



THE OLIPHANT

NO. 117

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

1st June, 1991

THINK ABOUT IT

*Sin recognized - but that - may keep us humble.
But oh, it keeps us nasty.*

Stevie Smith



Editorial

"I want to go to Law School. I've always wanted to be a lawyer, but I may end up doing something completely different. Perhaps I may become a *chef* or play soccer for a club. Infact, I may not pursue an academic career at all. However, I do think Law training would be good to have." A slightly confused, nevertheless confident Welhamite options his futuristic plans. Now you're confused. Without beating about the bush any further, I shall come straight to the point. I refer to the career counselling lecture held recently by the Institute for Career Studies. The lecture has certainly worked wonders for the two senior batches (i.e. eleventh and twelfth). It seems that their potential has only been realised and awakened to quite a start - only in the opposite direction. The academically strong

no longer wish to pursue a career along those lines, while our man from Hollywood (well, in the near future, of course) is headed for mechanical engineering.

The two specimen examples sound sincerely optimistic about their respective to be (hopefully) careers. However, as a pessimistic Welhamite put it across "Optimists are they who have never had much experience". Now, that's mean. In actuality they are the sort, who get freed by a lion and enjoy the scenery (could there be any worse?).

Well, 'confidence', one is told, is the keyword. Also redefined by our pessimist on campus as 'Simply that quiet assured feeling you have before you fall flat on your face'.

Elsewhere, the countdown to the end of the term has only just begun. The term is drawing to a close once again and like any other end of term, the excitement mounts by the day. Stubbles and frowns are rare. Notice, a dazed Welhamite walk straight into a pole, with that silly grin on his face, only to be overheard saying "Excuse me, would you please mind where you walk".

Amongst other awards and honours looked forward to during special assembly is a very special honour. Signing the book of punctuality (something that if you have it, there is often no one around to share it with). Truly a difficult task and the deservers sincerely deserve it.

At this, I shall leave you to fend for yourselves, but just before I wind up this term's editorial, I must

bring to your notice an observation which shows just how well acquainted Welhamites are with the rein pullers of The Oliphant.

Well, lets put it this way. There were these two brothers. As luck would have it, one went to sea while the other became editor of The Oliphant. Nothing was ever heard of the two. This is in reaction to a very innocent question asked in person, "Who is the editor of The Oliphant?"

Meanwhile, the nation is grief stricken at the death of a leader and so is Welham. Not only, as the Principal said, because he was a great leader but because he was one of us, a son of Welham. A period of mourning was observed by the Welham Community.

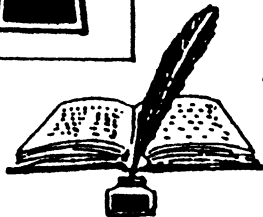
-Varun N. Bhaskar
Editor

* * *

Through the Keyhole



SS to Munish Suri after noticing his indifferent attitude at getting average marks in commerce :
"Your cold attitude will lead you straight to a cold storage!!"



The Literary Affairs of Welham

The Sword of Democles

Of all God's creations,
Of all God's men
The Kings, they are rubber stamps now,
But they were pretty famous then!!

It was them who ruled the country,
It was them who made the laws.
They held the portfolios,
Under them even worked the chisels and saws!!

Crazy people. Oh! yes they were,
But they were respected much.
Never again will monarchy come back,
At least not as such!!

Some were frightfully gullible,
A few quite charming.
Yet being enigmatic,
Some were very harming!!

But there is one king,
About him is an interesting tale.
His wits were very remarkable,
And his heart was as sweet as a nightingale!!

He had a vast kingdom,
He lived a luxurious life.
Coveted by each of us,
He had a brain as sharp as a knife!!

But he is not famous for his wisdom,
Nor did his long rule bring him much glory.
It is the tale that has brought him fame,
It you hear it, you will not be sorry!!

It was on a blessed morning,
In his royal stage-coach he gracefully rode.
All cleared the way when he went by,
Sun rays fell upon him, his eyes merrily glowed!!

