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Squad Halt!

Bharat Ganju reports on the recently-concluded Inter-House PT Competition, 2008

PT is an activity that makes everyone get up at six every morning to perform a group of exercises in coordination with oneself, and with others. Despite this activity not being a favourite among the boys, there is one very strong reason which inspires every boy to put in so much time and effort into this activity: the Inter-House PT Competition. Every year, all five houses practise for months to attain one of the most prestigious trophies offered by School – the PT Gong.

It imposes its own requirements, which include dedication, commitment, and immense coordination. Moreover, it requires the whole squad of the house to work together as a single unit.

This year, the Inter-House PT Competition began with lively commentary provided by Mansher Dhillon.

Hyderabad House was the first to perform with Akshit Batra leading the junior squad. He showed great leadership and creativity when his squad performed extremely innovative exercises.

The Hyderabad House senior squad was led by the School Senior PT leader, Keshav Prasad. It was evident that a lot of effort had gone into their display.

They were followed by defending champions, Oberoi House, led by Rishiraj Neog for seniors, and Dushyant Sapra for the junior PT squad. The Oberoi House senior squad's performance made it clear that they were considered major contenders for the Gong; near-perfect coordination marked their table. Unsurprisingly, they attained a well-deserved first position in the senior section. The Oberoi House junior squad, however, didn't perform as well, and ended up in fifth position.

They were followed by Kashmir House, whose senior squad (led by Saket Mahajan) didn't fare as well as they had expected. Their junior squad, however, led by Mehtab Chima, was able to shine, as their hard work paid off, resulting in their coming second.

Next was the Tata House senior squad. They put up a neatly executed performance, and came an extremely close second in the senior section. Their junior squad, led by Himmat Singh, came third.

The last house to perform was Jaipur House. Their junior squad's performance was the highlight of this year's competition. Led by Shantanu Garg, their innovative eagle formation and flawless execution got them a well-deserved first position in the junior section. Then Adhip Chopra, who stepped up to become Jaipur House senior PT leader only a week before the competition, proved that dedication and commitment for even a short period of time can be effective, as the Jaipur

House senior squad achieved third position. The efforts of these squads managed to clinch the PT Gong for Jaipur House, ending a fifteen-year drought.

Their excitement clearly showed, as the two squads ran to hoist the Gong, and take it back to their House.

All in all, the Inter-House PT competition proved to be an entertaining one, as well as a learning experience for those involved. One can only hope for an even better performance next year.

School PT Leader's Speech

Keshav Prasad

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I take this opportunity to address all those who have gathered here today, and welcome them to the 72nd Inter-House PT Competition. I hope you have enjoyed this spectacular display of PT, which is unique to The Doon School. PT has not only been a tradition, but also an integral part of the daily Doon School daily routine. It requires a level of mental and physical ability and fitness. It is a test of a group's ability to coordinate and cooperate with each other.

This year's Inter-House PT Competition proved to be successful in maintaining and enhancing the high levels of participation, initiative, and finesse – all of which are very characteristic of PT. This year, we witnessed mass participation by boys of Sc form. Moreover, PT leaders took greater initiative, and were given the opportunity to formulate suitable exercises for their respective squads. This step, I'm sure is a positive one as PT leaders were encouraged to cross the confines of conventional exercises, bringing new and innovative exercises to the fore.

I would also like to take the opportunity to extend a vote of thanks to a great number of people who have assisted in making this event possible – The AV Squad headed by SSM for the provision of AV equipment, the Trophy Squad headed by AKM for keeping all trophies good as new, the ground malis – Rahmat Ali and Siya Ram Ji, for their tireless effort. I would like to give special thanks to HCH and ADN for taking out time to tabulate results; Mr. Makhija for providing refreshments, not only during the PT competition but in all sporting activities; the judges for taking their valuable time out, and coming here today; DKS, for his invaluable support, and giving PT its due importance; the Chief Guest Mr. Ashok Kumar and his wife for taking out time from their busy schedule and coming here to witness this event. Mr. Ashok Kumar is the Inspector General of Police, Garhwal Zone, Uttarakhand. Sir, it is indeed a privilege to have you here, today. I would also like to thank the announcement table for adding colour to the event.

Last, but by no means, the least, I would like to thank Mr. Michael James, our PT master-in-charge, who has always shown great passion for this activity. He has always worked consistently for its betterment.

All in all, it was a very successful competition. The houses put in a great deal of effort and enthusiasm. Thank you all for coming. May the best team win!

