

# THE OLYMPIANT

No. 154

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

May 16th, 1994

## Think About It

Is ditch water dull? Naturalists with microscopes have told me that it teems with quiet fun.

-- G.K.Chesterton.

## EDITORIAL

"It has cost the school a crore with yet more to be invested in the lights ...." Even as he said it the boys were agape at the Principal and the Board of Trustees at the inauguration of the Activity Centre; anxious to know exactly what had cost so much time, effort and had made so much news in the school.

The Activity Centre has rightly been the centre of activity specially this term. The Basketballers have put it to maximum use. They've not only utilised the court but kept the audience on the edge of their seats biting their nails. It has heard the echo of many voices despite the acoustic system which seems to have been at the receiving end of both the losing teams' annoyance and frustration and the winning teams' flurry of excitement and exhilaration.

However, the timing for Badminton practice has puzzled me no end; Noel Coward has aptly put it: 'Only Mad dogs and Englishmen are out in the afternoons.'

However, the Badminton team puts in much effort in their practice in the steamy afternoons. Keep it up.

At nights, of course, it seems like a studio. You may spot an aspiring Abraham Lincoln at the stage practicing religiously for a coming debate or elocution. Or else you can see a play being rehearsed with gusto and enthusiasm. The director does not fall short of spot boys when some have to choose between sitting hours on end for prep, or running errands for the director. They jump, given the opportunity.

The juniors have their share of advantage and relief. The 'gym' period is now held inside the Activity Centre rather than in the fields which are most like ovens in the mid-day Sun in May. On the other hand, since the Activity Centre has so many

inlets and outlets; basements and other nooks and corners to hide in; it is subjected to games like hide and seek.

The green room has taken its share of buting. It could well be put down as the only flood prone area in the valley. Last term there was knee-deep water in the rainy season. Many acting enthusiasts have broken the baselights in their frenzy; and I am particularly sure that this wasn't part of the script!

Well, there are other activities like extempore speeches, and debates and elocutions which can be exciting or boring.

The Tuck Shop has added a star in the Activity Centre. On Fridays, Wednesdays and Sundays it looks more like a fish market. Only there is no fish for sale.

Another charm is the gym. In the beginning, however, it seemed deserted but now it is crowded with iron-pumping enthusiasts. Boys with a stout build

or famine stricken victims are seen at work. It is well equipped with good quality equipment which is being put to good use.

Basket Ball, Badminton, Gym., Plays, Debates, Elocutions, ....activities and yet more activities like social gatherings and slide shows. It is the hallmark of our school. Another feather in the Cap for Welham.

Readers will recall that our Activity Centre was inaugurated by Mr.Dharmia Vira, ICS, Chairman, Board of Trustees, on 22nd February, 1993. We would be lost without it now.



The ED Robo-copped!

- Kirtiman Singh

# WELHAM NOW

An absolutely marvelous slide show on the 'Flowers of Himalayas' was shown to the school by Swami Sunderanand. The magnificent collection of slides not only enlightened us on the vast number of shrubs and flowers and their medicinal values but also confirmed the brilliant skills of the Swami behind the camera.

The Inter House One Act Play Competition was held on the 1st of May, '94. Jamuna lifted the trophy owing to a brilliant performance by Sameer Gambhir who bagged the awards for Best Actor and Best Director. Arjun Bhatia was adjudged the Best Supporting Actor.

The Inter House Hindi Extempore Debate was held on the 2nd of May, '94. The individual positions were as follows for the Senior Section :-

1st - Nitin Bhanot

2nd - Shiv Shankar

and for the Junior Section :-

1st - Nikunj Gupta

2nd - Ankit Malhotra

The Inter School Road Race was held by the Runners Club on the 1st of May, '94. Many juniors were given a chance to run and much to our surprise they performed very well. Welham stood 3rd overall and the following attained individual positions :-

4th - Rana Randeep Singh Grewal

8th - Vishvas Kohli

11th - Nikunj Gupta

13th - Kaushal Kishore

14th - Jai Amar Deep

15th - Shiv Shankar

The Junior Inter-School Elocution was held at Welham Girls' on 25th of April, 1994. The Trophy was bagged by Welham Boys' School. Boys of Classes V, VI and VII participated. A Special Individual Prize for scoring 100 points was awarded to Karan Gulaiya (VII). Special thanks

to Mr. Neil Howson for his assistance.

The results of the Inter House Debate were as follows :-

Individual Positions :-

i) Jointly Third were Sunit Mehta and Apurva Patodia.

ii) Second Rumaan Kidwai.

iii) Jointly First Shakti Agarwal and Jayant Gokhale.

