



Established in 1936

The Doon School

WEEKLY

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We welcome the D Formers on their first day in Chandbagh

Writing on the 'Wall'

Mansher Dhillon, reverses roles and puts Anita Raghavan from the Wall Street Journal in the hot seat

DSW: First things first, why have you come to Doon?

Anita Raghavan (ARN): I'm doing a story on the many businessmen and entrepreneurs in the United States who come from this school. I want to see the magic which makes them do so well in a country they have never lived in, and understand how Doon moulds them into such successful people.

DSW: Were you born in India?

ARN: No, actually I was born in Malaysia, but I studied in India for a few years.

DSW: Tell us something about your educational background.

ARN: I moved from Malaysia to India because of the riots going on then. I studied in a school called Harrington in Madras till the age of ten. My father then got a job in the United States, so I left India and studied in a school called Cheltenham Ladies' College in England till the age of eighteen. After that, it was the University of Pennsylvania, where I studied Political Science, and, finally, I wound up in Columbia University in New York, where I took up Russian studies.

DSW: Trace the path of your career as a journalist for the Wall Street Journal.

ARN: Well, it all started for me at the University of Pennsylvania where I was elected the editor of the daily paper by my peers. Those were real hectic times. We used to work till five in the morning and have classes between one and five in the afternoon. My parents were really against this, so much so that they did not come to my Inauguration Ball as News Editor.

When the *Philadelphia Inquirer* ceased publication temporarily (as the workers went on strike), our newspaper was distributed throughout the city. I guess that was my big break, because shortly after that, I was offered an internship at the *Pittsburgh Press* and *Newsweek*, but I wouldn't stick around for long, as I wanted a real job. I then moved to Russia and worked there for six months as a freelance writer. I then decided to come back to New York for a full-time job. I worked for the Associated Press' wired service for the *Wall Street Journal* (WSJ). Those were my first few days at the WSJ.

DSW: What exactly is your job like? What are your various achievements?

ARN: My first few months at WSJ found me working away at all the 'grunt' jobs. I covered stocks, commodities and bonds. Now I work on special projects covering investment banks on Wall Street. I wrote an article on the Morgan Stanley and Dean Whitter merger which launched my career as an economic journalist.

I went to London in 1999 to cover mergers in all of Europe till 2004. My team and I won the Overseas Press Club award for our work on mergers in 2000.

DSW: What were your first impressions of Doon?

ARN: It is splendid. It's a very beautiful campus. Sure, the infrastructure might be fraying, but the flowers, gardens and trees make up for it. Boys are very passionate about work and are very determined to do well. I remember seeing boys playing basketball at 5.30 in the morning and I was amazed. I'm very impressed by the teacher-student relationship in school. I'm sure the teachers have a genuine fondness for the boys.

DSW: What has been the most memorable incident of your career as a journalist?

ARN: It would have to be, without a doubt, covering the collapse of an investment-fund bank run by two Nobel-prize winners. The story kept on getting better and better and for me; it was a thrilling experience, one of the most exhilarating a journalist can have, believe me.

DSW: Do you have any particular idol or role model who you derive inspiration from?

ARN: Certainly. There is this American journalist, Seymour Hersch who was the first to do a story on the mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners in the Abu-Ghraib prison. The US government lashed out at him for his writings, but that still didn't break his spirit. There was another lady, Katharine Graham, wife of Phil Graham, publisher of the *Washington Post*. After their son died, her husband quit the top job and left it for her to run. It was amazing how a housewife like her handled the job so successfully. Those were the days when the Watergate scandal had just been exposed and Nixon was in trouble. She was amazing.

DSW: What are your hobbies? What do you do to unwind?

ARN: I play the classical piano, and I love reading. I love listening to blues music: Muddy Waters and Professor Long Hair in particular.

DSW: Has your age or gender ever caused you to be underestimated?

ARN: No, not really. There was one incident where I was interviewing this banker in Bangalore, and he asked me whether I was there as an assistant taking notes, or was I a reporter! I just smiled because I knew that a hurt ego was not worse than a lost interview!

DSW: Finally, what tips do you have for budding journalists?

ARN: Firstly, journalism is a hard job, and jobs are very few, so you have to learn to face setbacks. Give it your best and never do a half-hearted job.

GOMBAR: 2006

In the **Gombar Speech Trophy Contest**, held on Saturday, March 25, in the Kilachand Library, the following emerged winners:

Juniors:

Winner: Angad Sikand

2nd: Avi Raj

3rd: Pranjal Singh

Seniors:

Winner: Akshit Batra

2nd: Kushagra Agarwal

3rd: Rijul Kochhar

NEW APPOINTMENT

Akash Maheshwari has been appointed a school prefect.

