

A History of The Game

The concept for "The Game" was born with the historic Yale-Harvard "Who's got the biggest Jimmy?" contests of the early 1850's. But it was not until a chilly November afternoon in 1875 that the Harvard Cantabs met the beloved Yale Bulldogs for the first time on the gridiron. This inaugural installment of the athletic clash of the titans ended in complete and utter embarrassment for the Elis: Harvard scored four

1865

MIT first admitted students in 1865, preceding the first Harvard-Yale football game by ten years! And thank god, because MIT students have delighted our hearts and minds ever since with their zany pranks, or *hacks*. "Hacking is to MIT what football is to other schools," said Samuel J. Keyser, professor of linguistics and special assistant to the provost at MIT, at the first Tau Beta

"MIT" shot out of the zero-yard line and over the goal post, dazzling an awestruck stadium.

The 8.5' x 3.5' banner was expertly concealed under the grass just inside the end zone and was propelled gracefully aloft by a model rocket engine controlled by wire running under the field and into the Harvard stands. An MIT student connected the wires in the stadium to a battery pack concealed in the inner pocket of his jacket to ignite the rocket. As any MIT guy will tell you, "all tech men carry batteries."

Soon after, this engineer was carried off the field in a barrage of cheers and was later named to the MIT Board of Trustees.

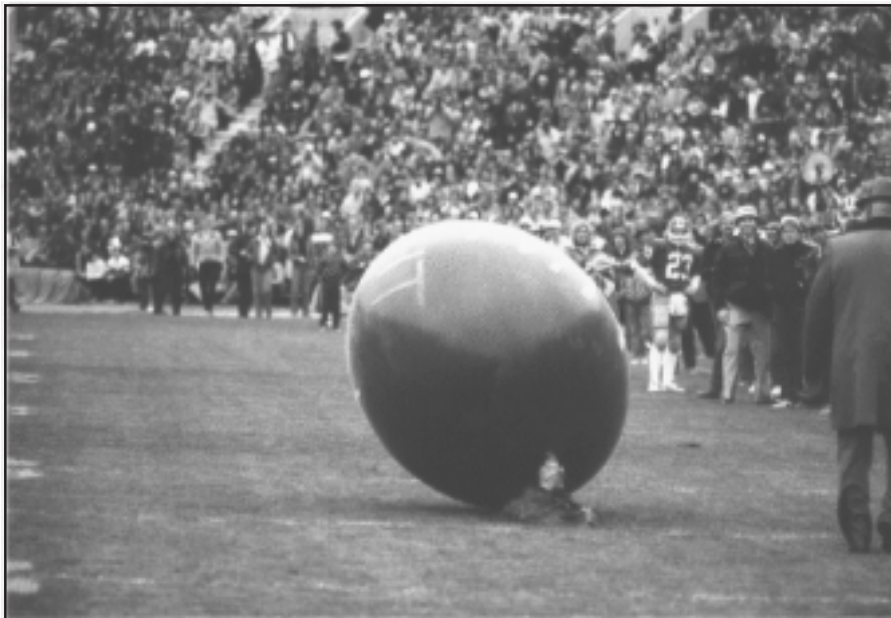
The Game as Alumni Event

Many MIT alums take in the Game. Drew Connolly, MIT '67 says that he hasn't missed it since 1963. "I love the passion involved," he said. "I love the idea of 'my school is better than yours because we have

administration on the East Coast, loves a good practical joke. President Charles Marsteller Vest was recently observed laughing heartily as he inspected his bra-filled office.

Faculty Interest

Economics professor Franco Modigliani, a Nobel Laureate, claims that the Harvard-Yale Game is his favorite sporting event of the month of November. He regularly treks from his office off Massachusetts Avenue to Harvard Stadium or to the Yale Bowl, depending on where the game is being played. He seldom visits the stadium where the game isn't being played. Economics majors look forward to seeing Professor Modigliani, a Nobel Laureate, decked out in full body paint. Other students, who know him solely as "that guy decked out in full body paint," look forward to his clever use of the words "fuck" and "bitch" throughout the event.



touchdowns and four field goals, holding Yale to zero.

Much like the historic "Who's got the biggest Jimmy?" contests of the 1850's, Yale eventually came out ahead. Overall, Yale holds the lead in the series with a 64-45-8 record.

As Harvard students board trains on November 16 and 17 this fall, they will note heartily that little has changed in 117 years. The Amtrak trains look the same, and, although The Game no longer decides National Championships, it continues to allow students and alumni at one school to put down their counterparts at the other. Much like the historic "Who's got the biggest Jimmy?" contests of the 1850's. But like the historic "Who's got the biggest Jimmy" contests of the 1850's, the game is really about "who's got the biggest spirit."

Moments of Sublimity

Since highlights from the Harvard-Yale Football Game are about as familiar to us as the role of Topological Filtermaps in the installation of Bela Kuhn in Bulgaria, here is a brief yet essential guide to some of the most stirring moments:

Pi Leonardo da Vinci Dinner lecture of 1982. How right he is!

1982

We all remember the Game of 1982. Who can forget the stunning halftime show? A weather balloon bearing the beautiful word "MIT" was inflated and released from its subterranean subterfuge. This hilarious hack was so effective that it actually overshadowed two other brilliant hacks brilliantly executed in the same game! Yes, the MIT band, masquerading as the Harvard band, managed to play the MIT fight song on the field. And legions of MIT undergrads managed to take to the stands and distribute cards that spelled MIT when turned over. Yale and Harvard will never forget how they were so ingeniously shown up on their own turf!

"Yeah, I remember that game," said Calvin Bell, MIT '84. "I couldn't believe how well MIT performed."

1990

Just as Yale prepared to score a field goal half way through the third quarter of the 1990 Harvard-Yale football game, a banner with the word

at least 22 more athletically gifted men than you do.' It makes me feel glad to have gone to MIT, where most people think Athletics is an 18th century mathematician."

The Association of MIT Alumni claims that the Game is a major opportunity for alums to give to their Alma Mater. Approximately 34% of donations are earmarked for MIT's Harvard-Yale Game program.

The Administration's Take on The Game

Even the MIT administration, quite probably the greatest college admin-

The Future of The Game

It appears as if the tradition of MIT-Harvard-Yale football will continue well into next year.

For more information on The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, please visit www.mit.edu or contact

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--Peter O'Reilly '05



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