

I N A U G U R A L I S S U E

The Seshadripuram

January 2021 | Volume 1 Issue i

a SCOSA initiative

monthly

Learning must Continue

Dr Meera H.N. writes about the challenges faced during the pandemic

ALSO

21 before 21

Lockdown and Small Businesses

The Stock Market Adventure



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The Seshadripuram College Old Students’ Association

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Ms Disha Rai	Student Editor

Editorial

The year 2020 got all of us thinking of all the things that we could’ve-would’ve-should’ve done. And I was no different. I have always wanted to have a monthly newspaper in college since my BA days here. And now we finally got that chance. After months of planning with a team of students, we finally came up with a plan, a structure, of what the magazine should look like—a few articles by students old and new, a photo essay, a few reports, achievements of alumni and old photos of the college.

The articles came by easily. It was the old photographs that turned out to be a challenge as there wasn’t any archive as such that was maintained. Therefore we soon plan to start to start a new project with the help of the Library to create a digital repository of old photos of the college properly catalogued by year and stream.

I thank the management for all the opportunities that they provide.

I am thankful to our Principal and President of SCOSA, Dr Meera H.N. for being encouraging and giving us the freedom to create a magazine from scratch without any restrictions. Special thanks to all the other members of the Association.

A special thanks to Dr Anuradha Roy, for always guiding me with any work related

to the college and also for the collection of old photographs and for getting us connected with various old students and teachers of the college for future projects.

This project would not have been possible without the work of of enthusiastic people—my team of student editors. A big thank you to every single one of them for all their efforts in making this magazine happen. I am thankful to Pranav J. and Raghavan Ravi, who had to endure long discussions late into the night along with Amogh P. Kumar, Vikram Shenoy and Vaishnav Sunil. All those hours working from evening till midnight with a few rounds of video games in between have finally paid off. Thanks to Shraddha Anil and Disha Srinivas for running around and completing all the tasks assigned to them. Grateful to the photo team of Rakshith Gowda, Tushar Baliga and Disha Rai. I thank all the contributors for their articles.

I am also thankful to Mr Gautham S., an alumnus of the college who is also a faculty in the Department of Commerce and Management, for painstakingly going through all the emails and making for the team a clear calendar. Which, if anyone wants to add on to their Google Calendar, may do so by adding scosa.spm@gmail.com in the ‘add new calendar’ section.

As this magazine is a SCOSA initiative we also have a few alumni as part of a roster of contributing editors and for this issue we had Mr Vikas Badiger, BCom 2015, of Faces of Bengaluru, the popular Instagram page chronicling the stories of the people of Bengaluru. I hope you continue guiding the photographers on how to shoot better photographs.

And a final thanks to you, the reader, without whom this entire project is meaningless. I hope you enjoy reading the fascinating articles that have been published in this issue. In the coming issue we plan to include a humour section and later a fiction section.

In the end I’d like to, on behalf of the editorial team, say that we wish for your continued support. We are always open to any form of guidance. You can always write to scosa.spm@gmail.com with any of your helpful criticism and suggestions. We’d probably include a letter to the editor section as well.

Here’s to us enjoying this work and you enjoying our work.

Allan Raj
February 2021

Congratulations

Student Council 2020–21



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Member

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL

Seshadripuram College provides various opportunities for its students to grow. Every opportunity makes the person a better version of himself. When the college provides opportunities, it is also important that all the students are made fully aware of it. As a President, I'd make sure that everyone realises the existence of the various platforms provided to them.

The college has always been actively participating in various inter collegiate events and fests. But only a handful of students voluntarily show up. The students need to be aware of how every fest and event makes a unique experience and how such an experience can nurture, shape and polish their potentials. Encouraging them to explore the world around, I'd like to make the students realize their true potentials and interests and how they can refine the same and be able to apply it in the real world.

One thing that every student needs is support. May it be for a complaint/an issue or an idea. The college provides many support systems to ease the

students' reach. But not many make good use of it. The student council will assure to support students for the right thing and at the right time.

Not every time and for everything can students contact the faculties of the college regarding any issue, the student council will make sure that the students are heard and that they can contact the student council members with any regards.

