**Campus Caravan**

The SNU e-Newspaper underwent a major overhaul and has come up with ‘Campus Caravan’, an independent student-run newspaper of Shiv Nadar University. We present to you, the First Edition of Campus Caravan, March Issue’16.

### See what’s inside:

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- International Poetry Day’16
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Campus Caravan

The SNU e-Newspaper underwent a major overhaul and has come up with ‘Campus Caravan’, an independent student-run newspaper of Shiv Nadar University. We present to you, the First Edition of Campus Caravan, March Issue’16.
I am delighted to have this opportunity to extend my best wishes and good luck to the new avatar of our e-Newspaper ‘Campus Caravan’.
It is a great pleasure in conveying my best wishes to all of you who have worked as a magnificent, passionate team and have been able to give us something that is worthwhile.
From the very inception, I remember, SNU e-Newspaper paid keen attention to highlight the activities and achievements across the University.
This paper began with a bunch of eager enthusiasts in 2011 and I am so happy to see that it still has a bunch of enthusiasts working diligently, selflessly and persistently on it.
This has been an initiative by the students and as an e-Newspaper team, they are the ones who plan, collect, write, edit and design each issue. The e-Newspaper has not focused solely on the events and reported it but has been involved in getting the contributions of our students published.
A big thank you to all those who have supported us and have encouraged the budding writers to have a great learning experience through your kind suggestions.
Good Luck & All the best.

- Dr. Tulika Chandra
(Faculty Incharge of SNU e-Newspaper)
Editors’ Desk

SOMYA ARORA

Campus Caravan is the collective effort of a wondrous writing and design team that we've built in the span of 3 months that involved countless brainstorming sessions, deliberations and future planning discussions. Revamping the SNU e-Newspaper itself has been an enriching experience. My core team has tirelessly worked on this issue to make it as flawless as possible. The edition wouldn't have been possible without the relentless support and continuous encouragement of our faculty in charge, Tulika Chandra. With sincere happiness I welcome you to our pages. We hope to bring to you informative, creative content and fresh perspectives and with the intent to leave this behind as a legacy.

MANYA SHARMA

Putting together another edition of the SNU e-Newspaper has been an amazing journey. We have reinvented ourselves, and very soon, you will see us grow in quantity and quality! Wishing you an amazing reading experience!

ADRIJA CHAUDHURI

Although I really love some things about the culture at SNU, one aspect that I find really lacking is a sense of awareness about what's happening around us. To me, it's really important that everyone should have the opportunity to know as much as possible about what's going on around them. Even basic economics tells us the advantages of perfect information. Campus Caravan is an attempt to make that happen. We also don't just want to stop at information: we hope to bring a vibrant culture of discussion and discourse to the campus. That is and should be the lifeblood of any academic institution.

TANMAYA MURTHY

That feeling when you've finally achieved something. When creative columns in the fine print are embossed with pretty pictures and speak for soulful voices. You know you have struck the right chord. I am a huge fan of creative collaborations and Campus Caravan is no less than one. It has been more than an idea; it is a journey of self-discovery, prudent contemplation, moulding creativity and Yes, identifying those amazing writers and designers who were willing to shed every sweat to put together this edition. The stories in this issue are fresh and zippy. We hope you love reading it as much as we have enjoyed creating it. The spark of doing something better every time has already ignited among us and to let it glow brighter, do send in your feedback and suggestions!

GAYATHRI MENON

I'm very excited for all you SNUites to finally read the first edition of our revamped college newsletter: Campus Caravan! It gives me immense pride to unleash this newspaper after over two years of not having produced an edition! Our sincere apologies for the same. We hope that in the coming years we can uphold our vision for the newspaper: To act as the backbone for all events taking place within our campus, keeping you informed 24×7 and acting as a platform for you to speak. I'm sure you will have as much fun reading it as we had, making the newspaper a reality once again. I would also like to thank our new Newspaper team who got incorporated just this past month, for working so productively and promptly (in spite of us giving you a hard time, I'm sure!). Have fun reading!

SAUMYA BHATT

It has been a privilege to be a part of the SNU e-Newspaper since I joined college. In my first year, I was part of the writers team and this year I moved on to become a part of the editors team. I must say that both the experiences were great learning grounds. I am also very lucky to have such enthusiastic team members, without whom this edition wouldn't have been possible. All the teams including the design team, the writers team, the logistics team work with great integrity and are highly skilled in what they do. I look forward to seeing more and more successful editions of the e-Newspaper in the future.
How did the Government’s Odd policy Even affect us?
by [Ritwik Kumar, Jaligama Rohith, Saarang Gaggar, Vikas S]

20th May’14: New Delhi is officially announced as the most polluted city in the world by the World Health Organisation. As the year progressed, the traffic problems in the capital city of the world’s largest democracy seemed to spiral out of control as commute time from one part of Delhi to another steadily increased. Pollution levels had also risen exponentially; for safe limit standards were 60 and 100 for PM 2.5 and PM 10 respectively, whereas recorded levels were 534 and 853 near the Anand Vihar Metro Station. A concerned Delhi Government, in light of the aforementioned factors, had adopted a bold strategy (which it claims was after consultation with the public): for 15 days starting from 1st January’16, private vehicles across the city will be allowed to run as per their registration numbers; Odd numbered vehicles on odd days, and even numbered vehicles on even days. Once the scheme was carried out, conflicting reports about whether or not pollution levels have decreased have surfaced. Today we stand on the brink of another edition of the odd-even scheme, set to start from April 15th for a period of 15 days, and a pro and con analysis of the same seems essential.

FOR THE MOTION

Delhi is choking and we know it. With PM 2.5 levels reaching levels which are sky high, we are residents of what is a present day gas chamber. The premier phase of this scheme, organised in the first fortnight of this year showed reduced pollution levels. Reports released by the government showed that the PM 2.5 levels had gone down by up to a 100 points on a year-on-year basis. And various surveys conducted by the city’s newspapers have shown significant reduction in the visible pollution as well – a welcome change in what is the worst polluted city of the world.

AGAINT THE MOTION

The Delhi Government took a bold step and introduced the odd even scheme for a period of 15 days, starting from January 1st to January 15th, 2016, and two months down the line is the right time to assess the effectiveness and aptness of the scheme.

The first question to ask is whether this scheme was even addressing the right problem. According to a major study by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), the largest contributor to particulate matter is road dust (52.5%), followed by industries (22.1%), and only 6.6% emissions are from vehicles. Clearly, vehicular pollution should not be the primary target for reducing the amount of particulate matter in the atmosphere. The unregulated and rapid increase in construction across the city has contributed to a massive increase in the industry’s contribution to air pollution, and yet, the Government’s actions to curb it along with road dust remain evidently ineffective and found no place in its action plan. As for the policy itself, the effectiveness seemed questionable: with the number of exceptions (women driving alone, two wheelers, emergency cases, VIPs etc.) to the rule, the effectiveness of the idea seems to have been diluted. The result: extreme confusion for the traffic police, who tried their level best to judge whether people were breaking the rules or not, which also distracted them from performing their primary duties.

This decrease in the traffic and subsequent increase in the demand for public transport could have a lasting benefit on the public transport itself. Given the increased ridership, there would be an added incentive for both the government and private companies to increase the number of cluster buses that run around the capital.
Going forward, this could also mean the increased viability of various public transport proposals that could not be executed thus far owing to financial constraints.

Before announcing the second phase of the odd-even scheme, the government had held an online poll to decide if the scheme should come back or not. The very fact that it is being reintroduced means that the scheme was voted back by the residents of the capital. This represents a major change – the citizens of Delhi, once known for their flashy and over-the-top lifestyles have sacrificed their own convenience for the greater good. They have shown a willingness to accept ideas like carpooling and the use of public transport and with time, they will also accept hybrid and electric vehicles that would help our environment. It is amazing that something as inconspicuous as a simple traffic rule has, in fact, started to act as a tool for social change for the people. What is also heartening to note is that this was a radical step that was proposed by the government. For a country such as ours which has been so plagued by inactive bureaucracies, this is unprecedented for a government to have proposed such an out of the box plan and for the people to have embraced it so warm-heartedly. This act on the part of both the stakeholders of the society gives me great hope, not just for the improvement of this plan but also for stronger partnership between the two for other plans as well.

The policy had been a trial-run, to see whether the city would accept this scheme or not. Even though people participated enthusiastically and actively (or so the government claims), the scheme cannot be implemented in the long run simply because of the amount of inconvenience it caused the citizens. There is a world of a difference between bearing inconvenience for a short period of time and accepting it permanently. Eventually, they will find ways to get around the ban, or worse, ignore it altogether. If one were to accept this fact, the whole idea is a nonstarter. As for the health benefits, they are not conclusive. Allowing fewer cars on the roads for 15 days may have reduced pollution levels a little bit, but with no efforts made to reduce major pollutants, the impact is marginal at best. Repeated spells of this policy will not be accepted well by the people, and occasional implementation will not solve the problem. People offer Beijing as an example of a city where such a policy worked. They ignore the fact that their public transportation system is extensive and well equipped to handle the demand, which is not true for a city like Delhi. Last mile connectivity and the number of metros/buses remain below the requirement, and will be unable to stand the pressure of the city’s staggering population. There is also a moral hazard in implementing such policies; it forces people to find ways to evade bans and turns ordinary citizens into criminals. In the words of Dipankar Gupta, “a ban is like an antibiotic; in the right dose it helps, over medicate and the drug turns dangerous.”

In conclusion, the odd even scheme is symbolic and superficial; it doesn’t seem to address the real problems, and seems un-realistic and sort sighted. Instead of such a measure, the government should focus on rapidly improving the public transportation system, and incentivize people, rather than force them to use it. It should crack down on the real problems: road dust and industrial pollution, and regulation of diesel vehicles on road. It should focus on completion of projects like peripheral bypass highways, which have been stalled for a long time. These projects and initiatives will require very complex long term planning, but over time will prove to be truly effective. Change is necessary, but it doesn’t occur at sharp turns; rather it is a cumulative effect of several steady small ones, and that is what Delhi needs today, not erratic and ill thought out short term policies.

POTPOURRI

Ten things to do in SNU over the weekend
by [Simran Handa]

SNU can get rather limiting at times with its distance from the more popular areas, its small population and curfew systems. However, there are certain activities (other than the obvious) that can make SNU interesting and new.

10. Pig out for a weekend on the food from nearby restaurants. Eat a whole lunch that’s comprised merely of jalebis and gulab jamuns and brownies and a dinner of a whole serving of Chinatown’s food all by yourself.