News-in-Brief

MUN IN DOON

The following were adjudged the Best Delegates in their respective categories in the **Intra-School MUN** held on May 4:

General Assembly: Adhip Chopra and Gurbaaz S. Sidhu.

Security Council: Divyang Prateek and Anirudh Gupta.

UNEP: Kshitij Paliwal and Shantanu Garg.

ECOSOC: Mansher Dhillon and Arnav Sahu.

Best Delegation: The Russian delegation comprising Arnav Sahu, Bharat Ganju, Shoumitra Srivastava and Sidhant Gupta.

Well done!

QUIZZING NEWS

The School was represented by Gurbaaz Singh Sidhu, Armaan Malhotra and Mansher Dhillon at the **Rajeev Khanna Memorial Quiz**, held at **Scholar's Home**. Fifteen schools participated and the school team was placed second. The school also won a cash prize of Rs.1500. Congratulations!

DEBATING

Anindya Vasudev, Abhaas Shah, KP Somiah and Saurav Sethia represented the School in the **13th Rev. Slater Memorial Inter-School Debates**, held at **Bishop Cotton School, Shimla**. Anindya Vasudev was adjudged the third best speaker and the second best speaker in the pre-quarter-final and the quarter-final rounds. Abhaas Shah won two awards for being the best speaker in the pre-quarter final round and was adjudged the third best speaker in the quarter-final-round. K.P. Somiah was adjudged the second best speaker in the pre-quarter-final round. Saurav Sethia was adjudged the third best speaker in the pre-quarter-final round and the second best speaker in the quarter-final round. He was also adjudged the third best speaker in the semi-final round. The Doon School reached the semi-final round of the debates.

Well done!

PING-PONG

The results of the **Inter-House Table Tennis** Competition are as follows:

Junior Cup:

1st: Oberoi House

2nd: Tata House

3rd: Hyderabad House

4th: Kashmir House

5th: Jaipur House

Senior Cup:

1st: Oberoi House

2nd: Hyderabad House

3rd: Kashmir, Jaipur, and Tata

Houses

House Cup:

1st: Oberoi House

2nd: Hyderabad and Tata Houses

3rd: Kashmir House

4th: Jaipur House

TALK TIME

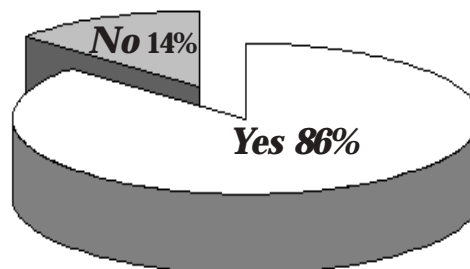
Tarun Tahiliani (ex- 734T '80) gave a show-cum-talk on **Fashion** as a career, to the School on May 8 in the Multi-Purpose Hall.

A talk on '**Law as a Career**' was given by **Sachin Malhan**, an alumnus of National Law School, Bangalore, and the founder of LST, in the AV Room on May 8.



Opinion Poll

Do you think that 'Socials' actually help in developing communication skills with the opposite sex?



(236 members of the community were polled)

Next Week's Question: Has the Intra-School MUN generated a greater interest in this activity among the School community at large?

Unquotable Quotes

I'll left, right and centre the Weekly.

Dinesh Reddy, we are so scared.

My favourite fruit is mango and gulab-jamun.

Jayant Mukhopadhyaya, gourmet-at-large.

Don't sat on my bad.

Shubham Aggarwal, the bad host.

She has only one feet.

Vigya Singh, singularly amazed.

All the books are overflowing from my bag.

Animesh Gupta, the 'rutt'.

Where you belongs to?

NTC wants to know.

Is there anything new in the newspaper today?

Shreyvardhan Swaroop, why should there be?

Me did it.

Piyush Upadhyay owns up.

It was self-suicide.

Nikhil Narain, Sherlock Holmes.

Take a hockey post right side round.

MLJ, the instructor.

Vinayak, go sit in the fireplace so that we can lit the fire.

SBL, aspiring arsonist.

I woken him up but he didn't waken up only.

Shivam Goyal justifies.

The backs are suck.

Varun Goyal, the sports expert.

Strong mustard can make smoke come out of your eyes.

HMD fumes.

Switch your pens off.

ANJ signs off.

He is being very ignorant.

Ranjana Adhikari being ignored.

Do double time.

MLJ, finally marching.



CAREER CALL

The Careers' Notice Board will focus on **Geography** as a career option this week. All those interested must look it up.

