

The Elephant

No. 225

WELHAMBOYS'SCHOOL

19th March, 1999

Think About It

*If God lived on Earth, people would break his windows
- Jewish Proverb*

EDITORIAL

Towards the end of the exams, things seem to have quietened down but conditions seem difficult for class 10, especially with the prefects cracking down on them, but then again, the pressure of the ICSE's does not give anybody an excuse to disregard school rules. However, we look forward to them coming back after the exams, with a fuller appreciation for the need to follow rules.

With the passing out of yet another Class 12, waves of nostalgia sweep over the shores of Welham once more. Adults now, with a greater understanding of the world, and a song in their hearts. For many, it means moving onto different avenues, but for the new class moving into PH, it involves a mad rush of finding rooms for themselves in that mother of all houses. It's almost as if getting into one of the more desirable rooms in PH is a status symbol. And even more bizarre are some of the names given to these rooms over the years!

With the bright prospect of the mid-term break just ahead of us now, things are looking up again, and a fair chunk of the population has already fled to Auli - even though good ski slopes

are an hour's trek away from the rest house owing to the scanty snowfall! It makes me wonder if it's a sheer passion for skiing or sheer desperation?



Relief at last seems to have arrived in the form of better dining hall food. It's surprising how the change occurred almost overnight, and leaves me wondering why it wasn't implemented earlier. The 'Bullet-proof bread' and 'Elephant-ears chapatti' syndrome is gradually changing, and one that is highly appreciated by the entire community.

The renovations to the school hospital, are on the verge of completion, and the fancy use of marble everywhere, is quite a sight! I hope, we will soon be able to get an aspirin without having to climb three flights of stairs in the activity centre!

The Cricket team which went for a fixture to Sanawar is back home and although they may have not won the match, they put up a determined performance, losing only after a well fought battle. Although the cricket season is running out, I hope we shall see the team move onto victory.

Welham Now

1) Our congratulations to Mr Sandeep Khanna who was blessed with a son on 6th March, and to Mr Bhandari who was blessed with a daughter on 28th February.

2) English Quiz Contest for Juniors was held on the 8th of March the results are as follows:-

<i>First</i>	<i>Cauvery</i>
<i>Second</i>	<i>Ganga</i>
<i>Third</i>	<i>Krishna</i>

3) Ms Jennifer Nandi conducted several nature workshops for classes IX and X and also took a group of boys to Asan Barrage on a bird watching trip. She also held a slide presentation and talked about the wildlife in the region.

4) Nick Earls, the best selling Australian Author visited School on 15th March, to talk to the boys of senior school. He also read out a few of his short stories, in a wonderfully presented live show.

Literary Affairs

Millenium Madness

Epochs are rare so when they show up, people like to make the most of them. One such person is Aparna Vasudevan, a mother, has only one desire in life. The desire is to have a baby on the beginning of the new millenium. Mothers such as her want that their children should have the '00' tag on their child's birthdate. Marriages are being held on the turn of the new millenium. Cyclone, a disco in Mumbai, is getting numerous calls from couples who desire to marry as close to Epoch's end as they can. The orthodox people such as Prakash, a priest in Delhi maintains that the *Kalyug* of the present time is being ruled by 'Kalki' (the tenth avataar of Lord Vishnu) and at the end of the century there will be fight between Kalki and evil, which might result in the end of the world. Soothsayers are also going wild by predicting numerous hysterical ideas. Bejan Daruwalla also predicted that computers will also make love by the end of the century.

People always have a tendency to travel to exotic places. Well, those people who have big bucks are going to exotic places such as the Pacific and the Carribeans. Pacific is the main destination of the millenium. This is so, due to the universal truth. It is said that the first light of the millenium will fall on the island of Tonga. So people are packing their bags to be the first ones to receive the

millenium's first ray of light.

In sports too, craziness has taken the main seat. The island of Chatham is starting a horse race on the 31st of December, 00:59 pm. Or you could participate in the "2000, First to the Sun", a thousand kilometer bike ride across New Zealand from Auckland to Gisborne. Or you could trek up to the Mount Everest and be the first one to receive the millenium's first sun rays from the highest peak on the Earth. The craziness has even hit religion as Khajuraho better known as the temple of love is celebrating its thousand years of existence and Ustaad Amjad Ali Khan and Bhimsen Joshi are rendering a special composition as the sun rises on the new era.

