



# The Elephant

No. 231

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

20th August, 1999

Visit us at -[www.welham-boys.org](http://www.welham-boys.org) or E-mail us at - [oliphant@giasl01.vsnl.net.in](mailto:oliphant@giasl01.vsnl.net.in)

## Think About It...

*In examinations the foolish ask questions that the wise cannot answer*

*-Oscar Wilde*

## EDITORIAL

The school came back to a water logged Dehra Dun and a water deprived Welham along with a literal fleet of new Santros and a Matiz. The absence of some familiar faces also added to the change in character. Miss Chopra, Mr Bhatia and Miss Roy will all be missed by the community.

The Kargil euphoria lasted only a short time, until the final losses suffered were finally revealed. Various ideas as to how the school community could help the armed forces serving at Kargil included a suggestion to give two scholarships to sons of Army personnel have been made. Suggestions in this connection have been called from both the staff and the student community. Being in the position we are, it would perhaps serve us well to more thoroughly look to the needs of the survivors of the Chamoli earthquake, who since the quake earlier this year have been living in some of the most appalling conditions. Our Kargil heroes also deserve our full consideration.

The board exam classes came back to a series of evaluation exams, which seemed to have caught some of the boys by surprise! This resulted in their scurrying around trying to cram things at the

end. Typical. It can be an alarming thing to see a twelfth do that. Class Twelfth does seem to be engaged in studying though, apparently, their mantra being IIT. Somehow though, I fail to understand the obsession with a career in engineering, especially at a time when computers is the buzzword, and

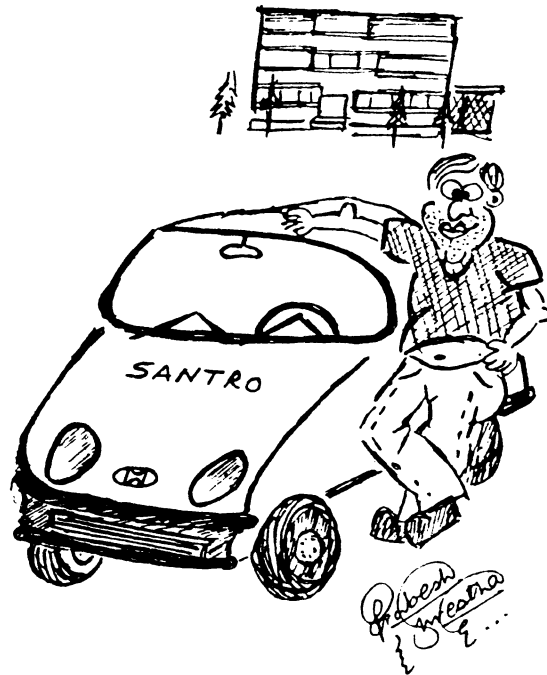
silicon valley gurus rake up all the moolah. The frenzied studying to get into the engineering college of their choice, is unnerving. Downright frightening at times. I only wish people would choose to make of their lives, what they really wanted.

The joke of the week was the sausages served for dinner one night. The school, in what seemed like an awkward attempt to americanise the menu whipped up a 'hot dog' for the baffled.

From what I could make out, half the boys didn't know if they should eat it, or pet it and tie it to a leash. I do appreciate the school's effort in varying the dinner, but 2 inch sausages with greens are not enough to fill the stomachs of some boys with a hearty appetite.

Looking forward to more fancy recipes from the caterer,

yours editorially,  
Karan.



# LETTERS TO THE ED...

Dear Ed,

I don't even know your name, the reason being that I haven't received the Oliphants since the last 4 months. I recently went through the school's web site and hoped to catch a glimpse of 'my' magazine (I was the Ringside View Correspondent in 93-94), but to no avail, as it is under construction I hope you will do the needful.

