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Lessons Learnt, Experiences Had

The S formers who went on exchange recount their experiences and lessons learnt



My student exchange at **Southridge School, Canada** was a memorable one, filled with mesmerizing and captivating experiences: from free interaction with girls (unlike at Socials!), witnessing the fading sunset of 'Beautiful' British Columbia, to jumping into an ice-cold lake (while it was snowing). I will cherish these memories forever. To leave a place which was almost like a home away from home was much harder for me to do than it is to write an account of it. Had I not gone for exchange, I would have never met the people I met, seen the places I had only heard of (from Salil especially) and learnt what I did, which has inculcated in me the importance of respecting and appreciating other cultures. - **Aditya Sukhia**



During our exchange to the **Hutchins School, Australia**, we made good friends, many of whom were of different nationalities – Taiwanese, German and Spanish. The staff and the student community were extremely helpful and shared an excellent relationship. On a more personal front, our exchange helped us to become extroverted and gave us the confidence to make new acquaintances. It was definitely an invigorating experience, and we are glad that we got the opportunity of going for exchange. - **Aaditya Gupta and Vishesh Kochher**



My exchange was two months long and in that time, life seemed like a dream. My stay at the **Schule Schloss Salem, Germany**, was a break from the spartan life at Doon. From swimming in the Bodensee (which was a lake near the school) to racing in motor boats across Lake Constance, each weekend seemed better than the previous one. It was an experience of a lifetime which changed my perspective of the world and taught me to appreciate my roots. - **Sriyash Kishorepuria**



When I was asked to write about my exchange to **Chadwick School, California**, I didn't know where and how to begin, what to describe and what to leave out, so I have done my best to highlight the most amazing two months of my life. I realized, and am still realizing, the value of those two months and what an impact it had on me when it was all over. When my host family came to the airport to see me off, they had tears in their eyes, which
(contd. on page 3)

News-in-Brief

WELCOME ABOARD

Rahul Luther has joined the teaching faculty as an Assistant Master in the Mathematics Department. We wish him a fruitful tenure.

DEBATING COLOURS

Saurav Sethia was awarded **Debating Colours** on May 30, 2008. Congratulations!

TOY STORY

Praman Narain has been appointed as the boy-in-charge of the **Soft Toy Manufacturing STA**.

RAISING A RACQUET

The following are the results of the **Inter-House Tennis Competition, 2008**:

Junior Cup	Senior Cup	House Cup
1st: Tata	1st: Hyderabad	1st: Hyderabad
2nd: Hyderabad	2nd: Oberoi	2nd: Oberoi
3rd: Jaipur	3rd: Jaipur	3rd: Tata
4th: Oberoi	4th: Kashmir	4th: Jaipur
5th: Kashmir	5th: Tata	5th: Kashmir

Well done!

CHESSMATE

The following are the results of the **Inter-House Chess Competition, 2008**:

1st: Jaipur
2nd: Kashmir
3rd: Oberoi
4nd: Tata
5th: Hyderabad
Congratulations!

Unquotable Quotes

This class is very worst.

ADN, very best.

Kinng is Singh!

Prashant Bhandari, the real Kinng!

You ducklet!

Abhimanyu Chandra, head duck.

Only two A-Formers doesn't have shins.

RSF, straight to the point.

The movie Mangal Pandey is a martyr of 1857.

RSF, now we know why History is fun.

All the articulate items in your home are brass.

AKM, we are speechless.

I feel for you, Avi Raj, but you don't feel me.

AKM, really hurt.

Come back to next.

PKN, on TV!

We can have it on the first month of August.

Vivek Santayana manages time.

I made a hat-trick in bad chits.

Animesh Gupta, that's nothing to be proud of.

Ban-Ki-Moon is the Secretary General of the Model UN.

Shaurya Kuthiala, Model Delegate.

Have you seen Kung Fu Pandey?

Shivam Pal's new blockbuster.

Cristiano will leave Ronaldo.

Bharat Ganju, the soccer specialist.

People who call racists racists are all racising.

Jayant Mukhopadhyay, for the minorities.

| Poetry |

The Tide Goes Back

Kanishka Malik

In the days of autumn, my friend,
Don't be scared of the fallen leaves,
And of yourself in the mirror, turning,
Similar to the leaves into mud-like colour.
For you must remember,
That is where they belong.
And these leaves feed the ground so more can grow.

