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## Cricket: Doon vs. Mayo

*Gursharan Singh recounts the School Cricket Team's match against the Mayo College, Ajmer*

The School cricket team travelled to Ajmer after a gap of six years, and faced the redoubtable Mayo cricketers on a clear, warm morning, with just a hint of cloud cover.

Aruj Shukla lost the toss, as usual, and we took the field as what looked like two seasoned batsmen, strode, rather than walked, to the crease and took guard against our very young, though talented, opening attack manned by Tushar Gupta and Rohan Gupta.

My mind was full of dark foreboding as I tried to shut out the events of 2003, when we had been rather comprehensively beaten by a quality outfit.

The school tasted success in the fourth over as Rohan achieved extra bounce outside the off-stump and Nischay nicked it to Rajdeep behind the stumps. This brought Divyaraj to the crease to join the skipper, Chetan, who had clipped Tushar off his toes to the fence in the very first over and looked a menacing figure at the crease. After a poor start, both Tushar and Rohan bowled tightly but Aruj brought on Aazam to replace Rohan, rather unnecessarily, and the move proved unsuccessful as runs flowed from both sides of the wicket with Divyaraj, in particular, extremely unforgiving of the slightest looseness on the part of our bowlers. The score rattled along!

Aruj boldly introduced Yadav, who gave the batsmen a couple of uncomfortable moments but was not penetrative enough and matters stood at a dismal, for us, 80 for 1, in 12 overs, when Archit came on to bowl from the pavilion end, and was soon joined by the captain himself, operating from the far end. We had no inkling of the events soon to unfold and engulf the Mayo innings as a destructive spiral of successive ca-

lamitous happenings reduced their carefully built edifice to ashes in the space of 8 balls!

At the start of Archit's second over, Divyaraj quite contemptuously walked out of his crease and smote the diminutive leggie between mid-on and mid-wicket to the fence. He tried to force the next ball through the off-side and sliced it to Jai Sharma who held on to a pressure catch. The dismissed batsman had dominated our bowling, scoring 44 runs in 41 deliveries with eight boundaries and his departure brought in an impatient

Sparsh at number four and the batsman holed out to Prannoy at mid-on in trying to hit Archit off his length.

If this was not enough, Chetan, the Mayo captain, tried to paddle Shukla down to fine-leg and lost his middle stump. Matters further declined for Mayo when Sailesh tried to hoist a good length ball over

mid-wicket and was bowled by Shukla. In the space of eight deliveries the Mayo batsmen committed harakiri, going from a commanding 90 for 1 in the 16th over to 96 for 5 in the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Henceforth, the Mayo innings lost its momentum and despite a fine rearguard effort by Yograj folded up for 154 in 31.1 overs. The turnaround not only resulted in the posting of insufficient runs by Mayo but more crucially, left them crestfallen while a surge of positive energy punctuated the morale of the school team as Har Naresh and Archit walked out to begin the school reply.

Scoring at 4.4 runs an over is not difficult, if one keeps one's head, watches every ball like a hawk, and keeps the scoreboard ticking with judiciously taken ones and twos, while never failing to put away the odd bad

(contd. overleaf)



## AFZAL'S' WRAP

**The Afzal Khan Memorial Basketball Tournament** commenced on Wednesday 15, 2009. The following were the results in the Semifinal and Final rounds:

**Semifinal 1:** Welham Boys' School (61) vs. Shri Ram School, Aravali (17)

**Semifinal 2:** Lawrence School, Sanawar (58) vs. Delhi Publis School (39)

**Final Round:** Welham Boys' School (47) vs. Lawrence School, Sanawar (34).

## SCOOPED

The School Hockey Team played the **Indian Public School** on Tuesday, April 14, and won 4-1. Vidur Vij scored two goals while Piyush Gupta and Aazam Jauhal scored one goal a piece.

The School Hockey Team played **Welham Boys' School** on Wednesday, April 15, and won the match 2-0. Aazam Singh Jauhal scored both the goals.

