



Established in 1936

# The Doon School

# WEEKLY

Saturday, December 2, 2006 • Issue No. 2138



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## R.L. Holdsworth Memorial Cricket Fixture

*The following is a report by Gursharan Singh on the School vs. Old Boys cricket match played on October 29*

The Old Boys fielded a strong combination with as many as six former school cricket captains in their ranks. The match was played at 25 overs a side and the School Cricket captain Avyay Jhunjhunwala won the toss and chose to bat first.

The Old Boys seemed seriously handicapped in the fast bowling department but Amitoj stepped in, and bowled a hostile and accurate spell from the Skinner's end, beating the bat aplenty and generating a fiery pace off the wicket. He was supported from the CDH end by Jatin Chhabra, at military medium, bowling a spate of wides, but still denying the rather watchful batsmen, Ajmani and Samridh the freedom of strokeplay! The batsmen gradually opened out and played some good drives taking the score to 67 in the 11th over when Ajmani, who played a decent knock, was adjudged lbw to left-arm spinner Indu Sekhar

Kinshuk Kocher joined Samridh who seemed a bit rusty, and accelerated the scoring rate – playing aggressively off both feet. The score moved to 75 when Samridh tried to lift Nalin over extra-cover and failed to clear Arun Khanna. Kinshuk was joined by Avyay but was beautifully caught by Uday Bawa and Jhunjhun too was soon caught and bowled by Pratyush who was too much to handle for the school batsmen as he also consumed Abhimanyu Raj, Siddharth Sharma and Dilsher Khanna cheaply. Amidst the ruins, Baheti, partnered by Shubham managed to take the score to 124 when the overs ran out.

Amitoj and Bishnoi, opened for the Old Boys to the bowling of Gurshant and Abhimanyu. Hemant played only one great shot over backward of point before skiing Sharma for Samridh to complete formalities. Johnny, however, stuck around, weathered some hostility from Abhimanyu, and though obviously out of touch, played an exquisite straight drive, followed by a series of attacking strokes and brisk running between wickets in the company of Arun Khanna. Anirudh Kapur came on from the Skinner's end and Johnny lifted him through mid-wicket but perished when he repeated the shot to be taken quite brilliantly by Samridh at full stretch and at the second attempt. It was 69 for 2 as Nalin joined his cousin, who, after an uncertain start, was now in full flow and took complete charge of the bowling. Rituraj was brought on from the CDH end but soon gave way to Baheti. Arun Khanna was as always clinically ruthless in his treatment of the loose ball of which the school bowlers dished out far too many. With only a small total to defend, the task proved beyond their limited powers, and, with Nalin joining the fun, the Old Boys reached the target in the 20th over to win by eight wickets.

The School lost to the Old Boys after a winning sequence lasting four years. The Old Boys led by Nalin Khanna were an unusually strong side and completely outplayed the school. For the first time the match was played at 25 overs a side and was completed before lunch!



## All About Bouts

*Vishnukaant Pitty and Bharat Ganju recount the recently concluded Inter-House Boxing Competition*

Boxing as a sport requires a tremendous amount of dedication, training and practice... and most of all, sheer guts. This year, despite the term being packed with an extraordinary number of activities, the boxers managed to practise regularly. One could see them, either taking rounds of the Main Field, or shadowboxing outside the Rose Bowl.

Weeks of practice showed its effect on our pugilists, who, displaying enormous skill on the final day of the Inter-house Boxing Competition, kept the audience enthralled. Even the juniors (much to everyone's surprise) showed great dexterity inside the ring. To mention a few, Vigya Singh Dhiman and Abhinandan Rajan sparred exceptionally well, winning their respective weights.

On the final day, as the bouts moved towards the heavier weights, the excitement within the audience grew. All eyes were on the boxers' gloves that were throwing punches and parrying them.

Kashmir House performed remarkably well, winning almost all their bouts with the likes of Rajat Gangwar, Shashvat Sikroria, Akshay Kumar and Saket Mahajan leading the way.

*(contd. on page 4)*

# REGULARS

## APPOINTMENTS

The following are school appointments made for the year 2006-2007:

Anant Jangwal and Rohit Khandelwal have been appointed Boys-in-Charge of the **HAM Club**.

Naman Goel and Jagbir Ningthoujam have been appointed Boys-in-Charge of the **Video Club**.

Surya Narayan Deo and Ramakrishna Pappu have been appointed **Secretaries-Social Service**.

Dhairy Khera and Usman Ghani Khan have been Boys-in-Charge of the **Stage Committee**.