You must remember,
That everyone in his time,
Sees the grey season.
Haven't you seen
In your green times
That the storms always went back?
Because they knew,
That they all had an end.
It's just that some last longer.
The way the clouds give rain,
And the rain goes back,
In the same way,
We have to return,
To the one,
Who sent us here.

Oh my friend, just remember when you look around,
That everyone you see will always,
Go back to the same place,
Where life is ignited to bring us all here.
That you are not the only one.
And remember that even the tide goes back,
To where it came from,
For it also must let these sands,
Be the rulers for a while.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This is an extract from the *Guardian* newspaper article entitled '50 People Who Could Save the Planet':

Bunker Roy, Educationist

Bunker Roy, 62, set up the Barefoot College in India, the only school known to be open only to people without any formal education. Roy's idea is that India and Africa are full of people with skills, traditional knowledge and practical resourcefulness, who are not recognised as engineers, architects or water experts but who can bring more to communities than governments or big businesses. The college trains the poor to combine local knowledge with new green technologies: 15,000 people have learnt to become 'barefoot' water and solar engineers, architects and teachers. It has helped hundreds of communities across India – and now in seven other countries – install water supplies and solar voltaic lighting systems, develop bicycles that can cross rivers and design buildings that can collect every drop of water.

Bunker (ex 125-J '62) was a sportsman of note at School and was national squash champion, representing India in the game. A stint in Bihar during his college days during a severe drought changed his future. He founded the NGO SWRC at Tilonia in the Ajmer District and also the Barefoot College. I thought this could be publicised through your paper as an example to other Doscocs that there is room in this world for thinking out of the box.

Shomie Das (ex 165-H '51)

(contd. from page 1)

surprised me as I did not realize how close I had become to them over the two most amazing months of my life. I never felt out of place when I was there; in fact I always felt that I was a part of their family. I had the most wonderful time of my life, which I will never forget. The best part of the exchange was the lifelong friends I made, who plan to visit me next summer.- **Arjun Kapur**



We started off feeling rather nervous, having absolutely no idea about what lay ahead of us in the approaching two months. However, it turned out that we made great friends at **Wanganui College, New Zealand**. The Inter-House music competition saw Chandra drumming for the House, and me singing the song *Twist and Shout* by the Beatles. The bungee-jumping was another amazing experience. For us, it was a blend of fun, exposure to cultures, and delightful moments at the music school, the sports field and the golf course. It was a great opportunity for us to experience travelling alone and to make lifelong friends.- **Jai Sharma and Vedant Chandra**



During my exchange, I tried my hand at nearly everything, ranging from rappelling down a 120 feet cliff to trying my hand at poker (even though I wasn't good at it!). I even got the chance to watch a cricket match featuring some greats such as Andy Bichel and Darren Lehmann. I didn't realize how quickly time passed, as it was filled with fun and memorable experiences. When it was time for me to say goodbye to everyone, I couldn't believe it. Overall, the entire experience of exchange at **St. Philip's College, Australia** was amazing and I really had the time of my life. - **Tushar Aggarwal**

The Who

Who is Enid Blyton?

Astrologer – Yash Malhotra

Astronomer – Shrestha Verma

An actress – Udit Kapur

He's a soccer player – Mohit Gupta

He is an author – Sumaer Sandhu

Musician – Sambhav Sethia

She was possibly the most prolific and popular author of children's stories, ever.



Exchange is undoubtedly one of the highlights in a Dosco's life. I had only heard about such memorable times from others, but when I myself got a chance to go for exchange, experiencing it first-hand was naturally very different. Be it parties, hockey, classes, sightseeing, learning new customs, sports, making friends, bumping into Gary Kirsten on my flight or even just spending a few moments doing nothing but chatting. I enjoyed it all and these memories of **Bridgehouse School, South Africa**, will linger in my mind forever.- **Aruj Shukla**

Opinion Poll

Do you think that the average Dosco is content with mediocrity?



(248 members of the community were polled)

Next Week's Question: In the wake of recent events, do you think that our parliamentarians are a disgrace to democracy?

Wordsearch

Shashank Peshawaria

Hidden below are the names of eleven famous poets

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

Who's Fooling Who?

Two viewpoints that have been triggered by Dwaipayan Banerjee's article 'Stop Fooling Yourself' (last printed in Issue no. 2188)

Vishnukaant Pitty

The Dosco of today is often perceived by society as a conceited and overconfident individual possessing an unassailable air of haughtiness. The truth is that people who so readily try to pass judgement on the mettle of Doscos with such intense scrutiny, often fail to grasp the underlying nature of Doscos.