In my experience, I've witnessed that the Commerce and Management Department and the BCA Department have been mutually exclusive. As a president, I will ensure that there is a good rapport between the various departments of the college, making it more convenient for the students to explore the opportunities in various genres together.

Events and competitions are another way to celebrate learning. Events highlighting different genres ensure that students explore beyond books. Further, organizing an event also demands a lot of efforts. But with efforts come learning. While organizing an event, students are

given a platform to explore, brush up their talents and learn more than what is generally taught to them. Making various platforms available to students will help grow their interests and potentials.

Our college provides diverse opportunities not only in academics but also in sports, cultural and technical genres. Encouraging students to explore beyond class rooms will ensure their overall growth.

As part of the student council we will ensure that we conduct a lot of such meaningful programmes so that we don't miss out on all of what college can offer us because of the few months of that we have lost during the pandemic. ■



BEFORE 21

TWENTY ONE LIFE
LESSONS WE NEED TO
LEARN BEFORE WE HIT 21

By **Navaneetha Bhandiwad**, BCom 2019

1. You don't have to be a pro at your hobbies as long as you're enjoying the time spent.
2. Choosing the right crowd will do you more good than you think.
3. Investing time in yourself and your mental health is not selfish.
4. Your gut feeling is right most of the time; listen to it.
5. You will always be the main character of your story. No one can steal your limelight.
6. Financial freedom is great, but it is also a huge responsibility.
7. Bad experiences are life lessons and need to be used to segue into your new and improved character arc.
8. It is okay to take breaks once in a while. Don't feel guilty for not being productive 24x7.
9. It is okay to not have big ambitions in life.
10. Vitamin D is great for your health; so don't be wary of tanning and go bask in the sun!
11. Making parents proud is a feeling incomparable to any other.
12. Discovering your passion late—or not at all—should not stop you from living your life.
13. Flaws make us human, so don't be too hard on yourself (unless you're an alien, then I don't know what to tell you).
14. You are stuck with yourself for your entire life; might as well make the journey worthwhile.
15. Sometimes, it is okay to let life take its course when things are not going as planned.
16. A deep, meaningful conversation with a loved one boosts serotonin.
17. Accepting your mistakes is a big step in improving your self-confidence.
18. Stepping out of an unnecessary, uncomfortable situation is better than tolerating one.
19. A 9-to-5 job isn't as bad as pop culture paints it out to be.
20. Sometimes, money does buy happiness (but it's not the be-all, end-all).
21. Appreciate the people around you. It is always a nice thing to do. ■

Learning Must Continue

Written by **Dr Meera H.N.**, Principal

Photographs by **Rakshith Gowda Patil**, II BCom A and **Disha Rai**, I BCom (Hons)

Lockdown confusion, months of teaching from an empty college, reopening the campus to students, —this is what teachers had to go through during the last few months





Teachers had to use many innovative ways to teach online and offline simultaneously

The year 2020 saw a huge global set back due to COVID-19 Pandemic across all domains and the educational sector can be found not apart from this situation. But then continuous learning is crucial to cater to the growing needs of today's competitive world. It is surely realised by all during these times that the psychological well-being across all ages was very challenging.

We experienced the dilemma about the right and the wrong. To design an action plan with ever-changing scenarios was an uphill task. We all saw that initially there was no set model to deal with the rapidly changing circumstances—which was

largely based on government strategies and decisions. Each of us in our own unique way had to design solutions to deal the problems during the lockdown and at the same time get life back on track, to ensure a balancing act of lives and livelihood of the people in the community. There was a ton of changes in many domains, most of whom were on a war footing, as it was needed to win over the pandemic and protect our fellow countrymen.

Distancing students from the campus was never something that felt right in the college. The biggest responsibility of the educational institution was to instil confidence in all of the sudden changes and provide strength among young

“The biggest responsibility was to instill confidence in sudden changes and provide strength to young minds which largely remained ambiguous about their future course of life.”

minds which largely remained ambiguous about their future course of life. The use of technology in education had to be ramped up to ensure safety, well-being of our young student community and at the same time continue their learning even during these difficult days.

