

We regret the duplication of the first paragraph of the editorial due to a technical malfunction. ED.



The Oliphant

No. 227

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

20th April, 1999

Think About It

The voice of the intellect is a soft one, but it does not rest till it has gained a hearing.

- Freud

EDITORIAL

Drastic changes have occurred in the dining hall, however it is sad to note that not all, have been for the better. Why is it that meals have begun to get delayed more often? Why can there not be more consistency in the quality of the food served? Drastic changes have occurred in the dining hall, however it is sad to note that not all, have been for the better. Why is it that meals have begun to get delayed more often? Why is there no consistency in the quality of the food? As one teacher succinctly puts it, "Indiscipline begins in the dining hall." The same thought was echoed by another member of staff when he said "It is this very frustration that spills into the hostels".

A few days ago, the school skipped breakfast, and went in for a heavy brunch instead. This was done in order to accumulate money for the earthquake relief fund. Unfortunately, it was just bad luck that brunch happened to get delayed that day, leading to a lot of resentment. Perhaps I am partly to blame for this, since the Oliphant carried this very idea in the previous issue.

The socials are currently the talk of the town in class XII. For many, who take it too seriously, the mental pressure and turmoil is comparable to that of a tough calculus exam! Things haven't gone too well though, and the plans seem to have fizzled out, owing to conflicting dates, much to the chagrin of the 'romantic' crowd.

This is the first issue when the board has not found a single nominee for the 'Dude of the fortnight'. Perhaps it is a reflection on our society, or perhaps more likely, it is just that we have overlooked talent that needs to be recognised.

The blistering heat is here again, if a tad too early. The inhabitants of PH seem to be luckier than most in this respect, for they have the luxury of water coolers in their rooms. Maybe the other hostels need them too.

The swimming pool is a 'sensitive' issue right now. The pool has remained empty owing to the acute water shortage which seems to perpetually plague us. However, the school was willing to spend a small fortune in buying water to fill the pool, and believe me it's a lot of water! When the operation went underway, the water mysteriously disappeared

and when experts were called in they discovered that fissures had appeared in the bottom of the pool following the recent earthquake. These have to now be repaired, before the pool can come into use. Hopefully things will be done soon, and we will be able to enjoy the pool (along with the other more interesting aquatic fauna that thrives in it!)

Excuse me now, for I must retire to the cool comfort of my supercooled PH room, before dehydration gets to me. As for the 'commoners', maybe they ought to go cool off by taking that third bath after all.



Welham Now

1) The **Golden Jubilee Commemorative Basketball Tournament** commenced on the 8th of April and lasted till the 10th. **Woodstock** lifted the trophy after defeating **The Doon School**.

2) **Dr. Devdutt's** Counselling Sessions were held on the 13th & 14th of this month.

3) The school members voluntarily missed their Lunch on Thursday, 8th April. The money thus saved was presented to the Rotary Club for use for those affected by the recent earthquake at Chamoli.

4) 25 students donated money for the CRY fund. The amount collected was Rs.9,800. Keep up the good work.

5) A short and brief but lively entertainment took place on the eve of Baisakhi.

6) The Inter school Hindi elocution took place on the 15th and the school positions were as follows:-

First: **Convent of Jesus and Mary**
Second: **Welham Boys' School**
Third: **Welham Girls' High School**

7) The results of the Middle School English Essay Contest which was held on the 31st of March were as follows:

Class V A:

1st *Kushagra Kumar*
2nd *Chirantar Singh*
Consolation *Anshuman Reckwar*

Kushal Shrestha
Gobind S. Maini

Class V B

1st *Pranay Agarwal*
2nd *Chetan Agarwal*
3rd *Anurag Bubna*
Abhimnayu Sachdeva
Consolation *Shalabh Agarwal*
Monish Khera

Class VI A:

1st *Omaer Khair*
2nd *Parth Parasher*
3rd *Sarthak Johar*
Raunak Tibrewal
Mohit Shrestha
Consolation *Arjun Bajaj*

Class VI B:

1st *Jehangir Djalmetov*
2nd *Shiladitya Singh*
3rd *Prasenjit S. Rathore*
Consolation *Raghav Puri*

8) The school basketball team left for Woodstock, on the morning of the 16th. Our best wishes to them.

9) Two pairs of Paradise Flycatchers were spotted in the school campus on the 4th April:-

W.O.B.N.

1) **Sandeep Agarwal** got married to Aparna on the 14th of April and his reception on the 15th in Dehradun was well attended by old boys of various vintage.

