



The Elephant

No. 247

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

24th August, 2000

Think About It...

Shall my heart be a tree, heavily laden with fruit that I can give to others.

-Khalil Gibran

EDITORIAL

Aloha, welcome back to a spanking new term at Welham Boys' (as if you didn't know it is Welham Boys' School). I hope you have, by now, developed a taste for my intellectual antics. Because there is going to be more where it came from. I think I should shift the attention from myself to the school, or else critics will brand this issue as "How Azar got his groove back!"

Lara Dutta became Miss Universe. Kapil Dev cried *live* on BBC. Militants rocked Kashmir (yet again?!). The first ever Concorde crashed was recorded. But life goes on at 5, Circular Road. So what's new?

The rains (did somebody say the rains!) are beating down on us like heat on a June day. It's an achievement to spot the sun these days. From bad laundry days to lush green fields, we are seeing them all.

Speaking of rains, they have not been able to stop the Soccer team from going gung-ho on the field. Pity, can't say the same for the Basketball guys. Because amongst things adversely affected by the continuous downpour, the activity centre heads the list. With more puddles inside than outside, the basketball guys can't help but complain.

Another phenomena that seems to have shaken Welham right from the roots is the Round Square Movement. Taking us by storm, a whooping

twenty two gap-years and exchanges are expected this year and the next. I can't help but be happy and feel proud of being a Welhamite.

Speaking of exchange the first batch of exchange students consisting of good ol' Anshuman, Rishi Raj, Pradipta Rana and Abhisar Garga is back. And they can't stop raving about their

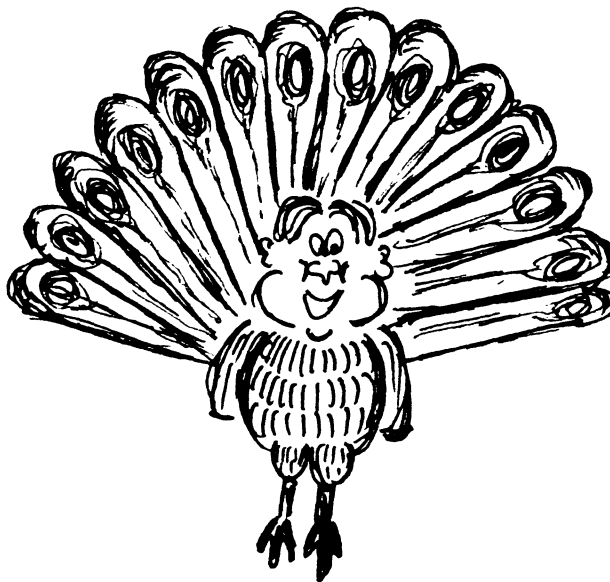
experiences abroad. I whole heartedly agree with them and support their contention, that each and every Welhamite should try and get an exchange, because truly speaking, it's a chance of a lifetime.

I have mentioned in almost all my previous write-ups, and now that it's complete, I nearly forgot to mention about it. You got it! I am talking about the sub-way. Its finally complete and in

use. As already mentioned by the Lampoon-ist, now we walk sixty three steps as compared to the five steps across the road. Nevertheless, a land mark in the history of Welham as well as history of all public schools.

Recently, we celebrated our 53rd Independence day with the usual mix of *exciting* play and speeches by the middle school. Just came to my mind, are we actually free? Free from poverty? Free from ignorance? Free from destitution? Free from superstition?


I leave it to you all, citizens of a free



nation... it's very future, to decide upon the answer.

I think I have filled my requisite space, and I expect the staff rep to be here any second now, so I will call it a day,

Feeling groovy,



Letters to the Ed...

Dear Ed,

I am not quite sure if Box Hill has been in touch with you. But I will update you anyway.

The school term ended on the 6th of July and I left for the expedition to Romania on the same day along with 9 other pupils and 4 teachers. In the past the teams have worked at orphanages in various parts of Romania, but our goal was to help building up a health clinic in Transylvania in Northern Romania.

