



B  
A  
N  
D  
S  
T  
A  
N  
D



# BANDSTAND

*Friends of the Brown Band Alumni Newsletter*

Vol. 6 Issue 1

Fall 2014

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends and Alumni,

Presenting an organization that doesn't stop emailing you once you break free, it's the Brown University "WE GRADUATED!!!" Baaaaaand! We, the babiest FOBBS who suddenly became in charge of this shindig, Sidney Karesh '16 and Caleb Hersh '17 would like to welcome you to this issue of *Bandstand*, the official alumni newsletter of the Brown Band. In here you will find a letter from our president, Elaine Nguyen '15, photos from our spring season, Commencement week in photos, a Winter Trip recap, and a fall season preview. Thank you to all of you who joined us in body or in spirit for Commencement 2014, and welcome to our newest batch of readers, the class of 2014. Spring 2014 was an exciting season for us, so sit back, relax, and enjoy a taste of all the trouble we've gotten ourselves into this year. Also don't forget to check us out on the interwebs at <https://twitter.com/BrownUBandStand>, <https://www.facebook.com/BrownBand>, or the recently revived

<http://brownband.wordpress.com/>. Also feel free to drop us a line at [friends.of.the.brown.band@gmail.com](mailto:friends.of.the.brown.band@gmail.com)! We'd love to see you at the alumni game at home against Harvard on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September, so shoot us an email with your uniform and/or instrument needs. We'll make sure to have those ready for you. Keep checking in, and we'll do our best to keep you updated!

Ever True,  
Sidney and Caleb



## *Within This Issue:*

- p. 3 **Letter From the President** Elaine Nguyen '15
- p. 4 **Spring Semester Recap** Sidney Karesh '16
- p. 7 **Winter Trip Recap** Sidney Karesh '16
- p. 9 **Commencement in Pictures** Sidney Karesh '16
- Fall Season Preview** Caleb Hersh '17

*Pictures by: Brandon Guarino '12, Carrie Danielson '14, Ayano Kondo '14, Cooper Tamayo '14, Dennis Walsh '14, Elaine Nguyen '15, Sidney Karesh '16, Ben Weedon '16*

# Letter from the President

Dear Alumni,

It's finally here—your annual Fall newsletter, bringing with it good tidings and the continuing adventures of the Brown Band! Your wonderful alumni liaisons, Sidney and Caleb, have been hard at work putting together this edition to keep you up to date with all of the Band's latest and greatest exploits. I'm sure you'll enjoy what's to come in the following pages.

First off, I wanted to thank all of you who came out to join us this past Commencement Week in May. The Band looked and sounded great, and we couldn't have done it without you. It was such a treat for myself and the other undergrads to meet you all and hear about your escapades with the Band, be it the time an eel ended up on Harvard's hockey rink or that glorious charter plane journey to Ithaca. Hearing about the Band's past reminds us of how lucky we are to be such an integral part of Brown's tradition and history, so thank you so much for sharing!

We'd love to have you continue making history with the Band this upcoming football season. Brown continues to celebrate its semiquincentenary (semiquincentennial? Who in Brown's marketing department is responsible for this travesty of a word?) this year, including the **250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fall Celebration during the weekend of September 27-28. Brown football takes on Harvard "under the lights" that Saturday night, and we'd love to have as many alumni join us for this game as possible! If you'd like to join us, plan on being in Providence by the afternoon of Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.** Tentatively, call time is 2:30pm at Fulton Rehearsal Hall, after which we will have a field rehearsal and then march to the stadium for the game, which kicks off at 6pm. Be on the lookout for more information from our alumni liaisons about joining us as we get closer to game day. More information about the Fall Celebration can be found at [250.brown.edu/fall-celebration](http://250.brown.edu/fall-celebration).