9. Create a world record for killing the most number of mosquitoes with your bare hands.

8. Catch all the rats/mice/rodents in your hostel.

7. Have a daylong game of hide and seek in the common areas of the campus. Be bitten by mosquitoes for your troubles. Get malaria and heatstroke. Then die.

6. Beat the ducks at duckface selfies.

4. Go play with the dogs sometime. They want love too!

3. Join the guards near their fires and make s’mores! In the summers, how about an impromptu common room dance party?

2. Have a picnic. Next to the lake. Explore the cottages close by. Watch the birds. See a really, really bad movie while you’re at it.

1. As quizzes, assignments, exams and project deadlines draw nearer, sit in Georgia the entire day and feel your soul be sucked out of your body.


FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By [ Inika Hazarika ]

This column will mainly bring to the table information about the side dishes or UWEs which accompany our Major main course. There are assorted options available on the menu so it can get confusing when it comes to choosing the ones which suit us. It is also important to look at the contents of the course to make sure we don’t have too much on our plates.

The focus for this edition is Academic Writing (ENG 104), a course dedicated towards teaching students the art of writing formal, academic papers. The course co-ordinator is Annanya Dasgupta, with Aratirika Das, Subhashim Goswami, Suchishmita Chattopadhyay, Madhura Lohokare as the instructors.

The pedagogy not only deals with fine-tuning the student’s hard skills of grasping the rules of writing grammatical, coherent sentences and the structural details, but it also addresses the soft skills which includes encouraging independent thinking. The latter is of utmost importance as a clear thought process aids critical thinking, a quality that is required across the different schools, be it humanities or the sciences.

What the logistics entail is that this is a “learner-oriented workshop style” course, which means that it is less of lecture and more interactive in nature. There will be readings or texts given which have to be read and the assignment essays will be based on questions based on which require students to draw upon the key ideas of the material. One will then have to use the text as evidence to back one’s argument, and respond to the given question. Through the duration of this semester-long programme around 5 papers with 2 drafts (therefore 10 papers in total) will be the assignments. These papers will be peer-reviewed with the help of a given grading criteria, thus putting the onus on the students to help each other. This also ensures that all that is taught in class is implemented thoroughly. Also, attendance and class participation count heavily in the final grades. Just saying.

As an aside it ought to be mentioned that the tagline often expressed by the chuckling instructors is : “Brain Pain!” So to put it plainly, it is a course that is very demanding and tear-inducing. As Vinay Krishna, 3rd Year Mechanical Engineering student, puts it, “Gradually I started to get the hang of it by the end of second draft, until I realised I wasn't, because the course was laughing at my naïvete and ramped up its difficulty from hard to brutal. I worked on this course harder and longer than any other course I ever did in this university... sleep is a distant memory”. His experience is something that is common to all students of academic writing and humanities students echo the same frustration.

All said and done, the over-used maxim “no pain, no gain” holds true.

As Vinay too realises, towards the end of the course, there is a set of deeper understandings that take place, “how to perceive the things around us ... [are] always biased and no matter how much human beings try to be objective in their observations, they are always emotionally involved in their judgements. That I think is the best part of the course.” Once through with the course, one will find it in their hearts to thank the classes as the thought of writing a paper in any other course is not as daunting as it used to be. So to end with, just think of Academic Writing as the rich dip that makes your chips taste so much better!


THE OUR EXPERIENCE

By [ Keerthana A K ]

When I heard about the Opportunities for Undergraduate (OUR) Programme being launched for the first time, I was really excited. I knew it was an opportunity I could not miss out on. I was going to actually do research. It was unbelievable but also frightening. Right after the commencement of the project, I had to read up a lot to get acquainted with the project. Then began the actual work in the lab. Since my project was in chemistry, there were a lot of techniques, reactions and instruments that I had to get familiar with, and this took a while. This period was one of the most challenging because of the number of new things I was exposed to. This made me feel quite overwhelmed at times, but luckily I had a great advisor who was very supportive of me, which somewhat reduced the burden on me.

After this, I could fall back into the schedule I had made for myself; I would come to the lab and work every time a class had been cancelled, or whenever I had some free time. There was frustration at times when something I had worked on for a while didn’t give me the results I wanted, and I honestly can’t say it got easier the more I got used to it, but hearing other people narrate similar scenarios did make me realize it was common in research. Then began the actual hard work: managing my courses and my project work and staying on top in both. Exams began and that meant I could work lesser in the lab. The project report was due soon and there were still a lot of things I had to learn about the journal style of writing a paper. Soon after final exams were over, I had more time to work in the lab. Just when I thought I knew a technique or an instrument pretty well and there was not much more to learn about it, I would come across a new fact. This made me realize how much there is to learn and how little we really know.

There was only one thing left: the final presentation. Preparation took quite a while, but with help from my advisor I gave the presentation, and I was pleased. I had pulled it off! It was an amazing moment, giving my first ever academic presentation. I could not believe how much I had learnt, especially in so little time. The OUR project was an amazing learning experience that I think everyone should experience.
When the winds are in a mood for a feisty celebration and blow with a flavour of festivity, then the opulence of this ceremony stands true to its name. When a gust of gala galore embraces the campus of Shiv Nadar University and compels the clouds of caliber to thunder and shower tons of talent, then comes the time for a lovely three-day autumn merriment. BREEZE 2015, the annual inter-college sports-techno-literary-cultural fest of Shiv Nadar University, witnessed the ambience and charisma of a grand celebration. Centered on TIME TRAVEL, the fest had been designed to be a gala that scintillated brain and brawn with competitions, performances to enjoy and activities galore. From then to now and beyond, SNU embarked on a journey to explore the vicissitudes of time, to Revive with Retro, Rejoice and Roll into the Remoteness; donning the Role of a Time Traveller.
The Opening Ceremony

Breeze 2k15’s opening ceremony commenced with lantern flying that lit up the nocturnal sky beautifully. Mr Rajiv Swarup—founding President of Shiv Nadar University along with his charming wife Mrs Kirli Swarup, Dr Amit Ray—Dean of students’ Welfare, Dr Ram K Sharma—Associate Dean Academic Affairs (UG) & Student Welfare, Mr Nishant Mishra—Assistant Professor; Dept of Mechanical Engineering along with the Ex-presidents of Student Council: Boya Aniketh Reddy and Pranay Ganesh Koneni, initiated the lighting of these paper lamps on the central stage, declaring the fest open. SNUlites presented elegant dance performances; swaying and twirling to the rhythm divine with grace and poise. Inferno, SNU’s Dance Society performed to glory, redefining brilliance. The fest crescendo-ed to an exuberant level with SNUPHORIA, performing on stage; the talented orchestra coupled with melodious voices spawned a soothing evening. The ceremony also saw IMPRINTS, the Dramatics society of SNU organized a fun event—Dialoguebaazi where participants had to finely tinker with movie dialogues to entirely transform a film scene. Participants were judged on the basis of their creativity in interpreting various aspects of a scene. Speaking of creativity, Kalakriti, the creative club of SNU organized Filtistaan, an event where participants had to make the most of their artistry in converting an old movie poster to a futuristic one or a futuristic one to a vintage movie poster: In addition to these, the literary and spoken arts society of SNU, Words.ink, organized an Asian Parliamentary Style Debate—War of Words. Breeze 2k15 saw the launch of the SNU MUN Society’s first ever Inter MUN. Simulating a futuristic crisis committee, set in 2050, the participants with their analytical, simulation and implementation skills and Analogue Maker, testing their prowess in a bunch of interesting events planned for the fest. The IEEE SNU Chapter organized Wireology and Analogue Maker, testing participants with their analytical, simulation and implementation skills plus their basic knowledge on electronic components. Assemble It was another technical event, organized by the Mechanical Society of SNU for aspiring designers to showcase their design and drafting skills; The personalization of technology flourished subtly in Sands of Time, an event by Robo Yantri$k(The Robotics Society) where one had to tackle societal problems through the aid of an innovative use of technology. Orion, The Civil Engineering Society organized Labyrinth, The Egyptian Maze where the
event tested participants’ geographical and memory skills as they made their way till the end, looking for the right routes through the maze.

**BREEZE DAY 2**

23rd October’15

The second day of Breeze had a plethora of exciting events lined up. There was something for everyone, whether it is the technology geek, or the dance lover; the second day managed to cater to every taste. For the coders undaunted by the challenge, there was Hackatbox, an all-day coding event where participants were required to develop an entire program based on an on the spot theme; organized by the SNU ACM Chapter. For the technologically adept as well as the artistically versatile, there was Digital Divide, an event organized by Kalakriti, which called to all the digital artists out there. The film society of SNU, CineU also organized Time Wreck, a classic test of acting skills where the best impersonator of well-loved film characters won. Making the best of this year’s theme, Time Travel, was Faction, the quiz club, which held a retro quiz reminiscent of the Big Eighties and the beloved Noughties of pop culture.

The danseuses also had a chance to put their skills to the test in Singularity, a dance battle where each level was more challenging than the next. The mechanically inclined also had a chance to show their prowess in Sands of Time, and memory skills as they made their way through the maze. The most awaited performances took place in Aagaz, the street play competition, where teams from Hindu college, PGDAV, Miranda House, and many more colleges performed to an enthusiastic audience.

**Sports**

The first day of Breeze saw some nail biting matches of Cricket, Table Tennis, Basketball, Lawn Tennis, Chess and Futsal (Intra Football). The spirit of sports refined the essence of Breeze on an energetic note. Simultaneously, the sports events were taking places. The matches in cricket, basketball (boys and girls), futsal and volleyball were eagerly anticipated and SNU teams were enthusiastically cheered against their formidable opponents from respected colleges such as Amity University, Kamala Nehru College and others? We brought home the first place trophy in cricket while the basketball fixtures were also exciting and very well played.

Finally, the events for the day wrapped up. The evening was set for the Retro Ball, which saw the gents and ladies dressed up in their retro best. Grooving to some retro hits, and aided by the romantic ambiance, everyone enjoyed themselves immensely.

**Star Performance-Live @ SNU**

The next event on the list was much anticipated: the performance of Neha Kakkar. The performance turned out to be fantastic, with the electrifying stage presence of Neha Kakkar making it all the more memorable. Finally, the second night of Breeze came to an end, leaving everyone swaying to the tunes of the night and yet sad that the fest had come one day closer to the end.

**BREEZE DAY 3**

24th October’15

The vivacious voyage of festivities continued to spread fun and frenzy within the precincts of SNU in the final and third day of Breeze. The events continued to take place with full force and fervor. AcoustyX and Cresendo were the two scintillating events organized by SNUphoria. Cresendo was a boisterous battle of bands that rocked the stage and arena, accompanied with moments of endless cheering; a competition for the title of the “Best Band”. Headbangs; check. Splendid Strumming; check. Versatile voices that give you goosebumps; check. What more could the already-awed audience ask for?