The first day we left London in two minibuses for Dover and caught the ferry to Ostend in Belgium and camped in Leuven (a big Belgian University town near Brussels). The next day we managed to get into Germany before one of the bus broke down and we had to abandon it midway so that the AA could transport it back to England. Instead the Insurance Company paid for our train fare from Cologne to Brasov in Romania. The train trip took about 36 hours and took us through Germany, Austria, Hungary and finally into Romania. We spent the next few days with host families in Sibiu (our base camp in Romania) and we went on a trip to Sighisoara (commercially flogged abroad as Dracula's birthplace). The poverty throughout was quite striking, and the English students often found it hard to cope. We then travelled to the village of Lunca Ilvei and spent the next ten days working in the clinic. We finally left Romania on the 24th of July for Krakow in Poland going through Hungary and

Slovakia. I didn't have a visa for Slovakia and the border officials blatantly refused to let me in. So one of the teachers and I went back to Budapest to try to catch a flight to Karakow while the rest of the group went without us. Luckily we got a flight via Warsaw without much trouble and were able to join the group in Karakow the same night (but it did cost me another 100 pounds). Karakow was visually quite stunning and compared quite favourable with the central European elegance of Vienna and Budapest. The central square itself is fantastic. From Karakow, we took a day trip to the Nazi concentration camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau, which was quite a sobering experience. After Poland we drove back straight to Belgium over the next 3 days, camping near Dresden in Germany and in Maastricht in Holland and the next night. Maastricht was lovely. The following day we drove back to England. The whole trip was brilliant. I was in London for a few days before flying to LA to my father, and that's where I am now. Not for long though, since I will leave for New York tomorrow and we're driving all the way. It will take about 8 days because we intend to stop and go at a leisurely pace. It should be an interesting trip. I need to be in New York to join Columbia on the 29th. That's another thing I am looking forward to.

-Karan Gulaya

Dear Ed,

I am glad to inform you that I have been selected for the P. Moller (MAERSK, Denmark) scholarship for Nautical Science Studies. The course will be conducted at AMET Chennai and Singapore for about 3 ½ years.

I want to inform you that I have been receiving the Oliphant regularly. Thanks.

Anant Goel
Ex- 837/J

We are sorry to inform of the sad demise of Harjot Inder Singh-ex-120/C-1993 and Zameer Turmboo ex-747/K-1999. Our deepest condolences to the bereaved families.

Welham Now

- 1) Please visit us at the new school website www.welhamboys.org . Suggestions are welcome. Please mail them at publications@welhamboys.org
- 2) The Welham Subway is now complete and functioning.
- 3) The Multimedia Lab, another physical addition is effectively being used.
- 4) We welcome Mr. Upadhyay and his family to Welham. Mr. Upadhyay will be teaching Maths and a few spreadsheets and software in the Multimedia Laboratory. His daughter Miss Geetika Upadhyay is in class nine and is studying here.
- 5) On Independence day the boys of Junior and Middle school presented skits and recited poems on patriotism and freedom. It was very well done.
- 6) The same day Mr. Upadhyay and his family presented a magic show, which stupefied and mystified the whole school. We congratulate them.
- 7) Five boys from Junior Basketball team played for the Dehradun District in the Allahabad District Basketball tournament held in the John Thompson School. Namely Arjun Manchanda, Maroof Ahmed, Anwesh Singh and Nishant Joshi. The Dehradun District came first.
- 8) Anshuman Singh, Rishi Bagaria and Amish Mulmi represented the WB Quiz Society at the semi finals of the FOD Quiz. We stood 2nd and they will represent us at the finals on the 3rd of November.
- 9) A workshop on Art and Craft was organized for boys of grade 7 and 8.
- 10) Anshuman Singh has returned from an exchange visit from Gordostoun, Scotland and so have Rishi Raj Singh and Abhisar Garga from St. Stithian, South Africa and Pradipta Rana from St. Philips, Australia.
- 11) Peter Hickmoot from St. Philips has come to teach at Welham for a semester. He is in Grade 12th and is teaching computers to grade 7. We welcome him and hope he settles down and likes our beautiful school and country.
- 12) Mr. Saurav Sharma who has graduated from St. Stephens is teaching at Welham for a Semester. He'll be teaching Grade 7 and 8 Science. We wish him a pleasant stay.
- 13) During the summer vacations the following went for the RSIS Ladakh:-
Saumya Khaitan Vinayak Pant
Rahul Vaish Ratik Arora
Sachin Gupta Arpit Tondon
- 14) Rudra Pratap Shah has gone to St. Philips, Australia on an exchange. We wish him all the best.
- 15) During the holidays the a computer workshop was held for the teaching staff.

