A ‘bout ’ Boxing

Yuv Vir Khosla reports on the recently concluded Inter-House Boxing Competition

I have never really liked boxing as a sport. It requires unnecessary physical and mental exertion and it seems rather pointless to me. I see no reason why any Dosco should spend exhaustive hours running with layers and layers of clothes to shed a few kilos. But Boxing has a unique appeal to it which drivesDoscos, including me, to enter the ring year after year, even if it is only to survive a single round! Every Dosco that enters the ring has a point to prove, be it to himself or to others: he doesn’t settle for defeat. As for me, the true power of resilience, courage, the will to fight back and character is tested on that ring, and however much I might dislike it as a sport, I can’t prevent myself from stepping onto the canvas.

Maybe that is the reason why the School has taken the decision to continue holding the Inter-House Boxing Competition, and as the Headmaster put it, “Boxing has very much become a tradition in School.”

The venue of this year’s boxing competition was the Old Basketball Courts instead of the MPH. The openness lost the sense of heat and excitement a bout entails. On the other hand, the new venue gave a sense of majesty, with the audience sitting along the ring. There was a significant rise in the standard of boxing this year. With practice beginning early September, boys trained through the afternoons, even during the Soccer and Athletics seasons. What was different this year was that more emphasis was laid on technique, rather than boys merely trying to lose weight to fit into a weight category. This was evident in the bouts during the Competition and there weren’t any one-sided or wild bouts.

The very first bout between Kartikeya Kardam and Hrithik Shukla set high standards for other boxers to match up to. An unexpected win by Karan Singhal over Siddhartha Dhanda added to the unpredictability and excitement of the day. But the highlight of the day was undoubtedly the bout between Saptarshi Biswas and Uday Soni (on Exchange from King’s School, Australia). More than the technicality, it was the willpower and resolve of both the boxers that appealed to most.

There were a number of walk-overs on the second day, but, in my opinion, one bout compensated for it all - between Shantanu Seth and Tanmay Kapoor. Tanmay was determined to prove his mettle after being defeated by Shantanu the previous year, whereas Shantanu, who received the award for the Most Scientific Boxer the previous year, was unwavering. Shantanu’s mere agility and prowess impressed a number of us, although Tanmay managed to outshine him and win the bout narrowly.

Each and every bout on the final day of the Inter-House Boxing Competition had its own story to tell. The standard seemed to increase with every successive bout. In the juniors category, Kartikeya Kardam, Anshul Tibrewal, Tanishq Agarwal, Durgesh Agarwal and Rakshit Sinha won their respective categories. Considering the fact that this was the first year for a number of boxers, the hours of training were evident in their bouts. In the seniors category, we surely missed a few of the experienced boxers due to previous injuries (including the School Boxing Captain, Vigya Singh). The veterans did not fail to impress the audience, with Vikram Kejriwal, Prannoy Bohara, Aditya Gupta, Raghav Chandra and Nivit Kochhar winning their respective categories. Nivit Kochhar, deservingy, received the award for the Most Scientific Boxer for his supreme agility, steadfastness and technical dexterity, whereas the award for the Best Loser went to Ritzy Rajeswi.

In all, the technical proficiency of all boxers and immaculate execution of the event (under the keen eye of SRT, MLJ and the coach, Mr. Rawat) spoke very highly of this year’s Inter-House Boxing Competition.

Results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Juniors:</th>
<th>Seniors:</th>
<th>House positions:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st: Tata</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd: Oberoi</td>
<td>2nd: Jaipur</td>
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<td>3rd: Jaipur</td>
<td>3rd: Oberoi</td>
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<td>4th: Hyderabad</td>
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<td>5th: Kashmir</td>
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1. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, November 19
APPOINTMENTS
The following are the various appointments for the forthcoming year:

School Dance Co-ordinator: Agni Raj Singh
Boys-in-Charge of the Paper Recycling SUPW: Eeshat Tiwary and Madhav Dutt
Boys-in-Charge of the Photography STA: Abhishek Pande and Shrestha Verma
Boy-in-Charge of Senior Hindi Dramatics - Saif Ali
Editor-in-Chief of the Srijan Prayas - Sanat Kumar Thakur
Editor-in-Chief of the Yuv Arpan - Shubham Dhangra
Editorial Board of The Circle:
Editor-in-Chief: Yash Johri
Editor: Aditya Vikram Gupta
Chief of Production: Shashvat Dhandhania

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

SNAP SHOTS
The Photography Prizes for the various categories are as follows:

Abstract
1st: Yasharth Goyal
2nd: Sparsh Batra
3rd: Sparsh Batra

Landscape
1st: Sparsh Batra

Nature
1st: Ashutosh Goyal
2nd: Yasharth Goyal
3rd: Amal Agarwal

Portrait
1st: Sparsh Batra
2nd: Abhishek Pande

Congratulations!

