



# The Elephant

No. 298

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

18th March, 2004

## Think About It...

Life is short, but it's ills make it seem long.

- Publilius Syrus

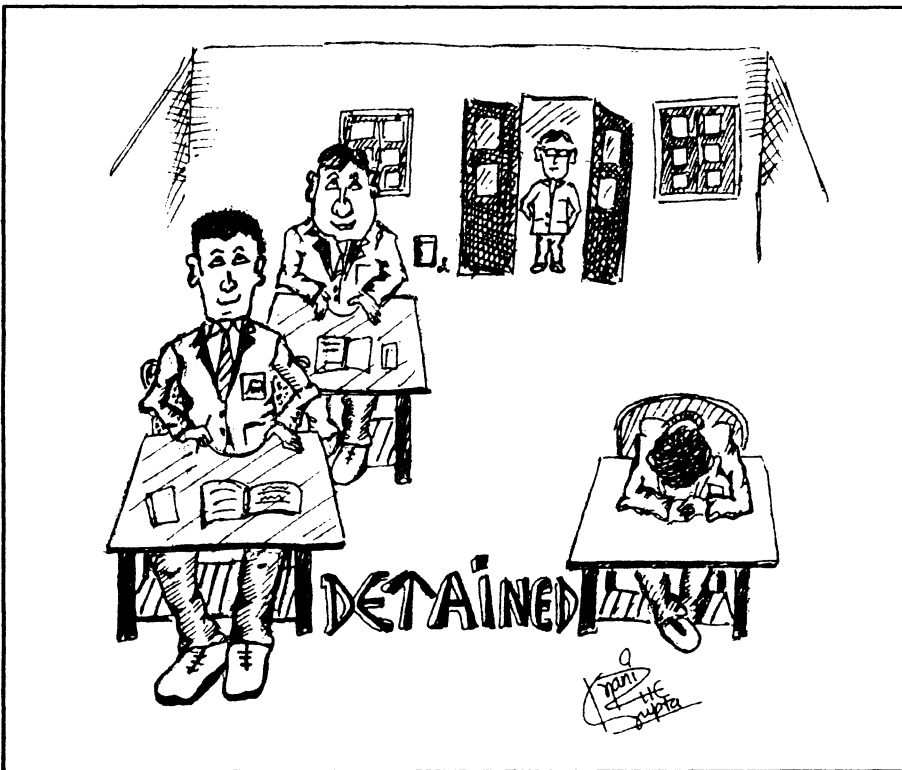
## EDITORIAL



It's another hungry eyes one today sees a marked difference in a Welhamite's attitude. It seems to have finally dawned on him that

the school is not a resort. A major change that one had never thought would come in is the phasing out of physical punishment. A whole new system of punishment has come in. A system of detentions

another day where I don't know what to write for the editorial. Believe it or not but the fact is, when I actually come down to writing an editorial I don't know how to begin.



Well, it's just human nature. All of us at some point of time or another need to make a start and are perplexed with a similar situation. Talking of starts, our school too has started off with a lot of changes. A series of changes have been incorporated into the school rules. Well these changes were not unexpected. They were bound to come in at some point of time and I guess the time has finally come.

Apart from seeing blood - shot, sleep

has been introduced where a student is punished with a certain amount of workload being set during games time. The punishment is not as easy as it sounds. Detention has a few complimentary gifts along with the assigned workload. Gifts like frozen bank accounts, no outings for a month, reporting to the main gate at 5a.m. etc, etc. This new system is definitely doing wonders at the moment. It is actually pure mental torture and trust me because I

(1)

speak from personal experience. After all 'yours truly' inaugurated the punishment!

The ICSE and ISC candidates seem to be burning the midnight oil. With the board examination around the corner the two board classes seem to have hibernated in some unexplored corner of the school. Their dazed and 'psyched' faces during meals express a lot. Well that's the only times one can spot them.

