



THE OLYMPIANT

No. 181

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

April 15th, 1996

Think About It

There are no atheists in the fox holes.

—William Thomas

EDITORIAL

'Water, water nowhere and, obviously, not a drop to drink.' Sorry for the plagiarism but a sudden storm knocked over several trees in the campus and consequently brought the power and water supply to a halt. These unfortunate circumstances have compelled me to highlight the plight of thirsty students staggering around school in dire need of some water. One should be thankful that this occurred while spring is still in the air and the hot, sweaty days of Summer have not yet arrived.

The worst hit, in the water crisis, was P.H. until its benevolent new House Master stepped in and ensured that his wards got enough water, atleast, in the mornings and evenings.

There have been, recently, many warnings issued but the Head against the accelerating misdemeanours of some senior boys. The Head has finally decided to put his foot down and resort to very strict action against any erring senior student. It is a pity, that only now have we been made to realise that all these 'liberties' that we thought went gratis with ones ascent to the top of the ladder come with being responsible too. Over a period of time, many privileges have been taken away leaving a natural feeling of disappointment. Hopefully, with the required improvement in discipline these privileges will slowly be resorted.

The Head's repeated warnings have taken effect and a tight vigil being kept by the House Master has brought the famed nocturnal activities of P.H. to a virtual standstill.

For the first time, the school held a special thirty minute awards ceremony, to recognise achievers in the academic front. This ceremony is called the Scholars' Recognition Day. Several awards were presented, including awards for boys who individually excelled in their respective subjects. This recognition is a positive step, as in the past it was only the achievers in the sports' field who basked in all the glory. Hopefully, this new awards' ceremony will continue to be an annual feature in the school calendar.

The much delayed Hockey season has now kicked off and all the hockey enthusiasts have taken to the field in droves. One can spot daily, the energetic Hockey Captain leading his eager squad to practice. There is an extra spring in their step since practice sessions are now being held in the Girls' School hockey field.

To sum up the past week's events, the announcement of auditions for the Joint Production generated tremendous excitement among the students. A horde of aspiring actors showed up to try their luck at the auditions, the added incentive being the fact that the play is to be directed by a staff member of Girls' School and the practice would be held there.

Unfortunately, due to the cast requirements being small only four boys were selected. The rest returned school crest-fallen and dejected. All I can say to console them is, "Never mind, there is always next year....."

*—Aditya
(1)*

W.O.B.N.

Mohinder Bedi is now serving in the Indian army in Sindi House.

Devrat Kichie has joined the Indian Army and is posted in Amritsar and would be glad to meet old boys' passing through.

Excerpts from a Letter to the Secretary of the Welham Old Boys' Society

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter dated 20th February, 1996.

It has been more than 52 years since I was a student of this great Institution "THE WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL" from 1944 to 1946. The foundations of my professional life were laid at Welham, and I treasure my two years at this school.

I note that the school is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee in 1997. I am proud of this year and I wish the school many more years of the same standard.

Miss Oliphant who headed Welham Boys' School during my stay was a towering personality and what I learnt from her has been the base of my success in my practical life.

I distinctly remember two examples which she narrated to the students.

The first was an example on the blessings of unity among individuals, family and nations.

She said the British Colonialists went to a village in an under-developed country of Africa, where they wore few clothes and were totally uneducated.

A fruit basket was placed 100 yards away and about 50 villagers were asked to run towards it, the first to reach would get the entire basket. All the 50 looked at each other, they all caught each others hands and ran together, reached the basket together and shared the contents.

It was a lesson to the Colonialists that here was a tribe that always stayed together and shared their difficulties and pleasure together.

Another example she gave was that of belief in faith.

She mentioned that story of an Ambassador of a country accredited to another country.

The Ambassador had his office on the second floor and he kept a plaque on his table that read "THIS TOO WILL PASS AWAY".

Once the relations between his country and his host country became tense, a large crowd came shouting slogans against the Ambassador's country, throwing rotten eggs and stones at his Embassy. The Ambassador watched this from the window of his office and went back to his table and read the quote "THIS TOO WILL PASS AWAY".

The incident passed, days and months went by.