One thing that a Dosco is generally accused of (and wrongly so!), is of being rather arrogant and snobbish. Quite contrary to this, in school, Doscos are taught to treat each other as equals, whether it be through the common pocket money, or because we all live together in a small community. Because such a sense of equality is instilled into every Dosco through this system, a sort of contempt for the snobs in society creeps into his mind. However, on realizing that the rest of the world is not quite like the campus that he was brought up in – that, unfortunately, the world (rather than the Doon community itself!) is fraught with 'snobs' flaunting the wealth of their parents, Doscos tend to withdraw into their shells, unwilling to have anything to do with 'such people'. This behaviour is the very same attitude that the society interprets as the characteristic arrogance of the Dosco.

Further, the pretence of high-handedness that a Dosco is perceived to display to the world outside is not only a defensive 'shield' developed by the Dosco, but is also his faith in himself, even though it be at the cost of ignoring all others. It is this faith that defines Doscos, or for that matter, many successful men. One doesn't always need to flow with the tide and revel in mediocrity to be a part of society. Thinking differently and separating oneself from the mainstream doesn't mean that one harbours contempt for the rest of the world.

The much-hated show of superiority of Doscos is but a display of confidence, which is often misconstrued and disliked by society. Even if this is, in essence, a misplaced confidence in one's abilities, it forms an essential part of one's character, ensuring that at any point in life, a Dosco never loses heart, never doubts his goals or his ability to achieve them. This is one of the reasons why the school, in its vast curriculum, includes a varied credit system for the boys. In these assorted activities that the school offers, almost every Dosco has something that he can aim for, some stimulus to spur him on to work, and continue achieving during his stay at Doon. The aim of this system is definitely not to instil in the Dosco a false sense of satisfaction at reaching minor, intra-school goals, but rather to imbibe the capability to aspire for a dream and then follow it.

Society interprets actions in its own way - often misconstrues them; but it is in the hands of the individual to sieve truth from the false perception – to implement that which is necessary, and no more. Adapting to the whims of society at every step, though a tempting option at the many crossroads they have to stand at, is not necessarily the most viable one.

Revant Nayar

In the article 'Stop Fooling Yourself' featured in the front page of last term's *Golden Night Issue* (reprinted from the *Weekly*, 2000). Dwaipayan Banerjee has boldly declared the Dosco of his time to be mediocre, arrogant, and unaware of what goes on in the outside world. I would like to approach the topic more cautiously, and add my own views to it. These are some of my own observations and interpretations of the modern Dosco, and how he is evolving. They are not necessarily true, but I hope they will provide some food for thought.

I would like, first, to compare the present Dosco to the majority of teenagers of the same age group in various schools all over India. Modern-day luxuries available to those teenagers are not provided to him. Whether he admits it or not, it is perceptible that the elation he experiences or the respect he receives on lifting a sports cup or winning a prize in any event is generally unrivalled by that in any other occurrence. Meanwhile, the respect his peers outside receive is determined by how 'cool' they are. The Dosco spends much more time pursuing achievements than others.

The various skills and activities that are systematically and professionally taught to students in most day schools are learnt by the Dosco through trial and error, his intuition, or even from others. The school offers highly intense competition in almost all spheres, and the Dosco engages himself fully in that. The question that presents itself is: is the Dosco getting the actual point behind all this?

One now notices lines of Doscos 'trying out' for various activities, all of them hopeful for a flash of luck at the vital moment to bring them victory. This desire to participate is not negative, but it is the attitude and the motive behind participating which is disheartening. The only apparent motive is to be the victor, and by being so, to win the admiration of his peers and also his seniors, in a place where 'studliness' increasingly determines one's status in school.

The disturbing fact of the matter is that most Doscos only pursue sports, and out of these, few are even moderately skilful. Intense competition to 'manage' various teams at the house level results in the decline of real aptitude. Many of these inter-house matches become a test of the players' aggression and *josh*, rather than skill, proficiency, and most importantly, the proper spirit of the game. Seniors have shown harsh behaviour when it comes to losing matches. Under the illusion that pressurizing their juniors will improve their performance, they have undermined the sportsman's spirit in the community. Very few Doscos actually involve themselves in scholarly pursuits. Creative writing, debating, quizzing and other intellectual activities are looked upon as trivial, and meant for a minority of the students who are intellectually inclined. The silver lining is that 'scholars' are no longer ridiculed and discouraged, but are slowly being given their due by the community, unlike earlier.