Congratulations!

JUNIOR CHESS

The following were the House positions in the junior section of the annual **Inter-House Chess Tournament, 2006:**

First: Jaipur House

Second: Hyderabad House

Third: Kashmir House

VERSE MASTERS

In the **Inter-House Hindi Poetry Recitation Competition**, held on March 18, 2006, Oberoi House stood first while Tata House came in second. The individual positions were as follows:

1st: Vishesh Goel

2nd: Kanishka Agarwal

3rd: Varun Khandelwal

WORKSHOPS

On Friday, March 17, **Aubrey Nazareth** conducted a workshop with the School staff on realising potential through self-awareness.

The following weekend, on March 27-28, **Mini Kumria** of *Sanchar*, held a puppetry workshop for the C formers. Traditional Rajasthani puppets were used as a medium for airing issues such as bullying and racism. It was a hands-on experience for the young students as they were also taught the art of puppet-making.

Cricket Update

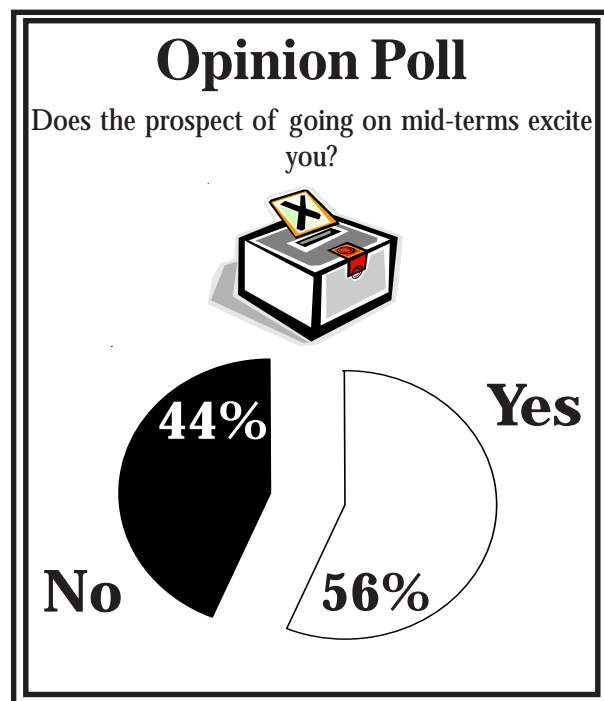
Saurav Sethia reports on cricket played this week

A slow and sluggish outfield characterized by a damp mat to play on, made Sunday a bowler's paradise in any match. Such a statement was contradicted in its totality by the master-blastor of the H vs T Leagues I match, Aryaman Sengar, who more or less scored all his runs off fours and sixes. The rain scared all the players on Sunday with fears of a washout, but the matches started late instead, with a reduction in the number of overs to be bowled. Aryaman hit breathtaking shots, destroying the attempts of the bowlers to get him out, to get seven sixes and innumerable fours. His was undoubtedly 'the innings of the season' as he went to make over 70 runs in less than 30 balls, making it one of the fastest half-centuries in school. To top it all, he was left not out in the match.

In the House XI match against Tata House, Hyderabad was left lamenting the loss of two of its better batsmen at an early stage. Vivaan Rai put up a strong front against the pacers with his rock solid back-foot defense, and on the other hand, the School cricket captain absolutely devastated Tata's bowling attack. His sweetly timed cuts certainly earned him the reputation of being a strong player on his offside. He was dropped twice at a very early stage of his innings and there was no looking back. Amazing cover drives and risky lobs took him to fifty and beyond. Himmat Singh observed "the Nizams batted on a bowler-friendly wicket and put up an awesome show." Tata House, as a reply to the Nizam's elephantine total of 140 runs, was bowled out in a mere 67 runs and drowned all hopes of winning the House Cup with that crucial match.

The O vs J Leagues I match saw Siddarth Kapur square up the batsmen completely and earn three wickets through his bowling. Jaipur in its House XI match had a convincing victory over Oberoi. On the following day, in the next House XI match, the Nizams won the match against Oberoi and in effect the Senior and the House Cups. Jai Sharma applauded Himanshu Misra's masterful batting, "Himanshu fought valiantly and tried to win a losing battle, but in vain." The Leagues I match against the same Houses saw Mehul Mehrotra as the emerging talent as he performed impeccably in the match. His square cuts, cover drives and even cross-batted strokes were to his credit. Samridh Aggarwal, the ever-so-consistent batsman, hit a half century in the K vs J House XI match. In his previous match against Hyderabad, he scored a century, which proved his batting genius. Here again, he displayed his potential, capability, but above all experience, with his text-book defense and majestic drives. Govind Singh very aptly said, "Samridh's drives were as crisp as a cracker!"