Lock down experienced numerous

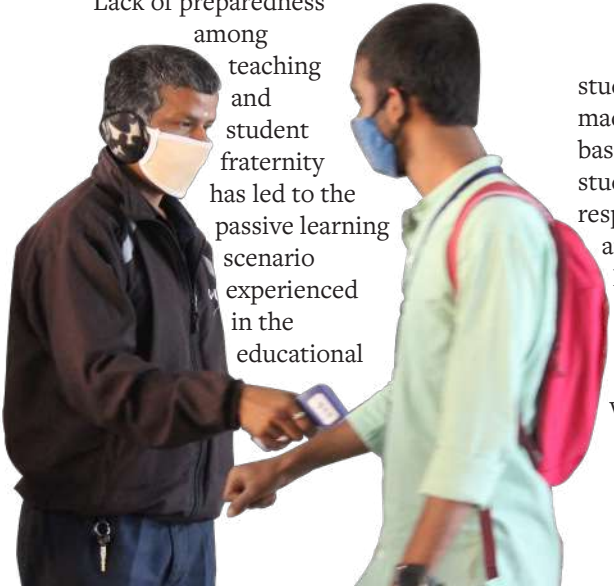


(left) Years of teaching in a classroom full of students to teaching online from home to teaching again in college without any students to teaching online and offline simultaneously has had teachers change their teaching styles too many times in the last few months.

(below) Masks and temperature checks have become the norm now along with the usual ID cards.

challenges which hampered the teaching-learning practices across nations. As per the statistical data it has been observed that more than 32 crore students have been deprived of education in India and UNESCO report says more than 1.5 billion students have been impacted in more than 165 nations of the world. It has been observed that around 70% of students remained inactive in India due to poor educational infrastructure availability in rural areas. Profound need and advocacy was felt as required by all fraternities inclusive of government and private establishments to manage marginalized learning groups and arouse interest towards a stronger and better learning experience.

Lack of preparedness among



“Online week of welcome session was conducted to give fresh batch of students an orientation towards the Campus and what are the different modes of learning to be experienced.”

students was made available based on students' respective areas of choice. By the help of swayam-prabha opportunity was provided

for visual learning experience through the help of 32 DTH Channels.

The COVID-19 pandemic also brought families together reducing gender disparity. Family bonding and relationship management have provided moral support to overcome the challenges for creation of better tomorrow. The financial management has also been tough for all families. Educational Institutions have also, despite their own problems, made all possible efforts to stand by their students to ensure uninterrupted learning during this challenging day.

In our campus, numerous initiatives were brought up in order to enable continuous learning among our students. First off, to boost the moral and psychological well being of our students we decided to conduct regular counselling sessions with the help of professional counsellors. We hosted many online programs and activities focused towards students and faculty enrichment through webinar series, conferences which were appreciated by all the participants. Online competitions were hosted by which students, though distanced from the campus, were very active, eager and happy to participate which kept them engaged during these tough times. We

also conducted the first internal test through online platform to conduct regular periodic assessments of student learning. The online admission process for the first years was a huge challenge which was ably handled through the efficient office staff. Online week of welcome session was conducted to give a fresh batch of students an orientation towards the Campus and what are the different modes of learning to be experienced during the course of three years journey with us in campus. We have taken the earnest effort to release the regular college newsletter, magazines digitally. We received constant support from the Management for all these activities which further encouraged us to take these initiatives forward in spite of numerous challenges faced by us during these difficult times. We also conducted the farewell session for our outgoing batch of students which we believe was an institutional initiative to provide good

wishes to our students for their lives ahead as citizens of the nation.

The digital mode of learning has had many positive learning changes, if sustained and integrated into our system will enable holistic learning to our student community across the globe through the help of blended learning programs, improvement in learning materials, and rise in collaborative learning. These new learning initiatives will surely encourage young minds towards diverse learning patterns.

Post lockdown scenarios were even more challenging to psychologically, morally, financially boost the lives of the country men. I would personally opine that despite tough times, mankind through its well-planned coordinated togetherness has made it possible to revive the activities by ensuring safety and precautions.

