



The Oliphant

No. 229

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

17th May, 1999

Think About It

To praise oneself is considered improper, immodest; to praise one's own sect, one's own philosophy, is considered the highest duty.

- Leo Shestov

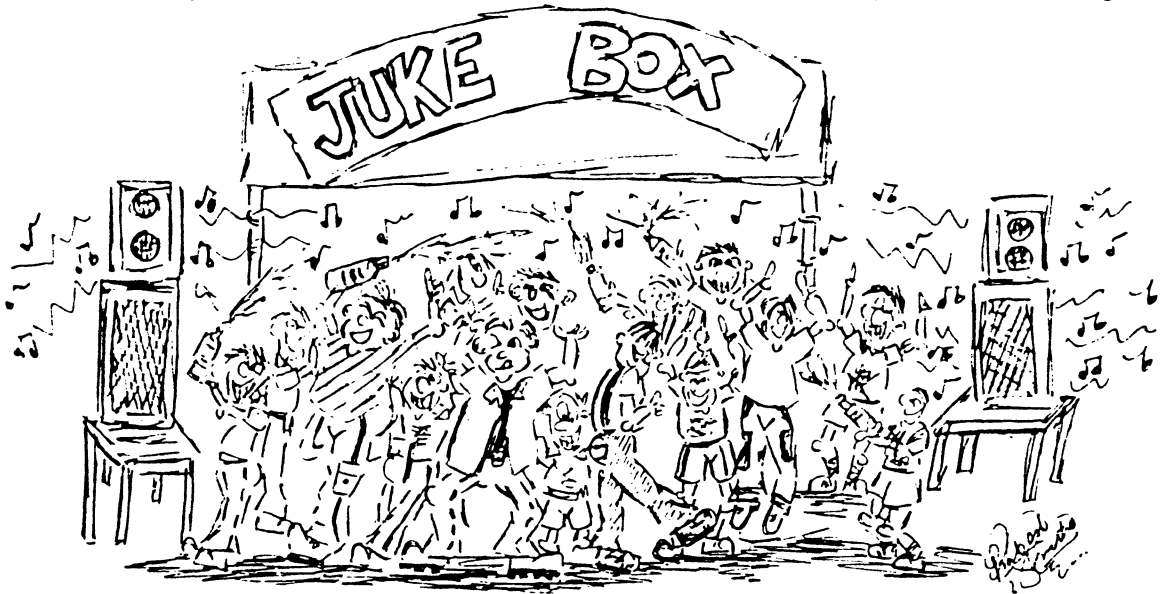
EDITORIAL

The Gods seem to be pleased, I suppose. They gave us some respite from the heat. The rain was just what the doctor prescribed, and it seems to have done us good, even if it was short lived, and the mercury has certainly dropped a little, easing things around here.

The Oliphant Debate raised some intriguing questions, and it was perhaps the Principal who stole the show, with his little quote by Malcom Muggeridge

"Why are they there? Because you are not". Politics may be a dirty game, but perhaps it's up to "thinking" individuals like us, to rid it of some of its squalor. After all, what use is an education, if it's not going to be used to educate other people.

To many of the superstitious bunch, the 8th of May was the day they had been fearing all along. Reports of earthquakes, floods and other bizarre natural disasters were supposed to have ravaged the



at the end of the day, "If I have to choose between my friend, or my country I hope I have the courage to betray my country". Like the Head, I wonder how many of us feel that way. What this emphasises perhaps, is that although it's important to learn every rule, it's also important to have the heart to break some.

Everybody agrees that the state of politics in the country is bad. Governments rise and fall with the regularity of tides. However, not many of us take time to wonder who is really to blame. Is it just the politicians alone? Quoting Mani Shankar Aiyar, who visited the school as a chief guest a few years ago,

Earth. I am only glad, Divine Intervention is indeed as lame as they say, for we are still alive. Although, when it happened to rain suddenly on that warm afternoon, the 'superstitious gang' were all cheers, with "See, I told you so!" A somewhat complacent attitude when faced with extinction.

