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WHERE CREATIVITY MEETS COLLABORATION

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On a beautiful morning of the 23rd February 2024, St. Edmund's College commemorated the beginning of EDBLAZON 2024 Finale Week. It is a time filled with a mix of engaging activities, excitement, and the chance to connect with a new community. It is a time when we can dive into the College atmosphere and create the best, lasting memories with friends and teachers. Starting the day on a positive note through the inspiration given by our Respected Principal, Dr.Br. Simon Coelho. His message of inspiration paraphrase to *"Reach out for the very best."* As the President of SECMUN Club 2023-24 and Security Coordinator of Edblazon 2024, Ankit Bhattarai emphasised that Edblazon 2024 is different from the past years because the paramount responsibility of the College campus throughout the Edblazon week would be administered by the organisation of the National Cadet Corps(NCC) and the National Service Scheme (NSS).



This is to be a week of magic because the awesome College theme ideas made the day a memorable one and everybody was truly engaged. Keeping with the spirit of the theme of the day *"Twin Day,"* students wore matching clothing from classic to trendy themes to outfits designed of varied ideas and aesthetics. The interviewees expressed their opinion that it was more difficult to find pairs of clothing than a twin person to pair with. A rapid fire round was held by the Journalist asking students questions about the choices of their twinnies and if each twin pair had the same personality or the same taste in music, food and style. Some were asked to describe their partners; some expressed the beauty of friendship through continually imparting laughter, encouragement, support and advice for each other.

The College grounds echoed with the cheers of students and teachers and the spirit of healthy competition continued. The highlight of the event was a friendly Basketball match between Teachers and Animators. It was a nail-biting encounter where the teachers emerged victorious by a narrow margin of 1 point (36-35). Dr. Ronald K L Tron, Department of Zoology, was seen cheering his team throughout the intense game. He marked a statement that reads as “Animators must work hard to defeat the Teachers”. Tug of War held its Finals for both Boys and Girls category in which students learned the significance of coordination and teamwork. The Basketball court witnessed a thrilling match of the Girl's category between Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Science. The first half ended with B.Com. leading 16-15, showcasing the intense competition and skill from both sides. B.Com. secured a tight victory by a single point, winning 24-23.



The basketball tournament ended with a flash mob dance presented by the Dance Club of the College. Heimonlang Biam orchestrated a mesmerising dance on the basketball court, featuring a diverse genre of songs. The crowd's energy was so captivating that the speakers were drowned out by the enthusiastic singing and participation of the audience. The Badminton court witnessed the semi finals for all categories and would with their Finale fixture by 26th February, 2024 with severe to intense moments by the time the shuttle and racket reaches close to the match point. The event was held under the able guidance of Dr. Dr. Omarlin Kyndiah, Mr. Gregory Jala, Dr. James Wahlang, Ma'am F. E. J. Syngai, and Ma'am R. Iangrai with the support and involvement of Animators and volunteers.



The Volleyball court witnessed a spirited match between Bachelor of Arts(B.A.) 1st semester and Bachelor of Commerce(B.Com.) 1st semester Girls category. B.Com. secured a decisive victory, winning by 6 points and settling the score at 25-19. The energy and teamwork displayed by both teams were commendable, adding to the flavour of the event. The Football match between Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA) and Bachelor of Commerce(B.Com.) 4th semester was a thrilling encounter. At half-time, B.Com. led 2-0, and the momentum continued with an additional goal from a free-kick and a remarkable hat trick by Jersey number 9. B.Com. emerged victorious with a convincing 4-0 win, securing a spot in the quarter-finals. The basketball tournament ended with a flash mob dance presented by the Dance Club of the College. Heimonlang Biam orchestrated a mesmerizing dance on the basketball court, featuring a diverse genre of songs. The crowd's energy was so captivating that the speakers were drowned out by the enthusiastic singing and participation of the audience.



As the spotlight shifts, attention turns to the **Prelims of the Debate competition** and with stakes higher than ever the debate over “*Uniforms should be Mandatory in Colleges*” intensifies. Some say that College Uniforms represent discipline and instil College pride, but others think that it is not creativity and comfortable. Proponents say uniforms may increase student safety. Opponents say uniforms restrict expression. The thrill and excitement felt during this debate was a time to not be missed.



It brought about eye opening facts and arguments and making rebuttals can get exciting and heated. The speaker of the house was chaired by DamewanmiSuchiang, Department of Environmental Science and judged by Sir Ricky Basaiawmoit, Department of History, Sir Zankhangasung Khashim and Sir Shubhankar Sarma, Department of Sociology respectively. The event was held under the able guidance of Dr. Rosa Mawlong, Department of Khasi and Ma'am Mebari Dorphan, Department of Zoology with the support and involvement of Animators and volunteers. Of the 12 teams, 6 teams made it to Final round to be held on 26th February, 2024.

Antakshari, a musical game encouraged participants to showcase their knowledge of songs, lyrics, and melodies while engaging in friendly competition. The event was successful held under the able guidance of Dr. DipankarShome, Department of Commerce and Ma'am Reema Joshi, Department of Computer Science with the support and involvement of Animators and volunteers. The most beautiful part of the game is the fact that it encourages even non-singers to channel their inner Kishore Kumar, Lata Mangeshkar or Shreya Ghoshal, Arijit Singh. The winning teams had scored as 110, 60, 55 and were declared the Winners, 1st and 2ndrunner's up respectively. Dumb Charades competition was held and was one of the most entertaining no-prop-required games to play, where students used only their facial expressions and their body language. The game of nonverbalact made sure the day will be remembered for the moments of laughter and joy created. The event was held under the able guidance of Ma'am Rajni Khyriem, Department of Computer Application and Sir Ricky Basaiawmoit, Department of History with the support and involvement of Animators and volunteers.



The archives of Day 1 of the Finale week of Edblazon 2024 was a resounding success, blending sportsmanship, talent, and entertainment. The week-long celebration plans to unfold many picturesque moments, vibrant and dynamic spirit of the college community, fostering a sense of unity and pride, reminding everyone of the power of teamwork, skill, and the joy of shared experiences. From here on, the College plans to paint in ocean of Red and all await for it with excitement and anticipation.

Pictures collected by Imlibenla Ozukum, Photo/Video Journalist for this edition.



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