



REGULARS	LIMERICKS	IPL WORDSEARCH	CHECKLIST
2	2	3	4-6

## BEYOND THE BOARDS

*Vivek Santayana writes in response to Shashank Peshawaria's article The Ultimate Test? published in the previous issue of The Doon School Weekly*

It would be quite surprising for me to reply to Peshawaria's piece titled *The Ultimate Test?* in the last issue of the *Weekly* in the way that I am doing. At the very beginning, I would like to make it clear that I am not disagreeing with Peshawaria: I am simply answering the question he has raised. What I am writing is truly a personal disillusionment, and I wish to communicate the same, not only to him, but to everyone else who has faced/will be facing the Board examinations.

I do not think the Board exams are irrelevant. As a matter of fact, they are very important in the immediate scheme of things. They must be taken seriously; but they do exist, and we have to appear for them in order to take the next step. We get only one attempt. But what are we taking into account when considering the relevance of these examinations? These are standard examinations. They are a yardstick of the scholastic capacity of a student. They are, in no way, a measure of a student's potential, talent or capabilities. Judgement on the basis of these transcripts alone would be absurd for a variety of reasons. Firstly, it is just one examination. Anything could happen, like in that one test-week which we all have that doesn't go quite right, or that one match in the whole

cricket season where we get out for a duck; judgement on its basis alone would be irrational. Secondly, it's still just an examination.

**“ Transcripts are only part of an application to college. Educational qualifications are only part of a CV. A good job is only part of a life. ”**

It only shows how well you have studied (how many gigabytes your mind has stored, going by Peshawaria's analogy). Your true brilliance can not be reflected in these results. Understanding the *Critique of Pure Reason* is exponentially more difficult than cramming the geographical requirements of fifteen different crops. Hence anyone who can understand Kant should be able to get a 90% in his Board exams. He is intelligent enough to do so. But if he doesn't, for whatever reason, it doesn't mean that he cannot understand Kant. It simply means that something went wrong with that one examination. It's not a stain on his reputation, only a minor slip-up.

The conclusion is that a good Board result isn't everything. The cessation of all activities except studying, the abeyance of intellectual growth and the isolation of one's self for the sake of studying will not amount to a brighter future. The acquiring of knowledge is not the same as exam orientation. Board examinations truly are not the ultimate test. It's like saying that Trials are all that determine how our school terms went. The academic front is only one aspect of education; which is again split into acquiring knowledge and preparation for examinations, both of which are independent of each other.

As for the consequences of not meeting the expectations (which I can talk about from personal experience); the most severe consequences would be what the students do to themselves. We ourselves often take the examinations too far and overreact. We think that society is victimising us, while it is we ourselves who do so. It is perhaps natural for us to be disappointed. But when we think that society is laughing at us, we do so baselessly; it is only a product of our imagination. We imagine that everyone thinks that we are worthless. We often convince ourselves of our worthlessness, and then say that society thinks so. We take things too hard, and we blame society.

It is too hasty to assume that all of a student's calibre is judged by the ICSE examinations. Transcripts are only part of an application to college. Educational qualifications are only part of a CV. A good job is only part of a life. There is more. We ourselves must realize that, not just for the sake of denying the importance of the Board examinations, but for our own growth as individuals. The only changes that we require come from ourselves: we must stop overstating the importance of the examinations while blaming society and we must stop overreacting to results that do not meet our expectations.

## SPLASH!

The results of the **Water Polo League** that had started in School in May are as follows:

Team Name	Matches Won	Matches Lost	Matches Drawn	Goals scored	Goals conceded
Rose Gang Senior	2	2	0	9	3
Ministry of Water	2	0	0	9	3
Monsters Inc.	1	0	1	7	2
Pirates	1	0	1	3	3
Tandooni Knight riders	0	0	2	5	5
Chintu Candy	1	1	0	9	3
Blue Lagoons	1	1	0	9	4
Polo Horses	1	1	0	1	5
H <sub>2</sub> O	0	2	0	1	4
High Roller	0	2	0	0	0
Shark Attack	1	1	0	0	7

### ROCKING ON

The Dehradun-based band, **Time Machine**, performed in the MPH on Tuesday, May 27, for the entire School. They played covers of popular songs by *The Beatles*, *Eagles*, *Dire Straits* and *The Doors*. The audience responded with appreciation and enthusiasm. During a break, the S Form Band performed two songs: *Kryptonite* by 3 Doors Down and *Zephyr* by Red Hot Chili Peppers.