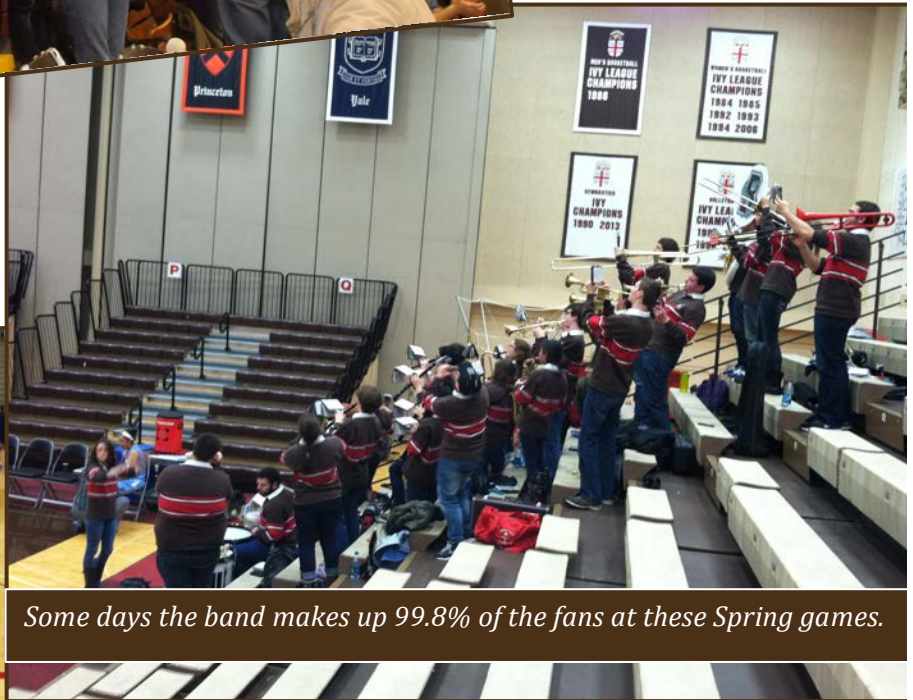
Of course, we'd love to have you join us at any and all of Brown's football games this fall. We will be cheering on Bruno at every football game except for the Georgetown game, and it would be great to have alums strengthening our ranks wherever we may be, home or away. If you'd like to join us, contact our Friends of the Brown Band alumni liaisons ([Friends.Of.The.Brown.Band@gmail.com](mailto:Friends.Of.The.Brown.Band@gmail.com)) or myself ([elaine\\_nguyen@brown.edu](mailto:elaine_nguyen@brown.edu)). We can bring you a uniform and an instrument, so don't hesitate—jam with the Band!

Finally, I'd like to acknowledge the hard work of all our members, who made this past semester a tremendous success. We weathered the cold of upstate New York to cheer on the hockey team, welcomed prospective students to campus with our sweet tunes and particular brand of irreverent school spirit, and even played at Brown's 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration at Lincoln Center (I know, I still can't believe it either!). I feel so lucky to have such a dedicated Band Board, as well as a fantastic group of appointed positions, working with me to keep the Band going strong. And of course, none of this would be possible without the continued support of our alums, who have made generous donations, come to play with us, and sent kind words. Thank you so much, and hopefully we will see you this fall!

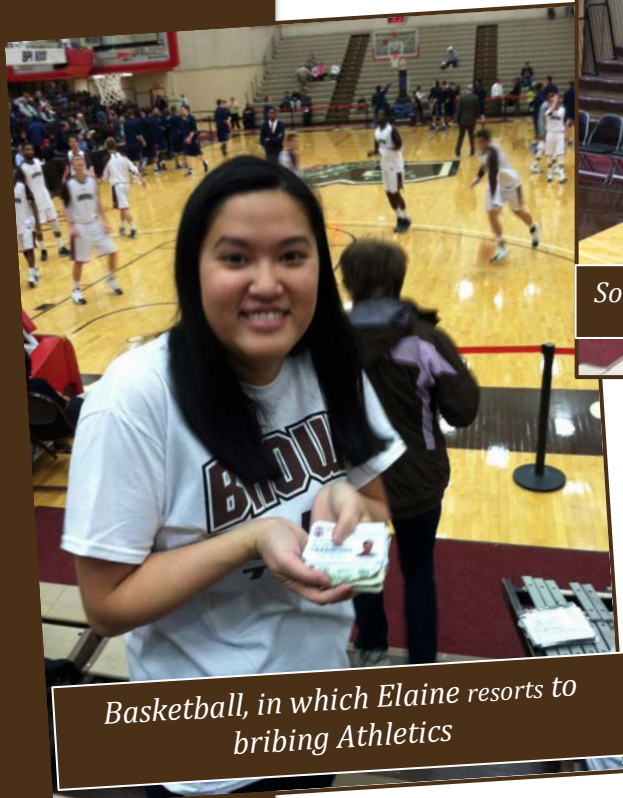
Ever True,  
Elaine Nguyen '15  
President of the Brown Band

# Spring Season Recap

The CUMB and the Brown Band joined forces to cheer against our common enemy...CORNELL



Some days the band makes up 99.8% of the fans at these Spring games.

