



## THE OLIPHANT

No. 144

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

20th September 1993

### THINK ABOUT IT

*Pay attention to your enemies, for they are the first to discover your mistakes.*

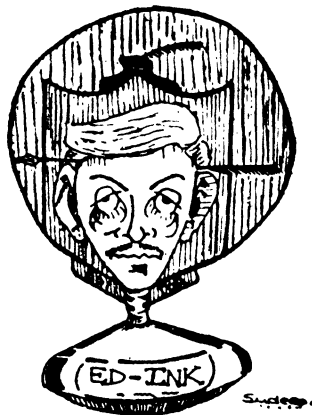
—Antisthenes.

Monsoons are always welcomed with much joy and fervour in Welhams. They provide the much needed respite from the scorching summer, as the mercury drops. For children, its an opportunity to bathe in the open, and float their little paper books in the rain waters. But, there are an appreciable member who feel otherwise. The gloomy and cloudy weather, the absence of the sun, and the thought of possibly getting drenched makes them feel depressed and uneasy. It mars their playing time. Some Welhamites thrive during the monsoons, while others stay unusually subdued. There is a perpetual difference of feelings, and reactions.

A few days back, a torrential downpour during the night, accompanied by strong gales and thunderstorm disturbed the setting of the school campus. Branches and leaves were strewn all over the campus, and small water pools could be seen after every three metres, a huge tree fell on the water pump adjacent to the Triveni, and fortunately not on top of it. So, it had to be felled. The monsoons, provide relief but can be quite destructive.

Five in the evening, and its games time in Welhams. Boys are busy exhibiting their talents and abilities in their respective sports, and trying to bring out their best. On the main field we have our young enthusiastic footballers showing their class against some school or club. Their teammates, classmates, and the junior cheering them with optimum vigour and enthusiasm. But, how many teachers are present there to witness the match and boost their confidence?

The answer is, just a handful of them. Barely, 10 to 20 percent of the total staff members come



regularly to watch the 'whole' match. Occasional passers by stopping by just to catch a glimpse of the action or overhear the score are not to be considered as regular spectators, but casual onlookers.

This apparent disinterested attitude of the teachers will certainly not help in raising the confidence of the boys, be it in any sport. Even the Housemasters are not always sincerely present to cheer their boys. So, it is obvious that the matches played outside the school campus go virtually unattended by the teachers. The little involment of the teachers in sports is not a very encouraging sign for our school sports to achieve high standards. After all, they are a part of whatever happens in the school.

In a recent staff versus the school team football match, which is an annual fixture only three staff members took part. The rest were all coaches surprising isn't it? It was more like coaches versus school team rather than the former. The presence of the teachers, and their voices of encouragement will surely give the boys more confidence and morale support, than the zooming sounds of their motorcycles speeding out of the school gates.

After all, a word of praise or clap from his favourite or may be 'not so favourite' teacher will certainly give the much needed impetus to the Welhamite to put in that extra bit of effort in his game, popularly known as the 'killer instinct'. But, coming to the positive side of the topic, some teachers are quite dedicated and sincere and are regular spectators and confidence boosters during matches and even practices. The presence of a teacher undoubtedly rekindles the desired interest in the student to excel in his practices sport.

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The Activity Centre is as usual busy, but a bit more crowded than it was formerly. There has been an increase in the number of visitors this term. Many out of them concentrated around the gym. This recent spurt of hopeful body builders is the after math of the announcement of Mr. Welham' Competition to be held at the end of the year. Many over ambitious novices, and some experienced can be seen working out at the various instruments, one inquisitive eye always set on the growing biceps, and other on the coveted title.

Basketball is also in full swing, rejuvenated with the selection of two of school team members to the under-19 Uttar Pradesh State team. The two of them have done the team and the school proud by their superb achievements, and at the same time have been great morale boosters to the other Welhamites, to try and achieve even better results.

Badminton too has witnessed an increase in interest towards the game, with many - so far uninterested - Welhamites quite keen and willing to bring out their hidden talents. One of the plausible reason for this recent outburst could possible be, our female counter parts from across the road starting to play on our courts from the beginning of this term.