It is somewhat strange when we realise that in spite of our education and the fact that we claim to be able to 'reason logically', how many of us actually put our faith in superstitions and the voices of astrologers and what not.

The Summer carnival, was a huge success with everyone. The Temple of Sound stole the entire

show, not to mention, the Juke box was 'happening'. The Hindi play, too was immensely appreciated, and it was quite a sight to see the lead actor season his lines with choicely chosen abuses. All things considered, everyone had a great time, and I think we owe a special 'Thank You' to the organising

committee and everyone who helped with the Carnival.

Best of luck for the exams, and with one more issue left this term you can be sure to see me back. With that, I take your leave. *poof* - **Karan.**

Welham Now

1) Azar Zaidi and Rohan Sachdeva participated in the Oliphant Memorial Inter-school English Debate held on Wednesday 5th May. Azar Zaidi secured the first position and also got the award for the best rebuttal. We stood first but being the hosts we did not compete for the trophy, and it was finally lifted by The Shriram School, Delhi.

2) Rohan Sachdeva also participated in the Frank Anthony Memorial Extemporary Debate held at WGHS. He secured the third position.

3) The Inter House Hindi One-Act Play Contest was held on 3rd, May. Ganga house bagged the trophy and Maroof Ahmed claimed the award for best actor.

4) The Junior basketball team won the District Tournament held at the Doon International School after beating The Doon School in the finals. Maroof Ahmed was adjudged the best player.

5) The school hosted the Inter-school Junior English quiz on 4th, May. The results were as follows:

First: The Doon School

Second: Woodstock School

Third: Welham Boys' School

6) The Round Square Committee meeting was held on 28th April.

The following points were discussed:

Agenda: How to raise Rs. 10,000 (Rs. 100 per student) for the Indian Community Service Fund.

Members Present:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Kumar Abhijit | 2. Manish Shrestha |
| 3. Shradhey Rawat | 4. Rishi Bagaria |
| 5. Gurkirpal Singh | 6. Vir Bhadra |
| 7. Rohan Sachdeva | 8. Anshuman Singh |
| 9. Amish Mulmi | |

Suggestions:

1. Proceeds from the Summer Festival:
 - i. Rents from various stalls,
 - ii. Entry charges from the Jam Session
2. Print T-shirts with the School photograph and Round Square logo.
3. Request the school community to have a simple vegetarian dinner on days when chicken and ice-cream is on the menu.
4. Contribute a certain percentage (5%) of the autumn term pocket money towards the fund.
5. Kumar Abhijeet to make an appeal to the boys

(2)

and staff for this 'Community Service Fund'.

Responsibilities taken:

1. Hamza Ahmed to design the T-shirt and get the printing screen ready by 29th April evening.
2. Shradhey Rawat to co-ordinate the collection of proceeds from the Carnival.

7) Minutes of the School committee meeting held on Friday, 30th April:

(i) Minutes of the previous meeting were passed.

(ii) Matters arising thereafter:

(iii) Usamah Burza complained that the school tailor does not give the clothes on time and even when he does they are stitched with incorrect measurements. The Chairman said the matter would be considered immediately.

(iv) Tarun Saraf suggested that coolers should be installed in Triveni. The Chairman said that it was quite impossible both in terms of expenditure and resources.

(v) Shubham Khanna suggested that CCA's and SUPW's should be held only once a week. The Chairman agreed to this.

(vi) Ashish Kumar wanted the academic block gate to be replaced. The Chairman said that it was not worthwhile as a subway is already coming up in that region.

(vii) Ashish Kumar also suggested planting trees along the boundary wall of the school and also along the roads leading to various residences. The Chairman agreed and has asked Ashish to take help from the tree plantation squad.

(viii) Mr. Gosain asked for a speed breaker between the PH common room and Mr. Das's house to which the Chairman had no objections.

