



The Elephant

No. 292

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

27th September, 2003

Think About It...

A Man usually has no idea what is being said about him. The entire town maybe slandering him, but if he has no friends he will never hear of it.

-Scott Fitzgerald

EDITORIAL

So, what does it take to turn into an overnight celebrity? What does it take to be a rock superstar? These questions have been troubling my mind. To further aggravate the situation these questions are also swirling around the heads of many Junior School 'bhaiyas'. If you were to say that I cannot comprehend the sudden "Rocaphobia," then you are totally ignorant of the recent happening in the school.

After many days of relentless showers and practice sessions in the dingy room in the Activity Centre, the band came

out of its cocoon. The main field was the chosen venue of the "Rock Show" (for charitable purposes). The stage was set up by the ever faithful organizer, Sahni Tent House. The open air stage was built under much hype and criticism. From the subway the scaffolding gave a picture of a "Mandap." Boys had come up with a theory that there a marriage was going

to take place in the school. Then, came "Melodica," with technical gadgets and speakers in full regalia. Now the only ingredient missing in this brew was the band itself. After all its equipment and music pieces were set on

the stage, the band got into action. During practice sessions, the band played late into the night and had the rest of us shutting our ears with pillows and other equipment. This included the higher authorities of the school, too. The day finally came, 13th of September. The day started off on a sunny note, but towards the afternoon, it began to drizzle.



Now the pessimistic lot was really having the time of their life. To their misery and disappointment the Sun was successful in rubbing away the ragged look of the sky. Evening came. The guests began pouring in like it was Woodstock festival or like in the movie Wayne's World, Waynestock. People started pouring in like they were going to attend

the Welhamstock. The crowd was really going to get a taste of Woodstock sized helping of music from our band; "The Ohms." Everyone was seated in their respective places. The band blasted off by giving away a solid introduction of our version of Cochise. That was a signal for the band members to get their instruments to get heated, as they had to slash away riffs and chords, beat out drum rolls and bang their keys. This even gave a calling to the lead singers to clear their throats and get focused to rock the microphone. There were no security guards and no mesh to protect the band members, but unknown to many staff members were keeping a vigilant watch around the vicinity of the school to catch any opportunists. The lead singers of the band kept on singing songs incessantly, back to back. The crowd went berserk, shouting and jumping after every song came to an end. By the end of the show the crowd moved to the edge of the stage and went out of control. Few girls even got on the stage, but in the process injured themselves. The band played the most wanted number and took to the back stage. As for me and my analysis of the show, this is where I draw the line.

Wait, wait... after the "Rock Show," I nearly missed out, there was the dinner with Welham Girls' School. It was not actually a dinner as the Twelfthies had an abrupt loss of appetite and abstemiousness set in. The true facts of the dinner are all in the Lampoon. All that I can remember was that someone came up to me and literally whispered in my ears that he had been overwhelmed to see the number of the fair sex present. He even specified the ratio

of sex composition to three decimal values to be exact. The dinner got off to a blazing start with the ladies doing the honour, as it is ladies first. The prologue to the dinner was the ice breaking session. It did not take long for the ice to thaw as the Vice Principal proved to be a catalyst in the exothermic reaction. The discussion took a good path and most of us ended up chatting away. By God's grace and mercy it did not end up in factions, where boys and girls are in separate groups. The result at the end and as per my observations and recordings, I believe was a success. Finally, our queries about our next door neighbours were answered, personally. I believe that after this experiment our class has surely matured in some way and our relations with our neighbours are no longer estranged. As for me I believe in "Love thy neighbour as thy love thee self."

It has been over a week since the "Rock Show" got over, yet I cannot seem to get over the fact. As the Rocaphobia has entrapped me, I have hardly anything to say. Wherever I go, see or do anything I just ROCK! As for the news around the world, does anyone know that the official photographer of Hitler died? Lena Riefenstahl. Ever heard her name? As for the Bollywood scenario, Boom was released just last Friday and I can tell you that after what I have heard from all those who went to watch the movie, my advice to all is watch the movie, but not in the hall it has been screened in D.Dun.

As I am succumbing to the pains of "Rocaphobia," I ask God to give me Nirvana with Kurt Cobain in his Garden of Eden.

Rock the mic, Mc,

Welham Now

Pranab

The Welham Boys' students of Class Xth participated in the Geo-Map Quiz held on the 7th September.