## Welham Now !

1. Congratulations to Mr. Panuli who has married Miss Aneeta. We wish them a happy and long married life.
2. New Brown Velvet curtains have been hung on the stage in the Activity Centre.
3. The senior football team has gone to Mayo College, Ajmer to participate in the I. P. S. C. Football Tournament. All the best to them.
4. The following achieved positions in the Hindi Essay Competition held on the 25th of August :-

| Class X to XII |                                    | Class VIII & XI |                 |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1st            | Nitin Bhanot                       |                 | Kaushal Kishore |
| 2nd            | Pratya Chopra<br>and Vijay Bishnoi |                 | Amiya Setu      |
| 3rd            | Amber Sinha                        |                 | Nikunj Gupta    |
| Class VI & VII |                                    |                 |                 |
| 1st            | Mehul Mayank                       |                 |                 |
| 2nd            | Ashish Kumar                       |                 |                 |
| 3rd            | Nimish Aggarwal                    |                 |                 |

Should the school have a dish antenna or not ? The principle's answer is a straight forward 'No ? the Welhamites' answer is obviously an excited 'yes'. Their point of stand being that if other schools can have this facility, then, why not Welham Boys ? On the face of it, it seems quite logical and reasonable. But, if seen indepth, it could have far reaching consequence which the Welhamites can foresee, but wish to overlook. The temptation of the entertaining STAR TV programmes is too much for any student to resist, and the same is the case with Welhamites. If the dish is installed, which is an unlikely thing to happen in the near future, the most significant change would be a sudden drop in the results of the examinations, and ultimate in the results of the board examinations leading to the ruin of the future prospects of the students.

So, why all this fuss over a subject not practical keeping in mind the future of the students and, after deeper thinking, the answer is a unanimous and firm 'No'.

□ Prashant Goenka

Once again we would remind the Ex-Welhamites' to send us their contributions for the Founders Day Issue. The articles should reach us by October 10th.

5. Akhil Bhanot was the runners up in the 12 years and below group Table Tennis District Championship held at M.K.P. The duo of Akhil Bhanot and Arjun Bhatia also won the runners up title in the under 14 age group at the Table Tennis District Championship held at Doon School.
6. In the last week of August the English and Hindi Writing Competitions (Juniors) were held. The results are :-

| Hindi      |                 | English         |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Class I    |                 |                 |
| 1st        | Mehroof Ahmed   | Mohit Bansal    |
| 2nd        | Tanmay Agarwal  | Dhruv Malhotra  |
| 3rd        | Ashmeet Agarwal | Dhairya Goyal   |
| Class II-A |                 |                 |
| 1st        | Ayush Aggarwal  | Raunak Agarwal  |
| 2nd        | Vivek Kumar     | Kumar Rakesh    |
| 3rd        | Kumar Rakesh    | Namgyal Wanchuk |

**English****Hindi****Class II-B**

|     |                   |                    |
|-----|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1st | Varun Chaudhary   | Aditya Goel        |
| 2nd | Prabesh Shreshtha | Pranab B. Shrestha |
| 3rd | Aman Negi         | Amritanshu Verma   |

**Class III-A**

|     |                |                 |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|
| 1st | Sukant Goel    | Sukant Goel     |
| 2nd | Tarun Saraf    | Anuj Golak Nath |
| 3rd | Abhishek Singh | Siddharth Saraf |

**Class III-B**

|     |                 |                 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1st | Akansha Singhal | Nitin Agarwal   |
| 2nd | Ashutosh Pandey | Atin Ansari     |
| 3rd | Varun Sharma    | Ashutosh Pandey |

7. The Senior Badminton team went to Delhi to witness the Badminton World Cup Finals.
8. On 4th September the Inter House Science Quiz was held in the assembly hall. Jamuna house stood first followed by Krishna, Cauvery and Ganga respectively.
9. The Staff Chess Competition was held in the first week of September and was on a league basis, each player played six matches in two rounds. Mr. Shashi Bhushan and Mr. Neeraj Jayal shared the top position with 8 points each; Mr. R. Walia 6 points and Mr. Pant 2 points.
10. An Inter-House Music Competition was held on 5th September in the Activity Centre. The following received awards :-

|       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| Tabla | Jayant Gokhale |
| Flute | Nitin Bhanot   |
| Vocal | Nikunj Gupta   |

**Consolation prizes :-**

|               |          |
|---------------|----------|
| Arjun Trivedi | (Tabla)  |
| Arpan Gupta   | (Violin) |

Krishna house lifted the Trophy.