Well done!

## CUTTING IT RIGHT

The following are the appointments in **Design and Technology** for the forthcoming year –

**Boy-in-Charge, STA:** Arvind Sharma

**Boy-in-Charge, SUPW:** Tejaswi Mathur  
Congratulations!

## TAUGHT BY AN ACE

**Siddharth Sharma**, a former professional tennis player from Bangalore, is conducting a week-long tennis camp in School, which began on Thursday, April 16.

## Unquotable Quotes

*We went alone together.*

**Jai Sharma**, on a date.

*Jazz is country music: how do you sing it?*

**Shaurya Sinha**, straight from New Orleans.

*Your blood group is HIV positive.*

**Akshay Nihalani**, delivers a verdict.

*You came and sit next to me.*

**Abhilaksh Lalwani**, also on a date.

*Potatoes grows on rubber trees.*

**Nikhil Bhushan**, botanist in the making.

*Give me a one biscuit.*

**MLJ**, there are none left.

*Should I stop at a pause?*

**Utkarsh Jha** waits and wonders.

*Is this some kind of jungle going on?*

**Pranjal Singh**, after watching too much *Tarzan*.

*What a slimey!*

**Rishab Kothari**, the slippery customer.

*That was a bloody gigantism.*

**Piyush Upadhyay's** gargantuan unquote.

*You have only disappeared my copy.*

**Shubham Dhingra**, vanishing act.

*Those who wants talks can out.*

**MAK**, as usual.

*Indira Gandbi was the father of Rajiv Gandhi.*

**Vihaan Khanna**, family chronicler.

*Let's draw two cars racing.*

**Sumer Singh Boparai**, on being asked to depict racism.

(contd. from Page 1)

delivery to the fence. Simple stuff but extremely difficult, especially on the stage of a momentous encounter like that between Doon and Mayo. For the next two hours or so, with a lunch break intervening, the two batsmen displayed nerves of steel and showed technical application that was a high quality exhibition in the art of batting on an Indian turf wicket.

From 3for 0 in the first over to 17 for 0 in the 5th, to 104 for 0 in the 24th over, the batsmen nudged, caressed and guided the ball around the square, running with almost telepathic understanding and were never in danger of losing their wickets. Gradually the Mayo bowling wilted and Har Naresh bludgeoned eight fours in his 79 not out while Archit carved out four hits to the fence before he failed to clear mid-off on the threshold of victory and holed out to a full toss with sixty golden runs to his name. Rajdeep joined Har Naresh briefly as the latter wasted no time in square-cutting to the fence and securing a tremendous victory for the School!

The win was achieved through some crafty and accurate spin bowling by Aruj and Archit, coupled with professionalism of a high order by the batsmen Har Naresh and Archit Kumar. The team as a whole was eager and skilled in the field and only one catch was spilled while many good ones pouched effortlessly, set up the game for us. Mayo College, the more experienced campaigners, floundered on the verge through disregard for the unforgiving nature of the game and its verities. It was proven yet again that over-confidence is as detrimental to an enterprise as timidity!

Scores in brief: **Mayo College:** 154 in 31.1 overs; Divyaraj 44, Yograj 32, Chetan 30; Archit 3 for 32; Aruj 2 for 26; Aazam 2 for 21; Tushar 2 for 39.

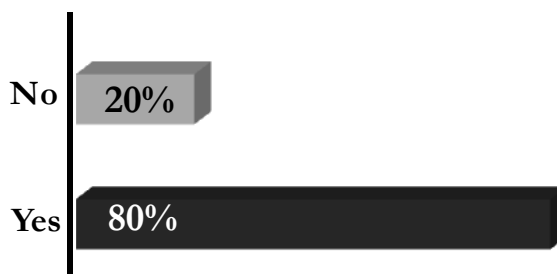
**The Doon School:** 158 for 1 Har Naresh Singh 79 n.o.; Archit Kumar 60; Chetan 1 for 18.