A hugely successful charity Rock Show was held by the school band 'Ohms' on the 13th September.

Katik Mahajan and Karan Mehrotra took part in the Scindia School Debate and stood 3rd

The School Quiz team comprising of Pranab B. Shrestha, Abhishek Narayan and Shaunak Valame stood 3rd in the Chakraborty Quiz held at the Doon School on 21st September

Ajitesh Kir and Shivang Kochar took part in the St. Georges School debate. Shivang Kochar got the prize for the best rebuttal.

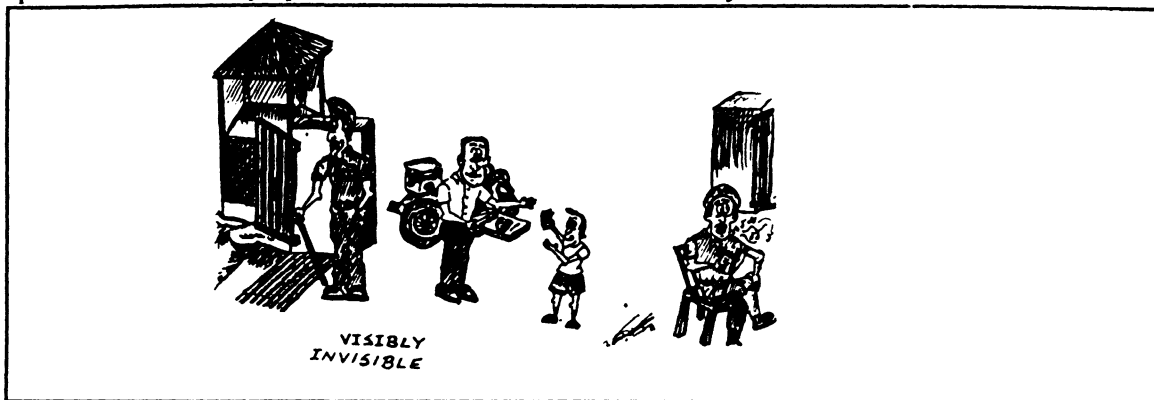
A planetarium show was organized by the Geography Department which was immensely popular.

Raunak Tibrewal and Abhishek Narayan took part in the Inter School Science Quiz held at Convent of Jesus and Mary.

The Inter-School Science Quiz was held on the 20th September. RIMC stood first.

'Clean Doon Green Doon' Roadrace was organized by the St. Joseph's Academy. Maroof Ahmed and Faizan Ullah stood 1st and 2nd respectively.

Raunak Tibrewal, Shaunak Valame, Abhishek Narayan, Gaurav Shrestha, Ayush Agarwal and Parth Parasher took part in the Maths Olympiad held at Convent of Jesus and Mary.



LITERARY AFFAIRS

Faithful

I woke up with a start. My head was spinning and my back was sore. My leg had some fluid steadily oozing out of it. I got up, although the pain was agonizing, and walked waywardly and.... 'BEEEEEEEEEP!!!' I was startled and ran wherever as far as my legs could carry me. Suddenly, all over there were ear piercing screeching noises. I turned back and saw all these four-legged monsters in a mess and their masters hollering at me. I was petrified and did not know where I was. All the surroundings were unfamiliar. I was standing beside this huge snake like path which seemed never ending. On both sides were miles and miles of barren land which seemed like a sea to me. There was absolutely no vegetation, not even those small fur-like things sticking out of the ground. Questions raced through my mind which I could not answer. How did I get here? I had never been so far away from home before. My old master couldn't have deserted me here, or could he? My head ached as I tried to remember the events of the last few hours. Now, there wasn't even a single four legged monster on the road. Oh! How I'd hoped someone would have pity on my condition, stop, and take me back to my master. But unfortunately, no one did. Nobody cared for a wounded homeless creature like me. I walked on, limping, hoping to find some of that liquid which would cool my throat. The sun was ablaze with all its fiery and I collapsed

