

Think About It...

*Everyone wishes to have truth on his side, but
not everyone wishes to be on the side of truth*

- Richard Whately

Editorial

Thank God, it's over! Well, I am not talking about the examinations which had been hounding us or the extra classes during the mid-term break but this month's Oli. From the Oliphant Memorial Debate to the exams, there was so much to do this month that we were really at the end of our tethers. So firstly, I would like to apologise for the delay.

This month has been very special for most Welhamites. First there was the Teachers Day celebrations in which we ensured that no one was spared. From the Principal to the teachers, everyone was imitated. The spark of vengeance can already be seen in the eyes of the teachers and we have been promised a '*patthar ka jawab*' on Children's Day.

Other special events were The Oliphant Memorial Debate and the Financial Studies Quiz which were hosted with great enthusiasm. Well, the enthusiasm was not so much because of the events but more so because of the presence of the fairer sex on campus. Though the events were very successful, the lives of some of the PR squad seem to have taken a turn after this.

While the campus was abuzz with activities, the school choir was involved in a very special cause. Along

with some other schools, the choir attended a singing session with underprivileged children. They sang along with a few of these children in the Town Hall. Though it was a simple activity, it just goes on to show what makes our school so special – the ability to enjoy ourselves as well as contribute towards society at the same time.

Although it has been a great month for the Welhamites, the icing on the cake was certainly India's win in the T20 World Cup. Like the entire nation, the T20 craze caught up Welham, that too at a time when the examinations were on. However, the patriotic Welhamites decided to sacrifice their exams for the nation and for once were not disappointed. The 'Men in Blue' deserve more than just a pat on their backs for their splendid performance.

The school seems to have received a facelift. The meetings, practices, painting and other preparations have already begun in full swing as we gear up for Founder's Day.

Ashish Chowdhary

(ASHISH CHOWDHARY)



Welham Now

- The Junior School put up a show 'Vices and Virtues' on the eve of Independence Day. The show was followed by the Inter House Independence Quiz. Ganga House emerged the winner while Krishna was runner-up.
- Following tradition, Independence Day was dedicated to the support staff with activities being organised for them. It was followed by a community lunch in the Activity Centre.
- **Kushagra Parasher** and **Rishi Anand Rawat** participated in J. L. D' Souza Memorial Inter School School Debate held at St. Joseph's Academy on 10 August.
- Keshav Mohan and Chirag Garg participated in *Maharani Gambhir Kumari* Memorial Inter School Hindi Debate on 21st August held at Cambrian Hall.
- The Middle School Inter House Hindi Debate was held on 23rd August. Cauvery House were first and Jamuna House second. **Zamar Alam** was adjudged the Best Speaker while **Parashbir Singh Bajaj** was declared the Most Promising Speaker. **Shashwat Agrawal** was awarded for best rebuttal.
- The Arthur Hughes Inter House English Debate was held on 31st August. Krishna House lifted the trophy while Cauvery House were runners-up. **Vanshaj Agrawal** was adjudged the Best Speaker while **Jatan Soni** was the Most Promising Speaker.
- The school hosted the Olphant Memorial Inter School English Debate on 5th & 6th September. We were represented by **Abhineet Kanodia**, **Jatan Soni** and **Vanshaj Agrawal**. The trophy was lifted by Vasant Valley School, New Delhi, followed by St. George's College, Mussorie. **Md. Mujtaba Khan** of St. George's College was adjudged as the Best Speaker while **Abindu Dhar** of RIMC was awarded the Most Promising Speaker.
- The 3rd Inter-School Financial Studies Quiz was hosted by our school on 7th September. We were represented by **Ashish Chowdhary**, **Pratik Agarwal** and **Pranay Todi**. Mayo Girl's College, Ajmer walked away with the trophy. Sherwood College, Nainital were second.
- A Wildlife Quiz was hosted by the Wildlife Institute of India on 7th September. **Asif Mustafa**, **Param Shah** and **Suryanshu Vashishta** represented the school.
- **Abhineet Kanodia**, **Kushagra Prasher**, **Rishi Anand Rawat** and **Praharsh Agarwal** participated in The Chuckerbutty Debate at The Doon School on

8th September. The Doon School Quiz was held the next day and we were represented by **Prateek Modi**, **Aniket Nag** and **Ashish Chowdhary**

- Teachers' Day was celebrated on 3rd September. (Detailed report follows...)
- Keshav Mohan participated in an Inter School Hindi Elocution Contest held at Riverdale High School on 11th September.
- SPIC MACAY organised a performance of Keralite Martial Art dance in school on 13th September.
- The English Dramatics Society organised a play called 'The Virtuous Burglar' on 15th September.
- The Senior and the Middle School were down with exam fever, as Mid-Term Examinations were held from September 15 to September 24.
- The school Music Team participated in 'Milestone' held at St. George's College on 22nd September. Vibhu Trehan stood first in the Hindi Solo singing while the choir won the Hindi Group singing.

