

## SCMC makes a mark at SIMC fest

By ANANYANARAYAN DHANABALAN

The students of SCMC headed up to the Lavale hilltop campus on the 3rd and 4th of February for Fest-O-Comm, SIMC's annual cultural fest. The two-day spectacle is SIMC's flagship event, and this year marked the first time the fest was conducted in three years.

The event started with an address from Dr. Ruchi Kher Jaggi, the Director of SIMC, and a panel discussion with leading content creators in the country. SIMC students were fired up for the fest as they chanted their slogan, "Coca-Cola Pepsi, SIMC sexy!"

The Chronicle spoke with SIMC's Ridham Arora, Fest-O-Comm Core Committee member and Head of the Business Department. Ridham said, "All the student cells from SIMC came together to pull this off; we have been planning this for the past six months." She added, "It's been two years since this happened, and we didn't want to do it online like other colleges, so it is really great to see the hall filled with students cheering and laughing."

The business events Bra(i)nd Freeze and Decode Recode were conducted first. SCMC students were successful in both of these competitions. Meanwhile, badminton dominated the sports centre. The teams from SIDTM and SIMC were incredibly competitive, and SCMC was eliminated despite a



SCMC students (L - R) Hardik Kharbanda, Chitra Raj, and Arnav Malhotra, were runners-up in Bra(i)nd Freeze.



SCMC's Charu Sharma (L) and Kashish Nagwani (R) emerged victorious in Decode Recode.

EVENT	NAME	POSITION	SCMC BATCH
Bra(i)nd Freeze	Arnav Malhotra Chitra Raj Hardik Kharbanda	2nd	2023
Decode Recode	Charu Sharma Kashish Nagwani	1st	2024
Tug and Tackle	Hardik Kharbanda Anish Rajesh	1st	2023
Call Of Duty	Diya Srivastava Giles Santosh Harsh Thakker Siddharth Batra	2nd	2023

spirited performance. The afternoon saw the Open Mic and Fashion Show events, where participants strutted their varied talents. The day events were then brought to a close, with the stand-up comedian Samay Raina performing a 45-minute set for over 300 people.

Day 1 evening commenced the musical events with Music Melee (battle of bands). The night's headliners, the Indie alt-rock group Anand Bhaskar Collective closed the show.

Day 2 started with the major business events OTT Shark Tank, and Tug and Tackle (debate), where SCMC's Anish Rajesh and Hardik Kharbanda emerged victorious. Gaming events were conducted online and SCMC students owned the opposition as they won in Call of Duty. The sports event of the day was Target Football, conducted on the multi-purpose ground at the hilltop campus.

Day 2 had cultural events take centre stage on campus with the Nukkad Natak (street play) and Hit the Streets (street dance). However, the main event began in the evening with the Sause Rap Battle, sponsored by the clothing company House of Sause. This was followed by Dance pe Chance (group dance), and the fest was finally closed out by a concert by the day 2 headliner Zaeden.

(See photo feature on Page 3)

## SID FDM adds Vegas touch



Melissa Srivastava keeps the rhythm going at Headliners. (Photo Courtesy:SID)

By POORVI AMMANAGI & AMBIKA BAPAT

Fundamental is a popular event hosted by the Symbiosis Institute of Design (SID). It is a celebration of fashion and design, showcasing the latest trends and styles in the industry. The event's theme, "Las Venturas," is a nod to the city of Las Vegas, known for its glitz, glamor, and opulence, making it the perfect backdrop for a fashion and design showcase. With its bright lights, lively atmosphere, and exciting energy, the event was a memorable experience for all attendees. For all those interested in fashion, design, or simply enjoying being surrounded by creativity and inspiration, FDM had it all.

It started with the Homecoming prom on the 7th of February. Everyone dressed their best and had a good time dancing and listening to music. The atmosphere was lively and fun. The fairy lights and balloons created a festive and cheerful atmosphere. The combination of color and light was a sight to behold. The event also hosted an open mic on the 9th, where one could come and perform poetry, music, dance, or anything that they wished. It was a supportive and all-inclusive platform that encouraged everyone to come and perform regardless of their skill set. The idea was to encourage creativity and let it flow, to make it into an even more special evening accompanied by a lot of dance, music, and memories.

(Cont'd on Page 4)

## Anish bags 2 golds at cube puzzle event

By ALLEN DAVID JAMES



Anish Rajesh at the tournament.

Anish Rajesh, an audio-visual specialisation student of SCMC Batch 23, bagged two gold medals – one in the 4x4x4 and the other in the 7x7x7 category – at the Korum's Cube Challenge 2023 which was a competition for Rubik's cube puzzle enthusiasts.

