

The Elephant

No. 258

WELHAMBOYS' SCHOOL

24th April, 2001

Think About It...

Nothing so upholds the law as the punishment of persons whose rank is as great as their crimes.
-Cardinal Richelieu

EDITORIAL

Am I in a trance, or am I getting surprised by the fact that I have been playing BALL every hour, and am still finishing this editorial that I have to give in. Otherwise, you know what happens next, the Staff Rep. will be out for my throat.

Jokes apart, there has been a lot of basketball around; what else can be expected with the tournaments at Woodstock, Doon School, and our very own Golden Jubilee. Three tourneys in two weeks, its more of a do or die affair. And judging by the fact we haven't been doing too badly, it is quite fair to mention that the Captain has finally got his dues that were long awaited.

So, the successor is finally announced. And it must bring a welcome relief to our present Princi., especially after so many rumors and delays and everyday queries by someone or the other.

However, it is expected that the new incumbent will certainly carry on the good job that our beloved Mr. Kandhari has done.

The heat has beaten every Welhamites' brain. What else can be expected with the hot winds and power failures. The only relief, as everyone knows, is the Pool, which seems too little a space to beat the heat. Oh! Where are the Rain

Gods when you actually need them?

The Summer Carnival is nearing, and we can see the bright smiles on everyones' faces as they expect their beloved to come over and have a bash with them. No need to say, the Jam Session better watch out with minors slowly getting perfect in the art of Love.

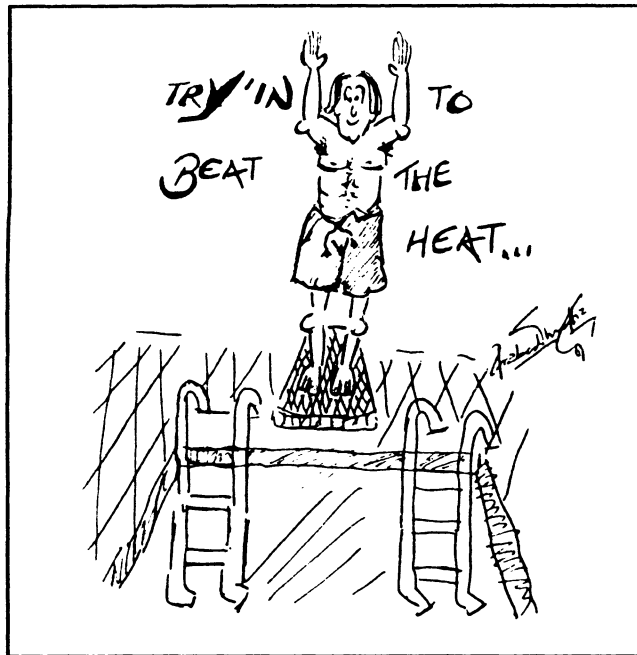
There hasn't been much to talk about.

However, one concern that has been on everyones' heads is that we have been overshadowing the game of Hockey. And I give my whole hearted support to those who think the same. Because of the hectic basketball schedule, hockey has not been devoted enough time. And if we want to keep up the winning streak, then we need to practise harder than ever.

May's coming, and the usual thing that goes along with the month is exams and then

holidays. I know it is a bit early to talk about them, but I feel I need to impart justice to the few who I overheard planning out their vacations. Whoever you are, pal, I hope your plans are finalised.

- Waiting in vain for the sun to disappear.
Anshuman.



LETTERS TO THE ED...

Hi Ed....

Recently went through the school website. (For it is the most convenient way to stay in touch) however there is some problem when I am trying to send a feedback through. Kindly do the needful. I am presently working in ACL (Ambattur Clothing Co.) Chennai, the same company that makes Color Plus. I am working in the export department, handling brands like GAP and Banana Republic. The place is great. The only hitch being the sultry weather of Chennai!

Hope everyone at Welham is going great guns...
Shantanu.

shantanu@ambattur.com

Dear Ed.

It was a treat to read your latest issue. But I have a complain to your not regularly updating the online issue.

It would be great if you guys could update the Oliphant on the Welham site regularly as it is the only source to keep in touch with school.

Thanks

Amit Bose

amitbose_rpl@yahoo.com

The Editor
The Oliphant
Dehra Dun

Dear Sir,

I enjoyed reading your last issue. The articles were of a high literary quality as was the verse.

Apropos Hannibal Lecter's "The Gross and the Disgusting" I did not know that the great Maori race was cannibalistic. But for the benefit of your readers, I would like to recount an old tale.

Towards the end of World War I, a white man was describing the battle to a group of cannibals in New Guinea. Their comment "What great feasts there will be every night!"