I would also like to take this opportunity

to wish you all a safe, healthy well-being in the coming days. Let us all through a positive mindset fight against this global pandemic and we through our earnest contribution ensure the revival of the economy to normalcy at the earliest possible time. ■



Even though COVID-19 did its best to bring down our spirits, the teachers did their best to head to the classrooms with a smile.

The Path to Glory

The Series Down Under 2020-21

Sports

By Amogh P. Kumar

The India vs. Australia 2020-21 series which was in the months of December and January was considered to be the perfect way to restart the cricketing journey for the Indian cricket team post the coronavirus pandemic and the lockdown. The Australian cricket team had played an ODI series and a T20 series against the England cricket team in September, where they won the T20 series and lost the ODI series. The Indian cricket team on the other hand had spent their time in their homes due to the lockdown in India, they had no match time or practice before this series of an international match. Both the teams had players who had taken part in the Indian Premier League.

The tour was meant to be a three match ODI series, a three match T20 series and a four match test series. The entire world of enthusiastic cricket fans was waiting for the series to get started as this Border-Gavaskar Trophy is considered to be one of the best rivalries in the sport of cricket. There are other cricketing rivalries such as the Ashes which is between Australia and England, and obviously the famous India-Pakistan rivalry, but this particular rivalry between the Indian and Australian cricket team seems to have an interesting edge which makes it different from the other rivalries in the sport of cricket.

The series commenced with the ODI series on the 27th of November in Sydney. India unfortunately lost their first match of the ODI series but took a lot of positives out of the match. Australia on

the other hand commenced their series with a bang with two of their batsmen scoring centuries who took the game away from India in the first innings itself. The second ODI match was held on the 29th of November in Sydney again. India once again lost the match. Even though the match was really entertaining and a high scoring match with both sides managing to score 330+, Australia managed to seal victor over the ODI series with one match to go. The third and final match of the three match ODI series took place the 2nd of December in Canberra. India managed to win this match as a consolation to losing the three match ODI series to Australia who clearly were the better side in the ODI series.

Having lost the ODI series to Australia, the Indian cricket team had to win the T20 series. The T20 series between these two sides is always very interesting, filled with action-packed

drama and always gives fans nail biting finishes. The T20 series commenced with the first match being played on the 4th of December in Canberra. India this time started the series with a bang and won the first T20i.

This match was a special one as it was the first time a concussion substitute was named Man of the Match. The second T20i held on the 6th of December in Sydney also was won by India, which also gave India the T20 series with one match to go. It was a nail-biting match as we would always expect an India-Australia match to be, and India emerged as the victorious side.

Similar to the ODI series where India had not won a single game in the first two matches of the series, Australia had not won a single game in the T20 series and they won the third and final T20i that was held on the 8th of December in Sydney.

So, with the tour evenly poised with Australia winning the ODI series and India winning the T20i series, things were more interesting for the last but the best phase of the tour, The Border-Gavaskar Trophy. The Border-Gavaskar Trophy is a Test cricket series played between India and Australia. It is currently played via the International Cricket Council's future tours program, with varying lengths of time between matches. If the series is drawn, then the



country holding the trophy previously retains it. The series is named after Australia’s Allan Border and India’s Sunil Gavaskar, the first two Test cricketers to have scored over 10,000 Test runs in their respective careers, former captains of their respective teams, and were both world record holders for the most career runs scored in Test match cricket. India currently holds the trophy after regaining it from Australia in the Australian cricket team in India in 2016–17 which they won 2–1, and then retaining it in the next two series, both of which they won by the same margin. The first edition was held in 1996 in which India won by seven wickets. The first test match of the 4 match test series was held from the 17th of December to the 21st of December in Adelaide, was an absolute nightmare for the Indian cricket team as they were humiliated in the 4th innings of the test match by being bowled out for a mere 36 runs which is the lowest total for the India cricket team ever in Test match cricket. The Indian cricket team where in heaps of trouble with their captain Virat Kohli leaving the side due to personal reasons and with couple of players being injured ruling them out of the series. The second

