

BOSM ENGLISH PRESS PRESENTS

SPECKTATOR MODE

#BruhMomentToHogati

SEP 14
ISSUE 1



EDITORIAL

After the turn-off that working for Issue 0 was, this issue was exponentially more exhilarating. Things were coming together quite nicely. The new kids wrote on time. The old kids edited instantly. Ideas were flowing pretty smoothly. Got some desperately needed mentoring and support. And most importantly, we made a 10-page issue out of that relatively uneventful day.

However, sitting here at 8 in the morning after another design all-nighter, I'm seriously questioning the sustainability of this set-up we have going. I miss our Chief Designer Officer! Placeholder boi is doing a pretty good job though. I'm really digging the designs.

Saturday is going to come with its own set of problems though. I've heard they scheduled 110 matches for today. Covering that is quite literally impossible. To top it all off, why does everyone have a goddamn lab! I don't have any functioning slaves in the morning, SMH.

Enough about me though. I present to you Issue 1 of BEP. In this issue, you can find a summary of some of the Day 0 matches and an exceptionally unsettling reading experience in the form of a fake history retelling.

THE TEAM

Anurup, Nabeel, Smax, Sneha, Vaswani, Vighnesh

Anuvind, Andra, Aswin, Divya, Mamallan, Mustansir, Naveen, Swarup, Vidhi

Abhinav, Anirudh, Archith, Aswathy, Debarpan, Jai Vashishtha, Jayant, Roshan, Saksham, Vinay, Vasudevan, Yashaswi

Adit, Anand, Chirag, Gandhar, George, Pranav, Sabhya, Santhak, Shalu, Shourya, Shreyasi, Hamza, Utkarsh

Ananya, Aniruddh, Anirudh, Kuber, Preetika, Rishabh, Rohini, Sai, Siddharth, Soham



BOSM Inauguration Ceremony

Kick off to BOSM

The thirty-fourth edition of the BOSM, kicked off with the inauguration ceremony in the Main Auditorium. The ceremony began at around 7:15 pm, 45 minutes past the scheduled time, with CoSSAcn write-ups.

The arrival of the chief guest, Tania Sachdev, was followed by a performance by Gurukul. This was followed by promotional videos by the Department of Visual Media for Oasis, and the APOGEE-2019 theme release (“The Glitch Repository”) which excited the crowd with their dramatic visuals and thrilling music.

The official BOSM anthem ‘Halla To Hoga Hi’ was played for the first time ever at the inauguration stirring an energetic hoot from the audience members. Then, the CoSSAc, the chief guest, and director were invited to the stage by the compere for the lamp lighting ceremony. Prof. Ashoke Kumar Sarkar, then delivered the Director’s Address, in which he encouraged the participants to kinder sportsmanship and urged

the audience to use BOSM as an opportunity to make friends and not fuel rivalries between various groups.

The chief guest then addressed the audience, in which she spoke about all that sports had taught her over the course of her career including, decision-making, the virtue of failure, honesty, and a sense of community. She stressed on the importance of teamwork, both on and off the field. She added that having a good team spirit is one of the most important parts of preparing for a game. She said, ‘In a team, you sweat it out for each other, you play for each other, and you celebrate each other.’

The Sports Secretary, Mayank Kulkarni, then administered the Sportsmanship Oath, taken by all the participants in the audience, and delivered the vote of thanks. The ceremony ended with the chief guest officially declaring BOSM 2019 open, which drew immense cheers of enthusiasm from the crowd, giving a taste of the energy of the participants.



Basketball Inauguration Match

BITS ‘A’ vs LPU, Exhibition Match

The inaugural basketball match in BOSM ‘19 started off with a bang— BITS Pilani versus Lovely Professional University (LPU). The exhibition match at the start of BOSM is traditionally played between BITS and the BITS alumni team. This time, the alums could not arrive in time, so LPU agreed to play the friendly. The intention of the match is for the team to have a good time, while also breaking in the teams’ new recruits.