I leave it to him and to your readers to decide for themselves, which is better – to kill a human being to feed oneself or for an acre of land.

Yours etc,
S.Kandhari

WELHAM NOW

1. The Inter House Senior English Extempore Debate was held in the Lincoln Douglas style on the 18th of April. Jamuna stood first, the team comprising Deepak Sanan and Haseeb Trumboo.
2. The 5th Frank Anthony Memorial Council Debate was held on the 20th of April at Convent of Jesus and Mary. Amish Mulmi stood second, while the team comprising him and Shrid Dhungel stood third.
3. The School Committee meeting was held on the 11th of April. Minutes of the meeting were:
 - I Minutes of the previous meeting were passed.
 - II. Matters arising:-
 - Ganga XI suggested that the Common Room should be opened everyday. The Chairman had no objections but the common room will not be opened during class hours. Each house will have to circulate their timings individually.

- Manu suggested that there should be only one exam paper per day and that exams should start earlier. The chairman did not agree with this and he said that the schedule followed would be adhered to.
 - Anirudh suggested that there should be more chairs in the study. The chairman said that the chairs have come and will soon be placed.
 - Kabir suggested that there should be a separate telephone line for the Multimedia lab. The chairman agreed and said that it will be done.
 - Sunny Sarta suggested that the C.C.A. and S.U.P.W. timings should be changed back to the old one, i.e. from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. The chairman said that a meeting of these committees would be held to decide the timings.
 - Vansh suggested that the generator should be switched on during prep when the lights are dim because of low voltage. The chairman said it would be looked into.
 - Kunal said that bulbs should be put in the bathrooms. The chairman said it would be done.
 - Ayush Bahety said that there should be seating arrangements for the parents as they are not allowed to enter the boys' hostel. The chairman said that the Pavilion could be temporarily used and later the storeroom behind the Alaknanda badminton courts would be converted into a lounge.
 - Prateet suggested that the field next to the middle school should be used. The chairman said that a fortune has been spent on it and grass will grow in the monsoon season. Thus it would be used as a garden
 - Mohit Dang complained about the fact that the IT lab opens rarely. The Chairman said that the matter will be looked into, and the IT lab will certainly function in a more efficient manner.
 - Saumya suggested that boys should be allowed to meet their friends in other hostels. The Chairman said that this required a debate. Boys can be allowed by the permission of the house master/captain.
 - PH boys suggested that the windows in PH should have wire meshing. The Chairman said that it would be done.
 - Boys of DDP and HUM suggested that their rooms have doors. The Chairman said that wire mesh doors would be put.
 - Vinayak suggested that class 12 boys should be allowed to use the multimedia lab after prep. The Chairman will look into this matter.
 - Arjun suggested that the path leading to the Activity Center should be metalled. The Chairman said that the cost will be checked and if it is not done this year then it will be done next year.
 - An anonymous letter suggested that sprinklers should be installed in the main field. The Chairman said that there is water problem and the soil is not suitable for grass to grow.
 - Ratik suggested that Snooker be introduced as a sport and the money can be raised by the voluntary donations from parents. The Chairman said that he needs a proper report by Ratik.
 - Shubham suggested that there should be a coke vending machine in school and a token could be used to get the cokes that could be issued to the boys before or charged on his bill. The chairman said it would not be done.
- III. The chairman adjourned the meeting
4. Results of the English Elocution Contest, held on the 11th April, 2001.
- VI A
 1st Shivesh Tyagi
 2nd Ashish Choudhary
 3rd Varun Agarwal
- VI B

1st Shitij Goyal

2nd Bhavnish Walia

3rd Seif Khan

V A

1st Ishan Basnet

2nd Ayan Mukherjee

3rd Abhishek Agarwal jointly with Yesh Berry

V B

1st Akshit Batra

2nd Udit Goenka

3rd Kushagra Parasher

5. Ratik Arora has been appointed the new IT Lab monitor.

The 'Gross' and the 'Disgusting' Part-II

Hello once again! This article is only being written because everyone seemed to have liked the first part and by the way everything in this article is true and any relation with any of the Welhamites is a total co-incidence!

All of us do disgusting things on occasions usually by accident. Some clowns do sick stuff on purpose to make someone laugh but there are few adults who actually get 'paid' to be gross. It's their life's work.

THE ORIGINAL GROSSEST SHOW ON EARTH

In 1841, P. T Barnum opened the American Museum; an exhibition of "freaks" on display included Siamese Twins, bearded ladies and General Tom Thumb, the most famous little person of the 19th century. Barnum freely made up wild histories and background stories for the people he exhibited, and used these fantastic fiction to generate publicity for the museum. He advertised everywhere and every way thinkable. By 1850 his museum was a huge success until it was burned down in 1868. More than 41 million people had been through his museum hoping to be 'grossed out'!