test match was held from the 26th of December to the 30th of December in Melbourne. The Indian cricket team made a fantastic comeback by convincingly beating Australia in the ground they have most memories for the sport, with the Indian stand-in captain leading the way to victory. After the first 2 matches the test series score was Australia–1, India–1. The third test match of the series was held from January 7th to the 11th of January. The result of this match was a draw but it had more drama than an Indian TV series. The Indian cricket team managed to complete a herculean task of batting out the entire 5th day of the test match so save the test match and to keep the hopes of retaining the Border-Gavaskar trophy alive. The fourth and final test match which was the decider for the series was to be played from the 15th of January till he 19th of January. The Indian cricket team were in an interesting position as if the match would end up in a draw, a no result or a win, The Indian cricket team would retain the Border-Gavaskar trophy, The Australian cricket team on the other hand had to win the test match to win the Border-Gavaskar trophy. So, the match

began with the Australian cricket team batting first and they put up a total of 369 runs for the first innings, India in reply scored 336 runs giving Australia a lead of 33 runs. Australia for their second innings managed to score 294 runs giving the Indian cricket team a target of 327 runs to win the test match. The Indian cricket team had two options either chase down the target or play safe and try to draw out the test match. The Indian cricket team should have played safe due to the injury concerns in the team which led to the playing 11 having 5 debutants in the match, but the youngsters in the team had a different goal in mind and they led the Indian cricket team to victory by chasing down the target of 327 runs with 3 wickets to spare. This test match victory is one to cherish forever as the Australian cricket team had a perfect record in this ground for the past 32 years and the young inexperienced Indian team beat them in their own backyard to script a famous victory to retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. ■



Images courtesy of cricinfo

Under the Hills The Stock Market Adventure Over the Mountains



By **Vikram Shenoy, II BBA B**

Short sellers have been called a lot of things. Bloodsuckers. Parasites. Other words not fit to print(digitally). Now in the vortex engulfing GameStop Corp., they have a new name: the establishment. Short selling is basically borrowing a stock that you do not own and selling it as you expect the price to go down in the future. This was the case with the Gamestop as well. The company wasn’t doing that well financially and was expecting to shut down a lot of retail outlets. So a couple of Hedge Funds and Institutional Investors saw this as a great opportunity to short the stock considering the plight of the company. Many people took this to Reddit, a popular social media platform and a lot of memes were shared on the same issue on a subreddit that goes by “r/wallstreetbets”. Now this subreddit is basically used by people to share memes about the financial world and a lot of similar stuff but recently they were talking about Gamestop. Part of

the reason for this is that once there is a lot of short demand for a stock something called “shortsqueeze” might happen. When you sell a stock that you do not own by borrowing it, you have to buy it back and return it to them at some point. And if prices start to rise for that stock, people go to close their positions prematurely and that’s what a shortsqueeze is. And some Robinhood traders on the subreddit started sharing memes around Gamestop and the idea was that if people start buying that stock they would be able to move the price higher and the Hedge funds who had maintained their short position on that stock would exit the position by booking a loss. And for these short sellers to exit their position, they got to buy the stock back which would worsen the condition of other short sellers. And this pushed along that this was a fightback against the injustices of the Finance Industry. Melvin Capital, Citron Research and other short sellers have lost more than \$6B as GameStop shares have surged by more than 700% in January.

So while Robinhood buyers who got in early made a good bit of money — at least on paper — the bubble will eventually burst, and the shares will likely fall back to earth again. Bubbles like these always burst, as they did during the dotcom craze (as it turned out most websites weren’t the next Google), and later during the housing bonanza that sparked the financial crisis and the Great Recession. Wall Street lost a lot of money those days — and faced more than a few costly investigations. But Wall Street’s losses were nothing compared to the damage done to small investors. Many bet their life saving on Internet stocks on the delusion that they can trade and gamble with the best of them. They can’t, of course. If history and common sense are any guide, GameStop is the canary in the coal mine. And everyone — from the small investors to Big Banks — is in for a scare. ■



Round 1

Making events offline again. College begins offline events after lock-down with a quiz.