W.O.B.N.

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held in Dehra Dun on 22nd July, 2000 which was followed by a dinner organised by the Dehra Dun Chapter at the Principal's cottage for all the EC members who had come from outstation. The gathering was well attended and OBS from Saharanpur also attended the dinner. Members of staff who had done ten years and above were also invited for the

gathering.

PS- The minutes of the EC meeting will be published in the next edition of the Oliphant.

The Dehra Dun Chapter had a gathering in April at Ajanta Hotel, poolside which was well attended as reported by regional representative Raju Verma.

Literary Affairs

Plus est en vous (there's more in you)

AN EXCHANGE REPORT

I went on an exchange visit to Gordonstoun situated on the north east coast of Scotland. Scotl and

is famous for it's whisky and of course the bagpipes, it's a very clean and green country. On the highlands

cattle can be seen grazing on the green meadows which is a very soothing sight for the eyes.

I flew from Mumbai on the 20th of April. After nine long hours in the airplane I finally reached London. I stayed a couple of hours at a friend's place and then took a night bus for Inverness. The Gordonstoun taxi received me the next morning.

I was staggered to see such a massive but beautiful campus. The buildings were English architecture. The vastness of the campus can be imagined by the fact that the campus included woods.

Before I was introduced to the other exchange students all the formalities concerning the house master and the house matron were completed

The school's strength is about 550 students both boys and girls. The co-educational system was a new and beneficial experience for me as I have been brought up in an all boys' school for the larger part of my life. Most of the people were very helpful and even I had my first bit of racism as I was called "paki" or 'o brown one'. This of course I learnt to take in my stride and mostly ignored these unflattering remarks.

The students teacher relationship was remarkable and the classrooms had a very comfortable environment, the teaching methods were student friendly. The class discussions were healthy and participated by all. A lot of visual aids were used by the teachers which lead to a better understanding of the subjects, not to forget the various field trips to neighbouring localities. All

departments had their own libraries which could be referred to anytime.

One of the better things about the school were the facilities provided within the houses. They have a full-fledged kitchen equipped with a microwave and a daily supply of milk, bread butter and jam. We had a pool table and a computer with access to the net for recreation.

Frankly speaking the standard of food was much below ours and not worth mentioning.

Coming back to sport, the first that comes to my mind is my first sailing trip across the Scottish isles. It was an amazing experience for me. I was a member of the school cricket team and played numerous matches. This was to my advantage as the school organized a game every weekend in various parts of the country.

The other thing worth mentioning is that the school operated on trust and lot of freedom was given to the students. The weekends were never boring as we had socials every Saturday evening. Everyone waited for these evenings with baited breath.

My stay at Gordonstoun was very beneficial and I got a tremendous amount of exposure. Not to mention the friends I made.

This trip would not have been possible without the effort put in by my school and I would like to thank everyone involved. I would want every student from Welham to work hard towards an exchange as it is a once in a lifetime experience.

- Anshuman Singh

TIME TO TRAVEL THROUGH LIFE

To realise the value of one lifetime ask an old person with a list of services to society that remained undone.*

To realise the value of one decade ask a person who has failed to choose the right career at the right moment.*

To realise the value of one year ask a student who has failed a final exam.

To realise the value of one month ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.

To realise the value of one week ask an editor of a weekly newspaper.

To realise the value of one hour ask the friends who are waiting to meet.

To realise the value of one minute ask the person who has missed the train, bus or plane.

To realise the value of one second ask a person who has survived an accident.

To realise the value of nanosecond ask the Intel's chip designer.*

To understand the value of one millisecond ask a person who has won a silver medal in the Olympics. Time waits for no one. Treasure every moment you have.

