



Established in 1936

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Editorial

At the end of a much celebrated Platinum Jubilee, the Publication Room bore a desolate air: until Thursday evening! While all publications have done their bit for the term, the Weekly is going to start afresh with a new Board and a change in editorial policy.

In my article titled 'Beyond Boundaries' in the Founder's Day Special Edition, I pointed out that the Weekly needed to address contemporary issues to a greater extent. I also elaborated on our plan to do so in the future. Every week we will have a section that will be addressing some topical issue. For instance, this week we have featured a debate about whether India should host the Olympics or not. Such articles will feature every week as we would like to make the Weekly a forum for discussing political, national and international affairs.

Moreover, we would like to increase the creative content in the Weekly. Every month we will have at least one issue with a creative section that will comprise short stories and poems. Over the past few months our consistency in this regard has been wanting. I would now like to assure the community that popular sections such as these will feature on a regular basis.

Also, a lot of the sections in the past Weeklys have either been forgotten or abandoned. Until about a year ago we had sections concentrating on local affairs. It is imperative to focus on key issues concerning the city in which we live, and from time to time, these will be addressed too.

As for reports on School events, we are trying to improve our coverage of these, and invite suggestions from the entire community. We will try to provide more statistics and tabulate them separately, as we have done in the basketball report of this issue.

As for the new Editorial Board, we have significantly increased its numerical strength, in contrast to the set-up over the past one year. We have even appointed D-formers, something that the Weekly is doing after about four years. I see no reason for excluding D-formers from the purview of the Weekly. Most importantly, we want to increase the participation in the Weekly. The Founder's Day Edition of the Weekly, despite the praise it received, was the work of only a handful of students. To increase participation, we have increased the number of Board members from all forms and plan to print more articles by junior writers. Out of the fifteen members on the Board now, nine are new members. I sincerely hope that the new set-up and change in editorial policy will serve its purpose, and the publication will continue to thrive.

DS-75 ROUND-UP

Shatam Ray reports on the celebrations of the DS-75 Founder's Day

Sir, your identity card please.

Huh? What identity?

The identity card School must have issued to you?

Oh right. I forgot.

And Founder's had begun. Almost overnight the campus was transformed. The raw woodwork was made into an imposing stage. The naked bamboo poles were transformed into elegant *shamianas*. Even the *bajri* felt a little softer, or maybe not. DS75 celebrations were the most anticipated event since the beginning of the term and personally, since this was my first Founder's, I was looking forward to the event with excitement. To write a review for the four days that were to capture 75 years of school's history and more importantly its legacy is, ahem...a tad difficult. These celebrations, knowingly or unknowingly, carried the burden of many people's expectations. For me, I write of what I saw.

On day one, the celebrations were kicked off by the Hindi play, *Andha Yug*. It was a thought-provoking play that was wonderfully conceived by its director, MHF.

The next day began with a set of simultaneous events and was marked by my desperation to make it to each one of them. The School band entertained at a warm, sunny venue outside the Music School; while Arpan played in his characteristic rock-star style, Shatrunjai performed for the gallery and had them swooning. I tried singing along but was promptly hushed by PCH. And while we heard them in the background, Anmol and his motley group of boys put up a mix of contemporary and hip-hop genres of dance. The audience on the Martyn Hosue lawn asked, nay demanded, an encore and our dance boys gladly obliged. Of course, the journey from Martyn House – Music School towards the CDH to get to the *Costa Coffee* counter was not uneventful. You either ran the risk of being mowed down by the shuttle services or by an uncharacteristically speeding DKS who drove Old Boys around in the legendary *Junko*. There was the play *Andher Nagri*, *Chaupat Raja* staged by the Hindi department in a street play format, drawing actors mostly from D and C forms. For as long as I could see the play, I cheered in my head for Arth Gupta whose character I had played when I was not too much older than him. Like many others I bolstered the sales of *Costa Coffee* outside the CDH that looked like a scene out of Greater Kailash market. The memorabilia stand was teeming with people and I felt a little sorry for the Old Boys who undertook the courageous task of managing the sales. Of course, while the crowd outside made for the carnivalesque, the Main Building too had its share of attendance at the beautiful and imaginative displays at the exhibitions which covered academic and other activities in School, from Geography to Photography, LAMDA

(cont. on page 4)

APPOINTMENTS

Prahlad Singh and Vaibhav Bahadur have been appointed **Boys-in-Charge** of the Audio-Visual Squad for the forthcoming year.
Congratulations!