Report

By **Shraddha Anil**, II BCom F
Photographs by **Disha Rai**, II BCom(Hons)

O



The organizers introducing the quiz masters

On 10th December 2020, the college witnessed a flock of freshers scaling the corridors leading to Room N° 325. It was only later that the puzzled onlookers realised it was the inter-class quiz competition organized by the BCom(Hons) section of Department of Commerce and Management. Despite the tough times we were going through due the COVID-19, the event had about 34 participants bringing in a giant wave of enthusiasm to participate and also to be in the college premises.

The event was organized with the help of Mr. Raghavendra. It was inaugurated with the refreshing words of our beloved HOD, Prof. Mahalakshmi who made the freshers feel at their second home through her wonderful verbal portrayal of the college. It was followed by Prof. Kala Naik's



The quiz masters Sravana Desikan and Shubham Sheth.

vibrant speech.

The quiz masters for the event were our alumni Shubham Seth and Sravana Desikan from the Batch of 2020. The event commenced at 10:00 am with the participants being briefed on how the quiz rounds would proceed. As the event progressed one could feel the tension and excitement of the students in the room.

The event was a huge success. The success is solely attributed to the efforts and the hard work of the amazing set of people behind the curtains. It is not an easy job to organize such an event at a time like this. On asking the organizers about the hindrances faced by them, they said that COVID-19 was the major hindrance as they had to ensure every student and parent that the event happening at the college will not expose them to risks of any sort. They also confirmed that the college had taken proper safety measures before taking such a step. Proper protocols were followed with screening at the gate before stepping in, social distancing and the college was also sanitized prior to the event to eliminate the risk for the students. On being asked how conducting such an event would be helpful for the students?



(from left to right) Prof. KalaNaik, Prof. Mahalakshmi and Prof. Chitra Shashidhar at the inauguration.

they said that a live environment will help them to gain more perspective on how such events are organized and also it'll act as a platform where they can expand the base of their knowledge.

The first place was bagged by Jeevan H. Prasad & Vyshnavi Muralidhar, I BCom G, second placed was secured by Rachana L. & Srinivasa, I BCom E, followed by K.S. Nikitha & Mohammad Sihab, I BBA B coming third.

The quiz masters when asked about

their whole experience on coming back to college and conducting the quiz, replied that they could find a lot of young vibrant talents and also that the quiz was conducted in a similar manner to that of the inter-collegiate fests. Many students will develop into better quizzers and head the quiz forum. They concluded by advising their juniors to participate in events as much as they can because that's how one will learn and grow. One should maintain a proper balance between academics and extra-curriculars. ■



The organizers with the happy prize-winners.



Photo Essay

Places to eat around Seshadripuram College

By **Tushar Baliga**, II BCom H and **Disha Rai**, I BCom(Hons)

(left) Thirty minutes break. But each masala dose takes forty five minutes. **Café Sanman**—The place that always welcomes staff and students of Seshadripuram College and is always ready to serve world class dose and coffee.

(right) Chaat is not just an evening snack, It's an emotion and **Gullu's** makes us feel a different kind of way.

(bottom) From a corner snack shop to a Landmark. **Chetty's Corner** fed us the most amazing 'Bun Nippat' and watched us grow with a 'Twistato' in our hands.





Just Bake, a place for perfectly baked cake, and a whole lot of other options



Hot or cold we got a seat with your name on it. From heavenly cappuccino at **Café Coffee Day** to the depths of hell with DBC from **Corner House**. It's always a few steps away.



(top) If life gives you lemons, give it to **Sri Gajanana Fruit Juice Center** and he'll make the best lemonade.



Welcome to **Brahmins' Thatte Idli**, the newest hangout in our list, where the Idli & Chutney makes you feel right at home.



(left) Sorry for the long post, here is a potato inside the masale puri.

The **BOOM** of Small Businesses during the lockdown

Special

By **Dhatri L.,** I BCom H

Just like any other year, everyone was excited about the new year and welcomed 2020 with utmost joy and happiness. Later there was news about a breakout of a deadly disease known as COVID-19. On 23rd March 2020, a nationwide lockdown was imposed by the government of India under prime minister Narendra Modi to check and prevent the spread of coronavirus. The virus had not just scared the life of a human being but had put their jobs at risk. Almost 4.1 million youth lost their jobs. The young generation couldn't sit idle at home so they came up with start-ups and small business ideas to earn their daily bread.