Its been a long time since I last visited

school. The workload at NIFT is tremendous (I am studying at the NIFT, Hyderabad) which makes it extremely difficult for me to visit school during school during Founders,

I'll get in touch later,

Bye till then,

**Shantanu Singh,**

**Ex 611G,1994**

**(shantanu19@hotmail.com)**

## Welham Now

1) Our heartiest congratulations to Mr & Mrs Kandpal on the birth of their son and also to Mr & Mrs Vinod Singh on the occasion of their being blessed by a baby girl.

2) The Inter School Albert Barrow Essay Writing contest was held on 7th of August.

3) A group of students accompanied by a teacher from Salem School, Germany had visited the school last week and gave a talk to the delegation going to Germany about their customs and language.

4) The following shrubs and trees were planted in the school during the vacations as a part of the 'beautification of campus programme' which was started two years back:-

### Colourful Fragrant Shrubs

1. Menia erecta -1
2. Thwetia Nerifolium -1
3. Francisia -2
4. Gardenia -2
5. Brum felsia panciflora -2
6. Erithrina cristagatris -2
7. Harsingar -2
8. Hibiscus rosa sinesis -2
9. Mussenda frondosa -2
10. Mangolia grandiflora (small)-2
11. Oleander yellow -2

### Tress

1. Sita Ashoka -1
2. Jiv putram -1
3. Carsia Spectabilis -1
4. B. Purpurea -1
5. Cassia Javanica -1
6. Tecono Argente -2
7. Koelreuteria -2
8. Kadam -2
9. Teak -10

(2)

10. Acacia Catechu -10

11. Kachnar -10

12. Toon -20

13. Gulmohur -25

14. Shisham -30

5) At dinner on 14th August, boys were seen enjoying their share of Chicken and Panner Curry. But some did not get their share of the latter. Frantic scurrying searches were made but their share was missing till 3 big bowls of the Paneer curry were found hidden in the wash basins in the pantry. Who is **currying the curry**?

6) Ijlal Shamsi, Kumar Nilay and Diwas Bam participated in the Inter School Science Quiz held at WGHS on 14th August.

7) The result for the ISC-99 is as follows:-

### (COMMERCE)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Sanjay Sarogi	91
Pankaj Agarwal	90
Sushovan Karki	88
Arpan Gupta	86
Prashant Khemka	85
Tanmay Bathwal	85
Abhijit Agarwal	84
Yashab Zia Ansari	84
Akhil Bhannot	83
Abdullah Anwar	82
Adhir Bhat	82
Rohit Bagaria	82
Varun Dawar	82
Rajeev Hamal	81
Siddharth Singh	80
Lalit K Auluck	79

Zameer A Trambo	79
Abhijit Sen Gupta	78
Manoj Negi	76
Ahmed Ali Khan	75
Reshil Charles	74
Manav Goel	73
Abhinav Kothiwal	70
Shavez Rafi	64
Abhinav Nathani	62

Siddharth Dugar	86
Shariq Ansari	85
Debashish Banerjee	82
Mehul Mayank	79
Anirudh Chauhan	78
Kartikeya N Singh	78
Arjun Trivedi	77
Mohit Choudhary	77
Deep Singhal	74
Abhishek Mitra	71
Abhinav Pathak	70
Amrut Kar	67
Aditya Jassi Abbott	62
Amit Gupta	54

**(SCIENCE)**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Saswat Sarda	86

## ***W.O.B.N***

1) The Dehra Dun chapter had its get together on the 31<sup>st</sup> July at the school (Peacock Stage). It was well attended by the local and neighbouring old boys.

The highlight of the evening was the ringing of the dining hall bell by the head bearer Jagat Singh followed by the School grace recited by the old boys and their wives who were present that evening.

Old memories were revived.

2) Yurendra Basnett (Batch of '97) has completed his A Levels (Cambridge Certificate) and has obtained a full tuition Scholarship in Western Maryland College, Maryland, USA.

3) Wanchuk Topden (batch of '93) is presently working in Miami, Florida, USA and says - 'Hello' to us. His email is wanchuk@hotmail.com.