Teachers Day

*Thou shall be them,
And them shall be thou,
Let thy souls know each other.*

September 3, 2007. A day similar to any other. Everything went on as usual. The sun rose at the appointed time. The birds chirped, the dogs barked, everyone went on with their daily chores. It was the same in Welham, a calm and peaceful day. But God had something else in store for us. Something which would make that normal day special. Something which would make that day unforgettable. Something which would be the cause for this day to be recorded in the history of Welham. Something which concerned Welhamites most closely. Something which would affect the lives of many and probably change them forever... The Teacher's Day Presentation.

It was a show which cannot be described in words. It made everyone laugh. It made everyone cheer. It made some frown. It made most grin. It made some squirm in their seats. It made most roll with laughter. It gave everyone a moment of fun. It gave everyone a reason to smile and for once forget their worries and lose themselves in a world full of fun...

From the complex maths problems of the 'DON' to the 'Mike Testing' of 'The' P.D and from the 'Wakei-Wakei' of Mr. Joy to 'You have the cheek' of the Big



'D', the show was as Bholu Aseem would have put it, 'A vicious cycle of laughter and action'.

Beside the fantastic ideas of 'Shootout at Dalanwala' and the 'Great Welham Laughter Challenge' (which the teachers will find difficult to better) even the legendary band 'Yaadon Ki Barat' is facing a crisis owing to the superb performances by some unexpected people. The band is keeping a close watch on our singers, specially the band leader 'D' who's still trying to figure out the meaning of Shivesh Tyagi's song. (Shivesh beware! You're in for a scare!)

Talking of being in for a scare, the person who undoubtedly got the biggest scare of his life (thanks to Abhinav Basu) was 'Kandi' or Mr. Mahesh Kandpal, the Senior Master of the 'whole' Welham Boys School. But he is not alone.....thanks to Ankit Saraf, Mr. Painuli is still having nightmares about Sabu and is forced to think twice before starting off 'Will you please.....' dialogues!!

The show itself had five parts – dances, songs, the Great Welham Laughter Challenge, and two plays, one by the eleventhies and one by twelfthies.

The chief dancers were Rishi Anand, Trishang Choudhry and Amit Adhikari. The 'Reshamiyas' for the evening were Akhilesh Jung, Shivesh Tyagi, and Vibhu Trehan. The Pro-Guitarists were Harsh Sharma, Vikas Arya, Prateek Modi and Samyam with Zayed as the 'hardcore' drummer.



The twelfthies dancing to the tunes of Jhoom Barabar Jhoom.

play, 'Big Trouble in Little Welham'. The 'Little Problem' was that the souls of the teachers had been exchanged with the soul of the boys in the course of the Staff vs. Students soccer match. It was a good fun to see the students, like teachers, bossing around. ('D' could do with some tuition!)

As for the Shootout at Dalanwala, the play by the twelfthies, the 'DON' showed his true colours while 'Kandy', 'Sabu', 'Dinky' and 'Ratan Chikna' and 'Dev Dolas' showed that they are the biggest 'gundas' around. But they still couldn't get the better of 'Bholu Aseem', 'CY', 'Kooky', 'Sandy' and 'Cool Joy', the loyal and trustworthy 'serapatis' of Welham.

All in all it was a brilliant and memorable evening. No doubt the teachers kept tossing and turning for the rest of the night (except for of course, 'Kandy' who must have been busy with his new Nokia N70 and DON, busy solving the leaked paper). And now the 'D' Company is gearing up for the Children's Day with the motto of "eent ka jawab, patthar se deinge". Well, all the best and once again Happy Teachers Day.

- Param Shah

IX C



A scene from the eleventhies' play, 'Big Trouble in Little Welham'

Suryanshu Vashishta starred in the Laughter Challenge while many represented Kandi, Sabu, Kukky, Mr. Joy, 'D' and the other teachers in the eleventhies

In the Memory of...

The Oliphant Memorial Inter School English Debate was held on 5th and 6th September. For the first time, Cambridge and Parliamentary Formats of debating were introduced in the school. The debates were conducted in three rounds, Preliminary – Oxford Style, Coalition – modified Parliamentary format and, Final – modified Cambridge format. Nine renowned schools of the country participated in the debate – the outstation



teams being The Mayo College Girls' School, The Vasant Valley School, St. George's College, Sherwood College and La Martiniere Girls' College and the local teams were Rashtriya Indian Military College, The Doon School, Welham Girls' School and the hosts Welham Boys School.