(ix) Sachin Gupta mentioned the need for exhaust fans in the Activity Centre. The Chairman said that he would think over the matter, and also look for a better alternative.

(x) Avinash Agarwal suggested that the students should not be given any prep 15-20 days before exams. The Chairman said that prep should be given with a view to assist the learning process.

(xi) Abhishek Agarwal suggested that more instruments should be played during Assembly but the Chairman said with regret that the school does not have any dedicated instrumentalists.

(xii) Prayas Rana drew the Chairman's attention to

the scarcity of chairs in Triveni and suggested that better quality chairs should be provided, different from the ones in the Academic block. The Chairman refused as a complete set of new chairs was purchased last year.

(xiii) Dhruv Malhotra wanted the Tuck-shop to be held twice a week. The Chairman agreed to have it not only twice but thrice a week.

(xiv) Ayush Agarwal and Prabesh Shreshtha put forward some designs for the scholar's badge from which one was selected.

(xv) Amit Prashar suggested that the water coolers in the Academic block should be connected to the generator to which the Chairman had no objection.

(xvi) The Chairman said that he would experiment with serving lemonade during break.

W.O.B.N

Our first ever Summer Carnival was held on 8th May, 1999. It was well attended by local and outstation old boys.

- Report: Secretary WOBS

School Captain's Speech at the Summer Carnival, 1999

Good evening ladies, gentlemen and colleagues.

I am delighted to welcome you today, to our first ever Summer Carnival. I would like to express the hope that this will be a forerunner to many more in the future.

Frankly, we felt that we all required a break. Tired by the tedium of routine, we wanted our tomorrow to be somewhat different than our yesterday and the result is this festival.

To some, this Carnival may seem a daring step, because we had the audacity to disobey fancy astrological rules, which predicted earthquakes, and floods and comets smashing the earth on the eighth of May.

This evening, we have ready, a musical programme - both Indian, as well as Western, being put up by the Welham Orchestra, as well as one by the Welham Girls' Orchestra. A very special thank you to them, for so graciously agreeing to put up this show. Next in line, we have our Hindi play, 'Poster' which although produced entirely in the short span of

one week, entailed much last-minute effort and which I hope you will enjoy. Then there is the occasion of the day - The Carnival, which has a gamut of games, food and refreshments, not to forget the famed 'Temple of Sound'. We do hope that you have a good time.

We here at Welham, take pride in this event, not because we think it surpasses any other such function in its grandeur or extravagance, but because the entire Carnival was designed and planned from scratch, by the boys themselves. The motivation to make this evening a success, has been entirely selfless, and it is only fair that we have a round of applause for the school.

I take this opportunity to thank our Principal, Mr Kandhari for his assistance and guidance and since I'm too modest to give myself credit for this, I thank my colleagues for all the hard work they have put in.

I'm running out of people to thank now, so I'll just thank you all, our guests for being with us this evening. I look forward to your having a pleasant time and a wonderful evening.

Literary Affairs

TRAGEDY

A dark and gloomy night,
and the moon was out of sight,
the wind gushed on his face with all its might,
he had been indulged in a bloody and fearful fight,
now on his face were present traces of insanity and
fright,
As he walked he thought when you are born you are
afraid of the darkness and then you are afraid of the

light.

He had slain his lady-love, his life, his beloved,
out of his senses was he and with a raging head.
A club in hand and with a severe blow had she been
fed,
on the floor blood had been spread.
Where Cupid had to play a part the devils played

instead.
His beloved's spirit gone and her soul dead.

Lets hide it all he thought,
cut pieces of the corpse with the axe he brought,
in the mean time the police discovered his bloody
plot,
and for the sin he had committed he was placed for
slaughter.

Minutes before his death he spoke,
cursed the law and was proved of the laws he broke,
insane he was thought to be but no sympathy could
he provoke.

The fire had been put off what remained was just
smoke.

After his soul went to hell,
they heard it yell,
as the Sexton rung the church bell,
'the punishment don't seem to fit the crime,
I was sent on a permanent vacation before time'.