### ON CAMPUS

**Dr Peter McLaughlin**, who will be assuming office as Headmaster in July, visited School from May 24-27. During this visit, he had further interaction with various members of the School community.

**James Eskew** from St. Edward's School, Oxford, is currently on campus to interact with the boys and staff of the School.

### SMASH AND SERVE

The following are the results of the **Individual Badminton Tournament, 2009**:

**Juniors:** Siddharth Sethi

**Mediums:** Dhruv Goel

**Seniors:** Vedant Chandra

**Men's Category:** Ayaan Patel

The following are the results of the **Inter-House Tennis Tournament 2009**:

**Junior Cup:**

**1st:** Hyderabad

**2nd:** Oberoi

**3rd:** Jaipur

**4th:** Kashmir

**5th:** Tata

Congratulations!

**Senior Cup:**

**1st:** Hyderabad

**2nd:** Jaipur

**3rd:** Kashmir

**4th:** Tata

**5th:** Oberoi



## Opinion Poll

Do you miss School during the holidays?

**Yes**

38%

**No**

62%

(296 members of the School community were polled)

## Limericks

*Utkarsh Jha*

There was a man with a big nose

Which went upto his toes

He could fit a few deer

Under his ear

Oh the man with the big nose

\* \* \*

There was a boy who dreaded

Eggs that were breaded

He could eat cabbages and peas

He didn't mind fried bees

But breaded eggs were to be shredded

\* \* \*

A man from Spain

Loved singing in the rain

But dark was the cloud

And the drops so loud

His music went down the drain

## ERRATA

*The Doon School Weekly* regrets not adding Pranav Kapoor's name in the 90s Club of the ISC Examination. He secured 92%.

## Unquotable Quotes

*Get a piece of pen and a paper.*

**Kanishk Gupta** goes to pieces.

*What a bloody blunder lie.*

**PKN**, we don't believe that either.

*Please vacate a page.*

**Pranjal Singh** demands scribbling space.

*Who has the keys to the chaabi?*

**Shashank Peshawaria**, in a deadlock.

*Guys, behave like a classroom.*

**SKD**, instructor extraordinaire.

*Every church has its own pope.*

**Shreyvardan Swaroop**, live from the Vatican.

*Can you do me a favour for me?*

**Amit Gupta**, his own best friend.

*I've got one of the most hairs.*

**Vishesh Kochher** is 'growing'.

*I've been walking in a straight circle.*

**Narinder Kapur**, in a round square.

| Poetry |

# The Ballad of Lord Jim

*Piroune Balachandran*

Lord Jim was his name,  
 The chief mate of *The Patna*.  
 He dreamt of glory and fame  
 Aye! The mate of *The Patna*.  
 Laurels had yet to be heaped  
 Upon so brave a soul,  
 The honour of sinking ships,  
 No other was his goal,  
 The chief mate of *The Patna*.  
 In the distance the squall appeared,  
 The clouds gleamed a fiery red ,  
 The sun was yet to set  
 As he took the night watch' s stead,  
 Aye! The mate of *The Patna*.  
 The silence of the moon  
 And of sleeping pilgrims wary,  
 The tired rationale of the sick  
 And those buried at sea,  
 As the storm winds descend,  
 Ostentatious and overbearing,  
 Aye! What fears the mate of *The Patna*?  
 Marlow does recount at length,  
 Tales of fear and sapped strength,  
 But our Jim was not that way,  
 He would not abandon ship,  
 Never think of running away,  
 Aye! The chief mate of *The Patna*.  
 The sea bellowed under,  
 A definite rumble of hunger ,  
 Calm appearances overthrown,  
 As the fake mask of passiveness is shown.  
 The mist veils the clouds and moon,  
 The horizon no longer exists.  
 All is dark ,  
 The difference between water and sky  
 Unknown to Man.  
 Then broke the thunder cloud,  
*The Patna* was flung aside ,  
 Jim standing on the edge,  
 Slipped and fell  
 Upon a boat  
 Whose destiny turned out to be the shore.  
 Was it that Lord Jim had jumped?