The match was much shorter than a full-length match— two halves of ten minutes each. The first half started off at 9:00 pm and proceeded much in favour of the home team. The ex-captain, Pranav Singh Rathore, scored many points for BITS. Slow reactions from LPU helped the BITS team heap points on the board early in the game. The second half started off at 9:15 pm, with the visiting team displaying strong blocks and impressive shot attempts. The crowd cheered when Sartaj, from LPU, scored a swift and skilful two-pointer. Ishan Rai of the home team scored an impressive lay-up, putting two

more points on the board. As the match was intended to test the freshers, they were given field time in the second half. Atishay Jain scored particularly well on his debut, greatly boosting BITS’ score.

The match continued, with two pauses for 3-minute refreshment breaks. The centre defence from LPU displayed impressive skill by almost blocking a BITS shot, using his height to great advantage. As this was the inaugural match, scores were not maintained formally until the end. Nevertheless, the match ended neck-to-neck with the home team leading by a narrow margin.

The BOSM English Press spoke to BITS’ captain, Vinay Pai, about his thoughts on the match. He was pleased with his team’s performance, especially the freshers, as they did not crack under pressure. He remarked that the defence was pretty light on both sides, though he felt that LPU had blocked many shots well. All in all, it was a very good game with impressive play from both sides.



Interview With the Chief Guest

In conversation with Mrs. Tania Sachdev

The BEP sat down with the Chief Guest of the BOSM Inauguration Ceremony, Mrs. Tania Sachdev to talk about sports, chess and beyond.

Q: *When did you start playing chess? Was it your first-choice sport? How did you get into it?*

A: I started taking chess lessons when I was six years old, and I fell in love with it immediately. Chess didn't start as something meant to be a career, but soon after school, I decided to become a professional player. Both my parents were supportive. My mother played badminton, and my father played football for his college. I am blessed to be born in a family where sports is seen as an alternative way of learning, and not just as something supplementary. My family believes that sports can teach us in a much better way than a classroom can.

Q: *What skills are needed to be a great chess player?*

A: This is a nature versus nurture argument—are chess players born or made? I think anyone can become a strong chess player if they put in enough effort. There are cases where people are gifted with a very good memory, and for sure, that helps a lot. But Gary Kasparov said that hard work is the biggest talent, and I think this is true. No matter how talented you are, there is nothing that hard work cannot substitute. Every person has talent in some field or other. What is truly special is the ability to work hard in your field. However, I believe there is surely an aspect of genius involved at the very top level of chess.

Chess develops a lot of skills, even for non-professional players. In chess, you have an idea of what you want to achieve, and the resources, your pieces, are all in front of you. The question is how to use them well, and this is where calculation comes in. These skills are transferrable to everything we do.

Q: *How important is being calm, during a match?*

A: Psychology is very important—how much control you have on your nerves when the clock

is ticking. When you're down to the last minute, one mistake can mess up a whole game. This is the beauty of chess.

Q: *Sportspersons often employ psychologists to improve their aptitude and mental strength. Do you think it is necessary?*

A: I think it is very useful. I have gone through phases where I have taken help from psychologists—when I have felt depressed and I have wanted to get stronger mentally. In many countries sports psychology is viewed as a part of sports training, not as something separate. India has traditionally been less open to the idea of sports psychology, but it is also opening up.

Q: *Do you think chess should become a bigger spectator sport or do you think people should play alone in quiet concentration?*

A: 500 million people across the world play chess. In the Olympics, there are 150 chess teams participating. It is a widely played sport. The thing is, it is difficult to televise chess. These days, we are playing shorter matches, and chess commentary is picking up. Over time, chess may become more spectator friendly, but the popularity of chess even today is unquestionable.

Q: *Is it important to find your passion at a very young age?*

A: Most professional sports players do start young. In other fields, people have found their passions at different ages. The important thing is that whether you're young or old, through your journey you find something that excites you. Try not to get into the web of doing things that your parents or others want out of you.

Q: *What message do you want to give to BITSians participating in BOSM?*

A: All those who are here to celebrate sports are already champions. I want you to go out there, sweat it out, play your heart out, and play with fairness. Most importantly, enjoy every moment of it. Sports will take your life one notch higher.