House Positions :-

Third -- Cauvery

Second -- Ganga

First -- Krishna

The results of the Taekwondo Championship held on the 25th of April, 1994 were as follows :- i) SUB JUNIOR

Most Promising Fighter : Kunal Yadav

Runners Up : Gulkhair Pal Singh

Best Fighter (Winner) : Pankaj Sharma

ii) JUNIORS

Most Promising Fighter : Shradhey Rawat

Runners Up : Ashish Agarwal

Best Fighter (Winner) : Abhinav Agarwal

iii) SENIORS

Most Promising Fighter : Arcaprava Dutta

Runners Up : Ajay Singh Sekhon

Best Fighter (Winner) : Amrinder Sachdeva

Discovery of the Year : Sumant Pai

**For 25 years of loyal service momentos were awarded to :**

Jhagru Ram

Smt. Bimla Devi

Madhu Singh

Smt. Sobha Devi

Chandra Singh

Ms. S. Roy

# OLD BOYS NEWS

Gianendra Singh ( Batch - 1983 )  
Executive - R.M.D.,  
The Times Of India,  
BOMBAY.

Sameer Dhingra  
Appointed Representative  
Dehra Dun Chapter.

# LITERARY AFFAIRS

## TRUE LOVE

I saw her pass by eyes,  
Like a drift of wind in the skies.  
She was music to my ears,  
And ecstasy to my fears.  
The sand lay a circle round and round,  
Alas ! I said 'Its never ending love I found.'

Then I waited day and night,  
But she was never in sight.  
I yelled at the skies for Thee,  
But heard no voice to satisfy me.  
The earth seemed an orange a fire,  
And everybody thought I was a liar.

The day broke,  
My heart began to ache.  
There I sat on the sand in vain,  
And for my deed I was ashamed.  
There in the distance the waves crashed,  
And suddenly! Astonished was I to see her body  
smashed.

I cried to the Heavens !! Oh, God ! What have I  
done,  
On the sand lay the reply " She no more my son."  
Then I said to myself " Why me ?"  
But there in the Heavens I saw her spirit free.  
There in the sand lay a circle round and round,  
In vain to myself I said " It seemed like never ending  
love I found."

- Zayed Khan  
Class X



## FOR AND AGAINST 'THE MOST IMPORTANT LEARNING TAKES PLACE BEFORE THE AGE OF 18'

The rays of the sun slowly unfold the dark veils of the night, slowly, slowly the whole sky is clear and the sun is the brightest at noon. Just as it had risen the rays of the sun fade away leading into darkness. The rising sun can be compared to the life of a human being. The sunrise signifies its birth and the sun set its death.

When a man is born he has no knowledge. He learns by experience and observation. He learns to walk and speak in the first two years, although his vocabulary is limited to only a few words. With the increase in age his vocabulary increases and he learns to read and write. He starts attending school. The sexual changes start occurring in him when he reaches the age of twelve. His height and weight increases and hair begins to grow on his body. It is not easy to come to terms with these changes. It is only at the age of around eighteen years that he is able to accept these changes fully.

After the age of eighteen years the vitality of the person starts decreasing. The power of learning decreases. Studies have revealed that the rate of increase in vocabulary drops considerably. By the age of eighteen years the man becomes capable of supporting himself in society. Most of the learning takes place before the age of eighteen years as it is the base which is built in these years. After that knowledge can be piled on to it. The base is very important. If you cannot read and write then all the knowledge you pick up in these later years is useless. You cannot improve your writing later in your life if you do not do so in your childhood. Even basic manners of the society have to be learnt when young.

Just as the brightly shining sun starts fading away in the same way the process of learning starts decreasing with the coming of age. The vitality and the strength and even the urge to learn reduces. It is, however, never too late to learn. The learning process never ceases until the dark veils of the night strangle the rays of the sun and the man dies.

- Mayank Tiwari  
Class XII

This old town been home as long as I remember,  
This town gonna be here when I'm gone, for long,  
East side, west side take a close look 'round her  
You been down but you're still in my bones.

Neil Grant  
(82-94)

Thud is all before us.  
Well to cheer,  
Gull of rest and providence  
our guide,  
Hand with wandering steps  
and slow,

Sh. Welham we take  
Our solitary way.

My tears roll down as I write -  
"I love Welham"  
Perish

OLD FRIEND, WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

AFTER 12 MANY YEARS IN WELHAM, I GO,  
WITH IMAGES I HAVE TENDED  
UNDER YOUR SKIES.