ACCOLADES

In the **World Space Week** celebrations held by the Astronomical Society, Ayush Sarawgi won the first prize in the 'Alien Face' drawing competition and Shivam Goyal won first prize in the Astronomy Quiz organized by the Astronomical Society.
Well done!

PEACE WALK

On Sunday, October 10, twenty-three boys escorted by PMV, AMB and SSW participated in a **Peace March** from Gandhi Park to the Chief Minister's residence in protest against the mass slaughter of animals in the name of rituals. A petition signed by all students and teachers was given to the Chief Minister. After hearing out the students, the Chief Minister assured immediate action.

WELCOME

The School would like to welcome back **Rashid Sharfuddin (RSF)** who has been away on a sabbatical for a year.

The School also welcomes **Sandeep Khanna (SPK)** who will be teaching Biology and EVS. He has taught at Welham Boys' School and will be a tutor with Tata House.

TT ROUND-UP

The following are the results of the recently-concluded **Individual Table Tennis Tournament, 2010:**

Juniors

Runner-up: Shivan Tandon

Winner: Raghav Kothiwari

Seniors

Runner-up: Devansh Khaitan

Winner: Yash Jalan

Congratulations!

| Poetry |

At the Front

Aditya Bhattacharya

There was a young man, full of fire,
To serve his nation would fulfill his desire.

His dream was to serve his nation,
And he joined the army with elation.

He packed his bags, loaded his gun,
Got ready for war in the long run.
With excitement he did board the ship,
Beads of sweat trickled from his head to lips.

For a week he did not need to fight
But merely enjoyed France's sunlight.
Then came a day when the battle began,
It became as bloody as battles can.

Millions were killed in the bloody warfare,
And all around there were screams and despair.
There was chaos and confusion everywhere,
And the young man wished he was never there.

After the battle had ended and the war was gone,
The young man tried his best to move on.
But even though the war he had survived,
It seemed as if a part of him had died.

THE NEW BOARD

The following are the appointments on the Editorial Board of *The Doon School Weekly* for the forthcoming year:

Editor-in-Chief: Kanishka Malik

Editor: Abhinav Mittal

Associate Editors: Shashvat Dhandhanian, Arifeen Chowdhary, Yuv Vir Khosla, Arjun Parmar

Hindi Editor: Shivank Singh

Special Correspondents: Madhav Dutt, Vikramaditya Kapur, Raniz Bordoloi, Kunal Kanodia

Correspondents: Harshvardhan Singh, Arjun Kamdar, Mihir Kiran, Aditya Bhattacharya

Junior Correspondents: Manav Pradhan, Devansh Agarwal

CHESS MASTER

Mukund Nyati was awarded Chess Colours.
Congratulations!

Unquotable Quotes

I have proud for my country.

Raghuraj Rathi, staunch nationalist.

Say thankful to me.

Shreyansh Chheda demands credit.

We will be studying American war of Revolution.

SNA makes history.

He or she is something thinking

MNP reads minds.

Are you taking Humanity in S Form?

Rayhaan Imam plans for the future.

Hydrogen will burning with a pop sound!

AKM experiments.

Open the windows, put your eyes out of them and try to hear the bell.

ABC tries audio-visual fusion.

This week has 31 days.

Raghuraj Rathi, it's a long way to end-of-term.

The question is straight and forward.

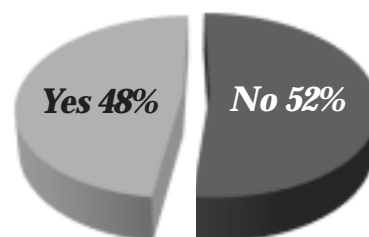
SSW says it like it is.

Accompany me CDH.

Shawn Kapur experiences fine dining.

Opinion oll

Did the DS-75 Founder's Day celebrations meet your expectations?



(337 members of the community were polled)

Next week's question: Do you think other Inter-House Competitions to be held this term will affect your performance in Trials?