The debating team from Vasant Valley School receiving the trophy

The first day saw these teams battle it out in the Preliminary Round. The teams were divided into two pools and simultaneous debates were held in the Pools. The topic under fire in Pool A was "Sex Education is a Job for Parents and not for Teachers" and in Pool B "The Right to privacy should be Absolute". In this round of Oxford Style Debating, The Rashtriya Indian Military College and Vasant Valley School qualified from Pool A and, Mayo College Girls' School and St. George's College qualified from Pool B.

Immediately after the Preliminary Round, topics were drawn for the Coalition and Final Rounds to be held on the following day. A combined team of Mayo College Girls' School and Rashtriya Indian Military College was pitted against the combined team of St. George's College and Vasant Valley School. In the Coalition Round the side with a higher total, Proposition or Opposition, qualifies as a whole on the basis of team total. The topic being argued in this round was "Nude Art is Lewd Art". This round saw a highly mature style of debating by both sides and after stiff competition, the Opposition comprising St. George's College and Vasant Valley School made it to the finals. As the 'Manorites' had a higher total than the speakers of Vasant Valley, they had the option to choose between being the Proposition or the Opposition in the final round and they chose the latter.

After a short tea break, the teams and the audience geared up for the final battle and the topic of debate was "Family Values are Highly Overrated". After such a gruelling journey to the finals, one expected the teams to give their best and so they did. A round that was full of powerful arguments and action packed rebuttals had everyone glued to their seats. As each of the six speakers seemed to perform better than the other, it was getting rather difficult to guess who would eventually be able to 'out-speak' the other. In the end, the all enthusiastic trio of Aishani Gupta, Dhritiman Murti and Bhavik Singh from the Vasant Valley School proved their mettle and defeated St. George's by a narrow margin.

The evening's debates were chaired by Dr. Johann Sebastian Gruschke. The panel of judges for the evening were Ms. Anjali Nauriyal, Ms. Neenu Puri and Mr. Suresh Bakshi.

On 8th September, the 3rd Inter School Financial Studies Quiz was held. Out of the eight schools that participated, Riverdale High School and Mayo College were eliminated in a preliminary written round held in the morning. The teams that qualified for the final round



The jubilant Mayo Girls' College quiz team with the trophy

were Sherwood College, Mayo College Girls' School, Vasant Valley School, Welham Girls' School, La Martiniere Girls' College and Welham Boys.

The final round was a treat to watch as Mayo Girls' emerged winners after a staggering performance in the Buzzer Round. Sherwood College were Runners-up. The Chief Guest for the evening was Prof. B. S. Bist.

For three days, the school was treated to an information fiesta which has inspired some youngsters to take up debating and quizzing.

NEWS - Nonsensical

Democratically, for everybody who enforces rules there is another who waives them. For the government we have the opposition, for the criminals we have the judiciary and for the diplomats we have the President. However a body which exercises complete independence is ironically termed as the fourth estate of the democracy – the media.

Despite the maxim often quoted by journalists that *sabze tez khabar wahi jo sach dikhaye*, the media of today is corrupt in every way possible. So much so that often real news is lost in the din of competition and sensationalism.

A person regularly following the news today may be aware of the microscopic details of Aishwarya Rai's marriage. Even a child watching the news knows the amount of money spent on her clothes but only a minority among us is aware of the death of Dr. Chandrashekar which co-incidentally occurred within days of the wedding. While all newspapers chose to place the much hyped wedding right on the front page, Dr. Chandrashekar's death received an obscure mention as if no one cared. We all knew when Prince William lost his gun in the training camp in England. However, no one knows the actual number of army officers who sacrifice their lives in Kashmir - not for anybody else but us.

The moment Dr. Haneef was taken into custody in England, news channels all over the country flashed his photo. From his academic records to his sporting achievements, everything about him was on the front page of every newspaper one could lay hands on. His family was tortured as if they were terrorists even though nothing had been proved against him. His parents stayed indoors for two days to avoid the media outside. He was proved innocent but was denied an Australian passport. He could not live as he did earlier only because he had been tagged by the media as a terrorist although he never was one. For the media it was only a page and more papers sold, but for him, his entire life.

Why do we need to know about Aamir Khan's second wife who was never there? Why was the Mika-Rakhi kiss rolled over a thousand times when it was done only once? Today's media sets out in its quest for popularity and money even if it means showing an overexposed Mallika Sherawat or for that matter a woman beating up a man with a bamboo stick within the

privacy of her walls. Whatever happened to the scrupulous Barkha Dutt and Rajdeep Sardesai who constitute a minority?

In a country where more than half the population still lives in villages, where only a few are educated in the literal sense of the word, where everyone chooses to be changed by the system rather than change the system, media reaches everyone. However, it can be termed as the fourth estate only if it educates us rather than fill us with sensational galvanic news.

