September 4 saw the start of one of the major inter-house events of the year, the much-awaited soccer competition. Boys had been practising for this event since the beginning of term. The members of the School team had performed brilliantly in a series of matches, and they hoped to carry on their fine form into the competition. With that in mind, they hoped to secure the much-coveted soccer shield for their respective houses. But one of the main problems during the start of the competition was that many players, senior and junior, were admitted in the hospital due to seasonal flu or viral fever. Consequently, the houses found it difficult to form their teams.

In the junior competition, although many were unable to play, the matches were nonetheless interesting. Jaipur House took a sizeable lead right from the beginning. They also beat Hyderabad House, with their strong forward line, and were also the favourites for the Junior Cup. Tata House performed well, but could not keep up with Jaipur House. Kashmir and Oberoi Houses were disappointed at being unable to create goal-scoring chances. Aditya Vir Roy, Dhruv Agarwal, Yash Johri, Arjun Parmar, Siddhant Sachdev and Khalid Alawnah displayed noticeable talent.

The senior competition commenced on the morning of September 6. Tata and Oberoi Houses started their campaigns with a bang by winning their first matches by a considerable margin. The competition continued for a few days, before being halted suddenly, due to a swine flu scare. This disrupted the momentum. Amidst all the confusion, there were rumours that the soccer competition had been cancelled. It was surprising to see that the boys were not at all scared of falling ill, but certainly disappointed due to the suspension of the competition.

The School reopened on September 21, after having enjoyed a ‘mini-vacation’. The captains were told that the competition would restart in a few days’ time, and word spread very quickly throughout School. The boys got a few more days of practice, and now that most of the players were back, the houses could form their proper teams.

(Contents on page 4)
LAURELS EARNED

Arnav Sahu, Abhishek Jain and Shrey Gaurishankar have been awarded the Scholar’s Blazer.

Vidur Vij, Sriyash Kishorepuria, Aadiya Vicram Gupta, Skand Swarup, Nikhil Sinha, Harnaresh Singh, Piyush Gupta, Archit Kumar and Melvin Michael have been awarded their Games’ Blazers.

The following boys have been awarded Art Colours: Ranjai Sodhi, Sharad Lal and Piyush Gupta (re-awarded) The following have been awarded Colours in Soccer:

Full Colours: Half Colours:
Nikhil Sinha Karanbir Dhariwal
Skand Swarup Aazam Jauhal
Shiva Gururani Vidur Vij
Melvin Michael
Vahin Khosa
Amit Gupta (re-awarded)

The following have been awarded the PT Commendation: Aditya Sukhia, Aashray Patel, Archit Kumar, Arunj Bhatia and Vidur Vij

The following have been awarded PT Jerseys: Tarang Khurana, Devvat Patel, Harunaresh Singh, Arunj Bhatia, Sriyash Kishorepuria, Vedant Chandra and Aadiya Vicram Gupta

The following are the results of the Individual Chess Tournament:

Winner: Sarthak Gupta
Runner-Up: Harshit Tiwari
Congratulations!

INTER-HOUSE WINS

The following are the results of the Inter-House Soccer Competition:

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

Senior Cup
1st: Oberoi and Tata
3rd: Jaipur
4th: Kashmir
5th: Hyderabad

The following are the results of the Inter-House Basketball Competition:

Junior Cup
1st: Tata
2nd: Jaipur and Hyderabad
4th: Kashmir
5th: Oberoi

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

ATTENTION!

The Doon School Weekly will continue with the Editors’ Choice section featured in the Founder’s Day Edition, dated October 10 (issue no. 2230). The best articles that we receive over the next year will be reprinted in special editions of the Weekly. This is to encourage contribution from more members of the School community. All pieces, excluding Letters to the Editors and reports will be eligible for consideration.

TAKING CHARGE

The following are the appointments for the forthcoming year:

Shatrunjai Rai Dewan, Devansh Khaitan and Viren Kapoor have been appointed Boys-in-Charge of the Audio-Visual Squad.

B Dinesh Reddy has been appointed Boy-in-Charge of the Cooking STA.

Devashish Singhal and Trivikram Singh have been appointed Boys-in-Charge of the Stage Committee for the following year.

We wish them a fruitful tenure.