Now I say this time seems steady,
What a 'tragedy'!

- **Kanishk Kaushik**
Class XI

THE OTHER SIDE

This is an essay by a 17 year old Round Square Student, Jeremy Skarr, written for the Oliphant. Jeremy lives in Iowa, USA.

Have all of you ever wondered what life was like on the other side of the world, in America perhaps? I'm sure all of you have pondered over that thought millions of times and wondered exactly how things went. Usually when you think of school, you will think of big cities such as New York or Chicago. Well, this time you will get to know how schooling is like in a small community, the one where I live.

Arriving at school I go to my locker and get my items. Usually half the hall stops to talk to me or ask me for money. Around here you have to deal with a lot of beggars.

In the day we have eight periods. First period is Algebra II, one of the classes I simply hate. I was never good at math and this isn't a peachy class at all. We have a student teacher, Mr Dettmer. He is a plump college student and sure does need to be more trained at that job. He hardly ever helps me when I have questions or anyone else. I sit by the kleenex box so I get to slap students' hands if they take more than two of my kleenexes. If there was more to say about that class, Believe me, I would say! That class is horrible!

After I walk up the hall to my Business Law class. This is a fun class because our teacher Mr Janssen is as crazy as me. In this class we learn how to operate business legally. We watch the TV show, 'Law and Order' a lot and eat donuts. If you are caught with any outside food or drinks, Mr Janssen will eat or drink them in front of you and laugh. This is one of those slack off classes and you learn so much. Usually students use the internet or talk about what they are doing.

My next class is chemistry, all of you should know this one. My teacher Mr Hueling is in love with

Star Trek and sometimes wears his weird looking Star Trek outfit. When he walks around, he likes to put his hands behind his neck, thus lifting up his nifty Star Trek shirt and showing off his manly chest to the girls. They usually look away. Typical.

Fifth period is kind of mixed up. For 15 minutes I go to class, eat for 15 minutes then come back for 16 more minutes of class. My class this period is Publications, the school's newspaper and yearbook. In this case, I will develop film for the first half of class. When the bells rings we carry off for lunch. On the menu today is Chili with cinnamon roll, crackers, milk and a salad bar selection. If you don't want the main meal you can have a hot dog. My table includes all of my friends in a large circular table seating 14. My friends Mike and Lia are so crazy. they get up and enact scenes from the movie 'Coming to America' for our table - usually with other tables watching.

After the bell rings, it's time for sixth period. This is just a study hall, a time to, if you didn't guess, study. Since I never study, I always go to the Media Center and read magazines on the sofa with others.

Seventh period is American Government. Let me tell you, there is not a day when I haven't fallen asleep in that class. All we do is take notes and have 20 minutes to do nothing. This is one of those classes you pass and get over with.

My last period is Psychology. My teacher Miss Hoekstra, teaches it with lots of energy. She is one of my favourites and is also one of the youngest at 23.

Usually we take five minutes of notes, then play silent ball. Silent ball is where we all have to do something before someone throws you a beach ball. Either we all have to stand on our right leg with our left eye closed and throw and catch or clap twice before catching the ball. Clapping is the hardest is

the person throwing it to you is really close. If you lose, you sit down. I suggested barking before catching, but the next class didn't like that one. Usually this class is interrupted by some students driving slowly in the parking lot, out with their music as high as they can get it!

School ends at 3:30. Either I take the dreaded bus home, or ride back with my elder brother. My

brother blasts his music as loud as he can going out the parking lot. Sometimes his music isn't even heard by students with louder systems. This makes him mad!

Well that's a day and a half. Believe me, life is normal here! People have their own ideas about what Iowans do, but to put it short we are NOT the state that grows potatoes!

- Jeremy Joseph Skarr

Those Wacky Woodseaters

MY PET

My pet is a dog and his name is Jerry. He is seven years old. He is black and white in colour. He is very playful. He likes to play with a ball. He has a very long tail. I take him for a walk every morning during

my holidays. His eyes are black and brown in colour. His nails are very sharp and big. I like him very much.