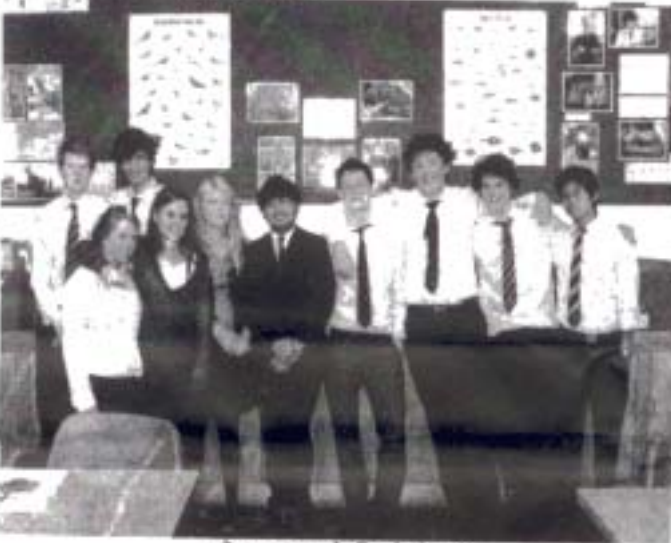
(अनुभव दीर्घा)

छात्र विनिमय: एक विचार

प्रांजल सिंह

छात्र विनिमय दून स्कूल की संस्कृति का एक पुराना और महत्वपूर्ण अंग रहा है। माना जाता है कि विनिमय के माध्यम से छात्र विश्व की सांस्कृतिक विभिन्नता को समझ सकते हैं। टेट भाषा में कहें तो इन्बे से बाहर सोचने की शक्ति आ जाती है। छात्र कूप-मंदूक नहीं बने रहते। आज की बदलती दुनिया में यह आवश्यक भी हो गया है।

मैं पिछले माह सेंट एडवर्ड्स स्कूल का छात्र विनिमय के तहत दौरा करके लौटा तो सहपाठियों ने केवल इतना पूछा कि यहाँ मेरी कितनी महिला-मित्र बनी और मैंने क्या मौज-मस्ती की? इसके अलावा उनके मन और कोई प्रश्न ही नहीं आया। इसमें मैं उनकी जलती नहीं गिना रहा हूँ, अपितु केवल यह कहने की कोशिश कर रहा हूँ कि मौज-मस्ती हमारे स्कूल के छात्रों के विचार में इस विनिमय का एक बड़ा हिस्सा है। मेरा यह भी मानना है कि हमें यह समझ लेना चाहिए कि वे मौज-मस्ती अवांछित रूप से छात्र-विनिमय के अन्य उद्देश्यों से अधिक जरूरी बनती जा रही हैं?



लेखक अपने मित्रों के साथ

मेरा मानना है कि छात्र-विनिमय का मैं एक महत्वपूर्ण उद्देश्य है सांस्कृतिक आदान-प्रदान। यह आदान-प्रदान कई मध्यमों से हो सकता है। संगीत, भोजन, पढ़ाने के तरीके आदि ऐसे ही कुछ माध्यम हैं। अक्सर माना जाता है कि सांस्कृतिक आदान-प्रदान दो संस्कृतियों, देशों और मानवों के बीच दूरियों कम करता है। और, एक दूसरे को समझने की शक्ति देता है।

मौज-मस्ती हमें मित्र बनाने में मदद तो करती है लेकिन ऐसे मित्र अधिक समय तक नहीं रहते। वे आपके बारे में अधिक नहीं जान पाते हैं। शायद आप दूर तक चलने वाली मित्रता बना भी लें, पर फिर भी आप उन्हें अपनी संस्कृति से परिचित नहीं करा पाते। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि ऐसा हो रहा है, पर ऐसा होने की काफी सम्भावना है। इसलिए मेरी भविष्य में विनिमय पर जाने वाले छात्रों से गुज़ारिश है कि मौज मस्ती तो करें, पर अपने विनिमय को इस आदान-प्रदान से और अधिक सफल बनाएँ।

(कल्पना लोक)

विचित्र श्वान

रेवांत नायर

रात्रिकाल की सर्दी बढ़ती जा रही थी। मारे सर्दी के मेरे दाँत किटकिटा रहे थे। एक साल पहले ऐसी ही ठंडी रात वह गायब हो गया था। उसका नाम बूस था। आमतौर पर लोग कुत्तों को दूकानों से खरीदते हैं, पर बूस मुझे पार्क में मिला था। यह लहर में हुई रहस्यमयी आपराधिक घटनाओं के ठीक अगले दिन हुआ था। अन्य कुत्तों की तरह वह न तो वह अकारण