READING AWARDS
The following boys have received their reading awards:

Juniors:
Bronze: Chaitanya Hemant Agarwal
Medals:
Bronze: Vrindam Nagpal
Silver: Suyash Raj Shivam and Harsh Vardhan Bansal

Seniors:
Bronze: Uday Vir Lakhanpal
Silver: Gaurav Garg

Congratulations!

PING PONG
The following are the results of the Senior Individual Table Tennis Tournament, 2011:

Runner-Up: Ujwal Singh
Winner: Raghav Kothiwal

Congratulations!

COLOURS
Shubham Dhangra had been awarded Colours in Drama.
The following were awarded colours in Tennis:
Half Colours: Shivan Tandon, Siddharth Bharadwaj, Yash Jalan (re-awarded)
Full Colours: Raghav Nath, Arush Sood
The following were awarded colours in Squash:
Half Colours: Siddharth Sethi, Kabir Sethi
Full Colours: Vihan Khanna, Ishaan Sandhu

Congratulations!

SHOOTING HOOPS
The following are the House positions in the recently concluded Inter-House Basketball Competition, 2011:

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

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

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

Well done!

The WHO?
Who is John Lennon?
A football player - Adhiraj Singh
A cricket player - Sudhansh Aggarwal
A cricketer - Shourya Aggarwal
A writer - Pranav Kothiwal
A guy with a weird hairstyle - Kushagr Singh
A boxer - Kartikeya Garg
The President of Russia - Shivam Sharma

He was one of the founding members of The Beatles

Are you getting enough time to study for the upcoming trials?

Yes 27%
No 73%

(248 members of the community were polled)

Next week’s question: Do you think it is justified to criticize School policies?
His Holiness: The Dalai Lama’s Founder’s Day Address

The leaders of the school, the famous school, The Doon School, professors and guests and students, usually I prefer referring to you as human brothers and sisters. On a secondary level, there are differences. But from the real level, we are all the same human being, just human brothers and sisters. Differences of nationalities, races, religion, and culture—these are secondary. This is why I call you my human brothers and sisters, preferably, young brothers and young sisters. Firstly, you invited me, thank you so much. I had the opportunity to visit here, Dh eun D un. 1959, March I left Lhasa. The situation was very difficult. So things became out of my control. So April 59 I reached Mussoorie. So one year I stayed in Mussoorie and on few occasions I visited here, D h eun D un. It is a very nice place. So that was the beginning of my refugee life after serious difficulties. And I really enjoyed India’s freedom, so one year I remember I stayed in Mussoorie. I had a really happy moment. Then in 1960, I shifted to Himachal, in D haramsala. At that time, D haramsala was quite isolated, in the early 60s, so we prefer to stay here. But this was my temporary settlement and my long term place was in D haramsala. So there also, one advantage is that it is just behind the snow mountain. So in a way the last 52 years I have been a refugee in a way. With me, I got 100,000 Tibetan refugee communities in this country.