I somehow fail to understand why there is such a hype about the Board examinations. It is nothing out of the world. In fact compared to the internal examinations it's a piece of cake. The determination of the 'psyched' candidates only suggests that they are going to emerge with flying colors. My best wishes to them.

Talking of education, the school has suddenly taken bold steps to make academics the main priority. New teachers to improve academic standards have been appointed and new innovative techniques of learning have been introduced. These new techniques have given teachers new names. Names like *hydrochloric AT* and *encounter Shankar* are among the common ones. This new system is behaving like a catalyst in improving academic standards in school. The gospel truth is

that no matter what one says, the mark sheet is the only thing that speaks... until and unless one is a complete exception.

The Twelfthies uniform, after much discussion has finally been passed. The new 12<sup>th</sup> batch will probably be the last to wear the much desired Twelfthies blazer. It is definitely the smartest uniform in town and we can proudly state it's ours. However it's sad to note that it's being phased out. It's so ironic that in spite of being smartly turned out, people still state that Welham Boys' doesn't dress decently. I suggest they keep their eyes open in future. It will clear a lot of their doubts.

The cricket fever is back. Gone are the days of cricket on T.V. The school team is playing some spectacular cricket. The other sports are also on the roll. This term is definitely going to be a sporty one.

It's sad to know that nobody has taken the initiative of clearing the doubts of the Twelfthies. The previous Oliphant issue carried a letter addressed to Oli where they had asked for a explanation regarding the privileges of Twelfthies being taken away. Well this silence only makes me believe that there actually is no suitable explanation. I could be wrong, or that nobody has read the last issue??!!

Keep the faith till I strike back again.

- Yours truly,

Karan

## Welham Now

- The Inter-house debate was held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2004. The individual results were as follows-
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Shaunak Valame
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Daksh Tyagi
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Ajitesh Kir
  - Best Rebuttal- Daksh Tyagi
  - House Positions
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Cauvery
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Ganga
- The Inter-house elocution was held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2004, the results were as follows-
  - Group I
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Shaunak Valame
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Samridha Rana
  - Group II
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Rasik Goyal
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Ajitesh Kir
  - Group III

1<sup>st</sup> Apoorv Kumar

2<sup>nd</sup> Shailendra Khemka

- The results of the English Handwriting Contest-  
Group A

1<sup>st</sup> Anish Manandhar- Class XII

2<sup>nd</sup> Kandarp Swarup- Class IX

3<sup>rd</sup> Akshay Agarwal- Class X

Consolation- Derek Ma- Class XII

Group B

1<sup>st</sup> Karan Kumar- Class VI

2<sup>nd</sup> Sanil Chawla- Class VII

3<sup>rd</sup> Suryanshu Vasishtha- Class VIII

Consolation- Abhishek Modi- Class VI

- The results of the English Elocution Contest for Classes- VI, VII & VIII  
Class VIII

1<sup>st</sup> Ayan Mukherjee

2<sup>nd</sup> Mehul Pandey

Class VII

1<sup>st</sup> Siddharth Agarwal

2<sup>nd</sup> Aashray Patel

Class VI

1<sup>st</sup> Jatan Sohi

2<sup>nd</sup> Abhinit Kanodia

- The monitors for the year 2004-05 have been announced.
- The Inter-house cricket commenced on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March.
- The ISC & ICSE examinations began on the end of March.
- A few boys attended a workshop on Hotel Management at the Doon School. They were escorted by Mr. Sandeep Khanna.
- The Vice Chief of Naval staff, Vice Admiral Arun Prakash, delivered a very interesting talk on the Indian Navy to our senior students.
- The Welham Community welcomes the new additions to the faculty-
  - Mr. Vikram Chopra- Administrative Officer
  - Ms. Pooja Sethi- Councillor & Psychology Teacher
  - Mr. Pawan Vashisht- Mathematics Teacher
  - Mrs. Vashisht- Chemistry Teacher
  - Mr. Lal - Physics Teacher



## Literary Affairs I Believe

“Are you guys out of your mind? Come on, it’s not worth it.” I said. But Rahul just would not listen. These guys were sick.

