



The Rose Bowl

NEWSLETTER OF THE DOON SCHOOL OLD BOYS' SOCIETY

August, 2006

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"THE ANDOVER OF INDIA"

[By K.K. Lahiri, 30-K '74, Editor]

It was the 3rd of June 2006 – a lovely Saturday morning in Washington DC when out of the blue (literally! since we had azure blue skies and bright crisp sunshine) comes a call from Bammi [Jawahar Raju Bammi, 286-K '74] on Sarin's [Rajiv (School Cap) Sarin – 44-H '74] cellphone enquiring as to whether we had seen the cover page of the weekend edition of 'The Wall Street Journal'. Frankly, we had not. So busy had we (Sarin and I) been catching up with each other. So, the first thing we did was to get hold of a copy at Doc Ghose's house. Yes! I speak of our same old, endearingly warm, former Commerce teacher in School – Devjyoti (Doc) Ghose, 338-J '66 who after teaching in School from about 1972 to 1982, returned to the US of A to complete his Doctorate, teach in American Universities and become a financial wizard – currently with Freddie Mac. No less than our Wall Street wallahs I thought and there was Bammi talking of the Wall Street Journal.

What was I doing on Saturday the 3rd of June 2006 in Washington DC? Well! I had (like the proverbial ghost of April past) returned in the last week of May to haunt Harvard during my summer break. Since I had all of five weeks ahead, I thought I would pop down to Washington, DC and catch up with my friend and batchmate – Rajiv Sarin. There are other scoundrels from my batch (Ashok Mehan, P. Iyer, Choppy, etc.) also lurking in and around DC and I thought it would be a good chance to touch base with them and later - with Sanju [Sanjiv Sharma, 74-K '74] – a Hedge Fund Head Honcho in Highland Beach, Florida.

Meanwhile, learning of the Lahiri invasion, Bammi had fled Boston with his sister, Sajni [Sajni Khanna, w/o late Ashok (Kirori) Khanna, 461-J '75] and her kids – Arjun and Shaileja to spend some time on the West Coast - far, far away from the East Coast, the Lahiris and all things Doon. He could not really escape all things Doon though – since he had to meet up with his childhood buddy Arjun Dua, 115-KA '73. But that is another story. Let us get back to Washington DC and the Wall Street Journal.

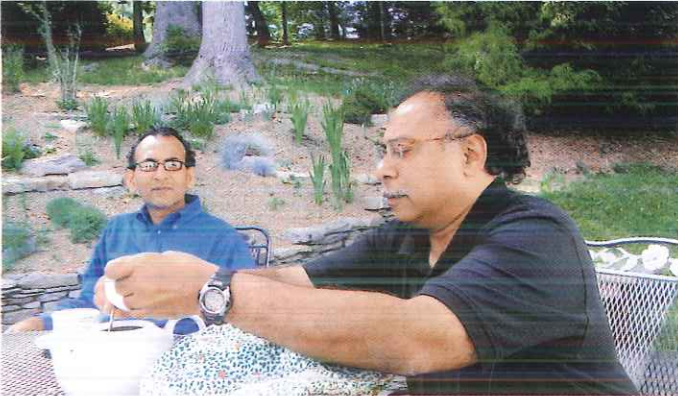
There could not have been a prouder moment for the three of us as we poured over the cover piece by Anita Raghavan. Our collective hearts swelled with pride. Familiar names like Vikram Seth, 250-J '68, our late Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, 203-K '60, Vikram (Cutlet) Malhotra, 290-J '75 who heads McKinsey & Company's New York office (now called 'Vik Malhotra'), Bhaskar Menon, former Chief Executive of EMI Music Worldwide, Vinit (Dodo) Khanna, 350-H '74 and many others – popped out of the pages. The article proudly recounted that the heads of Citigroup's North American Credit Card business, Merrill Lynch & Co., Raytheon Co. to the Goldman Sachs Group are all headed by Doscos. Familiar terms such as 'jamming', 'rutting', 'lending', etc. also popped out from the Doon Dictionary. But why paraphrase what was said? The actual version, faithfully scanned, is reproduced overleaf for those who didn't get a chance to read even the typed versions which did the internet rounds for many days thereafter.



A mellow Doc Ghose on a warm Friday evening



Margaret Ghose and Rajiv Sarin go through the May 2006 issue of the Rosebowl



Rajiv Sarin looks on while Doc Ghose plays 'mother' at tea on Doc Ghose's beautifully wooded backyard patio



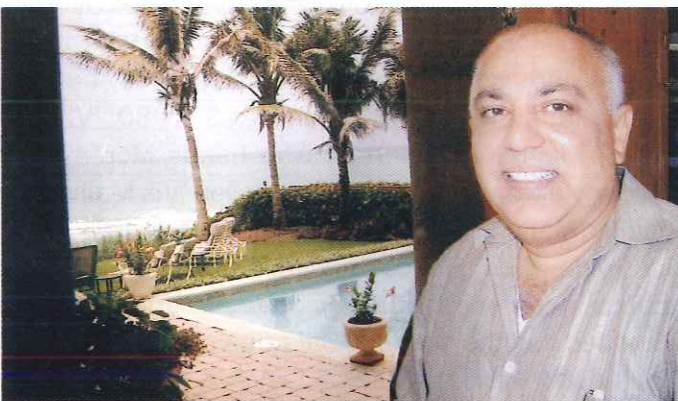
Rajiv Sarin and Jehangir Dalal, 69-H'42 sip ginger ale on the banks of the Potomac river



Archisha and Ashok Mehan, 469-H'74 at their Maryland house



Ashok Mehan and Ranjiv (Choppy) Chopra, 57-T'74



Sanjiv (Sanju) Sharma (inset) and a view of the Atlantic Ocean through the French Doors of Sanju's Highland Beach Villa in Florida



L-R - Arjun, Sajni & Shaileja Khanna, Neenu & Karan Lahiri and Jwahr Raju Bammi

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SATURDAY/SUNDAY, JUNE 3 - 4, 2006

The Andover of India? Graduates from Doon Score Top U.S. Jobs

* * *

Scholastic Bootcamp for Boys

Raises Stars, Faces Change;

Gandhi Suffered Here, Too

By ANITA RAGHAVAN

DEHRA DUN, India—At the Doon school, near the foothills of the Himalayas, life is spartan. The 500 boys enrolled here bathe together in communal showers. In winter, they pore over textbooks in rooms with no heat. Cellphones are forbidden and parental visits are kept to a minimum.

For 71 years, Doon has supplied India with business leaders and well-known writers such as Vikram Seth. Even Rajiv Gandhi, the late prime minister, suffered the school's famously bad food. Now Doon is taking its uniformed students in a new direction: up the U.S. corporate ladder.

The head of Citigroup Inc.'s North American credit-card business is a Doon alumnus. So too is a Merrill Lynch & Co. senior currency executive. From Raytheon Co. to Goldman Sachs Group Inc., Doon is supplying a new old boys' network in an increasingly international business world.

Many of the Doon alumni say they are still driven by the school's humbling culture. Vikram Malhotra, head of McKinsey & Co.'s New York office, recalls the pain of failing to earn one of the school's coveted blazers, awarded for excellence. "Imagine 500 boys, homogenous in what they wear, and the only way you could stand out is if you wore a blue blazer if you were good in sports and a black blazer if you were good in academics," says Mr. Malhotra, 46 years old. "I fell a point short on each one and to this day it rankles me."

Even as Doon graduates penetrate the upper ranks of corporate America, the school draws criticism that it is out of step with the times. The headmaster is pushing for reforms—such as heating the study rooms—but he faces some opposition from alumni.

And proposed national legislation may mandate that private schools set aside a quarter of their places for underprivileged students—including the country's "Dalit" or "untouchable" caste, which has largely been absent at high-tuition Doon.

"There is a debate now whether Doon's elitism is required and whether it works in a changed world," says alumnus Bhaskar Menon, the former chief executive of EMI Music Worldwide.

Founded in 1935, Doon once drew the sons of prominent Indian industrialists and politicians. Today scholarships, partly covering the annual tuition of about \$4,000, assist one in four students. About half of the students' parents own small businesses. To be admitted, boys must pass a tough entrance exam.

Located on the site of the former Imperial Forest College & Research Institute, Doon is an oasis in Dehra Dun, a dusty town of about 700,000, 140 miles northeast of New Delhi. Thousands of trees shade the 70-acre grounds, where 55 teachers lead classes six days a week.

Each morning except Sunday, boys rise at 6:15 and down a small snack to fuel them for 20 minutes of military-style exercises. Two classes precede breakfast, with another five crammed in before lunch. Academics are leavened with music, poetry, drama. Every April, the boys vie in a calisthenics contest in which judges award points for clean, pressed clothes as well as

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The Andover of India Sends More Boys to Top Posts in U.S. Business

Continued From First Page
team coordination.

On a recent Saturday morning, in a room lit by fluorescent lights, more than a dozen 17-year-olds sat at old wooden tables as fans whirred overhead. The work at hand: CPA-level accounting problems. "Is depreciation on a delivery van part of selling overhead?" asked one student. (Answer: yes.)

Some graduates, like Ravi Sinha, say they got their first primers on deal-making at Doon. As a 13-year-old student, he bartered breakfast goods with the other boys. Milk and bread "had no trading

value" because they were ubiquitous, recalls Mr. Sinha, now a 43-year-old partner at Goldman Sachs. But the less-available "butter and eggs were tradable," he says.