Many days later, relations between his country and his host country became very pleasant. A similar crowd again came to his office, this time shouting pleasant slogans, with garlands of flowers and placards of friendship. The Ambassador looked at this pleasant scene through the window, went back to his table and read the quote "THIS TOO WILL PASS AWAY".

The moral of the story is do not get too discouraged when conditions are not in your favour and also do not get too encouraged when all is too good.

Both the above stories have been a guide-line for me through my entire life.

I hope these stories are of some benefit to your students.

I will try and attend your Diamond Jubilee from 31st October to 2nd November, 1997.

My highest regards to Mr. Kandhari. We pleasantly remember his visit to Lahore in 1985. With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shahzada A. Monnoo.

(The Chairman of MONNOO Group, Lahore, Pakistan.)

Excerpts from Letters to Mr.Kandhari

Dear Sir,

I have been meaning to write to you for a very long time but have just not managed to find the time to do so. I heard about the accident of Gautam, all of us in Delhi are very sorry about it. I am sure it must have been very difficult for you to go through the tragedy. I keep hearing about things going on in school through various people and ofcourse get a lot of news from the Oliphant.

The last time I met you I think I had mentioned that I had been selected by The UB Group to work in Bangalore. I worked with them for about seven months and I had a good training stint. Due to my father's health I had been looking for an opening in Delhi. Now I have taken over a company which is an IATA Approved Travel Agency based in Delhi and I am heading this unit. We are not very big at present with an approx. turnover of 3.5 crores but there is immense scope for growth in this line of business. As of now I am keeping myself busy revamping the systems in the office so that the service we provide is of excellent quality.

Mohit Saigal (Ex-30) is these days in Delhi and is doing a course in advertising with The National Institute of Advertising. He seems to be enjoying himself and feels that he has finally found what he really wanted to do. Prashant Gupta (Ex-270) and Akash Kumar (Ex-319) have tied the nuptial knot to Avantika and Sapna respectively. Puneet Trehan (Ex-68) is now heading a successful Interior Designing Company and undertakes turnkey project of interiors and construction business. Shantanu Srivastava (Ex-416) is working with RAMCO Systems in Madras and will soon be transferred to Bombay. Ankush Bansal (Ex-56) is working with the Unit Trust of India in Bombay. Manpreet Hora (Ex-329) is in Australia doing his MBA. Kratu Khanna (Ex-92) who left school after tenth grade has finished his education from USA and is back in Delhi to join a company which

under takes contracts of plumbing and sanitation. Amurag Kumar (Ex-440) is now working with the Bank of America in their Cards Division. It is really nice to see the change in him.

I received Jagjit's letter concerning the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. if there is anything you feel I can help with, please do let me know. We seriously need to put our minds to on getting the old boys together and helping the school out to bring out the best in the Diamond Jubilee. It is sad to see that at most of the ex-Welhamite gatherings, all of us old boys, come, eat and drink to our hearts content, talk a lot about what we should do for the school and then the next morning forget about everything. Maybe we need to organise meetings on a more regular basis so that the old boys don't get out of touch with each other. All of us need to realise that these meetings of old boys are excellent platforms to meet people and develop contacts which apart from other things also help in business!

If you are visiting Delhi in the near future, please do let me know. It would be really nice to meet you.

Sincerely yours,

Nikhil Kriplani.

Dear Sir,

It is sad to note about the demise of Gautam Khullar, in the school news letter I received.

Gautam was a jovial person and as said, quite famous for his 'antics'. Having a responsible eye, I could never fail to notice the 'naughty Khullar' on the campus. Of course, his contribution to sports and other activities of school were no less visible. It is a great loss to have him missing from the school strength.

My condolences to his friends and the bereaved family.

Yours truly,

Vijay Bishnoi
Ex-464-J

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LITERARY AFFAIRS

Before It's too Late

*Before I turn eccentric,
Before I go mad,
Let me cherish the memories of,
The time spent with my mom and dad.*

*Before I fight the trammels,
Before I hit the ground,
Let me remember fighting is no trifling,
But a problem, profound.*

*Before I kick the sand,
Before I bite the dust,
Let me think and decide,
Decide, it's only me whom I can trust.*

*Before I throw the grenade,
Before I fire my gun,
Let me recall rather than showing your back,
It's always better to be dead.*