On Wednesday and Thursday, the final round matches played in the Senior Inter-House Cricket Competition, saw Kashmir House lose to Oberoi House in both Leagues I and House XI. In the crucial match between Tata and Jaipur, (a win for Tata in both the House XI and Leagues I matches would have ensured their sharing the Senior Cup with Hyderabad House) Tata unfortunately lost. Hyderabad House, therefore, executes a hat-trick and lifts all three Cups – Junior, Senior and House. Congratulations to the Nizams!



Cricket in the Hills

Jai Sharma reports on the two cricket fixtures played recently in the Shimla hills

On March 24, the School junior cricket team went to play friendly matches against Pinegrove School and the Lawrence School, Sanawar. The team left at 10.30 am sharp, and was needless to say, really glad to miss classes. The journey was not a very good one, owing to some genuine delays and the players and escort suffering from motion sickness. We arrived quite late, at around six p.m, and so our practice scheduled for the evening was cancelled too. Not a very good start...I must mention here the great hospitality of the staff and students of Pinegrove where we were supposed to stay. We were shown around the school by some student escorts and were given tea and biscuits.

The next day net practice was scheduled at seven in the morning much to the dismay of the team. The practice went well, and the team was in good shape for the match against Pinegrove to be played at 11.30. We were astounded to see the completely lush green field of Pinegrove set in the middle of the hills. Pre-match formalities began the day: Aayushya was told to introduce the players to the Headmaster, and then the team dispersed, with Aayushya remaining for the toss. It proved to be a good toss to lose, and we were to bowl first. Ashutosh Kejriwal opened the bowling and had the openers in a tight spot initially with his exquisite blend of inswingers and outswingers. Bishnoi, too, was bowling very well, and got a wicket in the first over. Kejriwal took a couple from the other end. The opposition was low on confidence after being put under pressure early in the innings. Skand was the first change in the bowling and he also bowled extremely well, his cutters troubling the batsmen.

Archit was very impressive and took a remarkable wicket which can be compared to that of Warne's. He bowled a ball quite wide of the leg stump and the turned away thinking it was a wide, while actually the ball spun in towards the wicket from behind, much to the surprise of all of us. His three wickets were remarkable. From the other end, Amit Gupta was containing the batsmen and got two consecutive maidens. Yadav was brought in, and he, too, performed well.


It was an excellent performance by the bowlers and we got them all out for 103 in just 28 overs. The players agreed to play around ten overs before lunch as there was still time left. Itihaas Singh and myself were to open. We set up 40 runs in the first ten overs. Itihaas finally got out after his mistimed shot was caught at mid-on. After Itihaas, it was Archit who came in to bat. He got out for one run after nicking the ball delicately into the keeper's gloves. Amit Gupta came in next and hit a four on the very first ball, and was then run out in the next over. The team was not affected by the loss of the two wickets and Aayushya and myself continued to play our shots from both ends. We batted with ease and were looking very formidable. The team went on to win the match without losing any further wickets. The victory was a deserved one, as one team completely dominated the other.

After the match we played some soccer on the field, with RSF showing all his soccer skills to the staff. The team was treated to a movie, *Rang De Basanti*, after dinner and next day it was time for the match against Sanawar.

Little did the team know, fresh from a win, what would happen in the course of the day. We reached Sanawar at 8.30 in the morning and were surprised to see that they had a grassless, somewhat stony, ground. Bishnoi lost the toss again and the opposition put us in to bat first. This time it was Skand who opened with me, a good decision indeed by RSF. Our partnership looked very promising and we put together a half century in the first ten overs. I survived a very close run-out appeal. Skand played some excellent shots at the other end, and the batsmen were rotating the strike well when I got out, given lbw by the umpire. Bishnoi went in to bat next, and a lot was expected from him. But unfortunately, a tricky, fast ball by a spinner got him bowled for a few runs. Skand was looking very aggressive at the other end, and was batting very well indeed. Archit came in next but got out early too. Amit got bowled out for a golden duck and the team was in bad shape.

Rajdeep played some beautiful shots before being given out lbw. The team was not looking to set up a decent score but Skand's 49 helped the team to set up a decent score of 108 in 25 overs.


