### TO DROP OR NOT TO DROP?

*Fifth Monday is coming up (2/24). We’ve created a helpful quiz to let you know if you should stay in your class.*

Has your hairline begun to recede since the start of the semester? **YES/NO**

Do you actively dread your class in the days leading up to it? **YES/NO**

Is your laptop open to Buzzfeed, Gchat, and Twitter during lecture? **YES/NO**

Are your friends ignoring you because they’re tired of hearing you complain about your awful class? **YES/NO**

Are one or more of the following terms in your Google search history? **YES/NO**

- “drop class harvard deadline”
- “help unhappy”
- “harvard registrar academic calendar spring break”

Is your most recently played song on iTunes Dido’s “White Flag” or anything by Coldplay? **YES/NO**

If **you answered mostly YESes**, you should DROP YOUR CLASS.

If **you answered mostly NOs**, you’re GOOD FOR NOW.

### Table Talk

*Need a conversation starter? Try these:*

- If you had to pick another concentration, completely unrelated to your current concentration, what would it be, and why?

- At age 5, what did you want to be when you grew up? What about now? (Subtext: what happened to your innocence?)

- Is breakfast truly the most important meal of the day?

- How often do you wash your sheets? Be honest. Defend the frequency with which you clean your linens.

### Dear Leighdra: Mather’s Own Advice Column

Dear Leighdra,

How do I combat the winter blues?

- Stuck in the Doldrums

Dear SITD,

T.S. Eliot said “April is the cruellest month,” but I think he was mistaken and actually meant to say February. Fear not—soon it will be March and spring break, and then the rest of the semester will fly by. Relish these long February days, for in a short while you’ll be packing up for summer.

Yours,

Leighdra

Send Leighdra your questions! Email her at gorillagazette@gmail.com, subject line “Dear Leighdra.”
**Mather Blather**

This week, we asked about your favorite Massachusetts winter activities. Here are some of your best submissions:

- “I like sledding down Widener steps on dining hall trays. #nemo”
- “Cross country skiing is a fun activity (when I’m not falling on my butt! My tailbone hurts.)”
- “Hot chocolate at LA Burdick’s is the only thing I like about winter.”
- “I catch up on indie movies at Kendall Square Cinema before the weather improves.”
- “Peabody Museum, Harvard Museum of Natural History, MFA”
- “Winter’s the best season for fine dining, since everyone’s wearing lots of layers.”
- “I hibernate.”

**For next week’s Mather Blather: share a good story about your parents with us!** How they met, an embarrassing story, the tale of your conception, anything goes! Email us at gorillagazette@gmail.com, subject line “Mather Blather.”

**Mather Minutiae**

Did you know that Mather’s architect, Jean-Paul Carlhian, said that the suites were designed such that “a man should be able to entertain a lady friend so that his roommate can run naked to the bathroom without offending her”?

Relatedly, it’s pretty awesome that Mather’s architect used the term “lady friend” in conversation.

**You’ve Got Mather!**

HOUSING DAY T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST!
- Submissions accepted Monday 2/17 through Sunday 2/23 at 12pm to matherhousecouncil@gmail.com
- Potential designs will be revealed at HoCo General Meeting on Sunday 2/23 at 10pm; voting begins immediately after.
- Submissions must include images of designs and color schemes.

**Mather Mirth**

There once was a man named Increase
Who led fair Harvard in peace
He tried a few witches
Amongst Salem’s riches
And now his name’s on our lease.

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The weather was looking quite bleak
Mather’s roof had sprung a leak
So they put down a bucket
And they all said f**k it
Repairs are for the weak.

---

It’s a white and wintry season
We all just want a reason
To take a vacay
Where we splash and we play
But to leave right now would be treason.

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Special thanks to: Ehhh... we had to do this pretty much on our own this time. But thanks anyway to Mom and Dad (for the moral support).

**Comments/questions/suggestions/Mather-specific announcements are welcomed!** Drop us a line at gorillagazette@gmail.com. Seriously, email us.

Bonus: How many literary references can you spot in this newsletter? There are at least two. Email us with your answers, and the person who finds the most will be featured in next week’s Gazette!