*Before I run into trouble,
Before I'm shadowed with doubt,
Let me get the power,
The power to fight this bout.*

*Before I'm beseiged by foes,
Before I'm crammed under pressure,
Let my spirits be rejuvenated,
So I'll learn to think better.*

*Before I'm down on my knees,
Before I'm at someone's mercy,
Let me fight it out with all my best,
Cause life, we know, is one big test.*

*Before I start cursing,
This confounded world, me and the war,
Let me never,
Take liking to 'abhor'.*

*Before I start thinking,
That everything is futile,
Let me not forget, that step,
Is the beginning of the journey of thousand miles.*

*Before I make this endeavour,
Before I go all wild,*

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*Let me remember to be,
Calm, cool and not riled.*

*Before I'm fully prepared,
To answer this one question,
Let not my mind be,
Overcast with suspicion.*

*Before I stumble,
And say I can't,
Let a will come over,
And say I will.*

*Before I'm weak with fatigue,
Before I face death,
Let my inspiration say fight,
Fight till your very last breath.*

*Before I run out of lassitude,
'Cause victory is beyond my reach,
Let me still stick to my,
Ambition, like a leech.*

*Before I'm convulsed in fear,
And cannot do what I should,
Let me have the guts not to crib and say,
I couldn't than I could.*

*Before I go blind,
And lose the power to see,
Let always my instincts and mind,
Get the better of me.*

*Before I'm out to give,
All I've got,
Let me spell 'pride' for my country,
Not the world 'blot'.*

*All this I say to you almighty,
Cause I'm still in dark,
There is still some time,
And I need your heavenly light.*

*'Before it is too late.....
And I give up the fight.'*

*--Aayush Singh Negi
Class X-B*

The Sorcerer and the Sadist

The rooster crowed, the crow flew from its roost cawing in an apprehensive welcome of the new dawn, the robin twittered and human-kind dithered.

The preacher preached, the drunkard reeked, children played and the priest prayed. The Sorcerer saw this and sneered triumphantly. Normalcy was soon to give way to a world of total disarray. Global perspective would be a fable and all that would remain would be wishes and dust.

He had succeeded, his spell had worked. Humankind was one - The Sadist. The Sadist laughed when a child wept, jeered at mirth, rejoiced in cruelty, oppression and wrong. He was a devout devotee of the dear devil.

Sadism was his pursuit and oppression was his goal, it seemed that the lowlife had no goddamned soul. Creativity was curbed and mans greatest creations were destroyed or done away with. Those that resisted the Sadist were annihilated. A motley group of survivors remained and called themselves The Human.

The Sorcerer descended, the Sadist was all aglow as he placed himself at the beck and call of his lord. The Sorcerer snapped and he obeyed. In the time that elapsed, the Sadist grew weary, but continued his designated eternal slavery.

Eventually he repented - it was far too late, the Sorcerer had triumphed twice over. The Sadist cried as he realized that his fate lay in the hands of the Sorcerer. As he cried, there were no tears, he shouted but there was no sound, he prayed, there was no God. Only the Sorcerer and the Sadist. The Human, poor soul had been wiped off the face of the planet.

The Sadist realized that he had been duped. He rose to strike down the Sorcerer but the latter floored him with a mere flap of his cloak. The Sadist faced the Sorcerer's wrath as he lay writhing in acute agony. The Sorcerer roared in laughter as the Sadist's convulsions metamorphosised into a stiill, cold death.

The Sorcerer had won.

--The Unknown Soldier

WACKY WOODSEATERS

My Hostel

My hostel is big. My hostel has a big playground. I like the hostel. I also like my bed. I have many friends. I like to play with my friends.

*--Alark
Class II A*

I like taking bath. I like my hostel. I have one friend Pradeep. I like him very much. The beds in my hostel are very good.

*--Mani
Class II A*

I like the hostel very much. I like to play on the swings very much with my friends. I like to talk and play in the tea room. My hostel is very big.

*--Ranveer
Class II B*

There are many boys' in my hostel. My friend is Karan. I like to play with my friend. I like to play in the hostel. I sleep in my hostel.

*--Ishan
Class II A*

I like my hostel very much. I like to play football and cricket. I am enjoying the hostel very much. I like the drawings in the hostel.

