The Doon School Weekly interviewed Sahir Chaudhary, the newly elected School Captain.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): What is your opinion of the different aspects of a Doscos life such as academics, sports and the and the various activities that take place in School?

Sahir Chaudhary (SAC): I think our parents have sent us here to become individuals who can manage many things at once, rather than individuals who are accomplished only in studies, or sports, or activities. This institution aims to bring out the best in us in various fields, so that we become all-round personalities. When you learn to strive, you realize that you have the potential to excel at much more and have the ability to handle a lot more than you could have bargained for. It will go a long way in arming you for the future. Personally, I feel that academics should be pursued as top priority because in today's world of specialization, one really does need to have a strong grasp over their areas of academic interest apart from accomplishments in sports and extra-curricular activities.

DSW: Considering the School Captain is the most influential senior, how do you plan to serve as an idol for juniors?

SAC: I haven't really thought about it completely, but being an influential senior is not my only job. I'll still be doing the same things that I have been doing since my junior forms. I'll be talking to the juniors a lot more, trying to understand how they feel, and about the things they experience in School. However, the Prefectorial Body will be a great help to me. Since they will be most approachable as far as boys of their own houses are concerned, it is only natural that instead of me, the juniors will go to them for help and advice. Keeping that in mind, I will try my best to continue doing things that I have done as well as trying out new things. At the same time, the Prefectorial Body will wield a much larger influence.

DSW: In your opinion, which School Captain would you say truly upheld the name of the School and the values it stands for?

SAC: I think it would be Yuv Vir Khosla. He really was an icon for the juniors and seniors alike. He was a constant source of inspiration because he knew when to put his foot down and when to allow people to do what they wanted to do. To this date, I've been inspired by him and plan to adopt some of his leadership techniques while executing my duties.

DSW: What are some of the things you would want to change in School?

SAC: One of the many things that I want to change in school is the way some Doscos represent school when they go out for various trips. People often perceive us as arrogant boys who have their own coterie of Dosco friends. Unfortunately, there is no smoke without fire. Whenever the juniors and seniors go out of school, it is totally upon them whether to talk to other people without being haughty or selective or not. There are times when I have seen Doscos at the heights of their folly by acting incredibly preposterous, and at the same time derogating the School. There is a fine line between amusement and tomfoolery. Therefore, such poor actions of ours often tend to spoil the name of our institution and invariably prove that unless we behave better, we are not worthy of being Doscos.

DSW: Why do you think the School chose you as the School Captain over others?

(Continued on Page 5)
Music Appointments

The following appointments have been made to the Music Department for the Year 2015:

- **School Music Captain and Popular Band Leader:** Rishabh Agarwal
- **School Orchestra Leader:** Shourya Kishorepuriya
- **School Dance Captain:** Archit Barthwal
- **Secretary of the School Music Society:** Vallavi Shukla
- **School Percussion Leader:** Anant Mohan
- **School Choir Leader:** Siddhant Gupta
- **Trinity Boy-in-Charge:** Madhav Goel

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

Captaincies ’15

The following have been appointed as Captains of various sports for the year 2015:

- **Cricket:** Akhil Ranjan
- **Hockey:** Naadir Singh
- **Football:** Kartikay Garg
- **Athletics:** Kartikeya Kardam
- **Badminton:** Akash Tibrewal
- **Tennis:** Rohan Chaudhari
- **Table Tennis:** Chaitanya Agarwal
- **Swimming:** Arunabh Uttkarsh
- **Boxing:** Ruhaan Dev Tyagi
- **Basketball:** Nachiket Jain
- **Senior PT Leader:** Vedant Agarwal

Congratulations!