| Short Story |

# The Coward

*Shashvat Dhandhanian*

I stared at the vast farmlands, admiring the beauty of Mother Earth that everyone seemed to have forgotten. The cows were grazing in the sun and the crops, green and lush, swayed in the wind. It seemed so much easier, forgetting about everything, trying to live in the world of the 19th century. All my thoughts came to an abrupt end, when the 21st century tapped on my shoulder. This time it was the telephone that rang. I was annoyed when I picked up the telephone. For a second I was startled; recovering, I answered. It was a stranger who had called. I was being accused; all I could understand was that I had to gather a large sum of money by the evening for the caller. He said that he would phone again a little later, checking on what I was going to do to collect the money, before he hung up.

I was in a state of shock. I wondered what to do. Why was I being targeted? I hadn't harmed anyone, as far as I could recollect. Could it be the don of the society, whose new Bentley's windscreen I had broken? But that had happened where I had once lived, quite some time back. As far as my bank account was concerned, I didn't have any money. There were just a few thousands in it along with the interest. I had no property to my name; my ancestors hadn't left anything for me except a ramshackle two-roomed house built back in the '50s.

Thinking these things over and over and over again, made time a fast-fleeting thing. The telephone rang again. This time the caller was even more rude and abrupt. He said, "I need those twenty-five grand or else, god help you, heaven is where you will be. I will call you up again, one hour from now, telling you exactly where and when to give the money. Don't forget, I have ways of getting at you if I don't get the money. Hurry up!" I hardly knew anyone in the city, didn't know who to contact. I was scared. I left immediately for the bank. I withdrew all the money that was there in my account. There was eighteen thousand, along with the interest. I asked if I could take a loan; as I did not have anything in a fixed deposit, I was even refused an application form. I took all the money back to my house. I waited for him to call up again. When he called, I simply told him, "I cannot arrange for more than eighteen thousand. Now you tell me where I should meet you." "I will come to your house, wait there and don't try to do anything funn, like calling the police."

I put all the money in a bag and sat on the chair. I simply forgot about what had happened and started staring at nature once again. It was so calm, so relaxing. Lost in thought I had forgotten everything about my blackmailer, when the doorbell rang. I opened the door. A man in a black three-piece suit, white shirt, and a black polka-dotted tie walked in. He looked threatening but had a slight sneer on his face. I had never seen him before. He asked, "Where is the money?" I went inside and got him the black bag with all the money.

As soon as he picked up the bag, I pulled my revolver out and pointed it at him. "Don't shoot! My family knows about this. You won't get away with killing me. You are really unfortunate. It was your bad luck that I chose your number," he said. I replied, "I don't care, I want to punish you." I shot the stranger and he fell down, dead.

\* \* \*

The date for my execution has been fixed. When I see the noose, will my last thought be, if only I had not been a coward...?

## wordsearch

Find below the names of the ten most expensive players in the recently-concluded IPL

A	E	D	B	F	F	O	T	N	I	L	F
S	A	C	H	I	T	Q	A	G	J	W	E
A	P	F	H	C	P	E	C	G	D	B	F
Y	G	I	N	O	H	D	R	A	U	G	V
I	K	B	E	I	H	F	O	N	M	Z	S
R	L	D	E	T	N	A	H	S	I	D	Y
U	A	I	N	A	E	B	N	G	N	J	M
S	Z	B	S	C	E	R	B	X	Y	U	O
A	M	K	A	L	L	I	S	Y	F	A	M
Y	A	H	T	B	C	F	D	E	C	I	D
A	X	D	J	P	A	T	H	A	N	L	S
J	E	A	Y	U	S	A	O	M	K	C	H

# Holiday Checklist

**The Doon School Weekly's suggested to-do list for the summer of 2009. Over the long, leisurely weeks that lie ahead of you, this is what we came up with to watch, read and entertain yourselves with.**

## Games



**Killzone 2** – Killzone 2 boasts amazing visuals, an intense campaign, and extraordinary online play that will keep you coming back for more. It really sets the bar for first-person shooters.

**Halo Wars** – After shooting through scores of Covenant and Flood soldiers in three Halo first-person shooters, the United Nations Space Command's story reminds a few decades in Halo Wars. Halo Wars is a fun strategy outing for fans, but feels slightly simplistic after its predecessors.



