

# The Elephant

No. 267

WELHAMBOYS' SCHOOL

27th November, 2001

## Think About It...

*My word fly up, my thoughts remain below:*

*Words without thoughts never to heaven go. - Shakespeare, Hamlet, III, 3*

## EDITORIAL

Someone once told me that writing an Editorial for the first time was a very tedious task; you would just not know how to begin. Now that I have somehow managed to start, I will continue and try to make that 'first impression'.

Change is inevitable. At one time you are being ordered what to do, and suddenly you are on that very pedestal giving orders. The quicker announcement of the appointment of the



Prefect body took everyone by surprise. Like every year, mixed feelings followed the event – excitement, freedom, expectations, and of course, disappointments. It's a strange feeling. The very juniors, once such friends, start looking at you from a different point of view. One has to keep a serious face, suppressing that tingling smile that wants to break out. It will be difficult to emulate the standards the outgoing Prefect bodies have set over the years. My very best wishes to Abhishek and the Prefects for a successful tenure.

Ironic though it maybe, war is in a way similar to love. It always finds a way. As the war wages on, eyebrows are being raised at the inability of the most powerful military in the world to catch one person. I will not comment on the credibility of the American decision to bomb

Afghanistan, as these intricate political policies are beyond my grasp. However, one can clearly see the world's sympathy gradually tilting towards the Afghans. When will this madness end? War does not determine who is right, only who is left.

I see a war imminent in our very own school. A war between the eleventhies, in a search for an identity, and the authorities with their newfound enthusiasm. These are strange times. We are a little bit more than an eleventh, and a little bit less than a twelfth. Amidst the confusion, one doesn't know exactly how to behave. From forming lines during breakfast to wearing brown shoes with the twelfths' jacket, its all big confusion. With the Principal on a spree to 'clean the pond', the confusion heightens. So, change is really inevitable!

Exams fever is on. Late nights, bloodshot eyes, dazed and psyched faces these are some of the sights one usually gets to see at this time of the year. Now that rumours of exams being held in the Activity Center are doing the rounds, the hard-core coppers of the school have also resorted to getting down to studying. P. H. seems to be deserted as half of the twelfthies have gone home. The remaining lot can be seen scurrying around with books in their hands to different teachers. I hope they use their time wisely and do the school proud, and come up with flying colours.

Before I forget, let me congratulate Anshuman, Amish and Rohan for the hard work and effort put in by them. However, before I was appointed the editor I was warned about the monotony and boredom this job ultimately carries with it. But, I feel when you do the thing you love, you will love the thing you do.....

*Prayaas*

- Prayaas J. B. Rana.

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## ***LETTERS TO THE ED...***

Hi Ed,

Really a pity to see the sad state of affairs on the school's website. Everytime I open it thinking, I'll get to read the latest issue of my good ol' Oliphant. But no. 14 April issue seems to be put tight there, even in the month of November.

Come on Guys, update the website for it's the most convenient way of staying in touch with Welham. Absolutely ridiculous the way you people are managing the web site.

**Shantanu Singh**  
**Ex 611/G 1996**

Dear Shantanu,

It was a technical glitch, which has since been dealt with. The latest issue of the Oliphant is now online, and we will update the site regularly in the future.

**-The Ed.**

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For Anshuman Singh, Chief Editor

Dear Anshuman,

Went through your above special issue. You have a very good expression and a very lively way of writing. Keep it up.

It was a pleasure to be in your school on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. I enjoyed every minute of it. Very few children of this country are lucky to get such an excellent opportunity as handful of you have got. Leave good traditions for others to follow. The nation has very high expectations from you all. Convey my best wishes and love to all your 12<sup>th</sup> classmates.

**Happy Sailing,**  
**Maj Gen. S.S. Sharma.**

# LAMPOON LAMPOON

## The Ten Commandments of a Welhamite.

1. *Thou shall not sneak out in the middle of the night when nobody can see you.*
  - *You're not scared if you are a man you will do it in the light where everybody can see you.*
2. *Thou shall not misbehave*
  - *Destruction has a bigger effect and its more satisfying*
3. *Thou shall not sleep in the hostel.*
  - *Everyone knows it's easier to sleep in class when the teacher is singing the Lullaby.*
4. *Thou shall not listen to the Backstreet Boys.*
  - *Do you need an explanation??*
5. *Thou shall not fight*
  - *Thou shall cheer on while others fight, especially catfights.*
6. *Thou shall not bunk the Maths class.*
  - *Just take the whole day off.*
7. *Thou shall not have second thoughts about sex.*
  - *Common don't you love me? So "Just do it"*
8. *Thou shall not stare at babes in the market.*
  - *It's easier faster and better on the net.*
9. *Thou shall keep distance from strange beings in blue shirts, white trousers, and black shoes.*
  - *Possibly carrying Vaseline.*
10. *Thou shall not use bed covers on the bed!*
  - *U know what to do with them, don't you?*

