



Established in 1936

# The Doon School WEEKLY

Saturday, April 2 • 2011 • Issue No. 2278



SHORT STORY  
2

NEW MASTER  
3

ADIEU DEA  
3

MINUTES  
4

## Editorial

*Doing away with a tradition that is misused is always challenging for any institution. However, restarting that tradition is an even bigger challenge. On March 26, the School Council discussed restarting one such tradition known as the 'Walk In' which was forgone about eight years ago.*

*Traditionally, the Walk In was an event when any victorious team or individual would walk into the CDH and be applauded for his performance in that respective field. However, around eight years ago, a certain individual was given a Walk In for being suspended from the School. It was this event that abused the spirit of the tradition and brought about its end.*

*Over the past eight years, the Walk In was sorely missed as a tradition. There were of course house feasts, chaat parties and other mediums to celebrate victory, but none had the unique spirit of the Walk In. The Walk In recognized the efforts of a team or an individual in a way that could not be substituted by any other form of celebration. The acknowledgement by the entire student community made the event special for Doscos.*

*Fortunately, the School reviewed its decision to cancel the Walk In. After all, one cannot let one instance of irresponsibility overshadow the myriad other instances when the event was conducted in the right spirit.*

## Opinion oll

Are you in favour of the decision to restart the 'Walk In'?

 Yes 53%

 No 47%

(Sc formers and masters were polled)

## doonspeak

The Walk In...

- Is a good tradition - MLJ
- Should not be reintroduced - PMV
- A good tradition but should be controlled - VNP
- A great and wonderful tradition - MHF
- A great tradition if conducted in the correct spirit - PBR
- Should be done in a civilized manner - SJB
- Should be conducted in a good manner if they desire its continuation - BKC

## Of Environment and Disasters

The Doon School Weekly interviewed **Dr Anil Joshi**, who conducted a talk at School on 'Disasters and Disaster Management' on Saturday, March 12

**The Doon School Weekly (DSW): As an avid environmentalist, what do you aim to achieve?**

**Anil Joshi (ALJ):** In the near future, I hope to see a sense of urgency in the people of India, desiring to better the environmental standards. Only then, sustainable development can be achieved on a large scale. Thus, people should start leading a more eco-friendly life, focusing less on comfort.

**DSW: What are your views on the importance of rural India today?**

**ALJ:** Rural India constitutes 72% of the Indian population. Therefore, the political power is held in the rural sector. This alone exemplifies the immense importance it holds both in the environmental and economic sector. For the conservation of resources, only rural India can contribute once economic strength comes their way. Once this happens, villagers will stop migrating to urban areas in search of better livelihood. This is the only way India can prosper.

**DSW: With regard to power generation, what is the answer to the growing demand for electricity?**

**ALJ:** The main bottleneck faced by the Indian economy is that the sources of power in our country are thermal and hydro, which is again a strain on the resources. So, hybridisation should be introduced. More opportunities for renewable sources of energy such as solar and wind should be encouraged so that sustainable environmental development can be achieved. Also, more attention should be diverted in supporting many small projects instead of a big project as the big ones pose greater threat to the environment.

**DSW: How can sustainable economic and environmental development be integrated?**

**ALJ:** Of course, it is a possibility. Economic imbalance such as the recession does not affect the middle or lower class because they do not have enough purchasing power. Economic menace like inflation reduces the purchase of luxury goods with essential goods gaining more importance. This reflects the fact that the Indian economy is a pseudo economy.

**DSW: What measures do you suggest that the students of the Doon School take in order to achieve greater levels of development in rural communities?**

**ALJ:** Review what has been done and what is being done. Take a note from your capable seniors. Always try to create an environment where sustainable development is encouraged. Only then will the students work have a long lasting effect for the betterment of the environment.

# Unquotable Quotes

*You are boys, behave like males*  
**PVD**, what?!  
*I want the match to last till 49.5 balls*  
**KAR**, so did we.  
*This guy topped ISCSE.*  
**Shubham Agarwal**, the topper.  
*He told me and me to do this.*  
**Vikramaditya Kapur**, did you do it?