FAR AWAY FROM MY OWN LAND.

Nothing is better than a School  
called "WELHAM"

Live Live Born [83-94]  
Am 184 - March 94 Die - Born

Changes - another one in my life  
MY SON WILL BE BACK HERE  
I'll always love Welham.  
It's certainly better than the best

Lonny Lomber

I love Welham

Welham, more air  
Not far  
Longer  
Men's passions so many roads by which they reached.  
Welham is

I'll always  
Wel - wait Raj Singh

Our Character is greatly  
When added with cement  
Which 'Welham' does.  
Forms a concrete character.  
I will remember Time.  
I shall remember Time.

BREAKS OVER  
... BUT I SURE  
DO KNOW  
WHAT I LIKE!  
Raksha Singh  
(5th - 11th)

Welham? HMMMM...  
Slurp, slurp...  
Bief

What a piece of work is Welham!  
May His Greatness increases  
It'll never pass into nothingness.

I CAME, I SAW, I FELL... AND KEPT ON FALLING  
I GO, I RISE, BUT STILL CAN'T RECOVER

Two years in WELHAM, two years in P.H.

I have cherished and enjoyed every moment of it.  
Shall never forget it

Alim Khanna  
(95-11)

I was there from Apr '83  
to March '94 - 11 yrs is a long  
time & these 11 yrs were the  
formative yrs of my life  
I am what WELHAM  
has made me!!  
You Welham  
I love you all  
Kohli  
(82-91?)

OLD WALLS ARE  
FRIENDLY WALLS, FRIENDLY  
WALLS FAREWELL.  
WANCHUK.  
PS. BYE JIGME, PRABHU,  
PRABESH. SEE YOU'LL SOON.

The two years of Welham  
was unforgettable  
Prabhu Sheeth

दुजरे के स्ताब के;  
हरे स्ताब की गोबरी से - welham  
Chirdees

# MAURITIUS

## An Island in the Sun

The closest you can get to Paradise on Earth is Mauritius. As Mark Eliot had said, 'Paradise has come to Earth in the form of Mauritius!' This emerald island surrounded by the sapphire tinted blue waters of the Indian Ocean is fringed by one of the world's longest coral reefs and is so exquisite that it boggles the mind.

This gem in the Indian Ocean is known for its marvellous combination of the Sun, sea beaches and lagoons. The wonderful golden sandy beach lined by palm trees and the deep crystal clear waters of the Ocean are breathtaking. The blue sea patched with corals look exotic. The sunset on a typical Mauritian beach is a many splendoured thing. The bluish green sea with the sun setting in the West leave people agape. The sky is splashed with different shades of orange as the sun slowly sets in the horizon, leaving the deep sighs of the sea and the waves splashing against the rocks.

Apart from its beaches, it also offers splendid scenery. A view from the mountain tops is something not to be missed. The blue sky with the green mountains in the background and the lush green fields merging with the sea results in an unimaginable colour combination. The thin strip of golden sand just between the sea and the fields looks sensational! It seems like Mauritius is the "Playground of the Gods!" This exotic island is rich in natural beauty which is even possessed by the slightly tanned, mind-blowing Mauritian Damsels.

The capital of this tropical island is Port Louis which is well developed. It has the island's most mind-blowing harbour which was built by the French during their reign. Though this country is independent its official language still remains French, but the people mostly speak in 'Creole'. This heavenly island is famous for its rum, coffee and vanilla tea. The main source of entertainment is their traditional dance 'Sega', which is very lively as well as entertaining. Women wear colourful dresses which add colour to this dance.

The Mauritian economy depends mainly on sugar. The island is full of sugar cane fields. Owing to its excellent location, big fashion designing companies like Yves Saint Laurent, Pierre Cardin, St. Michaels, etc. have opened their factories there. A lot of its economy depends also on textiles. Mauritius is ranked as the third largest exporter of woolen garments. And of course it depends on tourists too!