2) **Kunden Veer Singh Bhullar** batch of '89 after a rafting holiday on the river Ganga visited school. Presently he is setting up a small scale industry in the outskirts of Gurgaon. His email - kundan@indiacalling.net

Literary Affairs

"The Curtains of Identity"

One tragic incident had sent Joe's life sagging as if a bomber had been hit by a missile. On the first of April 1969 during the summer break Captain Joe Perry along with his pretty wife of German origin had set out on a hired cruiser to the Hawaii islands. Midway through this journey the cruiser went down the waters of Pacific. It had

been hit by some unknown object. The cruiser took Joe's wife, Steffi, along on a journey to the dead from where she would not ever again be able to retrace her steps. He had been rescued by some fishermen. This string of events made him a mad man, he had loved his wife dearly, they had eloped and were on a honeymoon. Joe was devastated, he

saw no reason to live and attempted suicide.

Despite all this Joe Perry was sentenced to life imprisonment with the charge of murdering his wife. The man had a problem known as multiple identity disorder and had himself murdered his wife and drowned her, but since it was another identity of his he was not awarded the death penalty.

Days later a pale Joe was found in the prison cell, a clear cut case of another attempted suicide and this time it was too late. Captain Joe Perry was proclaimed dead and his body buried in

a graveyard with in the large prison in the presence of some friends.

This wasn't the way this young man was supposed to die and on his grave were engraved the following words, "**curtains hide nothing, but they show hidden things, try raise a curtain, and it will all be certain**".

- Kanishka Kaushik

A 'Lucana'

Rocco's cheeks were hot- he could feel the blood rushing to them. His mission had at last come. His mission was to kill Clemenza who had one time been his teacher and advisor but this was the result of being in the 'Cosa Nostra', the American Mafia. Kill anyone who opposes you.

He was sitting in his Mercedes 280E and bracing himself for the excitement, which was to follow quite soon. He knew that if he failed in the mission he would not be accepted into the family business. Clemenza had taught him how to concentrate on what was to come and to think he was now to use this knowledge against Clemenza.

It was now time, and Rocco could see Clemenza and Santino Tattaglia walk out of the restaurant in 'china Town'. Tattaglia who was planning with Clemenza to snatch away the power of his father had put together over the years making his the most powerful family in the U.S.

This thought helped Rocco get going and he leapt out of the car carrying in his hands a Luger 9mm

bound with tape to make fingerprints hazy. He knelt at the curls throwing up both his hands to the classic shooter pose he had been taught by Clemenza.

His first bullet was quite naturally intended for Tattaglia and it hit him on the throat pushing him several meters back before he slammed onto the ground. He then pointed his gun towards Clemenza who was surprised till the time a bullet hit him on his shoulder. Rocco shot again this time at point blank range and hit Clemenza between his eyes. The heavy slug shattered his skull and exited from the back of his head. He fell as if in slow motion with an expression of pain on his face.

Just at that moment Rocco felt pain piercing through his back and the gun fell from his hands. Turning around he saw one of Tattaglia's guards shooting at him. He knew he was to meet death now but his last thoughts were "*I am finally a true Lucana*".

- Pawan Rana

Tête a Tête

On the 17th of March 1999, **Miss Sheeba Matthews** and **Mrs. Klemey** from C.R. Y. conducted a Senatization Programme for classes 6, 7 and 8. **Kartik Mahajan** and **Abhimanyu Karki** later interviewed them.

Q.) How long has each of you been associated with CRY?

A.) Mrs. Klemey: I have been working with CRY since 5 years.

Ms. Matthews: It has been just 6 months for me.

Q.) Do you have any role models for joining CRY?

A.) Mrs. Klemey: Well, none for me.

Ms. Matthews: I guess it must have been my college professor.

Q.) What is the most interesting part of the work that you do?

A.) Both: What we took this job for, interacting with children all over India and motivating them for the cause of CRY.

Q.) This programme that you conduct, with how many schools earlier have you organised this programme?

A.) We have done this programme with 5 schools

in Delhi and 2 others outside Delhi.

Q.) What does CRY, this abbreviation really mean to both of you?

A.) CRY is all about children and people all over India who are trying to help it to let deprived children live a better life. It is such a work that is not done for income but for a cause, everyone at CRY works with the reason that all children should be given equal rights to spend their childhood happily.

Q.) Has there ever been a day when you have had the feeling of not doing anything?