It’s pretty unbelievable the extent these guys go to just to impress the members of the opposite sex.

How long did he know Neha by the way? Two weeks? Three? And he had already started treating her like she was the very reason of his existence. I was there the time he

first met her. He was all head- over- heels when she came up to him and talked, and now...

There is something I don’t understand about this whole ‘I-love-u’ relation is its existence. I’ve seen people break up in a couple of days, or even hours for that matter. Yet, all my love struck friends still pen down all their hearts’ content and shower the girls with gifts galore.

I find it pretty stupid how people be-

have. One day one likes a girl, the other day he proposes, yet another day he pampers her and finally one day, she dumps him!!

My thoughts were interrupted by Rahul's stupid mimicking of Romeo. He has to go down in history as one of the most successful Don Juan's. In the past year he's already gone out with eight girls!! Each time he says the same thing, "Guys, believe it or not, she's the one."

Right now Rahul is all bouncy because tomorrow is V-day. He's already decided he'll give Neha a big box of chocolates, some roses, and a gift (which he had bought last month). He's also planning to treat her to lunch at the most swanky restaurant in town.

"And what are you expecting from her?" I asked.

"Nothing," he replied in a very matter-of-fact way.

It's not that I don't believe in love. Hell, I used to be a sort of Casanova at one time. But after an incident, I completely lost all belief and faith in it. Now one can say that I've fallen in that category of men who can never fall in love again and who spend the rest of their lives in melancholy and gloom.

Rahul had already forced me to go with him when he was to meet Neha. I tried my best to refuse, but he ended up having his way.

V-day came and we were all ready to go. Rahul took more than two hours getting ready. This included an ear splitting five minutes, when he decided to sing 'Looks like an Angel' when he was in the shower. Finally, we were off.

As it was typical of Rahul, we reached five minutes late. We started looking around for 'lover-gal' and since I had nothing better to do, but to exhale noisily from my mouth.

Suddenly, a voice from behind said "Excuse me, do you have the time?"

I spun around and saw the most beautiful girl I had ever seen. She was wearing a pink frilled shirt with faded blue jeans.

"Yeah," I said. "It's almost 1:00. Are you waiting for someone?"

"No," she said, "I came out to buy some stuff and completely lost track of time. By the way I am Priyanka."

"I'm Raj," I said. "Wanna go and grab some coffee while we talk?" I asked.

"Sure," she said with a smile.

As I walked with her towards the coffee house, all my theories and beliefs against love were gone. I was now a believer. I believe!

- Samridha S.J.B Rana

# LAMPOON

## A Good Reason to be Late

*(All the teachers who shout at me,  
The reason being late  
Please hear the schedule,  
Of the poor student at bait)*

Just as I am about to hug my love,  
Someone interrupts my dream  
Did someone say P.T.?  
Yes, someone did scream!  
As I come down to the field,  
Pushing back up my hair  
The P.T.I calls my name and shouts,

(4)

Please go and stand there!

After the 'reward' and exercise,  
As sweat is running down my head  
Someone yells my name and says,  
'Oye! Just make my bed'.  
After getting ready for class,  
I ask someone the date  
And that is the time I realize,  
That once again i am late!

Huffing and puffing I reach the class,

I am again called  
And to the teachers words,  
I am not at all appalled!  
At breakfast the very thing happened,  
Which I had been scared of  
'Report after lunch', the Prefect said,  
Who had a bad cough!

When I headed for my C.C.A at two  
No guesses for the right answer,  
I got late there too.  
And so here I am, after writing this,  
Entering the Triveni gate  
Dear God, I ask something from you today,  
Tomorrow please don't make me late!!