ERRATA

In issue no. 2263 of the *Weekly*, dated October 16, 2010, the names of Shekhar Bishnoi and Dhruv Sawhney were omitted from the list of **Soccer Half Colours'** awardees. The error is regretted.

| Report |

Basketball Highlights

Madhav Dutt and Kanishka Malik report on the recently-concluded Inter-House Basketball Competition



During the week following the Basketball Competition, reporting it had taken a back seat temporarily as the School had been engrossed in the preparations for Founder's. Now the community can revert to the regular activities of School and take note of this important event.

Despite the simultaneous preparations for the Inter-House Soccer Competition and the DS-75, the level of the competition was truly praiseworthy. The tournament was satisfying in terms of participation, largely due to the popularity of the game, and was rounded up in about 5 days.

In the junior tournament, the highest scorer was Kushagra Singh with a total of 89 points. One of the impressive matches was between Hyderabad and Tata, where Kushagra Singh was at his best, scoring most of the baskets for his team. The tournament resulted in the Junior Cup being bagged by Jaipur House, due to the laudable performances by Shivaan Seth and Waseefullah

Khan, who, one predicts, will move on to earn the same reputation in the Senior section.

The senior tournament yielded a similar result to that of the previous year, with Kashmir and Oberoi coming first and second respectively, probably because this year too, they boasted the maximum number of School teamers. Fortunately, the applause at the tournament was not directed at just the winning sides. The Tata House Seniors A team (and especially their captain), despite facing a formidable opponent like Kashmir House, was indefatigable till the last moment of their match. There were some notable matches such as the Seniors B match between Oberoi and Tata where a T-House victory would have put Oberoi in a vulnerable position. Nevertheless, Oberoi House dominated the Seniors B section, winning all its matches. Their captain, Abhinandan Rajan, did not lack enthusiasm at any point of the tournament and set an example for the School. Fortunately, the results could not be predicted till the last day, when the Seniors A match between Oberoi and Kashmir, the two Houses eventually competing for the Cup, was to be held. Both the teams were packed with players from the School team, like Aseem Kumar, Abhinandan Rajan, Aishwarya Karan and Sidhant Dixit. Last year's rising star, Shekhar Bishnoi, was also geared up. Initially the difference between the two teams was marginal and no predictions could be made until the fourth quarter, when Kashmir House, took the lead significantly and eventually won the match and Cup. It may be pointed out here that, despite the K House captain (who nevertheless, guided the team from the benches) being injured before the final match, the team managed to seal a victory with a margin of more than ten points. Harsh Verma played in place of Shivam Pal and was at par with his team mates in terms of skill and baskets. At the individual level, Abhinandan Rajan, Shiva Gururani, Rishabh Chatterjee and Aseem Kumar (for his umpteenth 3 pointers) stood out.



As for the technicalities of the game, a noteworthy aspect was the strategy used by Tata, Jaipur and Kashmir. The three teams exhausted most of their efforts and planned most of their moves for scoring three-pointers instead of playing the regular game of reaching closer to the basket and scoring. The teams probably thought that the probability of getting a shot in from a long range was high. To an extent they were proved right by the three-pointers of Aseem Kumar, Rishabh Chatterjee and Sharan Seth (who scored 7 three-pointers in one match).

Most people will agree that the tournament lacked any significant incidents of indiscipline although there was some upheaval about the 'walk-in' incident that took place at dinner. The cheering was fortunately not repetitive or unoriginal, and instead of boring the audience, it added flavour to the tournament. Apart from Shivam Pal's fracture, there were no serious injuries and no notable form of aggression on the courts: all healthy signs that bode well for the future.

Statistics:

Seniors:

Cup won by: Kashmir House

Maximum 3-pointers: Rishabh Chatterjee (19)

Highest margin: 71-20 (Kashmir House vs Jaipur House)

Maximum points scored by: Aseem Kumar

Juniors:

Cup won by: Jaipur House

Highest margin: 70-20 (Jaipur House vs Kashmir House)

Maximum points scored by: Kushagra Singh

(cont. from page 1)

to Mathematics.

The afternoon was meant for the Pagal Gymkhana. Held at Lower Skinner's, the Gymkhana picked up a little slowly and for a while it was only Chandrachuda Shukla and Darshdeep Hora's blood-curdling



renditions of popular Bollywood songs at the karaoke stall that regaled us. Soon, men on stilts, a group playing the *dhols* and some dressed as cartoon characters tried to bring life to the ongoing activities. But for bellies numbed by the sumptuous meals at the *Tunday Kebab* stall, feeling upbeat about the Gymkhana was demanding a trifle too much. The heat and dust did not help matters either. However, for the more agile and enthusiastic ones there was the famous Indian rock band *Parikrama* who had to be the most popular episode of the PG (well, I don't speak for those who won Rs 2 lakh in cash here).