- Praharsh Agarwal

X B

The Legend of Goldsmith Lives On

One of the most popular figures in English Literature was the Irishman Oliver Goldsmith, an inhabitant of the famous Grub Street in London – an assistant to an apothecary, an usher in a school and according to some a hack writer. Oliver Goldsmith was probably born at Pallas, a small village in country Longford, in Ireland, and was the son of the poor but admirable curate of the village.

In 1744 Goldsmith moved to Dublin and after some misadventures graduated from the Trinity College. He tried various careers like law, medicine and playing the flute at different places including Dublin, Edinburgh, Leyden, Venice and Padua.

Oliver was a shiftless and improvident man, yet generous and humane. His bright-piercing flashes of humour and insight are remarkable ("When lovely woman stoops to folly" is one of his famous witty lines).

Oliver Goldsmith is famous for his poem "The Deserted Village" where he idealises his own village Pallas and talks about his school teacher. His teacher, though a strict disciplinarian with a stern appearance was the most knowledgeable person in the village. He could challenge the village parson for long debates. The people in the village admired him and wondered as to how his small head carried so much knowledge.

"And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew.
That one small head could carry all he knew."

Besides The Deserted Village, another poem "Traveller" records his impressions of France, Switzerland and Italy, where he had wandered on foot. This poem has a characteristic charm and grace and reveals

a picture of the suffering of the poor, where "laws grind the poor and rich men make the laws."

Though not an established playwright, yet Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer" earned enough fame and popularity. He was the member of the famous Dr. Johnson's club (Dr. Samuel Johnson was another towering literary giant of his age who is famous for his Dictionary of the English Language).

Oliver Goldsmith's broad outlook, his sympathetic treatment of people, simplicity of humour and pathos will never be forgotten with time.

- Dr. Bidyut Bose

Cold-blooded

As I enter, the cabin is full of smoke
Musty odours fill the air, as the cabin doors
Open up like the gates to hell
The deed has been done.

The deed that took a cold hearted decision
There lies he, who had not even the slight ideas.
He sits in the same way on the chair as he used to
Yet there is a difference.
No longer does his pulse race, no longer does his mind
think.
The veins have gone dry, like the rivers in the years
gone.

There are flies about him, where he has been torn
apart. A dagger
stands through him.
With no shame does it bleed him,
mercilessly as it has done for so many years.

A lizard is watching the whole episode, he's the only
one in the room who is knowledgeable about the
prologue.

It sits there, in a certain muse.
A fly came near the body.
The lizard jumps, gobbles it up
and goes back to the dark corners of its origin.

- Jatan Soni
IX B

Letters to the Principal

Dear Sir,

The other day my husband Dr. Jakhmola was invited by Cambrian Hall School to preside over an Inter School Hindi Debate Competition; and I had the privilege of giving away the prizes. Two Welham Boys students, Chirag Garg and Keshav Mohan were also there among the participants.

Since my grandson Manoviraj is also a part of your school family, I made it a point to talk to these boys. During the course of the conversation I came to know that your boys got ready for the debate at very short notice of two days while other participants had prior information about it and enough time to practice. I found it commendable that your boys spoke fluently with confidence and clear diction.

You really deserve congratulations for steering the institution towards betterment. I have also heard you speak a couple of times which always make me happy and elated. In your speech there seemed utter sincerity, conviction and love for the work you are doing. Since I have been a teacher for a long time I could relate to your value-based ideas. I am sure the children of your school will come out as better citizens.

May God bless you and your dedicated and well motivated team.

With fond regards,

Mrs. Jakhmola

Respected Sir,

I'd like to thank you and Ma'am and all the teachers of the Welham Community for all that you've done for us. We've been nurtured under your care and guidance and will strive to deliver a difference in this society of ours. We hope to take the school's name 'From Strength to Strength' and wish that Welham produces unique individuals year after year under your care and guidance. The youth of today have a lot of potential and they just need the right guidance which they can get with your support.

Once again, I would like to wish all teachers of the Welham Community on the occasion of Teacher's Day and thank them for their support.

- Akshay Aggarwal
Batch of 2006-07

Dear Sir and Ma'am.

Hope you are keeping well. I apologize for not writing to you earlier because I thought I'd write to you only when I start getting a feel of things at Stephen's. First and foremost - I MISS SCHOOL!!! I can't tell you how different this place is from school. I miss the teachers scolding me and making me study ...I miss the school food, (much better than the college dining hall), the uniform and I daresay, I even miss going for PT..!

After observing and chatting with various Stephanians I have come to the conclusion that people from boarding schools are poles apart from dayskies (a term they use for day scholars) in terms of their thinking and perspective towards life. We do have an assembly everyday which is compulsory for fuchhas (freshers) to attend. It often reminds me of school because the principal, though not that good a public speaker, talks about an enlightening issue everyday. The election campaigning was in full swing till today. Tomorrow we cast our vote for president, who, I have discovered has not much work to do. I've been slotted a room in Rudra north - M -10, which is supposedly the hottest room in college. I've been compensated by getting a table fan. My roommate's name is V. Lashito and he's from Nagaland. Apart from the fact that he smokes profusely, he is a nice person to talk to and has promised to teach me how to play the guitar. Initially I found college very boring but now I'm so busy that I don't have time to breathe. I've joined a couple of societies and shocking as it may be, I've taken hockey as a sport.