To help blur class lines, boys perform menial tasks such as pruning plants or window-cleaning—unthinkable chores for those of high social standing. The school's de-emphasis of wealth explains why many material goods, including fancy cars and designer clothes, are not allowed on campus. Unless parceled out by the school, money, or "home dough," as boys call it, is also forbidden. Those found with unauthorized cash are stripped of their precious few privileges, such as Sunday forays into town.

'Article of Faith'

"The monastic existence" is an "article of faith of the school," says Dr. Kanti P. Bajpai, Doon's headmaster. "It is a leveler, a reminder that you are here to work and participate in campus activities and not wallow."

Upperclassmen help mete out the school's elaborate system of punishments—singling out boys for sloppiness, talking in assembly and other infractions. One common penance is a "change in break." That's when a student must run to his room and change into sports clothes from the school uniform—gray blazer and slacks—and return and get a chit signed by a prefect.

On occasion, the lessons are more physical, and not sanctioned by the school. Among them: "putting"—beating boys' rear ends with field hockey sticks or cricket bats—often for poor performance in sports. Although such bullying was once fairly common, Dr. Bajpai says that it is "the exception rather than the rule today."

The rigor endears Doon to some parents. Many of the world's top private schools are "too privileged," says Indian-born Vinit Khanna, a Doon alumnus who runs an outsourcing business in Bala Cynwyd, Pa. In January, he pulled his son Vihan out of a local school and sent him to study at Doon.

Three to four years ago, between 30% and 35% of Doon graduates went overseas for college, according to Dr. Bajpai, with most going to the U.S. and the U.K. Last year, the number rose to 50%; this year he predicts it will hit 70%.

The rise of Doon alums underscores a broader phenomenon dating back about two decades: the success of first-generation Indians in America. That was largely due to India's strong education system, as well as wider availability of U.S. visas and college scholarships.

"The average Indian in the U.S. is



Vikram Malhotra

30,000 times more likely to have an advanced degree than the average Indian in India," says Marcelo M. Suarez-Orozco, a professor and co-director of immigration studies at New York University. "So we are really skimming the cream of the crop."

When Doon graduate Deepak Thakran looked for a job in the late 1990s, he got an introduction to consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton from Kabir Sethi, another alum. After helping him get a foot in the door, Mr. Sethi picked him to work on his team—setting strategy for an institutional bank in Sydney, Australia.

Rajiv Dutta, president of Skype Technologies, the newly-acquired Internet telephone-calling unit of eBay Inc. says that Doon boys get a natural head start in business. Once, during a trip through the Himalayas, he and four others emerged from a stream to find their legs covered in leeches. Some of the boys wanted to head back to school. But after putting their heads together, they threw salt on the leeches, forcing them to recoil. The boys pressed on.

"It is tremendously uplifting when you make a decision like that, when you run into an obstacle and you overcome that obstacle," Mr. Dutta says.

Changing Focus

In recent years, Doon has faced challenges of its own. When Dr. Bajpai, a former university professor, arrived at Doon in 2003, "the school was quite inward-looking, consumed with its own competition and awards." Since then, he has tried to bring a greater focus on the world outside, encouraging more discussion of public affairs and topics like bullying and substance abuse.

Doon Dictionary

A sampling of terms used at the Doon School

MIDTERM: An off-campus excursion into the surrounding mountains or forests, often without chaperones. Midterm breaks can also involve social work, sports or historical trips.

JAMMING MIDTERMS: When boys divert from the midterm destination and sneak to another location.

BREAKING BOUNDS: Boys' unauthorized exit from the school compound, also known as "busting."

TOYETIME: Study time in the evenings. "Toye" refers to the locker and desk area in the study rooms. The term was introduced to Doon by the school's first headmaster, Englishman Arthur Edward Foot.

ROSE BOWL: An amphitheater on the school campus, built by the boys in the 1930s, where plays are staged. It derives its name from the rose-colored bricks which later were painted red.

LENDING: Demonstrating unflattering, ingratiating behavior in order to become a teacher's pet.

RUTTING: Cramming studies, but not understanding the material.

CHANGE IN BREAK: A humiliating punishment where boys must run to their dorms for multiple clothes changes during a 20-minute morning break, and return to class on time.

GOOD/BAD CHITS: Handed out by teachers for academic performance in class. Good chits entitle students to make extra telephone calls; bad chits subject them to detention.

He's done away with some formalities. Dr. Bajpai is the first headmaster not to don a traditional black robe and he urges instructors to drop the honorific "sir" when addressing him.

Consensus isn't easy. Doon currently admits the daughters of a few teachers, but the issue of coeducation has been divisive, with many alumni and students against the idea.

At a recent school-council meeting, boys asked administrators to boost the allowance they get each time they go on a private outing, to \$8 from about \$6. The boys scored a minor victory: They got an increase of a little more than a dollar.

"Let me tell you—we are getting soft," Philip Burrett, Doon's deputy headmaster told the students at a recent council meeting. "Next thing you'll want to go in a taxi."

—Rasul Bailay
contributed to this article.

It was indeed an article to make any Dosco proud – considering the very small alumni Doon has produced in the 71 years of its existence. Each year not more than 50 to 80 boys pass out from Doon's ivy covered portals. In the earlier years, each batch strength was less. We therefore, have an alumni strength of less than 5,000 living Doscos spread the world over – but always connected through the umbilical chord of childhood memories with their alma-mater and the old boys' society (DSOBS). It must be remembered that these Wall Streetwallahs and other Doscos like them who have done us proud (from the Jehangir Delals, the Sanju Sharmas, the Dilip Ratnams, the Rajiv Sarins, the Deepak Kanwars, the Varun Berys, the Rajiv Lals, to the Atals and the Dhars, etc.) and spread all over the US of A and other metropolitan cities the world over such as Hong Kong, Singapore, Dubai, etc. made their forays abroad when there were no dearth of seats in Indian colleges and Indian institutions of higher learning which forces every Tom, Dick and Harry today to travel overseas for higher education. Those were also not the days when fat bank balances of parents could

see one through an overseas education since those were the days of strict RBI regulations which permitted laughable amounts of about five to seven Dollars a day as an allowance. They went on their own steam, on scholarships and funding well earned and well deserved. Therefore, whether it was a Bammi who went on from BITS Pilani to Ohio or an AK (Anil Kumar, 451-K '74) who went from IIT to London to Wharton or a Dodo (Vinit Khanna, 350-H '74) who went on from St. Stephen's College to Wharton – they all did it their way and they made us proud. **It was therefore, a matter of pride to be compared with 'Andover'.**

Though **older than Doon by 165 years and founded in 1778 – 'Phillips Academy', better known as 'Andover', is a co-educational independent high school of about a thousand students known for its academics and the diversity of its student body and is arguably one of USA's oldest boarding schools.**

Located on a hilltop in Andover (from which it derives its name), Massachusetts and 21 miles north of Boston, the school's residential structure enables

faculty to support students in their personal, social and intellectual developments. The academic program fosters excellence in all disciplines within the liberal arts tradition. Faculty members guide students in mastering skills, acquiring knowledge and thinking critically, creatively and independently. The school strives to help young people achieve their potential not only intellectually, but also artistically, athletically and morally, so that they may lead responsible and fulfilling lives.

The older of the two Phillips academies, which are independent of each other, 'Andover' was founded by Samuel Phillips Jr. during the American Revolution. Paul Revere designed the school's seal, and John Hancock signed its Act of Incorporation. In 1789, President George Washington addressed students assembled on the school grounds during a visit to his nephew at the school.

Among the goals stated in Andover's constitution is a commitment to provide educational opportunity to "youth from every quarter," and that charge has broadened with the times. The school became coeducational in 1973 (Kanti – where do we stand on this front ???) when Phillips Academy merged with the adjacent Abbot Academy, the first incorporated New England school for girls, founded in 1829. Currently, there are students from nearly every state and 26 foreign countries. About 35 percent of those enrolled are students of color. Financial aid is available to low-income and middle-income families; 40 percent of the students receive financial aid.

With nearly 300 course offerings in 18 academic departments, the curriculum comprises a required core of studies fundamental to a liberal education and includes elective courses designed to fit individual interests. Advanced placement and accelerated courses are available in virtually every department. Outstanding facilities on the school's 500-acre campus include the Addison Gallery of American Art, which houses 12,000 works, the Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology, The Oliver Wendell Holmes Library with 101,000 volumes, a 65-acre bird sanctuary, an astronomy observatory and a licensed FM radio station.

Among several complementary programs are School Year Abroad, which offers 11th and 12th graders a full academic year of study in China, France or Spain, and arrangements for advanced language students to attend local schools in Mexico, Italy, Germany, France, Spain, Ivory Coast and China for one semester. Other off-

campus options include a Washington intern program for upperclassmen; the Mountain School Program of Milton Academy, which offers juniors the opportunity to live on a Vermont farm for a semester; and the Maine Coast Semester, which provides a term in Wiscasset, Maine.

The athletic department offers more than 50 sport, dance and exercise options at every level of instruction. Recreational athletes have a number of intramural and instructional options, while interscholastic athletes prepare for competition with other prep schools and with Boston-area colleges. Additionally, Andover's Search and Rescue program offers rugged outdoor adventure, including rock climbing, winter camping, and white-water canoeing and kayaking. A variety of clubs and organizations is also available, and more than half of the student body fulfill the mandate of the school's motto, Non Sibi ("Not for Self"), by volunteering in an extensive community service program. In addition, each student is required to participate in a school-wide work-duty program by undertaking such tasks as cleaning dorms, assisting in school offices, working in the dining hall and cataloging material at the Peabody Museum.