Anish's cubing journey began at the young age of 12 and he's never looked back since, having set 45 national records so far. In this Korum's Cube Challenge 2023 competition, Anish participated in four of the 11 events and bagged two gold medals.

Talking to the Chronicle, he expressed happiness over his performance. "I did not allow my lack of regular practice deter my confidence," he said.

In a tournament hosting notable players

like Aiman Kohli, one of the fastest 'blind-fold solvers' and Bhargav Narsimhan, the Asian champion for solving the puzzle with one hand, Anish's performance was commendable. These two medals will add to his considerable tally of over 90 gold medals.

## Speedcubing as a sport

By SOHAM SHAH

It might come as a surprise to many, but the elusive Rubik's Cube is a competing sport, has a governing body, and competitions worldwide. The World Cube Association (WCA) is the non-profit organisation that organises and provides support for Rubik's Cube competition. But how do these competitions even work?

All official WCA competitions have a delegate supervising the organisation, and participants can register for the competition on the WCA website. Speedstacks timers are used, and scrambles are generated using a software called T-Noodle. World records in Rubik's Cube and its variants are counted only if they are made in WCA competitions.

## TOP PICKS



## PUSS IN BOOTS: THE LAST WISH

By ADITI IYER

Puss in Boots returns in this beautifully animated film. Having burned through eight of his lives, he sets out to get them back, with Death menacingly hanging over his head. The film has its heart-wrenching moments, with endearing characters and a sprinkling of valuable life lessons—a true masterpiece by Dreamworks.

Rating: 5/5



## VADH

By PRATISHTHA BAGAI

The movie has a strong display of emotions and questions morality, making it impactful and relatable. Veteran actors Sanjay Mishra and Neena Gupta have delivered outstanding performances as a grim common man and his housewife.

Rating: 4/5

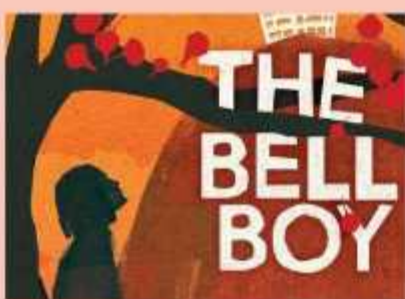


## AMBROZIA CAFE &amp; PATISSERIE

By PARIDHI MAHESHWARI

This cute aesthetic cafe is one of Viman's newest additions. They serve some of the finest desserts and the service is top-notch. Their delectable macarons along with the lovely ambience makes it a perfect spot for something sweet after a heavy meal!

Must have: Sinful Chocolate Molten Cake With Ice Cream  
To avoid: Pizza



## THE BELLBOY

By EESHA JAVADEKAR

It is a poignant account of a 17-year-old dealing with the complexities of communal tension, loss, family issues, and lust. Yet, the reader can't help feeling heart-broken, sympathetic, and even warmth, redeemed, and rejoiced in the moments of grace. A warp of nuances in innocence and crime, a must-read.

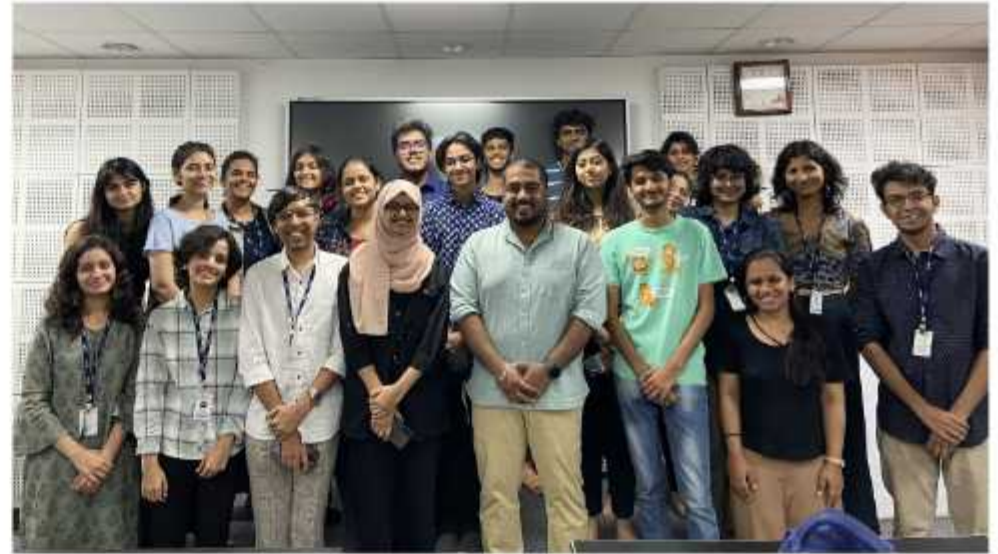
# SCMC organises it's first fact-checking workshop

By RANIYA ASHRAF ALI

SCMC held its first offline fact-checking workshop, organized by the Journalism Club, on the 13th of February, 2023. The workshop was conducted by Mr Abhilash Mallick, Associate Editor for The Quint, who specializes in fact-checking and debunking misinformation.