Anant Johri and Rohit Khandelwal have been appointed Boys-in-Charge of the **Astronomy Society**. Yadavalli Aditya has been appointed the Activities Coordinator.

Sharad Gopal and Pranav Matta have been appointed the Boys-in-Charge of the **Tuckshop** and **Boys' Bank**.

Manuj Vyas has been appointed the Boy-in-Charge of the **Child Education SUPW**.

Sharad Gopal and Gaurav Sood have been appointed Boys-in-Charge of the **Nature Club** and the **Science Society**.

Congratulations!

## FIRST-AID FINALS

In the **Inter-House First-Aid Competition** the House positions are as follows:

**First:** Oberoi

**Second:** Tata

**Third:** Hyderabad and Jaipur

**Fifth:** Kashmir

Vishesh Goel was adjudged the **Best First-Aider**.

Keep up the good work!

## QUIZZING NEWS

Ashish Mitter has been reappointed Secretary of the **Quiz Society** for the forthcoming year. Chetan Agarwal and Ashish Mitter have been awarded **Quiz Colours**.

In the **S.R.Das G.K. Prize Test 2006**, Ashish Mitter was placed first while Saurabh Tiwari was the runner-up.

Congratulations.

## YOUNG DESIGNERS

The following have won various prizes in **Design and Technology**:

**Metalwork** (C-form): First: Devanshu Gupta; Second: TV Rishabh Rao; Third: Vivek Santayana.

**Metalwork** (D-form): First: Prabhjot Singh; Second: Saud Amin Khan; Third: Vigya S Dhiman.

**Woodwork** (C-form): First: Arvind Sharma; Second: Nikhil Narain; Third: Shivam Agarwal.

**Woodwork** (D-form): First: Jagrit Sethi; Second: Sidhant Dixit; Third: Abhijit Nagar.

Well done.

## ERRATA

In the *Weekly* (issue 2137, dated Saturday, November 25, 2006) it was incorrectly reported that Tata House won the Seniors A match against Jaipur House in the Inter-House Basketball competition. In fact, Jaipur House were the victors. The error is regretted – **Ed.**

## READING AWARDS

The following are the standings for the Reading Awards this year:

**Junior Category:** Gold: Devashish Agarwal; Silver: Nikhil Narain; Bronze: Milind Pandit.

**Medium Category:** Gold: Pranjal Singh; Silver: Vishnukaant Pitty; Bronze: Saksham Sharda.

**Senior Category:** Gold: Ashish Mitter; Silver: Chinmay Sharma; Bronze: Yash Gandhi.

## STATE HONOUR

Samridh Agarwal has been selected to the **Uttar Pradesh Under-17 Cricket Team** which will be playing in the Vijay Merchant Tournament. Congratulations!

## TENNIS TRIUMPHS

In the finals of the recently concluded **Dr. S.R. Vohra Tennis Tournament** Abhishek Gupta emerged the winner, beating Har Naresh Singh 6-3, 6-3.

The results of the **Sardar Mohammed Tennis Tournament** are as follows:

Winner: Arjun Anjaria

Runner-up: Abhimanyu Chandra

The result of their match was 6-2, 6-3.

Well done!

## STANDARD TESTS

The following have been awarded the **Standard Test** badge:

Aaditya Gupta, **Bronze** in the Medium Section. Aseem Balraj and Darshdeep Singh, **Bronze** in the Junior Section.

## COLOUR BONANZA

Pulkit Baheti received **Boxing Full-Colours**, while **Boxing Half-Colours** were awarded to Tanuj Bhramar, Ashwin Bhaskar, Abhimanyu Walia, Akshay Kumar, Rajnush Agarwal and Shilavadra Bhattacharjee.

**Athletics Full-Colours** were awarded to Chirag Hirawat, Jehangir Chinoy and Zain Rehman. **Half-Colours** went to Akash Maheshwari, Aryaman Sengar and Shoab Ahmed.

Congratulations!