To tell you the truth, the teachers and everybody doesn't give a damn about anybody. You have to study by yourself, research by yourself and everyone is there to outdo each other. I guess that's what college life is all about. Yet, when I go to other colleges and I compare ...I see a huge difference in the working style of Stephen's and other colleges. There is this certain aura about this college which makes you want to work more, know more, learn more...

Ajitesh Kir
(Batch of 2006-07)

An Egotistical Mind

I don't need any friends.... I don't need any one's support to survive in this big bad world... I can manage without any one I am the best ...I don't want to say sorry to anyone whether it is my mistake or not ...In other words "I DON'T GIVE A DAMN".....

We often think like this whenever we feel every one is against us, including our friends. This is what the world calls Ego. Ego is a state of mind which forces us to believe that we are the only living beings in this world. This, of course, is an imaginary situation. Life is fast paced. People don't have time for each other and with this egoism is on the rise. Why do people have an ego? Have you ever wondered why you do not go and say sorry to your friend even after you have committed a mistake and you know it? It's simple. Because you think you don't want to bend before any one including your best friend and say sorry to him. Why don't people realise that "SORRY" is a magical word which can heal wounds of those who have been hurt by our behaviour? Why is it that people think that by saying sorry they are bending before someone and not that they are rising in the eyes of those they are saying sorry to?

It's not bad to have some ego but we should not take it to the level of attitude and think only "Me, Myself & My life". Ego and attitude share the same platform but they are at different levels with ego on the lower level i.e. they differ in degree and not in kind. With increase in 'attitude', people who care for us start liking us less as we become big headed and start thinking on the lines of "ME, ME & only ME". It depends from person to person how one takes this decrease in affection from ones friends. We are different in our ideologies and beliefs. But believe me, no one is going very far in this world with this ideology of "ME, ME & Only ME", as we all need a person at some stage who can support us through tough times and show us the way.

A person with a measured ego and attitude takes criticism in his stride and does not think that the other person is trying to pull him down by criticising him. That's where our level of maturity comes into play. But unfortunately, a person who thinks too highly of himself does not like to take criticism from anyone including his best friends. And that is when people start thinking of that person as having too much of an attitude and ego. Many relationships have suffered in the past and will keep on suffering due to this ego and attitude factor. Many a time after a fight or a disagreement, friends, lovers and family members keep waiting for the other person to take the first step. In this waiting game no one does. Ultimately this deadlock can lead to the end of affection between two people. So why can we not lay aside our ego and make a new beginning with the ones we care for the most? With people at high positions, the case of an inflated ego is quite evident as they can not



bear a junior overruling them even if it leads to efficiency at work. Why do we let our egos take control of ourselves and hamper our style? These questions are a few of the many which affect our daily lives. Ask yourself and then please do tell me as I have not been able to find their answers myself.....

Sorting out myself
- Awijit Paliwal
XII Hum

(The following essay won the 1st prize in the Kandhari Essay Writing Contest)

My Autobiography

*Long ago a young soul was born,
And between a thousand dreams he was torn;
Today he sits here a pearl one of a kind
With the heart so willed and one hell of a mind.*

Hi. I'm here to tell you a story. This story will have everything you are looking for- grip, action, adventure, tragedy, so I guess there's no reason for you to walk away and choose something else...

Long, long ago another one of the million souls landed upon this Earth. Let's just call him Loser. Loser was the bullied epicentre of his school. He had no strength to fight his way through anything. Loser's parents did not know of this, Loser was just too scared to tell them. He was a brilliant child his average never fell below the 85% mark. He was what you'd call the perfect kid. He was the favourite of every teacher, and thus he was loathed by his fellow mates. They were just jealous. Loser was proud of himself. But everyday before coming to school, he would stand before God and pray, or rather beg Him, for a better day. But each day turned out to be worse than the previous one. If you wanted to meet Loser, you could either find him in the front row during class time or near the garbage box during lunch, having lunch alone. During break time you could find him sitting on a broken bench, which, was only used by the bearers. Loser's life was totally in pieces. One day, he decided to ask his classmates to let him play with them. They agreed, and you could say that he was the happiest person on earth. As he climbed up a swing, he heard a malicious snigger behind. Then, he knew. Six hours later, Loser woke up, fully bandaged. He vowed never to go back to that place. Loser's name was now Relief.

