



Small goes BIG!

Keshav Kansal, AIS Noida

In 2008, actors Shah Rukh Khan, Salman Khan and Akshay Kumar were pitted against each other when they decided to host shows on three different entertainment channels. While SRK hosted “*Kya Aap Paanchvi Pass Se Tez Hain*” on Star plus, Salman Khan was on Sony entertainment Channel’s “*Dus Ka Dum*”. Kumar, on the other hand, was on Colors with “*Khatron Ke Khiladi*”. This trend of big stars descending on the small screen is not something new. Amitabh Bachchan inaugurated the phenomenon of big Bollywood stars anchoring television reality shows, almost a decade back. Since then there has been no looking back for celebrities.

Nowadays, stars are shifting their focus from 70 mm screens to TVs and LCDs. With these kinds of ventures, they get widespread exposure and instant gratification. Moreover, they also get closer to their fans due to enhancement of one-to-one interaction. Furthermore, these stars get access to a far-reaching audience and it also helps them to achieve liquidity in monetary terms.

Apart from widespread exposure and instant gratification, the *moolah* also plays a huge motivating factor. With the stars charging amounts that go up to

several crores for every episode, they have all the reasons for gracing the small screen.

It is not just the stars who are enjoying their newly forged relationship with TV. Fans also love the appearance of big stars on the small screen. “All these ventures help stars to prolong their star career,” says Anju Gupta, a movie buff. In contrast Tarun Kansal, a CA believes that “People get connected to celebs easily and this reduces their charm.”

At the end of the day, it is a total win-win situation. The viewers get their fair share of celeb viewing, the stars get the money and audience connection and the channels, their much wanted TRPs. ☺

Idiot Box



No guitar, no band

Ritvik K, XII D, AIS Noida

To many, the Guitar may be just another musical instrument, but for some, specially teenagers, it is much more. Perhaps the most obvious reason why the guitar has such an impact on teenagers is their love of rock music. Its close association with rock music makes it a popular choice. A guitar is handy, easy to carry. It's not really heavy, plus it looks cool. As there are only few chords to be learnt, the guitar can be easily learned in just a few weeks. However, no matter how easy it might seem, you would still need to practice consistently to master

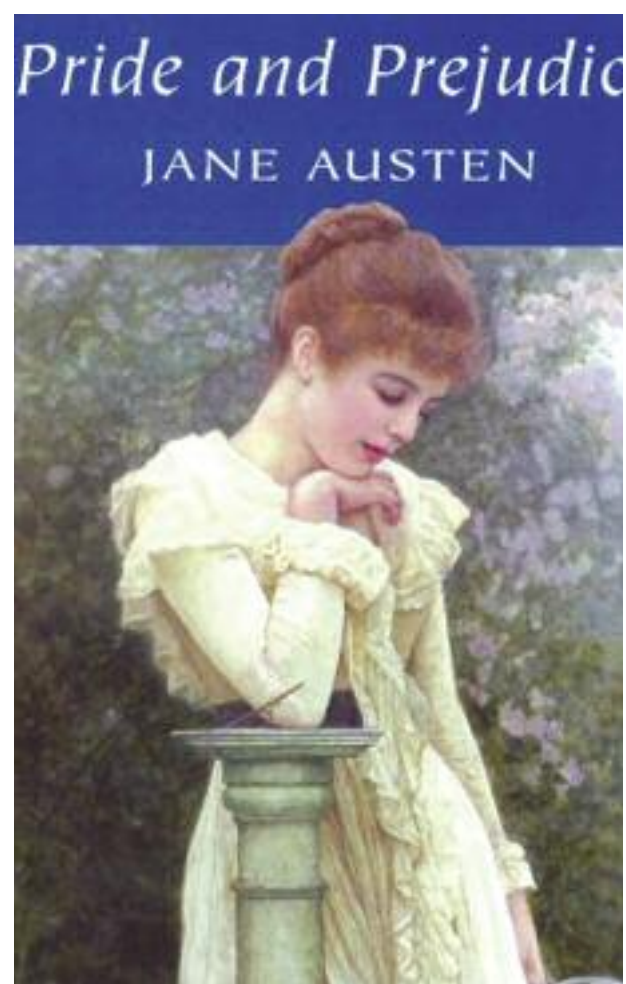
it. Knowing how to play a Guitar can make it easier for teenagers to make friends and become popular. It can help painfully shy people to break the ice easily. Many teenagers idolize Rock Stars, and many want to be just like them in the future: many screaming and adoring fans following them, awesome musical talent, and most of all - rich. They think that it's a way to be 'in'. As long as the teenager is listening to music, the tendency is for him to choose the guitar over piano or any other instrument. At the very least, interest in music and Guitar enables a teenager to be involved in a productive and a creative activity.