- Akshay Mittal
Class III

Cricket is Fun

Cricket is fun,
When Tendulkar makes a run.
When Lara is out for Zero,
Kumble is made a hero.
When Siddhu starts hitting fours,
Ranatunga cannot stop counting the score.
When Srinath bowls rough,
Cronje thinks it is tough.

Jadeja hits sixers,
There fail the African bowlers.
When Azhar reached fifty,
West Indies felt thirsty.
Now Waqar misses the catch,
And India wins the match.
When Indian are glad,
Pakistanis are bound to be sad.

- Dhairya & Archit

Nature's Diary

KANHA NATIONAL PARK

Miles and miles of forest with vast expanse of grassland flanked by Sal trees all around and sparse vegetation consisting of thickly wooded trees. There are many streams gushing all the time with numerous waterholes. Moreover, it is a forest, which boasts of great range and density of animal population. Lovely antelopes, huge guars and above all the majestic tiger adorn the forest, the variety of birds, like the Indian Pitta. This is the exquisite wildlife country of Kanha.

The Kanha National Park is situated about 170KM south east of Jabalpur in MP. It is paradise for nature lovers who flock here by hundreds. The vegetation consists of Sal trees but others like the Bija (*Pterocarpus Marsupium*), Haldu (*Adina Cordifolia*) and Dhaora (*Anogeissus Latifolia*) are in abundance.

As one enters the park through the second gate, the forest presents a magnificent spectacle of variegated scenery, and sightings begin at once with spotted deer and Gaur. The chances of spotting

tigers in this area are particularly good in May and June.

Elephant rides are also offered to tourists and these ventures bring one very near to the magnificent creatures, the tigers, at a distance of 10-15 feet.

Among other mammals, Kanha has a healthy population of swamp deer. Count of this lovely antelope is on a rapid decline and is presently found only in select locations like Dudhwa, Kaziranga and Kanha. The unique feature about the swamp deer in Kanha is that it can be seen from close quarters in open grasslands thus providing excellent opportunities for photography.

The gaur is another famous resident of this park. These creatures are quite intriguing and exciting.

Kanha is also a great place for bird watchers. While there are 280-300 varieties of birds in Kanha, one is sure to come across such lovely birds as rollers, minivets, black ibises, storks, grey hornbills

and green barbet. Tourists see dancing peacocks in the environs of the park very frequently. The areas outside the park are also places where lots of birds can be spotted. The scarlet minivet is also a very fantastic bird and its beauty and vibrant colours defy both photography and description.

The months of August, September and October bring along rainy days and during this time the animals migrate to the highlands, but the months

between March and June are the best for tiger sightings and the winter months for gaurs, antelopes, wild dogs etc. as they prefer meadows.

This forest boasts of a diverse and balanced Eco-system and definitely ranks along with the Cobertt, Kaziranga and Bandhavargh among the best parks in our country.

