In a shootout between the defending champions of the Ivy and Patriot Leagues, the football team fell to Lehigh, 36-35, in the final minute of play. The loss ended an 11-game Harvard winning streak; a week earlier, a strong Penn squad had snapped Lehigh's string of 26 regular-season victories, the longest in the nation. Led by quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick '05, who had played key roles in the team's first two games, all-Ivy wide receiver Carl Morris '03, and tailback Nick Palazzo '03, the Crimson's high-output offense pounded Lehigh for three quarters, and the Crimson held a 35-21 lead as the final period started. But after a 29-yard Lehigh field goal, Harvard lost the ball on an errant pitch from Fitzpatrick to Palazzo, who had scored three of the team's five touchdowns. The costly turnover changed the momentum of the game, and Lehigh cashed in with a pair of touchdowns by shifty speedster Jermaine Pugh—the last with 48 seconds remaining in the game.

This year's team seems fated to live dangerously. In its opening game against Holy Cross, Harvard held an 18-point lead in the final period but gave up two late Crusader touchdowns, one on an 85-yard punt return by Ari Confesor, a fleet wide receiver. With more than five minutes to play, the Crimson offense killed the clock with a lengthy ground drive to preserve a 28-23 victory. At the controls was Fitzpatrick, who came off the bench when Neil Rose '02 ('03), the team's record-setting quarterback and captain, took a high hit in the third period. Fitzpatrick kept the drive alive by running for two of three vital third-down conversions; the other came when Morris, in a surprise move, lined up at quarterback and rolled out for a 10-yard gain.

With Morris performing his usual class act as a receiver, Harvard has displayed a formidable passing game. Rose completed 19 of 22 aerials in the Holy Cross game, three of them for touchdowns. The most spectacular was a 60-yarder to Morris that put the Crimson up, 14-0, in the first period. In the third period Morris somehow materialized at the Crusaders' goal-line and gleefully hauled in a long, wobbly option pass thrown by sophomore split end Rodney Byrnes. (“I was a quarterback in high school,” the insouciant Byrnes affirmed during a postgame press conference, explaining that he'd had to execute the trick play with his gloves on.)

In the first of five road games on this season's 10-game schedule, Harvard fell behind Brown, 18-7, but bounced back to take a 19-18 halftime lead and escape with a 26-24 decision—its third straight over the feisty Bruins. With University of Arizona transfer Kyle Slager at quarterback, Brown scored on its first three possessions, but missed each of its point-after attempts. When a sciatic nerve condition sidelined Rose in the second quarter, Fitzpatrick came on to direct three consecutive touchdown drives that obliterated the Bruin lead. Built like a running back (6 feet, 3 inches; 200 pounds), he carried 20 times for a game-high 131 yards rushing—the most for a Harvard quarterback since Jim Kubacki '77 gained 154 at the start of the 1975 season. Fitzpatrick also com-
Tidbits: Harvard’s winning streak stands as time expired.

The Crimson defense kept Brown’s back to the wall, and the ball went over to Harvard when an ensuing Harvard drive stalled. Crimson defensive end Brian Garcia ’04 spiked Slager’s next pass attempt, called back because of offensive pass interference. Crimson defensive end Brian Garcia ’04 spiked Slager’s next pass attempt, called back because of offensive pass interference.

Harvard’s clock-killing drive; and took the touchdown catch of Palazzo’s Harvard career. It was the first touchdown catch of Palazzo’s Harvard career.

For the past two seasons, caught a seven-yard pass to open the scoring against Holy Cross. It was the first touchdown catch of Palazzo’s Harvard career.

Senior Nick Palazzo, the team’s leading ground-gainer for the past two seasons, caught a seven-yard pass to open the scoring against Holy Cross. It was the first touchdown catch of Palazzo’s Harvard career.

Fall Sports

Field Hockey
The stickwomen (5-1, 3-0 Ivy) got off to a fast start, knocking off Penn, Brown, and Yale in their first three Ivy contests. Goalie Katie Zacarian ’04 notched three shutouts in the first six games. Sophomore midfielder Shelley Masdorp, along with sisters Kate McDavitt ’04 and Jen McDavitt ’06—both midfielders—have helped spark the scoring.

Men’s Soccer
The men’s side (6-1, 1-0 Ivy) ran off five straight victories after a 5-1 blowout loss to Rhode Island. The Crimson’s 2-1 win over Brown was their first against the Bruins since 1996, the year of Harvard’s last Ivy title. Junior midfielders Ladd Fritz (seven goals) and Kevin Ara (eight goals) have led the offense.

Women’s Soccer
After early losses to three nationally ranked teams, the women booters (3-4, 1-0 Ivy) shut out Brown, 1-0, but lost 2-1 to Hartford. Senior forward Joey Yenne, fifth on Harvard’s all-time scoring list, had four goals and four assists to lead the Crimson in scoring.

Women’s Volleyball
The female spikers (4-6, 1-0 Ivy) won the Dartmouth Invitational tournament, shutting out Dartmouth and Maine by 3-0 scores. Captain Mindy Jellin ’03, averaging 10.5 assists per game, could become Harvard’s all-time assist leader by season’s end. Middle hitter Kaego Ogbechie ’05 was tops in kills with 164 (4.21 per game average).