PENN & TELLER

This team of magicians has become famous for their off-center, unpredictable magic act on stage, along with their TV appearances, films, and videos. They also have a well-earned reputation as practical jokers, and are known far wide for the gross jokes they play on people. For instance, they once dumped thousands of live cockroaches on a talk show host, David Letterman's desk during

a television broadcast.

In their books & video's, Penn & Teller give step-by-step instructions for some of their grossest gags. For example in their book 'How to play with your food', they describe how to make heart shaped jelly mold that bleeds when it is sliced, and how to pretend to eat live ants.

JIM ROSE CIRCUS SIDESHOW

This troupe opens for Rock shows such as the 1992 Lola Palooza tour performing feats so disgusting they border on the dangerous side. They also have videotape available called 'The Jim Rose Travelling show'. You may see it. I mention below few of the freaks working in that circus.

· Matt (The Tube) Crowley sucked up huge quantities of chocolate sauce and ketchup through a straw in his nose, and then spews them at the crowd.

· Jim Rose, a.k.a. Jimmy the geek, places a massive railroad spike in his nostril and drives it up his nose with a sledgehammer.

· The Amazing Mr. Lifo suspended a cinder block from chains attached to rings piercing his chest. For good measure, he will slide a coat hanger through a hole in his tongue.

· The Torture King transforms himself into a human pincushion. Then he will walk up a ladder with sharp blades for rungs.

GUYS PLEASE DO NOT TRY THIS AT HOME.

*-once again,
Hannibal Lector*

LITERARY AFFAIRS.

Memories

As I drove along the road, memories flooded my mind, and I could do nothing but laugh at the little facts that sprung back into life. I drove around the corner and saw the abandoned tree house, our favorite spot to play. I do remember the time when Becky fell from it and broke a leg! And how could I forget the time when my best friend Bill won all marbles from Fred and became the owner of the most marbles in town. For that achievement of his, he wore a smile on his face for a whole week! I think he lost all of them after a week or so!

These were some of the memories I still cherish. I never wanted to leave this town but destiny had in mind to send me to a city entirely different from the town that I remembered.

I still remembered the days when I cried my heart out after hearing that my parents had put me in hostel in Philadelphia. I mean, I had never been in a hostel and I did not want to go to one either. But my parents did not accept my protests, and put me in one.

At first it was a nightmare come true for me. But one thing I really appreciated was that there weren't many bullies and no one troubled me. Infact, they ignored me! Very soon I was used to the hostel life and frankly speaking, I enjoyed it. School got over, went to college. College got over, and I settled down in the city as the marketing manager of a shoe company.

Had some good as well as bad experi-

ences there too. The saddest moment during my stay was the death of a fellow colleague. It was quite an unusual happening, really. It happened so that one of the main switches, which operated the machines, malfunctioned. The electrician made many attempts to repair it, but all in vain. My colleague happened to pass by and asked what the problem was. The electrician explained and he, like a fool pulled down the switch. Suddenly, a jolt of 15,000 volts hit him and he was thrown back by the impact. We all rushed towards him, but unfortunately he was already dead.

All these memories rushed in and out of my mind as I drove along. "How happy mom will be when she sees me," I thought. Mom and Dad had separated a few months ago. I thought it would be nice if Mom had some company. So I called her and told her I was coming. I called her a week back, had to delay my visit due to pending work.

I stopped my black Lexus on the driveway near the house. I got out, straightened my tie, and walked down the lane. A feeling of nostalgia came over me as I rung the doorbell, no answer.

I tried again and again, but still no answer. I went next door and asked the neighbours where Mrs. Spacy was. The man stared at me and said, "Don't you know?" "What?" I asked. "Well she died last night due to a heart attack..."

*-Samridha Rana
Class IX*

WHY... MOM?

"I went to a party, mom,
I went to a party.
And remembered what you said.
You told me not to drink, mom
So I had Sprite instead.

I felt proud of myself,

The way you said I would,
That I didn't drink and drive,
Though some friends said I should.

I made a healthy choice,
And your advice to me was right
As the party finally ended,

And the kids drove out of sight.

I got into my car,
Sure to get home in one piece,
I never knew what was coming, mom
Something I expected least.

Now I am lying on the pavement,
And I hear the policeman say,
"The kid that caused this wreck was drunk."
Mom, his voice seemed so far away.

My own blood all around me,
As I try hard not to cry,
I can hear the paramedic say,
"This girl is going to die."