EDITORS, 2010

The following are the appointments to the Editorial Boards of the various publications for the forthcoming year:

The Doon School Weekly:
Editor-in-Chief: Vivek Santayana
Editor: Shashank Peshawaria
Senior Editors: Arnav Sahu, Bharat Ganju, and Chandrachuda Shukla
Associate Editors: Kanishka Malik, Abhinav Mittal, and Arjun Singh Badal
Special Correspondents: Arifeen Chowdhury, Shashvat Dhandhania, Yash Mall and Shivank Singh
Correspondents: Rahul Srivastava, Utkarsh Jha and Kunal Kanodia
Graphics Editor: Madhav Dutt

The Yearbook:
Editors-in-Chief: Jayant Mukhopadhyaya and Abhishek Jain
Chief of Production: Nilesh Agarwal
Senior Editors: Uddhav Prasad, Udai Bhotra and Anmol Jamwal
Associate Editors: Aashray Batra, Gursehej Oberoi, Sanchit Thakral and Arjun Khaitan
Correspondents: Devesh Sharma and Madhav Dutt

We wish them a fruitful year ahead.

ERRATA

In the 90’s Club printed in the Founder’s Day Special Edition of the Weekly dated October 10, 2009 (issue no. 2230), Arpan Agarwal, who scored 93%, was inadvertently omitted on the ICSE list and Pranav Kapoor, who secured 92% in the ISC, was also not mentioned. The Weekly apologizes for the omissions.

Opinion Poll

Are we really ‘blocked’ from the outside world?

Yes 83%
No 27%

(225 members of the School community were polled)

Next week’s question: Do you think the present test week serves any academic purpose?
AND THE SHOW WENT ON...

Priya Chaturvedi reviews the musical performance which took place on Founder's Day (October 10) in the newly-renovated Rose Bowl

The announcement that the scaled-down Founder's Day celebrations would include the concert caught us, if not exactly on the wrong foot in musical preparedness, certainly not in the usual state of readiness for performance. However, the well-worn saying, 'The show must go on', was quite in keeping with our attitude, and so, on the show most certainly did go. One of the upsides was that we were performing, after many years, in the Rose Bowl rather than on the Main Field, and the setting and acoustics made for a welcome difference. The 'new-look' Rose Bowl thus, fittingly, was inaugurated to the sounds of music, and quite an eclectic range of sound it was too.

The choir and orchestra were on stage first, performing Raga Bhairavi, in an arrangement by GSS. This last performance by the Director of Music bore all the hallmarks of his unique blending of tradition and innovation, though, (due to the fact that our performance time was limited) without the solos on violin, flute, piano, guitar, tabla and drums. However, the orchestra provided rich tonal texture. Lyric and fluent playing from the violinists, led by Aditi Joshi, was at the heart of the instrumental section, ably balanced by the soaring lines of the flutes and firmly anchored by the tablas. The slow build-up of the alap by the choir was masterly in the thoughtfulness with which this most melodious raga unfolded and revealed its character. The basses, with fine singers like Yashvardhan Jain, Amit Gupta and Arjan Maini (in their last School performance) were able to hold their own in this challenging section and the trebles (many of whom were making their musical debut) were meticulous in their entries and co-ordination. The upbeat tarana was again taxing in its rhythmic intricacy and dexterity. The musically-charged atmosphere carried on to the Percussion Ensemble which was directed by ABC. While it is fair to say that the School Music Captain Vedant Chandra's tabla tarang was the highlight of the composition, the ensemble witnessed many remarkable solo performances which, despite scintillating rhythmic and tonal flourishes, did nothing to disturb the cohesion of the piece. This year's percussion performance was a creative as well as judicious mix of melody and rhythm. The number of instruments ranging from bells to drums and incorporating folk instruments like the dholki made for an excellent layering of sound.

The smaller Chamber Ensemble which followed proved to be a mottlesome group of players. The Sinfonia from Handel's oratorio Solomon was given energetic but elegant treatment. Baroque chamber music does not lend itself, by its nature, to amplification of sound or large-venue performance, but, in this case, it was pulled off successfully. The two pianists, Nikhil Sardana and Shatrunjai Dewan, the three violins and clarinet (Vihan Khanna) played some tricky scale passages with great aplomb and musical understanding of the polyphonic style, their phrasing, rhythm and tempo all combining to create the desired light-hearted effect. I had transcribed this work for chamber format and was, myself, surprised (pleasantly, needless to say) by the quality of performance.