Recovering from the 'after lunch dose',

- Ajitesh kir

## What's In

## What's Out

Science computer room  
Hopetown Girls  
Ration  
Corridor cricket  
Dean of Academics  
Physical training

Oliphant room  
Welham Girls  
Tuck shop  
Hackey  
Dean of whole school  
Physical torture

## Through the Keyhole

Kartik to Mrs Anand : Ma'am, have you checked our pre board papers?  
Mrs. Anand: No beta, it's too cold at night... i can't see!!

\*\*\*\*\*

Akshat Choudhary to Mr. Bhandari: Sir, how many sons do you have?  
Mr. Bhandari: I have two sons, both are boys.

\*\*\*\*\*

Amit to Vivek (Trying to take his trip): Where all do we have fingers? On our hands and feet, right?  
Vivek: No yaar. I know you are trying to take my trip. On our hands we have fingers and a thumb and on our feet we have a toe and fingers.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Separated at Birth

Mr. Vashisht  
Mr. Chopra  
Mr. Prabir Basu  
Shaunak Valame

Daksh Tyagi

Amitabh Bachan  
Narendra Modi  
Shaktiman  
The man in the new 'Axe'  
advertisement  
Richeek Gupta

WELHAM... NORTH  
REMEMBERING!!!

KNOWLES - WOODS	N.G. - PINGS
N.V. - PROBLEMS	GAMMA - PARADISE
WELHAM - MOKSHA	?? - ???

THE ONLY COMMON THING  
BETWEEN THE FIRST AND  
LAST DAY IN WELHAM  
ARE THE TEARS IN MY  
EYES... 1993-2004

I DON'T HAVE AN ATTITUDE  
YOU HAVE A PERCEPTION  
WELHAM - 15 years no numb  
I DON'T HAVE AN ATTITUDE  
WHO HATES WELHAM  
I'LL SHOW YOU THE  
WORLD'S GREATEST WAR...  
192-04

12 years  
96 months  
2880 days  
69120 hours  
4147200 minutes  
248832000 seconds  
Yeh dil mange more  
I'm valmays  
(VIVEK ARYA) (1992-2004)



WE WERE BUT STONES  
YOUR LIGHT MADE US  
STARS...\*

BLOODY  
BROKEN  
BATTERED  
BRUISED  
WE FOUGHT & DIED  
FOR THIS



I walked into Welham - Scared!!!  
I am walking out of Welham -... FEARLESS!!!

NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL EVOLUTION/HIGHNESS OF HIGHNESS  
FROM WELHAMITE TO KISHINITE  
FROM WOODS TO KISHINITE  
FROM CLASS I TO CLASS XII

WHEN I JOINED WELHAM  
IN CLASS 2  
I WANTED TO GET TO 12  
AND LEAVE IT  
NOW I AM LEAVING WELHAM  
IN CLASS 12  
AND I WANT TO JOIN BACK IN CLASS 2  
WELHAM

TWELVE YEARS OF PRICELESS MEMORIES  
- ABHISHEK NARAYAN

AN EQUATION  
OR A FORMULA  
FIGURE IT OUT...??

02 - Entered into Celebrity Arena  
And  
04 - Today 'WELHAM' is a work in my  
Genes, as in my Spirit,  
forever DRUNK ON WELHAM  
WELHAMITES  
+ SHARU BIKHARI (CHOKY)

LEAVING BEHIND THE AIR  
LIFE...  
WELHAM...  
BALANCE SHEET...  
12-04

EVERY RIDE COMES TO AN END  
AND SO HAS WELHAM  
LOVESH  
(1992-04)

Oh No... Times Up!  
Capitulation  
1992-2004  
I am leaving Welham  
with the sweetest memories  
of life.  
I am proud to be an  
WELHAMITE,  
I walked into Welham - Scared!!!  
I am walking out of Welham -... FEARLESS!!!