Many had retired to their abodes to come back for the release of The Doon School stamp and the

much-awaited English production *A Midsummer's Night Dream*. By late evening, the clouds had grown ominously dark and the trees swayed violently. The rest, as they say, is history. But the storm that wreaked so much havoc and led to the postponement of so many events did make one thing abundantly clear: the Dosco resilience in the face of near-disaster. In the Rose Bowl, with the weather more evocative of the shipwreck scene from *The Tempest* than a mysterious fairyland, the cast of the play doffed their costumes quietly. Director, KAR didn't lose his smile or stint on his words of optimism to the dejected cast and crew. In the Main Field, the Orchestra put away their instruments in the H House toys but regaled parents with an impromptu concert, and the Old Boys' Gala shifted to the MPH where the fun continued. I suppose a good place to resume my story is from the point when all of us found ourselves in the CDH, holding on to our precious coffee glasses and awaiting 'the word', like a group of people held hostage in a B-grade Hollywood movie. JHH appeared like a leader of the underground organization (sans the military fatigues and the black hood) about to read out the demands, only these one were more reassuring!

The next day, mercifully, dawned bright and sunny. The MPH was prepared to host the heads of state of two countries, the Chief Minister and Governor of our state and a host of dignitaries. That show must have gone well, or at least so we are told. The screen had been put up in the CDH for us to view the events in the MPH but someone forgot to plug in the sound cord. The AV did not claim this one! As soon as the events folded up in the MPH, the stage was set for another eagerly anticipated event- the Chandbagh Debates. The first debate, conducted by Karan Thapar and with politicians like Kamal Nath and Jyotiraditya Scindia on the panel, drew a huge crowd with people spilling out of the MPH. The second debate (which included ex-Headmaster, Kanti Bajpai, writer, Vikram Seth and was conducted by diplomat, Aftab Seth) was marked by cerebral discussions of a high order. The debates were followed by speeches on the Main Field. The speeches began in good earnest but they lasted for a while, since the speeches slated for the previous day, by Sanjeev Chopra and Kapil Sibal, were also included.

The crowd had begun to turn restive when fortunately, the speeches came to an end and the screen on the

stage slid apart smoothly to reveal our School Orchestra and Choir which put up an enthralling performance. I think this was one characteristic thing about the three School productions at Founder's. The directors of the two plays and the music performance could have stuck to something conventional, playing it safe for this very special Founder's. And yet they all decided to challenge themselves and the boys for the grand occasion and took a risk. That it paid off in all cases is gross understatement. The music was enthusiastically received, and was followed by the movie, *Dazed in Doon*, directed by Old Boy Ashvin Kumar. To the strains of Shayan Italia's emotionally-charged song, *Doscos*



Forever, Brothers For Life, the crowd moved towards the lavish dinner laid out on the remaining half of the Main Field. As most Doscos made their way to their respective Houses to get their outing slips, one could sense Founder's winding down. As I stepped out, the guard at Chakrata Gate gave me a familiar nod. On cue, I took out my identity card. "That won't be required anymore, Sir". And so the curtain came down. Only to go up again the following day, when the Rose Bowl hosted the enchanting English play to a surprisingly-packed audience followed by the 'reward' of another grand dinner. And then the curtain *did* come down and DS-75 made its final bow.

Should India Host the Olympics?

Point

Kunal Kanodia

As the ₹ 40 crore balloon rose above the heads of thousands of awestruck spectators who thronged the stands of the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium at the closing ceremony of the Commonwealth Games, faith was reinstated in an administration which, though tainted by serious allegations of fraud and corruption in the weeks preceding the Games, had managed to showcase the arrival of a superpower on the world stage. India rose high above the expectations of both its own citizens as well as of people.

