ON CAMPUS

The definitive YALE-HARVARD sister college map

BY CHANEL MOHAMED
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With the 141st Yale-Harvard football game upon us, the air is thick with the spirit of rivalry. On Saturday, students will fill the Yale Bowl with navy blue and crimson red for "The Game," making the centuries-old competition feel urgent again. Our rivalry with Harvard is the oldest continuous collegiate rivalry in the country, and as such, even with the perhaps lackluster football, it is a cornerstone of American collegiate sports. As a first year, I am ecstatic to experience all that it has to offer, in New Haven no less!

As a proud Yalie, and Sillimander — yes, Silliman is the best residential college — I think Yale is objectively better for the following reasons:

- We have Handsome Dan who can fetch, wear sweaters and wink. Harvard's mascot is a color, a literal pigment.
- We have buttery nights and Harvard has whatever Cambridge has to offer at 1 a.m.
- We have residential colleges that architecturally evoke a sense of tradition and history. Harvard has houses that visually don't compare.

But what we've never had is the ultimate map to Yale-Harvard "sister college" pairings. This is a vibe-based, unscientific matching system that definitively maps the similarities between Yale's residential colleges, a hallmark of our culture and Harvard's housing system.

Below are the final pairings that I have come up with and my rationale for each.

Benjamin Franklin College and Mather House

To the people that don't live there, this college and house remain enduringly mysterious — probably because no one is willing to make the walk all the way up Science Hill. Still, this pair works so well because they're sleek and contemporary. The futuristic feel of Benjamin Franklin pairs well with the overly modernist tower in Mather.

Berkeley College and Lowell House

This is a true architectural matchup. Berkeley's medieval atmosphere, for instance its wood paneled Swiss room, and Lowell's grandiose bell towers contribute to the dignified and atmospheric feel of this pair.

Branford College and Eliot House

This is a refined, classy and intellectual pairing where gothic grace meets a neo-georgian design. With Branford's high arches and Eliot's brick elegance, both of their courtyards look perfect in any season and both embody the Ivy League aesthetic.

Davenport College and Leverett House

Tucked away but providing one of the best spots to watch the sunset, this residential college and house pairing prioritize comfort over spectacle. They're both warm and welcoming and share an air of calm confidence. Their residents look like they have the most organized google calendars and generally give off a "we have our life together" vibe.

Grace Hopper College and Kirkland Annex

Whimsical is top of mind for me when I think about this pair. Hopper's model where faculty live in residence matches well with the intimate House culture in the Kirkland annex. These spaces seem more light-hearted and relaxed compared to their Gothic cousins.

Jonathan Edwards College and Adams House

Drama. Camp. A theatrical flair. These are the words that come to mind when I think of JE and Adams House. I think the gothic style of JE and its elaborate masonry that will thrill the most hardcore Harry Potter fan finds its aesthetic match in Adams House, which is characterized by its Gold Coast dormitory features.

Morse College and Currier House

These are true modernist sisters. Both look like concrete fortresses but on the inside are actually filled with creative chaos, warmth and vitality. They're cool and strangely artistic to those that seek beauty in unexpected places.

Pauli Murray College and Dunster Annex

These spaces don't rely on ivy-covered brick to impress onlookers. Instead they embrace being architecturally bright and new. Pauli Murray and Harvard's modern towers share a contemporary feel. They are for the students who appreciate newness amidst tradition.

Pierson College and Kirkland House

Composed, stately and aware of their architectural splendor, Pierson and Kirkland house is a pairing whose prestige is quiet and not overstated. They share quiet courtyards, mood lighting and libraries that are drowning in intellectual curiosity.

Saybrook College and Quincy House

Saybrook and Quincy are classic but unpretentious. They balance tradition with a lived-in charm. Rather than embodying a list of superlatives, like sportiest or oldest, these houses have a firm grip on their identity which is why they pair so well.