Initially, there were a lot of differences. The local people had very good relations with the people. Many of my friends say that the Tibetan community is one of the most successful. In education, Pandit Nehru really showed genuine concern for the community. So I am extremely happy to have come to this place along with my experiences, so I am very happy. Then after I came to India, what I learnt beside many other things, one important thing is that there is a thousand year old concept of ahimsa and religious tolerance. So, I was very impressed with non violence and religious harmony. So eventually when I saw a different part of the world where there was too much violence. So I really felt that India’s traditions of ahimsa are really relevant in today’s world. Also, I have been a few times to visit one of the people who follow Jesus Christ and reading the Bible—same people, but in the name of Protestants and Catholics. Then our Muslim brothers and sisters, in the name of Sunni and Shia, killing. Then I really feel that now India’s thousand year old traditions must reach more people. So wherever I go, I tell people about ahimsa. Ahimsa means you are very active in the face of difficulties, but to deal with the problems in a non-violent way. Use of weapons, use of force, especially in the modern world has immense destructive power. A lot of innocent people suffer—women and children. And in today’s reality, the global economy—continent to content is interlinked, so the destruction of neighbour is your destruction. We must find ways of reconciliation via non-violence. I always try to propagate India’s thousand year old tradition. Out of sincere motivation and compassion, sense of concern of others’ well being. Out of the desire to cheat, bully, exploit or take advantage of other people is a kind of violence. There must be a clear demarcation of violence and non-violence. Firstly, our common experience, all of us came from our mother and grew up in our mothers care, as soon as we born the child had no idea who the person is, but biologically, totally relying on the person and so is the mother totally committed. That experience is deeply ingrained in our blood. Naturally, some are very smart and some are a little less. I think that those who received maximum affection from their mothers are very happy and calm inside. Those who received less or were abused have some sense of insecurity. I think if you look carefully into those neighbors, those families who really enjoy human affection without any respect to economic conditions only because of trust. However, other families may be very rich, even powerful, but those members are not happy because of lack of trust. We can see these things. If we use common sense, we can see this. Then the third point, according to modern medical science for physical health, healthy mind is important. Calm mind helps to sustain a healthy body. In that respect, I want to show my face. My age is nearly 77 years. My close friend, my doctor; did a gall bladder operation. So now I am the same body, same person but an important organ is missing. My doctor had earlier told me to remove my bladder because it had enlarged two times. First, I was hesitant but when I looked at his sincere face, I trusted him. After the surgery, although the surgery was quite serious, I recovered quite rapidly. Nothing special, but I think my mental state is quite peaceful. And for the doctor, his wife later told me that after my operation her husband became much more calm. Perhaps that means that before he had got some problems. So, the calm mind, peaceful mind, really makes your health good, constant anger out of much greed, ambitions and too much worry transforms anger to hatred, which is very bad for health.

All religious traditions talks of the practice of tolerance, compassion and also contentment, self discipline and honesty. Why? Because all these are human religions. This is why all religions carry the same message. However, I always tell people that no matter which religion, it can be universal. The question of the ultimate source of peace and comfort is within you. That education should be universal. Therefore I tried to make it clear that we need education through a secular way. Wherever I go I make these values clear through common sense and scientific findings. Then second, my life long commitment is the promotion of religious harmony. I have many friends like some Christian’s. In Australia, before a talk once, a minister introduced me as a good Christian. So jokingly, I said that I consider you as a good Buddhist. Of course, both of us practice the same values. On a philosophical field there are differences, but that is necessary for different people who have different mental dispositions, need different approaches for the same purpose. I tell people, particularly the students here, who belong to the 21st century. My generation belongs to the twentieth century. Those people whose age is below 20, 30, 50, you really belong to this century. Look back in the 20th century, in spite of scientific advancements it was the century of violence. According to some historians in the 20th century, over 200 million people were killed. If this kind of violence transformed the world, there would have been some justification. So, for a better world, peaceful world, you should try to create a better world.

Education combined with warm heartedness ensures that your knowledge becomes useful. While you must keep a good heart, learn new things. This is what I wanted to share with you, how you can make this world a more peaceful place. Sometimes, I used to tell you that a peaceful world may not materialize in my lifetime, but there is a real possibility to change the world for the better: To create a healthier environment, possible. Our generation may not see these things. After 20-30 years, I may be in heaven or hell, I will be watching you—if you are building a nice world or a mess. Therefore, if we keep optimism with a vision and our method is a realistic method, then there is a real possibility of changing the world.

3. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, November 19
Asghar Wajahat's Founder's. The Hindi Drama Society chose to perform to carry on the tradition of performing something during Founder's celebrations, we were still determined to make a campfire where we cooked and stayed up till late, singing and dancing. There were different adventure sports lined up for us to explore the next day. The experience of the Pre-Conference had been exhilarating and we could not expect much more from the conference itself. The Pre-conference was concluded with a trip to CERN, where we saw the Large Hadron Collider.