I am sure the guy had no idea,
While he was flying high,
Because he chose to drink and drive,
Now I would have to die.

So why do people do it, mom?
Knowing that it ruins lives?

And now the pain is cutting me
Like a hundred stabbing knives.

Tell sister not to be afraid, mom
Tell daddy to be brave,
And when I go to heaven,
Put 'Daddy's Girl' on my grave.

Someone should have taught him,
That it is wrong to drink and drive.
Maybe if his parents had,
I would still be alive.

My breath is getting shorter, mom
I am getting really scared.
These are my final moments,
And I am so unprepared.

I wish that you could hold me, mom
As I lie here and die.
I wish that I could say I love you, mom
So I love you and good bye.

-The Dead

(This is a download from the internet)

NATURE'S DIARY.

N.E.A.P

On the 21st of April the boys of the N.E.A.P program left for Chilla to visit Rajaji National Park and its surroundings.

N.E.A.P as mentioned earlier is a program conducted by the Friends of the Doon in different schools to create environmental awareness among students.

We left for Chilla at 7 in the morning in a bus with a strength of 30 boys. On reaching we were divided into groups of 5. While a group went for the jeep safari the others went for bird watching, tree identification and exploration down the river. Mr. Jagjit, Mr. Khaira and Mr. Das escorted us. The schedule was rather hectic and each move was planned. While on the walk we got to see a dead calf which had been killed by some big cat. The drag marks were visible clearly and it was a fresh

kill. On waiting behind a rock, a leopard cat crawled out of the bushes towards the calf but on hearing a slight movement in the bushes, it made its way off. We also spotted a herd of wild elephants crossing the road. The jeep had to be switched off and it took us a good 15 minutes before we could proceed further into the Safari. We also spotted wild boars, blue bulls, deer and vultures of different species. In the afternoon, a 'N.E.A.P. Quiz' was conducted followed by a talk on Rhinos and Elephants by Mrs. Meg Majithia. A evening slowly set in it was time for a session along with Mr. Das, who played Bob Dylan on his guitar.

Early next morning, the groups who had not had their turn at a Safari went for one. After a heavy breakfast, there was a presentation on Cats by Mr. P.K. Ghosh, followed by a talk on Gujjars

by Mr. Das. We then had a brief meeting with the Gujjars in the area. Before lunch, the winners of the Quiz were awarded prizes.

After lunch, we left for our River Frolic, where we swam at a spot next to Raiwala. We reached school at about five in the evening, and I

guess that was the end of our program.

On the 29th of this month, a few boys will be going to Pathri village. That would be another experience to relate.

-Karan Mehrotra
Class IX

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE...

Aseem (to the basketball team)- Don't jump so much yaar, else you will hurt your *wrist* and you shall not be able to *run*.

Aseem- My *calculator* has a *virus* in it. Which virus *repellent* should I use?

Amit- Sir, this boy has started *to bugging* me now.

Mr. Khaira- I know yaar, he *cockroaches me* too!!!

Adhaar- Oye! Where is Avinash.

Kabir- Why?

Adhaar- I have found his *Chemistry Language register*.

Kabir (to Mr. Sandeep Khanna)- Sir, it became *so much funny to me* when *I put you through the keyhole in the last time Oliphant*.

Aseem (during the Golden Jubilee)- Those Daascos have just done the *game fixation* but they have *still loose it!!!*

RINGSIDE VIEW

Basketball is in full bloom and the team has been playing match after match. Hockey is stuck at the moment and it can't get out of it. That leaves us to the swimming pool, which is the haunt of many heat stricken souls.

The Basketball team was away to participate in the Woodstock tournament. Out of the eight teams that participated, we fought our way through to the finals, winning all our pool matches.

Our first league match was against the Sri Ram School, whom we defeated with ease, then we overcame the Vasant Valley and the American Embassy school, managing to reach the Semi final

with Bishop Cotton School. A one sided affair saw us through to the finals, where we played the host team.

Though we played in full spirit, we couldn't put up against the home side's talent, and gave in to become the Runners Up. However, it was an amazing feat, come to think of it, since we played three matches in a period of just under 6 hours. By the end of it, we still retained our fighting spirit, despite fatigue overpowering us. The entire team played very well throughout the tournament with Abhishek at the post, Kir at the defence, Saumya performing magic with his 3 pointers and Negi and

Ansari, the cream of our team, playing with endless energy and enthusiasm, showing Welham at its best. Though we didn't manage to win the tournament, it was a jubilant affair as we played with all our might and spirit, performing at our peak.

