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Saurav Sethia reports on the Asian Challenge Debate
Thursday, April 19. The Doon School team comprising Saurav Sethia, Vikram Aditya Chaudhri and Shaurya Kuthiala set off for RIMC for the Hugh Catchpole Debates. The next three days promised to be quite verbose! The first round was held in the Parliamentary format. We were up against the Scholar’s Home team who gave us a run for our money.
**REGULARS**

**DEBATING NEWS**

Shaurya Kuthiala, Vikram Aditya Chaudhari and Saurav Sethia represented the school in the *Hugh Catchpole All-India Debates* held at RIMC on April 19 and 20. The team qualified for the final round of the debates and was eventually placed second. Shaurya Kuthiala was declared the Best Speaker in the preliminary round of the debate, while Saurav Sethia was adjudged the Best Speaker of the semi-final round.

* Shaurya Kuthiala and Anindya Vasudev represented the school at the *Asian Challenge Debate* held at the Asian School on April 21. The Doon School was placed second in the debate. Anindya Vasudev and Shaurya Kuthiala were jointly awarded the Best Rebuttal Award and won a cash prize of five thousand rupees.

Shikhar Singh was adjudged the Best Speaker of the first round of the *Inter-House Senior English Debates*, while Saurav Sethia was awarded the Most Promising Speaker. The House positions are as follows:

- **First:** Kashmir
- **Second:** Hyderabad
- **Third:** Tata
- **Fourth:** Jaipur
- **Fifth:** Oberoi

Hyderabad, Kashmir and Tata Houses have qualified for the second round of the debates.

**QUIZZICAL NEWS**

Ashish Mitter, Eeshan Tiwari and Ayush Bengani represented the school in the *RIMC Challenge Quiz* held at RIMC on April 19. The Doon School was placed second in the competition. Well done!

**PUSHING HARD**

The Doon School Hockey team participated in the *Kandhari Memorial Hockey Tournament* held at Welham Boys' School. The school played two matches and lost both, 2-3 against Welham Boys' and 2-3 against St. George's College, Mussoorie.

In the *Council Schools' Hockey Tournament*, the Doon School has won all its matches so far and qualified for the finals to be held on Saturday, April 28. The following are the results of the team's matches:
- against Raja Ram Mohan Roy Academy 4-0
- against JRD Academy 3-0
- against Moravian Institute 2-1
- against Col. Brown's 2-1

We wish the team the best of luck for the final match.

A friendly match between the *School Junior Hockey team* and the *Staff* was played on Wednesday, April 25. The match was drawn at 2-2.

**SAVING LIVES**

Lt. Gen N S Mallik, President RLSS, North Zone (Delhi) spoke to boys of D and C forms, along with swimming enthusiasts, in the AV Room on April 26. He commended the school's efforts in imparting the vital skills of life-guarding and life-saving, and encouraged more participation.

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**Unquotable Quotes**

*A ap kya so okhey paani se nahaatey hain?*

*MHF*’s example of dry humour.

Ouch! He cut myself.

Vivek Santayana knows where it really hurts.

Send him to there.

Sharad Lal orders.

The stems will always be above the underground.

AKM is down-to-earth.

Rohan Mehra is a K form Sc House.

ADN, lost in his physics.

Tomorrow is the final finale.

Nikhil Sardana, with a grand closure.

Does the Weekly come out once a week?

Arjun Midha counts the days.

Write this sum orally.

ANC does mental maths.

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**Opinion Poll**

Do you think food shares in the CDH are adequate?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38%</td>
<td>62%</td>
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</table>

76 students participated in the poll.

Next week's question: Do you think the incidence of sports injuries in school reflects the attitude of Doscos to sport?

(Contd. from page 1)

days' warning and could not prepare to the point where we did not need to consult our notes. Yet, we felt confident enough of our debates and the matters they contained. The topic for the debate was, Cabbages are better than roses, with me speaking for the motion and Anindya against.

We arrived at the venue to find all sorts of preparations going on. After running through our debates one last time, we went in for tea, and then took our places on the stage. The debate was held in the Oxford format with active rebuttals. A maximum of two questions could be asked to a speaker by any of his or her opponents. The debate started, with the first speaker from RIMC. The teams delivered their speeches in alphabetical order. There was a great deal of entertainment for the crowd, especially during Anindya's speech, which was full of wit and humour: The varied questions had even more varied answers. Our turn finally came to speak, and I felt that we put up quite a good show; our rebuttals in particular, were very good. At the end of the debate, the topic was thrown open to the House, and we heard a few useful points worth noting. At last, the time to declare the results was at hand. Anindya and I were given the prize for the best rebuttals, and we stood second overall. The Asian School won the debate, and as the host school did not compete for the trophy, we brought it home with us.

This debate was a great experience for both of us, and granted us valuable exposure. I have realised that in the end, it's not whether you win or lose that matters, but whether or not you yourself are satisfied and happy with your performance.

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2. *The Doon School Weekly* Saturday, April 28
Replacing Greg Chappell was a good decision

Greg Chappell is a retired professional cricketer who played for Australia in 87 matches and captained in 48 of them. He holds records such as the first Australian to ever score 7000 runs in test cricket and he and his brother, Ian Chappell, are the only brothers to have scored 3000 runs in test cricket and he and his brother, Ian Chappell, are the only brothers to have scored 3000 runs in test cricket. He was heavily criticised, though. Some people say that retiring from professional cricket, before his span of two years as the Indian coach, was a mistake. He was also a commentator after retiring from professional cricket, before his span of two years as the Indian coach. He was heavily criticised, though. Some people say that he deserved to remain the Indian coach and some people disagree.