The driver felt proud and happy,
To see every one bow his head.
He smiled with pleasure and pride,
But he knew not, that he would soon be dead!!

The King was going to a friend's house,
One not very rich, not too poor.
And that is why he went not as a King,
Oblivious of peril's spoor!!

They sped away the country side,
And unto the forest's track.
Now could be heard twittering birds,
And various ducks' quacks!!

Upon this narrow road,
Was a camouflaged hole,
It was wide and deep. Oh! yes it was,
It seemed to be made by some accursed mole!!

But the driver was a busy man,
He looked at the beautiful horizon with impressed eyes.
And the depression broke the weak wooden wheel.
Down went the driver with howls and cries!!

The wagon tumbled down the gentle slope,
Delirium struck the King's mind.
He felt his final destiny near him,
If he lived, God would be very kind!!

The battered door opened abruptly, hit some tree,
Democles went tumbling, a nearby stream took
him in.
Everything seemed to blacken out,
He thought he saw the Devil's nasty grin!!

The King's friend looked disappointedly out,
He saw no blessed wagon come.
His shoulders dropped, his eyelids fell
He had stopped to hum!!

Sunset would soon be there,
And the dinner food lay on the table.
He lost hope of the King's arriving,
Seeing the evening wind rustle the trees of maple!!

Night had descended long ago,
Democles wagon had not returned yet.
Of letting him go alone,
The wise men in the palace began to regret!!

The King's daughter was worried a lot,
And so was his beloved spouse.
But they knew not the King's fate,
He lay in a woodcutter's house!!

The woodcutter pressed the King's legs,
And the serious wounds were well done.
There are many woodcutters on Earth,
But never would you find such a one!!

And there was chaos in the King's kingdom,
For he was not to be found.
And the woodcutter's house deep in the woods,
Couldn't be sniffed out by the royal hound!!

The woodcutter kept the king well,
He soon would be absolutely fine.
His house will be blessed, he thought,
When with them the King would dine!!

Looking everywhere his eyes fell above him,
And he got the shock of his life.
For from the ceiling hung a sword,
Hanging by so thin a thread that it could be cut
with a blunt knife!!

He screwed his awestruck eyes on Democles,
And he saw his sarcastic grin.
Oh! the dazzling blade,
It made his head spin!!

The ferocious sword was right over him,
At him it silently glared down.
He sweat so much,
That Democles laughed at his wet gown!!

Hours passed and noon approached,
His eyes lay fixed on the sword.
He thought pleading to the Almighty,
"Spare me, dear Lord!!"

Noon came inevitably,
But everything was at a standstill.
The courtiers and the wise men,
Began to grow severely ill!!

Then came the afternoon,
His face was like a carved stone.
He thought sarcastically,
"Well done, O king! Very well done!!"

The last moment of the evening neared,
The King was happy at his wit.
The woodcutter lay motionless,
And Democles was not scared a bit!!

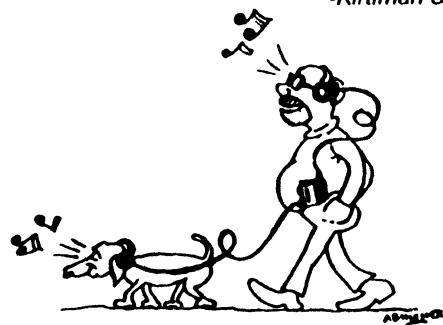
Evening passed slowly away,
And so did a day's time.
"Its an unfair trick," the woodcutter thought,
"I call it a crime!!"

The woodcutter was cleanly outwitted,
And Democles came back to the throne.
All that he could do now,
Was sadly groan!!

"You have won, O great King",
The woodcutter quietly said.
His steps echoed in the bowels of the palace,
As he left, with a lowly head!!