Time Warpers, the Group Dance event, organised by the Dance Society of SNU, INFERNO, had in store the most exciting time-travel journey for all dancers. A test of team’s dancing skills, responsiveness, coordination and adaptation to the time-dependent songs, left the crowd cheering and the dancers tapping onto to the jazziest of the beats. The abundance of food, in the event called Hogathon organized by the Culinary Club- SIGREE, intended to measure the hogging capacity of the participants, saw wondrous number of registrations and immense quantities of food being gulped down by the participants. Shaurya Bajaj, the Ex-Secretary of SIGREE shares his experience in planning out this fun event...

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“Our flagship event Hogathon was a huge success. This was the second time that we planned to hold the event and this time we chose to collaborate with three big vendors namely McDonalds, Pizza Hut and Speedy Chow and had made sure that even if someone doesn’t win, he/she is able to recover most of the registration fee in the first round itself and shouldn’t go back disappointed. We got close to 200 registrations this time which is also our all time high because of the fact that the craze for Hogathon among the SNU students increased after the success of the first edition of Hogathon. Catering to so many of them was a challenge for us and we are glad that we were able to accept the same and complete it. I would like to thank The Hogathon team and co-organizer Priyank Agarwal for doing a wonderful job and hope to bring more such events in the future.”

Sports events wrapped up with the joy and spirit of team work which were soon followed up by the closing ceremony of Sports where the victorious ones were honoured by the Chief Guest of Breeze 2k15: Ms Diyya Singh, former captain of Indian National Women’s Basketball Team and Coach of Indian U16 Men’s Basketball Team and Coach of Indian Senior Women’s Basketball Team. Her admirable achievements in the field have inspired many and it was an honour for SNU to have her benign presence in the fest.

The night proceeded to the much awaited Fashion Fiesta, an event organized by Kalakriti and sponsored by Oranje Clothing. The event saw the designers and models come up with quirky and extremely creative designs of a cloth line of the future. It was judged by the design professor from NIFT, Delhi-Ms Neha Singh. The cheerful crowd and wacky imagination of the designers made this event a huge success.

**EDM Night @ SNU**

The night and Breeze 2015 came to an end with the most awaited time of the EDM night. The night was made even more spectacular as the tired yet overly enthusiastic crowd danced on the music played by Deejay Ricky. It was the best way to celebrate the success of another stunning edition of Breeze 2015, which had in some ways, contributions from every student of SNU.
To our readers who are still sitting inside their homes in dread of the behemoth that our Goddess of the Hunt, Artemis had sent in response to the boorish behaviour of King Oeneus (seriously, who forgets to include a sacrifice to the “Great Lady of the Golden Throne”? Pfff), fear no more, the Calydonian Boar has been vanquished!

Also, we bring good news for all those modern Greek ladies who sit outside Delphi and fight for their rights between cups of Ambrosia. One of your brethren, the Virgin Huntress Atalanta, was the brave heroine who managed to draw the first blood of the fierce beast. While we get that drawing the first blood is not the same as killing, it is honourable enough to receive the spoils of the ambush. Hey, we are not the only ones to say it! The handsome (sigh!) Meleager was the one who actually handed over the head and the hide (gross!) of the boar to his beloved Atalanta, managing to start a bitter family feud in the process. In short, Meleager’s uncles could not handle the fact that a woman had outshone them and tried to take them from her. This led to a scene between Meleager and them which has been censored due to extreme violence. This prompted Meleager’s mother Althea to kill her son in revenge by throwing a log into the fire (Weird death, right? It was a magic log, which was tied to our hero Meleager’ s life by the Fates). Sad story.

But no, we are here to talk about Atalanta, the heroine of the hour. When this scribe went to talk to her about her future plans, she was just packing up her boar hide and ready to go and announce herself as not dead to her father Iasus who had left her to die on a mountain because she was female (such old-fashioned values, people!). She also, very kindly, posed for a portrait for our artist, which you can see on the side.

She will be found in Beotia in the next few months. We at Ancient Times wish her all the luck in her future endeavours.
Zeus: (Agitated) don’t you talk about ‘pretty maidens’ when you have no idea how difficult it is to manage them.

AT: I think we would move on to the next question. So my next question is directed to you Lord Zeus. What does the sky feel like? And how does Queen Hera find it?

Zeus: Sky is my home and I love it with all my heart. Though sometimes I do find it a little mundane because of its monotonous nature. It is on these occasions I play a little with the weather. Crashing of clouds and playing with light rays is my favorite past time. Though I work up on my aim and shooting skill by striking a lightning. It is really funny when it goes on to strike someone’s ass. (laughs heartily)

AT: Haha (hesitantly). Well our next question is to you Lord Poseidon. How do you manage to control all the sea beasts? And we all have just heard about sea monsters do they really exist?

Poseidon: I love my sea and its inhabitants. I am their lord and they obey me. But apart from this relationship we share another very special one that is our love for the waters. I relate to them and they respect me. So it’s not that I control them but they just abide by me. About my sea monsters, well all I can say is that some secrets should lay buried in the heart of the oceans. Waves carry messages in languages unknown yet known to the world. Sea monsters are similarly one such mystery of the oceans.

AT: I am sure you just got all of us more curious about what lies beneath those powerful waves. Thank you so much Lord for your answer. Lord Hades here is my question to you. Why is that you have cut the links with your brothers as well as the rest of the world?

Hades: After having received the underworld as my share, I trust no one but my brothers as well as the rest of the world?

Hades: I don’t wish to answer the question. But nevertheless I will put before you a question what do you think will happen to the rest of the three worlds if all of the dead were to remain haunting them there.

Zeus: (With fierceness) Think before you speak!!

Poseidon: I am not going to take this!! (draws his sword)

Dear Aphrodite,
I’m in so much pain I can’t even tell you, you, you. It all began when Hera cursed me and then one day in the woods, I saw him, him. He is the most beautiful man I’ve ever seen but because of my curse I could only repeat the last thing he said, nothing of my own, own. I suppose there’s nothing I can do because he hates me and will never love me, me. Then he got cursed too so he spends the days looking at himself in a pond. I could give him so much more than a silly reflection but I’m invisible to him, him, oh Great Zeus! I love him so much I can’t stand it anymore, more, more. What do I do, do, do?

-SadnymphECH067

Dear Echo,
Look girl, between you and me, Hera can be a royal pain in the butt. I’ve heard about what happened to you. It’s because you staked her from finding her cheating husband with your friends, right? Ok leaving that aside, I feel for you, but you have to understand that the man is too in love with himself to care about anyone else. That’s one curse that has really been bestowed correctly because he was always such a prick. You need to find someone who will not mind your echoes because they’re just superficial words; this person should echo the depth of your feelings. It will take you some time to get over this guy because he is quite a heartbreaker. I won’t deny it, but stay strong, strong, strong! Eat lots of sweet ambrosia and get drunk on that nectar; go for a night-out with your girls and don’t let this get to you. The depression could cause you to fade away and we don’t want that. Listen to some music, it might help. I recommend a whole lot of Taylor Swift’s, Selene’s Hit Single (“Save Old Love”), Rachelusa Plattena (“Fight Song”) and ‘Do I Wanna Know’ by the Frigid Harpies.

Dear Aphrodite,
There’s this random nymph hitting on me but that’s not the reason I’m writing to you. Well technically a satyr wrote this as I dictated it. I can’t afford to take my eyes off me even for a heartbeat. I’m that awesome. That’s the problem really. Every time I try to touch the other ‘me’ I disappear. I want me. It’s all I really want.

-narcissusforevaxoxo

Narcissus,
Just listen to yourself. Do everyone a favour and jump into that pond. You’ll meet your ‘lover’ all right. I’ll ask Ares to give you a helping hand if you like.

Dear Aphrodite,
This is really the heights of insolence. I was simply jesting with Cupid about his poor archery skills; there was no need for him to get his curls in a knot. He shot me with the golden arrow of insatiable love and lust and Daphne, the lovely object of my desire with the lead arrow of abhorrence. The lady avoids me! I, the radiant God, am being avoided! I must have the lady or I’ll go mad and I swear I will drive everyone mad on Olympus and earth as well. Do something please. I will flood your halls with music and golden sunlight for the rest of eternity if you help me get her. Pretty, please?

-supershinyapollo5

Dear Apollo,
As cherubic and harmless as my son looks one should not mess with him. I’m sure that’s a lesson you’ve learnt by now. There’s good news and bad news. I’ll begin with the bad, which is that there is nothing you can do to change Daphne’s affections, the spell is irreversible. The good news is that the effects of the arrow will not last too long on you because your ‘godliness’ will eventually take care of it. Till then however; it’s going to be a difficult journey. As much as possible try not pursue her with such enthusiasm because it can get creepy and overbearing just stick to exchanging greetings and one flower only, Do not flood her house with roses like you did last week; her father was not pleased at all. So all I can offer as advice right now is to employ restraint and patience and not push Daphne to do anything drastic.

-Inika Hazarika

ASK APHRODITE

- Inika Hazarika

She is the winner of the much coveted Golden Apple Award for the Fairest, beating Hera and Athena, also voted Most Desirable by the Olympian Herald. Once married to Hephaestus and currently partnered with war-hunk Ares, not to mention her string of lovers, she’s not just a pretty face. She knows all about matters of the heart! Yes ladies and gentlemen, pour out your woes for she knows how much havoc her son, Cupid, can cause. Go on, tell mama everything ;)}
Just reign in those horses.

(*note: none of the characters heeded Aphrodite’s advice so the following things happened-

- **Echo** gave in to her consuming feelings for Narcissus and she soon faded away due to extreme sadness. All that is left of her is her voice in large empty places: caves, mountains, even the space between 1A and 1B hostels when it relatively less peopled.

- **Narcissus**, the complete nincompoop had it coming for him. His obsessive self-love caused him to destroy himself. He pined beside the pond, left food and drinks and thus, wasted away to death. But because he was admired so much by all the ladies, the pale purple Narcissus flower now grows beside water bodies as a reminder.

**Apollo** could not resist the power of the spell and continued harassing Daphne, who begged her father to help her hide from Apollo. Her father, Peneus, obliged and transformed her into a laurel tree. Daphne was lost forever and Apollo was left heartbroken. He soon got over the effects but as a memory he adopted the laurel wreath as his special tree and it still stands as a symbol for him.)
It is in our blood to make the most of all we have, and that is exactly what we did this fest season with Zephyr 2016. The fest was carefully planned, thoughtfully marketed and executed with utmost precision. It was two days of never ending events and euphoria, and it was one of the best battles between teams this university has ever witnessed. Zephyr’16 was organised by the Cultural Committee headed by Lakshmi Ravi, under the Presidency of Sai Gireesh Pokala. Zephyr left everyone craving for more and with memories that we will always look back and smile at. This is everything we live for…
RETRO NIGHT

Once upon a time, along with a gentle Zephyr, feelings of nostalgia wafted into the campus of Shiv Nadar University. Students yearned to sample the glorious, frolicking times of their parents in the prime of their youth, during the raging 70's and 80's. Thus the first ever themed Retro Night party was conducted during the intrafest, Zephyr on the 12th of March in the golden year of 2016.