The workshop began with a short quiz engaging students and was followed by a brief on fake news and all it entails. Thereafter, he shared tools used for image and video verification and instructed students on how to operate these tools with real-life examples. Furthermore, they were given tips regarding geolocation and how it could be used to verify the footage. This included using keywords to our advantage in search engines and digital platforms like Twitter to guarantee optimal results.

The workshop did not stop at constructive tips for fact-checking, however, as it illuminated practical aspects of working in the field. He brought up issues like cybersecurity and the professional well-being of fact-checkers,



Happy smiles from all around as the workshop wraps up successfully.

shedding light on the risks that come with the profession, like harassment. Furthermore, he addressed concerns in the field regarding rising ambiguity of fake news and the ensuing difficulties in fact-checking. The workshop

ended on a good note after Mr Mallick interacted with the students, sharing anecdotes from his career and answering queries from the students.

## Hymns, prayers mark Martyrs' Day

By ASHMIT KUMAR

A sombre day at Aga Khan Palace on the 30th of Jan as the public remembered the journey of one of the most significant people to walk the face of the earth: Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi.

Seventy-five years ago, on the same day, the Father of the Nation, a staunch advocate of non-violence, was slain by three bullets fired by the hands of Nathuram Godse. The place where Mahatma Gandhi was imprisoned for two years, Aga Khan Palace, marked the occasion as Martyrs Day to honour Gandhiji's teachings and give thanks for his role in India's Freedom Struggle.

Flowers and garlands adorned the place where a part of Mahatma Gandhi's ashes are

buried and the Samadhis of the Mahatma's wife, Kasturba Gandhi, and his personal secretary, Mahadev Desai, both of whom had passed away during the two-year imprisonment period in the palace.

At around 10 am, a prayer session was held by the caretakers and members of the committee responsible for the proper preservation and maintenance of the monument. Bhajans like "Sarva Dharma Prarthana" and "Shanti Prathana" were among the few that were recited. The session concluded with the singing of "Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram", a song that was near and dear to Gandhiji and which, to this day, is still associated with him. Sung during the 1930 Salt March, the music was used extensively to project a composite and secular vision of Indian society.



Gandhi's memorial stone on the Aga Khan Palace grounds.

## She lives in the heart of the city totally without electricity !

By PRANOTI ABHYANKAR

Amidst the chirping birds and the morning hustle-bustle of life in Budhwar Peth of Pune, 79-year-old steps out of her small house to take out the trash. Retired botanist Dr. Hema Sane leads a lifestyle unlike any other resident in the heart of the city. She lives without electricity and shares the property with pair of cats, dogs, and a mongoose.

"Electricity was never a necessity for the survival of humans. From the dawn of civilizations, food, clothing, and shelter have been the basic needs. I choose to abide by this," says Dr Hema Sane while expressing the satisfaction she derives from her lifestyle. Her mornings begin not by an alarm clock but with the chirping of birds, and the day ends with oil lamps lighting up her hut. When The Chronicle explored the reason behind adopting an electricity-less lifestyle



Dr. Hema Sane in the garden surrounding her house.

in today's world, she said "My grandparents and parents were brought up and lived without electricity, it's the way of life I've learnt and grown up with since the 1940s. So the absence of electricity and all the modern

technology does not affect me."