*** This article has been downloaded by Mrs. Ghosh from a website and is titled by Mrs and Mr Ghosh. The lines with the asterisk have also been written by them.**

NET SAVVY

Hi folks,

Here are a few sites you may like to surf which I encountered staying awake late nights and early mornings, stealing afternoons and cool evenings. Just one more thing before I start. The internet is just one more web so don't get stuck and be a net addict.

www.uthplanet.com

This site is a new one launched in the holidays and coolest in the list and hottest on the net. Mainly based on Yenom (opposite of money!!!). 1 Yenom is one rupee. There is lots of voting and contributing and you can earn lots of Yenom and spend them over the net. Fashion lovers..... there is room for you to. It features raffles also. The hottest feature of the site is the car and bike race. You be the highest scorer of the month and you get the car and the highest scorer of the week gets a bike. All vehicles designed by DC.

www.unimobile.com

Ever wondered how cool would it be delivering messages on any pager/mobile phone free of cost! Check out this site and contact any device in the whole world. Plus, no incoming charges to the receivers. It also features a download which makes it easier. So, hook an the mobiles and join the race.

www.yno7.com

Tired sending E-cards? Here is something for you. Now be happening and send E-post cards with a picture on one half and a hand written note on the other. So make the occasion more enjoyable and enjoy the credits. Another thing, this site

directly delivers it to the mail box instead of mailing a link.

www.delhidates.com

All you love sick people this is for you. This is a site for the broken hearted. Dates are just a click away. Surf the site, select the kind of date you want, (all the information is there, wow!) and happy dating. Still not satisfied, post your profile on the site and watch the girls run after you.

P.S. Delhites- Don't miss the chance, be a sport.

www.mailmetoday.com

This ain't no common mail site. Each time you logon you get points, here points- there points everywhere points-points. Use your point to shop online, book holidays, get discounts and yet more.

P.S- Do visit chequemail.com for cash instead of points.

www.Theconfessor.com

Last, but not the least, there's room for the wrong doer's and bullies of the school. If you commit a sin which you're really sorry for, logon to this site and confess your deed. It's like an inbound church confession box.

Last of all do visit the school's new web site and give your comments/ suggestions to Mr. R. Sridhar.

From the net heaven,

The real part of the chemical brothers,

Revealed,

Shubham Khanna

LAMPOON

TAKE A LOOK AROUND

About a fortnight in school,
And we are settled, not square.
So me fourth estates back in time,
Isn't it fair?

Guys are back and things are on the right track. Before anything let me first warn you; if you come across a Welhamite, out of nowhere, making funny gestures with his hands, looking irritated and abnormal and slapping his face, believe me when I say he is not insane. Don't assume things. Coz **assumption is the mother of all hangups**. The scientific reason for such paranormal activity is

cobwebs.

The term began with rains, the rain gods are more than pleased with us. The school is all the more greener. Whats more surprising is that the first time in a decade our school has not been white washed during monsoons, changes are quite evident and hopefully they're there for the better. All though monsoons gave way to lots and more than the usual lots of greenery, but then '**Despite our rising and our falls, we are always there-for and when nature calls.**

One rather interesting development that

could have made any Welhamite proud is that the subway is finally complete. I think the school authorities should be thanked for this addition and we'll definitely have no accidents in the future. However, some self-proclaimed critics believe that such a development was unnecessary. The reasons are as such that before guys had to literally walk a cool five steps to cross the road, now they have to walk sixty (uphill and downhill).

Soccer is on the high. The captain is really excited and the coach is torturing. The trend that had been set a few years ago, still survives, Nepalese rule this sport. After all it's a game about monkey play. And with our Jet Li's and Danny's, who knows we might go ahead and conquer new peaks.

Rakshabandhan and Independence Day were here and gone. A special offer of two in one. 'Freedom for all those lovers, and a bond for all those brothers'. Talking about PH, it's clearer

and greener too! White washed! The residents were a disappointed lot to see all their Gods and Goddesses along with their holy psalms erased.

Examinations were disasterous. The results terrific. But don't worry! Welhamites have been better than Bond, when it comes to making excuses. At least, I have got mine ready coz I believe **chance favours the prepared mind.**

This time a few guys are back with a bang. Yes! I am talking about our school ambassadors on various exchange programmes. They've undergone changes in personality, character, mentality and to a good extent physically. However the things that have changed

drastically are the attitude and thinking. Some have become cool, some over concerned, some senti and some genuinely perfect. What hasn't changed is that they're Welhamites in soul and spirit.

Now about the topic that is always hot for some, and always not for some. This part needn't be taken seriously. Bear in mind, **'Comments are free, facts are sacred'**, this time our cupid's arrows without the original bows and arrows but just that weapon which could get this universe to an abrupt end, are all damn insecure. **Love is mutual, if a one sided affair, leaves the other person in**

despair. You could come across a lot of such people going for Tera Jadoo Chal Gaya and Ha Dil Jo... That's where they get their inspiration from. Too bad for them that socials couldn't happen but then 'Nobody is more concerned than us about undelivered issues (with the possible exception of



maternity words).