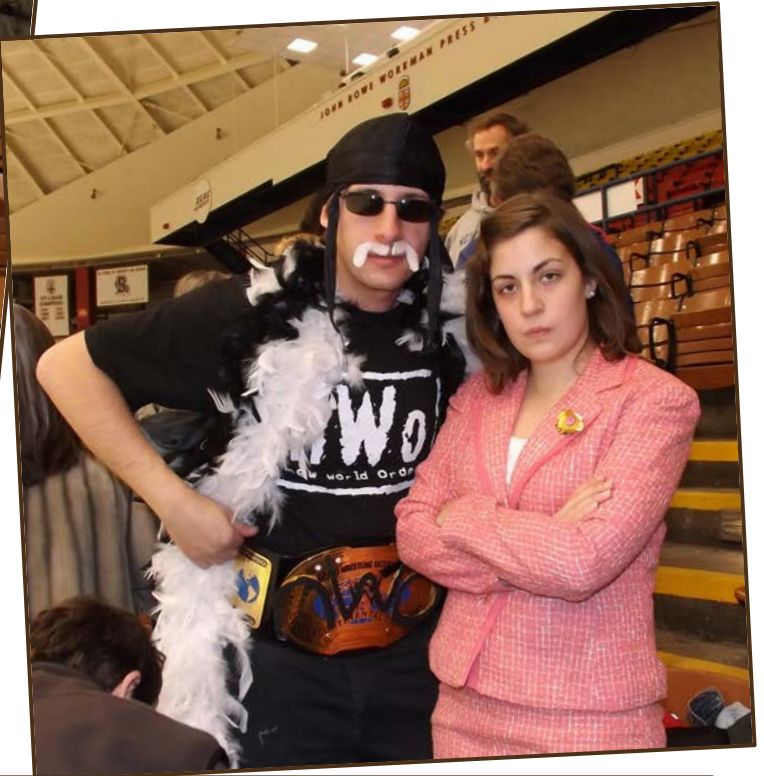


Basketball, in which Elaine resorts to bribing Athletics



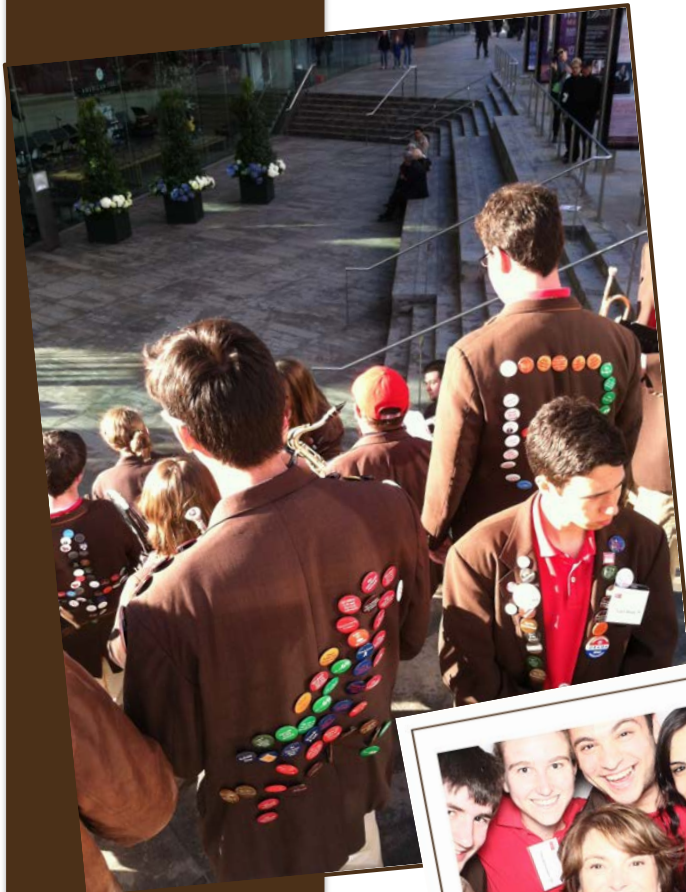


This February villains from all genres and walks of life descended upon Meehan Auditorium. Armed with all manner of mallets, slides, and pointy clarinets, we took to the ice, played a few numbers, and managed to leave without shaking the place to the ground with the evil laughter that took us months of ice time to perfect.