Originally situated in the area near the Open Stage in the cricket field, the venue was shifted to the area in front of the offices on the ground floor in D Block due to a sudden storm which burst out late in the evening and upset the initial careful planning. There was some confusion amongst the denizens of SNU whether the programme would be held at all and half dolled up girls, especially, sat despondently and waited for a sign. Finally a mail was received from the Cultural Committee which was determined not to disappoint(!), confirming the programme and its details.

Right on time everyone gathered at the venue, which was decorated artfully with colourful gaze, candles and torches. People had dressed adequately as per the theme, accessorising with funky shades, bow ties and the like and all that was left was for the party to begin. There were live music performances by Shormee Mukherjee, who sang numbers by Elvis Presley and Frank Sinatra amongst others; Ishan Gupta, who sang songs by Bryan Adams and Richard Marx; Rajat amongst others; Ishan Gupta, who sang songs by Bryan Adams and Richard Marx; Rajat Mittal, who serenaded the crowd with Bollywood songs from the yesteryears, like ‘Ajeet Daastaan’ and ‘Diwana Hua Badal’.

Post performances the dance floor was opened up for grooving and people shimmed to old favourites like ‘Mehbooba’ and danced the night away.

Finally, it was a night to be remembered as one of the best parties held in SNU, saturated with much fun and the complete lack of inhibitions as people were intoxicated by the general ambience and could forget their cares and worries for a little while. One can only look forward to more such events in the future where we can celebrate and relive the joys of the past.

QUATAL-E-DRAMA

As a part of the intra-fest, Zephyr; a starting event called Quatal-e-Drama was organized jointly by the Dramatics society, Imprints and Words.Ink. This event took place on the afternoon of 13th March, 2016.

Twelve teams out of the thirty-five registered teams participated in this innovative event. Each team was given five words and had to spin a story revolving around those words. Each team was allowed a maximum of four team members and points were deducted if the number of team members exceeded. The story then had to be enacted and performed for three to five minutes. The teams were judged on the following criterions: confidence, clarity of speech, script, participation of each member and acting skills. Now, as the name of the event goes “Quatal-e-drama”, the five words revolved around murder and mysteries. For example, dark, gun powder; dead, gun and railway station.

Almost all the teams were given similar words. The hall was filled with exuberant and zestful ideas which were put across festively through the skits. Though the crowd was thin it did not deter the participating teams from putting up a great show. Mr. Pramesh Ratnagar’s presence added more life to the event.

Most of the teams did well. However, there could be only one winner. The winner was team Thunderducks (Rajat, Shubhang, Ashwin, Sambhav) and the runners-up were team Tadka Bhidaka (Vineet, Anant, Amandeep). The event turned out to be a great success.

HELL’S ANGELS

The stage was set. The team, they were screaming and jumping about in their seats waiting for the kick off. The official scuffled around the venue to check if all arrangements were in place. The screens showed prematch videos, building up the anticipation. It was finally time for one of the biggest events of Zephyr:

Faction’s Sports Quiz, Hell’s Angels in collaboration with the SNU Sports Committee.

The preliminary round had 15 questions, comprising of questions from all over the world of sports, with 3 star marked tie breaker questions. The questions were very immaculately framed, with almost no trivia; just beautiful articulate questions, which every sports nerd would be able to answer on little application of his sports brain. 6 teams went through to the finals, out of which 4 had to be Zephyr teams, and 2 individual sets of teams.

After a lot of whispers, pencil scratches, and nervous anticipation, the results of round 1 were finally out. Anunaya and Matthew along with Abhimanyu and Kaushik were the two individual’s teams to qualify with a cut off of 7 correct questions on 15.

The Zephyr teams had a cut off of 6 on 15, with the battle being decided on the star marked tie breaker questions. NCR 212 SNUzphai were two of four Zephyr teams to have gotten through to the finals.

The finals of Hell’s Angels began with the first round based on the famous ‘minute to win it’ game show.

Each team on completion of a task would get to choose their topic, which was otherwise chosen by the host for the round. Only 2 teams successfully managed to finish their tasks. Round two was where the SNU Sport’s Committee had left their mark on the quiz. The round was based on the universities top sportspersons, and was full of trivia. The master’s duo of Anunaya and Matthew could only take a back seat and laugh hysterically since this was their first year in the university and they were not expected to have knowledge of the yester year sportspersons indigenous to the university. On the other hand, the other 5 teams did pounce on these questions and scored major points. The next rounds were exhilarating, the teams having to answer questions of varying difficulties, spanning across all sports.

Each correctly answered tile, unlocked one frame of an image, like a reverse jigsaw puzzle. The teams which correctly guessed the picture were awarded points based on their speed of answering. This was one of the most interesting rounds, with every team jumping at an opportunity to guess the image – a moment of Petr Cech’s head injury while at Chelsea.

The quiz culminated with the rapid fire round, each team had to answer maximum number of questions within 30 seconds. The end of each round was interlude with a couple of audience questions which had chocolates as their reward. The audience sprung at every opportunity to win these sweet goodies and answered questions at a blinding speed. As the name suggested this pace-y quick fire round left most teams befuddled where teams answered only 2 questions correctly at an average. This was of no bother to Abhimanyu and Kaushik, since they were miles ahead of their competitors and sat comfortable at 160 points even before the final round.
At the end of the rapid fire, Abhimanyu and Kaushik were crowned as the champions and deserving so, with NCR212’s Akshay C and Karan P coming in, in second place. It marked the end of another brilliant quiz hosted by the team at Faction in collaboration with the Sport's Committee.

**SHIPWRECK**

**Words. Ink’s, Stimulus’s, CineU’s and Imprints’ collaboration.** Battle of the Fans: Books vs. Media, took place on 12th March. The war comprised of three battles, Shipwrecked, JAM and Turncoat.

In the first round, as participants acted as varied characters in order to convince the judges that they must be helped out of sticky situations as they were of greater value to the world around them, we had Devdas versus Tintin who should get the last parachute in a burning plane, Count Dracula versus Hannibal Lecter competing over who was more attractive to the ladies and even characters such as Bilbo and Umbridge interacting with each other.

The second round, JAM, or just a minute, comprised of three teams of four people each, where a video or a song or a topic was given to each and the challenge consisted of each person having to speak for a full minute on whatever was shown to them without hesitating, deviating, repeating or using unparliamentary language, any of which, if done and caught, would cause another participant to begin speaking. As each round of JAM had a winner, constraints were put in place for the semi finals, with participants having to make sexual innuendos in each sentence or say “bing!” after every word while having to talk about Lord of the Rings or the Game of Thrones.

In the final round, Turncoat, participants were to argue both for and against a motion given to them, such as the eventuality of JohnLock and the future of Me, from Me, Earl and the Dying Girl, in rapid succession depending on the judges who would ask them to rapidly switch back and forth.

The final winners were Team Shadow Spectres and the runner up, Team Space Monkey Mafia.

**TRINITY**

Born out of the collaborative efforts of Snuphoria, Inferno and Kalakriti, the respective singing, dancing and theatre clubs of SNU Trinity truly did stand true to its name by being an interesting blend of all three. Judged by a panel of prominent members from all three clubs, Trinity was one of the ten events the participating teams of Zephyr’16 were eventually evaluated on.

The teams got to showcase their diverse talents where two members from each team sang on a karaoke track while two more showed their moves on the chosen song. However the unique twist was that they were also judged on the costumes they wore which had to be contrasting for the singers and the dancers, surely extracting the creative juices out of all the participants. The performances fetched some pretty loud reactions from the audiences turning the first evening of Zephyr into a thunderous one (pun intended), even the Rain Gods were impressed. Held in B315 on the 5th of March’16 the entire hall was oozing energy thanks to the enthusiasm and efforts the participants had put in. Still, the anxiety could be felt in the first few rows where the participants patiently waited for their chance to perform.

**UEFA**

Model UNs involve a certain degree of theatre: you don’t just have to acquire the mannerisms of the allotted character; you also need to share their aspirations and fears, something which the UEFA club representatives followed impeccably from the moment they stepped into the room. The debate began the way a 90 year old scooter starts on a kuchha road: with a few hiccups before slowly gathering momentum.

The committee saw active participation from a majority of the delegates, with heated arguments and rebuttals bouncing across the conference room continuously. Ideas about setting up an entirely new European “Super League” and uprooting the current structure were cautiously received by the takeholders; and factors such as frequency of matches, revenue and fatigue of players were brought up. After two hours of intense debate, a motion for an informal session was passed for preparation of a communiqué; a document that lists the actions that the committee wishes to take. After half an hour of deep negotiations and fights, committee saw its very own action plan, which primarily involved setting up of a European Super League, and eliminating the current Champions and Europa Leagues.

The authors of this plan then stepped up and justified their plan, one that was sadly voted down by those present in the room. In the end, the one thing everyone could take away was that the system was the way it was for a reason: a super league could not exist because the idea was not enough to get every club’s support.
The committee ended with the best delegate, high commendation and special mention awards being awarded to the representatives of FC Barcelona, AFC Ajax and Juventus respectively, with a gap of a mere 0.5 points for both awards. The amount of energy in the room for the entire three hours was infectious; everyone walked out charged and still in character; their minds still deliberating on the different ways the issue could be tackled.

In the end, the stakes had been no less than an actual UEFA conference: a fact that when dawned on every person present in the room made them realize that the purpose of the MUN had been achieved.

**SHUTTERSCRIPT**

This year, SNU e-Newspaper organized our maiden event in collaboration with Visually SNU called Shutterscript. With a tagline that says 'Link Your Vision', the event provided a creative platform for participants to receive a picture through the written word. Participation was in teams of two - one photographer and one writer. Solo entries were also permitted where the participant had to wear both the hats.

The first round required the teams to come up with a picture and a 300-500 word write up based on the theme given to them. Interesting theme combinations (based on draw of lots) emerged during the event like Contrast and Harmony, Reflection and Irony, Doors and Confines (Photo and Writeup respectively) etc.