Well, there is a controversy going on. The world believes that 2000 is the start of the third set of a thousand years but some scientists say that the millenium actually begins on 1 January, 2000. No matter what any one says the world will celebrate the arrival of the millenium on December 31st, 1999-January 1st, 2000. Festivals will be held on the start of the millenium in places such as London bridge, Berlin's Brandenburg Gate, New York's Time square, Paris's Champs de Elysees, Delhi's Connaught place, Bangalore's M G Road, Agra's Taj Mahal and Egypt's pyramids. The Epoch's end is at hand. So where will you be?

Pranab Shrestha
Class VII

Resentment

Sidney was part of the gang, and they had planned the robbery well. He felt invincible and at
(2)

the top of spirits. Jim along with the rest wore normal gang uniform, black leather with a lot of

metal studs included. Jim and the rest of them had planned to rob a general store earlier and had set out to do it.

They ran into the store baring automatic weapons and shouting obscenities. As they were getting money out of the cash register someone pushed the panic button and soon the store was filled with din. All the gang members' i.e. all seven of them panicked and tried to shoot their way out of the store.

Sidney just found himself shooting at customers. They were near the entrance when a man jumped out from behind the racks and injured two of his friends before he got killed himself.

By this time Sidney could hear another siren outside and realised that it was the police. He and the gang just broke through a glass window and ran as if the hounds of hell were after them and they

really were. As they were running the police opened fire and he was one of the unlucky ones to get a bullet on his back. He fell to the ground, with blood in his mouth. He could see the police still firing but his vision was unfocused and his breathing heavy.

He thought, he thought about how he had not listened to his parents when they had told him not to keep bad company, how he had finally got hooked to drugs and how he told his parents that he was a drug addict. His father got angry and how in the ensuing fright he had killed him and his mother and after that how he had acted to save himself using the local drunkard as a scapegoat. He thought about how he had sold the house using the money for drugs and how when that was spent he had taken to robbery and murder and then in the end there was only resentment.

*Pawan Rana
Class IX*

RSIS Project - Solan

The RSIS project in Solan, was an experience I will never forget or maybe in other words a social service camp that we actually enjoyed. The project was conducted in 'Ashram' which was actually a school for orphans from the remote areas of Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh. The Ashram itself was a unique sight, perched upon a hill scattered by fir trees. It epitomised loneliness in a mystical manner and one could actually lose himself in its unique glory.

Six of us, Saswat Prasad, Hemant Tiwari, Avneet Brar, Charanjeet Mann, Sachin Gupta and I represented our school in this project, which gave us the task to build the dome which would serve as a library for the pupils of this ashram. On the 10th of December, we left for Solan, and when we reached we realised how inactive the cold weather of the hills could make us. We were the earliest ones to arrive as usual, as the others came taking their own time around midnight.

Work started the very next day and six groups were made, each one was given a different tree's name. Ironically, all we ever saw in the area where we worked were fir trees.

Our work was hard but satisfying and extended from dome work, to collection of wood to digging and cleaning of the ashram and last but not least - toilet cleaning! This aspect of the camp did teach us a lesson- It's not as easy to clean what

we easily mess up!

We spent our free time either by going up to the market in Solan or more commonly, playing with the ashram kids. In the process we even ended up building a volleyball court for them. The ground wasn't level, but the children didn't really seem to mind.

Another interesting aspect of the camp was to go to the villages nearby and discuss the lives of the villagers. We got pretty close to them until one day, when a woman came charging out of her house, holding a kitchen knife, and threatening to assault us. Obviously the visits to the village didn't feel so interesting after that. We fled!

The RSIS project in Solan finished on 20th December, with the dome looking like something from outer space, but special at the same time. The District Magistrate of that area, honoured us that day by giving us small tokens of his appreciation and thus consummating the project.

The Project did not only serve an amazing satisfaction from social work but also taught us to work with people of various countries and cultures and get to know them in a better way. I wouldn't advise anyone to miss a valuable chance to go on a project such as this.

*Shivang Sud
XII Commerce*

WELHAM - LOVE YA MORE THAN YOU KNOW

-Debashish 1987-1999

if only I could
from the sexiest man
at WELHAM
Label - 99

from a road to no byz is
I could not join in
1987-99
Kumaragani

Harsh
Harsh

FORGET WELHAM
KOI CHANGE NAHI

WELHAM DARLING,
YOU ARE MY CHICKEN PIE,
YOU'RE MY DUMPLING PIE,
MY HEART IS BREAKING,
AS I SAY GOODBYE
WHERE DID ALL THOSE TWELVE YEARS GO.
WELHAM-I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH
(AND NO GUY I AM NO CORNY POETRY BUFF)
A binties who SO LONG WELHAM-LOVE
DEBASHISH BANERJEE