The lockdown gave plenty of time to the creators and the youngsters to put their skills and creativity into practice and bring out something different to the outer world. Small business is not just about earning profits but also a step towards sustainable development. More and more people are now being conscious of the environment. there are several start-ups and small businesses in India and here are some which are based in Bangalore

Ginger Cup

Founded by Deepak Bansal and Devleena Neogi. They manufacture eco-friendly and recyclable paper cups. what makes it unique is that it's not just plain paper cups but also acts as advertisements where they ink various brands on the cups which is an innovative marketing strategy for brand promotion.



Image courtesy of GingerCup

The Bluest Caterpillar

Started by Viveca Pavate who makes an aesthetically pleasing resin craft and draws inspiration from nature. Each piece she creates is unique and handmade. She lately put up a physical stall in a fest held at Taj, Bangalore.

Rework Bengaluru

Curated by Dhatri, inspired by others thrifters online to open up her thrift store on Instagram. Where she sells preloved and upcycled clothes which indirectly prevents from letting the clothes pile up in the landfill.

However, the owners of the start-ups have found a way to juggle between their education/ job with small businesses. In recent times, several of them have started supporting the new enterprises with the hashtags #govocalforlocal #supportsmallbusiness. Social media plays a vital role in helping the owners reach their content to the targeted buyers. They ensure to maintain hygiene and give the best service at the same time. Taking the current COVID-19 situations in mind, they



Image courtesy of The Bluest Caterpillar — On a Sunday, by Bangalore Art Company (top) and somadfest (left)

determine the price so that it's affordable to everyone. A handful of them contribute a part of their profit to NGO's, pet shelters, and orphanages. The major purpose as to why one must support small businesses and why it's important is because they give job opportunities for entrepreneurs and create significant jobs with greater satisfaction. ■



Images courtesy of Dhatri L. (top & left)

Under The Spotlight

Report

By **Pranav Jagadeshan**, II BCom F

Yes! It happened. Past all the limitations, Lakshya—The Commerce and Management Forum persevered and gave their juniors the perfect event to showcase their analysis, creativity and a lot of other skills. Spotlight—The Inter-class Commerce and Management Fest was conducted between 14th and 22nd December of 2020. The whole fest was conducted online. A total of

seven events were conducted—Human Resource, Marketing, Business Quiz, Mock Stock, Best Manager, Finance and Entrepreneurship Development.

It began on the 14th with an overwhelming response of over 60 participants showing up for every event on average. The Event Head for Finance, Raghavan R commented, “We were not expecting this. It was a pleasant surprise.” Every event was conducted trying to get the participants to wear their thinking caps, pull up their socks and be ready to analyse any situation. The organizers faced a lot of problems but still managed to pull through and conducted events successfully.

The Student Co-ordinator of Lakshya, Nikita Holla remarked, “Organizing Spotlight online was a challenging

task. From figuring out how to keep the participants engaged figuring out how to prevent them from cheating to scheduling, the whole thing was a new experience. But in the end, we figured it out and had a great set of events.” The response received for Spotlight was a win and a loss as the organizers as they faced the problem of time and medium. They had to conduct all their events with the restraint of 3 hours, which seemed like a hard mountain to climb. In addition to this, the organizers had to factor in the virtual range of problems as the whole fest was administered online.

“Spotlight was created with the intent of learning, to help students get a hang of concepts outside the textbook,” said Srivats B, former Student Council President and Student Co-ordinator of Lakshya. This year’s Spotlight hit the mark by linking all their rounds with real-life issues that people face in the corporate world. With each case, each quiz and each presentation giving students insight into how they should handle situations ‘out there’.

Spotlight was the solution to Lakshya’s issue. They needed to introduce the freshmen year students to the Commerce and Management Forum as well as help them understand how intercollegiate management fests work, how each event

functions and ultimately help them imbibe skills which will most definitely help them in and outside the college. Spotlight did precisely that with a tinge of competitive spirit.