panting. Bit by bit my memory seemed to be coming back to me. I remembered my master taking me for a drive in his big four legged monster on a desolate road, my head sticking out of the window to catch the early morning breeze. Then there was the sound of a bell and my master put a funny looking contraption to his ear and talked in it. He began shouting and all of a sudden he lost control of the monster. I was thrown out of the window and hit my head and lost consciousness... Where could my master be? He would have surely come back to look for me or had something held him up? I was the only friend he had. His wife was dead, and he had no children and his hair was almost white. I could remember the fun times we had together. Sometimes he'd throw a ball or a stick and I would run and retrieve it for him. He'd take me out for walks and sometimes sit on the couch and watch twenty-two crazy people running after a ball. I opened my eyes and I saw a small speck in the distance. Could it be what I thought it to be? I got up and started limping toward it. Yes, it was my master's machine. I began to run, my heart beating as fast it could. As I came closer, I began to draw his attention. I barked louder, but my old master showed no sign of motion. Somehow I managed to climb in through an open window and licked my master's face. Yet, he didn't budge an inch. Then I

noticed the soft velvet seats had changed colour. No! It wasn't possible. Then I noticed a long shard of glass sticking out of his head. My loving master was dead. He had left me alone in this world but he too was alone. What would he do without me and what would I do without me? He was my best friend

and I was his. In the middle of these thoughts, I jumped onto another piece of sharp glass in the shattered windshield. The same liquid spurted out like a fountain as I felt my life slipping away. Tears welled up inside my eyes and as one drop rolled down my cheek, I closed my eyes forever.....

- Shaunak Valame

Lampoon

The Rock Show...

The day had arrived, 13th September; when our school was supposed to host the Rock Show. There was something peculiar in the air that evening. All the signs indicated that the day was a special one in a Welhamites life. The good news for us was that the schools we wanted to come had come and the icing on the cake was that the 'blues' didn't turn up. Anyways they would have been busy among themselves. So the scene was set up and we were preparing ourselves. As usual when we were bathing the water finished and what followed were the forbidden four letter words with deafening audibility from the bathrooms. Guys who had scrubbed soap all over their bodies had to ultimately fall upon the well known 'middle taps'. The loss of water was compensated by the perfumes and deodorants.

The schools from outside soon arrived and took their seats. The seating arrangements did not go according to our plan as we had some other ideas.

Before the show, it was interesting to know where the individual members of the band drew their inspiration from. Finally, the show began on high note. I do not need to tell you much about it as you saw it yourself. Still a few things which could have escaped your eyes. One such example can be that of the WoodStock girls cheering for our 'schooli'. We had come to the end of show and at this point Mansahia decided to jump on the audience trying to give an original effect to it. He landed safely as the audience caught him. Seeing this 'Puppy' the rapper tried to imitate him but crash landed on the ground. The show finished and was appreciated by all. Everything was smooth except one or two mic failures. It is amazing that we are living in the 21st century still our mic fails 9 out of 10 times.

After the show was over the 'Welham' twelfth proceeded for a joint dinner. This was the most interesting part of the event. At first the boys and the girls found it difficult to mingle but soon

they were not single. It took a painstaking effort from our 'Vice-Principal', for this to happen. The show during dinner was stolen by Butta who was labelled as the 'Hot Boy No. 1' by the school across the road. He is too irritated if some one calls him by the desi version which is 'Haat Boy'. After reading this please do not try this out in front of him otherwise he will come up with some extraordinary home made verbal exchanges. Our very own acting soccer captain popularly knows as 'Bacardi Breezer' was labelled as 'Hot Boy No. 2'. I was surprised to see him talk so confidently with the girls, I bet you that he had practised it in the hostel. Next on the list is our volley captain known for his stylish accent. I do not how much they could understand because we too find it difficult at times. We also had our 'Guitarist' who has stolen someone's heart with his performance. The 'schooli' seemed a bit annoyed as the school from the mountain was not invited for dinner. He restricted himself to introducing our classmates to the girls and would sneak out of the conversation as quickly as possible. The local boy 'Hrithik 'Pally' Walia' was also having a good time. He is always spotted wearing a cap in the Astley Hall during outings. I accidentally bumped into him on one such day and he asked me, "was sup" When we came back to school and I asked him something and he replied "I didn't did it." The transformation within him was evident. He had told me that he had read the horoscope that day and it said, "You are going to meet interesting people today" He had indeed met the most interesting people when the familiar voice boomed, "Why are you wearing floaters?, go and change it at once!". Coming back to the dinner table he was on friendly terms with our 'Guitarist' which is obviously a rare scene. But the 'Casanova award' goes to 'Gujju' who had eyed more than one at a time. I later came to know that his father checked his phone bill during these holidays and was furious on seeing the bill. On asking the

numbers which he had called up he was dumbfounded.