-Hannibal

# LITERARY AFFAIRS

*The Round Square Conference in Australia.*

The heart of Australia – St. Philip's College, Alice Springs – this year's international Round Square conference it was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Shelat, Mr. Painuli, Vinayak Pant, Suyesh Rawat and I. The theme this year was "footprints in the sand, journey to the center". And what a journey it was! First a five-hour flight from Delhi to Thailand, catch another eight hour connecting flight to Melbourne. Where, thank god we got a two-day rest before continuing our 36-hour bus journey to the center- St. Philip's College.

We were welcomed by the students and shown our rooms. While the boys stayed in the boarding houses the teacher stayed in a hotel outside. After freshening up all the delegates assembled and played some interactive games to break the ice. There were about 150 delegates from over 50 schools around the globe.

Next morning the conference was officially declared open by his majesty, King Constantine of Greece, after which we separated for our Baraza

group meetings. Each group comprised 10-15 people from different schools and named after an Australian animal. The main object of each group was to collect each ones views on themes and thus come up with a mission statement.

Each afternoon group excursions were arranged by the school where the delegates could choose from cycling, playing golf ride camels, visit the desert park or even



some of the gorges. These excursions were great fun and the views of the gorges breath taking. That night, called the Aussie theme night, we were served and also were displayed everything of Australian origin from some strange Aussie delicacies to creepy, crawly creatures.

Early next morning, some of the delegates climbed a hill near the school for a Hill Reflection

i.e. we sat alone for twenty minutes and reconnected with our inner selves and also observed the peaceful surroundings. After breakfast and some inspiring lectures we had our Rikka meetings, which served as a forum for general discussions attended by everyone. Here we discussed about the latest U.S. bombing issues and what we could do to make a difference. In the evening was the barbecue where our cooking skills were put

to test. After a lot of hard work (and burning our fingers) we satisfied our selves with raw potatoes and raw meats. (Yummy!) After the lavish meal we paired into groups and learnt the traditional Bush Dance and some other Aussie

dances, most of the times clashing with each other. That night we had a chilling experience, sleeping outside in the open.

Next morning's activity was triathlon in quite a different style- instead of running normally, the run entailed carrying eggs in spoons and then instead of cycling we had to carry the cycles and run and lastly in the chilling water at 5:30 a.m. we had to swim our team to victory

or shall I say...hospital! Later after the daily excursion was the cultural evening, where each school had to perform a cultural show. We, in our flashy colourful dancing gear, performed a garhwali dance, which to our amazement was well appreciated.

The following day we attended a cultural talk by Buss and David Price who acquainted us with the presentation. Late in the evening, delegates departed from Simpson's Gap for an Aboriginal theme night. There we learnt more about the Aborigines and

they even performed a tribal dance.

The last day, some of the delegates went on a trek to Mt. Gillen while others attended a session of meditation organised by our very own Principal. The Conference was attended by Jocelin Winthrop Young who shared with us first hand knowledge about Kurt Hann, the man behind the Round Square. After the talk, the conference was brought to a formal end with a Journey to the center solemn ceremony in the Peace Garden. A formal dinner at the telegraph station followed.

At night everybody could be seen with sad gloomy faces. The week had gone so fast and who knows if we will ever meet again. We all had come so close and now parting was tough. To cheer us up the school organised a party but who felt like dancing.

Like all good things, the Conference came to a "painful" end with everyone going their way. We all enjoyed the Conference and I would recommend it to all the students. If you get a chance don't miss it.

Anant Golyan  
Class - XI

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## *The Gross & Disgusting – Part III*

**Well I welcome myself back!! Hello to all you disgusting pigs out there! Keep up the good dirt... eep!! The good work!**

**Have you ever thought that your bedroom is a safe haven from all the slime out there after its been cleaned thrice?? You're wrong. No room in the house is ever free of grossness.**

**BEDROOM:** You share your bed with at least 3 million dust mites. They are invisible to the naked eye, but they are there – living under your sheets, eating, breeding, dying (i.e. you sleep on a sheet of corpses!!)

