

## For Jewish alumni, a new examination of Harvard

Search for evidence of antisemitism adds to outside pressure on school

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

A group of Harvard Jewish alumni is scouring the school's course offerings, critiquing diversity and inclusion policies, and lobbying top administrators in an attempt to root out what they view as pervasive antisemitism plaguing the university. Those efforts include producing an extraordinary university-wide audit that seeks to identify

sources of anti-Israel and anti-Jewish animus the group's members believe are embedded within the university community, according to the group's internal communications and planning documents reviewed by the Globe.

"There are entire Harvard courses and programs and events that are premised on antisemitic lies," Dara Horn, a writer and Harvard graduate who last year served on an antisemitism

advisory board convened by former Harvard president Claudine Gay, wrote in the group's chat forum on WhatsApp in December.

The campaign by the Harvard Jewish Alumni Alliance amounts to a virtually unprecedented effort by independent university alumni to intervene in the core administrative and academic functions of their alma mater. Many alliance members believe that Harvard has become a hotbed for antisemitism and have grown frustrated by what they see as feckless leadership in the face of a sustained crisis, according to a document shared with the

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"[W]e were very, very clear how frustrated our group was."

ERIC FLEISS, *Harvard Jewish Alumni Alliance cofounder, after a meeting last month between group leaders and Alan Garber, Harvard's interim president*

"We joined together for one simple reason — a shared concern about growing antisemitism at Harvard."

RONI BRUNN, *alliance spokesperson*

## New drug mixes are worsening overdoses

Rescue workers modify approach amid pervasive use of powerful sedative

**By Chris Serres**  
GLOBE STAFF

The moment she saw him, Kelly Celata feared the man was dead from a drug overdose.

It was a warm July morning last summer, and a man in his 30s was stretched out on the pavement near downtown Brockton, cold and motionless but still breathing. Celata and a street outreach nurse repeatedly shook him and gave him a shot of the emergency medication naloxone, which can reverse overdoses quickly. Yet he remained unresponsive as paramedics put him on a stretcher and whisked him to a nearby hospital.

"We were baffled," said Celata, homeless services program manager at the Brockton Neighborhood Health Center, which operates a mobile services unit. "He was out cold like he was sleeping, but no one who is just sleeping could have slept through all that."

A new and more powerful wave of overdoses is spreading rapidly across Massachusetts, and it's putting severe pressure on front-line medical workers trying to save lives. In some cases, overdose victims are so heavily sedated on a toxic mix of substances that they can remain in a blackout stupor for hours. In other cases, victims overdose so quickly that there's not enough time to revive them.

These new and complex cases are confounding health agencies and leading front-line workers to rethink how they respond to overdoses. First responders are learning that even multiple sprays of

**2,359**  
Massachusetts overdose fatalities in 2022 — the highest on record.

**'We used to have minutes to an hour to respond. Now we have seconds to minutes.'**  
— Traci Green, epidemiologist and director of the Opioid Policy Research Collaborative at Brandeis University

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PHOTOS BY JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

Carine and Kevin Berner have been fighting for someone to be held accountable after a nude photo was taken of their son. Their community, Braintree, has a reputation for insularity, with many local officials having grown up in town.

## A father did everything he could to protect his son. UNTIL HE COULDN'T

He told police that a nude photo of his 12-year-old son was being passed around by classmates. A year and a half later, he's still seeking justice.



The Berners' son still has the baseball from his first home run, hit during a tournament in Cooperstown, N.Y.

**By Dugan Arnett**  
GLOBE STAFF

BRAINTREE — Kevin Berner hung up the phone and — in a daze — headed toward the kitchen and his 12-year-old son.

*Hey buddy, can we talk?*

Minutes earlier, Berner had received a phone call from another father in the neighborhood who shared a disturbing story. He said his son had been in a carpool recently when another boy pulled up a cellphone photo of Berner's son.

The seventh-grader was naked in the photo "from head to toe."

Berner knew that his son — whose learning disabilities required special education assistance — could be susceptible to bullying, overly trusting and easily coerced. The family had been warned that the differences between the boy and his peers would grow more pronounced as he got older, and that those differences could make him a target.

Still, a nude photo? On this evening in September 2022, Kevin couldn't reconcile the claim; his son was so guarded that he refused to change into pajamas.

**PHOTO, Page A12**

## Once an agent of change, now buffeted by it

In losing her home state, Haley learns how far GOP politics has moved right

**By Jess Bidgood**  
GLOBE STAFF

CHARLESTON, S.C. — When Nikki Haley, an accountant and little-known state representative from Lexington County, won South Carolina's 2010 Republican gubernatorial primary in a runoff election, it was seen as a transformative political moment.

"This is a really great night," Haley said from the stage, "because South Carolina just showed the rest of the country what we're made of."

Fourteen years later, on Saturday, Haley was again on the ballot and voters showed how much Republican politics in this traditionally-red state — and across the country — have transformed once more. She lost the South Carolina Republican primary to Donald Trump by a double-digit margin, a resounding defeat in the state where she once made history.

The story of her arc here is one of both path-breaking insurgency and fundamental change in this country's politics. A daughter of Indian immigrants who was 38 when she was first elected governor

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**Nearly a century ago, a Harvard scientist brought home mushrooms and other specimens that promised to change Western medicine.** A group of researchers wants to finish the work. **Globe Magazine.**

**Massachusetts is planning to close its oldest men's prison,** and prison reform advocates argue the men now incarcerated at MCI Concord should have

a voice in their future and that of the property. **Metro, B1.**

**A brunch honored Black military veterans** at Dorchester's Prince Hall Lodge. **Metro, B1.**

**Some plantations in the South are finally dropping the hoop skirts and mint juleps** and telling a different story — from the perspective of those who were enslaved. **Travel, N11.**

**Buyers snap up mid-century modern homes** — rare gems among a sea of Capes and center hall Colonials. How did they get here, and what's behind their allure? **Address, H1.**

**Jerod Mayo (right) appeared destined to be an NFL head coach,** even if he took a little detour on the way to the top job with New England. **Sports, C1.**



### One fine day

**Sunday:** Mostly sunny. High: 34-39. Low: 27-32.  
**Monday:** Showers early. High: 48-53. Low: 33-38.  
High tide: 11:51 a.m.  
Sunrise: 6:27 Sunset: 5:28  
Complete report, **A22.**  
Deaths, **A15-20.**