## Unquotable Quotes

*Deep breathily.*

**Varun Goel** gasps for air.

*They should serve brownies with hot ice-cream.*

**Chitwanjot Singh** wants his just desserts.

*I wish I had win the match.*

**Sadman Chowdhary** in a tense moment.

*You are wearing a this, a this, and a this.*

**Rohan Gupta's** words fail him.

*Your ears are wrong.*

**Anant Agarwal** wishes to rearrange.

*You lost your book today, you lost yourself tomorrow.*

**RMR**, in anticipation.

*The basketball courts are filled.*

**Arjun Kapur** assesses capacity.

# Why We Do The Things We Do

Rijul Kochhar

The other day, I was listening to the radio. I was looking out on to the street, the billboards announcing the arrival of one new thing or another. On the radio, too, there were a large number of advertisements of infinite variety. Some were selling soaps; some were promoting 'trusted hallmark gold jewellery;' some spoke about spices or property of the best value; some sold clothes live on air. Even newspapers have not spared us. On any given day, the leading dailies have a third of their space devoted to advertisements; the rest is shared amongst murders, rapes, trials, bomb blasts, what Scarlett Johansson wore at the red carpet premiere of her movie, or pictures of the newest sex symbol on the block.

All this 'selling' business made me think about why affection, care and love have been expunged from our daily lives; why the world has filled the vacuum with material pleasures. A few answers I got from myself, but each brought a barrage of contradictions and questions along.

First on my list of answers is consumerism. We all live behind a smokescreen. This culture that we have created for ourselves teaches us just one thing—more is good. More more is very good. If you have played *Pacman* you know how we behave. We are out to just gobble; gobble the latest camera, the latest computer, the latest piece of clothing or land or car. I find myself being hypocritical when I talk about the 'gobbling' phenomenon. There is an element of guilt. Why? Because whenever I think of these things, things that we gobble, I am reminded of myself. It's very easy for me to sit with my latest digital camera, or my iPod, or my laptop, or my good clothes, in my comfortable house and air-conditioned car, and preach to the man who doesn't have the means to meet his requirement of two square meals, about the ills of consumerism, or, in this context, materialism. I know that there can be no happiness from them and yet I, or we, continue to live our lives running around them, trying to quench our thirst. In today's scenario, material possessions cannot be done without.

All this is fine; it's understood that in a global village, the life of a sage is impossible to lead. But there is a fine line that must be drawn, but never is. We need the goodies—fine. But to think that they could give us happiness, that can never happen. Recently, I wanted an expensive camera. In the beginning, I was so excited, I couldn't wait to rush to the shop. But when I bought it, all my enthusiasm disappeared. Have you ever realised that the 'precious' commodity that we love before it is ours suddenly loses its sheen the moment it is handed to us over the shop's counter?

It is because we try to get love from these material things. We are so hungry for love that we accept substitutes. We embrace these things and accept a hug back. But that never happens. Materialism is OK for surviving. But it will only leave us unhappy and dissatisfied if our

aim is to find love, affection and solace from it.

Money comes second. When I was a small boy, I used to announce very grandly that money was not important to me. I was made to realise otherwise. With all the expenses of education, housing, food, entertainment, clothing etc., that our parents provide for, and which we would need to provide ourselves in a few years, money does seem very important. Medical expenses, college education, and other unforeseen eventualities can be dealt with well only if we have the finances. But that's where we all go wrong. We start believing that money is everything; we tell ourselves that money can buy anything; that it will alleviate all our problems. Money is important, but it's not everything. Surely there's more to life than a thick wallet and an overflowing bank balance. Happiness in what we do is one of those things, contentment is another. Satisfaction does not come from the bank. It comes from giving others what we have—help, a kind word, making another laugh, or just being there for another when he or she needs you. When we do something only with personal interest in our minds, it doesn't work out. Something from the heart, even a word or a smile works wonders. Anyone with money in plenty is stereotypically thought of as someone with a lack of character. That's understood, given our inherent qualities—envy being the one in discussion here. Money, in the other extreme, is looked upon as something reeking with evil. But that's not how it is. Money isn't so bad. It's how much we sacrifice to achieve it, what we forego to put money on the primary pedestal of our priorities that is questionable. After all, we are born empty-handed. When we exit from this show called life, all that we killed for, conspired for, died for or lost sleep over; all of that is left behind. All that we cling to is immaterial once we cross that bridge.

One thing that we never realise, and which is third on my list of answers, is how much we want versus how much we need. I may need a music player, but I may want a video iPod. I may need a car, but I may want that beauty of a Porsche. We are mired in this everlasting debate. But my self says to me, "Isn't want inherent in all of us?" The answer is, "No." We have been brought up in a culture that emphasises the fact that 'more is good'. Needs are fine. But wants are troublesome. Why? Because there is no limit to them.

What we need today is to know what we value. It is time that we re-evaluated our aspirations, our ideals, our beliefs. All this may sound Utopian, but the fact that we realise the difference between what is important and what not, is essential. Consumerism is good, deriving happiness from it is impossible. Money is important, but so are many other things which are as important, but often ignored. Money isn't the only thing. Need is needed, want is variable and controllable. What we die for today, we may laugh at tomorrow.