11. The following boys went to Chesire Home on 7th September '93 with Dr. M.M. Sharma, for a cultural programme for their Founders' Day.

|     |                               |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| 776 | Vivaan Menezes (Squad Leader) |
| 759 | Prashant Khemka               |
| 826 | Kumar Abhijit                 |
| 793 | Arpan Gupta                   |
| 840 | Arif Mohd.                    |
| 814 | Nimish Agarwal                |
| 841 | Siddharth Kumra               |
| 851 | Siddharth Jatia               |
| 613 | Athar Shamsi                  |
| 833 | Abhishek Rungta               |
| 831 | Rahul Kumar                   |
| 834 | Asheesh Agarwal               |
| 835 | Asheesh Kumar                 |
| 817 | Vikas Kumar                   |
| 818 | Bashar Saif                   |
| 784 | Shariq Ansari                 |
| 804 | Vatsal Arya                   |
| 807 | Hemant Tiwari                 |

12. **Improving our environment :-** To commemorate the birthday of the former Prime Minister the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, a tree plantation programme, in which 40 of our students participated, was undertaken at the Indian Military Academy. We were represented by our Tree Plantation and Nursery Development Squads and few class XI boys. The programme was inaugurated by Lt. Gen. B.C. Joshi The Chief of Army Staff, who, on seeing the enthusiastic spirit of Welhamites commended their endeavour. Silver Oaks were planted; the squads were escorted by Mr. S.S. Khaira, Mr. S. Khanna and Mr. J. Singh



## THROUGH THE KEYHOLE

Mr. Mehanga Ram to Sister Chawla :—

Sister, Sister My tooth ache is painig.

\* \* \*

Simran :—Ma'am isn't Hora's Handwriting good ?

Mrs. Mehra :—You bet. It stinks of Paltan Bazaar.

\* \* \*

Himanshu :—Do you know what ET means ?

Udit :—Ya, Extra Terrestrial

Himanshu :—No, Extra Tikki.

\* \* \*

Kohli :—Hey ! Do you know the name of the girl who pushed her dad ?

Rakshat :—No.

Kohli :—Well it is; Push-Pa !

\* \* \*

Mr. Saxena to Mr. Gosain : You know what area of C.S. stands for.

Mr. Gosain : Isn't it Area of Cross Section.

Mr. Saxena : No, Area of Charlie's School.

\* \* \*

## NOTICE

The "NATURE CLUB" society is issuing a bimonthly journal by the name "NATURE." The journal will be compiled with various articles and intriguing facts on Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Geography.

The first issue will be printed on Founder's Day. We invite suggestions, articles on science and experiences that the students may have had while performing experiments.

The Editorial Board consists of the following :—

**Student Editors** : Vikas Kumar  
Biswajit Talukdar

**Physics Section** : Vijay Bishnoi

**Biology Section** : Nitin Bhanot

**Chemistry Section** : Mayank Tiwari

**Geography Section** : Ashish Gupta

**Compilers** : Gauravjeet Singh  
Suman Pai

**Staff Representative** : Mrs. M.R. Bajpai

\* \* \*

## Old Boys Desk

This column contains news about the old boys from the 1993 batch. The following are in the colleges and doing the courses mentioned against their names :