In the second (final) round, the teams were asked to click a picture based on the theme given to them and give it a short, one-line caption. There was a single theme which was Time and Illusion (caption and photo respectively). We were thrilled by the creativity that churned in oodles during the event. All the participants made the best use of their imagination to collaborate the separate themes given to them for writing and photography and the connections created were commendable; it was really difficult to screen through the write-ups and captions to select the top three entries.

8 teams made it to the final round, out of which two teams enjoyed the perks of winning the online contest Caption-It, gaining direct entry to the final round.

**PICSART**

Zephyr 2016 witnessed the flow of a lot of creative juices as far as photography and painting were concerned. Picsart, a collaborative effort by Visually SNU and Kalakriti was a stand-alone event of our fest, and was not a compulsory event that the 10 member teams had to partake in. Out of the 23 teams that had registered for the event, 18 turned up to showcase their talents in replicating a photograph into a drawing.

Within a time frame of an hour and 10 minutes, the participants had to click a photo based on a theme allotted to them. The range of themes was varied and innovative viz Architecture, Landscape, Silhouette, From Where I Stand and Patterns. After about an hour of scrambling for appropriate photos with a keen sense of purpose and eyes wide open for anything that would strike a chord, the participants progressed to the next half of the event wherein they had to replicate their photo into a drawing using a technique of their choice. This half saw the deviceful use of image techniques such as micrography, inversion of colours, fingerprinting, etc.

Judging the event was simultaneously a pleasure as well as a task because of the abundance of talent present in the entries submitted. However, after quite a bit of thought the winners of the first and second position were decided, and a special mention was also given to an exceptional piece of art. The atmosphere in the room throughout was that of fun coupled with intense concentration, which went to show that the contestants considered this to be more of an opportunity to unleash their creative potential than merely just another competition. This became the factor that was instrumental for the success of this event.

**FOOTVOLLEY**

The most awaited event being organised by the sports committee in the premier edition of the intra fest Zephyr was FootVolley. This event was a unique amalgamation of the two sports - football and volleyball.

The rules were simple — you have to play volleyball but with a few restrictions such as the ones that are normally seen in football. The participants could use any part of their body except for their hands to try and keep the ball from touching the ground. While playing in a team of four, they could take a maximum of 2 touches while serving and a maximum of 3 touches while playing to try to direct the ball to the opposite side of the court. This game served as a fantastic test for the team work and coordination between the team members.

Even though the sun was bearing down in all its glory, the turnout was fantastic with most of the teams participating in Zephyr showing up for the event. The games progressed with the teams showcasing great enthusiasm and the best spirits of sportsmanship. Initially, the participants were seen struggling with the distinct rules but as the rounds passed by the level of the game too improved. Beginners, especially, were facing serious trouble from headers that were directed at them. Placement and control of the ball proved to be key to a team’s success. In the words of Aman Jain, a member of Team Duckheads, “The first few rounds were more difficult but soon enough, I had gotten the hang of it and I could perform much better.” Team Amigos and Team Duckheads emerged as the winners of the event with both the teams having performed extremely well consistently. All in all, it was an extremely fun afternoon with most of the participants having enjoyed this unique and interesting combination of football and volleyball.
the teams had to fight it out with 3 wickets to spare with great enthusiasm and passion. The participation in this event alone granted the teams +5 points and negative otherwise, and +45 in case of victory. The game was a twist and turn of many thrills and laughter that enjoyed significant participation from girl hostelers as well. As the players exited the court, all they could comment about the game was “unpredictable and exhilarating” in sweaty smiles and exhaustive laughter. All in good humour and sportiness, the game welcomed it’s first runner up in “Tadka Bhadka” and the second runner up “Duckheads”, as well as a fantastic performance from “The Amigos”. A special mention of an amazing performance by Vamsi, freshman year, who thrilled many in the audience from the Amigos.

The Finale had 10 stops or hurdles to evaluate each member of the 10 membered team.

All the teams start from the same point and head towards the first stop: Low – Lying Net to get their baton. This baton had to be passed to the member waiting at the next stop. At the second stop, the members had to gulp down 15 gol gappas as fast as they could and move forward. Next, was the Dizzy Shooter round. Here members were required to concentrate on a wicket and move around it 5 times and then shoot the football at a given target. This was proceeded by Order in Chaos round. The teams were given puzzles which had names of the top 4 best named teams; jumbled up and broken into pieces. It was followed by Fill The Mug round. Here, a cup was to be filled up with water put in it by hands, gotten from a bucket kept at a distance.

Next was, Show Off Your Muscles round. In this round, the team member had to do 20 crunches and 10 push ups. Guess the Location stop came after this. Here, one team member with their gestures had to make the rest of the team guess the location (like B-315, SNU lake, Rama Enterprise, etc) allocated to them. Tongue Twister was the next challenge. As the name suggest a tricky tongue twister was given to a team member who had to say it 3 times continuously.

Finally all that remained to claim glory was a 100m sprint to victory!

The final teams were explained the rules for the grand finale and placed their member at each stop after proper planning. The whistle blew and the members started running towards the net. The audience cheered for their favourite teams and were excited to see this one of a kind event finale.

AMIGOS were the first to get their baton and finish the gol-gappas. They continued with their lead and were the first to reach the Order in Chaos round. Even after 2 mins of lead, AMIGOS lost this lead to SNUTZPAH.

SNUTZPAH didn’t make any mistake and eventually finished first in this nail-biting grand finale.

10 events, 33 teams and only 4 could make it to the Grand Finale. After the intense competition during the two days of the fest, 4 teams made it through.

AMIGOS, SNUTZPAH, RECON and DUCKHEADS. These teams had struggled for the grand prize but still hadn’t proved their worth for it and the finale was designed to test just the same.
DEJA FOOD

by [Akash Idnani, Anirudha Singharoy, Jaligama Rohith]

“Did I hear that right? Did someone say ice cream? It’s an odd thing to say in the middle of the eulogy, but hell yes, I could go for some ice cream. We could take a break, because it’s not like this guy won’t still be dead in half an hour” - Jarod Kintz, A Zebra is the Piano of the Animal Kingdom.

That is exactly my train of thought, and would be yours too, once you visit Naturals Ice Cream. Being a Bombay boy, studying in the capital, I do end up in the torrential grasp of the Mumbai vs Delhi debate, and I have always argued on the basis of culinary scene. Naturals ice cream had always been one of my top guns in the Argument Artillery when I battled to save the shores of the home town. All those Dilli people who had tried a spoon and then gone on to lick the bowl clean, conceded defeat in that aspect and finally knew “main kis icecream ka bana hoon”.

In this empire of mediocrity and the dawn on the hipster apocalypse, ice cream parlours have mushroomed and shuttered down even quickly. Liquid nitrogen parlors, chopped up ice cream, mushroomed and shuttered down even quicker. The hipster apocalypse, ice cream parlours have needed change from the Mumbai outlets where you have to pick up your scoop and sit in your car, or lick while you take a stroll. It’s the perfect setting for a modern day parlour.

Even after having taken an instant liking to the interiors and space of this outlet, the Geist of the original still made me dubious of the ice cream. After walking up towards the counter, I ordered two stalwart scoops which have been served since I have been indulging. Tender coconut and Watermelon. The first lick of watermelon was followed by anolic trumpets and heavenly trombones. The luscious creamy base of the ice cream, followed by small chunks of watermelon was just as good as the Bombay scoop. Tender Coconut was even silkier, with soft flesh of coconuts diffusing through the richness, like the first rays of hope through a cloudy sky. At Rs 55 for a scoop and an additional Rs 10 for a waffle cone, I haven’t had a more satisfying scoop of ice cream which pleases my Sindhi heart as much as Naturals.

Since then I have made sure I stop by this outlet, at every opportunity I get. I’d highly recommend the fruit flavors, namely: jackfruit, Guava, Papaya-pineapple, Muskamelon, Tender Coconut, Jamun and Watermelon. They also have seasonal festivals, like the Berry Festival, where mulberry and strawberry steal the show. I might be biased towards the fruit flavours, but roasted almonds and chocolate almond scoops are also delightful. Another thing that this outlet, dare I say, does better than most Mumbai ones is when it comes to the festive flavours. Gaajar ka halwa, Srikhand and Thandai drew a lot of fans. Though I found them a little too sweet, I’d seriously urge you to give them a try!

I highly recommend everyone to go get a lick and a bite of Naturals ice cream. It has taken the capital by such a storm that this Delhi outlet would beat any of the Mumbai ones, except maybe the original one at Juhu Scheme, I always leave naturals with a Dennis the Menace like grin, knowing that the ice cream still comes in from Mumbai every day and is not made in the capital yet. But even if Naturals did manufacture in Delhi, I couldn’t care less as far as they keep pumping out batches of the same delicious ice cream scoops as that of my childhood.

Happy Scooping!

AU NATURALE

I) French Toast in a mug

So, you are hungry and don’t have anything to eat! Want to order food from outside but running low on cash? The mess is shut, and you need something filling and lip-smacking? Worry no more, because this easy to whip up recipe of French toast will be ready to eat in 5 minutes. All you need are a few ingredients, and an access to a microwave.
Ingredients required:

- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup of milk
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon sugar
- 2 slices bread, cut into cubes

Procedure: Melt the butter in a large (microwave-safe) mug in the microwave, for about 30 seconds. Tilt the mug to coat the inner surface with melted butter. Stir together melted butter, milk, egg, cinnamon, sugar, and any desired flavouring in the mug. Add bread cubes into the milk mixture. Set microwave on high and heat for about 90 seconds. Remove the mixture and let it cool for about 2 minutes. Voila! You have just made your very own French toast, guaranteed to satisfy your late night hunger.

Dash-of-yum: Tastes even better with a vanilla ice-cream scoop.

2) Brownie ICE cream in a Cup

Ingredients required:

- Flour (Check)
- Eggs (Available in minimart)
- Butter (Available in minimart)
- Baking Powder (Check)
- Sugar (Available in minimart)
- Nutella (Available in minimart)
- Any Choco-Chip Biscuits (Available in minimart)
- Milk Based Chocolate (Available in minimart)
- Cup Ice cream (Any flavour you like, available in the Academic Block Tuck Shop and DH2)

Procedure:

- Put 2 (4*4 cm) cubes of butter in a mug and microwave it for a minute to melt.
- Add 1 egg into the mix followed by 4 table spoons of flour.
- Next add 1/2 table spoon of baking powder and two table spoons of sugar.
- Add few cubes of milk chocolate according to taste.
- Crush 6 to 8 Choco – Chip biscuits and add half the quantity to the mixture.
- Stir all the ingredients to get a consistent batter.
- Microwave the cup for 30 secs at 900W.
- By this time the Brownie will be half baked, with the rear end of the spoon make a tiny hole in the centre of brownie and pour Nutella into it.
- Microwave the cup again for 20 secs at 900W and if you feel the brownie isn’t baked; microwave for plus 5 seconds.
- Finally, top the brownie in a cup with a scoop of your favourite ice cream flavour.
- Sprinkle the remaining crushed Choco-chips biscuits over it.

