



Established in 1936

The Doon School WEEKLY



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The Annual Kick-Off

Yuv Vir Khosla reports on this year's soccer season

On campus, soccer is played with great passion and is enjoyed by most. Every year, the level of competition is raised and this year was no exception. This year, the soccer season was expected to be shorter and not as exciting as in previous seasons. Despite the preparations for DS-75, the Inter-House Soccer Competition, 2010 boasted as much enthusiasm as any other year, probably due to the value placed on the game in School.

All Houses started practices at the beginning of the term, which, however, were interrupted because of other inter-school events that School hosted. The rains also caused a major setback. Nevertheless, the boys were determined to participate and made use of every minute given on the field.

The School soccer teams, whether they were the seniors, mediums or the juniors, practised rigorously, and were all geared up to play in a series of fixtures and tournaments. New talent emerged and expectations grew with every passing match. The senior team played at the RIMC Soccer Tournament, where they reached the quarter-final round. They went to Delhi to play friendly fixtures against Pathways World School, Vasant Valley School and Modern School, Barakhamba Road. The tour was successful as the team won two matches and drew the last. The mediums' team played in the Council's Trophy where they were knocked out in the second round of the tournament. Although it was a disappointment, it will serve as a learning experience to all the players. The juniors were unlucky as most of their players were not allowed to play in the Council's Tournament due to technical issues. This made them have an early exit in the quarter-final round.

Even the Inter-House Soccer Tournament was eventful this year. The Senior Cup witnessed intense competition. Much was expected from Oberoi House, as they had the most number of School team players. They did live up to this with their House XI and Leagues I teams winning all but one of their matches. Jaipur House, the contenders for the shield, fumbled at the start, as the loopholes in their defence were noticed. Their Leagues I team, on the other hand, was unparalleled as it won all its matches. The Tata House team, despite having fewer School team players, stood out, as their House XI lost only one match. Their Leagues' forward lacked skill and speed, which was evident through their inability to capitalize on the myriad opportunities they got. Hyderabad House had the best team spirit amongst all Houses but lacked coordination among their skilled players. As for Kashmir House, their defence performed better than expected. Their goalkeeper, Tushar Gupta, showed great calibre and the appreciation shown for his remarkable saves proves that. Fortunately, the tournament did not lack excitement as Jaipur House did not allow Oberoi House to cruise through the tournament. As for the individual accomplishments, Karanbir Singh Dhariwal, Shiva Gururani, Neel Madhav, Vahin Khosla and Tushar Gupta proved their skill conclusively.

The junior standards this year were commendable and great potential was evident. A notable aspect of the tournament was that the participation of D-form boys was greater than that of previous years. The Hyderabad House forward line stunned most back lines and goalkeepers. Their reliable defence and capable midfielders helped them create opportunities for them to win the Junior Cup. Jaipur House played a laudable game, despite the absence of their key player, Shivaan Seth, who played for the Senior team (and received considerable recognition for it).



Oberoi House put their best foot forward, but lost out due to a weak midfield. However, their goalkeeper, Manas Poddar and striker, Suraj Bishnoi, must be commended for their performance. Tata House failed to impress the crowd, as the defence and goalkeeper let the team down. On the other hand, their Juniors II team's prowess stunned others. Kashmir House lacked enthusiasm and coordination, and this undoubtedly pulled them down. Aamir Shah, Rakshit Sinha and Rajkumar Vijay displayed remarkable talent.

Luckily, this tournament did not see any serious injuries and our Master-in-charge and Captain will agree that indiscipline on the field was not an issue. Considering the diversions due to the intensity of DS-75 preparations, one can happily declare that the tournament left nothing to be desired.

Soccer Outcome

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

Seniors:	Juniors:
1st: Oberoi	1st: Hyderabad
2nd: Jaipur	2nd: Jaipur
3rd: Tata	3rd: Oberoi
4th: Hyderabad	4th: Tata
5th: Kashmir	5th: Kashmir

Congratulations!

INTER-SCHOOL EVENTS

The School participated in the recently-concluded **IPSC Tennis Tournament** held at **YPS, Patiala** from September 26 to 29. The following are the results:

Team Events: The School reached the quarter finals.

Individual Championship: Raghav Nath and Kanav Mehra reached the quarter finals.

Under-17: Arush Sood reached the semi-finals.