A.) Yes, there have been days when we have not done any work and that feeling makes us feel as if our day was not complete at all. There have been such days when we have no motivated anyone for the cause of CRY and it really grips us.

Q.) Why do you feel all children should share an equal childhood?

A.) Well, if you have the rights of enjoying a movie and playing around in the grounds, don't you think that other children should also have equal opportunities of playing around and enjoying their childhood, which is most probably the

best part of life.

Q.) What has been the response since CRY's founding in 1979?

A.) The people have certainly been most helpful in raising funds for CRY programmes. When we started we had just Rs. 50; and now we have funds worth over Rs. 10 crores. Half of the funding has been from the public and the other rest comes from the sales of our souvenirs, cards etc.

Q.) The last question, do you believe that Rippan's dream is finally getting fulfilled?

A.) Definitely, and that is all due to the overwhelming response and support we get from you people. The children that we motivate for the cause of CRY, are really helpful. And we never forget, CRY was just a dream of a school going kid.

Now, we really thank you for giving us your precious time to answer our questions. And we assure you that Welham will always work for the improvement of destitute children and shall continue to support organisations like yours!

Those Wacky Woodseaters

Punishment

Once there was a king. One day he went hunting in the forest. He killed many animals. Suddenly a python came and bit him and the king died. After that there was a knock on the door of the King's chamber. One of his servants went to open the door. The servant saw that it was the king's wife and welcomed her warmly. She asked

about her husband and the servants sadly told her that he was dead.

The wife said that he was dead because God had given him a punishment as he had killed many animals.

-Bhavnish Walia

My Dream

Last night I had a dream. In my dream I was snoring very badly. Suddenly I heard a noise coming from my playroom. I quickly got up and went there to see what had happened. As I entered the room, I saw that all the toys had come to life and were having a party. They were shouting and screaming as they enjoyed themselves.

After about two minutes I was feeling very

thirsty and I went to drink some water. Suddenly, by mistake, I dropped my glass on the floor and it broke. I quickly collected the broken pieces and went back to the playroom and found all the toys were now lifeless. Sad, I went back to my bed.

Suddenly, my mother woke me up. I will never forget this dream.

My Dog

My dog's name is Basanti. Basanti is a boxer. Sometimes I play hide and seek with her. When someone goes on a cycle, she runs after him.

She is very naughty. I take her for evening walks. I like my dog very much.

-Akhilesh Jung

Nature's Diary

A long time ago, there were creations on this planet, and the environment was in perfect equilibrium with the inhabitants. Predators had abundant prey, and all those fed upon developed means of safety. And there was peace everywhere.

But this period existed till the time a small creature; an arboreal animal came down on the ground and slowly evolved to walk on two legs. Then this creature discovered what he couldn't do with his hands, he could achieve that by his brains. After that, the creature never looked back and slowly his intelligence made him the most powerful creature on earth. But then, Man has been the reason for the extinction of many, many species throughout the 10,000 years of his existence.

Mass extinction has occurred 5 times since the dawn of life. The last one occurred 65 million years ago which resulted in the total annihilation of all the dinosaurs. But of all the species that have disappeared from the earth since then, man has been responsible for each and every one. During the ice ages, he wiped out the mammoths and the sabre-tooth tigers. At the dawn of civilisation, the lions in Europe disappeared entirely. Speaking of recent times, the Passenger pigeon was also wiped out as a result of mass hunting.

The great Prairies or grasslands of North America were flooded with Bison at the beginning of the 18th Century. Explorers to America at this time have recorded herds numbering upto 10000 strong. But the onslaught of man on these creatures during the great gold rush of the late 18th and early 19th Centuries reduced their numbers drastically.

This is not a case restricted only to the New World but even in India, where wolves were sighted in Mumbai till the early 19th Century. But now, with urbanisation at its peak, wolves are rarely spotted even in protected regions.

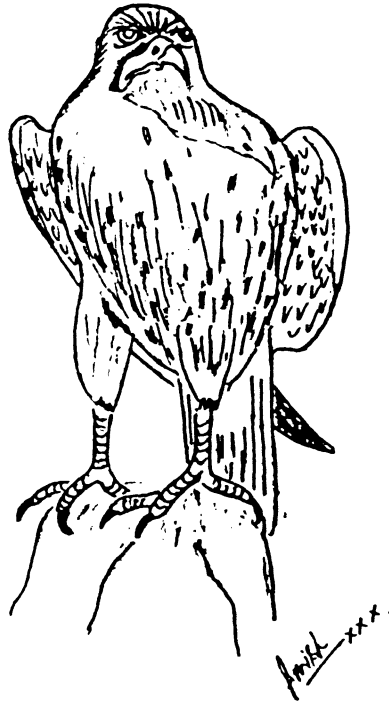
Man has not only led to extinction of species on land, but has also provided for the same in the oceans and seas. The corals of the Palk Strait are disintegrating with every passing moment due to excessive human interference. The Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Australia, perhaps the only animal creation that can be viewed from the moon is also facing serious trouble, as traffic on that coast is tremendous.

