

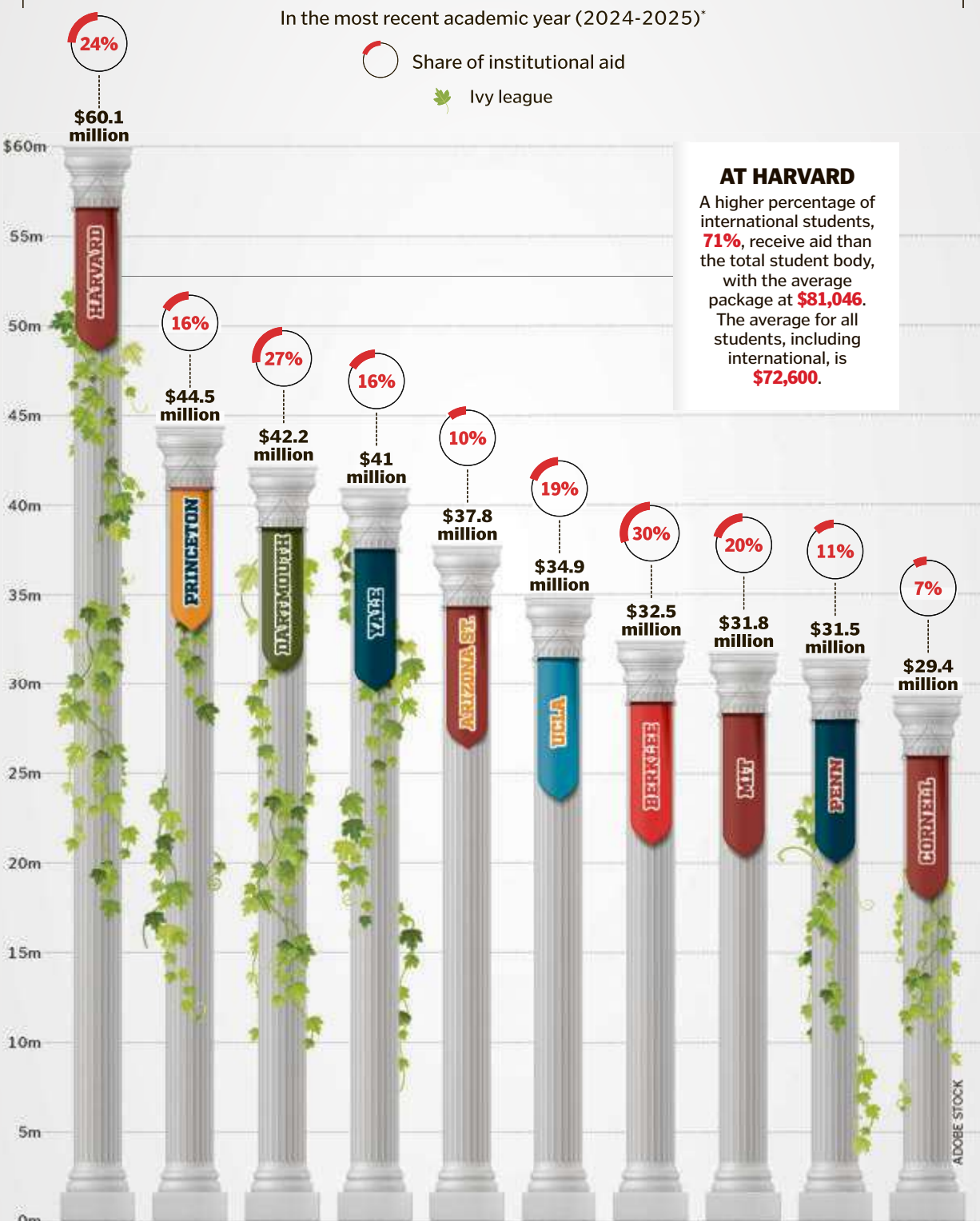
International students are a boon to US colleges because they all pay full price?

Wrong.