## ***Literary Affairs***

### ***THE NIRVANA***

Lonely as he likes to be,  
Floats his eyes spiritually,  
Opens the lock of mystery with no key,  
Is like any other ordinary man who loves to be free.

Could even concentrate for hours,  
Purify all evils and leave behind no scars,  
Can sit on earth and experience planet mars,  
Loves to live with peace and has his lucky stars.

There is something different about him,  
His eyes are wild and face seems dim,  
His appearance savage-like, in desperate need of  
a trim,

Usually tall, quite a character and very thin.

The posture in which he sits  
To his personality it really fits,  
His mind's eye from time to time shifts,  
To the other side of the world he drifts.

The only intellectual that ever lived here,  
Become immortal as for this world he cares,  
A man with great knowledge to share,  
The attitude he had was rare.

Have you ever really seen **THE NIRVANA??**

**-Kanishk Kaushik**

### ***KARGIL***

Once again India's armed forces are engaged in a valiant battle to rebuff aggression. Their courage is indomitable. They are fighting against the heaviest of odds, getting wounded and some making supreme sacrifices of their lives so that

India's borders remain secure and her honour intact.

It all began when the snow melted and the horizon was covered with intruder capped peaks. The intruders had crossed the LOC and gained

position in the Indian Territory.

This was why operation Vijay began. The terrain in which the Indian soldiers are fighting is worse than anyone can imagine and despite the inherent hindrances our soldiers fought bravely.

I am proud to say that so many millions of people are donating generously for our Jawans. But I really wonder of the various war funds how much really goes to the martyrs' families because some embezzlement might take place.

One must understand that these people are fighting for our future. A man becomes a man or has the right to be called a man after he does something for the country and not just sit back and pass comments.

A soldier sitting in Kargil has no looking

back. He does not know what lies ahead. Will he come back alive or not? Will he see his family again? These thoughts haunt his mind. He also has his wishes, his family, but he is sacrificing everything for us and the country. By chance, he loses his life the next day, would you CRY FOR HIM? One might feel sad but might not cry because he is not your relative. But did he know you? He died for a stranger and the stranger is you!

Since we have almost won the War it is our duty to look after the martyrs' families, who looked after all of us.

Hats off to our brave soldiers.

**JAI HIND,  
Karan Mehrotra**

## ***Report on The Nubra Valley Project by the SALEM school Delegation***

**Mein Name ist Sophie Duncker und ich komme aus der Schule Schloss Salem** – I know that only very few of you, 7 students to be exact, are learning German at the moment, so I shall continue this in English. I briefly want to explain why we are standing here now: last year in October I was sent to the Round Square Conference at the Athenian School in San Francisco. I saw the RSIS presentation of the project in Nubra Valley and decided I wanted to go. Luckily I was able to convince a few students from Salem that this was a worthwhile expedition, so 5 of us started to prepare for our adventure as early as February. At the same conference I spoke to your headmaster, Mr. Kandhari, who was kind enough to invite me, possibly some German students as well, to his school in order to talk a little about Germany and prepare the Welham student delegation for this year's conference in Louisenlund. So here we are.

But now Julian, Carsten and Florian are going to say a few words about the project.

### **Julian**

Our group consisted of 21 people from USA, Canada, GB and Germany and only one Indian boy from the Doon School. On the 6<sup>th</sup> of July we met up in Delhi at the YMCA and got to know each other. On the following day we flew to Leh in the early morning. After arrival, we had 3 days of getting used to the altitude. At the beginning everybody was out of breath and I lost my voice.

On the second and third day we visited monasteries by Jeep. Finally we drove over the Khardung La, the highest motorable road of the world, to Nubra Valley where we started our project.

### **Carsten**

#### *The Project – Construction of a Library*

None of us had expected to start a very traditional approach. After carrying hundreds of mud bricks up to the roof of the monastery we built up the walls under the leadership of skilled Ladakhi craftsmen and we learnt a lot about laying bricks. We were quite surprised that it took only about 5 days before we started with the roof construction. Then we only had to complete the window and door frames, and the interior was done by the monks.