Appointments

The following have been appointed as Boys-in-Charge of various STAs, SUPWs, and Societies for the year 2015:

- **IAYP:** Pranav Kothiwal
- **Round Square Club:** Amal Agarwal
- **English Public Speaking:** Rishabh Badhwar
- **Motor Mechanics:** Agastya Shetty
- **Business Club:** Parth Khanna
- **Stage Committee:** Sabir Singh
- **Historical Circle:** Naadir Singh
- **Cycling:** Vedant Agrawal
- **Social Service:** Nikunj Agrawal and Yash Dhandhana

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

Runs and Yorkers

The School Senior and Medium Cricket Teams played friendly fixtures against RIMC, Dehradun on the February 9, 2015 and won their respective matches.

Well done!

Squash Nationals

Ishita Bharadwaj and Mayank Sojatia represented Uttarakhand at the 35th National Games held in Trivandrum, Kerala. Ishita Bharadwaj reached the 3rd round in women’s category while Mayank Sojatia reached the 2nd round in men’s category.

Well done!

Sharpshooters

Samarjit Singh, Akshit Jha and Rishabh Badhwar represented Uttarakhand at the 58th National Shooting Championship held at Pune. Akshit Jha scored 514/600 in the 10m Air Pistol event. Rishabh Badhwar was awarded the title of ‘Renowned Shot’ for the second consecutive time. Samarjit Singh won 4 medals with 3 Silvers and a Bronze. He has been selected to represent Uttarakhand at the ongoing 35th National Games being held in Kerala.

Congratulations!

The Circle

Dhruv Johri and Arnav Jain have been appointed the Editor-in-Chief and Chief-of-Production of The Circle respectively.

Congratulations!

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 WORDS

Arvind Kejriwal has swept the BJP and Congress out of Delhi by winning a staggering 67 Assembly Seats! Malaysian opposition leader, Anwar Ibrahim has received a prison sentence after being convicted of sodomy. As unrest continues in Yemen, British and French Embassies in Sana’a have suspended operations. The Ukrainian crisis is likely to be resolved at the coming Minsk Multilateral Summit. The Patna High Court has declared Nitish Kumar’s appointment as the JD (U) Legislative Party Leader to be unconstitutional.

Government Approved Jokes

Anirudh Popli and Samaarth Mukhiya

2. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, February 14
Citizens of Delhi poured out on the streets like never before, jubilant, reveling in the victory of the common man last Tuesday. The national capital seemed to have found a voice, the kind that it had been deprived of for the past year. It was exactly a year ago, to the very day, that AK-49 had exhausted itself. Skeptics feared that the AAP would never find its way back through the gates of durbari dilli, and yet, here we are, welcoming them back to governance, with the kind of majority that no one has enjoyed before.

Be it Rajiv Gandhi’s mammoth victory in the 1984 elections, which was largely attributed to a sympathy wave that swept across the nation, or Modi’s juggernaut in 2014 that saw the saffron surge in almost all corners of India, none can come close to what the AAP has accomplished in Delhi this week. One might argue that the reason for this is that this election was provincial, comprising an electorate that is much smaller in magnitude than the one that voted Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Modi into power. However, in many ways, the struggles of Delhi mirror that of the larger Indian populace.

The inequality seen by the startling juxtaposition of Chandini Chowk against Chankapuri is representative of a pervasive, deeply embedded trend in Indian society. Indeed then, the elite voter from Delhi might not vote along the same lines as the autowala, but that is precisely where the AAP has found its victory: it has transcended the class divide. From the after-dinner conversations in the well-furnished drawing rooms of South Delhi, to the numerous chai-pe-charcha’s that the masses of Delhi have engaged in over the last year, in all forms of political discourse, Arvind Kejriwal has found a special place, that of an anarchist who is not willing to back down.

Who would have thought, that just eight months after the NaMo wave, a greater tsunami was in order? Who would have foreseen 67 seats for the AAP in the very state that it drew a blank in the Lok Sabha elections? From the grit and determination of our favourite aam aadmi, it is evident that Mr Kejriwal certainly did. What it has resulted in is an election that will go down in History as an acceptance of a new “brand” of politics. And the fact that it has gripped the national capital before any other state will ensure that it is not pushed to the fringes of our political understanding.

