

THE OLYMPIAN

No. 178

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

February 17th, 1996

Think About it

If ignorance is bliss, then why learn?

-Anon

EDITORIAL

Valentines Day is a-coming, many hearts are a-pining for a little loving everyone is a-hoping. The term returns and brings us back to our chaotic rhythm of life. Resolutions to remember and promises to keep spin around in our heads till we can scarcely sleep.

Procrastination of the inevitable i.e. the new prefect body has led to many dispirited eleventhies including yours truly to stalk the campus with heavy hearts and sweaty brows

Apparently, the growth of long hair is symbolic of a successful holiday, as almost everyone in P.H. returned with yards of the stuff trailing behind them. Unfortunately for these eco friendly studs who do not believe in deforestation, a crisp command from the new H.M. had them looking less 'dense'.

The staff in school is gearing up to welcome(?) the new I.S.C. batch and the hottest rumour on campus is that a proposal has been put forward to make P.H. earthquake, flood, fire, and bomb proof. I wonder why?

The Dean is everywhere to be seen, ensuring that all classes are being attended and making sure that unpunctuality is met with severe action. This great effort on his part has certainly done some thing for the school track team (much to the athletic captains' delight) as everyday, someone or the other breaks the 200 metre dash record from P.H. to the classes block! Hats off to

the Dean for trying his utmostest(?) best to ensure that school discipline hits an all time high.

The cricket season has started off with a bang and the skipper is all smiles with his 100% success rate as he along with his squad really gave a visiting team the hiding of their lives. Our on-the-spot sports correspondent will fill you in with the details on the last page.

The only confirmed office bearers in school are the Sports Captains who, to their credit, have come up with fantastic ideas for the smooth sailing of their respective sports.

Sports fixtures are in no shortage and with the amount of dedicated practice that goes in to making a team that runs like a well oiled machine, Welham sports can definitely soar to greater heights.

The campus is still being spruced up with construction under progress in different corners of the school. It is indeed an encouraging sight to see the making and improvement of a school in front of your very eyes.

As this is the first issue of the term, there is not very much I can say except that I hope one of Cupid's love arrows selects you this Valentine and who knows, maybe this time around you get lucky?! I seem to have exhausted my supply of fancy endings and so therefore on a plain note, see you next time,

-Rumaan (1)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ed,

Let me introduce myself first. I am Rajesh Motawarri (C-361) from the batch of '85 i.e. the tenth class board exams.

A lot has happened since then. I got my bachelors in computer science from R.E.C. Nagpur and my masters in computer science and engineering from the University of Florida. In between, I had worked for a software development company in Hyderabad.

Currently, I am heading a software firm in Bangalore and would like to restore my links with my first alma mater. As a first step, I would like to pledge a subscription to the school magazine. I also look forward to visiting school for the Founder's Day Celebrations.

I was wondering whether you maintain a record of the addresses of the alumni. I was looking for the addresses of the following, all from the batch of '85- Sandeep Singh Rawat, Mujeeb Ahmed (Mujib), Vijit Swaney and Anil Kumar Thakur.

It's been a long time, but I sincerely hope that you can help me out.

Do you still have Ganga, Jamuna, Cauvery and Krishna? I was in Cauvery and man, we had one hell of a sports team. Hope that spirit is being kept up. GO CAUVERYGO!!!

By the way, I was popularly known as Pondali at Welham. Don't ask me what that is, your guess is as good as mine.

Take care,

Yours,

Rajesh.

Ed: It's really nice to hear from you Rajesh. A lot has happened in the decade you have been away from Welham. There has been no looking back for us and with every coming year we have only progressed further.

(2)

There are a host of new complexes on the campus ranging from a multi-purpose hall for sports facilities to a Learning Resources Centre that caters to any intellectual pursuit under the sun.

We here at the board are flattered that you should want a subscription and will certainly ensure that you get one. I shall do my best to get the addresses of the exies you wanted which I shall enclose in my letter to you. I look forward to meeting during the Founder's Day Celebrations. Do try and make it as you should really see what school is all about now.

Dear Ed,

I am glad to see the progress the Oliphant has made. I have one suggestion and that is to make Lampoon a regular feature as it makes interesting reading as it did in the Founder's Day issue.