The Doon School won by nine wickets.



## Opinion Poll

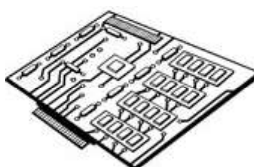
Do you feel that the decision to suspend punishments in School will achieve its stated aim?



(301 members of the School community were polled)

**Next Week's Question:** Does the Indian voter know whom to vote for?

## CAREER CALL



The Careers' notice board will feature **Electronic Engineering** as a career this week. All those interested should look it up.

# “Do we need punishments?”

Point	Arjun Badal	Piroune Balachandran	Counterpoint
<p>Benjamin Disraeli once said, “Ignorance can never settle a question.” This quote aptly describes how casuistic remarks like “Abolishing punishments will lead to complete indiscipline” – which have been heard quite frequently around campus after the prefects decided to give the ‘no punishments’ theory a try – actually are.</p> <p>Therefore the <i>Weekly</i> decided to settle this question – of whether abolishing punishments given by prefects is a step forward or vice versa – through intelligent debate, proffered to the school community. Personally, I am of the opinion that this prerogative of the prefectorial body is extremely commendable and one which is theoretically sound. What is intended by this decision is to ensure that a Dosco – during his school life – learns how to maintain a certain degree of discipline by himself.</p> <p>It is of vital importance that products of this institution are able to lead a disciplined life once they pass out of School, where they will not have prefects ensuring that their shoes are polished and their hair combed. Thus, this can only be possible when the value of self-discipline is instilled in them from an early age. The system of punishments in no way achieves this, as after a certain period of time, a Dosco learns a different skill, which is to do and not to get caught. This skill is one which could lead to Doscos – later on in their lives – trying to avoid the law by learning not to get caught. This decision of ‘no punishments’, therefore, prepares us for adult life, when we will not have policemen-like prefects monitoring our every move.</p> <p>As John Foster said, “A man without decision of character can never be said to belong to himself . . . he belongs to whatever can make captive of him.” Also, this decision does not mean that we will be living in a complete state of anarchism; punishments given by masters/Housemasters or the Headmaster have by no means been discontinued and serious offences will be dealt with by them. Prefects will also be monitoring the students at all points of time and ensuring that they are in order by reminding students of their duties and reprimanding them when they are wrong. Also, in special cases of consistent indiscipline, prefects will take necessary action. In this way, Doscos learn to maintain discipline by themselves, and at the same time know that if they are completely out of order, they will not be let off uncorrected. Another reason why discontinuing punishments will better the life of a Dosco is that there will be a decrease in the abuse of power to settle enmities. Extreme and vindictive punishments handed out by prefects to juniors they are not particularly fond of, is one aspect of School that needs correction urgently.</p> <p>These punishments are often unnecessary, inhumane and a sheer waste of time. These will obviously be decreased to a great extent if not completely stopped and will result in improved relations between juniors and seniors. To conclude, I would like to say with complete conviction that this step is one which will bring about positive change in The Doon School and one which I am sure will be successful.</p>		<p>In the words of Montesquieu, “all punishment which does not arise from absolute necessity is tyrannical.” Punishments are instruments which guard a society against anarchism, and therefore act in its interest. However, the confusion that surrounds punishments is due to its various applications, and the discretion applied before its usage. Reprimands have rather far-reaching consequences as opposed to what we choose to think. Punishments are employed for revenge, retribution, reform or deterrence. The one I would pick from the pack is, retribution. It, at least, has the effect of ingraining a repulsion to a particular mistake, even if doesn’t touch the reasons why it is a mistake.</p> <p>To understand the nature of punishments in The Doon School and their relevance, we first have to look at the world outside its boundaries. We can see that the law is intricately entwined with punishment and therefore we must first assess the laws which are prevalent in Doon. Another thought that comes to mind is that prefects arbitrarily decide punishments for misdemeanours. Thus our fates inadvertently depend on their changing moods. Despite all this, a society such as Doon inarguably needs a system of deterrents for it to function effectively. After all, five hundred adolescent teens need <i>something</i> to check them.</p> <p>My argument may not be valid if one can assume everyone to be perfectly rational. However our actions seem to prove otherwise. There would be no laws, let alone punishments, if such a situation existed. The point is that punishments should correspond with the seriousness of the offence and guidelines should be laid out for their use. Punishments, by their very nature, should teach one to correct a mistake rather than intimidate, but since this is not practical, the only way to prevent mistakes is to make sure one understands the consequences. The world runs on the wheel of fear. I agree, writing five hundred lines for wearing unpolished shoes is unacceptable, but many situations require authority and a measure of power to correct. This is granted by the meting out of punishments.</p> <p>The ‘reasons’ and ‘causes’ for given punishments in school are two separate things. When I look at it, the average Dosco has difficulty in fathoming the intentions of the prefect. We kick and scream too our hearts’ content and grudge the ‘injustice’ of life. And if we are in the mood we say “Life is unfair”.</p> <p>In conclusion, punishments are a necessary feature of our society. However, it must be noted that there will be rebellion if punishments have an element of injustice in them. The problem in itself is inconclusive. The answer lies in time and our own intelligence. The meting out of punishment must be instinctive but well informed, it should instil values but also inspire fear. A rod will not be effective until it is unbiased.</p>	