I am proud to be an  
WELHAMITE,  
I walked into Welham - Scared!!!  
I am walking out of Welham -... FEARLESS!!!

FORGETFUL  
RIDE  
TO SI  
1992-2004

THAN KUN KUN  
1992-2004

THANK YOU!!!  
12-04

WELHAM...  
BALANCE SHEET...  
12-04



# Natures Diary. Squack!!!.

*"But 'tis a common proof that lowliness is young ambitions ladder, where to the climber - upward turns his face; But when he once attains the up most round. He then unto the ladder turns his back, looks in the clouds, scorning the base degrees by which he did ascend..."*

- Shakespeare

The world once again finds itself ensnared in a battle against 'Avian flu' a contagious disease very much akin to SARS considering that it too depends on respiration for its propagation.

The sudden killing of numerous chickens has been quite shocking but before dwelling on the main issue it would be pertinent to recapitulate the recent happenings, their sources and ramifications.

Avian flu or more commonly bird flu is a form of influenza which was and is known to infect domesticated poultry. Some particular strains jump the distinctive species barrier to affect humans too. Though almost non-existent, earlier, the phenomenon first reportedly took place in Honk Kong in 1997 where it demonstrated its ability to infect humans. It was however a minor outbreak and was easily controlled.

This time 18 Hong Kongers were infected and to prevent a major epidemic, the government, on the advice of specialists, ordered a swift slaughtering of all of the 1.4 million chickens and ducks.

The strain responsible has now been classified and coded as H5NI and is now an imminent threat to all carnivores on the planet. The most probable theory as to its source says that domesticated poultry generates the virus by excreting in it their mucus and fesces. The waterfowl in particular and shorebirds too act as convenient vectors for the disease without getting infected themselves and thus complete the fatal and deathly cycle, now a night-

mare for 14 Asian countries struggling to control its furious spate.

What makes the virus all the more inimical is its unprecedented mutation capabilities. Pigs are currently held responsible because they are the perfect 'mixing vessels' or rather susceptible to both the common human virus and avian virus alike thus filling an important void in the propagative cycle and also producing a threat of generating a more deadly virus more potent than others, due to the culmination of both the viruses.

Coming back to the issue - does man really feel for others, or has he evolved and become civilized (as the general notion) just to become a perfect example of a devil if this is the methodology of our 'evolution' then our progress becomes paradoxical in nature. In Thailand, an order was passed for culling of chickens immediately and it was done in a manner too gruesome to be true. Live chickens were stuffed into sacks and then buried alive - suffocating them to death.

In the Netherlands chicken were gassed with cyanide to cope with the disease and necks were heartlessly broken in Australia, snatching away precious lives. As the environmentalists and farmers watch aghast the disease runs its horrifying course with millions of chickens being ruthlessly killed and a loss of billions in the international trade sector.

As I leave it to you to digest these morbid happenings I find myself waging a war with my conscience questioning myself on my acquired carnivore habits.

"Do turkeys enjoy thanksgiving?!!" Think about it...

- Manu Sannan



## RINGSIDE VIEW

With the winter break long past our school is gearing up for yet another term filled with sports action in Cricket, Hockey, Basketball, Athletics and

Tennis. The Sports department has announced the captains of all the sports and we know they mean business. That was evident even if you had glanced at the school calendar for this term.

Seriously speaking when I first did, I thought Welham had become a sports school! But hey, all this has given a real good chance to those who want to make a name for Welham as well as for themselves, on the sports field.

Our Cricket team has about ten matches fixed on the calendar and of course there will be more. Even the Tennis team is not far behind as there are quite a few fixtures lined up for them too thanks to our Vice Principal and our new Administrative Officer who are keen players of the game. Even Our Hockey heroes have already played a tournament! There was the All-India Road Race at Hoshiarpur in March for which our athletes practiced really hard, under Mr. Biradar's guidance. And of course we must not forget –basketball, the sport second to none in Welham! The team has a busy term ahead of them with the Golden Jubilee, Afzal Khan and Win Mumby tournaments coming up in April.