Yours,

Mr. Vinod Singh

Ed: As far as interesting reading goes, Lampoon certainly is very readable but publishing it in every issue may take away the novelty of it and thus make it an ordinary column, however, we would welcome contributions for publication.

Dear Ed,

It certainly is very encouraging to note the new constructions coming up all over the campus. The Pavilion, in particular, is a good idea but at the current rate of progress it seems that it will be completely ready only after the cricket season. The following season i.e. hockey will have no great use of the Pavilion.

Yours critically,

A cricket fan.

Ed: Remember bud, Rome wasn't built in a day.

LITERARY AFFAIRS

Addicts of a Different Kind

If you are one of those people who relish dissecting human characters, then you will equally enjoy reading the following, which gives the marked, curious idiosyncrasies of the various Star T.V. addicts.

The Channel [V] Maverick

Did that freak out there dressed in flourescent green bermudas, purple bandana, pink T-shirt, numerous beads and ten rings on his fingers with an additional ear-ring greet you with a vociferous, 'YO' or a screeching 'Hallo Babe...!?' Did he then proceed to shuffle out a wierd dance sequence and yell out, 'Roll Baby Roll!?' Then, my dear reader, you have had the honour of meeting the wierdest creation of mankind alive - THE CHANNEL [V] ADDICT.

Conversation is out of the question as the language spoken by the aforementioned is quite above the reach of the normal human grasp of spoken languages. He speaks at a speed and rhythm accomplished only by Channel [V] maniacs and the great masters of Rap `n Rock. To familiarise yourself with such a personage, one has to take up scrutinising the principles of Channel [V] itself.

The B.B.C. Fundamentalist

This person on meeting any living organism, be it man or animal, will begin conversation by giving you precise details about the day's weather and the possibilities of rainfall in your city as well as the other 7,43,271 cities around the world. He will then embark upon a descriptive and factual account of a certain paper signed by a certain ruler of the Congo basin and a speech given by the President of Fiji. Next

he will update you on the Hawala scandal.

People suffering from insomnia should crave the presence of these knowledgeable personalities as they are an effective cure. Unfortunately, they are extremely erratic companions as every now and then, they rush to their T.V. sets to catch the news on the hour.

The Star Plus Fantasizer

*See that girl over there with a misty look in her eyes wandering aimlessly, mumbling something about being 'Bold and Beautiful', M*A*S*H*ing about the Neighbour's Picket Fences and Star Trekking into the extraordinary next generation. That my dear reader was your encounter with a hardcore S.P.A. - Star Plus Addict. When species of this kind are detected in front of the idiot box, their eyes pop out, tongues hang out and they don't turn away from the screen even if you set their pants on fire and grilled sausages on them!!*

The prevalent topic of discussion in these circles is about some guy who nearly drowned in Baywatch, how spunky some dame called Nikki is, how big a stud Ronn Moss is and other such assorted garbage. The height of an intellectual debate would be points for and against renaming Baywatch to Babewatch! A bit of sincere advice from me would caution you to steer clear of these 'Star struck' types.

The Prime Sportaholic

He is absolutely unmissable. He can be heard over a mile away displaying his awesome lung power as he hollers something about perfect exercise technique every time (ala Tony Little of the Ab Isolator

fame.)

If not heard, he can most certainly be smelt as the amount of sweat and toe jam he generates adds a new dimension to the bio-war. No matter what you eat, he will most certainly snatch it out of your hand, rattle of the total carbohydrate, fat and calorie content your innocent snack has. In its place he will give you some vile looking concoction that supposedly adds a few minutes to your life but most certainly takes a few kilos of you as you throw up everything you have had before. If you really want to stay healthy - avoid him.

The Zee T.V. Devotee

This species has not been thoroughly scrutinised as they are rarely seen

The Onlookers

Another boring day dawned on mankind that left yet another congregation of mortals with naught to do but to look on. A crowd gathered in front of an open door that belonged to a man.

When the man sat reading a newspaper they said, "Look! The man is reading a newspaper."

When the man ate his lunch, they said, "Look! The man is eating."

When the man slept, they said, "Look! The man is sleeping."

After sometime the man got up and as he was getting ready to go somewhere he met with a severe heart attack. His condition was like a fish out of water and he desperately tried to reach the inner pocket of his coat where his medicine was kept.

They said, "Look! The man is in need of help." They were unmoved.