Finally we were really pleased to see the result of our work fitting in with the environment. We also got to know the monks quite well, teaching them English and Maths. In the afternoon some of us went to the village of Tiger to do a survey that gave us some insight into Ladakhi society and culture. On two afternoons at the end of the project we went down to Sumur to look at the dome that was built last year, and we also taught the pupils of the village school.

### **Florian**

#### *The Trek*

Two days before our planned departure for our 5 day trek across the Wuri La back to Leh,

something very unusual happened in the Nubra Valley: it started to rain. This was quite surprising, as we had been told that it never rains in Ladakh...

However, as soon as we were about to start on our trek the sun came out and kept shining for the whole six days. Our path led us through the south-eastern part of the Nubra Valley and after two nights in picturesque camps in the riverbed we finally started to ascend.

Everyone began to feel the effect of the altitude, especially Ms Duncker, who started to walk slower and slower and slower....

But finally, on the fourth day, everyone reached the nearly 18000 feet high pass after a last steep climb of 30 minutes. While walking, everybody was impressed by the sight of a fascinating landscape with yaks, snow covered mountains and ice cold streams gurgling down the valleys. And the sky was as clear and beautiful at night, as the mountains were high.

Getting away from Leh was quite difficult,

as our flight was cancelled and we had to brave a 3 day bus trip. If anything, it made us appreciate the peace of Nubra Valley even more. We did get to see the Taj Mahal, and finally parted in Delhi – the four of us then came to Dehra Dun.

We would like to thank Mr. Oswald Das for the tremendous amount of organisation involved with this project. We are extremely grateful to him, as we had a really good time and learned a lot about this fascinating country. We would also like to thank Mr. Kandhari for his kind invitation and can only hope that Salem is able to match the hospitality of Welham Boys' School when your RSC delegation comes to Germany in October. We are looking forward to seeing some of you again soon. Thank you.

-Sophie Duncker( Teacher Incharge)  
Julian Stippig(Student)  
Carsten Keller(Student)  
Florian Maurer(Student)

## ***A MATTER OF ACCOUNTS***

I teach a subject that's appealing,  
Without which life would not find much meaning.  
It deals with '**figures**' and '**Amounts**'  
It's what the whole world calls, '**Accounts**'.

It only works if you stick to its rules,  
Or else it turns wise-men to fools.  
In the quest to balance the '**books**'  
Innocent men have become '**crooks**'.

There is a thing called the "**Balance Sheet**",  
That often causes the students to cheat.  
The '**Goodwill**' a/c is always a pain,  
And the P/L a/c seldom shows gain.

'**Partnership**' a/c boggles the mind,  
with the sleeping partner so hard to find.  
The good son '**consignment**' invariably catch fire,

The owner. Of course, is a compulsive liar.

The best example that explains a '**Joint Venture**',  
Is unless all co-ventures use the same denture.  
The cost sheet sets the class a - snoring,  
And this all is ever so boring.

Company a/c seems the hardest of all,  
Especially with the shares - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & final call.  
Issue of debentures can be a tricky affair,  
And naked debentures are for those who '**dare**'.

Friends, I could go on, for my subject is wide,  
But a few '**TRADE TRICKS**' I must hide.  
For if the entire mystery is told,  
What then wonder the '**Suspense**' a/c would hold.

- Joy Arora

## ***Nature's Diary***

### ***THE VIRGIN RIVER PROJECT***

The Narmada river project has been delayed over the years by several controversies and bureaucratic interference. It is the largest multi-purpose project in India comprising 329 large

dams, 450 medium sized projects and several thousand minor structures. It is therefore greatly beneficial to the states of MP, Gujrat and Maharashtra.

But once the project is completed over 200 villages will be displaced and reallocated to areas allotted by the GOI. It will also displace mineral sources that will lie in the basin of the river, exploitation of such resources, intrusion into the forests and migration of the tribal.