| Short Story |

## The Abandoned Rose

Abhinav Mittal

As he stepped out of the gleaming Ferrari, he plucked a single rose from a bouquet held in the hands of the young lady sitting beside him. He walked up to the room in the emergency ward, putting on a serious face. He entered solicitously.

“Hello, aunt. How are you feeling now?” he spoke in a concerned tone.

“Better, my dear.”

“A red rose, just for you.”

“Oh, how kind of you, my child. Come, take a seat,” she said, and smiled in her at her favourite nephew.

“I’m sorry but I really have to go. I have to attend an important board meeting. Ma will come in the evening and I’ll drop by sometime again. I hope you get well soon. Goodbye.”

“Goodbye, dear.”

The serious look was replaced by a more genial one and he straightened his tie, donned his sunglasses and ambled towards his car. He had played his part well today.

“So, where would you like to dine today? We have all the time in the world. I have taken the entire day off from work.” They drove away. The hospital was left far behind.

“What a sweet boy! I think I should leave all my property to him. He’s the only one who really deserves it.” The aunt began to write her will. She scribbled down all the formalities, but left it without a signature. “I think I should give it to him the next time he comes to meet me. He deserves that much from me.” She put her pen and the sheet of paper to rest on the table beside the bed.

A week passed, and then another. The aunt only thought, “He must be sick. He’ll definitely come tomorrow.” Her own tomorrows then came to an end. A hospital attendant came and covered her with a white sheet. The will and the pen continued to lie on the table beside her corpse. A little later, the nurse crumpled it and threw it in the dustbin, where it joined an old, withered, red rose.

## Trophy Flash

**Afzal Khan** (ex.— 494-TA '87) passed away under very tragic circumstances in December 1989 at the age of 21. He was an outstanding sportsman both at The Doon School and St. Stephen's College. Some of his friends and teachers came together to organize an All-India Annual Invitation Basketball Tournament to be held at The Doon School, Dehradun, in his memory. The first proud winner of the tournament was the Motilal Nehru School of Sports, Rai, and the runners-up were D.P.S., Mathura Road, Delhi, in 1991. With the passage of time, the tournament has achieved international repute and it has become popular among South Asian countries.



WINNER



RUNNERS-UP

Donated by Begum Feroza Aslam Khan (the late Afzal Khan's mother) in 1991, these trophies were first displayed on April 24, 1991 in the old Basketball courts.

(Source: School Archives)

(Contributed by: Trophy Squad)

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