*--Shrey
Class II A*

I like to study and play. I like my hostel very much and I like children very much. I like Mukherjee Ma'am. There are many windows and doors in the hostel. There are many bathrooms.

*--Tushar
Class I*

I have a very small bed. There are many

beds in my hostel. There are many chairs and tables too in my hostel. There is a sandpit outside my hostel. I like to play in the sand pit because it has got many swings.

*--Diptanshu
Class I*

My hostel has many rooms. There are bathrooms also. I have bath in them. There is a tea room where I have tea with my friends. I like to talk with them.

*--Anshuman
Class I*

I like drawing and studying. I like to play cricket. I have many friends in the hostel. My hostel is very big and clean. I have to get up very early in the morning. I also like my school.

*--Shitji
Class I*

I make many friends in the hostel. I like painting. I like to play cricket. My school has many fields like Lion Field and the Nehru Field. My hostel has many good players and sirs and ma'ams. I like my hostel very much.

*--Abhimanyu
Class II A*

My hostel has one sandpit. There are many swings. It also has one tea-room. I have tea there. I like it a lot. I like to play in the II A field.

*--Ashish
Class I*

There are many lights and fans in my hostel. There are many bathrooms. We hang our clothes. The walls are very clean.

*--Sameer
Class II A*

I play in the evening. I like to play hockey. I can not play in the hostel. I like the school. I like my seniors. I like to play carrom board.

*--Abhishek
Class I*

NATURE'S DIARY

Man As A Part of Nature

Peep inside yourself and you will find that you are no different than the tiger in the jungle or the crow in the sky or the turtle in the sea. We evidently are animals and it is only the small mass of convulated matter in the skull which makes us superior to the others.

Man is a part of nature and hence destroying nature will ultimately lead to his own destruction. It is time that mankind understands and reacts to the above statement. Nature sustains us but the pace at which man is exploiting it will only damage it to an extent that it shall never return to its earlier form.

According to Darwin, no species exists forever. Every species meet its end due to the evolution of better ones by natural selection. They all perish with time. Contrary to the fact that animals evolve over a long period of time into physically superior creatures, man has used his brain to supplement this with the means of physical tools. Due to medical science "natural selection" or "survival of the fittest" does not have a major role to play in our evolution.

The human brain is certainly the most magnificent creation of Nature but Nature itself is far too strong for the human brain. We come across more problems than solutions. Existence is pretty tough job. Till when will science save our civilization from perishing?

We have already polluted the seas, replaced forests with concrete jungles, damaged the intricate balance between animals, we are on the verge of finishing exhaustible energy sources and have increased the burden on the resources by the increase in population. How long will science keep running the fight for our survival against Nature's adversity.

The day we forget to learn to co-exist in harmony with Nature will be the beginning of our end.

*--Digvijay Lamba
Class XI*

WELHAM NOW

1. The Inter-House Western Music Competition was held on the 27th of March. It was a fun-filled evening for the audience as they were soon absorbed by the rhythmic co-ordination of all various instruments. As is evident from the below scores, the competition was stiff and enjoyed by one and all. The results were as follows :

Best Solo

First Saurabh Gupta - 120 pts.
Second Manish Gupta - 118 pts.

Best Choir

First Jamuna House - 115 pts.
Second Ganga House - 112 pts.

Best House

First Jamuna House - 226 pts.
Second Krishna House - 225 pts.

2. A School Committee Meeting was held in the staff dining room on the 4th of this month.

3. The First Round of the Inter-House Science Quiz was supposed to be held on the 6th of this month. But due to disruption of electricity, the Quiz was postponed by a day. The Quiz was organised by the boys' of Class XII-Science with due regard to the level of the Junior classes. It was a well organised and conducted quiz arousing everyone's interest. The final tally was :

First Krishna House - 136 pts.
Second Jamuna House - 126 pts.
Third Cauvery House - 106 pts.
Fourth Ganga House - 85 pts.

4. A Food Committee Meeting was held on the 8th of this month.

5. The Cricket Season is over with the end of the Seniors Inter-House Cricket matches. The Hockey Season commenced with full vigour and enthusiasm, from the 8th of this month, under the captainship of Rumaan Kidwai.