But as we all know education is necessary, so it was decided that Relief would start boarding school. Relief was lost for words. Relief's name was now Depressed. Six weeks later, Depressed started his new life. He realized that his life was better than earlier. He met people of his own kind. And for the first time in his life, Depressed felt happy, felt the power of friendship. A year later, he passed the entrance test for one of the best schools of the country, and Depressed, now Happy, felt great. Soon Happy was called Proud. Proud was really glad that he was good enough for one of the best schools of the country. But then he realized he would be leaving behind his friends. Proud was so emotionally attached to them that he was torn apart. Proud's name was changed to Torn Apart. Finally, Torn Apart, after crying a bit embarked upon his achieved success- a place called Welham. Torn Apart slowly adjusted. He felt happy again. Now he was Relieved. Relieved continued to live on. He faced every type of bullying, pain and heartache. Now he knew life. He fully understood it. He discovered his talents, writing poetry, computers, tennis, film-making...and before all of that he learned lessons not found in books-what he learned was a lot but in a few words, he learned how to live a cheerful life. Relieved never became Winner, he was smart enough to skip it. He directly reached Jaskunwar Singh Kohli. He felt like himself, the real himself. He had finally achieved his name, and that award was the best one he ever got-better than his badge, his certificate, his trophy. It was the toughest competition of his life, and he had won it. And you couldn't call him the happiest human on Earth, but he was happy. And that was all that mattered.

So you see what a fascinating journey life is...and living it the way you want to, is the best prize. And, it is the best. No question. Now run along and rock on!

*Enjoy yourself but leave behind your mark;
So that people see your soul even in the dark.*

- Jaskunwar Singh Kohli
IX B

Let's Save our Planet

Just as no player alone can win a match, I too can't save the Earth from the destruction it faces in the near future all by myself. So it is my plea to all to rise above selfishness and work towards saving our planet.

Nowadays gossip-mongers are busy with long hours of chit-chatting with buddies about the rapid degradation of the planet. But the main problem is that



talking about this issue is all they are doing. Most newspapers, magazines, television shows, etc. are highlighting a lot of the 'hot' environmental issues, such as global warming, the fight for potable water or in other words WW III. But howsoever great the efforts of the media and all the environmentalists may be, a large number of people – almost three-fourth of the population, are still ignorant of the danger they face in the very near future.

Even today people use things that are harmful to the environment, such as CFC (spray cans, ACs, refrigerators), excessive use of fossil fuels, power-stations, polyester based by-products, and a long list of things. Although environmentalists are trying their level best to provoke the masses of couch-potatoes to start working towards making the world a better place to live in, yet people are turning a deaf ear towards these pleas and requests. Poaching too has become a major cause of degradation as it is causing a disturbance in the natural food chains.

People nowadays, especially a large number of industrialists, are draining out waste from industries without even segregating or treating it, so they can profit a bit more. This is causing a lot of harm to the environment, especially as it is making the water and lands unusable by the people inhabiting around them. Excessive use of fossil fuels is causing pollution in the atmosphere leading to a lot of disturbances in weather phenomenon. For example, acid rain has become abundant now, the weather patterns are changing, and of course the hole in the ozone layer is much more prominent. Even collecting rain water is considered unsafe since the air is being polluted so much.

The most dangerous issue, possibly, is of a new Ice Age dawning upon our planet. If that happens only God can foretell what will happen. But there is a large number of people at hand who are trying their best to do as much as they can for Mother Earth that has served and nourished them since time eternal. They cannot bear to see their Mother Earth deteriorate into nothingness. Scientists, conservationists and environmentalists are all trying to find ways of reducing the amount of pollution. They are also trying to find alternative methods and substances to replace pollutants such as CFCs and fossil fuels. But their effort alone isn't enough. It is our duty to help them in this noble cause and by doing so we shall repay Mother Earth for all the bounty she has bestowed on us. And so we shall also ensure that future generations

will also have a beautiful world to live in, that is, of course, if at all this world survives.

- Prakarsh Ravi

IX B

The Virtuous Burglar

'The Virtuous Burglar' is a hilarious play by the renowned Italian playwright Dario Fo. It pokes fun at social morality and the hypocrisy of those in public life, the affairs they engage in and the deceit practiced by both men and women in society.

The 'complex' comedy is about a burglar, who is honestly dedicated to his profession and breaks into the house of a rich politician. A series of unexpected circumstances force him to hide in the antique 'Grandfather Clock'. This is followed by the entry of the man, his mistress, the burglar's wife and the burglar, the man's wife and her lover and another burglar which leads to confusion, tension and a whole lot of misunderstandings.

In the end, it's the burglar and his wife who are the most virtuous and faithful.

It was truly a great chance for us to showcase our talents and more importantly realize the true potential of the Middle School.

The theatre workshop was held by Mr. Shrey Nagalia, which was followed by some serious rehearsals along with naughty pranks and a lot of fun.