Tommy Borthwell
97-99

You can tell a Welham
But you can't tell he
MUCH

THE ROCK STAR

Welham, IT lab & Me
Made for each other
Anshu - 99

From the Ministry of Sound
to 'Ghungroo' Sonu Nigam
Partner to Berlin
Lata Mangeshkar
to 'Alorna' S. Bellare
there's no night club
no 'Sound' that'll me
that can my Welham
more than my own
experience, to be and
to act.
Basit Charat

if not now, then never,
never will I do things,
the way I did at 'WELHAM'
No better place for 'KOOL KAH'
and JOHNNY BRAVO Jr.
Thank a lot 'WELHAM'
Kartheya Narayan Singh
1987-1999

Signature

Till now I lived
in the world of 'WELHAM'
and now like they say, I've got to go
out and face the 'real world' - and
I would come back again. Thank Welham.
Keep the faith.
Myan
1987-99

Experience at
Welham - Out of this World
Rishuwan 99

20 years of
unforgettable
experience
Anshu 1987-99

"Welham - ooh la la"
nice place to be.
Sudharm 94-99

probably I would
and change Welham

Ashwin Kohli
1987

Welham -
A home away
from home...

20 it cool
No its WELHAM
Anshu 99

P.K. ne pe Jaam Made di,
'WELHAM' Me usi ite bars di,
Pradip Welham
1987-1999

Surya Ast, Nepal Mast
Welham Mast Mast,
this Nepali is never
going to forget 'Welham'

Signature
1987-99

AMADAH
87-99

2 years experience at welham
is like lifetime achievement.
I've had such wonderful friends and
got to experience wonderful moments and
wonder if I'll ever have them again and above all welham
has given me an identity - WELHAMITE. I will always proud to be one.
Thank Welham - RAFI

I love you 'Welham'
- Pong '89-99

From Woodseats to N.G. - From N.G. to White House - From White House to Ganga
From Ganga to P.H. - From P.H. to ??? XXX
YASHAB 1987-1999

Nature's Diary

An eminent naturalist, Ms Jennifer Nandi visited our school to conduct a workshop on natural history. This included slide shows, talks, nature walks and a day and night trip to Asan barrage.

What we actually did is as follows:-

The first few days she talked about evolution, and how nature began. Her talks included slide shows. In the mornings we went for bird watching. On the last two days we took an overnight trip to Asan barrage and camped at Caubery estate.

On reaching there we went for a nature walk. We spotted the kingfisher which was hovering over the river. It spotted its prey and plunged into the river and caught a fish. We saw the Heron and a kite. We also saw the parakeets as they flew above our heads. After the walk we had an

astronomy class where we learnt about constellations followed by a campfire and soothing music.

The delicious dinner was enjoyable and soon everyone dozed off to dreamland.

We woke the next day at the crack of dawn and took off for a field trip. In this walk we saw many ducks and few wagtails and kites.

A few hours later we found ourselves back at the dining

table munching on a crisp hot breakfast.

We ventured into the wilderness with the expectation to see a few wild animals but due to our bad luck we returned without seeing any. It is always an adventure going out into the natural habitat of birds and beasts.

Sriraj Dalal and Mayan Dhawan
Class IX



Those Wacky Woodseaters

Nightmares

Yesterday, I was about to go to bed when I saw ghostly lights.

They were shining right behind me
I saw a hermit, I saw a creature six feet tall,
turning into werewolves.

They had claws like ghosts,
They had whiskers like rabbits,
It made me scared

Perhaps I thought I would faint
But suddenly two more ghosts came
They were shouting like a loudspeaker
I was really startled

The ghosts came to attack me
but I ran out of my bed to escape
The whole room was looking like a graveyard,
A halloween night and a nightmare

And then a bat came from my window
and started chasing me
I was just about to get into bed
when a fierce sound came into my ears.
The ghosts were whispering
I thought it was magic
But after a while there were no ghosts to be seen
It all ended with my being afraid.
And what do you think it was all?
Was it a nightmare or was it a scary night?
Go on thinking, or you also may be dreaming
about ghosts, evil spirits or werewolves.

Shrey Verma
Class IV

Hollywood

I want to go very far
I want to be a hollywood star
I want to be a true life hero
but not a zero
People would take my autograph
And some would take my photograph
Oh, how happy I would feel
From the head to the knee

Oh. I would shout I am a hollywood star
I have come from very far
If you were a muslim you would go to Mecca
So please make me a passport to America.
but I don't have so much happy
Doesn't this poem sound a little funny.