6. On the 10th of this month, a Special

Assembly was held in the Activity Centre to recognize and reward the Scholars for the year 1995-96. It was a formal ceremony conducted by Mr. Kandhari. The prizes which included cups, certificates and a Scholar's robe were presented to the scholars by Mrs. Kandhari.

The following were recognised in various subjects :

SENIOR SECTION **BEST STUDENT**

English - Rumaan Kidwai
Mathematics - Ashish Gupta
Computer Science - Ashish Gupta
Hindi - Abhinav Agarwal
Geography - Nikunj Gupta
History - Abhinav Agarwal

(There were no prizes for BEST STUDENT in Physics, Chemistry & Biology.)

JUNIOR SECTION **BEST STUDENT**

English - Karan Gulaya
Hindi - Mehul Mayank
Mathematics - Prashant Khemka
History - Arjun Trivedi
Geography - Amit Gupta
Physics - Arjun Trivedi
Chemistry - Abhinav Pathak
Biology - Karan Gulaya
Computer Science - Ajit Singh Bajaj
Science Quiz - Karan Gulaya

Boys' Scoring 90% and above

Divya Agarwal - 91%
Karan Gulaya - 90%
Arjun Trivedi - 90.2%
Abhinav Pathak - 90%
Manav Goel - 91%

SCHOLAR'S SCARF

Ashish Gupta
Rumaan Kidwai

RINGSIDE VIEW

During this cricket Inter-House, the school witnessed a match played in the true spirit of the game. Ganga House took the trophy with a victory which was inevitable in the end. They made a school record by hammering a total of 213 runs. Contributing to more than two-thirds of the score was Yashab Zia who made a magnificent 145 carrying his bat throughout the innings. His score was built by 31 boundaries which included six 6's.

Losing no hope, Jamuna went in to bat but with the early dismissal of their captain and key players chances seemed bleak for them. Muzaffar bowled exceptionally taking four wickets and giving just 11 runs. Jamuna House was bowled out for 110 despite Sohrab's commendable effort by scoring 30 runs. The following were recognised for their performance on the field :

SENIOR SECTION

Best All-Rounder - Muzaffar Ali

Best Batsman - Yashab Zia

Best Bowler - Nawaz Khan

Most Promising Player - Gaurav Katwal

Discovery of the Year - Rohan Baweja

JUNIOR SECTION

Best All-Rounder - Amit Parashar

Best Batsman - Kumar Abhijeet

Best Bowler - Suman Saurabh

Most Promising Player - Rahul Dawn

Discovery of the Year - Hemant Tiwari

The School Tennis team has been having regular matches with the D.A.V. College. Surya Sud and Sohrab Mulla were absolutely crushed by the first singles player so they found it a better alternative to play the second singles player as they could beat him. The score read 6-1, 6-0 in the first match which

Surya lost and 6-4, 6-1 in favour of Sohrab. Our doubles pair was represented by Gurkirat and Surya. They too went down losing 6-2, 6-2. In the reverse singles Sohrab lost 6-0, 6-0 and Surya won 6-3, 6-2.

After a long time, Volleyball is back in action and one can see Gurpreet taking regular practice. Recently the school team played a match against the Indian Institute of Petroleum. We lost the match in straight games. The score being 15-6, 15-9 and 15-13.

Although there has been a drop in the number of basketball players in the school, our team is still strong. The last few matches we played were against Sikh-Ally and the Doon boys. We lost to the former 100-97 in a closely contested match. Against the Doon boys we won 73-24 without making any extra effort. Vipul Munjal and Vivek Sharma played a very intelligent game.

Now that the Hockey Season is finally here, boys' can now be seen swinging their hockey sticks. The school team has started practice and are looking forward to forthcoming matches.

The Junior Table Tennis team recently participated in the under 14 District Championship held at M.K.P. on the 24th of March. The school was represented by Sulabh Arora, Rahul Lohia, Subashish Tapalia, Ashish Kumar, and Rahul Choraria.

Rahul Lohia and Subashish Tapalia played the quarterfinals against each other. The latter won the match playing the semi-final against a Dosco in which he lost.

Playing extremely well, Sulabh Arora reached the finals where he faced an opponent from the Doon School. Although he fought hard, he lost in three games, having won the second. The score read 16-21, 21-16 and 16-21.

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Published By : WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

Registration No. :- 20208/86