And the man died of a heart attack. They said, "Look! The man is dead."

They stood there for another two minutes without saying anything and then moved on to the next door.

--Mr. Vinod Singh

anywhere else other than in front of their T.V. sets. Their conversation is very limited ranging from the escapades of some hep female called 'Tara' to the hot numbers from the 'Phillips Top Ten'. Do not disturb them as they would probably enact the 'Zee Horror Show' which could most certainly be hazardous to health as you may die laughing.

Author's note :- *The author will not be held responsible for injuries sustained by any reader or anyone inspired by this soul-stirring article, trying to analyse addicts on his/her own.*

*--Siddharth Choraria
Class XI*

Sheer Nothingness

Starry yesterdays and sunny tomorrows, moony todays full of joys and sorrows. The sanguine sunset and awakening dawn, the call of the cricket and dew upon the lawn. Clouds of ambition and specks of dust all for humanity are certainly a must.

To let the morning breeze breathe the sigh of life into you and let the tranquility of the night lead you into a serene slumber, is no more than to help but smile at the sight of puppy or cower before eternal doom. The flowers of prosperity and the grass of hope grow along beside the crumbling gravel of yesterday. The moon's silvery light almost but not entirely drowns the light from the fireflies as they flit around weaving intricate illuminous patterns in the night sky waiting for what no one appears to see and maybe what no one can see. I witness all this from my seat up here as I glance earthwards, I cannot help but let a smile mark my face.

--The Unknown Soldier

Obituary

On behalf of the Welham Community we offer our heart felt condolences to Mr. Shridhar for the sad demise of his father. May the departed soul rest in peace.

Someday To Lean On

Have you ever heard a silent tear? No I am not talking rubbish, instead I speak for them. They who cannot speak for themselves. They are not social outcasts in our society. They are sent to us as special people and it is our privilege to serve them.

Till yesterday I had just heard about the disabled. I did not know much about them and neither was I interested.

I left Sherwood, Nainital and joined Welham Boys', Dehra Dun in class XI. For my S.U.P.W. I chose the Cheshire Home; not because I was interested but because I thought it was an easy way to skip other difficult things.

My first visit to the home changed my entire attitude towards the subject. I found myself doing little things for them to make them happy. Every little laugh filled me with immense pleasure and before I knew it I had committed myself to their cause. I saw the hope in their eyes. The hope to be loved and looked after with eyes that had the patience of a marble statue and hearts as good as gold I could not help but desire to serve them till eternity.

It justs a matter of time and chance before we find ourselves in that place. Imagine yourself in their shoes and ask yourselves what you would expect from the world. Would you expect kindness, love and understanding or would you expect to be ostracized by society.

Instead of worshipping idols and serving stones, help the disabled and witness the pleasure you gain by serving them. Do not see them as dependents but see them as stone gods who cannot do anything for themselves. After all, stone idols cannot do anything can they? Atleast the helpless appreciate whatever little you do and just the lint on their faces or the shine on their eyes reflects the enormity of their appreciation. Fellow humans, you can call them living gods sent from heaven to test

us.

Let us serve them together and not ignore them. We can make their world brighter and happier thereby heightening the level of accomplishment in our lives.

If you cannot yet bring yourself to feel for them imagine your closest and dearest ones in their stead and then maybe your feeling of helpless ambiguity mixed with the desire to devote every waking hour of your life will help you to relate to these unfortunate souls.

I am not asking for too much, all I ask for is to spare a few hours a week and visit the Cheshire Home. If your visit does not inspire you to dedicate yourself to their cause, so be it. There is absolutely no compulsion for who am I to insist?

All I say is that just give it a try and then maybe you will understand what I am harping on. I assure you once you lend your services to them, it will become a way of life and maybe one day if all humans were to think along the same lines this world would become a better place for you and for me and the entire human race.

Humanity as a whole should learn a lesson from them. Us fortunate types turn to drugs and suicide and at the slightest hint of depression, and even the smallest of things drives the human brain to react in the most extraordinary ways. We while away most of our time on earth busy trying to execute our own greedy desires and ensuring in every possible way that absolutely nobody offers us the slightest challenge. Look at them. For them challenge is a way of life which is greeted as readily as we greet a new day. They do not ask for wealth or material benefits, all they want is somebody to love, a shoulder to lean on.