The academy is committed to establishing a community that encourages people of diverse backgrounds and beliefs to understand and respect one another and to be sensitive to differences of gender, ethnicity, class and sexual orientation. In its programs the school seeks to promote a balance of leadership, cooperation and service, together with a deeper awareness of the global community and the natural world.

Andover's 1778 Constitution charges the academy to prepare "Youth from every quarter" to understand that "goodness without knowledge is weak...yet knowledge without goodness is dangerous." This obligation challenges students in minds, body and spirit to see beyond themselves and to go beyond the familiar; to remain committed to developing what is finest.

And so does Doon. Yet to remain comparable to Andover, Doon has to continue to keep pace with the fast changing times, continuously reinvent itself, move and stay ahead. But that again is a job for School, the Governing Body and the IPSS. We as the Old Boys' Society can only lend helping a hand in ensuring that Doon always remains 'the Andover of India'.

With compliments from

*K.K. Lahiri, 30-K, 1974 and
Karan Lahiri, 306-K, 2004*

☛ We welcome **Ravi Singhee, 265-T '91** as the **new Regional Representative for Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry**. We wish him all success in keeping his flock together. He takes over from one of the most effective Regional Reps the DSOBS has had - **Alok Bhargava, 196-J, '74** who served as the **Chennai Representative for ten years**. Our heartfelt thanks to **Alok**.

Ravi's contact details are as follows:-

Mr. Ravi Singhee, 265-TA, 1991

Residence Address: No.92, Poes Gardens, CHENNAI-600086.

Office Address: No.1A, Dr. Sadasivan Road, T. Nagar CHENNAI-600017.

Office Tel.: 044-28341641-45

Residence Tel.: 044-24991482

Fax: 044-28255736

Mobile: 98-410-32536

e-mail: ravi@magnumclothing.com

We also welcome the following Regional and Class Representatives whose names were confirmed at the last Executive Committee meeting held on July 17, 2006

(a) Regional Representatives:

- (i) **Arjun Jolly, 275-T '91** has been appointed as the **Regional Representative of Netherlands**.
- (ii) **Ripu Daman Singh, 375-O '92** has been appointed as the **Regional Representative of Australia**.
- (iii) **Rajiv Sarin, 44-H '74** has been appointed as the **Regional Representative of Washington DC area**.

(b) Class Representatives:

- (i) **Ankur Bahl, 193-J** has been appointed as the **Class Representative for the Class of 1976**.
- (ii) **Amarendra Nath Singh, 34-K** has been appointed as the **Class Representative for the Class of 1964**.

☛ Some contact details of **Arjun Dua, 115-KA '73** have changed. His changed contact details are:-

Cellphone: + 1-909-525-7357

Work Tel.: + 562-946-3531 x 252

Work e-mail: arjun.dua@sohnen.com

☛ The contact details of **Mr. Pradeep Narain, 59-K '57** have also changed. His current contact details are as follows:-

Mr. Pradeep Narain, 59-K '57 60

Rue Madame, Paris – 75006, France.

Phone: +33-14-222-4918

Mobile: +33-6-8813-8129

e-mail: narainpradeep@aol.com

☛ **Gautam Sharma, 169-KB '97** has moved from Delhi to Kolkata in July 2006. He joined "The Statesman" from June 1, 2006 as Manger-Special Project. Gautam can be contacted at: **gsharma@thestatesman.net**.

☛ **Kartik Bajoria, 311-OA '98** after finishing a stint with Zoom TV as 'Segment Director' for its show 'Maximum Style', is shifting to Oxford, England, to participate in a one year film-making program at the New York Film Academy (Oxford Campus). He will be in London between 29th May and 2nd June, and in Oxford thereafter for a year. He would like to get in touch with DoscOs in and around London. He can be reached at kartikbajoria@gmail.com.

☛ **Siddharth Gupta, 469-KA, 2000** after School completed his undergraduate studies in Australia and is now headed to HEC

Paris for his MBA. His current contact details are:-

Mr. Siddharth Gupta, 269-KA, 2000

M.R.S. Corporation, 9D, Rajpur Road
DELHI-110054, India.

Tel.: +91-11-23968672

Fax: +91-11-23968674

Siddharth was enquiring as to whether there are DoscOs in the area and where there was an active France Chapter. Anyone in or around Paris wishing to provide any information may write in to us at the DSOBS and we will pass on the message to Mr. Siddharth Gupta.

☛ **Gaurav Bhatia, 286-HB '91** is currently Vice President-Business Development with Capital One (Financial Services) in Dallas, TX, USA. He can be reached at +817-690-7371 or bhatia_gaurav@yahoo.com.

☛ **Dhirendra Singh, 95-OB '95** has moved from New Delhi to Dubai and can be reached at +971-50-2131981 and dhirendra_95@rediffmail.com or dhirendra.s@rggulf.com.

☛ **Anirudh Reddy, 62-KA '90** along with his wife **Deepika** are moving to Christchurch, New Zealand towards the end of Sept 2006. They have taken over a **5 Star Boutique Hotel** by the name of "**The Charlotte Jane**" (named after one of the first few ships that arrived in NZ). The hotel has 12 suites and a fine dining restaurant. The couple shall be running and managing the hotel. They had gone on vacation to NZ in May '06, loved the country so much that they decided to move there. Prior to this they were based in the US for 4 years. Anirudh can be contacted at his personal email **anirudh_reddy@usa.net**. All other contact details are listed on the hotel's web site: **www.charlotte-jane.co.nz**. In case any DoscOs are visiting Christchurch please do get in touch.



MARRIAGES

- * **Arjun Jolly, 275-TB '91** recently married **Priyanka Nayar** in Kolkata. Our heartiest congratulations.

BIRTHS

- * **Amit Goel, 281-HB '91** and **Garima** were blessed with a baby boy – **Kabir Goel** on July 1, 2006. Our heartiest congratulations.

OBITUARIES

- The Doon School Old Boy community was deeply saddened at the demise of **Satish Chander Vadera, 227-T '42** who passed away in Hyderabad on March 7, 2006 due to a sudden heart attack. The Doon School Old Boy community conveys its **heartfelt condolences to his brother Brigadier Suresh Chander Vadera, VrC (Retd.) his daughter Mrs. Sarasvani Bhargav and his grandson, Siddhartha.** While informing School of Mr. Satish Chander Vadera's demise, his brother Brigadier Suresh Chander Vadera wrote in to Dr. Kanti Bajpai, 264-T '72, Headmaster, The Doon School, saying:-

"He was just short of 79 years at the time of his demise (Date of Birth 13 July 1927).

He was a railway man and on leaving the railways he held prestigious post in the Industry. Till the end he was actively engaged in designing and advising on production of mechanical equipment/machinery to various Industrial Units including Ministry of Defense.

He was a widower and has a daughter settled in USA.

Satish alongwith his daughter, Mrs. Sarasvani Bhargav, his young grandson Siddhartha and I visited the School and you were kind enough to entertain us in your office and showed us the entry of his name in the Honor Book. The date of our

visit, if I remember correctly, was 18 or 19 Oct 05." May Mr. Satish Chander Vadera's soul rest in eternal peace.

- The Doon School Old Boy Community was saddened at the demise of **Mrs. Prakashvati Gupta (wife of Mr. K.C. Gupta, ex. Head of the Chemistry Department and Housmaster Jaipur House A)** who passed away peacefully on May 31st, 2006 in Los Altos Hills, California, U.S.A.. She leaves behind **daughter, Neerja (Gupta) Raman (99J, Class of 1964)** and family; **daughter Kalpana (Gupta) Shyam (186-JA, Class of 1972)** and family; and **grandson Mayank Jain (573-JB Class of 1988, Son of Anjana (Gupta) Jain (284 J, Class of 1963) and family.**

Mrs. Gupta was a cheerful presence on the school campus from the late '50s through 1980 as many old boys from those times will remember. She was an active member of the Doon school Ladies Club which was involved in community service and in holding an Annual Fete at the School. She spent her golden years happily with her children and grandchildren with many fond memories of Doon School.

- The Doon School Old Boy community was deeply saddened at the demise of **Brigadier V.M. Sundaram, 216-K, 1937-1941** on June 2, 2006. Our heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Minu Sundaram and all their family members.
- It is with a heavy heart that we inform the Old Boy community of the extremely premature and untimely passing of **Narendra Singh, 195-H '72.** Narendra expired at a Meerut hospital on Sunday the 23rd of July 2006. Our heartfelt condolences to Narendra's family in this hour of grief. May Narendra's soul rests in eternal peace.

ERRATA

The write up on the Pune get-together as appearing at pages 15-16 of the May 2006 issue of the Rosebowl captioned "The Gathering of the Decades – at Pune" was written by Shiv Sapra, 408-JB '99. This may be read as corrected accordingly.

