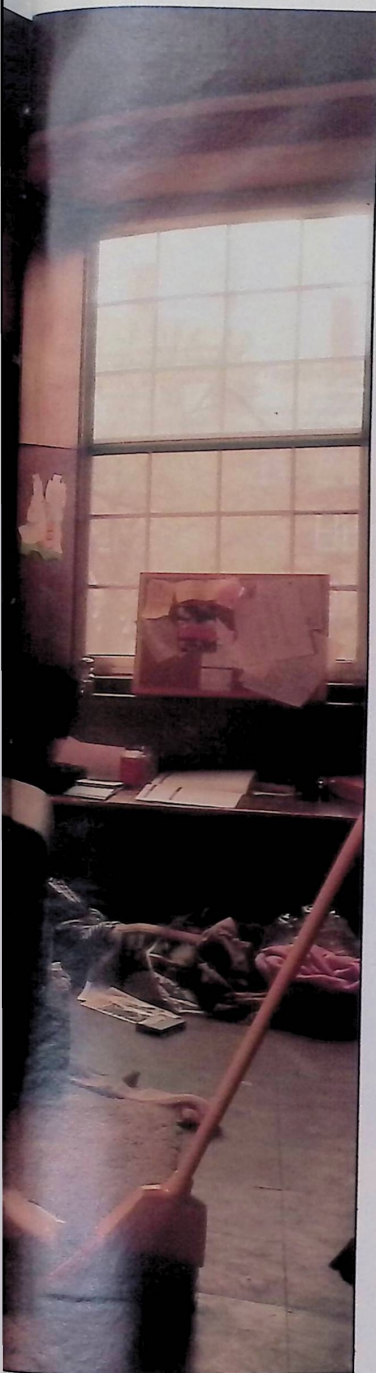
female roles, began in 1844. Since 1951 its annual Woman of the Year Award has been given to such celebrities as Mamie Eisenhower, Sally Field and Katharine Hepburn. This year's chorus line of "Texas cheerleaders" will perform its traditional finale during Harvard's four-day celebration this month.



T HOREAU SLEPT HERE

1763

Freshman Ann Saphir of Berkeley, Calif., practices her cello in her Hollis Hall room, No. 23. Hollis, Harvard's oldest dorm, was used as a barracks by Washington's troops in 1776 and has since been occupied by Ralph Waldo Emerson and John Updike. In 1836 room 23 was



assigned to Henry David Thoreau, who spent as little time there as possible. "Those hours that should have been devoted to study," he wrote, "have been spent in roaming the woods." Says Saphir's roommate, Allne Brosh, lounging at left, "Living in Thoreau's room makes me want to kick off my shoes and run through the Yard being civilly disobedient."



1896

For 90 years this chamber in University Hall, once the chapel, has served as the faculty room, where academic policy is deliberated, and portraits of late great Harvardians ignore the often contentious proceedings.

1638

In the 17th century, the students' day began and ended with public prayer. Evening rites were discontinued in 1855. In 1958 Radcliffe's singers were integrated with Harvard's choir for the daily 15-minute service in Appleton Chapel. A century ago morning attendance became voluntary, setting off cries of "Godless Harvard."

1766

A student-built shantytown, protesting apartheid and demanding divestment in South Africa, appeared overnight in front of John Harvard's statue last spring. The first recorded campus rebellion took place 10 years before the Revolution, when Asa Dunbar, Thoreau's grandfather, is said to have told his tutor, "Behold our butter stinketh!" The angry students walked out of commons and ate breakfast in town.

AESTHETES AND ATHLETES STRUT THEIR STUFF



1879

Until World War II, when classes became coeducational, Harvard's professors gave each lecture twice—once for men in the Yard and once for women on the Radcliffe campus half a mile to the north. Today Radcliffe at age 107 and Harvard at age 350 enjoy a happy May-September marriage. Dorms are coed, and women now wear the big H. In a recent Harvard-Yale match Erin Sugrue (front right) of the Women's Varsity Track Team won the high jump—but Harvard, following what Yalies would call its usual sports tradition, lost the meet.

1876

Founded 110 years ago, the Lampoon has never taken itself, or anything else—seriously. Harvard's motto is Veritas; the Lampoon's is Vanitas. The current executive staff meet in the Castle, "an imposing novel" furnished in delft tiles with the help of publisher William Randolph Hearst. George Santayana, Robert Benchley and John Marquand also got their literary starts as Poonies. Other student publications include a literary journal, the Advocate, launched in 1866, and the Crimson, a newspaper founded in 1873.

THE MARK OF CRIMSON ON 14 GENERATIONS



The Colledge by Ingenuous and Civil Education hath had its proper Influence. . . . And Necessary too; for else the Rising Generations would have soon become Barbarous.

—Harvard president Increase Mather, Class of 1656

If any man wishes to be humbled and mortified, let him become President of Harvard College.

—Harvard president Edward Holyoke, 1705

Since the carrying India Teas into the Hall is found to be a Source of uneasiness and grief to many of the Students, and as the use of it is disagreeable to the People of this Country in general . . . be advised not to carry it in for the future . . . so peace and happiness may be preserved within the Walls of the College whatever convulsions may unhappily distract the State abroad.

—a faculty resolution, 1775

As a nursery for independent and lonely thinkers I do believe that Harvard still is in the van. . . . The day when Harvard shall stamp a single hard and fast type of character upon her children will be that of her downfall. Our undisciplinables are our proudest product.

—philosophy professor William James, 1869

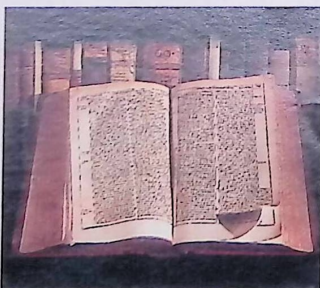
No place, no rooms, no mode of living could have been more suitable for a poor student and free student, such as I was and wished to be.

—philosopher George Santayana, 1886

There was talk of the world, and daring thought, and intellectual insurgency; heresy has always

1650

The oldest corporation in the Western Hemisphere is made up of Harvard's president (Derek Bok, front), treasurer and five fellows. They met the day before commencement with the Board of Overseers, set up in 1637.



1638

John Downname's "The Christian Warfare Against the Devil, World and Flesh" is the only surviving volume of the 400 books John Harvard gave to the school that bears his name. The rest were lost in a 1764 fire at Harvard Hall.

been a Harvard and a New England tradition.

—journalist John Reed, '10, as he sailed to Russia

At nineteen and twenty I was mighty impatient. . . . No more ungrateful brat ever ran for a nine o'clock across the old duckboards in the Yard. . . . I guess I wanted Periclean Athens right that day in the Harvard Yard. It took me twenty years to discover that I did learn something at Harvard after all.

—novelist John Dos Passos, '16

I have known many great teachers at Harvard, many who excelled in showing the enchantment of thought to young men who, in this springtime of youth, were more enchanted with life itself.

—President John F. Kennedy, '40

If it be a sin to be proud of Harvard, I am the most offending soul alive.

—former Secretary of Defense Elliot Richardson, '41

I peaked, as a scholar, in my junior year and capped my academic career with a dull thesis and a babbling display of ignorance at my oral examination. Four years was enough Harvard. I still had a lot to learn, but had been given the liberating notion that now I could teach myself.

—novelist John Updike, '54

It is said that once, on his way to breakfast, the master of Adams House saw a boy and a girl leaving the boy's room, and without skipping a beat, said, "Good morning, gentlemen." At that point, I think, co-residential housing was inevitable.

—LIFE columnist Anne Fadiman, '74 ♠