In what we can only chalk up to a gross misunderstanding and administrative snafu, the Brown Band was invited to play at Lincoln Center in NYC. Yes, *the* Lincoln Center. But while we may take the cake for the least qualified music group to ever grace the venue with our presence, we certainly gave any other group a run for their money where spirit is concerned. The experience was most certainly worth the missed classes and post-midnight arrival back on campus. Who would turn down another opportunity for raucous bus singing or serenading passers-by on the streets of New York?



*In typical Providence fashion, our spring games fell short of anything even resembling good weather.*



*Fun fact: Brown Band percussionists never stop smiling. Ever.*



# Winter Trip

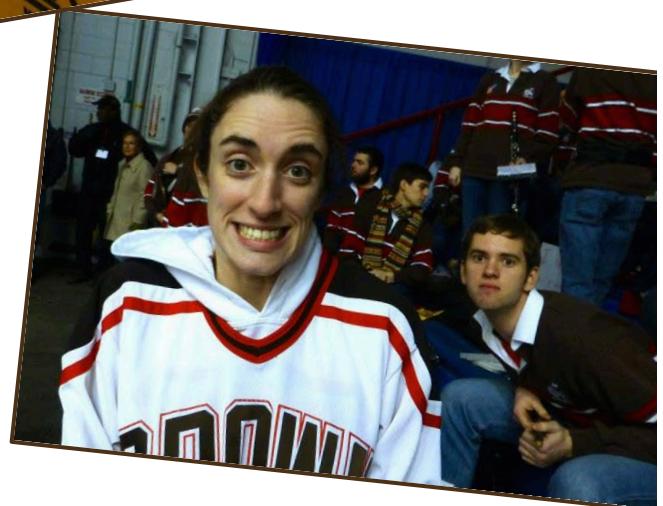
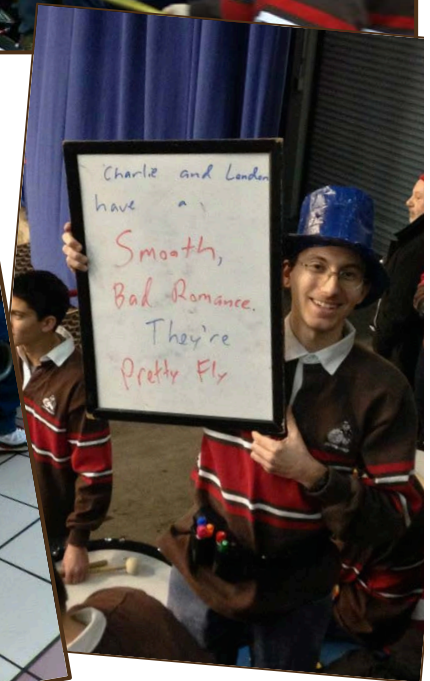
The Band broke loose from Providence again this winter to complete our yearly ritual of running amok in foreign places where we can cause chaos and be neither recognized nor ever seen again! Well, until the next generation of bandies shows up in a few years blessed with our legacy...

This year we travelled to Union and to Rensselaer. As always, the band won, but our team was not quite so successful. Our puckball players lost 4-3 at Union and 4-1 at Rensselaer. How much of this can we attribute to the grand power of RPI's Big Red Freakout we may never know, but we're just crossing our fingers that it's not contagious.