Spotlight was also introduced to help ease the transition from pre-university

“Organizing Spotlight online was a challenging task. From figuring out how to keep the participants engaged, figuring out how to prevent them from cheating to scheduling, the whole thing was a new experience. But in the end, we figured it out and had a great set of events.”

into university. Help students learn how the student body functions. The participants are exposed to new areas in Spotlight that helps them understand concepts better and helps them know how to apply those concepts and skills practically. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the fest as it gave them pointers in the most fun and entertaining way possible, competing against others. ■

Book Reviews

Looking for Alaska by John Green

review by **Disha Rai**, I BCom(Hons)

HIGH SCHOOL, the phase where you focus on yourself, a relationship, your achievements and failures, and you want everything to be perfect, everything seems not to fall in place and a person goes through a lot during this phase. Looking for Alaska is a typical teenage story by John Green but the way it ends is quite unpredictable. The first half is quite a drag but you will not regret going through it. It is the first book written by John Green and categorized as a young adult fiction. It deals with friendship, love, life, loss, afterlife, etc. The protagonist, Miles Halter, is often referred to as Pudge in the book. He has a great obsession with famous last words like “Damn it, how will I ever get out of this labyrinth!” By Simon Bolivar and “The nourishment is palatable” by Millard Fillmore.

He joins a boarding school and gives it a reason to “find a great perhaps” as



quoted by François Rabelais’s last words. He finds a group of loyal friends and falls in love with a girl named Alaska, a beautiful and emotionally confused girl. The first half of the book describes the life of these friends in school and how

Alaska manages to pull Pudge into the labyrinth of her life. Halfway through the story, a tragedy occurs which leaves Pudge in a maze that seems to have no exit. However, these friends solve the mystery in the end and Pudge manages to seek his great perhaps. The ending of the story leaves the reader in a different world. It shows us how our minds can turn into our greatest enemy, in a way of suggesting the reader that our ending depends on us. It teaches one to deal with different worlds. It depicts what death could mean to two different people and how they end up. The book is an inspiring, funny, and yet a sad story. One who wants to know how to get out of the confusing labyrinth of life should go ahead and read this. ■

Ikigai by Hector Garcia and Francesc Miralles

review by **Shambhu N. Murthy**, BCom 2019

THERE IS FEAR, ANXIETY and a doubtful future in all of our minds. But soon we will have to get readjusted to this new way of life. We tend to become lazy; we feel tired and procrastinate much. We may feel we have lost the purpose of life and we start to doubt ourselves and our decisions.

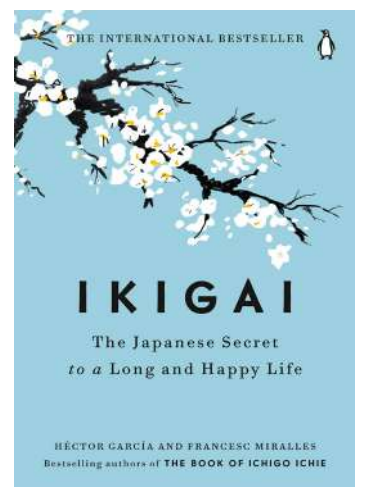
To rediscover our potentials, to relight the passion in us this book will surely help us identify our passion in life. It sets us on a path to find things that makes our hearts sing. It’s both inspiring and comforting. This book contains all the life changing tools to uncover our personal ikigai.

Ikigai is a Japanese concept which means staying busy and being happy always. Each one of us has our ikigai some have already found it and some in the process

of finding it. It’s important we find things that help us stay happy and makes us prosper through these hard times. The Japanese are said to be practicing these simple techniques to enhance their inner self and go on to live happily on an average age of 100 years.

The authors Hector Garcia and Francesc Miralles have done a wonderful job of giving us a brief account of history about the concept of Ikigai. They take us on a journey across Japan and telling us tales of persons practicing Ikigai. They give us a complete step by step instructions to activate our inner chi and become the true masters of a happy mind.

I would recommend this book to everyone and this is one of my top 5 reads of all time. ■



From the Archives



Seshadripuram College Batch of 1983 Group Photo



Seshadripuram College BA Batch of 2011 Group Photo



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