If the resources have to be harnessed and developed, the government must do it in a controlled manner. The Sardar Sarovar dam alone will irrigate 1.8 million acres of arid land in Gujrat and 75,000 hectares in Rajasthan. The benefits of the project will be enormous.

But the large sections of people that live in the area will be displaced and will be left without a

bit of land and shelter. This has motivated eminent people like Arunadhari Roy and others to take a tough stand on this issue. Rallies have been organised to mobilise and elicit public opinion about the this whole affair.

Nevertheless, efforts to conserve water cannot be put off. Because the population is decentralised. The need for water is decentralised but the supply of water itself is not decentralised. The positive results from the other multi-purpose projects are encouraging. So we can not let this matter hang loose while we squabble over trivial matters. After all water is life.

- Amish Raj Mulmi

## "Dude" of the Fortnight

He surprised everyone and no one when he got appointed as prefect much later than the others. He has a reputation for being unpredictable, however Charanjeet Mann's bagging the Individual trophy as well as being awarded the Best Player in the recently held Squash IPSC Tournament came as no surprise.

Charanjeet has been playing squash since the very inception of our squash courts. The dedication which he has shown for the game is commendable, and his perseverance has definitely paid off. Undoubtedly, this is one time Mr Baghel can genuinely say, "I loves this boy!"

## THROUGH THE KEYHOLE !!!

**Gulab Jamun was served for dessert.**

**Jasmeet Singh:** Oye, yeh VEG hai ki NON-VEG??

\*\*\*\*\*

**Mr. Sridhar:** Usamah, why did you arrive late??

**Usamah:** Sir, actually my plane got stuck in the

air!!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Gaurav Malhotra:** Oye, guys! Aishwarya Rai really looks pretty in home clothes!

\*\*\*\*\*

## WHAT'S IN !!??

Tension  
Monsoon Basic Course  
Santro & Matiz  
Mr. Khaira  
Slimshady  
Anshuman Singh

## WHAT'S OUT !!??

Vacation  
Summer Camp  
UAE-50  
Mr. Bhatia  
Offspring  
Siddhanth Aney

# LAMPOON : LITERALLY AFFAIRS

**Parental Guidance: Contains explicit material. This illustrates things which were meant to be but could not be. Do not confuse for Literary Affairs. This is Literally a charade.**

## WHY INDIA WOULD HAVE NEVER WON THE WORLD CUP

Just the other day as I was lounging around my turf I discovered the most popular religion in India. Cricket Mania. The World Cup was 'round the corner. The cricket mania had increased manifold. The world cup was upon us when the cricket mania gripped us. It was at the peak of this mania that our National team betrayed us. Many blame the captain and the players but I think it is deeper than that. Why India would have never won the world cup is still suspense.

The Indian Cricket players were offered new Mercedes Saloon cars if they brought the world cup home. Well, Sachin Tendulkar thought otherwise. It is known that the 'little blaster' maintains a personal car collection that happens to have a Mercedes. So he did not think it worth his while to waste his talent for a car he already owned. So he let himself be masterfully blasted (note: now the 'little blasted').

Shahrukh Khan is known the world over for his acting or rather hamming skills. This summer he pulled off the biggest hamming coup. I am sure that everyone must have seen the Shahrukh-Sachin Pepsi ad. Sometimes you wonder where they got their inspiration from. Well it was actually the Khan who with his dubious wig and thirst for Pepsi batted instead of the 'little blaster'! No wonder all the rookie bowlers had a blast (all puns intended).

Spin doctor, Anil Kumble, was having a

hard time, while his contemporary Shame Warne dazzled. An inside report states that this due to some alien constellations back home in Chennai, the ball seemed to play tricks with him instead of him playing tricks with the ball. Same goes for ol' Aza, I guess that the game is too much for his old nerves. I sincerely wish that Fosters would come up with ads with the themes - Australian for Captain, Australian for Spinners. After all the Australians declared 'Waugh' on us.

The disheartened Indian side got an added incentive to call it a day when Geoffery Boycott made the statement that if the Indians were to lose they would have to camp in his garden for the next 2-3 weeks in order to avoid being mauled by the furious cricket maniacs.