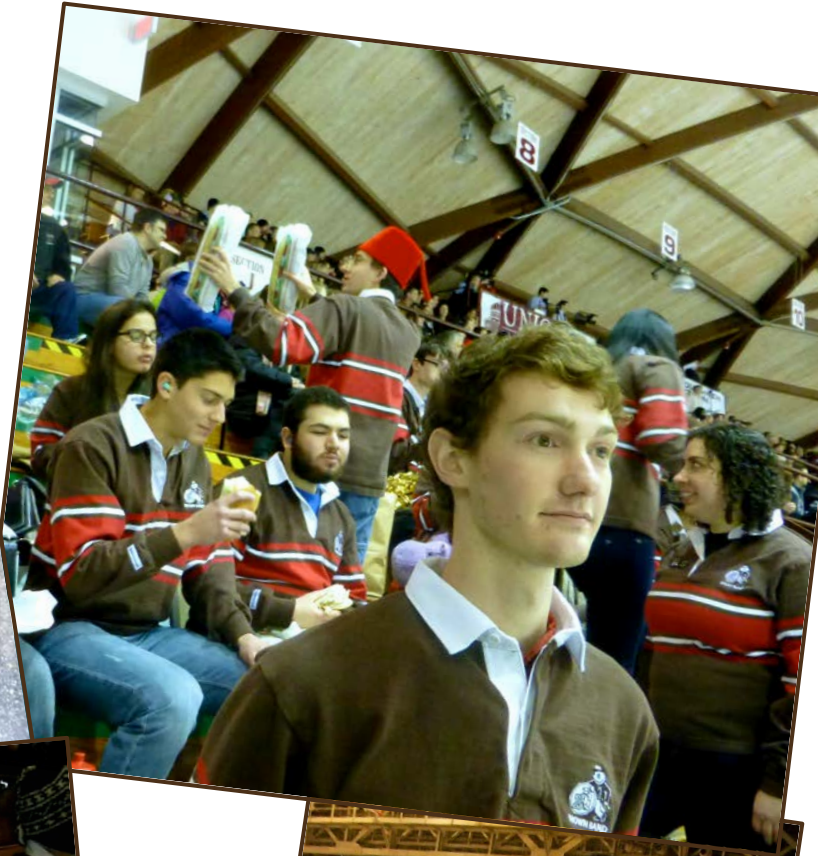
Fortunately, these losses could not put a dent in our spirits, and the Band continued in joyousness and 100% legal merriment throughout the weekend. We watched people do all sorts of crazy antics on the ice in the Winter Olympics and were sad to see that playing instruments while ice-skating has still not made it onto the world stage.

We found ourselves with free time and descended upon a mall filled with floors to spill on, movies to watch, and havoc to wreak. A majority of our members went to see *The Lego Movie*, which of course gave birth to a new arrangement of *Everything is Awesome* in our repertoire.

Alas, we had to pack up and return home to Providence (we get to leave! you have to stay!). We sang just about all the way home, thanks to none other than Lewie Pollis '14, and bid the road ado until the fall. Of course, we did end up hopping right back on a bus to New York, but that was a post-season deal. Thank you to our alums who came out to join us at our games! We can't wait to see who we run into this year!









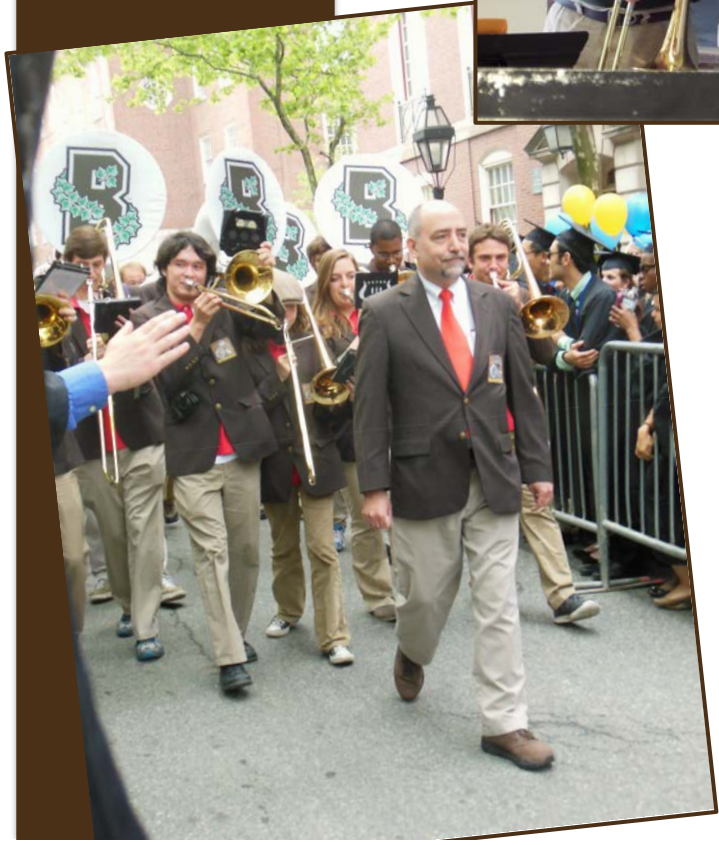
# Commencement Week in Pictures













# 2014 Fall Season Preview

*Ladies and gentlemen, friends and alumni! Presenting a football season preview that will in no way distort reality or present ridiculous odds, it's the Brown University "What are the odds?" Band Football Season Preview!*