Last but not the least, is the guy who was not present as he is on the 'African Safari'. Yes you have hit it right; I am talking about 'Har (d) ley Davidson'. Someone felt lonely during dinner in his absence. When he was told on the phone about the

dinner, his reply was, "Don't worry, I have the foreign maal".

I was surprised with the success of whole event, were you?

'Hard Work bear fruits'

-Croccifixio

Words of IMMENSE Wisdom

"Scar tissue that I wish you saw...sarcastic Mr. Know-it-all"

"Guys you know when I was small a black and white TV fell on top of my head!!"

Believe it or not I actually heard that through my earphones which were blaring Red Hot Chili Peppers while I was in the middle of a cool siesta. These fantastic words of wisdom came from none other than one of those of the fairer sex from across the LoC.....sitting on the next seat in the noisy train to Gwalior!!!! There were Karan and I totally 'chilled out' with nothing to do for thirteen long hours on a boring train, and on the other hand there were four girls with sing song voices which could undoubtedly beat those of any of the professional musicians that adorned my CD case! Who would blame them, sweet voices that sing all day long, all night long, in school, out of school. The concept of simply singing in the bathroom only doesn't seem to exist when it comes to them. Seriously....cross a couple of them on the side of the road and you won't hear them talking, but poetic verse coming out in perfect tune and in exceptionally unique melodies.

Over the next few days at Scindia, I learnt how to distinguish serious conversation with any of them by simply sitting and listening to them singing to themselves. I seem to be drawing a connection over the recent past, among a few girls' schools around India. Our neighbours have the gift of the singing and talking at the same time while completely 'zapping' the daylight out of the person being addressed. 'Was she talking to me or singing a new tune for me??' Another fairly supposed prestigious girls' school in Gwalior evidently gets an accent free with their admission package when they register for the school. What's shocking about the whole thing is that if you ask them why they sing or why they putt on a heavy accent when talking to you... They completely deny any knowledge of either of their special 'characteristic qualities'.

"What did you say.... The "men in 'oh so cute' blue" had the pleasure of bathing in their birthday suits while an entire Scindia hostel waited outside, too disgusted to walk into the bathroom to use it". Imagine that sung in perfect tune for the ears of two bemused Welhamites! I know it's disgusting. Do you really think I was interested in knowing that! Anyway now everyone knows what happened at the Scindia School last year. Thankfully this year, we fortunate souls weren't subject to such immense torture! However, we were exposed to the 'extreme length' of the 'men in blue' shorts which my foolish friend enjoyed continuously commenting on while trying to figure out whether they were shorts or XXL boxers!

Standing in front of a large statue of the Father of the Nation, we were exposed to music yet again. Shriek!!!! 'I think he moved'!!!! 'No he didn't' 'I'm telling you he did yaaaaaaaar!!' As expected I looked at her and said 'yup, sure he did....I was just checking whether I was the only one who saw it!' It feels so great to be able to connect with people at an overly intellectual level sometimes doesn't it? It's such a rush when you and a girl manage to see the same statue of Gandhi move at the same time. It's beyond words, beyond feelings and most of all....BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT since she saw it too!!

Then came the Scindia School Quiz. An event at which both of us were dressed in clothes that well lets just say made us stand out more than usual! The quiz master started and we had the 'good fortune' of sitting just one row ahead of the musically gifted counterparts of the female type. Since neither party was participating in the event we had a great lesson on General Knowledge and History.

"Who was the slain President of Afganistan before the Taliban rule?"

"I know, I know.... Ajit Agarkar"

"What!!!!!!!!!!!"

“Who is the leader who was imprisoned on Robin Island?”

“I know....A.B Vajpayee”

“Whaaaaat!!”

“Under which American President did the Vietnam War take place?”

“Abdul Kalam!!!”

Jeez, no wonder they never qualified!!! By one point they said. I have my doubts!