The best thing according to me was the character selection. All the roles were just perfect. Angelo Jornati, the virtuous burglar (Gaurika Mehta) who had Maria, a dim-wit and a nag for a wife, the romantic and unpredictable politician (Rohan Sharma) and his beautiful ladylove (Vinay Banerjee), witty and elegant Anna (Chirag Joshi), the man's wife and her dominant and suspicious lover Antonio (Aviral Chopra) and the innocent second burglar (Lokesh). But I feel the real heroes were the backstage crew. From the people who handled the lights (Laxman Thangley and Anshuman Kapoor) and sound (Pulkit Bhuwalka and Paras Singhal) to the curtains (Harshit Gupta), everyone's joint effort and team work made the entire show possible.

Opportunities like this are a great chance for personal realization, enrichment and exposure. This production has built a bond among all the participants which has resulted in a beautiful friendship.

- Gaurika Mehta

VII C



Dude of the Month

The saviour of many a broken heart, this man has been one of the few in Welham to understand our heart rendering love stories. He's here without fail everyday at 4 p.m. to manage his little but seriously comfortable dugout, in the Hughes Block, known by the name 'Surendra Communications' (though I acutely believe that most of us may not know it for sheer lack of interest in anything else except the person on the other side of the line.)



The 'dude' in the phonebooth

'Vikas' has been the catalyst in otherwise tepid romances. For all the generous help he has extended, I hear that people are even planning to invite him as a guest of honour to celebrations if something of the sort materializes. Talk about gratitude in the matters of the heart...

"Praise makes good men better and bad men worse!" - Thomas Fuller

Hope the former is applicable over here..

Through the Keyhole

Shivang Juneja to MT: Ma'am, have you done the *surprise checking*?

Kunwar Lauren to 9 'C': Guys, go to the practical lab.

Sahil Choudhary to Param Shah: *After dinner se pehle kya kar raha tha?*

Mr. Bhandari to Ankit and Awijit (after he caught them flying paper aeroplanes): You Laurel and Hardy, *I will put you on the aeroplane and fly it from Shikhar House and then when you land in the Main Field, I will bash you up.*

Harsh Pratap to his classmates – It is an advantage for me that there are only three eleventhies in Krishna House. Next year the other two will sit on the High Table and *me and Mr. Joy – candlelight dinner.*

Separated at Birth

Akhilesh Jung
Vibhu Trehan
Ayush Agarwal
Dr. Bidyut Bose
Navandeep Matta

Faizan Rasool
Bikalpa Malla
Abhishek Singh
Mr. Rohit Bakshi

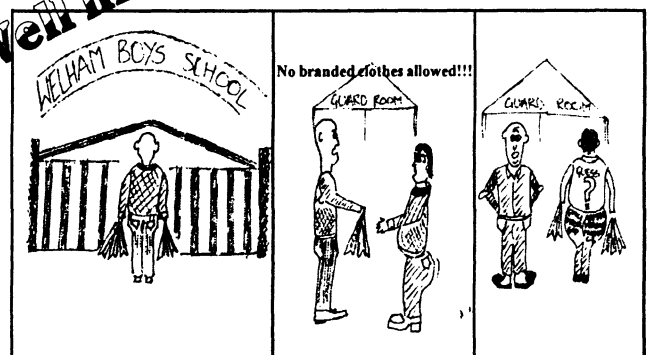
Mr. Siraj Ansari
Gautam Gambhir
Mr. Mahesh Kandpal
Mr. Ajay Bahuguna
Baljeet Kaur
(Chak De India)
Adhiraj Sen
Amit Adhikari
Joginder Sharma
Dhoni

Ever Wonder Why

- "You have the cheek..." has become rare these days?
- Mr. Joy Arora is trying hard to change his accent?
- Welhamites know the ball-to-ball detail of each T20 match even though the examinations were on?
- Mr. Kandpal has stopped using his cell phone in public?
- Why Suryanshu Vasishta is on the hit list of every teacher in school?

By Aftab Singh Sandhu

Well...hmm...



Monthly Quiz

1. What is the 'Rama Setu' controversy about?
2. Why did the Buddhist monks stage a protest in Myanmar recently?
3. Who is the chairman of NDTV?
4. Who is the author of the famous controversial book 'Affluent Society'?
5. In the memory of which British architect was the Rashtrapati Bhavan gardens thrown open for the common people? Hint: He was the architect of the Rashtrapati Bhavan.
6. Which match was decided upon through the first ever bowl-out in the T20 format? Name the bowlers on either side?
7. What was the main reason behind the bullish tendency of the stock market recently?
8. Which river in Russia depleted completely due to excess irrigation in the last decade?
9. Which anti-Israel Palestinian Party is currently ruling over the Gaza strip?
10. Who has written 'The History of Welham'?

The answers to the last issue's quiz are...