"Oh we'll beat Harvard and we'll beat Yale..." At least, we think that's the correct tense. As the Bears go into 2014 with six straight winning seasons under their belts, the Band hopes to continue the distinction of being undefeated since 1924. Watch now as the authors of this newsletter attempt to fully preview the 2014 Band football season for the alumni we so love! Now featuring odds for each game, for your illegal gambling pleasure!



## Game 1: Sept 20th, 12:00 PM — Brown vs. Georgetown

After an astounding 45-7 win over the Fightin' Pronouns, Bruno will return to our nation's capital for the first game of the season.

Unfortunately, the Band will not be in tow for this one. We can't know for sure why this is, but we

just feel like this was President Obama's fault somehow...

*Quick Odds:*

*Odds of Hoya being on second: 1:1*

*Odds of Band making a surprise visit: 1:1x10<sup>69</sup> (sadly)*

*Odds of U.S. House of Representatives trying to repeal final score: Obamacare:1*



## Game 3: Oct 4th, 1:00 PM — Brown vs. URI

Things will start getting ri-tick-ulous as Bruno and the Band hit the Rhode, if you will, to take on the Rams in the Governor's Cup. Brown has

currently won the cup through the entire term of Governor Lincoln Chafee '75, and hopes to four-peat (yeah, I said that). Let's just hope the old "alum in the Governor's mansion" good luck charm doesn't work for whoever the next Governor is (a highly scientific Wikipedia search found that three of the current candidates went to Harvard and another went to Dartmouth).

*Quick Odds:*

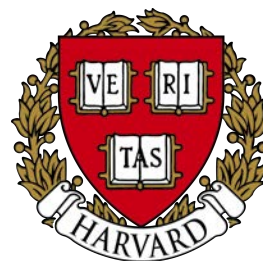
*Odds that a Rhode Islander is at any given moment offering phe's neighbor a 'Gansett: 10:1*

*Odds of somebody saying "big ticks" at any time during the game: 1x10<sup>69</sup>:1*

*Odds of the next Rhode Island Governor being from Hahvahd: 3:2 (ugh)*

## Game 2: Sept 27th, 6:00 PM — Harvard @ Brown

Bruno returns to the safety of Brown Stadium for the first night game of the season. It's Brown's special 250+(th) extravaganza game, so there will be lots of merriment and mirth to be had (and, no guarantees, but probably T-shirts too). Hopefully, the home field advantage and T-shirt driven fan spirit will be enough to get the Crimson back for their suspiciously win-looking loss last year.



*Quick Odds:*

*Odds of free t-shirts: No promises:1*

*Odds of Larry Summers returning to Hahvahd, again, but this time as quarterback for the Crimson: 1:\$5 billion in Credit Default Swaps*

*Odds of us having any Grey Poupon: No: F--k You*

## Game 4: Oct 11th, 12:30 PM — Brown vs. Holy Cross

While the Band is unfortunately not permitted on Holy Cross's campus after a small...script incident, if you will, the fightin' Judases will be coming to our turf this time! Make sure to join us for what we hope to be a win that makes them, wait for it, wholly cross. You know what they (Leviticus 11:7-8) say about tossing around the pigskin: "And the swine...he is unclean to you...their carcass shall you not touch; they are unclean to you." So there's that.



*Quick Odds:*

*Odds of a bandie committing a sin at some point during the game: 69:1*

*Odds of a camel walking through the eye of a needle/a rich person entering the Kingdom of Heaven: 1:Easier for the camel*

*Odds of Brown winning and a fiery pit consequentially opening up in the ground and swallowing the non-believers whole: Let's be honest, this'll happen win or lose*





**Game F: Oct 18th, time TBA**

— Brown @ Princeton

After getting blocked in Congress, going broke on mortgage-backed securities with Larry Summers, gettin' our Rhody Fresh on, and going to hell, we will finally get to spend a quality weekend with our bestest buddies in the whole wide world: the Princeton Band! We even get to take a freezing refreshing dip in their fountain (which, in turn, will help us wash off those gross Jersey Turnpike fumes).