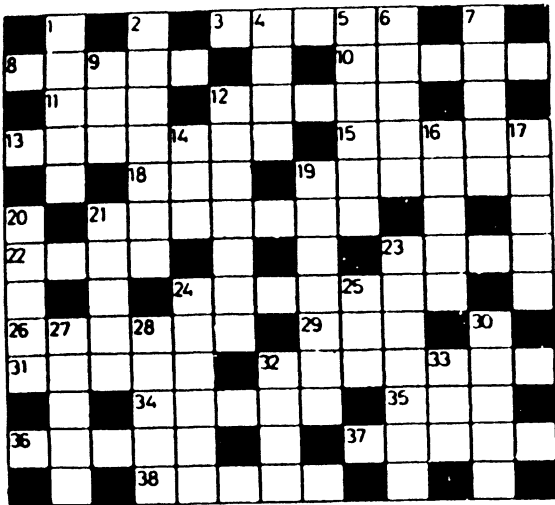
And this tale has been passed from one genera-
tion to the other,
It has travelled deep in the mountains and over the
seas.
And has been named after this great King, as,
The Sword of Democles!!

-Kirtiman Singh



Man's Best Friend

Brain Teasers



12 Snail, 13 Hissing, 15 Flue, 17 Once, 18 Stress, 19 Frets, 20 Repeat, 22 Isle, 24 Die, 25 Tractor, 26 Pilot, 27 Shrug, 28 Takes, 29 Bulldog, 30 Prose, 31 Messy.

DOWN

2 Attain, 3 Cheese, 4 Hod, 5 Sting, 6 Egoists, 7 Bell, 8 Novels, 12 Snort, 13 Hoard, 14 Scope, 15 Feast, 16 Usher, 18 Start, 19 Fatigue, 21 Either, 22 Ice- age, 23 Lovers, 25 Tools, 26 Pubs, 28 Tom.

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Welham Now

- * Jamuna won the C section hockey trophy.
- * The Principal returned from his trip to Nepal.
- * The A house entertainment was held on Saturday the 18th.
- * We bid farewell to Miss S. Singh. Our best wishes are with her.

* * *

Lampoon

ACROSS

3 Digging implement (5), 8 Yet (5), 10 Aquatic animal (5), 11 Flightless bird (3), 12 Songbird (5), 13 Skipper (7), 15 Playfully annoy (5), 18 Can (3), 19 Counterfeited (6), 21 Eternally (7), 22 Paradise (4), 23 Ego (4), 24 Fundamental nature (7), 26 Envoy (6), 29 Regret (3), 31 Obsessive (5), 32 Social Conduct (7), 34 Group of fish (5), 35 Age (3), 36 Beautiful girl (5), 37 Fashion (5), 38 Proclamation (5).

DOWN

1 Cut of beef (5), 2 Greedy person (7), 4 Ache (4), 5 Medical man (6), 6 Anaesthetic (5), 7 Property contract (5), 9 Little devil (3), 12 Elegant skill (7), 14 Simple tune (3), 16 Concur (5), 17 Improve (5), 19 Form of government (7), 20 Kingdom (5), 21 Pretend (5), 23 Theatrical backcloths (7), 24 Engraved with acid (6), 25 Sister (3), 27 Artist's stand (5), 28 Part of church (5), 30 Honest (5), 32 Bolan, former pop star (4), 33 Before (3)

Last Time's Solution

ACROSS

1 Ranch, 6 Ebony, 9 Hostage, 10 Sixed, 11 Olive,



Everytime I make heavy plans of studying during the holidays. But somehow or the other they never materializes. This time I've made some determined plans, otherwise I'll be doomed, as my boards are not far away. I am already getting the hint. I'll not be able to ... lets hope not.

Jagmeet 'Determined' Kolhi

Holidays are lots of fun. Besides sleeping, games, movies, there will be food! As you know I am the undisputed champ of grub. So I am really looking forward to going home and a straight attack at the fridge. I'll be able to discover the surprises in store. But before that don't forget the goodby dinner

Sharib Khan

I am basically going to have a party time. There are a few things I have in mind. Firstly I shall buy some really cool clothing (bermudas, Ray Bans, T-shirts, formal shirts etc from Banetton, Dash or Weekender). This will certainly improve my dazzling looks. Secondly I shall have a healthy socialising programme, so I better ask guys having a good social scene to give me an intro. Then don't you think I'll have all the qualities of a mover? What follows will be history.