A poll conducted by *The Times of India* when corruption charges were levied against the officials responsible, showed that most Indians were dismayed at the disgrace caused to the nation in the run-up to the CWG, and believed that the Games would not be a success. Across the Commonwealth of Nations there was an uproar over the state of the Games Village and the lack of reliable infrastructure. India's image received a drubbing and there was general embarrassment caused because of this. But the Games were a success. Many ascribe the cause of this success to the timely intervention of the Chief Minister, Sheila Dikshit, and others give the credit to the Organizing Committee of the CWG. But the fact of the matter is that we delivered, and the world applauded our extraordinary feat of delivering the largest CWG ever.

Now coming to the primary focus of my argument: should and will we be able to host the XXXII Summer Olympic Games in 2020? We successfully hosted the CWG but at what cost? India spent around 15 billion dollars on the CWG and in the long run an additional 90 billion dollars will be the loss caused to the Indian economy because of the huge financial deficit caused before and after the Games. We were appreciated for pulling up our socks at the right time to put up the greatest CWG show ever. But can we hope to win the bid to host the Olympics in 2020?

The answer is yes, we can. First and foremost, four in five Indians believe that through perseverance, we can host the Olympic Games (according to a poll conducted by *The Times of India*) in 2020. The corrupt administration has to be tried, and hopefully, we can expect a fair trial. Our officers will definitely learn from the firm stance our country takes against corrupt officials. India has the economic capacity to bid for the Olympic Games as well and has also showed itself as having a reliable and dependable security structure. Also, the IOC president has expressed his willingness and 'pleasure' in awarding the hosting of the Games to a third-world nation. With all these factors in mind, we do have a fair chance of getting to host the Olympics in 2020. But the biggest hurdle lies in the fact that India has not been able to overthrow its image of being corrupt. Even Indian citizens, though the majority of people believe that we have the *potential* to host the 2020 Olympics, point out the undermining factor here: our officials are not dependable, they are liable to compromise the nation's image for their private interests. But the Olympics are on a much larger scale than the Commonwealth Games, both in the number of athletes and nations participating, as well as the infrastructure involved. If we as a nation continue to provide constant support for the seven years' build up to the 2020 Games (the bidding is in mid-2013), we can show the world how India has transitioned from being a regional giant to a global superpower.

Counterpoint

Madhav Dutt

The Commonwealth Games have just ended and the prospect of hosting the Olympics is already being discussed. Even though it might seem like a sensible bid after the supposed success of the Commonwealth Games, organising such a grand event requires a lot of money, which India must prioritize elsewhere.

The Government has other vital schemes such as the RTE and NREGA that require huge investments. We have a major defence contract of about \$10.2 billion pending and considering that our defence budget is escalating every year, a sporting event can certainly not be the prerogative. Currently, India has to buy 126 multi-role fighter jets, improve its nuclear submarine capabilities, improve its fleet of aircraft carriers and invest in other defence projects. In the twelfth Five-Year Plan India's infrastructure development budget is 40.99 lakh crores (over a trillion US dollars), which is double of what it is in the current Plan. Infrastructure takes priority over a sporting event as it is a necessity for economic growth. With all these present in our economic schedule, hosting the 2020 Olympics will not be viable.

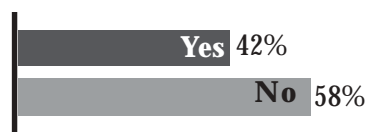
Even if India decides to host the Olympics, it will not be able to organise the event because, as we saw in the CWG, the level of organisation was inappropriate for the scale of the event and even though we managed to pull it off, handling the Olympics will be a significantly larger and more daunting task. We saw innumerable scams related to the CWG covered by the newspapers, which sullied the image of the Games. Thus it is certain that when we even try to bid for the Olympics we will still be haunted by controversies. Before we bid for such a grand event, it is necessary to increase our managerial efficiency. As of now, our management is not up to the mark and that is evident through the chaos during the CWG. We need to develop a foolproof mechanism to handle corruption before we opt to host such an event.

If the purpose of Olympics is to increase participation of Indians in the Games, then it is certainly not the most appropriate method for doing so. To provide more opportunities to sportsmen, India should instead invest in improving the sports infrastructure all over the country; the facilities in India should be pervasive. Instead of concentrating all the facilities in one location, facilities that are spread across the country, will be far more useful.

The suggestion to host the Olympics emerged as a result of firstly, our ignorance of other expenditures and secondly, our capacity to forgive and forget. It seems that we have already forgiven our Government for what it did during the CWG and in our forgetfulness of all the scams and corruption, have zealously started discussing the prospect of hosting the Olympics.