Silliman College and Winthrop House

And we've gotten to Yale's best residential college. Massive, and thus impossible to miss, Silliman and Winthrop are called home by students whose seemingly genuine pride actually borders on being territorial. These are two stops you wouldn't want to miss when you visit Yale and Harvard.

Stiles College and Pforzheimer House

Another pair of modernist siblings! These two share architectural designs that elicit polarizing opinions. Half of the campus will either love or hate their concrete style or 20th century design. But the fact that they dare to be different is what bonds them.

Timothy Dwight College and Dunster House

Both big personalities with small quad's. TD and Dunster are the extroverts of their respective residential systems. They are cheerfully chaotic and genuinely warm.

Trumbull College and Cabot House

When I was thinking about Yale's residential colleges I forgot Trumbull — sorry Trumbullians! — but I think that's why it pairs with Cabot House so well. These two share the same "our irrelevance makes us and our sense of community stronger." They both do their own thing, something slightly quirky, but have tangible student spirit.

Beyond prestige, architecture steeped in history and rivalry, these sister college pairings push us to reframe our understanding of the Yale-Harvard relationship. As each residential college and house finds its long lost sister, rivalry transcends blatant pettiness and instead becomes more personable, more fun.

So, this Saturday, when you meet a Harvard student at The Game, ask them the only question that matters: "Which house do you live in?"

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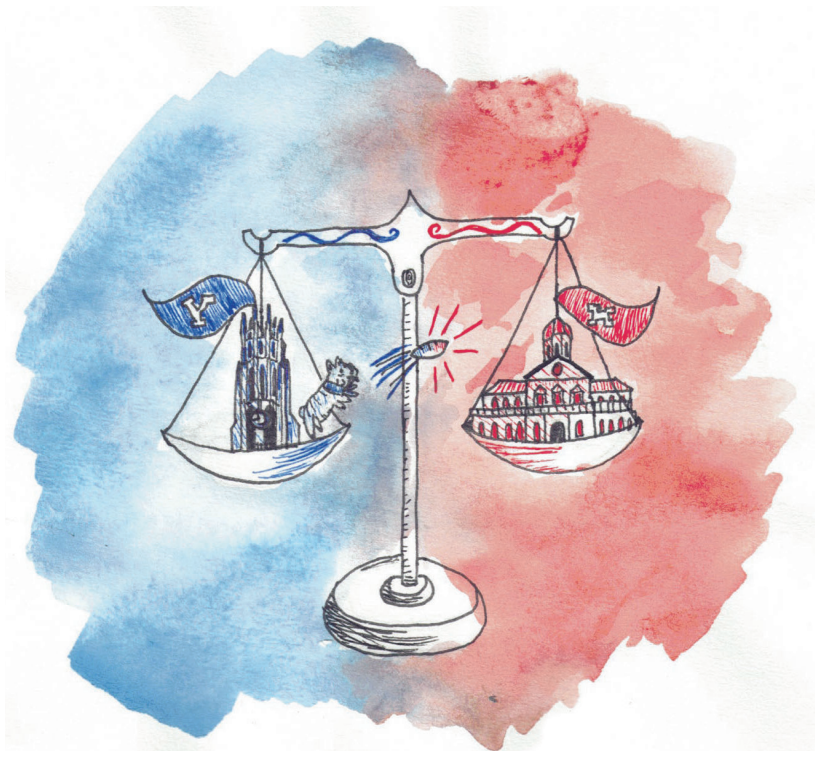

ILLUSTRATION BY BEATRICE BARILLA

HOROSCOPES

BY KIVA BANK
STAFF REPORTER

There is a brisk chill in the air, the barest hint of snow dusting the ground. Students frolic around campus, bundled in their cashmere-blend coats and scarves. These signs can only mean one thing: Football season is upon us.