Note: If you are on a diet or are vegetarian, use milk instead of butter and egg.
Weekend Getaways
by [ Aarushi Joshi ]

Doesn't the monotony of campus get to you? I for one find it hard to stand at times. For those of you who are restless and easily bored by the same buildings, same faces and the same food this list of five places will definitely appeal to you.

1) **Great India Place (GIP)** Opposite to the mall of India this has been the most frequented mall for SNUites for quite sometime now. The mall is not as great as the name suggests. With narrow passages and crowded uncomfortable food courts this place is nothing short of shabby. However, stores like Vero Moda, Kazo, Marks & Spencer give this mall some hope. Dunkin' donuts and TGIF enhance the dining experience slightly (as compared to the terrible non-ventilated food court). This mall also has a huge McDonalds which is conveniently located outside helping one bypass all the messiness of GIP. That being said, Budget shopping is something that one can indulge in at GIP. With stores like Pantaloons and Shoppers stop one can get good deals without compromising the limited monthly allowance.

![Picture taken from: www.ncrcities.com](https://i.imgur.com/3Q5Q5Q5.png)

3) **Cheenos**, looking for a place for “college style chilling”? Chinos is the spot. Located in Atta market (opposite GIP), chinos, brings the feels of Hauz Khas Village to Noida minus the pomp and class. Great ambience, good food and drink. Their thin crust pizzas and drool worthy pastas compensate for their not so fancy location. Almost similar to Social in HKV, with a decent crowd and humble pricing.

![Picture taken from: www.dineout.co.in](https://i.imgur.com/3Q5Q5Q5.png)

4) **Ansal plaza**, Near pari chowk has a big advantage over Mall of India and GIP; it has a Reliance super market, that will fulfil all those promises the minimart has not even made. As for the hangout part, it has a Mcdonalds, Pizza Hut and a couple of other not so well known places. A small place and not a great crowd. This place is the closest one can go to catch a movie or grab a bite to eat. (Otherwise not much to do).

![Picture taken from: www.ansalplaza.in](https://i.imgur.com/3Q5Q5Q5.png)

5) **INOX**, is the place to go to for a movie. After that one can binge on some so-called healthy grub from Subway or not so healthy food from Dominos or Narulas. Inox is small but not too crowded and pretty spacious. For the movie addicts who like to watch movies on release dates itself, INOX is the place.

![Picture taken from: www.giftsmate.net](https://i.imgur.com/3Q5Q5Q5.png)
Eric Clapton, 18 times Grammy Award winner, the only three-time inductee into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, ranked second in the Rolling Stone’s “100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time”, declared as one of the most influential guitarists of all time. Sounds unfamiliar, doesn’t he? You may remember seeing his album in your dad’s old dusty CD/cassette collection, or his name being muttered by cynical adults condemning today’s artists. Back in the 70s, Clapton ruled the rock and blues genre, releasing one master-piece after the next, including his cover of “I Shot the Sheriff” (a version that was more popular than Bob Marley’s), “Cocaine” and “Wonderful Tonight”, the song most of us remember as the one playing after Chandler proposes to Monica (*sniff sniff*). Clapton seemed to have hands of gold, everything he touched crafted itself into a perfect music piece; though the cost of such legendary creations was rarely little. After the death of his four and a half year old son in 1991, Clapton was so distraught that a few months later, he resorted to the healing powers of music, and wrote the song “Tears in Heaven” in memory of little Conor, a song which took the world by storm. Shortly afterwards, Clapton came out with Layla, a song based on the famous Persian story of Layla and Majnun, which was also inspired by Clapton’s love for George Harrison’s wife (who he eventually married, 2 years after Harrison’s death). In 2002, Clapton performed the Beatles’ song, “While My Guitar Gently Weeps” live with Paul McCartney at Concert for George (in remembrance of George Harrison), a performance that till date remains a personal favourite of mine.

18 years into this world, I have failed to understand what it is about music that envelops the human soul, what that inexplicable wave of pleasure that grabs you really is. Eric is one of the few who have the ability to play around with it, to weave it as he pleases, to imagine beyond the capability of the ordinary, to tweak the boundaries of sound to create art that can only be appreciated, not understood.
CLUB REPORTS

This section intends to cover all events that have been conducted in Shiv Nadar University in the Monsoon semester’15 and Spring semester’16.

DUMBTAKSHRI

Imprints: The Dramatics Society of SNU organized their first event of the Semester, Dumbtakshari (a unique mixture of dumb charades and Antakshri) on February 1st, 2016 at 8:00pm in B-315. The event was successfully hosted by Lalit Tiwary and Karthika. It was judged by Ananjay and Shahzad. In this one of a kind competition, 21 teams turned up for the event, with each team comprising of 5 members each.

In the first round, one of the team members had to enact the name of the song and the team members had to correctly guess and sing the song within the two minutes given for guessing the song and one minute for singing. The teams which completed the task within the least time, qualified for the next round. As each team came to the stage to enact and guess, the crowd cheered away. The room filled with enthusiasm and zest. Strategies were being worked out and a close watch was kept on the tally of scores as well as time. Few songs were welcomed with applause and others just left people mesmerized.

The second round was similar to the first. The only additional challenge was to guess the name of the movie which has the song but this time within one and a half minutes. After the rigorous two rounds only nine teams could make it to the semi-finals. In this round, one of the team members who hadn’t acted before was given a word. This word had to be guessed by the team mates and a song which has the guessed word had to be sung along with guessing the name of the movie. The singing debuts by Lalit Tiwari and Karthika were well received by the audience. Only one team could successfully make through.

The results are as follows, the runner up team was Team Shivani with team members Shubham Shrivastava, Anmol Mahajan, Darsh Verma and Nisht Pandey. Rajat Tull’s team emerged as winners and his team included Shaurya, Abhimanyu, Anirudha and Shruti. All in all it was quite an eventful and fun night.

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

VisuallySNU: Our photographs are meaningless unless and until we add a description to it. The creativity associated with photography can be brought into attention only when words substantiate the photograph.

The thought provoking workshop, conducted by one of the best faculties in the English department, Mrs. Tulika Chandra, was an enriching experience.

MUDRA

Inferno: The Dance society at SNU organised Mudra, a classical dance competition, conducted by Infero, the Dance society of SNU. It had been a long time since we saw the eastern wing of inferno showcasing their talent. It was an opportunity for all those classical dancers on campus to perform on stage. We saw scintillating performances on stage that completely swayed the audience. This was the first event that was conducted by the newly elected secretaries of Infero and it was a huge success.

THE RAINBOW TREE

“Love is universal”: This short and apt message of the rainbow tree voices a sweet emotion in three small words. The threads wound round the palm tree in the cricket ground speak for more than a single concern of
human society. Set to tradition only a year ago, the rewinding of the 7 colors around the palm stem welcomed a warm response from over 15 volunteers over a span of 3 days. The recognition of the queer rights in a manner as simple as this says a lot about the humanity and open mindedness of SNU as it enters the 5th year since the first inauguration of the campus. Under the guidance of Mr. Akhil Katyal, the governing committee behind this initiative-
The Queer Collective, is presently headed by Simran Handa, second year (BSc Economic).
Since the rainbow tree garnered a good amount of attention towards the rights of LGBT community and its recognition in SNU, the president of the collective added, "We aim to reach to a larger demographic in the campus itself and spread the idea of looking at this way of life (in a kinder fashion)". Last year, the Times of India featured the tree in its esteemed columns and encouraged this fascinating gesture of positivity and acceptance in the society as a whole. Basking in fresh popularity, The Queer Collective will shortly be up and running as a club with enthusiastic participation from students and teachers alike for which the membership forms are wanted. Days before her operation, she gets a phone call informing her of a son. She then heads out with him to help fulfil his dreams.
I do admit, at the beginning of the movie I was slightly uninterested and the movie starts off as pretty boring. I hadn't read anything about the movie previously, so when I first saw Sabrina, or Bree as she calls herself, I immediately detected something something off about her. She wasn't the "conventional woman". I guess stereotypes got the better of me and I assumed she was a transgender, an educated guess that turned out to be correct.

The movie through me into the emotional turmoil that Bree was going through with her operation and her identity. It was overwhelming an difficult for me to understand at first, this was probably because I didn't know Sabrina well enough to really empathise with her problems, but as the movie progresses one understands her better and really starts feeling bad for her. I for one wanted everything to work out for her.
She was "silent" about her trans identity, she didn't want anyone to know about her sex change or the fact that she appeared to be a woman but had a male appendage. This silence led to her lying to her son and he was insensitive and repeatedly embarrassed her in front of complete strangers. The question that came to my mind was "why was Sabrina silent about herself?", I think societal pressures especially that from her parents. Her mother, instead of being supportive of her child, chastised her. The relationship with her mother was so bad that she refuses to acknowledge the fact that she has living parents.
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The Queer collective

Snuphoria: The music society of Shiv Nadar University has come up with the new concept of organising Snuphoria Nights. The first in the series of nights was organised on 4th March 2016 and the theme of the night was AR Rehman. The night was filled with magical performances by various groups of the society. The first performance was by RajgopalVenkat, UrviiAlluhwalia, NavyaDahiya, Gaurav Mishra, Ashwin Kumar, Vinay Krishna and LavanyaFulzele. They performed classics like ‘UriyeUriye’, ‘Dil Se Re’, etc. The performance was sweet and mellow and left the audience waiting for more. The second group consisted of Abhinandan Menon, RadhikaChander and RadhikaRaghu who performed ‘KadhalSardugudu’. The third group performed ‘Haye Rama Ye Kya Hua’ and ‘Satrangi Re’, the members were RaghavPuri, AbhinandanMenon, RajatMittal and RajgopalVenkat. The highlight of the performance was the Darbuka, an African percussion instrument. The fourth group consisted of YashKumarSingh, Abhishek Kayasth, Hrishik Sharma, ArnavPokhriyal and NishantVinayak who performed a metal version of ‘RojaJaneman’.
It was a very well organised event with a turnout that crossed the seating capacity of the hall. The crowd was mesmerized and everyone was clapping and singing along to the performances. The performers themselves were extremely confident and engaged with the crowd throughout the night.
The night ended on a high note with the promise of many more such events by Snuphoria, and a loud cheer from everyone in the audience.

SCREENING AND DISCUSSION: TRANSAMERICA

TRANSAMERICA- a screening by The Queer collective

Transamerica is a movie based on the life of Sabrina, formerly known as Stanley, who wants to undergo a sex change to live the life she always wanted. Days before her operation, she gets a phone call informing her of a son. She then heads out with him to help fulfil his dreams.