## Opinion Poll

Were you satisfied with your performance in test week

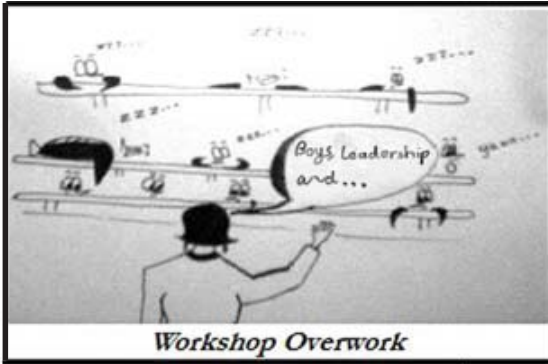


(308 members of the community were polled)

## doontoon

Madhav Dutt

### The Term so far...



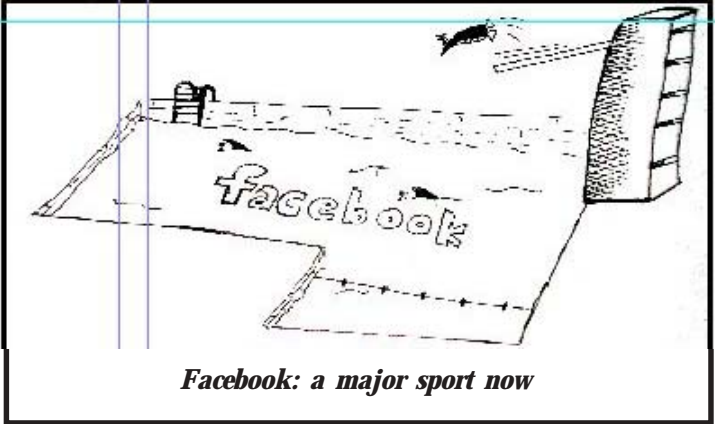
**Workshop Overwork**



**What can go wrong, will go wrong!**



**Computers: Our real challenge at Doon**



**Facebook: a major sport now**

### | Short Story | **Delusions** Utkarsh Jha

A restless crowd had gathered near a shop, in the smoldering heat. The crowd stood on its toes to catch a glimpse of the three super human figures. Grasped tightly in the hands of three boys were shiny new Mattel Action heroes. Each of these so called super humans were dressed in khakis with pointed collars and two pockets and a nametag each reading 'Seals'. These super humans had been the talk of all the children in the town as they had been flown into the country from a place far away.

These super humans decorated with a golden belt and well armed with a machine gun were a part of the Peace Keeping Troops latest efforts to restore peace in the war torn region. The children had heard about war from some "big people" who often visited the area accompanied by guards fitted with weapons. These children believed that war was a game and were excited to be a part of it. Therefore, to them anything associated with war was impressive.

All around the crowd, buildings stood damaged and glass lay scattered on the street as a result of the civil war raging through the country. Dark fumes rose to the sky from far away, tanks lay charred on the street and women sat weeping among the rubble. Water was hard to find and food even harder, but to the children this was life as usual. They had never seen a peaceful nation, they knew no deprivation, no grief.

The three boys now feeling like princes after the hours of

attention set out for the long journey that lay ahead of them. They had no parents, they had no homes, they had only themselves. However, they had been told of a beautiful and magical land far away, where there were homes and where water poured from taps. They did not have a clue where this land lay but as they did not have much to do they were willing to give it a try.

The sky was bathed in a deep orange dye and the sun was dipping behind the mountains in the distance. The moon was almost out. As the boys trudged down the dusty path towards, or maybe even away from, the land of dreams, they talked about the war. These boys were mesmerized and fancied everything about war from the smoke which bellowed out of buildings to the deserted tanks they could use as shelter at night. It was their dream to be a part of the war. They playfully shot at each others toy figures, claiming to have killed the other as they continued their journey.

The boys decided to camp in a small tank they found lying abandoned in the middle of a side road. They thought it would shelter them from any attack and would keep them warm at night. However, they were unaware of a group of men lying some distance away with guns aimed at the tank. As soon as they neared the tank their bodies were pierced by bullets which came flying from the sand. The boys fell to the ground clutching their figures of war.

There was an uproar amongst the men. They were extremely jubilant, "We got them. They are dead. Dead for good." But their exultation was short lived after a man from the group noticed that they were not the enemy, they were only children.