We flew to England to attend the Conference at Wellington College. As soon as we arrived, we were escorted for the opening ceremony. The Conference was inaugurated by the Queen of England, making it a grand event. Our accommodation was even fancier as all of us were given a room to ourselves. Over the next two days, different members of the board of the RSC addressed us on pertinent issues. Others who addressed us were experts in their respective fields. What I liked about the conference was that we were a part of the Service Day. I went to an old age home to give company to the elderly company. We were privileged to have the opportunity to have lunch with King Constantine of Greece, also the head of the Round Square Organisation, which made the event even more royal and political. The best experience, by far, was the Wellington Race, where we had to run four kilometres crossing a frigid lake as an obstacle. The Round Square International Conference was not only productive but also gave us an opportunity to understand different cultures, as we interacted with people from around the world.

Gandhi Revisited

Shubham Dhingra reports on the Dramatic Reading performance in Hindi during Founder's Day this year

Knowing that a Hindi play would not be the highlight of Founder's celebrations, we were still determined to carry on the tradition of performing something during Founder's. The Hindi Drama Society chose to perform Asghar Wajahat's G odse@Gandhi.com; a recently written dramatized reading. What made it exciting for us, the actors, was that we were staging a dramatized reading for the first time in School and we were going to be the first to perform the piece as well.

The reading was a fictitious interpretation of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi's survival from Nathuram Godse's assassination attempt. After Gandhi abandons the Congress and starts working towards the welfare and self-governance of the villages, Nehru's government objects to this move and sentences Gandhi to prison. As fate would have it, Gandhi and Godse are placed in the same cell and the play revolves around their dialogue and discourse. Gandhi, well-known for his rigid ideas towards politics and the opposite sex bows down to his ego and apologizes for his mistake of not letting Sushma (a historical character) marry Nain in the end of the play. Other characters of the play, including Kasturba, Nehru, Patel and Abul Kalam relay their individual memories to give a better sense and understanding of the setting.

Vidit Sidana, Sanat Verma, Saif Ali, Uma Shankar Goswami, Ritesh Shinde and Saad Amin Khan acted and saw the play being received well by the audience. Shantanu and Vedant- who handled the technical aspect of the play were very imaginative. For the first time we realized that even the tone and orchestration of words can deliver a suitable ambience to the characters and it is not necessary for us to be part of a really big production. It was a great learning experience under the guidance of MHF, our director and SKD, our producer. Contrary to our expectations, the performance gathered quite a modest audience and conveyed the message of the play.
Making Life ‘King Size’

Utkarsh Jha

It is my dream to start the next billion dollar company. However, it only recently struck me that I had no idea how I was going to achieve this lofty desire. I decided I was definitely not going to become the next Mark Zuckerberg or Bill Gates as there are already enough graduates wrangling to launch their own company; option one gets ruled out. The second option would be to start a small company, maybe a retailing chain or a trading store. However, I have limited contacts in the field and my brain has never been blessed with the business sense needed to negotiate one’s way through the bureaucratic paperwork needed by the Indian Government. I do not think I can ever get used to the idea of having my hand under the table more than over the table. So here goes option two out of the window. I think my chances of earning my fortunes have become meeker. Maybe I should give up. Then someone suggests that I should take inspiration from the Great Indian Scam, popularly called the 2G scam. I toy with this idea a bit, but I am immediately repelled and don’t wade too far into the sea. Some days later I would be struck by the eureka moment, my billion dollar idea! I reluctantly accept that it borders a scam, but as society progresses the line between right and wrong becomes more elastic.

As I pushed my way through the humid and hot city of joy- Kolkata, last holidays, I was suddenly pushed by an incoming swarm of people. I was involuntarily being pushed by thousands of people from all across India, from different social classes to the banks of the Hooghly.

When I reached the spot I realized that the masses were headed towards a temple. That is when I realized that Walt Disney had made a mistake. Sure, he earned a lot of money, and still does (hopefully!), by creating Disney Land, but he did not make a temple in India. The Temple Corporation of India Limited- the next multimillion dollar company, serving over a billion people, connecting over a billion souls. I can even think of the various subsidiaries, Temple God Call, Temple Express, Low Cost Temple. Then I could also donate the money I earn from my international franchises to eradicate cancer and maybe buy myself a few cars. What I saw at the temple was indeed beyond surprise. I felt as if I was being swept off my feet. People who already had my business would not suffer during recessions, it was the new Great Indian Scam. A temple made these gullible people believe that there was a substitute to hard work. Sure, you can choose to believe in God, but you have to understand when to draw the line between actions and belief. However, this also made me believe that this meant that my plan was foolproof, as my business would not suffer during recessions, it would inversely see a huge rise in customers... sorry, Pilgrims.