Then there is the air. We have talked of terra and aqua and what effect human interference is having on them, but the skies are also not free of this menace. Vultures in India are under severe pressure as the movement of aircraft increases everyday and

thousands of them are killed in collisions with these human machines. This is not all, the Californian Condor and the Great Bald Eagle, the national bird of the U.S.A., are both in danger of extinction.

To sum it all up, man's emergence as the planet's most intelligent animal has been the cause of great disturbance in the ecological balance. It has been estimated that half of the world's animals are being wiped out before their discovery. And by the time we realised it some very beautiful animals had disappeared and if this continues maybe our children will not know what animals ever existed on this great planet.

- Yudhishtir Singh
ex. 923/K



Lampoon

When I was recruited for the 'job', I was told to report and stick to healthy and clean humour and finding it in Welham is like finding a needle in a haystack. Only black or 'Welham-ishtyle' humour prevails. Well that was the easy part, now down to the hard part - what to write about.

My dilemma was put to rest as I chanced upon the paper recycling boys hard at work. I asked if they had something to state, anything funny. However, all my queries were met with an empty stare. Desperately I blurted out, 'Hey, don't tell me your C.C.A. isn't exciting!'

Then a set of amazingly queer brothers asked me what my CCA was?! Another answered enthusiastically, "Oye, he's with the disaster management". True, I had a disaster at hand, but had nothing to do with the aforesaid! Yet another pesky guy wanted to know if I had felt the quake on Thursday night. That was it, I walked away with my head in my hands.

Now that particular hour, behind middle school was what could be best described as "Happening". The motor mechanic guys who

weren't disappointed because school didn't issue them a battery, decided to turn the old garage into a racing pit! The old 'Standard' (variously referred to as *junko*, *junky et al*) was revamped into a McLaren F1 and our very own 'Mika' drove it. Perhaps 'drove' is the wrong word to use here, since in all honesty, it was actually being pushed by a rather unfortunate bunch of boys.

That's not all, they managed to clean the Standard in and out and painted a defunct engine, truly a bunch of real sports.

The summer time-table seem to have got the worst of students and faculty alike. With boys being late for the first and second school. And now you even can't bunk PT because a group of boys are driven to make Welham a better place, the Prefects seem to have woken up too, what the heck.

Before I wind up, I would like to inform all dreamers, who dream of freedom in Class 11th, dream of 11th, as for freedom, take a hike, pal!!

-Azar Zaidi

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE !!!

Fatehpal: Oye, we are buying a new deck!

Sharad: oh, buy a good one.....1 CD changer

Mr. Ghosh: Hey, Saurabh why are you late?

Saurabh: Sir I was in toilet... I was doing Mr. Kandpal's work.

After the inauguration of the Golden Jubilee Commemorative Basketball Tournament.

Mukti Shah (eagerly): Guys, who is batting first???

Mr. Das (to Raunak Jain): Your eldest father's brother has come to see you!

Miss Chopra: Beta....., I will give you a surprise test on Friday....BUT I will not tell you the day!

Badam Milk was served on Sunday Breakfast.

Mr. Bhusan: *Umm, alla...* Is this MILO???

Mr. Kandpal (to Rishi Lashkery): Oye, *donkey* eat the boundaries of the chapati.

Mr. Kandpal (to Sharad Kumar): Oye, tuck your button in.

Mr. Sridhar (to Vinayak Pant): If you don't want to eat then LOGOUT of the dining hall.

Mr. Dhingra: Boys don't displace your register.

Tenzin: Guys the hospital has already been readymated.

Whenever a boy misbehaves at the Squash Courts then Mr. Bhagel Says: If I loves you then I may hits you also!!!

Mr. Sridhar (to Ratik Aurora): If you bring the grub it up and i catch it up, I'll bang you up!!!

After the Hindi Elocution

Shiva (in high spirits): Oye, well played yaar!

WHAT'S IN !!??

Summer Camp

'SataSat'

Sex-education Exams

German

WHAT'S OUT ii??