Harjot Inder Singh

My favourite pastime is watching movies. Unfortunately the only opportunity in school is on Saturdays. There won't be one movie which won't go my way, or should we say all will be highly honoured. I am particularly interested in Hindi flicks. I have estimated to see movies. My movie diary will certainly prove it to you. Happy viewing.

Nitin 'Producer-director' Jain

I am going to play a lot of tennis and golf so when I come back I can thrash all the guys, including the tennis captain. I think my opponents won't stand a chance, as I'll be too good. It was better to announce my comeback, so that I could give my rivals time to prepare.

Manav 'Agassi' Sehgal

Happy days are here again. Now I can sleep to my heart's content. I think you all are well acquainted with my capacity of sleeping. My class mates have a tough time waking me up and now it's my mother's chance.

Piyush 'Snorting' Kedia

I think I am the only exception. There are many things I cannot do at home. For example - sleep late, ignore studies, games and of course bunk P.T.

Pankaj 'Depressed' Yadav

My holidays are going to be fun. I'll study and play games, watch a lot of movies. But besides that, as you know I am a Lehar Pepsi fan. Unfortunately the tuck shop sells Thums Up. Now in the holidays I can drink my favourite drink. 7 Up is really cool but Pepsi is certainly the choice of a new generation! So guys join me in my pro-Pepsi campaign.

Rathin 'Pepsi' Grover

* * *



EARTH DAY

We live on the most beautiful planet of our solar system. We undoubtedly have an intimate relationship with our immediate surroundings, the environment.

While the restless efforts of man to control environmental problems continue with success, several new phenomena have been coming up in the course of man's quest into various fronts of the environment. There are good efforts being made by man to change and improve the environment on one side but on the other hand some problems are becoming severely critical, for instance deforestation, desertification, soil erosion, genetic erosion, acid rain etc.

The first Earth Day was launched on the 22nd of April, 1970 when a group of people got together in USA and celebrated this important day. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, USA, is considered as the father of Earth Day. The aim was to draw attention to the increasing environmental problems caused by us human beings. Now every year it is celebrated all over the world with many consciousness raising programmes. People are now getting alarmed about typical situations being created which are related with the ground atmosphere of the surface. Initially in the US twenty million people participated in a variety of activities and the programmes provided impetus to the environmentalists of the US.

Now the time has come when we should stop for a minute and think about how we can give consideration and devotion to the environmental problems of today's world. The two crucial problems are air pollution and water pollution. Memories of the Chernobyl disaster in the Soviet Union, the Bhopal gas tragedy in India and the recent oil spill in the Persian Gulf are some of the worst in history.

To save our planet from these humanly created hazards and natural calamities, we need concrete and immediate solutions. Many problems being discussed daily are global in nature such as global warming, pollution of the marine environment and animal extinction.

The nations of the world have yet to come out of their shells and political boundaries if the earth is to be saved. The celebration of this day also promotes co-operation among people working for a common cause. Then wouldn't the world become a better, more beautiful and much more hospitable place to live in?

S.S. Khaira
(Geog. Dept.)

* * *

Tete-a-Tete

Ashish N. DebRoy: What motivated you to join the Art stream?