(contd. from page 1)

Saket Mahajan's bout with Abhimanyu Walia was a memorable one – both fought to the best of their abilities, keeping the audience in nail-biting suspense as to which one would be triumphant. At the end of the bout, Saket emerged the winner.

Akshay Kumar's bout with Ashvin Bhaskar was a delight to watch. From the onlookers' point of view, each was at par with the other. Eventually Akshay Kumar won in a split decision, while Ashvin was awarded the 'Best Loser' award for this bout.

The School Boxing Captain, Jehangir Chinoy, won his bout almost effortlessly, hardly taking a rest during the breaks between the three rounds of his bout. He was well-deservedly awarded the 'Most Scientific Boxer' of the competition.

The last bout of the night (of the Super Heavy Weight Category) was a fitting conclusion to the competition. Both Mihir Misra and Shilavadra Bhattacharjee fought very well, dodging each other's blows with pinpoint precision. After a well-contested bout, Shilavadra emerged the winner.

The competition was made even livelier by the neck-to-neck competition between Kashmir and Oberoi Houses. At the end of the first day of the competition, Oberoi House was leading. The next day, Kashmir House fought hard, equalizing with Oberoi House. Continuing their momentum on the final day, Kashmir House won bout after bout, consolidating their lead, ahead of all the other Houses by a formidable margin. With Kashmir House's chants of victory fading away, three days of super-charged excitement, for both participants and spectators, came to an end.



## doonspeak

What is the problem with education systems in India?

Students do not want to study. There is nothing wrong with the system. - **Vatsal Khandelwal**.

There is no interactive way of teaching. - **Chirag Nangia**.  
Arjun Singh. - **Yash Gandhi**

It destroys our creativity. - **Dhruv Velloor**

It ruins us. - **Bharat Ganju**

People are getting educated but still not learning. - **Ajai Atal**

It is not education in the true sense of the word. - **Saurav Sethia**

It's India! - **Vinayak Bajoria**

I don't study. - **Nipun Handa**

What is education? - **Vishesh Kochher**

We are becoming 'Par-Rutts'. - **Utkarsh Gupta**

We don't know what we want from it. - **Akash Maheshwari**



## LETTERS

### 'Art'itecture

This is with regard to the disturbance caused in the makeshift Art School by construction work in the MDR.

It is not unusual for us to see the Art School strewn with tubs and buckets of all sizes, placed strategically to protect us from dripping water and cement. A single drop of water can ruin an artist's creation. Damp walls with flourishing fungi have damaged many a displayed painting. Students in the Art School often find themselves working uncomfortably close to a noisy three foot-tall drill. The amount of noise created distracts many a class trying to channel its creativity onto canvas.

One realizes that construction work cannot be stopped completely, but perhaps it can be halted or minimized during class hours. A drastic decrease in the number of boys visiting the Art School is evidence of the fact that the construction work is very discouraging for the boys. I hope this matter is realized by the authorities and necessary action taken.

(**Shashank Mittal**)

### Saluting our Shutterbugs

This is just to put on record that it was wonderful to have the Photography STA boys handling the *Yearbook* photographs this year. Everything was spot on time, the shoots were relaxed and friendly, and there was much bonhomie and good cheer, generally. The boys and masters who managed the shoots deserve all the praise, and so do the *Yearbook*-wallahs for believing in our own boys.

(**Priyanka Bhattacharyya**)

### Crossword Kudos

It was wonderful to solve the challenging crossword puzzle that appeared in the *Weekly* last Saturday. Mr. Pitty, and Mr. Mitter before him, must be congratulated for coming up with such brain-ticklers. Keep puzzling us more often!!

(**Debashish Chakrabarty**)

### Apropos Announcements

I refer to Akash Maheshwari's letter printed in the *Weekly* of November 18: in that letter he opined that there should be no announcements made during Assembly regarding various appointments, as it cuts into the third school a lot. Firstly, I would like to say that people work very hard to get important appointments in their respective fields. I would like to ask the writer if he thinks that it would be fair to the appointee not to be given proper recognition by the School. A mention in the *Weekly*, to me, doesn't seem enough. A similar argument rose regarding the Friends of Doon Board. It was felt that the School must properly acknowledge people's efforts. Similar logic should apply in this case too. I would like the School to continue with the current system as it is appreciated by almost everybody.

(**Aryaman Sengar**)

Online Edition: <http://www.doonschool.com/magazine>

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