Punishment

Shaving

T.L. Exams

Hinglish (Hindi+English)

Separated At Birth !!

Manu Sanan
Bikram Bir
Neeraj Parik
Anirudh Gupta

Ankit Sekhri
Raj Karan
Vamsi of RIMC
Krur Singh of Chandarkanta fame

RINGSIDE VIEW

The toughest thing about writing this column is to get an appropriate beginning, which, in itself is an art that requires some mastering.

And now that I have got that part out of the way, let us move on to some substance.

The 13th Golden Jubilee Commemorative Basketball Tournament, being the only major tournament hosted by the school arrived and brought along with it considerable excitement and some organisational hassles. The tourney this time round was not a very large one with only six teams participating of which the best four were to go on to the knockout phase.

There were two pools, which consisted of Woodstock, the eventual winners, the Rashtriya Indian Military Academy and the hosts, Welham.

Mr. Kandhari inaugurated the tournament and the first match was played between the firangees from Woodstock and the Rimcos. As was quite predictable and expected, Woodstock ran away with the match by a huge margin and displayed the fact that they were physically and mentally better prepared and fitter than their opponents.

The next match played on the same day was between the Doscocs and the Raja Ram Mohan

Academy. Though the local boys matched the Doscocs move for move, their weak shooting was evident from the score line which read 55-9 in favour of the Doscocs by the end of the match.

A groggy, sleepy-eyed Welham just about managed to get up and watch the home team's first match versus the R.I.M.C. It was at six in the morning. The lack of sleep was quite noticeable even in the team's play. They got off to a terribly slow against a team that had everything to play for and were fighting to stay in contention for the cup after already having suffered a defeat in their opening encounter.

At half time, we were down by seven points. But the team and the crowd returned from the break with new found vigour and, after playing some spirited basketball and through some fanatical crowd support, the team rallied to beat the visitors by one solitary basket, 43-41.

The next fixture saw debutantes Shri Ram School, New Delhi face the Doscocs. It was a neck to neck battle with both teams exchanging the lead from time to time. In fact at one stage the Delhites actually led 18-10.

The Doscocs eventually held out and proved

to be the fitter of the two teams and finally won quite comfortably. Had it not been for Shri Ram's lack of stamina, though, the result would probably have been quite different.

The next two matches saw S.R.S play R.R.M.A and Woodstock against Welham which were both quite one sided. Woodstock beat Welham by 40 points and S.R.S won by 12.

Next up was the more exciting semi-final stage where we were to face the Doscas and S.R.S were to take on Woodstock.

The first semi-final encounter was perhaps the most anticipated and hoped for. There was almost as much hype as in an India-Pakistan cricket match, with Welham as the protagonists, of course. The teachers got there dose of school spirit as well as could be seen from the fact that each and every teacher had brought his/her class to watch the match. Unfortunately, despite some great fighting spirit displayed by the aforesaid protagonists, it turned out to be a classic Indo-Pak situation all the way down to the result. It was the end of the road for the hosts who nevertheless deserve a pat on the back for their 'never say die' spirit. Thankfully, it has led to some good as the team now finally has a coach again. Every cloud has a silver lining, I suppose.

In the other half of the draw however, things went off as expected. Woodstock beat S.R.S to set up a repeat encounter of last year's finals. They finished off with clinical precision and ended the debutantes run.

And so, on to the climax Doon School,

Dehradun vs. Woodstock School, Mussorie. Not exactly the dream encounter for the home crowd but they still showed great sporting spirit by turning up in large numbers to cheer their personal favourites.

The first quarter was brilliantly fought out. Woodstock took some time to get into top gear and the Doscas capitalised on that and even had the lead for a short while. The first half was quite

close with the 'firangees' just edging ahead by the skin of their teeth. In the second half however, things were quite different. Woodstock made great use of its height superiority and blazed the trail. The final score read 67-36.

Hee Suk Jung (5), of Woodstock was adjudged the MVP of the tournament.

It was a great tournament and a great success. We all witnessed tremendous team spirit and brilliant skills over

the three days of the tournament and are looking forward to its next edition.

The basketball team will also be going to Woodstock to play a tournament there. We wish them all the best and hope that they fare a lot better than they did at home.

Hockey season is also in full swing and the results are expected to be superb, what with almost the entire team being comprised of 12thies.

Well, I suppose I have babbled more than I was supposed to for this issue so I will take your leave.

End of transmission, YT,

Siddhanth



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