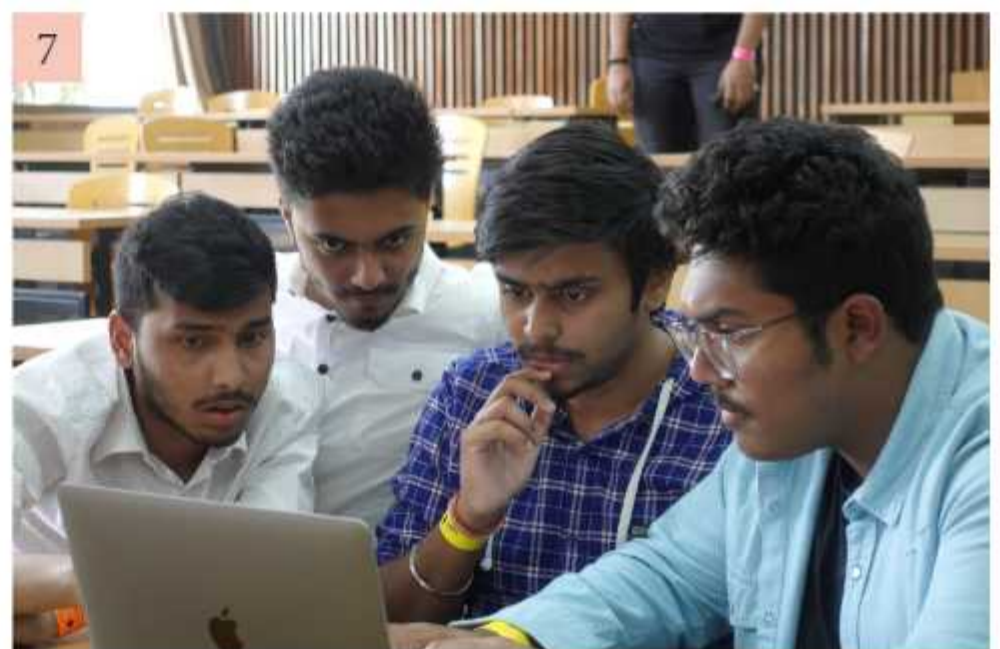
Apart from the unique natural lifestyle choices, Dr Hema Sane is also known to be an independent-minded person, an actively engaged academicians who has written books and given numerous talks. However, orthopedic ailments have been the reason for limitations on her mobility in the last few years.

In the academic field, her position as the head of department has faced biased opinions coming from certain people. "They think I am crazy for the lifestyle I lead. They say that a head of department should be presented in a different way if they want to be taken seriously. But that does not affect me; my work speaks for itself", she says expressing frustration over the number of unsolicited remarks she receives from people on a daily basis.

# SIMC fest lights up Lavale

(Cont'd from Page 1)

- 1 A tired but happy SCMC contingent after day 1 of SIMC's Fest-O-Comm.
- 2 Dr. Ruchi Kher Jaggi (Director, SIMC) and Dr. Sushobhan Patankar (Faculty, SIMC) address the students at the opening ceremony.
- 3 (L-R) Aastha Shah, Anisha Dixit, Leisha Patidar, and Prasad Vidhate talk about content creation during the Influencer Interaction session.
- 4 SCMC's debate team with Hardik Kharbanda (L) and Anish Rajesh (R) faces off against the opposition in the debate event Tug and Tackle.
- 5 Paarth Narang (L) and Srujana Deshmukh (R) from SCMC in action during badminton mixed doubles.
- 6 Rapper Rada spits bars at the Sause Rap Battle.
- 7 (L-R) Madhava Kumar, Anish Kulkarni, Samarth Srivastava, and Apekshith Ganesh strategize during the Bra(i)nd Freeze quiz round.
- 8 SCMC's Shreyanjana Basu leads the SCMC group in a powerful and engaging dance performance.



## Siya regales at Lollapalooza



By PRANITH YASA

Lollapalooza, a historic music festival based out of Chicago, recently organized a two-day stint at Mahalaxmi in Mumbai. Imagine Dragons, The Strokes, Jackson Wang and Diplo were a few world-famous names who headlined the event, which hosted a mix of both Indian and international artists. The opportunity to perform as the opening act for such a large event is incredible, and the recipient of this opportunity was SCMC's very own flautist Siya Ragade, as part of the independent band Easy Wanderlings.

A student of Advertising of the Batch of '23, Siya is no stranger to the big stage. Over the years, Easy Wanderlings has played at multiple music festivals such as NH7 Weekender, VH1 Supersonic and SXSW Austin in Texas. Her Western classical training has been a stepping stone to performances at prestigious venues such as the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Mumbai.

Regarding her experience onstage at Lollapalooza, Siya said "I think that after a point we become accustomed to performing live. Yet, everytime, we still feel that rush of adrenaline and that quickening of our hearts before the sound goes live to the audience. We were enthralled to share the stage with such accomplished international artists, which further motivated us to give our 150%! But nothing beats that overwhelmingly beautiful feeling of when the audience joins in to sing the songs. Any little inhibitions we had were left behind as we got immersed in the melody".