M. Devidayal : I was a Sunday painter right through my school and college days and straight after college I got married and moved from Calcutta to Bombay. For two or three years I didn't do anything really serious. I just settled down, had two children and after that I just wanted to get back into some kind of serious activity again. My English background I found wasn't leading me in a very definite direction. At the most I could do my M.A. or something or I could have joined a paper, done journalism, or joined an advertising firm. But that wouldn't be possible in my circumstances because that would have meant a full day and with two small children that would have been difficult to do. So then I thought about what other options I might have and the only thing I could tap was my interest in painting which had earlier been only a hobby, but then again because I had been out of touch for so long with that, I had to get back into it so I decided to join the J.G. School of Art which is the major Art school in Bombay. Fortunately they allowed me to go there as a 'casual student' which meant that I could come and go as I pleased. I didn't have to attend any definite classes. Generally I'd do for half a day (10 am - 1 pm). After about three years of this I was back in form and felt that this whole process of learning and learning about art is endless, but I had the confidence to just

take off from there and work on and that's how I got into painting seriously.

AD : Did any particular school of Art influence your painting?

MD : I can't really say that I was influenced by a particular school but naturally there are so many things that have happened before us that we tend to sort of take something from each which helps or relates to our work so you can say I took references from pop art, a little bit from surrealism, which deals with an image that leads into another image - an image which possesses certain unsaid factors. Maybe psychological, maybe associative.

Certain things about miniature paintings influenced me. Like that there are so many schools or whatever you might like to say that sub-consciously, maybe in some areas like application one has used some hints from impressionism so I can't really say that any particular school influenced me. I've just taken whatever I felt helpful in my own work which helped my own particular style.

AD : What is your opinion of the boy's talent?

MD : I noticed that there are some students who have been very keen. They've been attending the slide shows regularly and coming to the actual hands-on sessions. Basically I think everyone's talented. What matters in the end is how much work one does. What really matters is the keenness and hearing and seeing things and then just trying to apply them.

AD : How do you manage to cope with your family and career at the same time?

MD : It's a sort of balancing act. Like a tight rope walk all the time, but I imagine it would be the same with anyone wanting to have a career and a family especially in the case of a woman, but I find that each enriches the other. If I was to just be myself and just shut myself away and have no contact with life and family and the world around me I don't think my paintings would have anything worthwhile to offer because it is interactions with problems, with day to day hassles which somehow I think forces me into getting on by myself with my canvass and working out something more meaningful than all these daily hassles but it is

still very difficult because there are some times when I want to paint and find myself doing something because of some responsibility but I guess that would be the case with anything that one does.

AD : Are you satisfied with your artistic achievements so far?

MD : I'm satisfied in the sense that I feel that I've grown from the time I've started and the pace is there but I don't feel anywhere near satisfied with what I have achieved as an end product. I want to keep growing more and more because I don't think I'm anywhere near what I would like to be.

AD : After showing us slides about the work of great artists do you think our boys will be able to rise to that standard?

MD : That I can't say. That depends on their own commitment. At this stage I don't think anyone has seriously thought about Art. Maybe after seeing the slides some spark may have been lit. Anyone can do anything provided they stick at it and work hard with determination. I think everyone has the capacity to do anything if he wants to badly enough.

AD : Do you think that the development of artistic talent in a person is a life-long process or can it be induced? Or does it grow within him from childhood?

MD : No, it can come at any time, but it is an on-going process. Once it has been introduced it's there but you have to keep working on it. The fact that the interest has been awakened, the earlier the better, because then naturally the person is taking in that much more, but as such I won't say there's any time limit. A famous example is Grandma Moses, an old woman who started painting when she was about seventy years old, and she became a very well respected artist in her own right. Another example, though not quite the same, is Tagore, who also started painting at a later age but then you can say that he was involved in artistic literary activities, so in a sense painting and writing are synonymous, only the medium is different. There is no hard and fast rule as to when one should start painting.

AD : On the basis of what you saw in the art school, what is your opinion of the work

the boys have done?