If you are looking to start a new business, start a temple. It is a decision you will never regret.

Problems

Husain Haider

When you are trapped amidst darkness
And have nowhere to go;
No one to ask for help,
Nowhere to hide.

Grief, sorrow and misery are all you see;
Problematic circumstances arise,
And take you by surprise.
Life seems a burden,
A weight
Too heavy to handle.

Breaking out of this prison
Is a dream too big, a possible scandal!
There is no conceivable way to go,
No one to ask for help,
Nowhere to flee,

When between the devil and the deep blue sea...

The Survivor

Aditya Bhattacharya

I was born an innocent infant, Orphaned and reared in a jungle by the sea.
I grew up in the lap of nature, Mother Earth nurtured me.

Then one day I found a boat Upon which was carved ‘man’. I desired to seek out my parentage And I set sail at dawn.
I had been afloat for hours, When the tide rose and swept The boat away with such great force That I lost all bearings.

After hours of exhaustion, Pain and the blazing heat, I saw something on the horizon- A stretch of land.

As I got closer, I realized that This place was not what I Had envisaged it to be, Not Eldorado, it was a wasteland.

Blood and violence had reigned supreme here, Bones and charred wood lay strewn,
ON the bark of a tree were etched The damning words, “Man was here”.

Short Story

Creative Page

5. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, November 19
Over Critical

‘Change is the only constant.’

With revolutions and protests sweeping the world, 2011 has been the epilogue of change. Our school is going through rapid changes as well, and some of the new systems and policies that have been introduced as part of these changes have attracted some attention. In issue number 2299 of The Doon School Weekly, the article titled, ‘Air of Criticism’ by Ujjwal Dahuja highlighted the unnecessary, cynical behavior of students towards some of the changes that can be seen in School this year. Questioning the authorities regarding their decisions has prevailed in Chandnaghat since the inception of the School. Considering the numerous shifts in policy that have taken place (disregarding their pros and cons), a good deal of resentment must have been expected by the authorities.

So, is this criticism baseless and unjustified? Is the cynical behavior of the School community highly pessimistic? No. Does it imply that there are grave mistakes being committed by our legislators? Definitely not. As a part of the student community, I feel it is important for me to voice my opinion, as it would be for Ujjwal. Claiming that we are a democracy in nature, we must understand that the students have the ability to protest, through forums such as the W ekly. It is there for us to express our opinion. And in my opinion, it is necessary for us to write about what we resent, to bring it in front of the authorities. That is why we are not being cynical towards the School policies by criticizing them.

It is easier said than done! It would be naive to believe that if one would approach the authorities with dissatisfaction regarding a few policies, change would be seen as a way of forming a favourable public opinion just to form a favourable. Maybe, we need to understand the reason why certain policies have been adopted by School. Those governing this school are experienced educators, and maybe the benefits that arise out of their decisions might prove beneficial for us. About these benefits, I see us being informed either through the Assembly, where we are informed about our decisions that compete with the professional glossies. All that is well.

Let us return to the bone of his contention. Mr. Jha might want to consider that the W ekly is a school newspaper above all and therefore meets the fate of any newspaper. The ‘glossy’ magazines that are published once in a term, or perhaps once in a year are like any other magazine: they stay on our shelves a little longer than newspapers do, and are then, discarded! I can vouch for the fact that the more colourful pages of the D SIR are used by boys to cover their notebooks with.

I think it is uncharitable of Mr. Jha to sit on the lofty perch of the W ekly, and pronounce a verdict on other School publications. We might be spared such condemnation from our friends. Undoubtedly, the W ekly has always been and will always be the belle of the publications ball. But to condemn the other dancers for being better dressed is unbecoming. Even more uncharitable is to assume that the better dressed ones are necessarily the worse dancers because they spent time dressing better!

As one of my boys used to say; ‘Gimmie a break!’

I remain, a die-hard fan of the W ekly, its loyal reader and defender. More power to Black and White!

Warmly,

Prijanka Bhattacharyya,
Master-in-Charge,
The D SIR