**Vacuuming is actually one of the best ways to spray billions of fecal particles through the air. The fecal matter is so tiny that it slips through the pores of the filter bag. Once the particles are sucked in they can stick to the insides of the vacuum and live their for days on end, in fact it has been seen that generations have survived inside vacuum cleaners.**

**KITCHEN:** Every where you look in the kitchen you can find disgusting and nauseating life

forms, with microscopic equipment of course. An ordinary sponge is crawling with millions of bacteria feeding on grease stuck to the sponge. Even worse, they easily spread to any surface wiped with sponge counter tops, tables, utensils and what ever else you can think of. And they multiply where they go!!!

**If you have tasted sour milk, that means you had sipped the waste of millions of bacteria swimming in the old milk.**

**BATHROOM:** Ah! The king of disgusting rooms. The bathroom is ruthlessly assaulted with dangerous and disgusting bacteria every time you pull the flush. With every pull of the flush billions of infected water droplets land on every surface in your bathroom including the sink, the bucket, The mug and even your own tooth brush.

**That should teach every body who says I am more hygienic than you are !!! That fact is that you are not.**

**-Hannibal**

# WELHAM NOW

1. The new prefect body for the academic year 2002-2003 was appointed on the 13<sup>th</sup> of this month. The body comprises –

- Abhishek Singh (School Captain)
- Prayaas J. B. Rana (Sports Captain)
- Aatir Ansari
- Tenzing Deru
- Akshat Kshetrapal
- Pawan Rana
- Prateek Shreshta
- Mayan Dhawan.

2. Oliphant Board for academic year 2002-2003

Chief Editor : Prayas J.B. Rana

Desktop Editors: Sagar Sharma and Abhishek Shrestha

Literary Affairs : Pawan Rana

Ringside View: Aatir Ansari

Welham Now : Karan Mehrotra

Nature Diary : Samridha S.J.B.Rana

Cartoonist: Prabesh Shrestha and Parth Prashar

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

Staff Representative: Mr. Aseem Tripathi

3. Wavelength Board for the academic year 2002-2003

Chief Editor- Pawan Rana

Desktop Editors- Sagar Sharma and Sumit Gupta

Co-Editor- Tarun Saraf

Subject Representatives-

- Biology- Sachhyam Regmi
- Chemistry- Sumit Gupta
- Physics- Subhashish Thapaliya
- Computers- Nitin Agarwal

4. Science Society for the academic year 2002-2003

President- Prateek Shreshtha

Vice President – Ntin Agarwal

Secretary- Sumit Gupta

Quiz Masters- Tarun Saraf

Nitin Agarwal

5. We stood 1<sup>st</sup> in the finals of the FOD quiz held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November at Welham Girls’.

The team comprised :-

Amsih Mulmi

Anshuman Singh

Pranab Shreshta

6. The senior basketball team won the basketball councils. The final was held between our team and St. Joseph’s Academy.

7. The senior basketball team won the Fixed – Five tournament held at Hilton’s School. Yoginder Singh Negi was adjudged the Best Player of the Tournament and Abhishek Singh was the highest scorer.

8. A few boys will attend the RSIS social project in Bhuj from 6<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> December.

9. The junior basketball Inter House final was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> between Krishna and Jamuna. Krishna won 37-30.

10. The Senior Basketball Inter-House final was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> November between Ganga and Cauvery. Ganga emerged victorious 49-52.

## *NATURE'S DIARY.*

Cryogenics what on earth is that? A very common question arising not only in the minds of us kids, but also in the minds of our ‘mature’ elders.

It means the preserving of the body of a dead organism in liquid nitrogen to be brought back to life in the future. Sounds catchy? Well .... this is exactly what some people in the west do!

For a tidy sum of about \$50,000 people can preserve their bodies. The process is very simple. In a metallic container which has 98% liquid nitrogen and 2% embalming fluid a dead body is put in and the lid is shut tight. Due to the bitter cold inside, all the body organs are preserved and can be brought back to life –how? That is the million-dollar question.

Cryogenics started not more than 6-7 years ago. This was thought up by a professor in the Ohio Medical University. He was allowed to do this by the U. S. health department and soon it spread all over the U.S. it also didn't take very long for this practice to reach Europe.