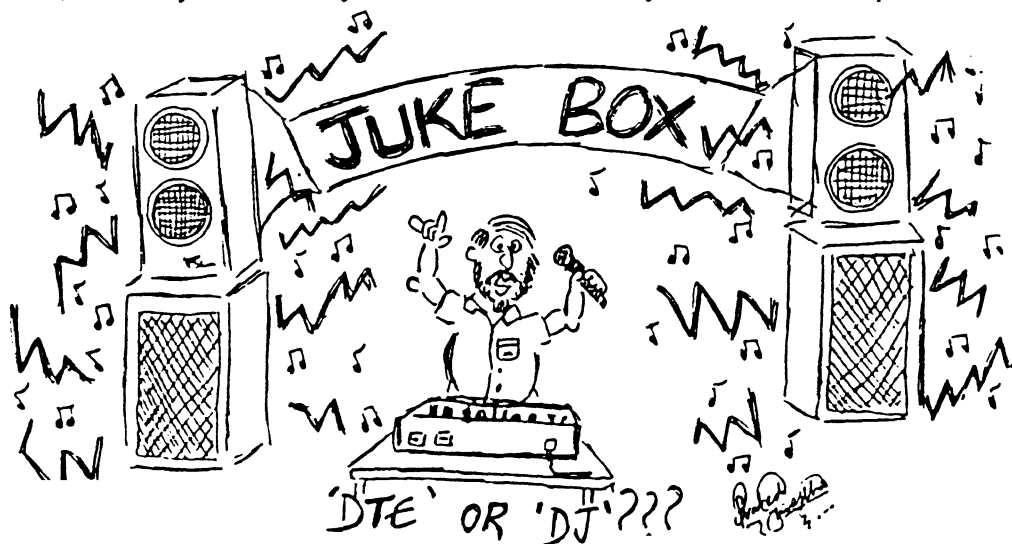
- Rohan Varshnei
Class X

LAMPOON

"In the summer time, when the weather is fine and the sun is right up and touches the skies, you have got women on your mind." Well, the case is true for most of us but only a few lucky ones had their arms around them. Yes Sir, I am talking about the Summer Carnival. For some it was love at first sight, for some it took two summer fests to get into the 'groove'. One fellow 'Northward born where Phoebus' fire scares thaws the icicle' made 'incision for his love' and yes his blood was redder. As for the others, there may be a hole in your soul, but

audience to mumble their appreciation. The fundu firework display was really something. I take this opportunity to invite all my kangaroo friends from the outback to believe that there is something more impressive than their firework display on New Year's eve.

Lot of soulful songs were crooned that evening. Lots of hearts were patched up and lots broken. One dude in cool blue jeans and attitude oozing out of every pore, invited everyone 'to come as they were....' The temple of sound, as usual, was



there is always a next time.

Seriously, we ought to thank the Greek god of rain 'coz we do not have one in our own ideology. For the well timed showers on the Carnival. And no, I do not mean the Ganga and Cauvery guys chucking water down the emergency exits. These showers were definitely well timed and poured before the carnival and not on the carnival. They were worth the while and cooled down the hot Welhamites, boys and girls alike.

Carnival was here and gone. It was quite an evening especially for the Hill Grange guys. Their invitation included standing over the basket ball courts and observing the night sky. Actually, that is what most of us at times did, 'coz we could not comprehend sometimes what the play was all about. Microphones were kept rather at a distance for the

a distant planet of the underground, as I hardly got any time to venture out of mine own enterprise. It would be wrong to say that the JUKEbox was up and going cause it was pretty down and crawling, nevertheless the mutant DJ did his job well and kept grating on my nerves. This guy seemed to be off his nuts and played the most absurd choice of music. The evening would not have been complete without this dude holding a free for all, no holds barred, (no year! not a wrestling match but a dance party.) Well, I cannot say that strong liquor was flowing but there was definitely a lot of coke flying around. The WELHAM GRIND was on!

Well now for the update on the summer camp. I attended this prestigious institution and my limbs bear testimony to the privileges that I received. Summer camp is now being organised for all at 6:15

every morning. This holds no significance to many people but has improved the prospects of the bird watchers. Now aside from the usual babbler and the hornbill, flycatchers and bulbuls can be seen basking in the morning sunlight. A bird watcher's delight indeed.

I am writing because I am tired of not doing so, you guys are reading cause you are bugged of not doing so, and I am signing off because...well...suspense!

- DID I SAY THAT?

"Dudes" of the Fortnight

The Summer Carnival seems to have been the talk of last week, therefore it's only right that the people behind it all deserve this esteemed title. I am, of course, referring to the School Captain and his team of Prefects who strived hard to make the occasion a success. Apart from them, mention must be made and credit given to all those who worked behind the scenes and of course to the Principal for his assistance and guidance. This is a forerunner to future Carnivals which will be looked forward to by all.



THROUGH THE KEYHOLE !!!