**Guitar Hero: Metallica** – This is a juiced-up track pack likely to please both solo guitarists and bands.



**Godfather 2** – The second game based on the classic Mafia films will incorporate both top-down strategy and Grand Theft Auto-style street-level action.

**Resident Evil 5** – Chris Redfield returns and heads to Africa where the latest bio-terrorism threat is transforming the people into mindless creatures. RE 5 is a fun and frantic evolution of RE4's breakthrough gameplay and the series' horror themes.



**Prototype** – An open-world game set in New York, starring a shape-shifting man who can copy the appearance, skills, and powers of anyone he comes across.



**Infamous** – Incredible freedom of movement, intense combat, and an enthralling story, make *Infamous* an impressive open-world action game.

**X-Men Origins: Wolverine** – This is an action-adventure game based on the movie of the same name, and will take you through and beyond the movie's storyline.



**Wanted: Weapons of Fate** – *Wanted* is a video game based on the movie of the same name and features Assassin Time and curving bullets during gameplay.

**Sonic and Black Knight** – For his third Wii game, Sonic is transported to an Arthurian-inspired fantasy realm, where he must engage in sword-based combat.



**Wheelman** – A Vin Diesel mix between *The Fast and The Furious* and *Die Hard 4.0*, this game is one to watch out for.



**Skate 2** – *Skate 2* adds a number of features to the Skate formula, including double the tricks, and a deeper "Create a Skater".

**Pro Evolution Soccer 2009** – The 2009 version of Konami's annual football franchise has licensed Liverpool, Manchester United, and Wembley Stadium. This one might just be the FIFA-beater the franchise needs.

*(sourced from the internet)*



# NEXT CHANGE: MOVIES



**Angels and Demons** – Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon (Tom Hanks) finds himself in Rome, where he has to race against time to prevent the Illuminati, a secret society, from putting in motion a terrorist act that could destroy the Vatican. He's aided in his quest by the beautiful Italian scientist Vittoria Vetra (Ayelet Zurer).



**X-Men Origins: Wolverine** – An 'Origins' story that follows the early life of James Howlett (Hugh Jackman), also known as Logan, and best known as Wolverine. The chronicle of his younger years as a mutant connects to his relationship and eventual falling out with Victor Creed/Sabretooth (Liev Schreiber), and his fateful entry into the Weapons X project, the government programme that turns its willing and unwilling subjects into living weapons.

**Terminator Salvation** – Set in post-apocalyptic 2018, John Connor is the man fated to lead the human resistance against Skynet and its army of Terminators. But the future Connor was raised to believe in, is altered in part by the appearance of Marcus Wright, a stranger whose last memory is of being on death row. Connor must decide whether Marcus has been sent from the future, or rescued from the past and must embark on an odyssey that takes them into the heart of Skynet's operations, where they uncover the terrible secret behind the possible annihilation of mankind.



**Dance Flick** – Street dancer Thomas Uncles (Damon Wayans, Jr.) is from the wrong side of the tracks, but his bond with the beautiful Megan White (Shoshana Bush) might help the duo realize their dreams as they enter in the mother of all dance battles.



**Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen** – Deception forces return to Earth on a mission to take Sam Witwicky (Shia Lebouf) prisoner, after the young hero learns the truth about the ancient origins of the Transformers. Joining the mission to protect humankind is Optimus Prime, who forms an alliance with international armies for a second epic battle.



**Star Trek** – A science-fiction cult phenomenon, this is the original story of Captain James T. Kirk (Chris Pine), Spock (Zachary Quinto) and the crew of the USS Enterprise.

**Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince** – In his sixth year at Hogwarts, Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliff) discovers even more about the evil Lord Voldemort's past, thanks to his mentor Dumbledore and mysterious textbook marked "This book is the property of the Half-Blood Prince." By the end of the year, nothing will ever be the same.



**Public Enemies** – FBI agent Melvin Purvis (Christian Bale) sets his sights on American gangster John Dillinger (Johnny Depp) and others in an attempt to curb a rampant Chicago crime spree during the 1930s.



**Funny People** – When seasoned comedian George Simmons (Adam Sandler) learns of his terminal, inoperable health condition, his desire to form a genuine friendship inspires him to take a relatively green performer (Seth Rogen) under his wing as his opening act.