There are many take-aways from this rather dramatic election that deserve to reach their most penetrating analyses. To begin with, the stark contrast of Modi’s “10 lakh ka suit” with Kejriwal’s timeless muffler-man outlook; while the former was construed, and rightly so, as a sign of utter arrogance, the latter has emerged as a political motif in the last twelve months, symbolizing everything that the common man holds dear. It has certainly put the BJP think-ranks into motion, for it is this very arrogance that they had doggedly opposed in their rather flamboyant campaign in the previous General Elections. But to fall into the same trap as the Congress had, in the face of an opposition that is careful in ensuring that its simpleton image is forever preserved, might cause them to pay dearly in the near future.

Furthermore, it has become increasingly clear that the Indian voter is not as easily swayed by rhetoric as Mr Modi may have been led to assume. He must now understand that his energetic, passionate speeches actually had little to do with his earlier victories, which were instead the result of his promise of governance. If one were to be dreadfully candid, then the new government has actually been able to accomplish very little since it has assumed office, apart from welcoming heads-of-state frequently into the halls of Delhi, and ensuring that the Prime Minister’s travel itineraries are perpetually packed. The ‘common people’ have had little to celebrate since last summer, and that will need to change quickly if Mr. Modi wants to hold on to his support.

Also, very importantly, the communal undertones that underscore most Indian elections have been asked to take a back-seat. Mr. Kejriwal was quick to decline support offered to him by the Shahi Imam in Delhi, which is a positive sign of his reluctance to enter the mud of communally fractured politics. Very often parties like the Congress have resorted to such strategies, in order to counter the BJP. But as has been proven by the AAP, the BJP can be beaten without having to appeal to certain community leaders, in order to counter Hindu-nationalism with competitive communalism.

All that remains is for us to see if Mr Kejriwal sticks to his seat, or runs away to another part of India, satiating his lust for power. If his short stay at Varanasi is any lesson to go by, he would have learned that his “brand” of politics might not be ready to break the caste and communal divides of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar just yet. It is my fervent hope that he governs Delhi, and only Delhi for the coming five years, ensuring that the nation sees what he is capable of. Electioneering is, after all, very different from governance.

3. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, February 14

**Resurgence of the Aam Aadmi**

*Pulkit Agarwal comments on the circumstances that led the AAP to its recent victory in Delhi.*
On the 30th of November, twenty-three delegates from 5 different Round Square schools arrived at The Doon School for the Round Square International Service Project at Rudraprayag, which is located near the Chaka Village, 3 km ahead of Tilwara. Doon was represented by Anandita Luther, JTR, IDS, MCJ, KCM, AKS and myself. The project’s first day began with an exhausting nine hour long journey from The Doon School to Chaka. On our way we were able to soak in the sight of temperate and deciduous forests that flanked the road leading us into the hills. Also, we were fortunate enough to pass through Devprayag, the point of confluence of the Alakananda and Bhagirathi Rivers.

On our arrival at Chaka, we received a warm welcome from the villagers and were promptly escorted to dinner, and subsequently our beds. The next day began with the allotment of participants into three separate construction teams. We were then escorted to the site were the school’s structure was to be built. The impact of the flash flood of 2013 was truly heartbreakingly to observe. Some participants were nearly in tears after an interaction with the locals, learning about the misery that nature had inflicted upon them. Even more petrifying was the fact that the entire school had been washed away. The school's administrator – Mr. Om Prakash, was forced to operate the school under a tin shed with a reduced staff of four teachers. Prior to our arrival, the school had not received any aid or compensation for losses. Nonetheless, his efforts to continue primary education in the village were commendable. Above all, the children, without any kind of privileges were enthusiastically attending the classes being held either in open air or under tin sheds. The delegates were deeply touched with such selfless service and were determined to contribute to this selfless service by doing all kinds of work that was productive and contributed towards the resurrection of the school.

