BOSTON

"You're my expirimental game."
I KISSED A GIRL KATY PERRY

How The Game will change Fenway Park

BY ALI YARALI
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

For the second time since 2018, The Game will not be held at either the Yale Bowl or Harvard Stadium.

This year, the time-honored rivalry will be hosted on Nov. 21 at Fenway Park, the historic ballpark that has been the home of the Boston Red Sox since 1912. As the Bulldogs seek to win its fifth consecutive victory in The Game, the decision to host this year's iteration of the rivalry at Fenway Park has generated buzz from fans and players alike.

"It's a really nice area to be in, and I'm excited that people are gonna be able to go, especially people who haven't gone to Fenway yet." Leilani Eth '27, who is from the Boston area, said.

In terms of transforming the field, one endzone is set to sit on the infield dirt and the other in right field. Both team's benches are set to be on the sideline toward left field.

Fenway Park is no stranger to hosting football games. The now-defunct Boston Yanks; the Boston Redskins, now the Washington Commanders; and the Boston Patriots, now the New England Patriots, played their home games at Fenway Park into the 1960s.

Scheduling conflicts, however, put football at Fenway on hiatus until 2013, when Boston College hosted Notre Dame for a rivalry game between the two Catholic schools, also known as the Holy War. In 2018, Yale and Harvard played The Game at Fenway Park due to restoration at the Harvard Stadium.

In an August 2025 statement, Harvard Athletics spokesperson Imry Halevi told the Harvard Crimson that hosting The Game at Fenway this year would put athletes on an iconic stage and expand The Game's viewership.

Defensive lineman Lota Ugokwe '28 said in a phone interview that he is excited for the "very fun environment" at Fenway.

"Even though we've played college football, we've never been able to play in a professional stadium like that before," he said. "What I'm hoping is that the sound kind of traps itself inside of us to where that place is really electric and we can really have some fun."

Despite the new venue, Yale fans said they are still excited to watch the game and continue traditions. One favorite tradition is the field rush at the end of The Game, in the case of a victory.

"At the end of every Harvard-Yale game, my favorite part is that the winners of the game rush the stadium." Henry Vo '27 said. "And so for the past three years, I've been able to rush the stadium."

This may not happen this year due to strict security measures taken by Fenway management. According to the Red Sox Code of Conduct, entering the field of play is punishable by ejection from the premises and a potential lifetime ban from Fenway Park.

At its inception, the stadium had a seating capacity of 27,000 — 10,000 less than it does now. In 1934, major renovations took place, which reinforced the structure, expanded seating capacity by 7,000, and added a manually operated scoreboard that still runs today. That scoreboard is embedded into the infamous Green Monster, the park's towering 37-foot left field wall.

While Fenway Park's seating capacity of 37,755 is more than Harvard Stadium's 30,323 seats, even the two combined are not as great as the Yale Bowl's capacity of over 70,000 seats.