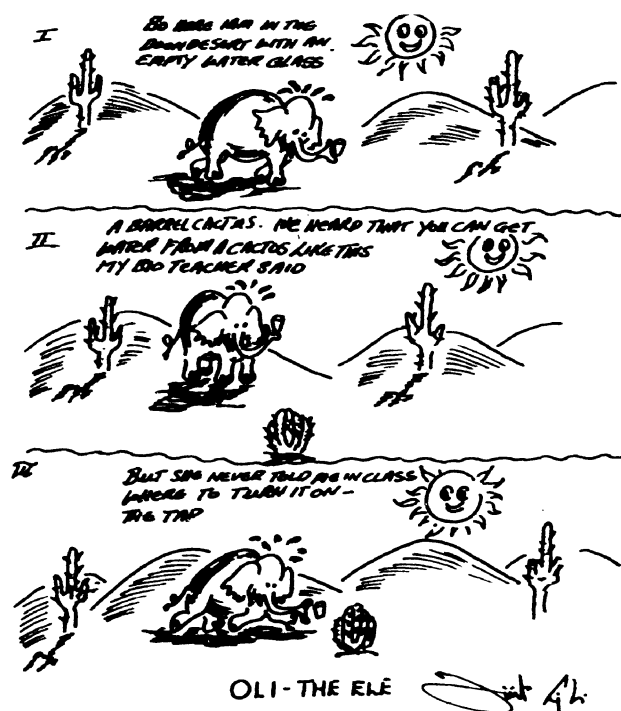
This emerald hidden in the Indian Ocean

has well developed cities like Quatre Bornes, Rosehill, Curepipe, etc. which are a shopper's paradise. But the city of Grand Baia has its own charm. The sea here keeps changing colour. Its an ideal place for water sports. It is great fun admiring the water and ladies tanning themselves. This place is ideal for snorklers and scuba divers. Though Grand Baia is highly developed, it has not lost its charm. Its sky scrapers reflected in the crystal clear sea look spectacular and leave one spell bound.

The Dodo, now an extinct bird, also dwelled in Mauritius and added to its pride. However, sailors who reached this island shot this precious bird just for the sheer fun of it. All one can do is hope that the coming stream of tourists do not do any more harm to this Paradise and convert this 'Garden of the Gods' to a Devilish wasteland.

I visit this island often and each visit is as much a pleasure as a mystery.

- Vikas Chaudhary  
Class X



# THE ENVIRONMENT

Environment pollution in the world has increased manifold. Today deforestation, siltation, water, air and noise pollution all are threatening not only the quality of life but the very survival of human beings.

Pollution was considered to be a threat only to the industrialised world but now it is a matter of concern for the world. The developing countries which were hesitant to join the Stockholm Conference on Human Rights in 1972 are now realising that environment cannot be sacrificed for economic growth. The developing countries find it difficult to accommodate this new pressure on their meagre resources.

No doubt India has shown her awareness of the problem yet much is to be done. Until 1974, the control of pollution was the responsibility of individual States. A few which sensed the problem of pollution caused by various industries initiated their own laws.

In countries like Japan, United States and Canada the governments have been forced to produce visible results within a couple of years. Government officials and politicians have often blamed financial difficulties while environmental organisations have blamed corruption for the current state of affairs. But the major reason for ineffective implementation of environmental policies seems to

lie within the general public. It took a great deal of effort on the part of Japanese and American citizens to improve the quality of water and air. Even Japan whose economy depends upon growth had to accommodate environmental costs in its economic planning.

"Environment" has still not become a politically profitable issue in India. Critics of the government's environment policy often remark that the government is not interested in execution of its policies. Public awareness can make the environmental issue politically profitable in India as it did in Japan and in the United States.

The environment policy has so far led to only symbolic acts. There is absence of general public pressure on the government to take strong measures on environmental protection. The environment groups that exist are very particularistic and lack a mass base. Unless people feel individually threatened by environmental degradation, it is not likely that they will exert direct pressure on the government to show results.

**- Gautam Khattar  
Class XII**

This composition was ranked 1st in 'The Kandhari English Essay Writing Competition', Group A.

# RINGSIDE VIEW

Luck did not favour sporting affairs. The Basketball team took part in the Afzal Khan Memorial Basketball Tournament.

Our first match was against D.P.S. Our team missed Siddhant who had fractured his hand during the Golden Jubilee Tournament. The match began with D.P.S. taking the lead from the very beginning. They were leading by quite a margin till the second half. The second half saw Samarth and Akshi converting quite a number of shots, with the support of Gaurav Wahi, Kirtiman and Harpreet, we reduced the gap to 41-56. Unfortunately we could not take the lead and the score remained 41-56.

We faced Modern School in the second match. It was a very close encounter. Our shooters failed due to the strong wind, though Akshi scored quite a number of baskets with his 'one-on-one' abilities. We trailed 41-44 in the last minute of the

match. Fortunately Samarth scored a 3 pointer in the dying seconds of the match. Five minutes were given as extra time. Our long shooters did not fail us and we won the match with the final score 51-44.