One group was taken to the school and assigned the responsibility of teaching the children for the whole day. The second group was assigned the job of making concrete blocks to be used in the construction of the school building. The third group was taken to the site where the school building was supposed to be built. The children leveled the ground by removing the stones and utilizing them for constructing a wall at another site. It was strenuous work for those of us who were not used to any kind of hardships. It was indeed an experience for us to learn life skills by way of alleviating other people’s troubles so as to become better human beings.

One of the activities we undertook as part of our service project was a trek to Tungnath to visit the historic Tungnath Temple. It was a 4 km trek and it took three hours to reach the temple. The temple was one to behold. Facing the temple was the snow capped Chaukamba Peak. Thirteen delegates trekked another 2 km to Chandrashila Peak which is approximately 13,000 feet above sea level. The delegates experienced a sense of achievement when they reached the set point after trekking through such a difficult terrain.

Next day the delegates started their trek to Deoriatal from Chopta. It was a steep trek of 3.2 km. Deoriatal is an emerald lake nestled amidst lush green fields surrounded by dense forests. The crystalline waters offers a spell binding image of the majestic Chaukhamabha Peak. From Deoriatal we proceeded to Ukhimath, a seat of “Panchkedar”. We were fortunate to receive blessings from Lord Kedar who is brought down from Kedarnath to Ukhimath during winters. Ukhimath is also called the ‘Second Kedar’. We also received blessings from the ‘Third Kedar’, Lord Madhyamaheswar at Ukhimath.

The last three days were spent at the construction site. One could see the delight on the faces of the delegates as they saw the school building take shape. Their hard work was going to bear fruit within 6 to 8 months.

On the last day we bid adieu to the children at school and also to each other. Parting was not so easy as we had been living like family for the past 12 days. But we left with the hope that the children of the remote area of Tilwara would be able to continue their education at the ‘Taxila Public School’ and that by our efforts we were able to create a small ripple in their lives. We hope to see them all again one day.
(Continued from Page 1)

SAC: I think they elected me over others in my form because I’ve made a conscious effort, throughout my
teaching school tenure to remain resolute. I also feel that I have
done a sense of fidelity, as I’ve always worked hard
in the areas where my interests lie.

DSW: What do you feel about the legislative bodies in School?

SAC: I think the legislative bodies are carrying out
their duties well enough, but they need more voice. The
House Council focuses on more indigenous matters. Moreover, sometimes issues discussed in the
School Council fail to reach out to the entire community, which defeats the very purpose of such a
council. Thus, when it comes to legislative bodies, I
feel there is an urgent need for better communication
between members of councils and the rest of the
School community.

***

| Poetry |

The Betrayal

Advitya Goyal

There I was, as still, as subtle
as a sloth hugging a tree.
How could he have done such a thing to me?

I didn’t say anything,
nor made any gestures,
for I lay dead,
with blood all around me.

Had I taken the opportunity,
that night in the cave itself,
It could have been him,
in his inevitable shelf.

But whenever I think,
if I could have survived with the guilt
I get from killing him,
The Devil smiles
and passes a nasty wink.

Over a moment that I captured,
He felt me helpless. And my veins?
Ruptured!

The fiend over my left shoulder,
trying to convince me,
That he was nothing,
but a boulder.

Holding me down,
pulling me back,
I could not move ahead
Nor retrace my track.

I should’ve realized,
That he was as worthless a friend
As lead to wood.
This takes me back to the first question
“Could he have done it?”
He could.

| Junior Poetry |

Disobedience

Zoraver Mehta

Defiance was in the air,
As they walked deeper into that dragon’s lair,
They had suffered from hot and cold
And did against what she had told.

Many Everests had been climbed,
Great poems had been rhymed,
But they did against what she told
Their own lives they had sold.