भौंकता था, न ही पूँछ हिलाता था। यहाँ तक कि उत्तेजनापूर्ण या आक्रामक व्यवहार भी न करता था।

वह मुझे कुछ इस तरह मिला: पार्क में काफी देर तक खेलने के बाद मैं बेंच पर लेटा हुआ आराम कर रहा था। वह मेरे पास आकर बैठ गया और कुछ ऐसी दीनता भरी मुखमुद्रा बना ली कि पत्थर भी पानी हो जाए। मैंने उसे दो बिस्किट दिये। जब मैं उठकर घर आने लगा तो वह मेरे पीछे-पीछे चलने लगा। आश्चर्यकार, मैं जब घर पहुँचा तो पता चला कि वे महाशय भी मेरे पीछे थे। अब मेरा उसे अपने पास रखने का मन हो आया। उसकी सूरत देख कर उसे अपनाकर घर का सदस्य बनाना मेरे लिये आसान हो गया। मैंने उसका नाम रखा बूस। उसने जिस मौन भाव और समझदारी से इस नाम को स्वीकार किया उसी मौन भाव से उसने घर में रहने प्रारम्भ किया। धीरे धीरे घर के सब लोगों को उसकी अक्लमन्दी का अहसास हुआ। मेरी माँ का तो यहाँ तक मानना था कि बूस कुत्ते के शरीर में मनुष्य ही था। हमारे सभी आदेशों का वह अक्षरशः पालन करता था। उसके बर्ताव में सच में कुछ मानुषी गुण तो थे ही। लेकिन फिर भी उसकी प्यारी आँखों में न जाने क्यों हमें इससे आगे कुछ नहीं दिखाई दिया।

प्यार तो उससे हम सब करते ही थे। समय के साथ उसके साथ सभी का जुड़ाव भी बढ़ता चला गया। इसी प्यार ने हमें विश्वास में रखा कि उसकी सभी हरकतें आम कुत्तों की सी ही हैं। एक बार मैंने उसे अपनी विद्यालय की किताब को पढ़ने की सी मुदा में घूरते पाया। जब मैंने यह बात माँ और पिताजी को यह बात बतायी तो वे मुझे पर ही हँसने लगे। हम सब को क्या पता था कि उस भोली सूरत के पीछे कैसे कैसे भाव छिपे थे।

दिन हफ्तों में और हफ्ते महीनों में बदलने लगे। बूस मेरा प्रिय मित्र और साथी बन गया। मैं अपने सारे दुख सुख उसके साथ बाँटता। कभी कभी तो ऐसा लगता कि वह मेरी बातें समझ रहा है। जब मैं दुखी होता तो वह भी जैसे गहरे धितन में डूब जाता। वह तो खुद की इतना स्वच्छ रखता कि मुझे भी हर्म आ जाती। उन दिनों देश में अराजकता बढ़ गयी थी। विचित्र तरीके के अपराधों का बोलबाला था। रहस्यमय घटनाएँ आम बात हो गई थी। यों तो मैं बूस की सुरक्षा का पूरा ध्यान रखता, लेकिन अचानक एक दिन वह कहीं गायब हो गया। मैंने उसे कहीं कहीं नहीं ढूँढा। उसकी याद में सारा घर परेशान हो गया। एक दिन उसकी मैं उसकी तस्वीर को देख कर रोने लगा। तभी पीछे से आवाज आयी 'क्या हुआ दोस्त ? मेरी याद आयी ? मैं पीछे मुड़ा तो पैरों तले जमीन खिसक गयी। बूस मेरे सामने खड़ा था और नहीं भी। वह काफी कुछ इंसानों जैसा लग रहा था।

मतलब यह कि वह दो पंजों पर खड़ा था और उसके पंजों में अंगुलियाँ भी आ गयी थी। यही नहीं एक पंजे में तो अजीब सा दिखने वाला यंत्र भी था। मैं अवाक रह गया। मेरे मुँह से शब्द बिकलने बन्द हो गए थे। तभी वो एक कूरता से बोला 'तुम मुझे कुत्ता समझते रहे और मैं घटनाओं पर घटनाएँ करता रहा। ये सारी अव्यवस्थाएँ जिनको लेकर तुम्हारे शहर की पुलिस सिर खुजाती रही, मैं ही किए जा रहा था। मुझे गहरा धक्का पहुँचा कि मेरा बूस एक अपराधी है। फिर वह बोला 'हम सिरिअस तारामंडल के जीव हैं। हम काफी आधुनिक हैं पर हमारे पास मानवों जितनी शक्ति नहीं है। पिछले एक साल से मैं तुम्हारे साथ छुप कर तुम्हारे गृह के बेहतरीन दिमागों में घुसकर उन्हें अपने दिमाग से संयुक्त करता रहा, पर अब जबकि तुम मेरा राज जान गये हो तो मुझे तुम्हारा भी कुछ करना होगा। इतना कहकर उसने अपने हाथ के यंत्र में कुछ बटन दबाए.....