Opinion oll

Should India host the Olympics in 2020?



(124 members of the community were polled)

School Captain's Founder's Day Address, 2010

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen and welcome to The Doon School platinum jubilee celebrations. Seventy-five years it's been and still growing as an institution. I would like to extend my gratitude to the Honourable President of India, Srimati Pratibha Devisingh Patil, for gracing us with her presence today. After all, it is quite an honour to speak after the President.

Six years ago, I remember walking through the Main Gate as a D-former. All I was given were a blazer, a tie, a spartan bed and a nondescript welcome letter on my first day. I soon learnt of the rules regarding no cell phones, no tuck, no money and to add to my misery were changes-in-break, P.T and communal baths. Was this what they called the best school in the country? Moreover, the emphasis on the number one continued to haunt me through my first year. One break share, one phone call allowance, one hundred lines, one locker, one holiday in a week, one blazer and one tie for the entire winter season. But after six years, I realized how wrong I indeed was. The Doon experience is also one in a lifetime. It is the number one that infuses the spirit of egalitarianism, for wherever you come from, whatever your parents might be, at The Doon School everyone is given that one blazer and that one tie only. The only one difference that matters is what you do in School and how much you extract from the plethora of activities that this institution provides.

Ladies and gentlemen, the fact is the Dosco is constantly developing. From doing changes-in-break to giving them, from running rounds during morning P.T. to taking them, from standing in lines to making them, it is this transition from that intimidated D-former to a confident SC former, that makes the Dosco stand out. Every Old

The Dosco is constantly developing. From doing changes-in-break to giving them, from running rounds during morning P.T. to taking them, from standing in lines to making them

Boy present in the audience, I'm sure, has his own tale to tell, had his own story to script and has his own version of that hierarchical ascent. The journey from a nobody to a somebody makes The Doon School ethos so unique, so incorruptible in its foundation.

I was walking across the Main Field the other day, pondering over life after Doon. Six years, the same buildings, the bells, the fields, the uniform, the friends, the routine, the monotony. I remembered my favourite quote from the movie *Shawshank Redemption* where Morgan Freeman, a prisoner says "These walls are funny. First you hate them, then you get used to them. After long enough, you get so you depend on them. That's institutionalized." I think this holds true for every student who passes out from Chandbagh.

For the Dosco is not just an individual, he isn't just flesh and blood but is a symbol. A symbol that stands for leadership, individuality, unity, and most importantly, brotherhood and fraternity. For why would an Old Boy

come back after 50 years to a campus that looks completely different from his time? What are the buildings and structures made of save brick and mortar? It is the people that make an institution and not the buildings. It is

Sadly, life has become about marks, Board examinations, colleges and job placements... Any other school will let you sail through all these tests, but what of the test of life?

the bond between fellow students that has sustained our School for 75 years.

As we stand here at our platinum jubilee celebrations, the inevitable question arises: What does the future hold for us as a school? Today, an average university demands nothing less than a 90% percent. Sadly, life has become about marks, Board examinations, colleges and job placements. How do we adapt to the changing global needs? Any other school will let you sail through all these tests, but what of the test of life? At Doon, the House spirit inculcates loyalty, social service, altruism, leadership, responsibility, punishments, discipline, tutorials, mentorship, public speaking, confidence and personality, captaincies, governance, art, creativity, elections, citizenship. I ask you what 95% will give you the above life skills?

Shiv Khera once said that winners don't do different things, they do things differently. The fact that the same beliefs and values of The Doon School are as valid today as in 1935 is proof of the immutability of our philosophy, that of true learning. A Dosco may fail his tests tomorrow, but I can assure you he will not fail the test of life. And in that lies our biggest challenge: the challenge to preserve our ethos and philosophy in a rapidly changing society, a philosophy society does not value anymore. When a student walks into this institution, he must know that The Doon School is not a reflection of society, it is an exception to it.

Arthur Foot once said that The Doon School does not make scholars out of boys; it makes men out of them. I hope we continue to make such men as we have in the past. As that D-former, I had dreamt of Doon. I had heard of it. And after six years, all I have to say is that I'm proud to be a Dosco. Thank you and I hope you are having a great time at Chandbagh.

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