Look on the bright side, if the team had won not only would have there been chaos in the share markets, big consumer companies would have been bankrupt. Well it is a different story that it was a safe bet. This no doubt proves the patriotism of the Indian sportsmen.

Well we can always look forward to entertainment at South Africa '03. I can't guarantee an Indian victory but if I am around till that time, I will definitely LAMPOON it.

**Just Cricketin',  
Azar Zaidi**

## Separated At Birth !!

Rishi Gugnani  
Gautam Macker  
Chetan Kandhari

Vansh Joshi  
Fatboy Slim  
Mr. Ghosh

## RINGSIDE VIEW

The Ed did not do it. The Staff Rep was reluctant so I think I have to announce my name myself. My name is... who?

My name is... what?

My name is... Anshuman Singh and I shall be your Ringside View Correspondent from now. Whew, that was simple.

The last one had to give up. Kiddin'! The ex-

pat is studying in Vasant Valley School, N D.

Coming on track seeing a lot of haircuts (Nepal isthyle) in the soccer field. The soccer captain who happens to come from the same habitat gave me a rather dubious statement- "With short hair, move fast in thin air?" Huh...?

Ok I apologise, no more jokin', just business, serious business, sports business!

Soccer is on. It is good to see the coach with a few boys but I do not know what is the future?

It seems that the boys are not interested in the game. There are hardly ten boys on the field with the coach. Something has to be done and it has to be quick or otherwise..... it is the end of soccer. Why do not guys even try for the school team.

Moving to cemented pastures, the badminton team is practising with courage and with truth so that in their lives they may reveal some of the glory and wonder that has shone in the lives of the great men of the past. What have I said oh: yes I remember, Badminton (see what the principal has done to me during assembly). They are going to Ajmer by the end of this month. We here at the board wish them all the luck.

Squash, a sport introduced a few years ago, has been going to greater heights. It has been soaring for a long time. Charanjeet and his team has done it again this time.

The IPSC - squash tournaments held at Lawrence School, Sanawar from 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> July was another victory for the squash team. The team comprised Aveent, Shivang and Charanjeet, the captain. It bagged the under 19 championship.

Charanjeet won the individuals. It was a thrilling 50 minute face off. The spectators sat rooted to their chairs till the last knock. It was

certainly Charanjeet's day as he ousted LSS at the end, the final score being 3-1. Charanjeet was adjudged the best player of the tournament.

Presently, the team is practising for the North Zones to be held at Mayo College, Ajmer. They practice from 5 in the morning to 7. Hope they get paid for their hard work. Best of luck to them. Hope they come back victorious.

Basketball, what can I say except that **Karn Singh**, our star player is leaving school and moving to The Doon School. But the guys are still practising. Our player is now going to play against us!

I have also been swimming. Thank God, the Bursar managed to arrange some extra water for the pool to cool off the hot heads from last term. The Principal has warned us of the dangers involved in careless swimming.

The rains having ruined the possibility of playing tennis, have sent all the Tea Freaks to the Squash courts, TT

room, hospital, etc.

The fixtures will start (All Sports) from next week.

I also have the burden of my projects. So I wish to take your leave.

See ya at the BULLY BOX,

Til' then,  
head bangin',

**Anshuman**



" IN THE WET "

#### EDITORIAL BOARD

Chief Editor : **Karan Gulaya**

Literary Affairs : **Shivang Sud**

Cartoonist: **Akshat Agarwal & Prabesh Shrestha**

Ringside View: **Anshuman Singh**

Staff Representative: **Mr. S.K. Bakshi**

Published By : **Welham Boys' School**

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

Desktop Editor : **Ijlal Shamsi**

Welham Now : **Hamza Ahmed**

Nature Diary : **Amish Raj Mulmi**

W.O.B.N : **Mr. Jagjit Singh**

E-Mail: **oliphant@giasdl01.vsnl.net.in**

Web-page: **www.welham-boys.org**