*Quick Odds:*

*Odds of bandies not being allowed in the country club: 20:1*

*Odds of the Brown and Princeton Bands partying like its 1969: It's Happening:1*

*Odds of lane closures on the George Washington Bridge: Chris:Christie*



**Game 7: Nov 1st, time TBA**

— Brown @ Penn

My younger brother went to a Quaker (the religious group, not the Penn team) summer camp and learned this parody Quaker fight song: "Fight, fight, inner light / Kill Quaker kill / Knock 'em down, beat 'em

senseless / Hit 'em 'till they reach consensus". That's all I could think of when I thought of Penn. That should say something right there.

*Quick Odds:*

*Odds of Band giving an eggs to disagreeable new Penn\*: Bagels:1*

*Odds of a certain Mr. Cheeseman III transforming into a dragon, burning down the stadium, and flying off into the Philadelphia skies: 2:1*

*Odds of Philadelphia being a dump: 1:1*

*\*Assuming that "eggs" is an antonym to "toast" and using the Oxford English Thesaurus antonym to "dear"*

**Game 6: Oct 25th, 12:30 PM**

— Brown vs. Cornell

Last year, Bruno eked out an amazing last-minute win against the Big Red Swollen Tonsils, and the Band completely rocked their Halloween costumes through the negative 3 billion 30-degree Ithaca weather. Join us again at (hopefully warmer) Brown Stadium as the Bruno and/or the Band triumph over Ann Coulter and/or the fascist Cornell Band once again. Did I mention Ann Coulter went to Cornell? Oh, I did. Good.

*Quick Odds:*

*Odds of Ann Coulter having gone to Cornell: Yes*

*Odds of Hot Truck making a surprise appearance after driving 7 hours from Ithaca: 1:5000*

*Odds that Providence will be more gorges than Ithaca on the 25th: Too Soon:1*



**Game 8: Nov 8th, 12:30 PM**

— Brown vs. Yale

Since New Haven looks better in the dark, I have opted to black out my feelings about Yale:



*Quick Odds:*

*Odds of Eli being a f--king stupid name: 100:1*

*Odds of a statistical anomaly occurring in which there is no traffic on I-95 in Connecticut just for the duration of the game—while we're at Brown Stadium: 500:1*

*Odds that George Bush really lost to Gore: 5:4 (down ideological lines)*





**Game 9: Nov 15th, 1:30 PM**  
— Brown @ Dartmouth

For the last away game of the season, the Band makes the Game of Thrones-esque trek to the frozen wasteland that is **North of The Wall** Dartmouth. While the author of this preview has not personally visited

Dartmouth on an away game, he has diligently memorized the Dartmouth song, and assumes that it must be a fully nonfictional account of away games. Combined with Game of Thrones, I can only assume the trip will involve simultaneously fighting the White Walkers and the Dartmouth fans throwing things at us/threatening us with fists.

*Quick Odds:*

*Odds that "the voice of one crying in the wilderness" refers to some kind of hazing: Frat:1*  
*Odds of frostbite taking out the trumpets' fingers: 4:1*  
*Odds of about a pint of brandy being necessary to overcome my fear: 0.08 BAC:1*

**Game 10: Nov 22nd, 12:30 PM**  
— Brown vs. Columbia<sup>2</sup>

Where? Oh. Sorry. Lost focus for a moment there. For the final game of the season (and a mere 5 days before Thanksgiving), Bruno will be at home, attempting to repeat last year's resounding victory over the Lions. But more importantly, it will be the Band's senior game (I couldn't possibly have just written that). Make sure to stop by as the Band honors the tremendous dedication of its seniors (read: collectively cries on each other's shoulders) and brings the fall season to a close.

*Quick Odds:*

*Odds of the Columbia team being a front for the Colombian drug cartel: \$50 million (in pesos):1*  
*Odds of the Band becoming a huddled ball of tears and shoulders as the limericks are announced over a broken PA system and none of the other fans know what's going on: Pretty much:1*  
*Odds that we love our seniors: Too many feelings: 1*  
**HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY GAMBLE ON THAT?**



*Congratulations, Class of 2014!!!!*

Thank you for your continued support of the Brown Band! We hope you enjoyed this newsletter.

Ever True,  
Sidney Karesh '16 and Caleb Hersh '17  
Friends of the Brown Band Alumni Liaisons