Arush Sood was selected to represent the IPSC Under-17 team at the **SGFI National Games**.

Well done, all!

The following are the results of the recently-concluded **IPSC Table Tennis Tournament** held at **Phoenix Public School, Belgaum, Karnataka** from September 24 to 27:

Under-19: The School team reached the semi-finals.

Under-17: The School reached the final round and lost to Modern School, New Delhi.

Abhishek Jain and Raghav Kothiwala have been selected to represent the **IPSC National team** in the Under-19 and Under-17 categories respectively.

The School was represented by Abhinandan Rajan, Anmol Jamwal, Rohan Gupta, Arjun Midha, Adhiraj Thakran, Abhishek Bansal and Vihan Khanna in the **Dehradun District 3-on-3 Tournament** held in **St. Thomas' School** on October 3. The School emerged victorious.

Aviral Gupta, Himanshu Todi and Yashasvi Havelia represented the School at the **8th Wildlife and Environmental Quiz** conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India and came third. They were also awarded Rs. 500. Congratulations!

COLOURS

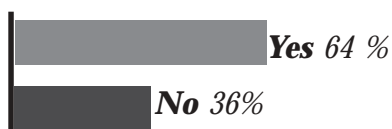
Vivek Santayana has been awarded **Colours** in **English Debating**.

Gursahej Singh Oberoi has been awarded **Colours** in **Art**.

Congratulations!

Opinion oll

Have you been following the Ayodhya verdict in the news?



(281 members of the community were polled)

Next week's question: Do you think DS-75 will live up to its expectations?

YES!

The Doon School is now a **YES (Youth Engaging Society)** centre of **IAYP, India**. The Memorandum of Understanding with the Award Programme Foundation, India, was signed by the Headmaster in his office on September 30, 2010, on behalf of The Doon School. Sandeep Dutt (ex- 627 KB, '79), National Director, IAYP, Vinay Pande (VNP) and Skand Bali (SBL) were also present on the occasion. This memorandum will enable the School to take the IAYP award to the next level and offer the programme to everyone in the community, thus bridging social and economic divides.



Letter To The Editor

The All-Round Dosco

The debate about specialisation in the September 18 issue of the *Weekly* immediately reminded me of an interview we'd conducted for the *Weekly* with Dr Bajpai not too long ago, just before he was to leave School as Headmaster. I remember asking him whether the all-round education that Doon espouses serves its alumni well as they enter an increasingly specialised workplace. This was his reply:

"DoscOs may or may not be Nobel Prize winners, but they are definitely great managers. Specialists get you into trouble. The 60s and 70s saw the cult of specialisation. It is the specialists who have caused the present global meltdown! I would feel much more comfortable with the all-rounder Dosco than the specialist who knows it all. DoscOs have always been great team players, and can lead people because they are all-rounders and can see the link between things which the specialist cannot."

It seems that the notion of specialisation – an academic and co-curricular education geared solely towards a specific career – has gained currency with the public again. The number of polytechnics, providing vocation-specific technical education, has risen compared to 'normal' institutes of higher learning in several countries. It also seems that, in the office, we aim to outdo our peers by displaying efficiency and expertise in our profession. The epidemic rat-race has infected high schools now. Yet an education of this sort is not particularly relevant to a school such as Doon, and perhaps not entirely brilliant by itself, either. What specialisation entails is forsaking the learning of all else but what is essential to a chosen vocation. One must take into account a couple of provisos. Most importantly, one must be sure, without a shadow of a doubt, that they will enter a certain industry – be it logistics, or biotechnology, or software engineering. Should they have any second thoughts after spending a couple of months in their chosen workplace, their specialised skills will typically not allow for an escape route to choose other jobs, which require different qualities altogether.

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The Hindi Page will soon be added.

| Interview |

Rocking the Rosie

The Doon School Weekly interviewed the band **Ave Verdad** that performed in the Rose Bowl on September 25

Doon School Weekly (DSW): You all come from different professions and lead different lives. How did you come together to form a band?

Leon Dawson (LED): All of us were always interested in music. Music shapes our lives and the way we lead them. In 2007, we decided to come together to jam and write songs. We ended up with about thirty of them and released our first album, *Selah*, in December, 2009. At that time we were called *Scarlet Ground*. Now, our band has rechristened itself as *Ave Verdad*, which means 'Hail, Truth'. It signifies the change in direction that our music has taken.