We as human beings take time to understand anomalies, we tend to reject anything out of the ordinary and this behaviour is not only restricted to objects and animals, this mainly applies to human beings. Our disregard and
the movies: showcased. Here is a brief extract on
in B315 there were five short films
Festival held at Shiv Nadar University
Now, as a part of the Short Film
this edition being films from Palestine.
International Centre. The highlight for
3rd – 5th March, 2016 at the India
IAWRT Asian Women's Film Festival
look out for in the upcoming 12th
Radio and Television) in collaboration
With
(CINEU)
c) WIRED: Wired is a cliché movie
about present work culture. It is a
portrayal representation of the working
condition of any corporate company
these days. The mundane schedule of a
BPO employee is driving him nuts. An
aspiring and passionate photographer
works as a BPO employee. It portrays
a problem faced by thousands of youth
who jump into a profession just for the
sake of it. He has a decision to make.

a) KELI: This was a short animated
film based in Kerala and was in
Malayalam with subtitles in English.
The story revolves around the
aspirations of a little girl. How a
curious little girl views the society and
its norms. For instance, on the way a
scheduled caste requests for passage.
They move away to let the untouchable
pass. The girl sees a man performing
Kathakali. She is fascinated by the
dance form and wants to become a
dancer. Her mother starts to imagine the
consequences of the same as the ‘talis’
in the hall changed to ‘galis’. The
movie portrays how we limit ourselves
from doing what we want just because
of the fear of society.

b) OH STARGAZER: This is one of
the most interesting though baffling
short films one could ever see. The
film begins rather unusually wherein
the flow of the river is shown while the
constellations that one can watch in the
night sky are personified as characters.
They are seen to add their essence into
the river which in simple words
translates to the random ideas that one
gets while staring into the night sky. As
the film progresses, a boy is shown in a
boat floating on the river whilst there
are several fish, marine animals
following up to the boat which can
mean that person gets lost in his/her
own imagination while gazing at the
stars. Eventually the person does snap
back to reality which is demonstrated
by the boy getting up and floating away
into the unknown.

c) NIRNAY: Nirnay is an abstract
documentary that deals with the stories
of seven to eight girls. The film is about
asking necessary yet uncomfortable
questions. Through a series of
interviews Pushpa showcases the reality
of Indian society and its hypercritic
nature. Nirnay shows the change in the
mentality of these women over three
years and how they learn to make
decisions regarding their own life. The
most beautiful aspect of the movie was
that the director Pushpa, dared to
showcase her own love story in the
movie, for the world to view. Nirnay
presents before you a different India.
CineU deserves a pat on the back for
providing the students of SNU a
spectacular opportunity for viewing and
understanding different viewpoints
through short films.

d) IN THE MOOD OF LOVE: It is said
that love is blind. This documentary
revolves around the lives of three
couples. It is a documentary on LGBT
rights. It presents before the audience
how the LGBT community feel about
themselves and the public perception
about them. It begins with JNU and its
rainbow tree. The documentary
captures the essence of love. The
couples talk about the reaction of their
parents and friends, the questions that
they are posed quite often. The
documentary ends with a question
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sake of it. He has a decision to make.

On Thursday, 18th January IAWRT
(International Association of Women in
Radio and Television) in collaboration
with CineU held a Short Film Festival.
We got a sneak peek into what we can
look out for in the upcoming 12th
IAWRT Asian Women’s Film Festival
that will take place in New Delhi from
3rd – 5th March, 2016 at the India
International Centre. The highlight for
this edition being films from Palestine.
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through short films.
COMIC STRIP

By: Kattyayani Jaog
Alumni Speaks: Few illusions of life

by [Varun Ravikumar]

NOTE:
This article is written from the perspective of an engineering alumnus from SNU, currently figuring out his way of life in the United States.

Engineering students usually have to make hard life decisions during their senior/final year of undergraduate studies, about their future course of action based on their interests at that point of time.

Decisions, decisions, decisions!!

Some choose to pursue higher studies abroad, primarily motivated to earn better pay packets while there are the rare few who are genuinely interested in research. There are those who appear for all the entrance exams under the sky (GATE, GRE, IAS, CAT, MAT, SAT, etc.) offered in India, and then make decisions with the choices in hand while the majority apply for companies and sit for placements in hope of acquiring their so-called ‘dream’ job (it’s more often whatever job they can get into). Some choose to take a sabbatical and contemplate on life while there are those who are absolutely sure of what they want to achieve in life and take the necessary steps. Also, there are those rare people, who have come to grasp with the fact that engineering is not the way forward for them, and hence explore other possible avenues of earning a steady buck.

However, I would like to let you all into a tiny secret which I have learnt the hard way. **No matter what decision you make at this juncture of your life, you can always change it in future.** This is easy to preach but difficult to put into practice. More often than not, people get stuck into a rut, the routine 9-5 job and free weekends to relax, be it in the industry or academia. Before they know it, they get into something called ‘habit/routine’, which dictates the course of their thoughts, actions, and perspectives for the rest of their lives.

If they do realize, at some point, that they are not happy with their current state of affairs, the fear of doubt creeps in to do what they really want (as everything boils down to money and success, for the majority), thus enforcing metaphorical invisible chains that prevent them from flying.

Generally, it is hard to change your way of being/living once you start earning a steady pay packet, family commitments, responsibilities, etc. unobtrusively creep in, thus binding one to the ‘practical’ way of life. However, if one feels unhappy with the course of their life (in terms of career <=happiness) and decides to change, happiness rather than money, a driving force, do remember; nothing is holding you down except for your own thoughts, which unfortunately are influenced in some manner by other(s) thoughts and notions of how life should be lived.

I say ignore them, it could be ‘advice’ from best friends, parents, relatives, it could be anybody. But ask yourself one question, **are you actually free to think and act independently without concern for the consequences of your actions?** If you do think this is possible (like me), then just go ahead and do what makes interests you (aka what makes you feel happy) at that period of time, **you can also make decisions right now!**

You don’t have to wait till you are older to make choices, because ultimately **you are going to live your life, not your parents, your relatives, your friends, etc.** However, if you think that this proposed path is too hard, as you cannot go against ‘others’ wishes and advice, then the only consolatory words I can share with you is **good luck with your decisions and all the best for life.** However, just realize that you will be one in a billion people who are just lobotomised individuals, chalking out a living under the assumption that you are free thinking beings but instead are just brainwashed citizens of a society mediated by the media, government and corporations. Remember, the greatest form of control is to let others believe that they are in control of their own lives and decisions.

I would like to conclude with a popular quote, which however I am not going to attribute to any specific individual as apparently it has been quoted by many (if you choose to believe in the validity of Google images),

*A million moments taken for granted, under the false assumption that there would be a million more.*
INTernational Poetry Day Entries

On the occasion of International Poetry Day, on 21st March’16, The SNU e-Newspaper urged the students of the university to send in poem entries dedicating it to the ‘one person who believed most in their writing.’ We present to you the best entries among the numerous poems we received.

HOME

Trees like woven sweaters
Mustard fields awash with gold
A riot of gulmohars assails me
As I walk down the cobbled path.
The dwindled sun kisses my skin
The rustle of fallen leaves transports me,
To a familiar voice calling my name,
My small feet fly across the ground
I’m enveloped in her warm embrace.

My thoughts distracted, I look around
The smell of warm chapattis waft across
Evoking an instant rumble within
I call out her name, there she is,
Autumn etched on her visage
Yet standing tall like the majestic trees
A familiar feeling overwhelms me
Her flash of white echoes on my face
I run into her warmth, I am home.

Shiv Aditya Kashyap
English First Year
Class of 2019
Dedicating it to his Mother.

SENSE OF Music

As my mind fronted his
Reaching for my kind of music, I realized
How our jigsaw puzzle pieces looked utterly alike.
The lost ones are never counted,
I trust him to have given them away to his sleazy memory.
By Jove, how can I ever curse our memory!
The memory that led me straight to him,
That little memory that makes me have those tiny love whims,
That rattling sound in my mind which makes me fall harder for him every day,
That mind space which baked our memories in our music as we lay!
Music was our perennial saviour;
I used to bask in it when he’s gone and I used bask in it when he’s holding me.
Our sound of music was bewitching’,
The kind which kisses your forehead and tickles your tummy
Whilst gushing down to your toes,
It sounded like Eric Clapton on a wonderful night,
It felt like Joni Mitchell when we wept a river;
It moved us with Cobain’s All Apologies,
It kicked us like Aerosmith with the colour—Blue,
And it drove us wild and crazy!
After all of what remained, remained the memory of
How he had a touch of Bobby Dylan in all songs sung,
And I, a speck of Norah Jones.
The sound of our music recorded our ears and rested our minds
As we sat there hearing the golden oldie “Yesterday”...

R Ayana
PhD Scholar
Dedicating it to her three girlfriends in love.
MAYBE I (DON’T) NEED YOU

You called me pretty and I didn’t flinch.
Our hearts beat so loud, the neighbours think we’re fucking
When I’m just trying the nerve to touch your face

I will never make a piñata of your heart, and you’ll never have to lose
yourself to win me over.
Tell me you’re a liar; I’ll say I already know.
If I were a painter; I would paint every billboard in this city bright white,
Buy a projector; and take you to a new drive-in movie every single night.

If I were an oven mitt, I would never say touch anything hot without me
Obviously I was gonna do stupid things.

The winter I told you, I think icicles are magic,
You stole an enormous icicle from a neighbours shingle and gave it to me as a gift.
I kept it in my freezer for 7 months till the day I hurt my foot and used it to reduce the swelling.
You looked at me like I was the home run in the 9th inning of the World Series.
Now every time I hear the word love, I think of you going.

When you were gone, I could still see your hand wave good bye like a
windshield wiper in a flooding car.
I loved you like a diabetic third grader opening a snickers bar.
I wrote you too many poems in a language I did not yet know how to speak.
The way that big moon needs that open sea, maybe I need you.
Now my heart is a pressed flower in a tattered thick book,
And my knees are bent like the corner of a page, saving your place.

Will you be my friend, and punch me in the face just once, I need to reset
my bones.
Swing set my rib cage, so that next time someone pushes me away, I’ll swing right back to that chisel.
I wonder if you’re the wrecking ball,
That was trying to run its finger soft across the bricks, But its head was just too heavy.

Somya Arora
Btech. CSE, Sophomore
Class of 2018
Dedicating it to the coolest_hacker

THE MAN WHO WASN’T THERE- PLIGHT OF THE TRANSGENDER

The smooth touch of satin soft on his skin,
He senses a strange familiarity.
Oh! How the cloth flatters his vanity,
Tells me the face with that widened grin.
But they must not know- for them it’s a sin,
For they are those who worship chastity,
For them he’s just a carnal entity.
So they just know her as his long-lost twin.