Basketball again – The Golden Jubilee Commemorative Tournament has started and there is a gleam in every Welhamites' eye. The tournament started very well with the 'Welham Blues' (read the senior team) taking on the Vasant Valley School, beating them by 22 points, the score being 48-26 in our favour.

The 'Welham Whites' played against B.C.S. and Doon School. Although the Junior Team lost both the matches, they played exceptionally well in their first

showdown as School team players, and we can already sense the enthusiasm that fills these bright youngsters. The senior team played another match with G.R.D., which was a one sided affair, the scales once again being in our favour.

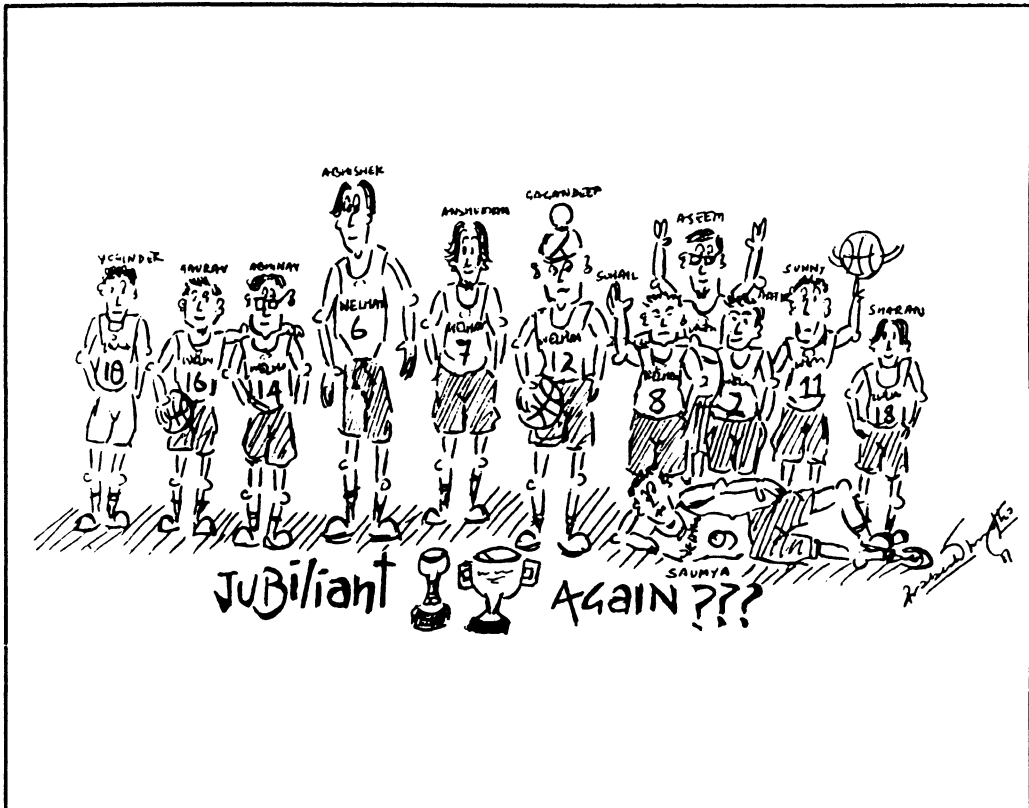
Other matches played were between Woodstock and Tibetan Home School, which the former won with ease; between G.R.D. and Vasant

Valley, which the latter took away by just a point, and the Modern School versus Woodstock, where the guys from Mussoorie once again dominated.

I think I am gonna see basketballs bouncing in my dreams with basketball being played and talked about everywhere. And this is just the beginning, as the Tournament concludes and another Tournament at the Doon School begins in a matter of days.

Our team's performance has been incredible; the able captaincy of Yoginder is to be appreciated.

Our boys have been practising hard, and the results are beginning to show that they didn't practise in vain.



While this basketball has overtaken the sports scenario, I personally feel that other sports have been overshadowed. All we can do is hope that the Hockey team is now all geared up for the upcoming tournaments, and that they continue the winning streak we have in this sport.

*-Learning to Fly,
Rohan*

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chief Editor : *Ashuman Singh*

Literary Affairs : *Amish Mulmi*

Welham Now : *Karan Mehrotra*

Cartoonist: *Prabesh Shrestha*

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

Published By : *Welham Boys' School*

Registration No. :- *20208/86*

Desktop Editors: *Sagar S. and Abhishek Shrestha*

Ringside View: *Rohan Sachdeva*

Nature Diary : *Prayaas.J.B.Rana*

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

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

Web-page: *www.welhamboys.org*

Printed at : *EBD Printers, Dehra Dun.*