REUNION CLASS OF 1960

Date and time October 27, 2006 at 8.15 pm

Venue: D-19, Maharani Bagh, New Delhi
(Anil Virmani and Gutti hosting the dinner)

Drinks contributory

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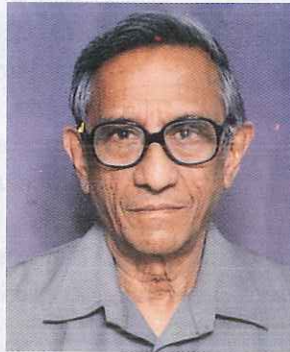
THE LATE BRIGADIER V.M. SUNDARAM, 216-K, 1937-1941

AN OBITUARY

BY

DR. P.K. DAS, 221-K, 1937-1944

It is with a heavy heart that I bid farewell to my good friend, the late Brigadier V.M. Sundaram, who left us for his Heavenly abode on June 2, 2006.



National Advisory Committee for Electronics. In 1973, he joined the Tata Consultancy Services.

From the wide variety of these achievements, it becomes clear that he was among the pioneers in our country in Information Technology. An earlier assignment with the Royal Signals in England and a Diploma from the Indian Institute of Technology at Kanpur bear out his expertise in this area. His technical skill was well recognized both in our country and abroad.

'Sandy', as he was popularly known to all who had the good fortune to have known him, was born on February 26, 1926. Both of us joined the Doon School at same time, that is, nearly seventy years ago in 1937. He was an exceptional student who was good in both sports and in studies. We were both placed in Kashmir House, and we often shared the same room. In fact, we belonged to the first batch of students in Kashmir House. Sandy passed the Senior Cambridge a year ahead of me, and left the School in 1941.

My meetings with Sandy became less frequent after he left School, but I do recall a few meetings with him on computers. Around this time, I was engaged in developing models for weather prediction. They needed computers for operation. Sandy's interests were on the engineering aspects, while my main interests lay on theory. Still, it was always interesting to talk to him because he was well aware of the latest developments in computer technology.

We were both members of the Kashmir House Boxing team. Our team won the Inter-House Boxing Championship sometime in the mid-forties. Kr. Govind Singh was then the Captain of the Kashmir House team. Some of the other prominent members of the team were the late Dinesh Singh and the late Yashpal Dev. Our team was successful because we valued the success of our team more than the triumph of individuals. Sandy, as far as I can remember, had good coordination between his footwork and his hands. This enabled him to land his punches with greater frequency and better accuracy. Being a little small in stature, he could detect the opponent's movements much faster than they could locate him. Sandy was also a keen cricketer. His enthusiasm stood him in good stead.

A feature which impressed me was Sandy's unassuming nature and his love for a dignified way of life. This was brought out during the last phase of his life. He was suffering from a terrible terminal illness, but he discouraged all his friends to come and visit him, or to offer any consolation. In view of his reluctance to meet visitors, I often spoke to his wife, Minu, to find out if there was any progress in his health. On one occasion, I was able to speak to him on phone. When I expressed my sympathy for the terrible ordeal he was going through, but his only response was, "These things happen, you know!" For a patient who was aware of the dreadful prognosis for his illness, I thought it was an extremely courageous reply.

After leaving School, Sandy joined the Madras Christian College from where he obtained his Bachelor's degree. He was placed in the First Class. Subsequently, he obtained another Bachelor's degree (B.E.) in Engineering from the Madras Engineering College, and was again placed in the first class. Thereafter, he joined the Indian Military Academy (IMA) for a career in the Indian Army. Here, too, he won several accolades, including a prize for being the best Cadet in the technical branch (Signals) in 1949.

In this hour of distress, I wish to express my deepest sympathy to his wife, Minu, and to his daughter, Chitre, for their bereavement. We shall pray for the peace of his soul. His demise has meant the loss of a sincere friend for me, because we had similar interests in our different professions. It will be difficult to replace him, especially because both of us had become members of the "over eighty club".

Sandy later became interested in Computers. He was the first Commandant of the Army Computer Centre in 1972. Subsequently, he was given an award for his contributions in this field. He became the President of the Computer Society of India in 1973. A year later he became a Member of the

The happy memories of our friendship will be one of the sustaining features of the days that lie ahead.



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CHENNAI'S 2006 SUMMER MEETS

By Alok Bhargava, 196-J '74

On 1st May with the summer heat at a comfortable 44 degree C, 15 people went to visit C.Ramakrishna's, [66-K (1947)], farm located about 70 kms south of Chennai on the East Coast Road towards Pondicherry.

We reached C.Ramakrishna's 40 acres farm dedicated to the Late Bharat Ratna C.Subramaniam. Amongst the trees there is a mango tree planted by President Abdul Kalam. There are over 36 varieties of mangoes grown. We sat in the shade of the mango trees and enjoyed the coconut water and saw C.Ramakrishna's fabulous house. C.R is a lawyer and is famous for demolishing his opposition. He has countered all the arguments put forth by his plants and they are properly bullied into delivering the best mangoes south of the Vindhya.

After spending a short time at his farm we went to see a Shiva Temple 1500 years old and maintained by CR and his family. It was an amazing visit. We discovered the temple was built by Karikaala Cholan, (the word Karikaala means 'burnt leg' and refers to his childhood when he suffered burns on his leg) an early Chola King who brought the whole of the South under his rule, and traded with the Mauryas, stamping his goods at Kanchipuram with his Tiger seal, which is now used by the LTTE as their symbol. Interestingly Kautilya or Chanakya, author of the Arthashastra, manned the post at

Kanchipuram at that time and it has never been clear as to whom he owed his allegiance: to the Mauryas or to the Cholas!

We visited CR's 2nd farm, his family temple and then went to his house for a fabulous lunch.

CR is an old boy of 1947 vintage. Like Guru (Gurudial Singh), CR has remained a bachelor by choice and spending his time in becoming Chennai's most famous lawyer. He has also modernized his farms and introduced latest techniques of growing mangoes, etc. He is also a philanthropist and has donated 5 acres of his land to build a Government School. An old boy we can be truly proud of.

On 2nd May we had our dinner get together. 31 people attended. We discussed our visit to CR's farm and the school.

Many old boys have promised to contribute to the Government School.

1. A.Vellayan -87-T (1968) - Promised bathrooms for the School.
2. Madhu Johri - 235-H (1967) - Immediately promised to help for the bathrooms or any other help.
3. Ravi Singhee - 265-TA (1991) - Uniforms for the children.



From Left to Right

- Standing** ~ Mr.Siddharth Lulla, Mr.Arun Murugappan, Mr.D.G.Rajan, Mr. Mct. P. Chidambaram, Mr. Ramesh Rajan, Mr.R.Muthu, Mr.Naveen Johri, Mr.A.Vellayan, Mr.Angad Vohra, Mr.Vinu Hoon, Mr.Vikash Varma, Mr.Madhav Patwardhan
- Sitting 2nd Row** ~ Mr.S.P.Sathappan, Mr.M.Ct.Pethachi, Dr.Krishnamoorthy Srinivas, Mr.I.S.Bedi, Mrs.Krishnamoorthy Srinivas, Mr.C.Ramakrishna, Mrs.I.S.Bedi
- Sitting 3rd Row** ~ Mr.Alok Bhargava, Mr.Siddharth Lulla Friend, Ms.Som, Mrs.Alagu Muthu, Mrs. Valli Chidambaram, Mrs.Jaya Patwardhan, Mr.Ravi Singhee, Mrs.Uma Hataria, Mrs.Seema Bhargava, Mrs.Madhu Johri, Mrs.Lakshmi Vellayan, Mrs.Chandrika Pethachi

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Thanks old boys and girls. It is generosity like this, which makes one proud to be an old boy. The evening was a spirited fun evening, where beer and wine were also served!

Angad Vohra - 293-J (1968) & his friend Som drove in from Auroville.

Present were :

1. Mr.C.Ramakrishna - 66-K (1947)
2. Dr.K.Srinivas - 186-T (1947) & Mrs.K.Srinivas
3. Mr.M.Ct.Pethachi - 125-H (1949)
4. Mr.D.G.Rajan - 307-H (1956) & Uma Hataria
5. Mr.I.S.Bedi - 43-T (1957) & Mrs.I.S.Bedi
6. Mr.Vinoo Boon - 201-H (1964)
7. Mr.R.Muthu - 373-H (1966) & Mrs.Alagu Muthu
8. Mrs.Madhu Johri - 235-H (1967) & Mr.Naveen Johri
9. Mr.A.Vellayan - 87-T (1968) & Mrs.Lakshmi Vellayan
10. Mr.Madhav Patwardhan - 68-H (1970) & Mrs.Jaya Patwardhan
11. Mr.Vikas Varma - 18-KA (1971)
12. Mr.Alok Bhargava - 196-JB (1974) & Mrs.Seema Bhargava
13. Mr.M.Ct.P.Chidambaram - 135-HA (1976), Mrs.Chandrika & his daughter Mrs.Valli Chidambaram
14. Mr.D.Ramesh Rajan - 681-HA (1981)
15. Mr.Arun Murugappan - 272-TB (1985)
16. Mr.Ravi Singhee - 265-TA (1991)
17. Mr.Siddharth Lulla - 383-TATA'B' (1992) & friend
18. Mr.S.P.Sathappan - 185-H

The new representative from Chennai, Ravi Singhee was welcomed and he has taken over from me. I have enjoyed 10 years of being the Chennai representative. Many thanks.