| <u>Name</u>          | <u>College</u>                   | <u>Course</u>   |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Varun Sood           | St. Stephens                     | Maths (Hons.)   |
| Ranjan Lath          | Sydhnam                          | B.Com. (Hons.)  |
| Mayank Gupta         | SRCC                             | " "             |
| Munish Suri          | Hansraj                          | B.A.            |
| Dhruv Sehgal         | "                                | B.A.            |
| Hitesh Mahajan       | "                                | B.Com. (Hons.)  |
| Rajveer Singh        | "                                | B.A.            |
| Vikrant Lamba        | "                                | "               |
| Kshitij Saxena       | Bhagat Singh                     | History         |
| Sachin Jain          | " "                              | B.Com.          |
| Ashish Garg          | " "                              | B.Com.          |
| Anurag Garg          | " "                              | B.Com.          |
| Ved Krishna          | Avadh University                 | B.Com.          |
| Aziz Rawat           | Atmaram                          | ★               |
| Harjot Singh         | Venkateshwar                     | History         |
| Manav Khullar        | "                                | B.Com. (Hons.)  |
| Pareesh Harshvardhan | "                                | ★               |
| Umar Islam Kotey     | (J&K) Preparing for comp. exams. |                 |
| Gursajan Gambhir     | Yamuna Nagar                     | ★               |
| Kamal Matta          | Faizabad Flying School           | Flying          |
| Abhay Dhar Juyal     | " " "                            | "               |
| Ashish Talwani       | Lucknow University               | B.Com.          |
| Navbeer Aurora       | DAV (Chandigarh)                 | Pre-Medical     |
| Dharminder Gill      | DAV (Chandigarh)                 | ★               |
| Neeraj Kakati        | Cotton College, Gauhati          | B.Com (Hons.)   |
| Shekhar Tyagi        | Karorimal                        | ★               |
| Asad Shamsi          | University of Maryland (Germany) |                 |
| Monit Goyal          | Motilal                          | Physics (Hons.) |
| Nilandhari Ghosh     | AFMC (Pune)                      | Medical         |

★ We would like to hear from you and to know the subjects of your study.

\* \* \*

## Smile

“Pahalgam is a long distance away”. I said to myself standing in the morning light. I saw the clouds taking up their position and I decided to hurry. I put my bag in the car and soon I was going towards my destination.

It was 11.15 a.m. when I gave rest to my car near Mattan. I was full of nostalgia when I saw the famous historical stones. I looked at my watch which said, “late, late.” So I rushed to be on my way.

I was thinking of my friend who would be waiting for me in Pahalgam. Suddenly the cold weather sent a shudder in me. I had to switch on the headlights of my car. The weather seemed good for a cup of coffee and so I stopped the car. I had coffee and when I was coming out, a man about twenty-five wearing a nice over-coat, asked me for a lift. I thought of the cold weather and answered ‘with pleasure, come.’ He looked at me with a smile and sat in the car.

For some time silence prevailed but I started conversation. Being interested in politics I asked him about his opinion about the prevailing situation in the valley. ‘I can foresee a bright future’, he replied. I understood that he loved peace.

I continued to tell him about the partition of 1947 and then I related the development work that the government had been doing. Then I mentioned about the militancy which spoiled everything. Terror took birth in the beautiful lap of nature. Militant activities stopped many industries especially tourism. Everything changed. Innocent killings by militants forced many to leave the paradise. When I was saying all this he kept on hearing patiently and occasionally nodded his head. He seemed to be interested in my

conversation and this was confirmed when he said, “Yes, Everything has changed.” I blamed neighbour countries for stealing piece from my native land. Militancy started four years back and thousands of people were gunned down. Rapes, bank robberies, murders were going on, on a large scale. According to newspapers about twenty to thirty persons died every day. “What have militants given us?” I said to him. “Everything except peace,” he replied. I gave the example of recent incidents, covering the fire at Sopore and Lal Chowk, deaths near the border, terrible fierce encounters in District Baramulla, Anantnag, Badgam, Baba rishi and firing by automatic weapons by militants on security forces.

I then talked about the future which seemed to me bleak without any ray of hope. Day by day the paradise was changing into hell. I think we can change the topic and talk of climate in Kashmir,” he said. He said, “Do you know that on the border side the snowfall falls continuously for weeks and snow gets collected to the height of ten to fifteen feet?” I got surprised. I asked him how nice it felt walking on the frozen Dal. “I enjoy it very much,” he said.

“Oh! My destination has come, please stop the car” he said. I stopped the car. When he was getting out I remembered that we had not been introduced “What is your name, Where do you live and what do you do? Sir.” I said to him. He smiled at me for a moment and then took out a pistol which he had kept beneath the seat. He gave me a smile and left. Sitting in the car I was shivering and could only utter, “No”!