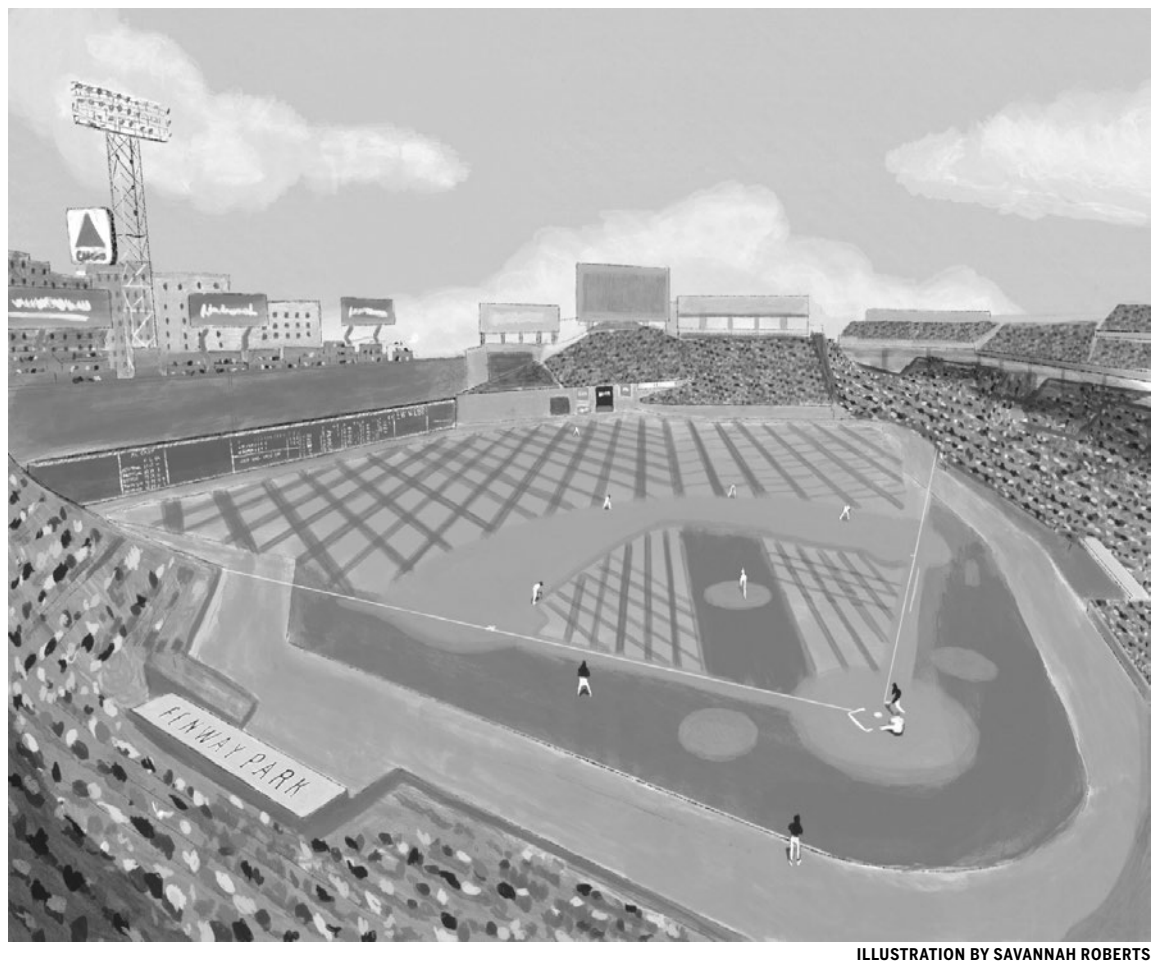

ILLUSTRATION BY SAVANNAH ROBERTS

Both fans and players are excited over this year's decision to host the Yale-Harvard game at the historic ballpark and home of the Boston Red Sox. Fenway once also served as the home for the Boston Patriots, now called the New England Patriots

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How to get from Cambridge to Fenway

BY SHENHAO DENG
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Students can leverage public transit to navigate from Cambridge to Boston on Saturday as Fenway Park hosts the Yale-Harvard football game for the first time since 2018.

With a few exceptions, Yale and Harvard have hosted The Game at their respective home stadiums, the Yale Bowl and Harvard Stadium, since its first iteration in 1875. Yale students traveling from Harvard Square to Harvard Stadium for a regular game had several options for the one-mile journey: a 20-minute walk, a 10-minute public bus ride or a five-minute drive.

Fenway Park, however, is a farther trip. Across the Charles River, the stadium is in Boston proper, 3.5 miles away from Harvard.

There are several options for students traveling from Harvard to the stadium.

"The fastest and most efficient way to get there would probably be to take the T," Duaa Hassan, a first-year Harvard student, said in a phone interview. The T is a nickname for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority — the public transportation network serving Greater Boston — and is most commonly associated with the train system.

"The Red Line goes all the way down from South End, Boston, to Cambridge," Hassan said. "It stops over at MIT or Kendall Square."

Fenway Park is also accessible via the T. Students can board the Red Line at Harvard Station and travel four stops to the Park Street Station. From there, they can transfer to the Green Line and use its B, C or D trains toward the Kenmore station, about a five-minute walk to the stadium, Hassan explained.

That route will take around 35 minutes on Saturday afternoon, according to a Google Maps estimate.

Cambridge also has 27 MBTA local bus routes that connect neighborhoods across the city and provide direct access into Boston, Somerville and surrounding areas.

"The bus is pretty straightforward," Grace Nelson, a first-year student at Harvard College, said in a phone interview. "It's also cheaper by a couple cents."

In the MBTA system, one train ticket costs $2.40, while a bus ticket costs $1.70.

"The main line by Harvard is the One," Nelson said, referencing the Route 1 bus from Massachusetts Avenue opposite Holyoke Street near Harvard Square. "You can just take that to Newbury Street, which is the main area, and then walk maybe 10 minutes and you're at Fenway."

That bus route will also take around 35 minutes on Saturday afternoon, according to a Google Maps estimate.

Hassan said some MBTA bus drivers have recently allowed students to ride for free when they recognize that a rider is a college student.

Another first-year Harvard student, Sebastian Semante, said in a phone interview that he had also experienced that loophole.

Aside from buses, Cambridge is walkable.

"Usually, Cambridge is just walking," Semante said. "But public transportation here is great."

Despite the influx of travel to Fenway for The Game, the MBTA does not anticipate taking special precautions, an MBTA call center associate confirmed to the News.

This year's edition of The Game will take place on Nov. 21.

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Students traveling from Cambridge to Boston can use the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority's trains and buses to arrive at Fenway Park for Saturday's Yale-Harvard game. This year marks the first time the stadium will host The Game since 2018.