**Ghosts of Girlfriends Past** – At his younger brother's wedding, a committed bachelor and womanizer (Matthew McConaughey) is haunted by his romantic past.

**Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** – Security guard Larry Daley (Ben Stiller) infiltrates the Smithsonian Institute in order to rescue Jedediah (Owen Wilson) and Octavius (Steve Coogan), who have been shipped to the museum by mistake.



**17 Again** – Mike O'Donnell (Mathew Perry) has lived a life full of regrets. Suddenly, he reverts to his 17-year-old self (Zac Efron), who plans to navigate high school more successfully and create a path that leads to a better adult existence.



**Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs** – When Sid gets into some trouble, it's up to Manny, Ellie, Diego, and Scrat to save their friend. Their mission leads them to an underground world where they encounter dinosaurs as well as a one-eyed, dino-hunting weasel named Buck.

# BOUNTY OF BOOKS

*Recess: The Penguin Book Of Schooldays* edited by Palash Krishna Mehrotra

A book that contains extracts on school life, and so, connects with us (and it has been compiled by our very own PLM!).

*The Best of Times* - Penny Vincenzi

Of instant changes in fate, a hot summer, and a crowded motorway, this book promises exciting reading.

*Scarecrow* - Michael Connelly

The story of a crime reporter whose own creation makes him face unexpected circumstances – thrilling throughout!

*Assegai* - Wilbur Smith

The book revolves around a conspiracy initiated by a big game hunter who unwillingly falls in love, leading the story into a great mystery.

*Gone Tomorrow* - Lee Child

A thriller with the world's most-liked action hero- Jack Reacher, who spots a suicide bomber in the train he is travelling on.

*Long Lost* - Harlan Coben

A sports agent who is trying to save his client's skin is caught in an international business deal.

*Handle with Care* - Jodi Picoult

A heartbreaking story about a girl suffering from a severe brittle bone disease, who is confronted with a tough decision.

*The Legend of Sogard and Gudrun* - JRR Tolkien

A long-forgotten epic 500-stanza poem tells the story about love, magic, tragedy and jealousy. Compiled by his son, Christopher Tolkien

*Nocturnes: Five Stories of Music and Nightfall* - Kazuo Ishiguro

As the title suggests, the story revolves around music with a mix of collapsing marriages and relationships.

*The Children's Book* - AS Byatt

A perfect book for children, containing real life characters.

*8th Confession* - James Patterson

A murder mystery featuring Cindy, a reporter, who is eager to solve a murder all by herself.

*Other Rooms, Other Wonders* - Daniyal Mueenuddin

A collection of short stories set in modern-day Pakistan revealing the divide between the feudal class and those that they lord over.

## Suggested Hindi reading for D and C forms:

*Bharat Ki Khoj* - Jawahar Lal Nehru

*Darshnik Gana - Part I* - Nandan - HT Publications

*Bal Bharti* - Govt of India Publications

*Bharat Ki Hasya Rachnayee* - NBT

*Hindi Ki Lok Kathayein* - NBT

*Andher Nagri Chaupat Raja* - Bhartendu Harish Chandra

\* \* \*

## Suggested Hindi reading for senior forms:

*Quiz Master* - Pankaj Mishra

*Mona Lisa Hans Rahi Hai* - Ashok Bhowmik

## Newspapers:

*Jansatta* and *Nai Duniya*

## Magazines:

*Hindi Outlook, Kadambini, Aha Zindagi, Hindi*

*Public Agenda, Hindi Yojna, Vigyan Patrika,*

*Suman Saurabh*

## Website:

*Webdunia*

## The Who

### Who is Niccolo Machiavelli?

■ An eminent scientist – Rishab Verma

■ A Renaissance writer – Dhruv Goel

■ An actor – Yash Jalan

■ F1-driver – Siddhant Sachdev

■ A polo player – Shubham Dhingra

■ A psychologist – Avik Gugalia

■ A botanist – Darshdeep Hoda

■ A sailor – Mrigank Khemka

■ A terrorist – Ayushman Arora

■ A freedom fighter – Vrindam Naagpal

■ A journalist – Arjun Sharma

■ An astronomer – Shrey Raj Kapur

■ The Prime Minister of Russia – Vikram Aditya Kapur

■ Australia's woman cricket captain – Shantanu Seth

■ **He was a 15th century Italian philosopher known for his political acumen**

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