Volleyball (Boys): Manipal vs JIET

25-10, 25-21

Manipal vs Jodhpur Institute of Engineering and Technology (JIET), the first volleyball match of BOSM, started off under the moonlit sky, with a lot of excitement among the spectators. The BOSM English Press got an opportunity to talk to the JIET team just before the match. The team was very confident about their game-plan and spoke greatly about their physical fitness. Although they wished they had an opportunity to practise under the lights first, they were confident enough to start aggressively and not hold back their spikes. The Manipal team formed a huddle and then walked onto the court with their “choo!!” shout, while the JIET team jogged on with calmness on their faces. Manipal won the toss and chose to serve first.

JIET got the scoreboard ticking through a solid block executed by their middle blocker. Manipal was quick to equalise through a fierce smash by Bharmal, the team captain. They went on to win 3 consecutive points. A lot of unforced errors by

JIET ensured that Manipal held onto their lead throughout the first set. Manipal's star spiker, Bharmal's smashes made sure that his team won the first set with a comfortable scoreline of 25-10. The JIET team—seeming quite worried—went right back to their dugout to regroup and discuss strategies.

The second half began with everyone expecting Manipal to floor JIET, but what followed was a game of long rallies, aggressive spikes and strategic defensive blocks. The first six points were equally shared between both the teams. This excited JIET's supporters, who had witnessed a rather one sided set, and the decibel levels grew correspondingly. The deadlock was finally broken when JIET's Barmer won a point with a perfectly timed block. Subsequently, JIET scored through a couple of spikes and went on to take the lead for the first time in the match. Manipal fought hard and levelled the scores right back. Most of the second half went on similarly, with momentum swinging constantly towards both teams. In the end, it was the unforced errors of JIET which proved to be fatal. Bharmal continued to score crucial spike points and clearly proved to be the difference between the teams in the second set. Manipal presented themselves with a match point by Harsh smashing the ball right between two JIET players. The match point was won by Bharmal, who was in top form since the first whistle. The set ended with the scoreboard flashing 25-21.

Manipal's top player and captain – Bharmal talked to BEP after the match. Surprisingly, he wasn't quite satisfied with their performance. He expected them to win much earlier. Talking about his expectations from the team, he wants to improve the team's performance as the tournament progresses. He hopes to play the final and believes this win shall give them the confidence to reach there. Since this was the first group game, Manipal sits at the top of the table, for now.





Badminton

BITS 'B' beat MIET 3-0

After a slight delay in starting the match, the BITS 'B' team started off their campaign with a blitzing victory against Meerut Institute of Engineering Technology (MIET).

Game 1 – Single

Yash (BITS 'B') beat Tarun (MIET) 21-4, 21-12

Playing aggressively in the beginning, Yash quickly established a sizeable lead over his opponent.

However, after losing two points to bad smashes, he toned down his play, varying his strokes between smashes and long shots. Although Tarun played some strong smashes, he was derailed by Yash and lost the set 4-21. After a lengthy discussion with his team, Tarun played the second set with renewed spirit. His attack was more effective, with his rallies getting longer. However, Tarun's play started getting sloppier with time while Yash continued to play at the top of his game. Yash dominated the set overall with his smashes and drop shots. He ended the set at 21-12 and won the game 2-0.

Game 2 – Singles

Atharvau (BITS 'B') beat Justin (MIET) 21-14, 21-9 Justin, captain of MIET, played Atharvau in the most contested game of this match. While Atharvau played aggressively, Justin played well-placed defensive shots. Despite the occasional misplayed shot, Atharvau convincingly defeated Justin 21-14 with a varied mix of long shots, drop shots and ruthless smashes. Atharvau steamrolled into the second set, amassing a ten point – lead early on. He calmly played against Justin's distance play and waited for his opponent to give the shuttle enough height for him to smash. Justin got tired by the second set which made his play careless, resulting in mistakes which Atharvau capitalised on. Atharvau defeated Justin 21-9 and won the game 2-0.