## | Interview |

# German Mastery

The Doon School Weekly interviewed Dhanesh Joshi,  
the new German teacher on campus

**The Doon School Weekly (DSW): Sir, could you trace your journey to Doon?**

**Dhanesh Joshi (DNJ):** I was born and brought up in Pune and graduated from Pune University in 2004. After University, I taught German at an Air Hostess Academy. I went to Delhi thereafter to pursue my Master's degree in German Literature at the Jawaharlal Nehru University. I worked for the corporate giant Symantec as a technical support for German customers. After a few years, I joined the Max Mueller Bhavan for their Pasch Project as a German language faculty. At the Bhavan I conducted many youth camps to teach the German language through theatre. After completing three camps I went on to work at the auto-major Volkswagen, attached to the training and quality department.

**DSW: After working in the corporate sector, why did you decide to teach in a school?**

**DNJ:** During my tenure at Volkswagen I realised through the many programmes I developed, that teaching was my real passion.

**DSW: Apart from German, what other interests do you have?**

**DNJ:** I am very interested in dramatics and am also a movie buff. I am also a part of a German theatre group and have acted in various short films. The theatre group is one of the few Indian groups which have performed in German in Germany and continue to perform all over India.

**DSW: Could you tell us about German as a language and what made you pursue it as a career?**

**DNJ:** Most of the people say that Sanskrit and German have a lot of similarities. However, I beg to differ. If you

compare German to your mother tongue, there will be great grammatical resemblance. People also say that German is a rude language but it is actually very picturesque and precise. The reason for my interest in German is that Pune, where I come from, has a huge German influence. It is one of the only cities in India to have German training institutes that were established as early as 1923. This culture of German which wafted through the city inspired me to take up German.

**DSW: Why do you recommend that students take up German as a language?**

**DNJ:** As I have already mentioned that German bears a strong resemblance to your mother tongues be it Telugu, Tamil or Marathi. Thus it is easier to grasp German if you can see the connections between German and your preferred language. Also, if you look at it commercially, there are a lot of German companies coming to India. If you wish to join these companies, which are as diverse as Bosch and BMW, it will be much easier if you know German. This is true because these companies use German terms which don't have a direct translation to English. Thus, German is easier to learn and can help your career.

Rapidfire	<b>Biggest weakness...</b>
	Food.
	<b>Favourite Dish...</b>
	Any vegetarian Maharashtrian dish.
	<b>Do you like animals...</b>
	No, I do not gel with them.
	<b>Not even with German Shepherds...</b>
	Ha! No.
<b>Role model...</b>	
Bertolt Brecht.	
<b>Secret talent? (It won't remain secret any more)...</b>	
Cooking.	

---

## Letter To The Editor

---

### *Auf Wiedersehen, Adieu, Goodbye*

I have many cherished memories of classes over the past six years, which keep coming back now that I am close to leaving School. I remember turning one of my old English teachers into a werewolf in a series of short stories I wrote for a class assignment. I remember playing Dog and the Bone one Biology class to learn the names of the study of different species of animals. Some of the most colourful memories that I have, however, are those of my German class with DEA, whom we called (unoriginally) Herr Lehrer, who taught me for all six years that I was in School. (Those who have seen the renowned German exhibitions will know exactly what I mean by 'colourful'.)

I confess I had initially studied German because the French class was full. But after the first few classes, I began enjoying the subject. There was something about DEA's method, how he told my father on PTM that he did not teach us the alphabet till C-form, how he focussed more on teaching us speech patterns before we learnt the grammar. He justified himself by arguments in linguistics, but the fun we had in class was more than enough reason for us to accept his methods. We would play card games and sing songs, the learning from which we would realise much later, that because of singing *Die Gedanken Sind Frei* or *Das Caravan Lied* we improved our vocabularies and learned sentence constructions, and because we addressed each other with German names in class we learned the German phonetics. We ended up learning so much, not just of the language, but the German culture and history as well. Moreover, everybody enjoyed his classes (although one of us left German to be able to visit the tuck shop as the timings clashed).

Founder's was when we really got to see some action. It would be an understatement to comment on DEA's creativity. Instead, I shall only say that the Founder's section of the *Yearbook* would always have more photographs of the German exhibition than any other: Anirudh Khanna and Sriyash Kishorepuria once dressed up as Otto von Bismarck and Karl Marx and mingled with the visitors. Who can forget the Berliner Café and the Brandenburg Gate that we erected during another exhibition and the many games we devised on German history.