During this term, like every other, we have a lot to look forward to and lots needs to be done, lots to be achieved, but what's success and hard work minus the fun? So you guys just **'Live by the Moments'** and accept your missions. Times running out and the Staff Rep's on the edge, you might just find the board hanging from the cliffs and not Cruise. Once in a while its okay to get your chair kicked, definitely not this time though

**-You nearly got me killed.
Kanishk 'Krooze' Kaushik.**

THOSE WACKY WOODSEATERS

MY CLASS TEACHER

My class teacher's name is Mrs. Nonie Bagga. She is very nice and kind. She teaches English and E. V. S. She doesn't like to scold children. She likes to wear salwar-kameez. Her favourite colour is white.

Aparajit Sahai.
Class - II

MY HOSTEL

My hostel's name is Alaknanda. It is a wonderful hostel. My hostel ma'am is very good. She takes care of us. She teaches us nice things. The matron lives in the hostel only.

Prabhat Singh
Class - II

A JOKE

One day early in the morning one man was walking in the street. He saw a poster, in the poster it was written – who reads it will be a donkey. The man thought for a long time. After a long time he rubbed it and wrote - who has written it is a donkey.

-Harsh
Class II

MY SCHOOL

My school's name is Welham Boys' School. It is a very old school. Our Principal's name is Mr. Kandhari. The school has beautiful trees. There are many fields. The biggest field is the Main field. The school is upto class XII. There is a swimming pool in the school. It is famous all over India.

-Ayush Khaitan

WHAT'S HOT!!??

Genie in the Miranda Ad.
Cyrus B. in 'Mera Number Aayega' Ad.
'PATEL SCOPE'
Nike
Akshat Bapna
Multimedia Lab
Subway
Mr. Magician

WHAT'S NOT!!!

Hritik Roshan in the Coke Ad.
Lisa Ray in the Sprite Ad.
'A LITTLE BIT OF MAMBO'
Power
Samyajit Das
IT Lab
Highway
Mr. Gandhi

SEPARATED AT BIRTH

Mr. Sahi
Owais Burza
Vikrant Bisht
Pranav Shrestha

Raunak Kunwar
Wasim Akram
Albert Einstein
John Woo

RINGSIDE VIEW

I'm back people, maybe not with a bang but certainly with a slimmer figure. Remember me you out there this is ol' Anshuman! Once again firing up the courts and the fields with his in touch journalism.

The sport scene is a bit idle, nothin' but Soccer and Basketball. Oops, I forgot to mention the Tennis stars gearing up for the coming IPSC'S and of course, our Badminton team, all ready with the new coach, and all set to burn up the courts in their tournament too.

Soccer, as usual is dominated by the Nepalese. Sometimes I wonder, where would the Welham Soccer team be if not for our foreign friends. The Captain has also been practicing real hard and till date has played three matches. The first played on the occasion of Independence Day was against the staff. It is sadly to be mentioned that except for four-five teachers, no other staff came to face the boys. Therefore, students filled much of the staff's team. The school team however showed that it had practiced hard and though they committed a few errors they won comfortably beating the staff two goals to nil.

The next match was against Doon Valley club, and it was sure an adrenalin gushing match.

Goals were being scored constantly by both sides, yet the Welhamites managed to scrap off a minute defeating them for a goal. Mukti played like a Captain scored two magnificent goals, while Parag chipped in another.

In the third match, we finally realised our weakness in our defence, when Vikranta club defeated us by a high margin of seven goals to one. I am sure the school team will fight back and build upon its errors.

Basketball is underground as far as serious practice is concerned. Some matches have been played but all have been informal. However, the real cherry lies in the fact that they are busy practicing for the IPSC'S. Best of luck!

Nothing else is on the sports scene. The

holidays saw our juniors lift the Under 15 basketball trophy at Gorakhpur. A proud achievement!

Euro-2000 was played and watched with vigor and zeal. Italy finally lost but not before the French had their throats in the mouth.

We're all looking forward to the exciting term of sports that is ahead. For Soccer fans, this is the time- go out and display what you have in you.

- Anshuman Singh



I'M BACK...

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