Game 3 – Doubles

Aryan/Nitya (BITS 'B') beat Shubh/Aniket (MIET) 21-6, 21-7

The final game was wholly one-sided with the MIET duo being rendered useless by Nitya and Aryan's smashes. The MIET team was unable to gather momentum of any kind, banking on multiple racquet clashes of their opponents for points. The first set ended in fifteen minutes

with BITS 'B' team winning 21-6.

The second set imitated the first. Even though some of BITS' smashes seemed to be going off court, MIET kept the shuttle in play which made their fightback even weaker. BITS 'B' comprehensively defeated MIET 2-0 in the double's game and won the match 3-0.

BITS 'B' beat MIET 3-0

The atmosphere inside the SAC badminton court was electric, as Sri Venkateshwara College (Venky) prepared to face off against BKBIET. Anxieties ran high, as the match was delayed by an hour and three quarters, finally commencing at 6:45pm. The match concluded with Venkateshwara College coming out on top, winning 3 out of the 4 matches, as BKBIET put up a fierce competition.

Pratyush (Venky) vs Ashutosh (BKBIET) 15-21, 10-21. With the help of his superior placement and strong long shots, Ashutosh took an early lead in the first set. Pratyush tried his best to keep up by firing powerful shots, but most of them were either too wide or too long. He seemed frustrated towards the end of the set, as was displayed by his reckless playstyle. Final score was 15-21. The second set started off slow, with the play focused more on technique than brute force. Both players were neck to neck, until Ashutosh took a four-point lead by tiring Pratyush out by forcing him to move around a lot, bringing the scores to 7-11. After this break, Pratyush lost his nerve and failed to maintain the tempo. The set ended 21-10, with BKBIET winning the first game.

Virat (Venky) vs Anuj (BKBIET) 21-5, 21-8

The result of this game was clear after the first few rallies, as Virat outclassed his opponent in every way possible. Anuj couldn't keep up with the rapid flurry of smashes coming his way. Virat was ruthless, and made quick work of his competition. He won both sets comfortably.

Ashutosh and Tarun (BKBIET) vs Virat and Kshitiz (Venky) 8-21, 5-21

Despite his earlier victory, Ashutosh failed to continue his earlier form in this match. Tarun was clearly the weak link in the team, and was targeted incessantly by Virat and Kshitiz. The duo from Venkateshwara College functioned like a well-oiled machine, displaying impressive coordination in their play. They took an early lead and maintained it till the end. The

atmosphere during this match was tense, as supporters of both teams tried their best to out-cheer the other side.

Kshitiz (Venky) vs Aditya (BKBIET) 23-21, NA

The last game of the day was by far the most eventful. Both players were evenly matched and kept each other on their toes throughout the first set. No one seemed to be gaining an edge over the other, and the scores were level until Kshitiz made a shabby attempt to pick up Aditya's short drop. Aditya was now in an advantageous position and the tension in the room was palpable. It seemed as if it was the end of the game for Kshitiz, but by some force of nature, Aditya slipped up twice, handing the set over to Venkateshwara. With both teams ready to go another round, the first set ended with 23-21.

The next set began with a furious volley of shots by both sides. Aditya somehow managed to turn the scores in his favour with a two point lead. In his attempt to pick up a wide shot by Kshitiz, Aditya stretched too far and twisted his knee. Though clearly in pain, he decided to come back to finish the game. His commitment to the game was appreciated by all those present in the audience, who gave him a round of applause. Unfortunately, the match was short-lived as Aditya decided to forfeit after another rally. In what was a classic display of sportsmanship, Kshitiz approached his opponent and wished him the best, praising him on a game well played. The game ended on an unsatisfactory note, however, the Venkateshwara squad rejoiced, qualifying further in the tournament.