Master Utsav Patwardhan, Mr.Vikash Varma, Mrs.Seema Bhargava, Mr.Siddharth Lulla, Mr.Ravi Singhee, Mrs.Sarla Bhargava, Mrs.Madhu Johri, Mr.Madhav Patwardhan, Mr.Alok Bhargava, Ms.Swetha Patwardhan, Mrs.Jaya Patwardhan, Mr.Naveen Johri, Mr.C.Ramakrishna, Mr.S.P.Sathappan, Mr.C.Ramakrishna's friend, Mr.C.Ramakrishna - assistant



Shiva Temple

Mr.S.P.Sathappan, Mrs.Seema Bhargava, Ms.Swetha Patwardhan, Mrs.Sarla Bhargava, Mrs.Jaya Patwardhan, Mrs.Madhu Johri, Mr.Naveen Johri, Mr.Vikash Varma, Mr.Madhav Patwardhan, Master Utsav Patwardhan, Priest & Mr. Alok Bhargava



Mr.Vikash Varma, Master Utsav Patwardhan, Mr.Madhav Patwardhan, Mrs. Madhu Johri, Mr.Naveen Johri, Mrs.Sarla Bhargava, Mr.S.P.Sathappan, Mr.Alok Bhargava, Ms.Swetha Patwardhan, Mrs.Seema Bhargava, Mrs.Jaya Patwardhan

LAGER THAN LIFE

By Sharad (Sheroo) Sharma, 334-JA '85

There are three things you need when you go for the AGRA - JAIPUR weekend:

1. Your GYM shoes – To play soccer and cricket
2. Your swimming trunks – To show off your prosperity
3. 'Party Smart' – A herbal cure that prevents a hangover (I should be paid for this plug!!)

Forget formal clothing, forget work, forget responsibility and forget life-as-you-know-it-Jim, for two days of bohemianism! Welcome to the 10th Annual Agra weekend which was held in Jaipur on the weekend of 28th April 2006 at the Le Meridien, the hotel chain which got our nod because the ITC Sheraton did not.

This resort hotel is well located and is approximately 13 kms before Jaipur on NH8, which translates into a door to door journey of 3 ½ hours - legendry in this day of the much awaited Indian autobahn. With nothing more than camels to deal with and the occasional rattle of the seven cases of 'Kingfisher' in my boot which I was ferrying down to aid the festivities, the weekend did promise to be 'lager than life'.

Although there was much deliberation about the venue, most forgot about these complaints when we entered the venue. Exotically architected, the Le Meridien exuded an almost hedonistic charm that most Doscocs would take to. With a pool that begged you to take a dip; palm trees and deck chairs that tempted posturing in swimming trunks; a bar under an ivy clad patio that egged us to lose our sensibilities; tastefully adorned rooms that overlooked the gorgeous pool that served as a ready reckoner for anyone's whereabouts; it was indeed a charming location.



Picture 1 : The hub of all activities

Friday evening was a laid back affair which brought on much debate on location, life and 'loves'. As in – "He loves to dance on the bar", "He loves to play guitar", "He loves to look at ladies (or boys depending on which house you were in)", "He loves Papa Johns pizza", "He loves to finish a bottle of beer in 20 seconds", "He loves to stroke his moustache", "He loves to show his butt to the party and get it photographed!" The harbinger of good things was already in the air.

Saturday morning and the lot were at the pool doing their thing. The kids were bare footing and the parents were footing the beer. Anil Kapoor pulled out his gat and belted some tunes beneath the ivy clad patio, much to everyone's delight. Oh, yeah! – The Jaipur weekend was picking up pace.



Picture 2: Anil Kapoor regales Robin Roy with Paul Anka's 'Papa', while Arvind Vishwanathan keeps beat with cutlery

At five pm we congregated at the field for our Soccer and Cricket. We kicked off with the former. Two teams; who played who was not important. We all played with each other just like we have always done(!). The Soccer match was no different. Get the ball, dribble a bit - wipe, and kick. Oh, no! Wrong goal! Life is like that.



Picture 3 : The games blazer winners, games captains and Doscocs to be.. !!!

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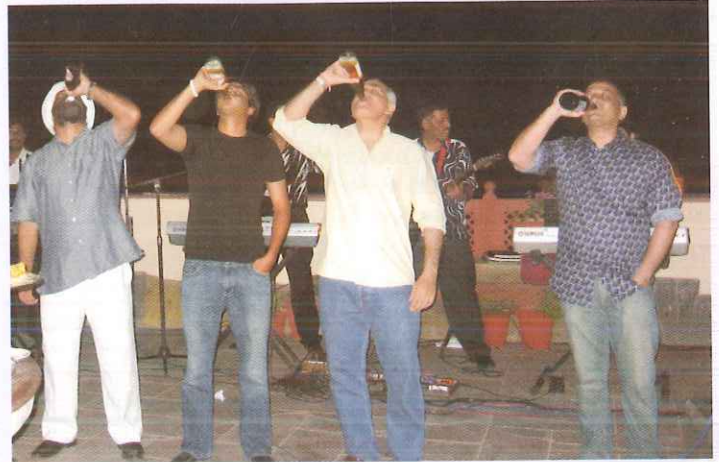
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But it was the children, the 'Doscoc - to - be' who brought a smile to our faces, the swashbuckling games blazer holders and school cricket and soccer captains notwithstanding. I couldn't help think how lucky these kids were; already a part of a fraternity even before joining school.



Picture 4 : The charming games field

The prize distribution is always looked upon as a fun interlude to the evening. And after the prizes for soccer and cricket were given out, there were, as always a few alternative awards like 'who-can-down-the-bottle-of-beer-in-one-go', etc. Incidentally the Dosco who downed the bottle in 20 SECS... yes 20 SECS did it as if he was suckling from Pamela Lee Anderson ! Like he had never drunk liquid for 50 years! Like he was horny for beer! Like he waswell you get the message. He had this to share as his trade secret... "Buuuuurrrrrrrpppppppp". It was crisp and it was loud. Too loud even for the JBL's.



Picture 6: The sport of kings

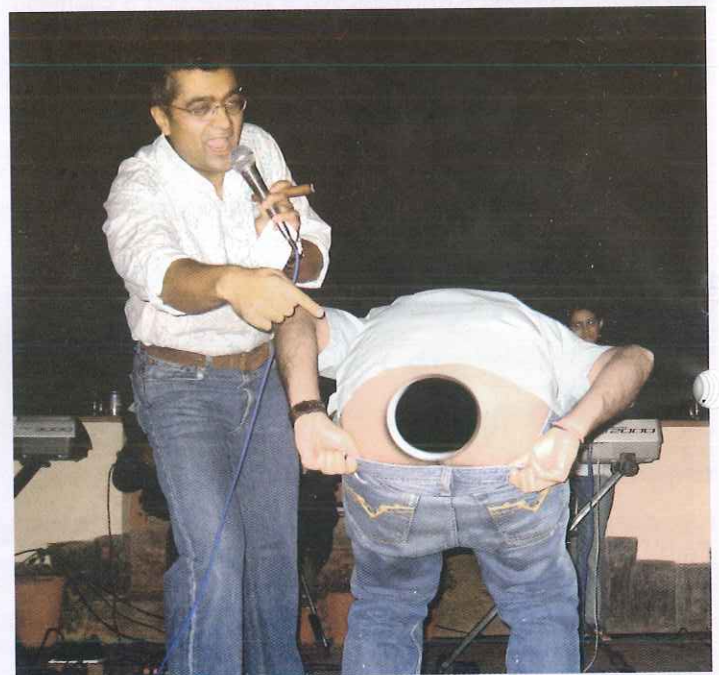
Games over, I made my way back to my room to get some shut eye before the evening began. Oh lord, why can't I refuse a lager in the afternoon? Unable to sleep, I popped some 'Party smarts' and headed to the bar with my stogie, ready to face the challenges that the evening might throw up.

The party was held at the main bar which was a delightful location with an attached terrace bordered with chattris. The band ironically played 'satisfaction' and the bar was where we went to get it. The congregation was thick with conversation, laughs, and photographs. Doscoc are an easy bunch to please, if you get the ingredients right. No guesses for that one.

But the *piece de resistance* was the 'One-who-wears-no-underwear-award' or 'going commando' as Joey Triviani puts it, and it was actually won by someone! And he had competition! I thought linen room predicaments were a thing of the past, but TWO Doscoc weren't wearing any underwear that evening ladies and the proof of the pudding lies.... well in the eating...



Picture 5 : Yes, they too cannot believe 1) The quality of the burp and 2) that TWO DOSCOC did not wear underwear that evening!



Picture 7 : Butt me no butts ..!!! [Note: Censorship dictates coverage of offending body-part. But there is no ruling as to the type of coverage :-)]

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So Sumit Nath stepped on to stage and threw the gauntlet at Mr. Anil Handa. This was getting good. I asked for proof. He threw me the attested affidavit, because there in the crisp Rajasthani night Mr Nath revealed his assets for the world to see. There must have been five simultaneous camera flashes, there was cheering, hooting, there were peals of nostalgia "Sumit you're here too, didn't recognise you all evening BUDDY" and there were also befuddled stares, all in one defining moment. Way to go dude, you got balls! (as we noticed)

That was not all, the evening was taken to higher note by crooner extraordinaire Mr. Mahesh Mansukhani who rendered 'Oona Paloma Blanca' rather well. He was later joined by Welhamites Sabina and Gayatri. The band was sporting. I don't think they had a choice. But wait, where was 'Anand Loke?' Mikes + Inebriated Doscos; and Loke had to make his appearance. But I think he was out his league and had gone to bed unlike the rest of the pack.