We found the top schools gave them more than

# \$1 BILLION

THESE 10 SCHOOLS GAVE THE MOST TO INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS



By Deirdre Fernandes and Yoohyun Jung

GLOBE STAFF

and Alexia Nastasia

GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

At Harvard University, international undergraduates are more likely to receive financial aid than their American counterparts. At Ivy League rival Columbia University, some foreign students are lured by annual aid packages averaging nearly \$89,000. Even public state universities dole out discounts worth tens of

International students make up **6% of students** on US campuses.

There were **1.1 million foreign students** in the US in the 2023-24 academic year, about one-third undergraduates.

thousands of dollars to vast numbers of students from abroad.

For decades, higher education institutions across the US have been engaged in an arms race to attract foreign students. School administrators have traveled the world, opened satellite campuses or academic centers, and dangled hefty incentives to teens in order to build their own global campuses at home.

But these efforts are now under immense scrutiny amid the Trump administration. **FINANCIAL AID, Page A13**

## At senior homes, mediation tool can mask errors

Arbitration not required, but many agree to gain admission

By Shelley Murphy and Jason Laughlin  
GLOBE STAFF

Judith Lococo was still feisty and getting around with a walker in January 2020 when her family moved her into an assisted living facility in Agawam after an exhaustive search for a place that could care for residents with Alzheimer's.

Her son, E.J. Lococo, recalled an urgent scramble to lock down a spot in the memory care unit at the Atrium at Cardinal Drive before it went to someone else. His wife rushed to the facility on her lunch hour and plowed through a mountain of paperwork that families must sign before being admitted.

Included in the lengthy residency contract she signed was a "voluntary arbitration agreement," under which Judith Lococo consented to resolve any disputes with the facility through a neutral arbitrator, whose decision would be final and legally binding, and waived her right to have a jury or judge decide.

E.J. Lococo, a retired federal agent, said he thought it meant arbitration would apply if "someone stole my mother's Depends or CD player. . . . I didn't know [that] if you were going to kill my mother, we were going to go to arbitration."

Yet, Lococo alleges, that is exactly what happened.

His mother, 80, died in **ARBITRATION, Page A14**



Dennis D. Etzkorn is the owner of Gabriel House.

## Fall River owner has a long record of disputes

By Jonathan Saltzman, Marin Wolf, and Dana Gerber  
GLOBE STAFF

and Stella Tannenbaum  
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Dennis D. Etzkorn, the owner of Gabriel House, has cooperated with authorities since a fire swept through the Fall River assisted living facility on July 13, killing 10 residents and injuring 30 others.

But over the years, when he and his businesses have been challenged or come under scrutiny, Etzkorn has fought back, according to a Globe review of his legal history and interviews with people familiar with his activities.

He has battled employees, contractors, neighbors, and government officials on issues ranging from small claims to multi-million-dollar Medicaid payments, to the operation of Gabriel House, where not all concerns were related to safety, according to public records.

Those fights have come in courts, where he has faced crim-

**ETZKORN, Page A15**

## Indicted sheriff may be hard to remove

By Sean Cotter  
GLOBE STAFF

The sheriff stood accused of extortion, and the governor of Massachusetts wanted him out.

The year was 1994, and then-Middlesex Sheriff John P. McGonigle was fighting to keep his job in the face of a federal indictment. Governor William Weld and Attorney General Scott Harshbarger sought to suspend him, but ultimately lost.

That June, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court

made the law clear: If the sheriff doesn't want to resign, only the SJC itself or the voters can kick him out or place him on leave.

"We hold that where the sheriff is an elected official, the Governor was not an 'appointing authority' and, accordingly, lacked the power to suspend" him under the law, wrote Paul J. Liacos, then the chief justice.

More than three decades later, this case provides the precedent for Governor Maura Hea-

**TOMPKINS, Page A22**

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### Summer in the city

**Sunday:** Sunny. High: 85-90. Low: 68-73.

**Monday:** Hot. High: 89-94. Low: 72-77.

Sunrise: 5:46 Sunset: 7:52

Complete report, **A22**. Deaths, **A16-20**.

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