There has been a lot of controversy in selecting the captains of each sport, especially in Basketball in which Asad Sultan, Surya Bhaduria and Maroof Ahmed could get the coveted position. Any guesses? In the end it was Surya Bhaduria with 5 National Tournaments to his credit who has become the captain. Gagandeep Singh is the new Cricket captain, Shomit Bakliwal the Tennis captain, Karan Mehrotra the Squash captain, Uday S. Mansahia the Hockey captain. The Soccer captaincy went to Mohit Bansal, Badminton to Abhishek Kapoor, Table Tennis to Rajkaran Chawla, Athletics to Ankur Sharma and Volley Ball to Kunal Ohrie and as you all know Asad Sultan is the Sports captain. I wish them the best of luck on behalf of the Welham Community.

Our senior cricket team has played three matches. The first match was played against the Young Master's Club which made a huge total of 193 runs in 25 overs. Our fault was that we gave 20 extras and allowed their captain to make 111 runs. However it was due to some great bowling by Shomit Bakliwal and our captain Gagandeep that we restricted them to 193. We fell 40 runs short although our captain played a blistery knock of 28 runs to 20 balls.

The second match against R.I.M.C. was almost the same story. They made 167 in 25 overs after we gave them 40 extras. We suffered a set back in the first over itself, when

Shomit injured himself in the process of taking a catch and had to quit the game. Asad, however, took 3 wickets. After a slow start, a 92 run partnership between Gurjeet (52) and Umamah (30) made it a close match - but we lost by 15 runs. On the same day the team was supposed to have a match with the old boys. Since the team was in R.I.M.C. it was the I.C.S.E. students who played the match and won by 5 wickets. The hero of the match was Nishant Joshi, who hit a couple of sixes including one straight into the Principal's cottage and Karanveer Sohi who took 4 wickets. The Junior team played a match against the Doscors. After being 11/4 at one stage we made 213 in 35 overs with Trishang scoring 37 runs in 17 balls and Amrit 56. Trishang also took 3 wickets, bowling out our arch rivals for 145. The third match was against The Doon School at their grounds. After we lost the toss, they piled up a massive 262 in 40 overs. Our initial response was good being 86 for 1 at one stage. We lost the last nine wickets within the next sixty runs. However Mohit Bansal "Blitzkrieged" his way to smash a half century hitting only fours and made 71 runs on 48 balls. With the return leg to be played soon our team is just raring to have a go at them. I just hope, however, that India does not meet with the same fate, as we did.

The DIS team visited us and looking forward for our first victory we made 188 in 25 overs. Asad Sultan scored a half century and revived the team who were 96 for 6 at one stage. The target was unreachable and we emerged victorious by 30 runs. The Juniors too played a match against DIS which we won pretty comfortably by 74 runs, with Chirantan Singh scoring 45 runs.

The school team also played a friendly fixture against our budding Staff team. No offense but the staff team was no match for our young blooded team. We made 217 runs in 25 overs with Mohit Bansal smashing a glorious half century whilst the captain made 44. Their response was good but not good enough and the Staff lost by 90 odd runs.

The cricket Inter House has commenced and it seems most likely that Krishna will retain their trophy. In sports however any team can beat another team on its day even if it's the worst against the best. After all, we witnessed Bangladesh beating Pakistan in the



2003 World cup.

The basketball team played three consecutive matches with the I.M.A. We lost the first two 68-58 and 60-54. The third one was a closer affair but we won 72-69 although the captain was not playing. Our victory was sealed when Asad converted both free throws in the dying seconds of the game.

Our hockey team, which as I told you

comprises the Board examination class, played the District Hockey tournament. The first match was forfeited by the other team and we reached the semis against K.V. F.R.I. It was a close game and we won 5-3 on penalties. The finals were against Guru Nanak Inter College. We played well but lost 2-0. We also played two

friendlies against Wood Stock and Pestle Weed and won both 7-1 and 3-2 respectively. YPS had come over this past weekend and we played two matches against them. We won both 7-1 and 4-1.