Picture 8 : Mahesh belts out Oona Paloma Blanca .

As the audio levels rose to keep pace with the levels of alcohol the evening took another turn which would have made John Travolta crash his plane. This year it was all about the groove. The groove which made Sanjay Dutta dance on to the bar again, Vikas to do the Papa John boogie, and everybody else do the bump with Sumit Nath, I bet he never saw that coming! The evening came to a halt at 3.30 AM. Phew!

Sunday is always for 'sweeeemmmiiing'. This was the Dosco's day out. After the night before it becomes a lot easier to look someone in the eye and say 'dude nice ass'. And they wouldn't mistake you for a fag. It would be taken as a genuine complement for the display of 'joie de verve'. There were other compliments too, 'nice bumping', 'nice Oona paloma blanca', 'nice sucking of the beer' and 'nice burp'.



Picture 9 : LAGER THAN LIFE ~ the champions at work

Lunch over most of the herd departed except the die hards. Who stayed over for another night on the town. 'Don't stop till you get enough' was a popular song in our times.

As the clock stuck four - the mouse fell to the floor exhausted with the singing, the 'sweeeemmmiiing', the dancing, the eating, the football-ing, the cricketing, the flashing, the guzzling, the photographing, the laughing and the beering. Boy, this weekend always turns out 'Lager than life'.

Kudos to Vivek Seth (DSOBS Rep), Nalin Khanna (Delhi Rep), Vipin Malhotra (for the booze) and everyone's participation for making it a befitting 10th Anniversary of a wonderful reunion.

See you at the 11th

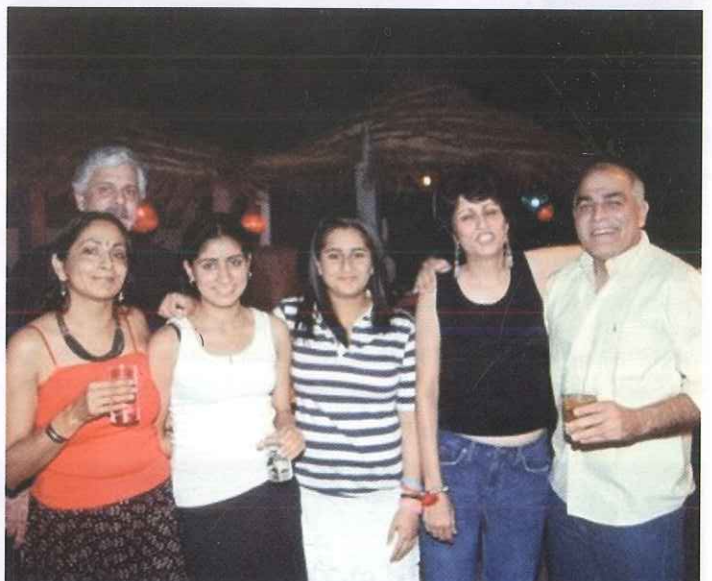
EDITORIAL PREROGATIVE

BY K.K. LAHIRI, 30-K '74

This is one of the great perks I enjoy as Editor – being able to play the great leveller. We had some terrific snaps of the Jaipur bash but Sheroo (correctly) chose only to insert those which were relevant to his write up. However, I could not let some of the others snaps - particularly with such a large number from my batch (1974) in attendance - go down the drain. So, here are some more golden moments of the Jaipur bash captured by the camera for posterity which Sheroo's merciless scissors had snipped out of the reckoning.



The better halves



Arjun (Khosi) Khosla (left behind), Shiwani Khanna, Avani Khosla, Natalia Dhirani, Shibani Khosla and Deepak Mansukhani.



L-R – Indrave Singh Mann, Indushekhar Singh, Mr. R.D. Singh, Sudhanshu Bhushan, Soumitra Sen, Vipin Malhotra and Mahesh Mansukhani.



L-R – Nalin Khanna, Indushekhar Singh, Sudhanshu Bhushan, Pepe Dugal, Deepak Mansukhani, Soumitra Sen. Squatting – Mahesh Mansukhani.



L-R – Gurmeet (Meetu) Singh, Vipin Malhotra with Mr. Sheel Sharma in front, Deepak Mansukhani, Sandeep (Dhabe) Sharma, Indushekhar Singh and Arjun Khosla.



L-R - Suman Dewan, 'Unknown', Gautam Khandelwal, Vipin Malhotra, Nimis Seth, Nalin Khanna, Inderjit Singh, Arvind Vishwanathan & Vikas Atre. Seated – Arjun Khosla, Mr. R.D. Singh & Ashwath Khanna.



L-R – Hemant (Hemu) Sharma and Asheet Lanba share a warm moment



A gathering of gangsters – Meetu, Dhabe and Pepe look ready to do Chambal proud.

With the Compliments of :

Hemant (Hemu) Sharma
459-J, 1987

DOON-DELAWARE CHESAPEAKE BAY CHAPTER

By Rajiv Sarin, 44-H '74

Doon-DCBC Summer 2006 Alumni Reunion

2006 July 09 Sunday

Indique Heights Restaurant in Chevy Chase, Maryland and its smorgasbord of 'little bites' and 'dessert' offerings lured Doscos out of their summer lull to celebrate the World Cup Soccer final telecast.

The author would like to specially thank Parvesh and Prakash Swani – Tata House Batch of 1952 and 1951 respectively – for having made the trek from Baltimore for the reunion. **Thanks also to Ravi & Jaspreet Sandhu, Sunil & Margaret Mukerjee, Anuradha Sharma & Rajesh Bhandari, Doc & Margaret Ghose** for bringing their kids to the event: Devin and Devraj, Cameron Raj, Aarti and Anand, and Tara to help celebrate a second year in the running of our alumni **congregation**.

Additionally, the alums would like to welcome Shantanu Sood to the Washington, DC-area. After completing his LLM from Georgetown University, he has joined a boutique, Intellectual Property, law firm in the city.

As one avid soccer aficionado and Jaipur House **alumnus** confided it was the *kesar-badaam kulfi* and the *gulaab jamun* that clinched the RSVP in the affirmative for his participation.

As the photos will attest, we were absorbed in the action on the pitch in Berlin rather than in news on the home front. However, a few school related news items were integral to the conversation as we sampled the 'grub' and reminisced about 'CDH' food versus House Dining Hall food (the latter was a clear favorite as one Hyderabad House veteran vouched for the H House mess under the stewardship of Mrs. Dhawal).

Our restaurant hosts – Surf Rahman and Ranbir Bhatia – lavished upon us *kaathi* rolls, **masala fish tikka, idiappams with avial, papri chaat and pao bhaji**. Together with libations,

conversation gravitated to the status of the 503(c) conduit for Doon contributions from the US, Kanti Bajpai's annual return visit to these shores, and to the capital contribution campaign acquiring a wider, more inclusive dimension (**for pledge campaign contributions**) at a more modest level of **donation**. And, the consideration of a visiting term at Doon for children of NRI-alumni.

The mid-afternoon local time telecast lent itself to a leisurely and relaxed tone. **'Les Bleus' supporters, however,** were shocked into silence by the red card exit of the sentimental crowd favorite, Zinedine Zidane.

Any 'class reps' reading this article are urged to inform Doscos living in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC to contact the undersigned via email or post and add further luster to the roster of thirty-six (36) alums residing in the region.

According to the grapevine, Shyam Bhatia and Munish Mehra are residents in the metropolitan area of Washington, DC. Gentlemen, should you happen to be reading the issue, please provide your coordinates.

Kindly mark your dates for the World Cup Cricket in early spring next year for the 2007 chapter reunion. Till then, *salaam* and *shukriya*.

Attendees:

Nikhil Deogun, Vikram Haksar, Anuradha Sharma and Rajesh Bhandari, Archisha and Ashok Mehan, Prakash Swani, Jaspreet and Ravi Sandhu, Margaret and Doc Ghose, Margaret and Sunil Mukerjee, Shantanu Sood, Parvesh Swani, Vandana and Rajiv Sarin

The IPSS and DSOBS: What's the Difference?

By Sati Puri, 49-K '52, Member-IPSS

At meetings in India and abroad over the past eighteen months in connection with the Doon School Fund Raising initiative, questions have been asked frequently regarding the functions, constitution and the difference between the Indian Public Schools' Society (IPSS) and the Doon School Old Boys' Society (DSOBS).

All Doscos who complete a minimum of three years study at the school are eligible to become members of the Doon School Old Boy's Society. There are currently roughly 5000 Old Boys. The Society's aim, in a nutshell, is to further the cause of Old Boys and to foster a sprit of camaraderie amongst fellow Doscos. The Society is headed by an elected President, Vice-President, and Committee Members with Regional Representatives of Old Boys in India and abroad.

Regular sporting activities and social get-togethers are organised to keep the Dosco spirit alive. Funds are collected from Old Boys and corporates to defray the cost of social get-togethers, sporting activities and help towards bursaries for Old Boys sons. The DSOBS also makes generous donations for ongoing projects at the School and to increase the corpus of the scholarship/bursaries funds.