However, the practice of cryogenics is very controversial and many countries have banned it. They say it is something beyond the ethics of medical Science. That the hope to bring back life is useless. Yet there are people who believe that life can be brought back. There are many sci-fi movies, which show the bringing back of dead bodies like the famous Van Damme movie 'Universal Soldier'. But as many people say, such things only happen in movies. Scientists have however been able to bring back life in frozen bacteria. Maybe the day will come when they can bring us back to life!

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-Dead and frozen  
Samridh S.J.B. Rana  
IX A

## RINGSIDE VIEW

After several brief stints as the correspondent, I finally get the job. My predecessor was quite happy handing over the job to me (I wonder why!)

The fastest man in school Prayas Rana, is the new Sports Captain. Wish him luck for the tenure and hope he takes the sports scenario 'to greater heights'.

N o w , where should I start? Sports Day, I guess. Well the day went something like this: Prayas Rana was crowned the 'fastest man in the school'; Abhinav Kir bagged the best athlete in Senior Section while Maroof Ahmed bagged the award in junior section. Ganga won the trophy in the junior. Cauvery ran away with the trophy in the seniors. We look forward to the next Athletics captain keeping up the good work. On the very same day our school Basketball Team won the Fixed Five Tournament held at Hilton' School. The team beat Jaswant Modern School 46-30 to take the trophy. Abhishek

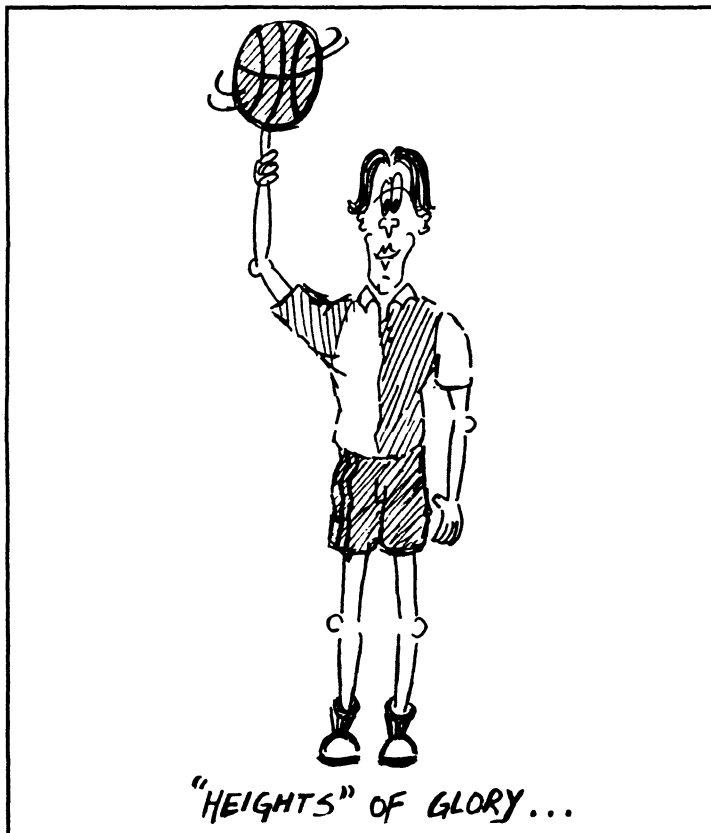
Singh was adjusted the highest Scorer and our captain Yogender Negi took the Best Player honours.

The team had previously played St. Judes, Hilton School and St. Joseph Academy beating all of them comfortably. Gagandeep, Abhinav and

Saumya were also outstanding too throughout the tournament. I must compliment the captain and the basketball team for doing a wonderful job throughout the year. Hats off to them!

Moving to other aspects, the basketball team has had a perfect start to the next season. The twelfth was not allowed to play the council basket ball tournament as they had to study (really!). The basketball team led by Abhishek 'Begu'

Singh and Aatir played solidly. We beat Riverdale School, Carman School and St. Jude in the preliminary rounds. In the semi-finals we faced the hosts Raja Ram Mohan Roy Academy. Abhishek, Surya and Maroof played a fantastic game and led the



team to victory 72-56. We met SJA in the final. Aseem and Abhishek kept the scoreboard ticking and we kept the lead through out the game. We finally lifted the trophy 90-79. Though we all were in good spirits after the match, I don't think, the chief guest and the principal shared our joy.

Well, shifting to the international level the Indian Cricket Team (as usual) lost the first test and

were saved by the rain in the second. Germany and Brazil finally (whew!) qualified for the soccer World Cup. It would have been weird without the two soccer giants in the World Cup.

I think I'll stop here now.

AATIR....

# Editorial Board.

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