□ Waseem Ahmed

# The Common Grey Hornbills

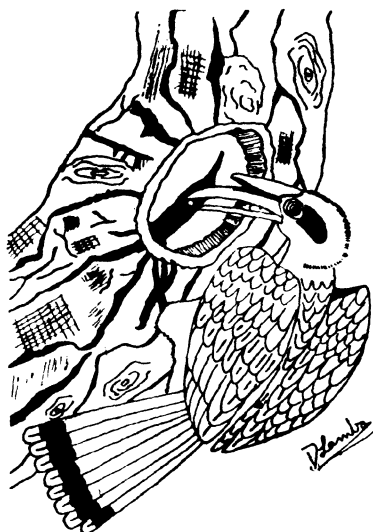
Hornbills are beautiful birds of the size of about 65 cms. There are many species of Hornbills in the world and a few of them are also resident in our Doon Valley. The ones found in our school campus are the most common. They are called the Common Grey Hornbills.

There are 2 pairs inhabiting in and around our campus. They have been nesting in the hollows in the Silver Oaks trees (these hollows are well known to you all) behind the Dining Hall and these birds are now permanent residents.

The most distinguished feature of this majestic bird is its bill, shaped like a horn, and this is why it has got this name 'The Hornbill'.

The Common Grey Hornbills are found in wooded country. They have a loud cackling K-K-K-Kae call. They are short distance fliers because of their weak wings which may perhaps be because of long neglect of flight by their ancestors. They feed on fruits and insects like papayas, peepul figs and grasshoppers. They can be easily identified by their slow flight, the long horn like bill with casque on top, their grey colour, and by their long tails.

In the early mornings and late evenings they can be seen flapping their wings repeatedly for sometime and then gliding over the Office Block, the Principal's Cottage and finally over the Physics Laboratory to the Welham Girls' High School (the flight path is marked on the school Notice-Board).



THE COMMON GREY HORNBILL

The flight of the Hornbills is noticeable because of the flapping and gliding done by them. They are not able to gain too great a height.

Their nesting habits are good for their young ones and are thought to be amongst the best means for birds to protect their young.

After breeding the female lays her eggs in a natural tree hollow. The tree hollows in which they prefer nesting are situated at moderate heights (the one behind the Dining Hall is around 45 feet high). Once the eggs are laid and the incubation has started, the female locks herself inside the hole by plastering the entrance with its dropping (so as to be safe from predators) and only a small slit is left through which the male feeds the bird. But during this period the male has to hunt a lot for food and if it meets with an accident then the female most likely will starve to death.

The chicks are hatched and when they are about fifteen day old, the plaster is broken and the female comes out but the chicks are left inside and the parents feed them till the chicks are able to fend for themselves.

Today the trees which give refuge to the hornbills are being cut rapidly and their habitat is also being lost drastically. If we do not save their habitat then these majestic birds may vanish from the face of the earth and our campus for ever.

□ Digvijay Lamba  
VIII-A  
Nature Club

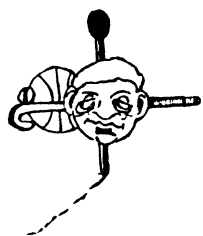
# Falling from the 'Blood Red Sky'

High above,  
From the Red Sky of Blood,  
Down to the earth  
I see him crawl,  
And with an instantaneous  
Soft sounding flash  
He sees me fall, falling  
I am falling from high,  
Falling from the  
Blood Red Sky.  
The live engine,  
Almost losing the benediction  
of life  
Has ceased to convert,  
Energy into, mechanical motion  
Its very short of live oxygen.  
It has vision  
To see me fall.  
Yet holds the esperance,  
of turning small.  
I am falling,  
Falling from high  
Falling from the  
Blood Red Sky  
I wish... I could, Like 'Icarus'  
Take a flight  
To the Yellow Sun  
and melt the wax  
That forces me to run  
on the down fall.  
Someone hold me tight  
Somebody - come hear my call  
Falling,  
I am falling from high  
Falling from the  
Blood Red Sky  
Turning Falling, turning  
in the Sky.  
Like this and like that in  
The falling I did see  
Millions of vigorous violent  
Air burnes on a 'Red Flight'  
They did do the calling  
As they went by  
Each one shouted, why,  
I slipped and fell...  
Yet continued to fly  
In the Blood Red Sky

