

## Harvard board, ex-leaders back embattled Gay

### Review sees no plagiarism but academics raise issues

**By Deanna Pan and Stephanie Ebbert**  
GLOBE STAFF

Harvard University’s oversight board on Tuesday acknowledged that an independent review revealed several instances of “inadequate citation” in the scholarly work of embattled president Claudine Gay but found no violations of the university’s standards on research misconduct.

However academics who reviewed some of the recent alle-

gations against Gay argued that some passages from her academic works clearly appeared to violate Harvard’s policy on plagiarism, which calls for strict delineation between a writer’s ideas and those that originated with others.

In several passages in Gay’s writings, including her 1997 PhD thesis on Black electoral politics, she cited the works of other scholars and credited them for their ideas, but did not

**PLAGIARISM, Page A8**



HAIYUN JIANG/BLOOMBERG

President Claudine Gay said she knows “there are people of good will and deep love for Harvard who are ambivalent.”

After a week in the spotlight, president is called the ‘right leader to help our community heal’

**By Mike Damiano and Hilary Burns**  
GLOBE STAFF

One week after Harvard president Claudine Gay’s testimony at a congressional hearing on campus antisemitism sparked calls for her resignation, and two months into a rolling controversy over how she handled student activism over the Israel-Hamas war, the university’s top board members Tuesday publicly stood behind their president.

“Our extensive deliberations affirm our confidence that President Gay is the right leader to help our community heal and to address the very serious societal issues we are facing,” the Fellows of Har-

vard College said in an email to the university community.

And Tuesday evening, five former presidents of Harvard rallied behind Gay, as well, offering “strong support” and saying in a statement: “We look forward to supporting President Gay in whatever ways we can as Harvard faces this challenging moment for higher education and the wider world.”

Gay responded Tuesday evening, saying in a statement that she knows “there are people of good will and deep love for Harvard who are ambivalent or even disappointed about where we are right now. I will need their help and their ideas to

**GAY, Page A8**



BARRY CHIN/GLOBE STAFF

Chelsea arrived for a game against Tech Boston at White Stadium. Football will be prohibited during the pro soccer season.

## For football teams, no field of dreams

White Stadium renovation for pro soccer will mostly keep BPS players off the grass

**By Bob Hohler**  
GLOBE STAFF

Since 1949, White Stadium has served as the hub of football for the Boston Public Schools. But when the refurbished stadium opens in 2026 as the home of the city’s new franchise in the National Women’s Soccer League, those days will be over.

City officials say football will be prohibited at the stadium during the professional soccer season, which in 2024 is scheduled to run from March 16 until

Nov. 3, followed by playoffs at the home fields of higher seeds through Nov. 17, and a championship game at a neutral site on Nov. 23.

Most high school games have already been played by November.

“I feel homeless,” said Rocco Zizza, the longtime coach of Boston Latin Academy’s football team, which has called White Stadium home for decades. “It’s really disheartening because it’s tough to have a football program

‘It’s really disheartening because it’s tough to have a football program when you don’t have a set place to practice and play.’

ROCCO ZIZZA,  
*Boston Latin Academy coach*

when you don’t have a set place to practice and play.”

What’s best for Boston, White Stadium, and BPS athletes may not be as detrimental to its football teams as some fear, said Dion Irish, the city’s chief of operations. He predicted that the redeveloped stadium will be an “amazing opportunity for all our kids,” including football players, when it’s not being used by the new soccer team.

“This will actually elevate high school football in Boston because we’ve never really had a venue like this for the end-of-season games that are really the

**WHITE STADIUM, Page C6**

## Biden warns Israel that it’s losing support

Using a tougher tone, he criticizes Netanyahu on war

**By Michael D. Shear**  
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — President Biden told Israel’s leaders on Tuesday that they are losing international support for their war in the Gaza Strip, exposing a widening rift with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who rejected out of hand the American vision for a postwar resolution to the conflict.

Biden delivered the blunt assessment of the United States’ closest ally in the Middle East during a fund-raiser in Washington, where he described Netanyahu as the leader of “the most conservative government in Israel’s history,” which doesn’t “want anything remotely approaching a two-state solution” to the country’s long-running dispute with Palestinians.

The president said that Israel had support from Europe and much of the world as well as the United States, but he added that “they’re starting to lose that support by the indiscriminate bombing that takes place.”

The president’s remarks came hours after Netanyahu pledged to defy weeks of US pressure to put the Palestinian Authority in charge of Gaza once the fighting ends. Netanyahu ruled out any role there for the group, which now governs Pales-

**MIDEAST, Page A5**

## Today, fans have themselves a merry little Swiftmas

**By Beth Teitell**  
GLOBE STAFF

It was the week before Swiftmas, and Samantha Baron, an optician from Framingham, was flying. Her Swiftmas tree, 4 feet tall and shimmery white, would be arriving soon. Her homemade ornaments, one for each of Taylor Swift’s famous eras, and then some, were ready to hang. The Swiftmas cards had been mailed.

Soon, it would be Swiftmas Day — a.k.a. Dec. 13, Taylor Swift’s birthday — and Baron would be baking Swift’s beloved chai sugar cookies and exchanging Swiftmas gifts and . . . wait a second.

Swiftmas???

Ya, Swiftmas. Think of it as an uplifting version of Festivus, the George Costanza-family celebration that centers on the airing of grievances, a Friendsgiving without the implied slap to your family of origin. It’s your birthday and Halloween

**SWIFTMAS, Page A6**



JONATHAN WIGGS/GLOBE STAFF

Samantha Baron has everything in place to mark Taylor Swift’s birthday.



JOSH REYNOLDS FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

## That special something

Sonsie (above) is celebrating its 30th anniversary this month. Down the block, Stephanie’s on Newbury is also marking its 30th. El Pelon has been serving its tacos for 25 years. What’s the secret to their longevity? **G1.**


**The largest pharmacy chains have handed over prescription records to police and government investigators without a warrant,** a congressional investigation found. **A2.**

**It hasn’t been a good year for Boston-area renters,** with prices continuing to rise, writes Larry Edelman. **B5.**

**Nikki Haley got a big endorsement,** getting the support of New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu. **B1.**

**Cannabis use is associated with a greater risk of unhealthy pregnancy outcomes,** especially low birth weight, according to a study funded by the NIH. **A2.**

**An engineer noticed a serious safety issue on a Providence bridge three days before traffic was rerouted,** catching cities by surprise. **B1.**



### Snap shot

**Wednesday:** Breezy and cool. High 41-46. Low 25-30.

**Thursday:** A little nippier. High 34-39. Low 28-33.

**Weather and Comics, G6-7. Obituaries, C11.**

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