**--Ahmad Nawaz Khan
Class XI**

NATURE'S DIARY

A Green Campus

Many members of our school society must have dreamt of developing the campus into a nature's haven. But few of them have ever put their plan into actual practice.

A Green Campus would mean one which is extremely eco-friendly and also nurtures a wide variety of plants, animals and birds.

Building our school into one such campus would have manifold benefits. Man learns a lot from nature. Living very close to nature transforms a human being. The rude, critical, ignorant and destructive attitude is changed. One becomes mentally as well as physically healthy.

We need to formulate a plan for the development of our school campus. Trees should be planted at appropriate places. There should be a few secluded spots to relax. Artificial ponds should be created. Gardens, aviaries and green houses should be constructed all over the campus. There should be dustbins for different materials like glass, plastic and bio-degradable wastes.

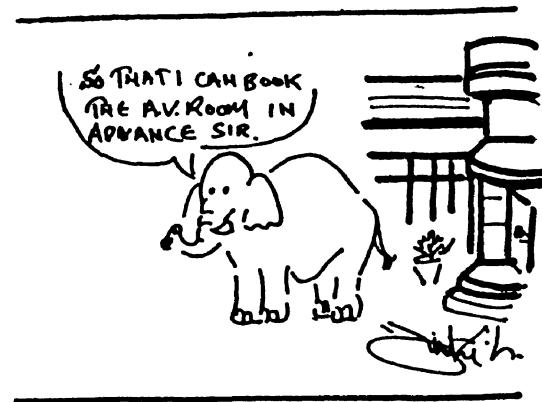
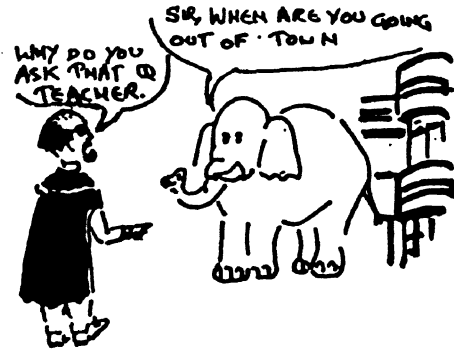
Already about ninety species of birds have been spotted in our school. There are also civet cats and mongoose and other nocturnal animals which wander about at night.

One step towards such a development is the Flower Show to be held in March next year.

But ultimately it is the school's students on whom the responsibility of constructing as well as maintaining the campus lies. The same littering students have to change into a bunch of creative and eco-friendly lot. Only then that such a dream will come true.

-Digvijay Lamba
Class X

OLI THE ELE



W.O.B.N.

We congratulate Raj Kumar Abhay Singh on getting married to Kumari Kimani.

We also congratulate Rakesh Nath on marrying Simone Stein.

Rajesh Motawarri (C-361) is currently heading a software firm in Bangalore after doing his Masters in computer science and engineering from the University of Florida.

Navbir Singh Aurora (G-453) has been elected to the post of Vice President of the Dental College, Belgaum. This is the first time in the history of the college that a third year student has been elected to such a post. Our congratulations.

The school has got a new bus, a DCM Daewoo. The W.B.S. Community would like to thank Mr. Vivek Bharat Ram, an old boy, for donating the bus to the school. The interiors of the bus, painting, etc. was done by kind courtesy Mr. H.S. Chadha.

WELHAM NOW

1. The following boys have been appointed as Captains for various sports for the year 1996-'97:

Athletics - Ahmed Nawaz Khan

Badminton - Ashish Gupta

Basketball - Samarth P. Singh

Cricket - Ashish Patodia

Football - Gaurav Katwal

Hockey - Rumaan Kidvai

Squash - Gurkirat Singh Aurora

Swimming - Varun Puri

Table Tennis - Umar Trumboo

Taekwondo - Amrinder Singh Sachdev

Tennis - Surya Sud

Volleyball - Gautam Khullar

Gym-in-charge - Vinayak Prasad

2. The following boys were awarded the Scholars Scarves for the year 1995-'96:

(i) Ankur Nigam

(ii) Bharat B. Garg

(iii) Sudeep Chaudhuri

(iv) Rumaan Kidvai

3. The following boys were awarded the Service to the Community Award for the year 1995-'96:

(i) Pratyush Patodia

(ii) Prashant Singh

(iii) Ashish Gupta

4. Mr. Pant is the new P.H. House Master. Mr. Painuli, the former House Master has been appointed as the President of the Welham Adventure Club. We congratulate them on behalf of the school.