Although the score was not a particularly good one, the team was still hopeful of a win. Their opening batsman was run out on the very first ball and a second wicket fell soon after thanks to some great bowling by Kejriwal. There was another run-out shortly, and Sanawar looked to be in a tight spot. Skand was brought in, and, fresh from his endeavours with the bat, he looked solid with the ball as well. He took a hat trick in his first over itself and Sanawar was struggling at 24 for 6 wickets in 10 overs. Victory for the Doscos was on the horizon, but it was not over yet. It seemed that the Sanawarians had saved their best batsmen for the end, as they played our bowlers with ease and confidence. Their amazing sixth wicket partnership of around 90 runs was a remarkable comeback which ensured a memorable victory for Sanawar. It was a very disappointing conclusion for the Doscos as they lost a match which almost could have been theirs. The team went back in the evening to Pinegrove and disappointment was looming in the air. We went out for dinner at a local dhaba, and wound up early. The next day we left Pinegrove after conveying our appreciation to the Headmaster during the assembly. A loss and a victory; it wasn't what we had expected but it was a memorable experience playing cricket outside school. Both our hosts ensured that we were in every way comfortable. We returned to school, enriched by the competition with two talented teams.



Career Call

The Careers' Notice Board will highlight job opportunities in the field of

Medicine in the week following the mid-term break. All potential medical aspirants should check it out.



Textile Technology

Nikhil Sardana writes about the Art Society's educational trip to Ludhiana

Ever since we heard about the impending trip to Ludhiana, we had all been looking forward to the outing, as is natural for any Dosco. The idea of being outside the school campus, while the rest of your peers slog it out in the regular schedule, is always a joyful one. However, this trip turned out to be more than just a pleasurable one. It gave us an experience we had never anticipated.

On Friday, March 24, at 2.30 pm, ATB and ADN, with a group of 21 DoscOs left for Ludhiana. On reaching our destination we went to an office where we met the agents of the Shima Sheiki Company. The company is a Japanese one which has sent agents around the world, provided with special computer called the SDS-One, which enables them to create various kinds of designs for clothes. From development through this software, the designs are sent to any part of the world. The Shima Sheiki Company primarily makes sweaters. Using advanced Japanese technology, they have developed a machine which makes a sweater in just ten minutes, on the entry of a certain design through a floppy disk. The machine does 90-95% of the work, and a little required finishing in the end produces a complete sweater. At the office, they gave us a presentation on how to use the designing software in the SDS-one computer. The agents also explained to us the various steps taken in preparing a garment. First, a design is made using the computer. There are various color options in the software present in the computer. We can choose the kind of knitting, size and thickness of the fabric, due to the wide variety of functions available in the software. It is sent to the pattern-makers through the computer, who, after defining the patterns on the sweater layers, send their results to the technicians, who make the garments. From here, trading companies buy and market these garments. After visiting the office, we went to a Raymond's factory. Here we saw how yarn is made. Firstly, the sheep's hair is bought and stored in a storehouse in the factory. The hair is passed through a combing machine, where it is combed and straightened. It is then refined and passed through an auto-cutter machine. It is smoothed there and then refined several times. When this process is done, the yarn processed is very weak and breaks easily. To strengthen it, it is respun, and finally smoothed. Afterwards, it is dyed to get the colour of choice.

After seeing the factory, we went to the Kuiram Company factory. Here, we once again saw the magic worked by the Shima Seiki machine along with the processes by which shirts were repaired, washed and given their colour. After a short rest at the guest house, we went to a place called *Haveli* that evening. It had a traditional Punjabi environment, with models of Punjabi women doing their daily chores and there were displays of traditional dances, pottery, puppet shows, magic shows and many others. The following evening we left for school.

The days we spent in Ludhiana were a great experience. We were given a rare glimpse into the innovations and technology that today drive textile design and manufacturing. On behalf of all the DoscOs who went for this trip, I would like to thank our hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Gupta, who made our trip everything that it was.

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A State of Bliss

Kenilworth Yambem

*B*ehold me, reader, in absentia,
As I am where my words are,
Behold me, reader, in solitude,
Your sight confined to these pages.

*R*idden by the wings of melody,
A breath in the breeze of fantasy,
But the gracious might of nostalgia
Made me above all, find myself.

A blissful me in all languid senses,
Wherein came a smile complementary,
A smile that is perhaps
A lullaby to all my oddness,
A lullaby to all my unrest.

Letter to the Editor

Left Speechless

The Gombar Speech Contest provides one of the School's foremost public speaking platforms. There is a certain standard in both content and delivery that one has come to expect from it. It was, therefore, somewhat disappointing to witness two of the senior speakers deliver content that had, in one case, part of another Gombar participant's speech of a couple of years ago, and in the other, contain excerpts of an article printed in the *Weekly* recently. In the latter case, had due credit been given, there would be no cause for comment. The former should never have occurred.

This brings into focus, once again, the disturbing trend of plagiarism and intellectual dishonesty that is troubling us as an educational community.

(Priya Chaturvedi and Stuti Bathla)

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