But she is who is within all those lies.
She is the one who makes him alive.
Listen- oh dear to all those silent cries,
That come tonight from beneath that disguise.
She is a doe born as a buck who dies-
While striving to be what the soul thrives.

Maria Siddiqui
English First year
Class of 2019
Dedicating it to her friend Radhika.
BEST ENTRIES OF ROUND 1

This Titanic Will Never Sink
By V Harish and Bhargavi Gopalan

Photo Theme : Reflection
Write-up Theme : Irony

Brick by brick, little by little, everyday
What now stands tall, wasn’t built in a day.

The SNU library is one of the most iconic structures of SNU. It’s truly a dream that came into existence, a reflection that the SNU community from professors to staff and students had. We saw it getting built layer by layer. What was once just a tiny room full of books got developed into a multi – storied entity. It is a representation of the transformations that our university has gone through and also a reminder to students of their own journey of transformations and learning.
Initially, it was meant to be completed in December 2012, but this did not become a reality and everyone had to wait in anticipation. We were convinced that we, the batch of 2016, wouldn’t get an opportunity to see the completed building until we graduated. However, one fine morning, in the midst of the blazing heat of June, we got our first glimpse of the amazing, but most importantly, completely constructed library. The library stood there, in all its glory! A magnificent beauty!

Finally, our wish of seeing this building came true. The structure holds within its walls hope, dreams, enjoyment, fun and sorrow. It is a memory that will never fade away. And I thought to myself; “This titanic will never sink”.

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**Brothers in Different Hats**

By Aditya Badola  
Photo Theme: Monochrome  
Write-up Theme: Harmony

He shivers in the wind of the night  
The fire burns in a warm dim light  
He is dressed in green and not at home  
He guards the nation, a hat adorned,  
Patrolling brave, he thinks of love  
As the stars shine bright from the skies above  
And in his mind, a memory  
Of a few years back being so carefree
He chose to join one force, as did his brother
But his brother believed in the ideas of the other
  Fate might turn round any day
  He lost his brother in patriotic ways
  He lost a friend in a tearless flash
And both guarded the border wearing separate hats
  The conflicts and fights continued
Until the anger burnt all the patience through
  Left in its place two nations torn
And further, separate minds when they were born
  Separate this and separate that
These men grew up wearing different hats
  Blindly fought the fire on the LOC
  No realization for a peaceful harmony.
He quietly hopes that the day comes soon
When he meets his brother under the moon
  With all decisions sorted and made up fine
And another shiver travelled down his spine.
'One step; just one more step and it will all be over. Far away from the worldly emotions, traumas and tensions, to a place beyond.'

These were the thoughts running through my head, as I stood precariously on the edge of the parapet.

Throughout the twenty four years of my life, words like loser and under achiever have been used to describe me. At no point in my life had I managed to create an impact on anyone else’s life. Just one step forward and I would make an impact; an impact on the sidewalk. For once in my life, every passing eye would be on my dead, bloody body. I would no longer be non-existent. People would talk about me, I would be the topic of discussion everywhere; offices, schools and even the Lok Sabha. “Just one more step Shrey, to guide you out of this miserable life”.

As I geared up to take that step, it struck me. My entire life flashed in front of my eyes. The happy moments, my graduation day, the day I got my first job, the day I had my first kiss, the day Mom and Dad said they were proud of me. And then, it all stopped as a sharp, icy feeling of fear overtook me. ‘Life wasn’t all that bad, was it? So many plans, so many dreams and aspirations that had gone unfulfilled. I have been dejected, put down and ridiculed but I am not a quitter. Life is sucker right now, but things don’t stay the same, do they?’ As these thoughts crossed my mind, and sense started to kick in, it felt as if I was being given a chance to redeem myself, a chance to prove that I am more than what I have been perceived as. I would be a fool to not pay heed to such a calling. The choice was very clear in front of me: Life or Death, and I am proud to say that I gave life a second chance.
FINAL ROUND ENTRIES

Winner: Wagish Sharma and Sakshi Yadav

With every flash I ran out of time, there was always a deadline. It was like the cycle of my life was cemented in the circular illusions of a human mind.
First Runners up: Harish Venkatesh and Bhargavi Gopalan

Belighting Eternity

Second Runners up: Shrey Jain and N Srinivas

Whoever you are, wherever you go, the past will always find a way to bite you in your ass; because when it starts to itch, you realize that karma is a.....
Creative Capers

Hey SNUites, this is our creative space! Want to flaunt your amazing artistry or flair for writing? Then send us your artwork and written submissions to discover@snu.edu.in and get a chance to be published in the next issue of Campus Caravan.

A LAZY GIRL’S DAY SCHEDULE
By [JHAYASHREE SUDHA R]
[Class of 2017]

She goes to bed promising to wake up early
But those are just empty words merely
Cause it is difficult for her to leave her
Dreamland
Even when nine strikes the clock’s hand
No amount of cajoling, shouting or screaming
can wake up
This incessantly lazy but cute buttercup
She wakes up only when she wants to
Scold her and she says, “To hell with you”

She drags herself out of her bed
to
Only to settle comfortably in front of the idiot
box
She watches re-runs and re-re-runs of
numerous shows
And keeps the entire household on their toes

She orders around everyone to get her this
and that
Until her father comes in and threatens to bash
her with a bat
Then finally this buttercup realizes
That she definitely needs to get rid of her vices

Then she rushes through her homework
All the while calling herself a jerk
She goes to bed making the same promise as
yesterday
Let’s just hope she fulfills her promise someday

You’re the one who writes your destiny,
You decide, not your company:

You haven’t seen the future,
So how can you be so sure,
That you will ultimately lose?
My friend, there’s always some hope

Don’t be a fatalist,
See things optimistically,
It’s not a futile thing,
So trace your path artistically.

So get up and try,
For it’s just the beginning,
Don’t turn back once you have embarked,
On the journey to become a star:

Bountiful Bliss
By [Tanmaya Murthy]
[Class of 2018]

There’s beauty in the sapphire seascape
There’s a mellow melody in the rustling of
leaves
The night sky adorned with a star-studded
cape.
The craterous majesty with its white sheen
beams

The sun-kissed summit of perfectly iced
mountains
To it, the snowflakes adding a luminous lustre
A charismatic scenery one’s memory gains
A serene portrait of shady trees in a dense
cluster

The blossoms form a medley of myriad hues
Blooming with pride, a sight to behold
For the sparkling eyes, to introspect and muse
About the endless wonders sculpted in
nature’s mould
Carved with perfection and shaped to
excellence
The scenic, blissful bounties of nature
Signify the divine’s pure presence

By soothine the mind and soul of the blessed
creatures
The embellishment of Earth is perennial and
pristine
Lyrical, an opulent ode that eliminates anxiety
Persistently yielding a picturesque scene;
Showers of mercy from the unseen, infinite
almighty.

Better than a Shadow
By [Srishti Birla]
[Class of 2018]

Then you stand in your shadow,
You see a companion for yourself.
Someone you wish will never leave you,
Will walk with your step forever.

But this shadow is also there,
With you only in light.
When darkness dawns,
Even a part of you leaves you behind.

But I promise to follow,
Never to judge, to be your rock.
When the tides crash harder.
And harder still, I’ll be there to hold your hand.

Like quick sand, time will seep.
We may grow, distance, fall apart,
But all through that, I promise,
I’ll be better than that betraying shadow.

Love cannot be asked for;
Our love cannot be judged.
But when it is furnished and when it is true,
No question arises,
And we stand still,
In this quickening sand.

The Journey to become a Star
By [Ishan Gupta]
[Class of 2018]

It’s not an easy task,
Not for the ones with weak hearts.
It requires a strong determination,
So focus and stay on the path.
You may have to be stoic,
You need not be heroic.
A few weeks ago, one of my friends, a novice in the steel and aluminum producing industry in Maharashtra, called me up to report a very interesting thing. He remarked that even though the festive season was setting in, the market was drying up (a common term used when investors/consumers don’t want to invest/buy and cash is not flowing around, hence creating a crisis). This was indeed a very scary thing for a producer. What I found even more startling was that these producers were somehow attributing this to the Government shutdown in faraway land of U.S.A. Does the U.S. economy have such a direct impact on the Indian domestic economy?

Economists are mostly not very good when it comes to predicting crisis. Since there is always a low probability that a calamity would end up happening, it is often ruled out. But here we have quite the opposite, all the factors and indicators are pointing to a catastrophe. Recently, a paper presented at a conference convened by the University Of Chicago’s Booth School Of Business by David Green law, an economist at Morgan Stanley, James Hamilton, a professor at California, San Diego, Peter Hooper, an economist at Deutsche Bank Securities and Frederic Mishkin, a professor at Columbia University, stated that “countries with debt above eighty percent of GDP are vulnerable to a rapid fiscal deterioration”. For the U.S., the national debt is eighty three percent of the annual economic output and they are clearly looking at increasing the size of its borrowing.

Even though eighty percent may not be the magic number; the threshold might vary from sixty to hundred-twenty percent. But the fact remains that all factors are clearly pointing out towards one thing: the financial crisis. However, the crisis shutdown (or the balanced budget fight as I believe) was due to an ideological difference rather than anything else. The Democrats and Republicans are playing the classic game theory example, ‘chicken out’. Both of them know that if they continue, both will crash and will be subject to huge criticism from the public. However, if either of them peace out, then they would ultimately be called ‘the chicken’ and fail their pursuit as well. Therefore, there is no dominant strategy.

Contrary to popular belief, the budget rift actually started due to the increased expenditure to pay benefits for Social Security, Medicare, and other mandated programs have been more than $2 trillion a year since 2011. The new affordable health care act termed ‘Obamacare’ particularly draws a lot of attention here. Tom Scully, a principal health policy advisor under President George H.W. Bush who oversaw major Republican initiatives, like the shift to private insurance programs, says, “In fact, Obamacare was largely based on past Republican initiatives. If you took George H.W. Bush’s health plans and removed the label, you’d probably think it was Obamacare”.

With the vast majority of the American population still holding the Republicans responsible for the government shutdown and the budget deficit, and with the increasingly scary proximity to the debt limit, a further blow came over the badly divided Republicans when they had to back down due to a Senate-House vote out to end the shutdown. However, what follow now, which are even scarier, are budget cuts on defense expenditure, education, science & technology research, Medicare and Medicaid, embassies, and to complement all this, an increase in taxes.

American Tug of Deficit
By [Ishan Banerjee]
[Class of 2016]
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