More demanding was the Ensemble's (joined here by flautist Prannoy Bohra) rendition of the Septet in C minor, To Ludwig, In Stone. This work saw School Captain Sriyash Kishorepuria in his avatar of composer-conductor. A dramatic, suspenseful work in the traditional sonata form of three movements, it began with rushing arpeggios as an underpinning to a slow melodic line, with the clarinet providing a plaintive counter-melody. A relentless and forceful rhythmic line drove the music on to its sudden change to the subtle and touchingly tender second movement in dance-like triple time. The music was held together by superb conducting, something which makes all the difference to a complex piece, (which is the answer to a question I am often asked: 'What does a conductor actually do, apart from waving his arms about?'). The finale saw a return to the hammer-blow dissonances of the opening, which faded away, via an elegiac little melody played by violinist Aditi Joshi, to a unison chord which, hauntingly, remained suspended. This was a composition obviously inspired by the music of Ludwig van Beethoven, as the name suggests, but it was also a highly original work of great depth and promise.

In lighter mode, the Jazz Ensemble next took the stage; directed by DES, the guitars, drums and that quintessential jazz instrument, the alto saxophone (played by Sumaer Sandhu), gave a spirited account of the jazz-shuffle, adapted from a big-band piece. The reiterated motif, with some inspired improvisation by Ankan Dutta and Vidur Yadav on lead guitar, made the audience foot-tappingly familiar with the sound of syncopation and the feel of swing. Jazz is as much an attitude as a genre of music and the performance bore this out in the ease with which the musical dialogue was carried out.

Not that we needed any reminding that this was GSS's final music production in School, but Vedant Chandra's composition, entitled For You, did bring it home! Conceived on an ambitious scale, featuring orchestra and choir, For You showed the influences Vedant has imbibed in his years in School. The structure was broad and impressive and the mood, initially processional. There was some striking melodic material, which, though simple in its chord progressions, was expansively developed, with interesting secondary themes. Clearly an emotional work, Vedant had also used skill in his sequential repetition to generate tension, resolving convincingly through his cadences. The ebb and flow of the...
music was thus maintained and a pointed rhythmic force kept the music from becoming harmonically static. The choir’s *Alvida* piled the emotion on and the composer earned a well-deserved handshake from GSS at the end. During the creation of this work, Vedant had said very firmly that he wanted no input from the Music Department faculty; this was to be the students’ tribute to GSS. I heard the work in its entirety for the first time at this performance and was convinced that the (undesired) ‘input’ could not have added anything to it!

And finally, finally, it was the School Band to close the show, with one song (the time was ticking by and dinner awaited) — *The Joker and the Thief*. It was, as expected, an exuberant performance: Arjan Maini once again showed his interactive stage persona, the instrumentation was skilful and the song delivered with style and panache.

To sum up, there was, apart from the expected fine performances by Se form veterans, some truly promising new talent this year in the choir and among the instrumentalists like Akshay Sharan, Hamza Khan, Arpan Agarwal, Sumeer Sandhu and Ashray Batra, to name just a few.

Earlier in the evening, the Headmaster, in his speech, had speculated about the kind of ‘report card’ S.R. Das would have given the School. I think we can safely presume that the quality and level of participation in Music would have met with his approval.

... (contd. from page 1) ... 

The junior matches were more exciting as the players who were sick earlier were fit and allowed to play. The junior competition got over quickly as most of the matches were played before the leave. It ended with Jaipur House taking the Junior Cup home.

The rest of the House XI matches were played in the senior competition, which were as captivating as the English Premier League. All houses gave up their holiday sleep to watch the matches and cheer for their teams. Aditya Sukhia, Vahin Khosla, Sumer Singh Boparai, Skand Swarup and Nikhil Sinha performed brilliantly for their respective houses, with Vahin Khosla being the highest scorer of the competition, scoring a total of nine goals (including two impressive hat-tricks). He had performed extremely well in the inter-school fixtures also, and Oberoi House benefited from his excellent form. Tata House too had the support of many School team players, which resulted in their winning nearly all their matches. Hyderabad House finally broke their jinx by winning a House XI match. Kashmir House, however, did not have much luck, and did not perform well in the competition. Jaipur House, regardless of their strong defence, could not keep up with Tata and Oberoi Houses, who, with their excellent attack, played aggressively and dominated throughout the competition. A set of matches were washed out due to rain towards the end of the competition. The last and final matches were played on the morning of October 2, which resulted in Tata and Oberoi Houses jointly bagging the coveted soccer shield.

The performance by the juniors this year shows a bright future for the school team. I am sure that this year’s Inter-House Soccer Competition will go down as one of the best ever, and will remain in everyone’s memory in the years to come.

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Silent Walker

Aritteen Chowdhury

Walking down the highway of life,
A silent whisper calls me.
It comes from a dark road,
Branching from the highway of life.
It calls my name seductively,
I move towards the darkness,
Thinking twice about what I’ve done.
I try going back to where I’ve come from,
But it’s too late.
I have become a victim of my own actions.
Life will never be the same,
As it was on the highway.