DSW: How do you classify the type of music your band produces?

LED: The kind of music we produce is of a hybrid genre. It has shades of jazz, blues, punk and heavy metal. Initially, we were all inspired by a band called *Greenfeet*. Don and Vivek were into *Dream Theatre*, Mark Aranha preferred heavier music such as that of *White Snake* and I was more drawn towards blues and jazz. We were not influenced by the legendary musicians that most upcoming bands fall prey to, bands such as *Pink Floyd*, *Deep Purple*, *The Doors*, etc. Although they are, no doubt, great musicians and produced great music, we were not so greatly influenced by them.

DSW: How did you manage to get the logistics of forming a band right and was it difficult to get into the mainstream?

LED: Don had played on stage a number of times before. Other than that, most of us hardly had any experience. What usually happens in this industry is that a group of guys get together, write songs, record them, bring out a debut CD and then perform. We wrote a few songs and directly performed on stage in order to pull in contracts, establish a fan base and publicize the band. We also had a feature in the *Hindustan Times* by Indrajit Hazra, which opened many doors for us in terms of publicity and fan-following.

DSW: Where does the band usually perform and what has been the biggest platform for the band till date?

LED: Well, we have performed in the past for many schools, such as yours, institutions, concerts and other platforms. Probably the biggest gig we have done till date was at Hard Rock Café about two weeks ago.

DSW: What is your opinion on file sharing over the internet?

LED: Yes, that is a growing concern. However, CD sales are a negligible part of the income and artistes today have to come to grips with it. The market is changing and people need to accept that fact. Information is being accessed more freely than ever before and even though it means less sales for an artiste, it does add up to popularity and the potential market. We all need to accept that as nothing can be done about it. I know our music is available for free online and I'm fine with that as long as it has our name on it. You could open our *Myspace* site and find all our songs there. I believe it a great tool to publicize our music.

DSW: Many bands, in search of new sounds and tunes, are turning to music processors and synthesizers. Does your band use such devices?

LED: Personally, I do not use any synthesizer or processor of any sort. I just plug my guitar directly to the amplifier and play as it gives a more authentic sound. I know many bands are looking for new sounds and are using processors. I do have a processor at home and have tried it but I feel the genuine guitar sound is much, much better. Now, some bands like *U2* and *Pink Floyd* do use effects but for a new band it does get dangerous to get into special effects too early.

* * *

(cont. from page 2)

We see so many people changing their entire career to suit them these days – doctors want to become lawyers, businessmen want to enter politics, and so on. Bearing that in mind, is it advisable to give DoscOs only a single career rope to cling to, knowing that they may so very easily want to do something else later?

Secondly, the concept of specialisation primarily serves people who are employees in the workplace; it doesn't benefit their bosses. Soft skills, not technical know-how, are sought after when searching for a manager. Qualities like integrity, communication skills, and confidence often take precedence over mere knowledge whenever leadership is concerned. Schools can't teach them in their courses; they can only be acquired by living, studying, and playing in a manner that is not constricted by curriculum or career.

With Doon being a school that has traditionally churned out the future managers and leaders of tomorrow, specialisation seems antithetical to the Dosco ethos. Furthermore, and more crucially, we must decide what we desire from the Dosco education: do we want our alumni to work for big multinationals, or head them?

Third, critics of broad-based education often cite the assumption that students who study widely – and not deeply – or are involved in several activities – and not just a couple – inevitably become jacks of all trades, and masters of none: mediocre, at best. This is untrue. A broad education allows the student to sample a range of experiences he or she may have been unable or reluctant to. We've heard countless stories of how DoscOs who never knew how to kick a ball became House XI legends on the football pitch, or did something similar at the debating podium. This doesn't happen by chance: it occurs because they are exposed to new things – things they usually end up doing well in. Very often, they must be compulsorily forced into these activities for their own good.

As Dr Bajpai said, DoscOs can see the links between apparently disparate concepts. They are renowned for their soft skills, and are often successful because the system of education here doesn't give them job skills, but life skills. Without saying much more, it would be a travesty to 'encourage' current and future DoscOs to specialise while in school, and I would certainly hope that Doon retains its current system of education.

Dhruv Velloor
(ex- 275 T '10)

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