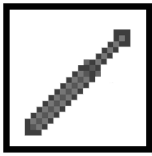
BITS 'B' beat MIET 3-0

The badminton match played last morning at SAC between BITS (A) and BKBIET was a very exciting one. However, the match lacked the competitive streak that viewers were expecting as they had already played a friendly match with each other earlier, which BITS had won. As said by one of the players, the BITS team was quite sure of winning, and felt they'd be able to wrap it up in 3 matches. As expected by most, BITS (A) did end up winning. However, the opponents did manage to sneak in a few surprises.

The first match was between Mohit of BITS (A) and Ashutosh of BKBIET. Mohit managed to gain a lead in the beginning but Ashutosh was not far behind, and soon caught up. Despite being a close game, Mohit managed to win with a score of 21-18. The second game started with Ashutosh in the lead which went on till 4-0, when Mohit scored his first point. A major setback occurred when the score was tied at 11 all, Mohit twisted his leg and could not play for a few minutes. This break didn't last long though; after some glucose and a change of shoes, he was back in the game. The little hiccup did not stop him, and he went on to win the second game with a score of 21-18 again, winning him the match.

The second singles match was between Sushant of BITS (A) and Aditya of BKBIET. Unlike the previous one, this match was fairly one-sided and resulted in a clear victory for the BITSian. Sushant was on a roll and won both games with a score of 21-7. The crowd cheered and applauded after every smash he placed strategically.

The final match of the fixture was a doubles match and BITS (A)'s victory in this match sealed the fate of the fixture in the home team's favour. The team from BITS consisted of the captain Harsh and Rajat. The other team had Ashutosh, who played in the match against Mohit, and Archit. The match started with BKBIET in the lead, and this continued till 3-0. However, the BITS team turned their fate by playing more aggressively and targeted the opponents' weak spots to steal the game away by 21-17. BKBIET did not make light of this situation and fought back well, taking the next game by 21-19. Having not anticipated losing a game to the other Pilani college, BITS (A) made quick recovery and vigorously defeated them by 21-14, thus winning the match, thereby advancing to the next round.



Cricket: SKIT vs Xavier's

Thank You For This, Colonisers

Entering the tournament as underdogs, Sri Krishna Institute of Technology (SKIT) emerged victorious against St. Xavier's College in their first fixture of the BOSM 2019 cricket tournament.

St.Xavier's won the toss and chose to bowl first, looking to restrict SKIT to a chaseable target. It seemed that they had made the correct decision as three of the opposition's top-order batsmen were dismissed in just the first couple of overs. The following overs saw Yogesh and Mohammad from SKIT trying to build a partnership and cover some lost ground. However, just as they seemed to start gaining some momentum, Mohammad departed to a fairly simple catch in the outfield. By the end of the 7th over, the score was 34/4, and SKIT were in trouble. Their top order had completely failed, and their opening batsman, Yogesh, was the only one holding the innings together.

Thanks to Yogesh's good form and support from Pinank at the other end, runs started to flow steadily for SKIT. The morale of the team was now boosted and they believed that they could put up a defendable total, especially if this partnership continued to grow. Yogesh proceeded to bring up a well-deserved half century, which received thunderous applause from his teammates. However, their partnership came to an end in the 15th over when Yogesh departed after making a remarkable 56-runs leaving SKIT in a precarious position at of 85/5. With another wicket falling immediately, the pressure was on Pinank to guide his team to a respectable total.

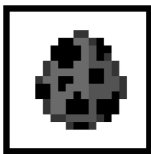
After playing a number of quality shots, Pinank got out to an easy catch at square leg, and it was then the responsibility of the tail-enders to finish the innings with a flourish. They managed to score boundaries at regular intervals, resulting in a substantial total of 142 for the loss of 8 wickets. This was a truly exceptional total, especially after the clumsy start they had.

After a short break, the players walked out to play the second innings. St.Xavier's had a mountain to climb with a target of 143, while SKIT were confident that they had the game in the bag. The pressure seemed to get to St. Xavier's early on, as they got off to a slow start and also lost a wicket in the second over to an outside-edge safely caught-behind by the keeper.