From Another Eye

Meher Kairon

This year's first Social proved to be a smashing success, besides being a rather unconventional affair. To begin with, the Doon School Captain looked slightly disappointed to find that his contemporary was absent from the fun. However he more than made up for it by shaking a leg with the next-in-command (i.e-the Gamesie herself!) We are happy to note that Dabur Hunny decided, though with some trepidation, to set up a new venture in Bangladesh. Here's wishing him all the best! The Social service official left 'D'-Vish(ing) for more! On a more serious note, we are sad to inform you that the Sikh Cupid Agency lost two valuable customers. All we're saying is that the next Delhi Durbaar will be held at J.P Resorts, Aurangabad! The evening was one of animated fun, as Popeye expressed his sudden love for Spinach /Pa(a)lak! Besides, the Prince Charming of H House got down on his knees a sum total of three times, the third time being to declare his undying love for his BabyLee...Awww! And on that happy note we saw a cloud of gloom being lifted off the shoulders of a certain H-House Prefect as his lady love made a surprise appearance. He enjoyed all the PRAISE he could get. Meanwhile the K Connection (KP & KK) proved to be a little on the shy side. We're hoping the next Social will see some more bonding! Meanwhile the Banker Barbie of Flycatchers was seen enjoying the evening in the company of her Ken(il). Socials also turned into a mini *raksha bandhan*, right after a sizzling performance of *Mayya-Mayya*. New connotations were derived from the "meaningful" performance of 'Do you want a partner' by the Dynamic A & A Duo. And on that musical note, the Editor herself would like to commend a certain K-House Prefect for his admirable rendition of *Knocking on Heaven's Door*. The Board would like to point out that she definitely appreciates his efforts, not to mention his devotion to Physics! On the subject of K-House, the Pride of Punjab was seen wanting his share of Hot (chocolate) **Fudge**, but didn't know how to ask for it! However he is a fast learner and we sincerely applaud him for his efforts...Finally! The Lion of Hearts (one of them, anyway) was (Ni)star-struck and was ready to run a marathon to Ludhiana! We're also wondering when the Bulbul will be making that next trip to Elevate? Khandi-perseverance is the key to success! In another instance, house spirit reached a whole new level, as avid birdwatchers spotted a Woodpecker in Jaipur!! Sadly the dance floor was littered with broken hearts as a certain Mess Official decided to stay true to her loyalties across the Welham Border. What say, Doscos? Also it seems that another Dosco Debator (Hindi) is scoping to be awarded the **Padma** Vibhushan. The night saw a forlorn VD bid a sad farewell to his *Aam ki dabbi*. On a happier note, the evening ended amidst cheerful strains of *Happy Birthday* as the doe-eyed birthday girl enjoyed all the attention from the **sky** above to everyone else!! This year's Social King and Queen also decided to defy tradition. We're just wondering how a practical Commercial suddenly began to value the art of **Pablo Picasso**.

In any case, all good things must come to an end, and to quote our Vice Principal-"Many flowers bloomed, only to be summarily squashed by the eagle eye of the escorts!!"

Roving Eye

COP and Senior Ed.

As the Welhamites came *knock, knock, knocking on heaven's door*, they were greeted with a *welcome* (quite literally). Keeping with tradition, our school captain decided to 'break the ice' and be the first to ask his Welham counterpart for a dance, but in her absence, was content to dance (ahem ... if one could dare to call that dancing!) with the games captain, who, much to his dismay, completely outdid him. Well, that bit of breaking the ice did not work ... so the initiative was taken by two Doscos of great *repute* to bring the two *factions* closer. The captain of Hyderabad House and the well-known Tata House NAPU leader began a well practised dance on the ... ahem ... 'popular' song, *Partner*. Needless to say, the 'partners' were very successful, as one could see Doscos plucking up the courage to cross the 'no-man's land'. Hardly had the dances started, when the Hyderabad House chicken flew off to a corner to squawk up a conversation with a Welhamite (we can only 'praise' his speed).