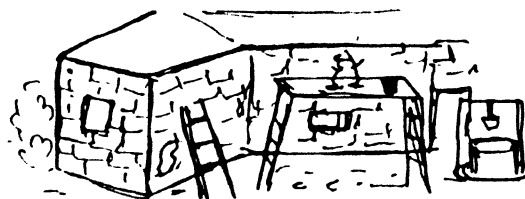
MD : As I kept telling them again and again that most of the work that I saw was not work that they had drawn from their own experience. It was mostly either copied and that too copied from rather bad works but whether bad or good it was generally copied and not a felt experience. It didn't reflect their own surroundings or feelings or their own environment in any way and therefore it had no character and even the drawings which they had been doing for schoolwork, no doubt they have to learn drawing skills which are very important, but most of the work was just what they saw, or botanical nature study drawings of flowers. They didn't get beyond that. One has to learn drawing skills but after that you have to use those skills rather than just express them.

AD : Have you ever conducted a workshop of this sort anywhere else?

MD : Not really. I just gave a small talk to some art students once in Bombay and for about six months I had some children, from the age group of seven to twelve, coming to my place for painting class once a week which was at a pretty informal level. Somewhat like the still life sessions I held here. I haven't done much of it as I said earlier I'm really a painter and not a teacher.

AD : Do you have any message for the students of Welham?

MD : I don't really have a message as such except that I would like to suggest to all of you to just start looking around and seeing things. The very things which you've been seeing day in and day out, day after day, just observe them. Just look and listen and watch and maybe somehow it'll affect your output and expression. Don't just talk without speaking or hear without listening. Don't let that become your way of life. Listen rather than hear. I think that's the best message I can give you.





In the Arena of Sports

INTER HOUSE 'C' SECTION

The first match of the inter-house 'C' section was:

GANGA v/s JAMUNA
1 - 0
(Muzaffar Ali)

Muzaffar Ali was adjudged the man of the match.

CAUVERY v/s KRISHNA
3 - 1
(Saurav Sinha, Amit Kumar, Bikash Gurung)

Amya Sethu was adjudged the man of the match.

GANGA v/s KRISHNA
0 - 1
(Manas Patodia)

Samar Pratap was adjudged the man of the match.

CAUVERY v/s JAMUNA
0 - 0
(In the penalty shootout Jamuna won 1-0)

Amarnath Jaiswal was adjudged the man of the match.

JAMUNA v/s KRISHNA
2 - 1
(Saurav Sinha, Abhishek Verma) (Muzaffar Ali)

Amya Sethu was adjudged the man of the match.

In the league matches the results were:-

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 1. JAMUNA | 3. GANGA |
| 2. CAUVERY | 4. KRISHNA |

Thus in the 1st semi final
JAMUNA v/s GANGA
1 - 0
(Manish Kumar)

Muzaffar Ali was adjudged the man of the match.

In the 2nd semi final
CAUVERY v/s KRISHNA
1 - 0
(Saurav Sinha)

Amya Sethu was adjudged the man of the match.

FINALS
JAMUNA v/s CAUVERY
1 - 0
(Vinod Prasad)

Jamuna and Cauvery played each in the finals, and both teams were determined to win. Jamuna dazzled their opponents as they scored in the very 1st minute of the match. Cauvery although played better but was unsuccessful in converting the easy chances they got. Thus Jamuna won the match and claimed the cup.

(Best Player in 'C' section : Amarnath Jaiswal)

INTER HOUSE HOCKEY SECTION 'B'

The first match was played against Krishna and Cauvery. Cauvery beat Krishna.

CAUVERY v/s KRISHNA
2 - 1

(Both were scored by Sharib Khan) (Danish Ansari)
Man of the match: Sharib Khan

The second match was played against Jamuna and Ganga. The match ended in a goalless draw and was pushed to a tie breaker.

JAMUNA v/s GANGA
3 - 2

(Vijay Bishnoi-1, Brijesh-1, and Ahsar-1) (Anirudh Singh and Vijay Sushant)
Man of the match: Sandeep Agnihotri.

Ganga played Cauvery in the third match. Again, the match was pushed to penalty strokes after a goalless draw. Ganga beat Cauvery 1-0.

GANGA v/s CAUVERY
1 - 0

(Arshad-1)
Man of the match: Vijay Nishant

The next match was contested between Krishna and Jamuna. Jamuna gained a hard fought victory against spirited Krishna team.