The stars say we will win the game. And by "we," I mean the Patriots, six-time Superbowl winners, record 11 AFC championships, the greatest NFL dynasty to ever exist, etc. etc. We're so back, baby. The Yale football team? Not so much. We're going to need divine intervention to beat the Crimson devils when they visit this weekend.

Fortunately, there is a chance for the Bulldogs to turn things around against H-who-must-not-be-named. The stars demand that H*rvard must lose more than its dignity and federal funding this year. To ensure their fate on the field, you must do as the horoscopes foretold:

Aries

You thought you met the love of your life during your Visitas days in Cambridge. Now you regret coming to the better university because you may have missed your one chance at true love. You've wasted time daydreaming about reuniting this weekend. Alas, you may not understand Latin, but the veritas is that they don't remember you. Don't worry, they're probably stinky anyway.

Taurus

Your high school rival reached out at the last minute asking to crash in your dorm before The Game, and you are unsure how to respond. Either say yes and endure 48 hours of snide comments about high school rankings, or say no and get subtweeted about "Yale elitists." The choice is yours.

Gemini

Bringing out your best social performance is your preferred sport. For you, that means pretending to be a feminist. You think it is "woke" to refer to "GHeav" as the "G-spot." Surprisingly, they're pretty similar since they're both harder to find when you're drunk at 2 a.m. Do everyone a favor and don't attempt either this weekend. Even H*rvard students will find you cringe.

Cancer

You're sad our beloved chief of police is leaving for a lesser university. Channel your emotions into screaming your heart out at The Game. They may have taken Anthony Campbell '95 DIV '09, but they will never understand school spirit. We have a real mascot, unlike that pilgrim monstrosity. While they look forward to timely warnings about the plethora of academic crime in Cambridge, we'll look forward to victory.

Leo

Your H*rvard hookup will land you in a sticky situation this weekend. The only Crimson that'll be coming in your dorm is your period. Early. At least that unfortunate cock blocker will prevent you from drunken mistakes with anyone from an inferior institution.

Virgo

Your parents are visiting for The Game. You're still tailgating like your blood type is Tito's. You may have blocked them from your Instagram story but they are going to try to swing by anyway to "see how the students celebrate." Good luck explaining why your jacket smells like Fireball.

Libra

You don't know anything about football but that hasn't stopped you from providing your friends with unwarranted commentary. Last year you asked if "downs" were a bad thing. Don't bother trying to impress your crush. You WILL point at any player holding the ball and call him the quarterback. Just remember to clap when other Yalies clap.

Scorpio

You are putting your calculus skills to good use: figuring out how much alcohol you need to consume at 8 a.m. to be adequately numb by kickoff. You can't sober up on the walk to the stadium, unless you want to feel every freezing second in the stands. Try pacing yourself. You want to remember at least one touchdown.

Sagittarius

The only game you'll be participating in this weekend is of the drinking variety. You're competitive by nature, but maybe don't try to "win" this one. Your liver is not an athlete. Pace yourself before you end up becoming the halftime entertainment.

Capricorn

You are stingy and refuse to pay the frats that are hosting parties this weekend. Coolness comes at a price, but why is Sig Chi charging a fee to attend a "no taxation" party? Capitalism has made the "poor" finance bros hypocrites. Use your networking skills and make H*rvard students pay instead.

Aquarius

You chose preparing for The Game over your protecting your GPA. The Jell-O shots are made. The flyers have been posted. Yet you didn't finish any of your assignments that were due before break. You wish Yale had the same grade inflation as the so-called "elite" institution does. At least our classes are legitimately challenging. The only thing challenging about Cambridge is the on campus party scene.

Pisces

Remember your actions have real consequences. You're already romanticizing The Game as if you're acting in the plot of a coming-of-age film. You imagine tears, triumph, heartbreak, maybe even a forbidden intercollegiate romance. Instead, you will lose your voice, your gloves and possibly your sense of direction. Come back to reality before you put the cautionary tale in tailgate.

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