When asked about Easy Wanderlings' plans for the near future, Siya teased new songs which explore various genres. "As long as we keep doing what we love, I think the next steps for us will fall into place, as if it's written in the stars".

## Srujana ends up with Ms Kurukshetra title

By ADITI KRISHNAN

The winter semester in colleges is known to be packed with fests - from sports and cultural events to literary and fashion events. FLAME University hosted its pan-India fest, Kurukshetra, from 25th to 29th January 2023, and two students from SCMC won big at the event.

Sadhika Kumar, a first-year student, has always had an affinity for water which got her interested in swimming. A natural backstroker, she wanted to step out of her comfort zone the first time she represented SCMC and participated in the 50 m Butterfly event. And it paid off! She finished third, with a timing of 36.2 seconds, and bagged the bronze medal.



Sadhika Kumar

The swimming events included 50 m Freestyle, Butterfly, Backstroke and Breaststroke. Athletes love watching people compete almost as much as competing themselves. And the events, according to Sadhika, were great to watch.

She started competing in events in second grade when a coach at her usual swimming pool saw potential in her. She was enrolled into classes, and now, we at SCMC are witnessing and celebrating her achievements!

Another one of our first years, Srujana Deshmukh, registered for a sporting event in

Kurukshetra. What started as a goal to win their Badminton event ended with her winning the Miss Kurukshetra title!



Srujana Deshmukh

Srujana, a professional badminton player, initially registered to represent SCMC in badminton. Unfortunately, that event got cancelled. But another event caught her eye - the Miss Kurukshetra event with the tagline, "Fitness and Fashion". It included three rounds - a fitness one, a photoshoot and a ramp walk.

Being a badminton player and a sports person, she felt she would have the upper hand in the fitness round compared to the other participants. The participants in this round were asked to do a number of exercises, including push-ups, burpees, planks and lunges. In the photoshoot round, the participants had to wear a sports fit and get pictures clicked. And in the ramp walk, they were expected to walk down a ramp as creatively as they could, at the end of which the judges asked them questions.

The judges marked each of them after all three rounds, and Srujana secured the most points - winning her the Miss Kurukshetra title! Srujana is an avid dancer and singer and loves trying new things. This quality of hers made her enrol for the event and win it, making SCMC proud.

## SCMC students make a splash



From L-R: Sorashi Sharma, Shivika Sirohi, Lakshashree Pradhan and Sadhika Kumar

By IKSHAA DHODI

Lakshashree Pradhan (Batch of 2024), Sadhika Kumar (Batch of 2025), Shivika Sirohi (Batch of 2024) and Sorashi Sharma (Batch of 2023) made SCMC proud by bagging three bronze, four silver and four gold medals for swimming at the Deshpande and Nandal sports Olympiad.

Lakshashree who won three silvers and a bronze said the event was a good check for her stamina and timing, and she is now confident and looking forward to future competitions. "I was nervous about whether I would be able to complete my race event since I was out of form for a good three years," she revealed.

Sadhika Kumar who bagged four golds said it was a great experience and it was also a good learning opportunity. She said she overcame her nervousness and was proud of her achievement. "Working out makes me happy and it's the best reward as it leads to victory. It is a healthy cycle," she added.

Shivika Sirohi who won two bronzes said her experience was highly fulfilling. "Our team not only won several medals but also enjoyed representing our college on a different campus," she said.

Sorashi Sharma who won a silver admitted to being intimidated by the other colleges because they looked extremely professional. There were students from the Symbiosis sports management institute as well. "But we just decided to have fun and do what we do best and focus on that," she said.

## SID FDM adds Vegas touch

(Cont'd from Page 1)

The 10th of February ushered in a series of other exciting events. From Trivia to the make-up competition, Lookbook, the euphoria of 'Las Venturas' continued. The glamorous Runway Rage illuminated the evening; students walked the ramp transporting the audience straightaway to the city of Las Vegas. The outfits and the choreography for the event were conducted entirely by the students themselves. The dazzling atmosphere created by the models was carried on by the Euphoric Pulse, as thrilling performances reverberated in the amphitheatre.

The highlight of FDM was the Headliners,



A daring showcase of Ducati superbikes

where professional artists delighted the audience with their performances. The opening act was performed by Manraj, who enraptured the audience with his stories and jokes. Melissa Shrivastava and Paul N the Peeps performed next, striking the perfect chord and prompting the audience to cheer louder than ever.

Fundamentals 2023 was an excellent avenue for learning, enjoyment, and experience. The lively events lit up the amphitheater, as well as created memories for many. Fashion and glamour dominated the campus for a few days creating an aura that would last for a lifetime in students' hearts.