मेरी माँ ने मुझे जगाया 'उठो बेटे, बूस को घुमाने ले जाओ। मैं हड़बड़ा कर उठ बैठा। बूस वहीं मेरे बिस्तर के पास पूँछ हिला रहा था। एक ख्याल मन में आया कि कहीं यही वह परखती तो नहीं।

| Viewpoint |

A LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION

Deep Singh

This article aims to substantiate the growing acceptability and importance of a liberal arts college in providing a broad-based college education. As The Doon School's fabric is woven within the ideals and traditions of the liberal arts philosophy, it is all the more important for students here to continue their education within such a framework after school, before narrowing their career choices and joining a specialized trade or profession. A liberal arts college, broadly speaking, is one with an educational structure that makes it mandatory for all students, despite their choice of major, to complete a stipulated number of classes from a variety of disciplines, resulting in the conferral of a degree.

The objective of a liberal arts education lies in acknowledging a symbiotic relationship between different fields without seeking to stratify branches of knowledge as completely separate in scope and extent. Historicity, which is of pivotal importance in class instruction regardless of the subject, corroborates subject analysis from a uniform vantage point; consequentially dispelling doubts about the practical usage of informational sources while providing students with a sequential perspective. This pedagogical technique is additional to the understanding of bare concepts comprised within a field of knowledge.

Securing admission into a liberal arts college is contingent on the holistic assessment of student achievements across fields such as debating, dramatics, sports, music, art, publications and other extra-curricular activities contributing to the formation of a well-rounded individual. The students of The Doon School have immense opportunity for self-expression and development as all the aforementioned activities occupy an exalted and pivotal role in this institution. Academic achievements will of course take preponderance over other credentials, nonetheless an all-round ability enables a student to differentiate himself/herself from amongst a vast pool of candidates applying with comparable grades. All-round excellence across various endeavours has for years received due recognition at The Doon School since the institution of the General Proficiency Cup; awarded to the most suitable candidate within the junior and senior categories on an annual basis.

Summarily, a liberal arts education purports to holistically empower an individual's ability to arrive at tenable conclusions through deep introspection. This mechanism of empowerment manifests in an individual's ability to temperately accept the myriad viewpoints even though individual concurrence may be unachievable. Conclusively, educational training to see subjects from different frames of references evokes an insatiable hunger to constantly learn; contributing to the well-being of those who are yet to join us in this journey of life.

FedEx, Up Close

Yash Malhotra on a close encounter

Wimbledon is often considered the showpiece of the best tennis of the world, and this year, with Roger Federer trying to become the first-ever player to win six consecutive Wimbledon titles, the whole world was watching even more intently. Apart from that, Rafael Nadal had recently just won in Queens Club as well as at Roland Garros, and many people wanted to see Nadal putting up a good fight.

On the twenty-third of June, I was in London: a dream come true for any tennis-lover, for it was so close to the day that Wimbledon began. I just *had* to go! I pleaded with my father, and eventually, he agreed to take me. I was overly excited and could not sleep that night.

So, the next day, I got up at four and set off for Wimbledon with my dad and my sister. We stood in the queue for around seven hours but it was all worth it.



While I was crossing the courts, I caught a glimpse of some of the best players in the world. Then I peeped through the grill and saw none other than Roger Federer! I just could not believe it! I rushed towards the entrance of the court, and it was like a dream come true. I mean, Federer; who, for years, I've only seen on television, was hardly ten feet away from me! He was practising with someone else. He was very tall, well built and handsome which was just like the way he looks on TV.

After practising, while he was coming towards where I was standing, I begged him for his autograph and a picture with him. He smilingly came up and gave me his autograph and also posed patiently for a picture. I feel like I am the luckiest person in the world! Who gets a chance to meet his idol? I guess I am one of the fortunate few.

Career Call

The careers notice board will focus on **Mechanical Engineering** as a career choice this week. All those interested should look it up.



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