In recent years, the Society (DSOBS) has raised substantial monies by promoting the Doon School Choir to play in cities in India and abroad. The Art Auction recently held in Delhi was a resounding success resulting in the President, DSOBS, sending an initial cheque for Rs. 35 lacs to the Headmaster towards the reconstruction of the new Art School. [Let me correct you, Sati. The DSOBS has handed over Rs.75 lakhs

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out of the committed Rs.1.25 crores for the new Art School and has also handed over its committed Rs.25 lakhs towards renovation of the Rosebowl – Editor].

The Society organised a most successful and enjoyable “Dosco Summit” in Dubai in December last year. This was the first time in its history that a Dosco get-together was organised overseas. Congratulations to Anoop Bishnoi and his Executive Committee for a job well done.

The Doon School is set up under the management of the Indian Public Schools’ Society which was founded in 1929. The Society is a Joint Stock Company registered under Section 26 of the Indian Companies Act 1913 [since replaced by the Act of 1956 – Editor] and is a charitable and non-profit organization.

The objectives of the Society, amongst others, are to establish educational institutions in India; to impart education; to inculcate an atmosphere of Indian tradition and culture; to promote education, etc.

The IPSS is the Governing Body of the Doon School. It elects the Chairman of the Board of Governors, the Board members and has a vision statement for the school. The IPSS has constituted various sub committees, which assist the Headmaster, but the day-to-day running of the school is solely in his hands and the members of his faculty.

The Board of Governors of the IPSS in consultation with the Headmaster of the School have set up subcommittees to help with the following:

- Education Initiative – Introduction of the International Baccalaureate at the school.
- Audit Control- Internal and External both financial and process control
- Oversee the treasury function.
- Administration of the scholarship fund.
- Provide guidelines on strategic issues.
- IT initiative to improve internet connections.
- Overseeing capital expenditure by a committee for the construction of buildings at the school and the preparation of a Master Plan.
- Introduction of Human Resource systems and laying down HR policies including the personal appraisal of the faculty.
- Fundraising Committee

The prime objective of the Doon School Old Boy’s Society is to further the cause of Old Boys whilst the objective of the Indian Public Schools’ Society is to manage the Doon School for the present boys at the school, future generations of boys, and the faculty of the school. As a matter of historical interest, the IPSS set up the School which in turn, at the instance of A.E. Foot, the first Headmaster, helped set up the Old Boys’ Society. The Old Boys’ Society is, in legal terms, a separate institution, with its own constitution, procedures and officials. Naturally, however, the IPSS and DSOBS work closely together on a range of issues related to the School.

All Old Boys are eligible to join the IPSS, but under its constitution the maximum number of members is two hundred

of which presently about one hundred and seventy five vacancies have been filled.

The IPSS has laid down the following criteria of eligibility for membership of the Society:

1. The membership of the IPSS should primarily be restricted to DoscOs, with non-DoscOs comprising a maximum of 25 percent of the total membership.
2. The membership of the IPSS should not exceed 200, as presently stipulated.
3. The filling of vacancies should not be in excess of five percent of the total strength of 200 in any given year.

The filling of vacancies caused by resignation/death will not be included in the five percent mentioned above.

4. The Society looks for persons from all walks of life who personify integrity, ability, and vision. They should be capable of contributing to the school’s development and progress in keeping with the challenges of the times and of ensuring that the school provides an environment that stimulates the mind and raises the level of endeavour in all fields at the Doon School.

These potential IPSS members should have the capacity to be on the Board of Governors and chair and/or be members of committees formed to examine various aspects of the school’s functioning. While discharging these duties, they should be able to ensure that the school operates at a level at which all its facilities (educational, sporting or extra- curricular) allow boys and masters to realize their full potential.

5. New members should be from different walks of life/ professions and from different age groups and regions in India. They should have a proven interest in the school or in education and/or associated activities. They could include educationists, engineers, doctors, journalists, accountants, members of the defence services, the central administrative services (e.g. the IAS, IFS, police), businessmen, sportsmen, and professionals in diverse fields (advertising, film, IT, etc.)

Procedures and Guidelines for the Selection of IPSS Members

- a) Members are apprised of vacancies during the AGM. They may then confidentially recommend potential new members. Their recommendation should consist of a brief profile of the person they are recommending and their views on the nature of the contribution he or she will make to the IPSS.
- b) The person invited to apply for membership of the IPSS needs a proposer and a seconder who have known the proposed person for five years. The proposer and the seconder should also have been members of the IPSS for at least five years. It is for the proposer to recommend in writing, as part of this application, why the person recommended should be made a member and how the person proposed can contribute to the mission of the IPSS.
- c) All recommendations should reach the Chairman by 31 March of the year in question.

With the Compliments of :

Rajat (Tojo) Bannerji
135-T, 1984

- d) The complete list of proposed new members, along with a list of those recommended by the Committee for membership, will be forwarded to the Board for its final decision. The Board will then decide upon these applications at its next meeting.
- e) As the Society's membership is limited, it is desirable that there shall not be more than two members from the same immediate family (father, mother, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters).
- f) There should be an attempt to get members of the IPSS from different regions of India.
- g) The minimum age for membership should be 25, except in the case of exceptional individuals.

- h) An attempt should be made to have one person from each graduating class of the Doon School.

Please feel free to contact me at the under noted address or email id if you have any queries.

Sati Puri

49-K, 1948¹ 52²

The Doon School (IPSS) - Fundraising Committee

The Doon School,

Mall Road, Dehradun- 248001

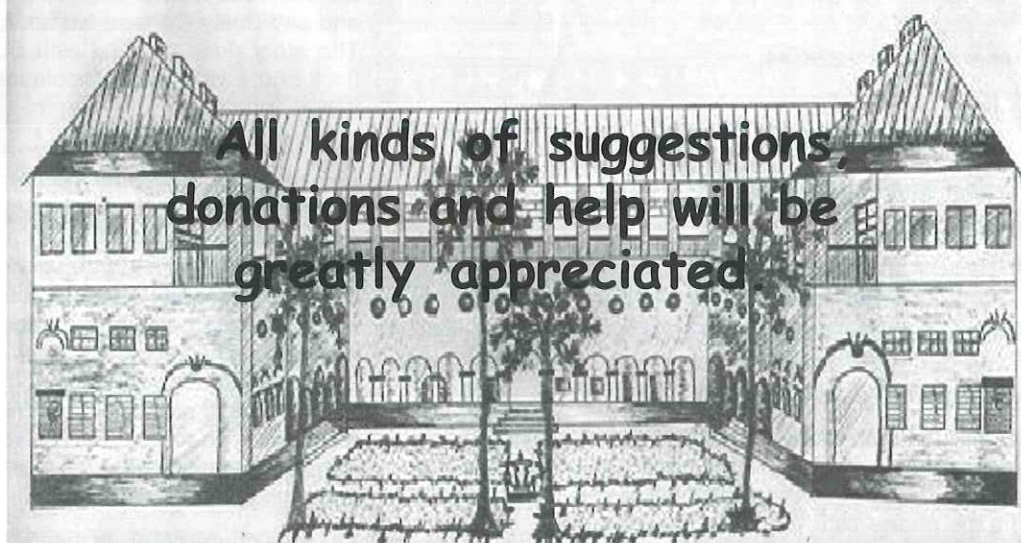
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Fax: 0135-2759198, 2757275

We are honoured to host the Pagalgymkhana on 29 October, 2006. It is our privilege to invite all Doscos to be a part of this event.

For further details contact us at tatagymkhana@gmail.com



All kinds of suggestions, donations and help will be greatly appreciated

Tata House Pagalgymkhana, 2006

We hope to see you at the Tata House Pagalgymkhana

True as Steel

Saroj Kumar Mehera, 122-K '44

"Sir,

I have just received the May 2006 issue and was delighted to read that Aminuddin Khan 22-K 1948 remembers my handwriting and I quite gleefully drew my dear wife's attention to the reference! Such is the vanity of old age! Aminuddin, then at Welham, had earlier participated in a play called Toad Of Toad Hall, which was staged at Doon, courtesy Miss Oliphant. Much later, in 1960, I came across Aminuddin again, now known as Shafi Khan by his friends and colleagues, in The High Range, Munnar, Kerala, working as a tea planter for the James Finlay group as I was in Calcutta. Still later, we met over breakfast in Santosh Reddy's house in Hyderabad in 1989.

I see my friend, "Kipps" Atal, 131J, ("Panditji") who visits Calcutta often, from Jaipur, is described as being of the 1936 batch! The man is old, like me, but he *joined* Doon in 1936 and his batch is that of 1942. (Sorry to deflate you, Panditji, because, in the photograph, you look every inch a senior citizen, complete with walking stick!!)

Out of the blue, a few weeks ago, I had an e-mail from Wahid Mohammed ("Wally") 201J-1945, living in the U.S.A., he told me, since 1981. He wanted to be put in touch with friends in my 1944 batch and, of course, I put him on to Vivek Nehru 82J and Nazir Ali Jairazbhoy 275J, since they had all authored a song extolling their housemaster. "Wally" wanted to find a class representative for his batch and said K.P.Sankara Menon 215J had declined. Any takers? Lalit Thapar? Karan Singh?

Yours etc.,

Saroj Kumar Mehera 122K-44.

Calcutta 12 June 2006."

Ashim Kumar Mukherjee, 44-T '58

Sir,

There is a popular saying that if your wife laughs at your jokes, either it is a very good joke or you have a very good wife. The joy of writing a piece for the weekly or the Rosebowl is similar. Even if it is poorly constructed, everybody will be kind and understanding. This is where I begin.