Ajitesh Kir
Class IV

What's In

Mid-term
Eleventhies
Class-VIII giving favours
Welham Girls' bunking

What's Out

Studies
Twelthies
Class-VIII taking favours
Welham Boys' bunking

Dude of the Fortnight

We knew he deserved it, right from the start, although he missed his chance on the Prefects' Investiture last term. However, Charanjeet Mann was recently appointed a School Prefect; something not very common here at school. Obviously his talent has been appreciated by the authorities.

Our congratulations to Charanjeet. May he continue with the Welham Spirit of doing well in his studies, excelling in hockey and cricket and handling his responsibilities with understanding and quiet confidence.

Separated at Birth

Mr Bhandari
Amish Mulmi
Atul Gupta

Daler Mahendi
Gym coach
Usman

Through the Keyhole

Ritesh: What was Colonel Woodward's rank before he retired from the army?

During the nature walk.

Sunny told Tenzin: I think there are just buffaloes in this forest.

Tenzin: Ooh, now I know why there are so many cow-dungs.

Ritesh: Samyajit is good *hunter* of fishing.

Gagandeep calling Delhi; dials the number when a computerized message comes on the phone. "All lines in this route are busy, please dial after some time."

Gagandeep (surprised): May I know who is calling?

Aatir said to Tenzin: Is the first Tuesday of April a holiday?

Tenzin: I think its Good Friday.

RINGSIDE VIEW

I have successfully managed to slash my way through the jungle of my class X syllabus and have successfully replaced Anshuman who was a great standby for the previous issue.

To begin with I would apologize to the Cricket Captain, and the team for a couple of mistakes in the last issue. We had mentioned that the team lost to RIMC in twelve overs, but, in fact, it was eighteen overs. The team had also won a match this season when they beat a team of Exies which was rather good.

Cricket, cricket, cricket. These seem to be the key words around town these days. Despite a spate of disappointments both from the Indian and our team, the fervour is not lost but has in fact gained momentum with the couple of exciting Inter House matches.

The standard of the teams' play, well the batting anyway, has improved to a great extent! The match played against the Doon Boys' was really exciting. We landed up as valiant losers by just 15 runs. The Club piled up a huge total of 202 runs in the allotted 25 overs at a phenomenal rate of 8 runs per over. Despite the appalling bowling performance, Welhamites returned to the pitch after lunch and batted like kings.

Our very own Parivesh top scored with a gritty 47 runs. There was hope till the very last moment until the last pair got out on an ultimate bowling delivery. We scored 187 all out in 23.4 overs. On the international front the disappointment

of not making it to the final of the Test Championship has already been overcome by the excitement of the upcoming one-dayers in Sharjah. What with the world cup coming up in a couple of months, it's cricket all the way.

Sticking to cricket the Inter House as usual has been a rush! In the opening match up, Krishna beat Jamuna rather comfortably. What followed in the next match was a simply appalling display of

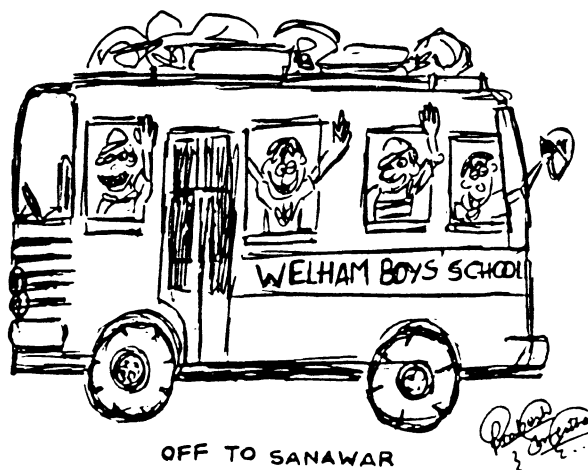
fielding by Cauvery.

Ratik Arora duly capitalised on the dropped chances and scored 63 runs before being dismissed. The result was finally in Ganga's favour. The next match was Jamuna vs Ganga. It saw the entire Jamuna batting line up clicking and **Gagandeep, Saswat, and Puneet** all scored 40s as Jamuna piled up 177

runs in 25 overs and easily bowled out Ganga for 115 runs. The next match witnessed the second 50 of the tournament with **Kaushik** in top form as Krishna beat Ganga by 29 runs. A word of sympathy for Ganga as they had to play all their matches consecutively for the School Captain had to go home on leave. In the last of the matches played till now Krishna beat Cauvery in one of the most exciting matches ever. Krishna batted first and put up a respectable 149. In reply, Cauvery was going great but in the end lost out by just 2 meagre runs in the very last over.

Well, thankfully, that's all the Cricket for this phase and with that, I sign off.

Au Revoir, Sidhant.



OFF TO SANAWAR

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Published By : **Welham Boys' School**

Registration No. :- **20208/86**

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