The tennis team who did so well at the state level last term has also started practicing.

Mr. Tripathi and the Vice Principal, Mr. Basu played a doubles match with the team and surprisingly beat them! It was a close game and the Staff beat us in the tie breaker in both sets, 7-6 and 7-6.

The vigorous athletics practice has certainly paid off. In the Hoshiarpur 6.5 km road race the first four athletes who crossed the finish line were all Welhamites! Keeping in mind

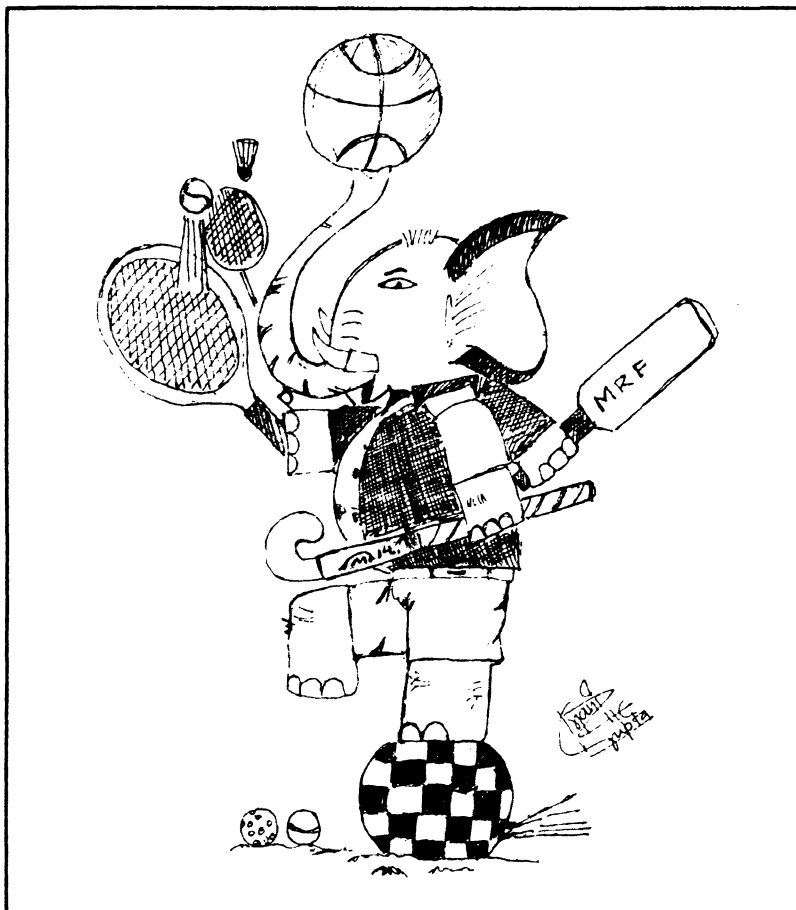
the Ferrari 1-2 finish at Melbourne, Sourabh Bothra made a new meet record of 22 minutes, Aman Verma, Sabair Pradhan and Rishi Raj came in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively.

There have been two new additions to the sports faculty- Mr. Gyan Singh Oniyal who is here as a Yoga instructor and Mr. Rajesh Puriyal as a Karate instructor. The sports department has also planned to introduce Golf as a sport and air gun shooting has become

a full-fledged C.C.A.

Well that's it for this time being. I'll keep you updated about all the latest from the Welham sports area-'un-cribblingly' after the Ed's accusation of my complaining about this task.

- Shaunak Valame



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Published By : **Welham Boys' School**

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

Desktop Editors: **Ajitesh Kir & Prateek**

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Printed at : **EBD Webseva, Dehra Dun.**