WHERE HAVE ALL THE CLASSICS GONE?

Nishita Khattar, X-J, AIS Noida

Has Edward Cullen ‘Eclipsed’ Mr Darcy? Is it really true? Are the mysterious, magical, sometimes ‘Bad Guy’ heroes of the 21st century too much for the elegant, proud and ball-attending heroes of the bygone era? No, of course not! It's just that those very magical heroes, who have taken the world by storm and fired the daring teen imagination, have overshadowed the slightly quieter charms of the more sedate protagonists of the old classics. It's not about ‘Where have the classics gone?’ It's about what they'll come back to, because they are right here, waiting to be read, but by someone who appreciates them. You see, classics may not be powerful teen magnets, but picking them up with a lot of grumbles and after reading them, making harsh comparisons with the books we read today, is so not the way we should read them. But the problem is-most of us do exactly that! However, this can totally be fixed. We just need to borrow a little time from our usual novels, be it sci-fi, fantasy, mystery or non-fiction, to catch up on the oldies. Because a book is a book. Whether it is an old classic or an action packed chic-lit/dick-lit modern fantasy, each book has its own special, and yeah, magical charms. Both kinds deserve to be praised, talked about and appreciated. Oh, there's one more thing- the language. The archaic English and the elaborate descriptions in classics may be a huge turn-off for us, but we can get used to them! Classics are fine once one gets accustomed to them. So, what do you think guys? Shall we switch from the supernatural hottie to the super-conventional oldie? Let's show Mr. Darcy and Mr. Rochester that they haven't been forgotten. We might surprise even ourselves, when next time we step into a bookstore; by heading to the classics section instead of the teen section! ☺



Movie Review

MOVIE: The Twilight Saga Eclipse.
CAST: Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner;
DIRECTOR: David Slade.
RATING : ★★★

Watch it if you must!

Sankalp Dikshit, XI G, AIS Noida

Edward: You love him.
Bella: I love you more!
Well, we all read this and now we have seen it too! The much-awaited third installment of the twilight series raises itself from the mushy- mushy romance and offers some serious cinema. The story revolves around Bella's (Kristen Stewart, of course) predicament of choosing between her vampire love Edward (Robert Pattinson) and her werewolf friend Jacob (Taylor Lautner). The plot becomes intense with the arrival of Victoria trying to avenge the death of her lover by killing Bella. Perhaps the protection of Bella now acquires center stage (like it was in all Twilight movies!) and the only way Cullens can protect Bella is by taking help from their rival were-

wolf clan. The movie scores high on the performance front. Kristen Stuart and Robert Pattinson's chemistry grips the movie while Taylor Lautner carries his 'rough and tough guy' look convincingly. Despite great performances, the movie dips in its first half due to prolonged dialogues, repetitive scenes and dragged story line. But it is the second half, which accelerates the story and gives you an adrenaline rush, especially during the climax sequence. The movie captures the entire location beautifully. The larger than life special effects appear real and the background scores add to the uncanny feel of the film. Not as good as Twilight, not as bad as New Moon, Eclipse is a decent teen cinema that will thrill fans and mollify their companions. Watch it if you must!