We get to the railway station where our ‘cute’ Mr. Smart dressed in his pure white kurta-pajama, is keeping a watchful eye on our pile of luggage. Suddenly we see an expression on his face which literally scandalized him out of his skin. There was this lady with a bottle of “Kingfisher” in her hand standing on the platform saying ‘Hahahahaha...I think I am drunk! What’s happened to me?’ Ask him more about it and I am sure he will take you to a corner and will reveal to you with utmost caution for fear of the dreaded lady. Getting onto the train Karan and myself found that we were in the same compartment as the girls from

across the LoC as well as those from as far away as Ajmer.....to top it all off...they didn’t have seats! So acting proudly like a ticket collector I managed to get everyone a seat without successfully getting two for ourselves! So we get out of the cabin and sit on the ‘TT’s’ seat till the early hours of the morning. Strange things happen on overnight trains. CERTAIN PEOPLE whose identities unfortunately I am not at liberty to disclose decide to wear a drunken man’s sandals and trot off to the loo, and SOME PEOPLE who see the sign board at a transit station say ‘Hey guys, we are at a place called “baad”...B A double A A D’. Spelling obviously wasn’t this person’s strength. The people of the train, waking up 20 minutes before our arrival at Delhi start offering us their seats to sleep on!! “Great help you are” we said to ourselves under our breaths. On arrival at the Delhi railway station we are greeted by heat and the of course the dirt of the Delhi station. The tale of the journey back from Delhi to beloved Dehra Dun is one which I shall relate another time.

Overall a nice and fun trip wouldn’t you say?

-The Witch Doctor

Nature’s Diary

Twinkle twinkle little star;
How I wonder what you are,
Up above the world so high;
Like a diamond in the sky.

The first glance at the ‘planetarium’ gave me an impression that somehow mistakenly someone had kept an igloo in the geography room!! All of us stood out of the room with bated breath as the presentation team was getting ready to show us the presentation. We were made to stand in rows of four (still don’t understand the logic behind it) and made to enter From where? Then a person opens a zipper, and we crawl into the planetarium, with strict instructions not to lean on the walls and to keep quiet (but questions were allowed).

The inflatable planetarium was about 10 feet in the height and had the capacity to hold about 20 people. There was a rolling apparatus and a music system. There was an opening from where a fan was gushing out chilled air.

The presenter briefed us about what we were about to see. After the briefing, he switched on the machine and the ceiling was suddenly filled

up with hundreds of white dots with lines joining them. Two red lines running parallel to each other and intersected at a certain point. It all really looked fantastic and with the light, good music, giving a very psychedelic effect.

The dots and lines were all constellations and the red lines were called equinoxes. We could only see the constellations of the Northern Hemisphere, 48 in total. Many of them were recognizable like Orion, Great Bear, and all the zodiac signs. He then told us the logic behind how our sun signs are determined. The equinox is divided into twelve parts (a month each) which in turns has another line cutting it in between each month, thus marking the 15th day. There is a constellation for every zodiac from the 15th of one month to the 15th of the other. On the day of your birth, which ever constellation the sun is passing, that is your sun sign (thus the name sun sign). We were also shown other constellation like the Cygnet, Northern Cross etc. After showing all of the constellations, he removed the projection and put in another one which were just stars. Hundreds of dots of white, yellow and blue on a black background! Truly a spectacular

sight. He named all the stars and pointed them out. He also told us facts that the blue star is the hottest while the red one is coolest. Here's another fact: the stars as we see them now had emitted their lights centuries ago!! For example it takes 200 years for light to reach Earth from Deneb (Star). He also told us facts about the Milky Way and that it is about to collide with Andromeda

To finish off, we were shown a slide show about the planets and their moons. Guys, be grateful for Jupiter because its gravitational pull

attracts any stray meteorites which could have collided with earth. The presentation was finished off on a note that left many pondering: what will destroy Earth first, a meteor, the sun dying out or Andromeda crashing with our galaxy. With that the zipper opened and we all crawled out back to reality.

Kudos to Mr. Khaira for arranging such a 'mind blowing' exhibition of the stars. So remember, 'the fault is not in our stars, but in our selves'

-Samridha S.J.B. Rana

RINGSIDE VIEW

"Hey people, I'm back!" Now I didn't intend to sound as 'fake pally' as it did but the reality is that I've been away on a long a break. In the weeks that have rolled by the school has seen a few good days of kicking soccer and hockey.