They will too, one...fall way  
I did In their sight  
I am Falling...  
Falling from high.  
Falling... from the Blood Red Sky  
I remember, the timid sparrow  
Instructing, The family's young member  
To never defy  
The darkness, of the,  
Never ending Red Sky  
Guiding  
The innocent, to never  
Even Dream, of the endless flight  
In the Red Sky  
For any body who climbs  
The 'Red Atrs' of the Blood  
Red Sky... does fall  
For he has to fall, meet the dust  
On which, his entire life  
A small ant does crawl  
And again I realize - from feet  
I do fall. I am falling  
Falling from high  
Falling from the Blood Red Sky  
And there infinite feet below  
There is a wall  
On its surface a friend warn :  
Stops it crawl  
To gaze at the Blood Red Sky  
To see me psych fall  
Till my last breath  
The 'Small Beast' prays for me  
That was the  
Great deed had done in all  
the worm to be  
A 'Predator's Prey'  
Till my last breath—  
To God, today  
He does 'Pray'  
For his friend thats me...  
...He may fall not on the 'Lands of death'  
But in the deep-deep... depths of a  
lively peaceful sea.  
Falling  
I am falling from high  
Falling from the  
Bloody Blood Red Sky.

□ Saurabh Narang

## Ringside View



As the soccer season progresses Welham is gradually coming in top form after playing a series of matches.

After being held to a draw in two matches Welham registered its first win of the season over Raja Ram Mohan Roy Academy. Although Welham dominated the match in the first half, no goals were scored from either side. However it was in the second half that Samarth Singh set the Welham goal scoring machine roaring. Samarth went on to score two more brilliant goals. Rajesh Sehgal's contribution was significant as he also pumped in two goals. The final score read 6-0 in our favour as Prashant Singh's excellent shot convincingly beat the RRMRA goal-keeper.

The second match was against Kailash Club. In the first half the score read 2-2. Again it was in the second half that Welham's forwards scored 5 more goals. The final score read 7-2 in our favour (Samarth-2, Rajesh-2, Vijay-1, Jairaj-1, Jayendra-1).

Welham played against RIMC on their grounds. Our forwards could not capitalize on the mistakes made by our rivals and missed a number of chances. In spite of Varun Lamba's brilliant goalkeeping Welham lost the match with the Rimcolians scoring the all important, solitary goal in the dying minutes of the match.

The Council soccer tournament has begun. Welham faced Children's Academy in its first encounter. Ignoring the bad weather conditions, Welhamites whitewashed Children Academy 4-0 with Rajesh, Mohit, Manish and Samarth scoring a goal each. We would have won by a wider margin had our forwards not missed a number of chances to score.

We were shocked by St. Joseph's Academy in the next encounter. We could have struck in the early minutes of the game, had the controversial off side decision not been given by the referee. Things just did not seem right for us as the forwards missed a number of chances and the defence made some grave mistakes. The opponents scored two quick goals in the first half. Rajesh Sehgal's excellent effort lessened the margin for Welham. We could have easily won the match had, our players played an organized game. A number of controversial decisions added to our misery. The final score was 2-1 in favour of St. Josephs.

We fared well in the District Table Tennis Championships. In the Cadet Section Akhil Bhanot played commendably although beaten in the finals. Ramanpreet Hora and Sumit Mehta lost in the quarter finals in the Junior Section. In another District T.T. Championship held at the Doon School, the Welham duo of Akhil Bhanot and Arjun Bhatia emerged as the runners-up in the Doubles.

In the Road Race organized by the Doon Club recently, we put up an excellent show. Nikunj Gupta breezed past all the participants to get the 2nd position in the under 15 section. Saswat stood 4th and Suman Saurabh and Ayush Negi stood 6th and 7th respectively. In the Men's Section Siddhant Sharma stood 12th and Vijay Bishnoi also ran well to get the 15th position.

Our school team which had gone to Mayo to participate in the I.P.S.C. Soccer Tournament has since returned; we lost in the quarter finals against T.N.A.

Good bye. ☐

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### EDITORIAL BOARD

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