All through the Socials, one could discern the unique activities that the Doscos were up to, the most innovative of which was a Kashmir House prefect solving Physics numericals! (Note: this is to remind the community that Trials are approaching and all Doscos would do well to follow his example! Or just ask your girlfriend to write a to-do list while she's away!). Then, of course, there was the Kashmir House captain, who, in his inimitable style, threw open to all Welhamites the *Mayya* challenge. This competition saw innumerable Welhamites come and lose to the well-practised Dosco in stepping up to the beat of the song *Mayya*. A Jaipur House prefect was in quite a hurry and soon was seen dancing alone with enthusiasm, a forced smile playing on his lips. On being asked, his response was "... again, it happened again ... C form Socials and now - I got refused again ...". Contrary to this, the grapevine has it that his Jaipur House form-mate discovered politer ways to refuse a dance (hands folded solemnly in a *namaste*). On the other hand, the Jaipur House captain, truly leading by example, was also spotted dancing (although, due to the bad lighting, we can't really be sure whether it was really him!). A rather tall Kashmir House prefect was seen conversing with a Welhamite who seemed to have had a rather nasty accident (arm in a sling). On being asked, he merely said that they were talking about how they are *not* going out with each other. The grapevine has it (quite contrary to the statement given by the Kashmiri in question) that our COP was one of the many involved in bringing the two together.

[*Senior Ed* - "Our very own COP on the other hand, had found his silver lining and was spotted letting loose with his head in the 'clouds', at the same time fighting off swarms of girls who wanted to have a go at his 'hottiness'. Our condolences to these unfortunate girls ... sigh ... there's always another lifetime."]

Right in the middle of the evening, the quiz teams of the two schools arrived, barely taking time to mingle with the rest (brains indeed!). A Dosco resident of Oberoi House - SS (full name withheld to prevent shock to the entire community - "... it went out with a girl?") took a sudden interest in the Welham quiz team and even stepped out to discuss matters of great impor-*tan(V)-ce*.

(contd. overleaf)

Hyderabad House seemed to have definitely left an impression at the Socials. Even the odd mosquito of the local variety was seen hovering about on the dance floor, only to find out later that his *host* partner was already 'committed'. Another Hyderabad inmate tried desperately to cling on to his *fruit* while his accomplished House captain seemed to be insistent on a dance; probably the Hyderabad was apprehensive from the start about his mangoes. At this stage we must mention the exploits of two DJs in particular (despite the fact that DJs are usually not part of Socials!). The first was Dehradun's very own Roadside Romeo, who was drowning his 'sorrows' in 'music' and the second - the Hyderabad bear whose heart longed to be in Ajmer (This was one bear who preferred *Mayonnaise* to honey). The fast man of Tata House, *aye udi udi udi*, was sighted in skimpy clothing in cold 'Russia'. We hope he finds warmth.

With the Socials coming to an end (the finale being marked by stray Doscocs who, unable to contain their hunger, were slowly moving towards the food counter), we began searching for our Ed, but to our surprise, we discovered that he had managed to slime off from the MPH in order to go back to the House and 'rutt' a bit for the Intra-School MUN to be held the next day.

This is the COP and Senior Ed, signing off in order to leave some of the poison for our Ch Ed (who sorely missed all the fun at this Socials) for next time.

P.S.: Socials are a solemn occasion.

* * *

Rose Bowl, 2008

Abhishek Parasrampur

Excitement in the air,
How will the five dramas fare?
Raw talent at its best,
For them there is no rest.

The dialogues and the casting,
Music that's everlasting,
The actors and the production team,
Playing out a dream,
The buzz and the twirl,
The heads all in a swirl,
Costumes of silk.

Props that demand skill,
Beamed flashes of light,
Blast of music on a summer night,
A month of practice and sweat,
Beckoning to new horizons yet.

The dawn of the final day,
The golden sun's last ray,
Hearts are beating,
Young feet are pattering,
The curtain rises to an evening enchanting.

Against The Tide

Mansher Dhillon

A generation fighting back,
Trying to find something to believe in.
Redemption and power doesn't come without a price,
Rebellion of the mind and body salvaging whatever it can
From the wreckage of lost dreams and hopes.
Misfits are the prophets with their
Aspirations of liberation,
Harbingers of sweeping change.
These modern times are times
Of teenage angst and emotional insecurity,
Of oppression and censorship,
Of outcasts and angels,
Of underdogs and messiahs,
Shipwrecked in denial.
Teenage ideology dictates,
Conformism is for the blind.
Don't follow the leader.
You are your own worst enemy.
Love, hate, belief, life, freedom, hope, fear, faith,
Instruments of a revolution,
Leaving us prisoners in paradise.
Youth of the nation,
Rise to the occasion.
Fight the unfairness,
Contest the criticism,
Uplift the downtrodden,
Kiss the lipless,
Echo the message of the New Age.
You can't take away our words,
So give us back our voice.

* * *

Word search

Shashank Peshawaria

Find the names of thirteen musical instruments.

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

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