This little piece is based on an incident just a few days ago. As it enriches the quality of the old boys fraternity I thought I would take the liberty of sharing it with all of you. Last Sunday I got a frantic phone call from Shyama Mookerjee, ex-172 H, School and Hyderabad House Captain of 1957 Batch and he sounded worried and tense. Apparently our own dear Guru, Gurdial Singh was to visit Shyama and Shobha at their farm in Belgaum which was then completely flooded after the deluge in Maharashtra. Since Gurdial was to board the train at Delhi and stop on the way at Nasik for a few days en-route to Belgaum Shyama was desperately trying to contact some one in Delhi or Nasik to try and persuade Guru to call off the journey.

Since Gurdial was not available on the telephone, Shyama called me to ask what I could do and mentioned that a nephew of Gurdial by the name of Monty who lived in Delhi but whose

whereabouts nobody knew had to be contacted so that the journey could be called off. This is where the old boys connection paid off. I called Askari Imam ex-68 T, School Music Captain and the melodious vocalist of our times. Askari, Brijesh Mathur, Arun Bharatram and Shyama Mookerjee took turns to win the best soloist of the term trophy amongst themselves. Askari did not know much about Monty but suggested I speak to Pushpinder Chopra ex-74 T, a very successful and well-known business person of Delhi who could help. He also asked me to try Lalit Nirula in case I was not able to get Pushi.

When I called Pushpinder Chopra, I was speaking to him after some 40 years all that I said was my name and asked if he remembered me. He floored me by saying Ashim ex-44T and that was not enough when I mentioned that I had got his number from Askari he said Oh, Well 68T. Imagine my condition when I continued about Shyama and Pushi took a second to say 172H. Frankly that was about as much as I could take in a morning.

I asked Pushi where the hell did he get this photographic memory from. Of course, the good old John Martyn he said. Apparently in one of his visits to North America in the early 70s, John Martyn was felicitated by several old boys at a get together where the story of his phenomenal memory was popular fable. The old boys got together and found somebody who had studied for only one term in 1937 and since 40 odd years had passed in between were sure that John Martyn will not remember him. I am told that when produced in front of the old Head Master he took just a few seconds to look at him and say Busty Cooper, Number... .., Jaipur House, 1937. The story does not end with Busty Cooper collapsing on the floor and a round wild applause but it does mention several gasps of unbelievable length.

This is where Pushi or Pushpinder Chopra, ex-74T got his training from. Any way, in the middle of all these phone calls, came a much relieved message from Belgaum and Shyama confirmed that he had been able to contact Feroze Noshir Massani at Nasik and had spoken to Guru who very reluctantly and dejectedly had agreed to call off the trip. There was relief in Shobha and Shyama's heart but immense joy in all ours because we had spoken to each other that is Askari, Pushpinder and I after 40 odd years and nothing seemed to have changed. The next day I got a call from Askari to ask whether everything was okay and had Guru been saved from swimming in Belgaum - notwithstanding the fact that he was in-charge of swimming in our time.

All these phone calls reminded me of a recent incident at home. I got a call from a lady who wanted to speak to my wife. As she was not at home, I said I am afraid she is not in but could I take a message? At this, the lady on the other side said, "Oh dear, what a pity, are you the answering machine?"

Thank you, gentle reader and I hope that the good old Dosco spirit continues with such tender feelings for all times to come.

Ashim Kumar Mukherjee
Ex-44 T, 1958 Batch.
School and Tata House Captain
(From Gurgaon)"

With the Compliments of :

**Anoop Singh Bisnoi, 112-J '75; Gautam Chadha, 389-H '71;
Vivek Seth, 915-J '82; Nalin Khanna, 563-H '80; Ranjan Bhalla, 368-J '72**

Kavita Prakash, 794-TB '81

"Dear Mr. Lahiri,

I was merrily cruising through the Rose Bowl when, I came across – Old Boys (and Girls) in the News – 'Atta Boy, what was this?!! In print, this was refreshing but – there was something amiss. Anyway, I'll come back to that later'. It felt great reading about Neerja's achievements.

Getting back, what was it that hankered at the back of my mind – (and Girls). This 'error' didn't happen once, nor twice but actually thrice, till the end. –

50 years since independence and India's premier, progressive school of the 21st century!

Agreed that Doon is a boys school with a sprinkling of girls, for whatever reasons. But a fact that cannot be obliterated nor washed away – The minute their names appear in the school rolls – They have been officially acknowledged as DoscOs. In retrospect, have you ever for a minute, paused to think how much harder their tasks must have been?

A little 'tid-bit' – In my first year at school, 'C Form', I was bubbling with enthusiasm to partake in the District sports. The 1st day, I had to attend clad in shorts and then head for P.T., alone, in the same attire (sorry, the reverse) – I would have just sunk through the floor but, kept a brave front. During practice, there was no one to run with me, instead, they all ran away! Ha! Dear Gosse was my saviour and nudged me on (Many Thanks). The D-Day

dawned bright and I rushed along to find my place, for the March Past. I was stopped dead in my traces by the Games Captain who told me, I wouldn't partake because 'a lone girl in an all-boys contingent, would not bode right'. Had I not worked against enough odds? This wouldn't have been true – The tears just rolled down. My parents, thankfully retrieved the situation.

I'm sure we've come a long way since. If you'd like to give your girls a mention, those special few, it would be nice to give them an equal platform or then, none at all. In fact, how about a 'cool breezer' –

Ladies First!

Another point which I thought I'd make a mention of – In the Founders Day, Special Edition '05, Reminiscences, by Deepansh Choudhary – Hindi Editor – would it not have been befitting, if he had written the article in Hindi. I'd be grateful if you could convey the same.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Kavita Prakash

794-T.B. '81

68 – Friends Colony West

1st Floor, Mathura Road,

New Delhi-110065

Tele No: 26314273

E-mail: kavita_prakash@hotmail.com"

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

I am keeping this missive short and sweet and restricted to my apology for the delay between the May and this issue of the Rosebowl. The reason for the delay was beyond our control. Our arrangement for paper from BILT was a three year one which lapsed after the May issue and therefore, had to be renewed. Thanks to Vipin Malhotra and the continued generosity of Gautam Thapar, this arrangement has been renewed for another period of three years. Our collective thanks to Vipin and Gautam and my heartfelt apologies for the delay.

I hope this issue is timely enough for all those planning to visit Dehra Dun this October for Founder's to firm up their plans based on the proposed programme given overleaf.

I will say *adieu* with this short message for now with a promise that I will bore you to tears with a longer note from the Editor's Desk in the next (Founder's) issue which should greet you at the DSOBS AGM on October 29, 2006.

Till then – happy reading!!!

K.K. LAHIRI
30-K '74



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Proposed programme for Founder's - 2006 (As revised on July 18 2006)

TIME	EVENTS	VENUE
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2006		
9.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.	Parent - Teacher Meeting	Main Building
10.00 a.m. to 11.15 a.m.	Meeting of Parents of Boys of S & SC forms with the Headmaster	M.P. Hall
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.	Meeting of Parents of Boys of A & B forms with the Headmaster	M.P. Hall
1.00 p.m.	Lunch for Board of Governors with Staff	Triangular Park
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.	Parent - Teacher Meeting	Main Building
6.00 p.m.	Play in English	Rose Bowl
8.30 p.m.	Diamond Jubilee Dinner – Class of 1946	Headmaster's Residence
	Golden Jubilee Dinner – Class of 1956	MDR
	35 th Year Dinner – Class of 1971	Basketball Courts
	Silver Jubilee Dinner – Class of 1981	Tennis Courts
	DSOBS Dinner & Dance for old boys and parents	Tennis Courts

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2006

10.00 a.m.	Prize Distribution of the Art School	Sunken Garden
10.30 a.m.	Inauguration of School Exhibitions by the Chief Guest	Main Building
11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.	School Exhibitions	Main Building
11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.	Parent-Teacher Meeting – by invitation	Main Building
11.00 a.m.	76 th AGM of the IPSS	Kilachand Library
12.15 p.m. to 1.00 p.m.	Interaction of the Chief Guest with boys	M.P. Hall
1.00 p.m.	Founder's Lunch - by invitation	Triangular Park
5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.	Founder's Day Speeches	Main Field
6.45 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.	Music School Programme	Main Field
7.45 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.	At-Home for Board of Governors and Guests - by invitation	Headmaster's Residence
	At-Home – Parents, Old Boys & Staff	Housemasters' Residences
7.45 p.m.	Founder's Day Dinner commences	Tennis Courts

SUNDAY OCTOBER 29, 2006

9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon	Pagal Gymkhana by Tata House (Stalls will remain open up to 2.30 p.m.)	Skinners
10.00 a.m.	RLH Cricket Match	Main Field
11.00 a.m.	DSOBS – AGM	M.P. Hall
1.00 p.m.	Old Boys' Lunch commences	Triangular Park
	Boys are permitted to go out with parents or guardians for day out or night out	
8.30 p.m.	Boys return from a day out	

MONDAY OCTOBER 30, 2006

6.30 p.m.	Boys return from night outing	
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★★★★★

Editor – K. K. Lahiri- 30-K '74

Editorial Board – K. K. Lahiri- 30-K '74, Gautam Vohra, 154-H '63, Nalin Khanna, 563-H '80, Donny Singh, 878-T '82, Vivek Seth, 915-J '82

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