They stood there-
With their vision blurred by greed,
Upon which their empty souls were set to feed,
Their eyes, dark and cold,
They did against what she had told.

Defiance was in the air,
But they did not seem to care,
As they watched their lives unfold,
Because they did against what she had told.

***

HMUN: Boston Blues

Azan Brar

Each year a group of Doscos embark on a journey to
Boston to attend the prestigious Harvard MUN. And
each year, they have different stories to tell. However, this
year we have no stories to tell. Instead, we share an
experience that will remain etched in our memories
forever. Thirteen Doscos left for Boston, geared for
what promised to be a most stimulating conference. We
had the privilege of visiting Harvard University before
the conference itself. Visiting various sites around the
campus gave us a true sense of the essence of the
conference.

The first wave of committee sessions were rather
astonishing. It was fairly difficult for our Munners to
adapt to the American style of Munning, where caucuses
take a back seat and lobbying is given unprecedented
importance. In the
days to come we
realized that winning
in such committees
would not be easy. In
spite of this, various
delegates tried their
level best and
ultimately Devansh
Agarwal, who was
part of the
Economic and
Financial Committee received an Honourable Mention.
Even though the delegation was not able to make the
most of committee, itself we were able to absorb large
portions of the American culture. This included walking
down a breathtakingly well lit Times Square and Wall
Street, and also visiting the UN Headquarters. Little did
we realize that our trip was drawing to an end and before
we knew it our bags were packed yet again. To
paraphrase John Denver, even though we weren’t ready
to go, it was time we left on our jet plane.

5. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, February 14
The Week Gone By

Rishabh Agarwal

This week has seen Doscos on the main field before the sun, strolling, running or otherwise rolling on to their respective squads, clinging to themselves while the basketball players have already been sweating themselves exercising the much loathed pavilion steps. The ‘twenty one guns’ have returned with ‘hot-chocolate bellies’ and have assumed office after a lively initiation. Also, the sports and activities’ captains have been announced and various posters have been handed down, with yet another name signed on them, another legacy to be remembered.

Out on the field, the seniors’ cricket competition is fast approaching and practices are in ‘good swing’. Cricket is one of those sports that is the hallmark of a public school, and the Doscos can be seen practicing religiously in their gleaming whites. Also visible on the sidelines are those in their shorts, working silently to shape the school team for the forthcoming hockey season. With practices starting so early this time, we all hope that this year, the players set a new benchmark of skill, ability and competence.

Moving on to the other half of the day, the SC’s are really taking a hit with the sudden overload of information and assignments, and have been scared into taking things seriously in terms of their level of preparedness regarding colleges. While the AT’s and SCE’s enjoy cappuccinos and sandwhiches as their preliminary trials come to a close, many also await their acceptance letters. IB registration has become the singular goal for the passing out batch, while the current one enjoys the rigors of reflective thinking.

The various councils in our school have new representatives and have elected their various heads, keeping up the spirit of democracy. There have been some interesting results from the elections: in those various councils as well as outside the walls of Chandbagh.

It looks like a great start to this academic year and also the beginning of the end for the SC form. The SCE’s will have their special farewell in a few weeks and to make a special one, the musicians have already started preparing for a memorable send off.

The Cruciverbalist’s Corner

Across
3. separate value from worthless parts
5. think deeply
6. navigate or trade along the coast
7. threaten with divine punishment; curse
8. kept secret because it would not be approved of.
11. abounding in thought, matter or words
12. over supply

Down
1. sour in taste
2. talkative
4. compensate for loss
9. a street with only one way out
10. mist; drizzle

Across
3. Tenacious
5. Narcissist
11. Ecstatic
12. Tenuous

Down
6. Scrumptious
7. Controversy
8. Tribulation
10. Miscellaneous

Answers to Last Week’s Crossword:
Source: http://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/crossword/

Dosco Doodle

Dhruv Pais

The (I)nescapable (C)razy (S)tudy (E)pidemic

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6. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, February 14