The soccer Inter-house which is still in progress has shown the mob some fantastic display of pure skills. With players suffering from the deadly typhoid the teams had to bear with their loss. The first match was played between Ganga and Cauvery. The enthusiasm in both the teams let out a fiery display of steaming goals. The match ended in a draw with both sides netting 3 each. The next game was kicked off between Jamuna and Ganga. Jamuna, which always followed a tradition of getting beaten by at least 4 goals, left the onlookers awe struck with a magnificent strategy of team work. The match had its shares of controversies and many believed that Jamuna drew the match. However the match ended with Ganga emerging victorious by a goal as the referee refused to acknowledge Jamuna's goal, due to reasons which I'm not yet aware of.

The match between Krishna and Cauvery was played a day after, with the former beating the latter by 2 goals too! Krishna didn't have much trouble beating Jamuna. 2 goals in the 1st 5 minutes was an amazing display of organized play by Krishna to 2-1, Krishna banged another 2 in with pride after half time. Supporters went 'mad' when out of the blue Jamuna's last defender came forward and boomed one into the net leaving the Krishna keeper in a trance. In spite of losing

the Jamunaites were victorious in their own way.

Though Jamuna had been knocked out after 2 losses and no hope existed of their making it to the finals, they still didn't give in. Their match with Cauvery was vigorous in nature. The score stood 1-0 for a long time with Cauvery leading till one of their defenders showed poor displays of sportsman spirit, causing an intentional foul. Not only did this cost Cauvery a penalty but also a goal. Not long after this Cauvery once again pounced on another goal shattering Jamuna's hopes. Ganga and Krishna's play ended with a tie. The teams for the final clash are Krishna and Ganga. 'May the best team win.'

Well that was a long and critical explanation of the Soccer Inter House. As far as hockey is concerned the team played a series of local matches, winning most, losing a few and drawing the rest. The team returned from Nabha after playing the IPSC's without a captain. The captain is at the moment attending a conference; hence the hockey team played without one. Lesser said about their acts, the better for them!

Basketball practices were in full swing with the team getting geared up for the IPSC's to be held at the Scindia School, Gwalior. Our coach 'Kelly' is back with us, so what do we have to fear about? Surya and Gagan Jyot have left for Haridwar to play the Districts Championship after which they shall be joining the team at Gwalior.

Welham seems to be carving its name in the field of athletics too. Maroof Ahmed and

Faizan Ullah finished 1st and 2nd respectively in the 'Clean Doori Green Doon' Roadrace. Wangdu bagged a bronze in the junior districts athletics meet for his shot put throw. We owe a lot to our trainer, Mr. Biradar for guiding them all the way. Way to go guys!

I guess that is all I have from the Welham scene. As a welhamite I believe that when one great scorer comes to write against your name, he doesn't write whether you won or lost but how you played the game.

With that sporting spirit of a Welhamite I now shift onto the International scenario.

The F1 championship roared back into action with a two week break. In the last race at Italy, Ferrari finished 1st and 3rd with Montoya in between. M. Schumacher now has a 3 point lead over Montoya with everything to race for.

The past fortnight saw the La Liga and the Serie-A kick into action. Star studded Real Madrid won their matches drubbing Valladolid 7-2 inspired by a Raul hat trick. He now has scored 158 goals for the club, 4th highest in its history. However it is Real Sociedad that heads the table. After two games in the Serie-A Juventus, Roma, AC Milan, Inter and Lazio share the top spot.

The UEFA Champion's league kicked off with defending champions AC Milan winning their first match. Man Utd, Inter, Chelsea, Juventus, Real Madrid and Bayern Munich are starting their quest for glory with wins as Deportivo and Arsenal are losing.

Euro 2004 Qualifiers were also underway and France has already booked a berth at the Finals in Portugal. England, Germany and Holland need to win their last match to book at least a playoff spot.

After a 3-0 win in tests, Pakistan have

taken an unsurpassable 4-0 lead against Bangladesh in the one dayers.

With the world Athletic Championships over, Hicham el Guerroj of Morocco & Mestrie Cloete have won the best athletes of the year award in the men's & women's section respectively.

But the lime light fell onto the murder of Yetunde Price, elder sister of Serena & Venus, shot in Los Angeles. A 24 year old man has been arrested as we all give

our condolences to the Williams' family.

TABC vaccinated,
Karan



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