Saurabh Kharbanda: Oye, Zaidi how are you going back home, by *Shatabdi* or by train??

Manan: Will you record the world cup finals (live)??

Sameer: Ya, if India wins then I will do it!

Manan: But what will you record it on, on a cassette or cd?

Sameer: 'Abey yaar, woh to main TV par kar lunga'.

Mr. Bhagel: What is Sarbans Deep Singh Sandhu's name???

Arjun: Today for dinner we are getting meat less(wanting to say bone less) chicken!!

At the Tuck Shop.

Prem: Why are you looking down, have you dropped your money?

Shabeer: No, I am seeing if somebody else has dropped his!!

Deepak(to Jasneet): Have you got a sister?

Jasneet: Not a spare one!

Deepak(shouting): Hey, I am asking whether you have got a sister or not!!

Jasneet: *Abbey*, why don't you understand, woh used hai yaar!

Dev: Dazed case, do you know what we are talking about??

Jasneet(confidently): Ya, a register!!

WHAT'S IN !!??

. Examination
Khatarnak Bala
Dancing near the Juke box
DJ Shamsi
Jr. Baski team
Hot Sauce

WHAT'S OUT iicci

Celebration
Gabbar Singh
Dancing at the Jam session
DJ Puneet
Sr. Baski team
Normal Sauce

Separated At Birth !!

Mrs. Pant
Sachil Tiwari

Jaylalitha
Udit Panjwani (Class V)

RINGSIDE VIEW

These temporary shifts I have from the Jungles to the Rings are extremely right-hand breaking. I fail to comprehend why our Ringside View correspondent has to take such long breaks.

For some news now. The junior hockey Inter-house started last month. The first match was between Ganga and Cauvery, which Ganga won by 5 goals to 1. In the next match Jamuna took on Krishna. Krishna won it comfortably. The final score read 3-1. The next two matches saw scores of huge margins building up. First Ganga trounced Jamuna 8-0. A mere cake walk. Aatir Ansari showed some deft ball handling and it was his brilliant captaincy that got the game for Ganga. Then Cauvery thrashed Krishna with a high margin of 6 to none. In the last league match Ganga played Krishna. Krishna put up a tough fight and kept the score at two all. In the finals Ganga met Cauvery. There was intense pressure throughout the game. Sunny Sarta missed a penalty for Cauvery, which really dampened the spirits of his teammates. Even then the Cauveryites kept attacking but were kept at bay by the decisive Ganga house defence. Not to forget our very own Amarnath, whose lethal defence had the desired effect. Aatir Ansari punished the opposition by cracking in two goals.

The school team has also been playing a few matches. First it played RIMC on their ground, where after trailing with a margin of 4-1 in the first half, we suddenly came up and won the game 5-4. Saswat played like a true captain.

In the council school's hockey tournament, we first played SJA and beat them 7 to 1. Amit

Prashar scored a hat-trick. The next match against Marshall School was a piece of cake with us winning by a huge margin of 10 goals to nil. Charanjeet scored three while Prashar, Saswat and Suman chipped in two goals each. We met Colonel Brown School in the semis and very unfortunately lost with a narrow margin of a goal.

The school team has recently played a tournament hosted by the Oakgrove School. We were lucky enough to bag the first position. Keep It up guys!

I must say that the school hockey team has once again proved to be the best. They have shown that they are capable of doing wonders even without a coach.

Now for some basketball, the junior team played the district basketball tournament held at the Doon International School. They won the trophy by ousting The Doon School in the

finals. They beat them by 13 points. They were, of course, the favourites of the tournament. Maroof Ahmed was adjudged the best player of the tournament. Keep it this way guys!

The squash Inter-house was won by Ganga house and Subashish Thapaliya bagged the best player award.

Our school hockey captain is in the hospital due to a head injury. We really hope to see him in action as he really inspires us to achieve excellence. Well, I would just tell him 'hit the ground runnin' pal'.

**Cheetah is calling — gotta leave,
Till next time,
keep rockin',
Anshuman**



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