Lawrence School, Sanawar, was our next opponent. The Welhamites exhibited an excellent game. Gaurav Wahi's name is worth mentioning. He scored 13 three pointers. Kirtiman and Harpreet also deserve a pat on their back for their excellent game that day. The final score was 58-28 in our favour.

We met the Doon School in the Semi-finals. The Dosco's drew a lead from the very beginning. The wind factor was a disadvantage to our shooters. Though Samarth and Akshi put in their best we trailed in the first half. Gaurav Wahi was fouled out in the early minutes of the second half. Kirtiman and Harpreet put in their best, but Lady Luck was not with us, instead misfortune favoured us. Our

juniors replaced our seniors in the dying minutes of the game. We lost the match.

The Basketball team went to Woodstock, Mussoorie and played a match which was quite interesting and exciting. The final score 47-48 was the closest score possible. We missed Siddhant and Akshi. Gaurav Wahi, Harpreet, Samarth and Kirtiman play exceptionally well.

Our team played a match against the 11 Guards and beat them 96-82. We also played against 15 Grenadiers. The tall army men lost 100-74.

Samarth, Akshi, Kirtiman, Harpreet and Gaurav have gone to Lucknow as members of the State team. We wish them all the best.

Basketball for the term is over. Our team performed very well this term. We were Runners Up in the Prof.K.K.Shukla Men's Tournament. We won the Golden Jubilee and reached the semi-finals in the Afzal Khan. We also won several other matches. The team deserves a pat on their back and a loud cheer for Mr.Vachani who coached our team throughout the term.

The Badminton team played two fixtures against the Doon School on their court and the other on ours. The Welhamites won 4 out of 7 matches played on their court. On our courts, some juniors were also given a chance to play. We lost a majority of the matches played.

Our Tennis team did quite well in the Councils despite lack of prior coaching. Rohit (captain) had just got his plaster cut so he could not play. Ashish Mathur, Akbar, Ankur, Gurkirat and Surya represented the school.

The first match was against Marshall School. Ashish lost his singles 4-6,4-6. The doubles players, Akbar and Ankur did quite well. The first set was won by us. The match was won by Marshall School with the final score 2-6,12-10,6-4. Coming second in our pool, we entered the semi-finals against the Doon School. Ashish lost 6-1,6-1. We lost the doubles because of lack co-ordination. The score was 6-4,6-2.

The Welham Hockey team gave an extraordinary performance in the Council Tournament. Despite the fact that we had no coach to guide us, we managed to enter the finals.

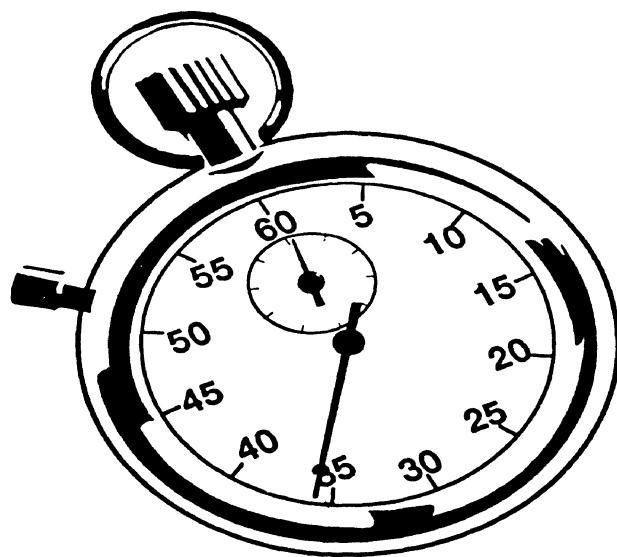
The Junior team played their final match against Colonel Brown. The scores were equal till three-fourth of the game when unluckily a goal was scored against us. We were the Runners Up in the Jr. section.

The Senior team spearheaded by Vijay Nishant did an excellent job. The first match they played was against Guru Nanak Academy. Our attack line was quite good and we won with a score of 3-0.

In the semi-finals, we met St.Joseph's Academy. A brilliant game was played by Absar Hussain. He scored three goals. Prashant Singh, playing well too, scored two goals. We won with a score of 7-1.

The final match was against Doon School. Absar scored a goal in the first half and we gained a lead. The second half was not taken seriously by our players. The Doscors scored two goals against us. A penalty was also granted to the Doscors. Rumaan Kidwai saved the it with a nice dive. The score was 2-1 with the match in favour of the Doscors.

The Inter House Hockey and Welham Open Volleyball matches have started. I will have quite a lot to write in the next issue. Till then..... Goodbye.



*Get Ready For Athletics!*

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