Reading his farewell note in the *Weekly* (Issue No 2277, dated March 26) brought a smile to my face. A smile because it brought back all those memories of classes and those exhibitions, which we certainly enjoyed as much as he did. All of us still remember the chorus of *Das Caravan Lied*, which he sometimes sang at the end of every lesson: "*Auf Wiedersehen, adieu, goodbye. / Wir fahren heute fort.*"

-Vivek Santayana

# Minutes of the School Council Meeting

February 17, 2011, 3:00 PM, in the Nandlal Kilachand Library

The following members were present:

Dr. Peter McLaughlin	Headmaster(Chairman)
Mr. Philip Burrett	Dy. Headmaster
Mr. Sameer Katre	Director of Administrative Affairs
Dr. M.C. Joshi	Dean of Activities and Social & Community Service
Mr. D.K. Sharma	Dean of Sports
Mr.P.K. Nair	Dean of Studies
Mr. A. Qezilbash	Dean of Student Welfare
Mr.Piyush Malaviya	Director of Public Affairs
Mr. B.K. Chamola	Housemasters' Representative
Mr. Sandip S. Mann	Teachers' Representative
Mrs. Anuroop Jauhal	Dames' Representative
Vihaan Khanna	School Captain
Sumaer Sandhu	Prefects' Representative
Rahil Badhwar	H House Senior Representative
Raghav Chandra	H House Senior Representative
Guruansh Singh Gambhir	H House Junior Representative
Daksh Bhatia	H House Junior Representative
Angad Singh	J House Senior Representative
Raniz Bordoloi	J House Senior Representative
Sachin Mehra	J House Junior Representative
Arth Gupta	J House Junior Representative
Prabhjot Singh	K House Senior Representative
Dhruv Sirohi	K House Senior Representative
Aditya Bhattacharya	K House Junior Representative
Ritvik Kar	K House Junior Representative
Abhinav Mittal	O House Senior Representative
Yuv Vir Khosla	O House Senior Representative
Vrindam Nagpal	O House Junior Representative
Arjun Kamdar	O House Junior Representative
Udit Kapur	T House Senior Representative (Secretary)
Vikram Kejariwal	T House Senior Representative
Arjun Sharma	T House Junior Representative (Stand in)
Shrey Kapoor	T House Junior Representative (Stand in)

## **1. Election of the Secretary to the School Council**

The chairman welcomed the council and introduced the first issue on the agenda which was electing the new Secretary of the School Council. The three nominees were – Udit Kapur (Tata House)(nominated by Rahil Badhwar and seconded by Sumaer Sandhu), Dhruv Sirohi (Kashmir House)(nominated by Raghav Chandra and seconded by Vihaan Khanna) and Abhinav Mittal (Oberoi House)(nominated by Yuv Vir Khosla and seconded by Vikram Kejrival). Voting followed, by secret ballot. Udit Kapur was appointed as the secretary of the School Council for the year 2011-2012.

## **2. Introducing specialization in school**

Sumaer Sandhu brought to the notice of the house the need for specialization in school. Mr Burrett added by saying that the school is already supporting the boys who are excelling at a certain activity to whatever extent it can. Dr McLaughlin ended the topic by saying that The Doon School always stood for an all round education, though specialization can be offered in certain individual cases.

## **3. The Role of the School Council**

The Chairman stressed that the School Council is a very essential decision making body that had taken important decisions in the past, such as the changing the winter uniform; and hence all meetings should be taken seriously. It was decided that agendas for the subsequent meetings should be handed over to the members of the Council at least a week before the meeting.

*Online Edition:* <http://www.doonschool.com/publications/the-doon-school-weekly/latest-issue>

[weekly@doonschool.com](mailto:weekly@doonschool.com)



IPSS® All rights reserved. **Printed by:** The English Book Depot, 16 Rajpur Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand – 248009, India. **Published by:** Philip Burrett, The Doon School, Dehradun.

**Editor-in-Chief:** Kanishka Malik **Senior Editor:** Raghav Puri **Hindi Editor:** Shivank Singh **Associate Editors:** Shashvat Dhandhanian, Yuv Vir Khosla **Special Correspondents:** Madhav Dutt, Vikramaditya Kapur, Raniz Bordoloi, Kunal Kanodia, Utkarsh Jha **Correspondents:** Mihir Kiran, Arjun Kamdar, Harshvardhan Singh, Aditya Bhattacharya **Junior Correspondents:** Manan Pradhan, Devansh Agarwal **Webmaster:** Vishal Mohla **Assistant Managers:** Shrey Nagalia, Aaron Jacob, Arvindanabha Shukla **Technical Assistant:** KC Maurya