- Ans1. China
 Ans 2. Robotic mechanics and movement
 Ans 3. Salma Hayek
 Ans 4. Chile
 Ans 5. Mugabeh
 Ans 6. Riyo Movi
 Ans 7. 153
 Ans 8. Digambar Kamat
 Ans 9. Manchester United
 Ans 10. Forest Whitaker

The Pizza is sponsored by CHOCOLATE CORNER, Dehra Dun. The Domino's pizza for the last issue's quiz was won by no one.

Ringside View

The sports news has finally begun to overflow in our small office. We have seen our share of victories and defeats. We did start on a good note and all our teams were seen on the fields ready for the final showdown.

The season started for our football teams as they played many tournaments at all levels. Under constant pressure did these young professionals manage to perform miracles at all times (though some were not in our favour). All over the world the season was for football. 'Leagues' were coming up at various places on earth. Welham also began its Inter-House Football Tournament this month. The first round of the tournament finished with Cauvery House I at the top of the table with six points. Jamuna, Cauvery's nemesis, was right behind with five points and the only team to beat Cauvery till now. Krishna House grabbed the third place with four points and Ganga managed only one point. With the next round after the Mid-Term break, all Houses are once again gearing up.

As for outside the school, the soccer team performed well but was not up to the mark, as is evident from the empty trophy cabinet. The jinx seems to haunt us forever. Our opening match in the first tournament was with the Doon Presidency School in the 6th Om Prakash Soccer Tournament. We thrashed them 9-0. It sure was a good start. We continued with the winning streak and met The Doon School in the semi-finals. It was a match much awaited by all and we won 1-0. But the team again lost in the finals against Carman School, 2-0. The disappointment could be seen clearly on the face of our players.

The next tournament on the list of the football team, was the coveted RIMC Cup. The inaugural match between Welham and RIMC was put on hold for sometime due to rain. When the match started again, all hell broke loose and we lost by a goal. The next match in our group stage was once again much awaited. This time we beat The Doon School 3-0. But we were humiliatingly silenced by The Woodstock School in the Quarters. We lost 4-0. Then we proceeded for the Councils. It was a bitter disappointment after we lost 1-0 to The Aryan School in the Quarter Finals again. Every hope of silverware being frustrated, the Welhamites grudgingly walked back to school and now can be seen with their guns trained on the second-leg of the Inter-House Football.



All the while the senior team was away; our sub-junior football team also seemed busy with its own campaigns. They took part in the Carbery Soccer Tournament hosted by The Carman School. Their performance was outstanding as it could be seen on the score board. Their group consisted of Tibetan Home, Cambrian Hall and St. Jude's School. They defeated all the teams and scored a total of 14 goals and conceded only one. It was a dream start for any team and our juniors proved themselves better than their seniors. Then defeating Carman School in the quarters 3-0, they avenged the defeat of the Om Prakash finals. The team progressed into the final defeating Mussoorie Modern School 2-1. For the finals the team departed to Mussoorie from the school in high spirits. All the toiling in the sun and hard work had paid off and now they were in the finals. The finals with St. Georges College ended with a 3-1 victory for the Tiny Tots of Welham. They really taught something to their seniors.

The Junior Inter-House Football season ended with Jamuna lifting the trophy after years of being the underdogs. Krishna had to bitterly take the second slot followed by Ganga and then Cauvery at the bottom. With this win, Jamuna secured some precious points for the Best House Sports Trophy over Cauvery. The race now for the Sports Trophy is really on with Jamuna now in the lead with Cauvery right behind. Krishna currently at third position and Ganga after years of dominance is fourth.



Another surprising addition to the schools sports list was the Badminton Tournament for the staff. It was a source of fun and entertainment for both the students and the teachers. The Mixed-Doubles category was won by Mrs. Sangeeta Singh and Mr. Mishra. The Doubles in male category was won by Mr. Yadav and Mr. Painuli.

Among all these busy sports schedules, Welhamites never missed a single match of India in the T20 World Cup. It was a real roller coaster ride for all the die-hard fans of the national team as they entered the finals defeating all the other great teams like Australia, England and South Africa. The final was against Pakistan and it was a match not to be missed. With Pathan making up for his earlier mistakes and Gambhir battering the Pakistani bowlers, the match seemed in India's favour. But Pakistan was not going to give up easily and came back until Misbah in the end made an error and Pakistan lost its last wicket and the finals.

Now looking into the future, The Inter-House Athletics and Basketball Tournament are not far away. The Houses after the Mid-Term Break are marching all over the campus. Its one trophy which everyone wants to see in their common room. With Ganga out of the race and Krishna planning to upset all the others, Cauvery and Jamuna are for now keeping a watchful eye on each other. For rest of the Sports news, stay tuned for the next Ringside View.

- Anesh Gurung
XII H

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