5. Mr. Joy Arora got married on the 24th of January 1996. On behalf of the school community we extend our heartiest congratulations to the new couple.

6. A group of boys attended a SPIC MACAY programme held at the Welham Girls' Cam-

pus on the 9th of this month.

7. The School Sports' Committee meeting was held in the staff dining hall on the 10th of this month.

8. We bid a very happy farewell to Miss Harminder Kaur and Mr. Alexander Sharpe. There have been two new arrivals in the staff namely Mrs Anjali Menon as the new Triveni House Matron and Miss Diane Llewelin as a textile designer from Wales.

9. Mr. Negi has retired as the school's Admission Officer. We greatly appreciate his service to Welham and wish him a happy retirement.

Our congratulations to our Treasurer Maj. Gen. R. Bakshi who has been honoured with the B.J. Modi National Award for services to the handicapped.

PUZZLE

It is said that in the interiors of our sub-continent there lie two villages namely Rajgarh and Ramgarh. The former was famous for its lies, the latter for its honesty. A surveyor was sent to Rajgarh but unfortunately he lost his way and did not know the way. He reached a bifurcation in the road. All he knew that one road went to Rajgarh and the other towards Ramgarh.

It is at this spot that he meets a farmer who seems to be from one of the two villages as there are no other villages around. The farmer is in a great hurry and allows the surveyor to ask only a single question. What should the surveyor ask to reach his destination?

(Answer to this puzzle will be printed in the next issue.)

RINGSIDE VIEW

This was truly a sporty interlude if ever there was one. Right through the holidays we were showered with fabulous sporting activities around the globe (all thanks to satellite television.)

After almost two decades the Indian Hockey Team is finally showing signs of promise as they virtually demolished all their opponents in the pre-Olympic qualifiers. Pargat Singh and his squad have never looked better and the slightest slip up by the opponents defence is lapped up by the Indians lads with the ball nearly always in the goal.

Tennis fanatics had a field day as nearly everyones favourite Boris Becker put an end to his lean patch by winning the Australian Open for the second time. Monica Seles took full advantage of Steffi Graf's absence and went on to win the Ladies Final. There was some excellent display of tennis by the plucky Chanda Rubin and the over shadowed Anke Huber. Hard hitting Australian Mark Phillipoussis sent the number one seed Pete Sampras packing in straight sets; but in the very next round underdog compatriot Mark Woodeford ranked 64th in the world out-classed him.

The much hyped XXX Super Bowl had the Dallas Cowboys going in for a third consecutive win against the Steelers after crushing the Green Bay Packers. The Cowboys' coach Jerry Jones has gone down in the American Football Hall of Fame and has even got a baseball card to his credit.

Eden Gardens had its second most

important occasion after the 1987 Prudential Cup Finals and that was the opening ceremony of the 1996 Wills World Cup. Unfortunately, the laser show had to pack up due to strong winds and the compere Sayeed Jafferey seemed to make as many faux pas as the number of spectators.

Speaking of cricket, the season is in full swing on campus with the new skipper putting the team through gruelling hours of rigorous practise. This energetic devotion to sport has most certainly paid off as Welham crushed their first opponents the Dehra Young Club by a massive eight wickets.

The outsiders amassed a total of a 110 runs for the loss of eight wickets in twenty overs. Akbar Ali and Samarth Singh opened for Welham. After a terrific display of batting technique by our top order batsmen, we crossed their total with ease only for the loss of two wickets. Akbar Ali scored a massive 60 runs and remained not out and Muzaffar Ali and Samarth helped with 15 runs each.

Fielding and bowling was equally splendid with a minimal amount of misfields and fantastic bowling by Amit Parashar, Ashish Patodia, Gaurav Katwal and Muzaffar Ali. Amit and Muzaffar took two wickets each with Ashish and Gaurav claiming one each. Gaurav seems to be highly influenced by the Bodyline series on Star Plus as he has every batsman ducking all over the place to keep his precious face intact.

The school squash team is also practising hard for upcoming matches.

Sportily yours.

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Published By : WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

Registration No. :- 20208/86