View
Chitwanjot Singh

After the Indian team's dismal performance in the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007, it wouldn't be very wrong to blame Greg Chappell for India's not making it to the super-eight. After all, a coach should be like a beacon of hope and should always encourage his team. In my opinion, it is his slipperiness as a coach that has brought about the downfall of Team India.

Chappell's constant rows with the experienced players like Ganguly and Tendulkar often affected their performance and that of the other, younger players. On top of that, he blames the players for not playing hard enough. His total neglect and disrespect towards the fans have turned many an Indian against him, for example, when he stuck out the wrong finger towards the protesting fans in Kolkata after his spat with Sourav Ganguly.

I agree, Chappell is not solely to blame, but after his carelessness in the email to the BCCI, my confidence in the coach was shaken. He did not understand and appreciate the players and after a bad match, he would demoralize the entire squad by swapping and changing the batting order and the players themselves. The way in which Greg Chappell used to coach was not right, as his unchecked criticism demoralized the team to a great extent. The day of the India vs Bangladesh match was an ominous one for all Indian cricket fans, as was, for that matter, the clash with Sri Lanka. Both these losses have (hopefully) taught India that something is wrong. I am glad that India is now focusing more on fielding, with Robin Singh as the specialist fielding coach.

I think Ravi Shastri, Venkatesh Prasad and Robin Singh are a good bet and they will fill the void left by Greg Chappell on the pitch and professionalism of the team got engulfed by the inevitable, heart-rendering tragedy of defeat. Within a fortnight, all the work of Chappell came crashing down and he was termed a failure. He knew that he would be sacked by the Board in the days to come, and so, to avoid embarrassing anyone, he quietly resigned, giving vague explanations which seemed convenient to everyone. Thus, the reforms of this straightforward tactician went down the drain.

On maths, and more

Dhruv Velloor interviews the new teacher on campus.

Mona Khanna

The Weekly (DSW): Tell us something about yourself.
Mona Khanna (MAK): I'm from Delhi, and I taught at a World School in Jaipur before coming here. I completed my studies from D elhi and I have two children.

DSW: What made you decide to teach?
MAK: I have always been very passionate about teaching. I was also good at mathematics. I love being with students.

DSW: What are your impressions of us so far?
MAK: I think it's too early to say, but so far, I think it's been good.

DSW: Why are kids so scared of maths?
MAK: I don't think that this is a problem that starts from A or Sc-form. It stems right from Class I. Our peers and parents tell us that we must do well in maths right from the start.

Math teachers are also the strictest, and they, too, tell students that maths is the toughest. For some reason, extra classes are usually taken only for maths. What the teachers should be doing is telling the students that maths is a scoring subject and they should not feel scared of it.

3. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, April 28
IB: A Student’s View

A bhaas Shah shares his initial experience with the IB programme

At first glance, IB or International Baccalaureate was a really exciting prospect, involving a lot of hard work and research, with large doses of creativity, innovation and lateral thinking. At second glance, it was all this and much more.

Our excitement has not faltered yet, with every new class bringing to light another new aspect of IB. Creativity levels are soaring, with every possible corner of our artistic minds being exploited to the maximum. Innovation is involved in every subject, from mechanical subjects like Physics and Chemistry, where one must invent and plan his own practicals, to expressive subjects like English, where one is told to write first impressions on poems to be studied. As our teachers keep emphasizing, books are not very essential commodities in IB, as there is no specified course; out-of-the-box thinking is a must.

All this we were prepared for; in fact, we welcomed it. What we were not prepared for was the enormous amount of time and hard work expected of us. Piles of assignments are withdrawn and corrected efficiently and regularly on a daily basis, while new, intimidating ones find their way to our folders.

However, IB does pose a few problems, which, though not unforeseen, are major drawbacks to an otherwise smooth system. These problems are partly inevitable, and partly avoidable. Firstly, there is the major problem of the presence of two concurrent facts: there is a lot of research to be done, and we do not, I am sorry to say, have adequate facilities or the proper hours of access to computers to carry out this research. This is not purely due to the lack of foresight of the school authorities. They are making full efforts to provide us with the facilities. However, it would be shortsighted not to notice that IB students round the globe have 24/7 net access, and can work late hours researching and working on their assignments.

Secondly, there is the major problem of carrying on all our school activities – sports and co-curricular – along with the workload of IB. This is truly a Herculean task, requiring professional time-management skills, deadly focus and an unfalteringly active mind. It is rare to find even one, let alone all three, of these qualities in a student.

However, it would be wrong to ramble on about the flaws of IB. After all, these glitches were predictable, and the present IB students had a good idea about the consequences when they chose to go in for the IB diploma. The school is making commendable efforts to make the journey as smooth and convenient as possible. The masters involved must be appreciated for the amount of hard work and dedication they display, and the energy with which they conduct the classes. Their situation is almost as bad as ours, if not worse! As Erich Fromm says, “Let your mind start a strange new journey through a strange new world. Leave all thoughts of the world you knew before. Let your soul take you where you long to be... Close your eyes, let your spirit start to soar, and you’ll live as if you’ve never lived before.”