In the next few overs, St.Xavier's made several attempts at big shots, with only a handful of them resulting in boundaries. Meanwhile, SKIT continued to put pressure on them with some clinical bowling and stunning efforts in the field, resulting in a couple of crucial wickets. With a score of 38/3 at the end of the 9th over, things looked grim for Xavier's and they had to get a move-on quickly if they were to make a comeback. Although they showed some intent, they failed to consolidate a partnership and lost wickets far too frequently. With the innings progressing in such a slow manner, the witty commentary provided by the BITS Pilani cricket team kept up the entertainment. Xavier's had managed to score only 77 runs in 14 overs and the required run-rate had climbed up to a demanding 11 runs per over.

The team chasing the target continued to lose more wickets to SKIT's exceptional bowling. By the 18th over, they had lost 9 wickets and still required 40 more runs. At this point, it was only a matter of time before SKIT were declared victors. Aware of their imminent victory, SKIT were eager to finish the match as soon as possible. They put things to an end in the 19th over, dismissing the last batsman in his attempt to play a glorious shot on the onside. Xavier's fell short of their target by 40 runs and were eliminated from the tournament, while SKIT showed that they were a force to be reckoned with for the rest of the tournament.





Cricket: A Brief History

History is Written by... Whoever Really, it Doesn't Matter TBH

Disclaimer: The following entry is a miscellaneous entry written with the purpose to entertain and confuse. This entry dives into the real reason, why cricket is not currently an official Olympic sport.

It is common knowledge that cricket is not a part of the Olympics when other equally fake-sounding sports like horse-vaulting, trampolines, laser-pistol shooting, and squash are. One can only wonder why this is the case, but for the first time in human history—via not-at-all-dodgy research methods we will choose to keep confidential—the BOSM English press has buried all seeds of doubt. We now have the definitive answer for why the sport fails to make the cut. If you wish to find out, read on.

Our story begins with a stray strain of syphilis, which saw its creation in the Olympic village in the 1996 Olympics at sexually deprived Atlanta. The poor city had never developed full sexual immunity and couldn't bear the many orgies that happened during the Olympics. As the disease spread, multiple high-profile people got infected. A notable victim was Prince Charles, who got the disease when his homosexuality finally manifested in a rough session with Mike Tyson.

We now move to an equally important part of the story. We move to Osama Bin Laden, the Trump of the new millennium, and his attempts to include Texas in cricket on account of an unhealthy obsession with the state of Texas and an equally unhealthy obsession with the equally unruly sport cricket (that's right, Osama had it in for centuries and guacamole—our research was pretty extensive). His motive—to build a cricket stadium close to the Johnson Space Centre and then blow it up eventually (he is a terrorist). The US, however, refused, and suggested Osama focus his efforts towards more constructive endeavors. This really angered Osama, and he then told all world leaders in a secret conference call that he was going to destroy everything that

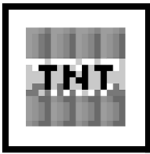
remotely resembled cricket. The events that transpired with the Twin Towers as a consequence (stumps, duh) shall never be forgotten.

While this major act of terror did calm his terrorist nerve, ten years later, Bin Laden was back. His next target was the London Olympics in 2012. His motives hadn't changed, with ideas of his stadium still fresh in his mind. London sensed this security threat, and the Queen asked Prince Charles to investigate. Now Prince Charles was a diplomatic genius, but as we mentioned earlier, he was also gay. He had an affinity for mushy beards and deep brown eyes; to him, Bin Laden was his perfect Bashir. In conversation with Bin Laden, he offered his royal-Ts in exchange for the city. Bin Laden, who hadn't had his gun fired in a long time, conceded.

The encounter, however, left a deep impression on Osama as the young Jihadi was left with nothing except fond memories of his lover's little Prince and that same royal strain of syphilis. And it was this combination of sexual frustration and royal syphilis that led to his demise, not that faux operation that America claims to have executed successfully.

So that, my friends, is the real reason why cricket is not a part of the Olympics. Not because it is a Commonwealth game in a post-colonial world, not because yo mama looks fat playing it, not even because the fans are irrational, but because the sport always causes death and destruction wherever it goes.





Upholding Tradition

r/im14andthisisdeep

