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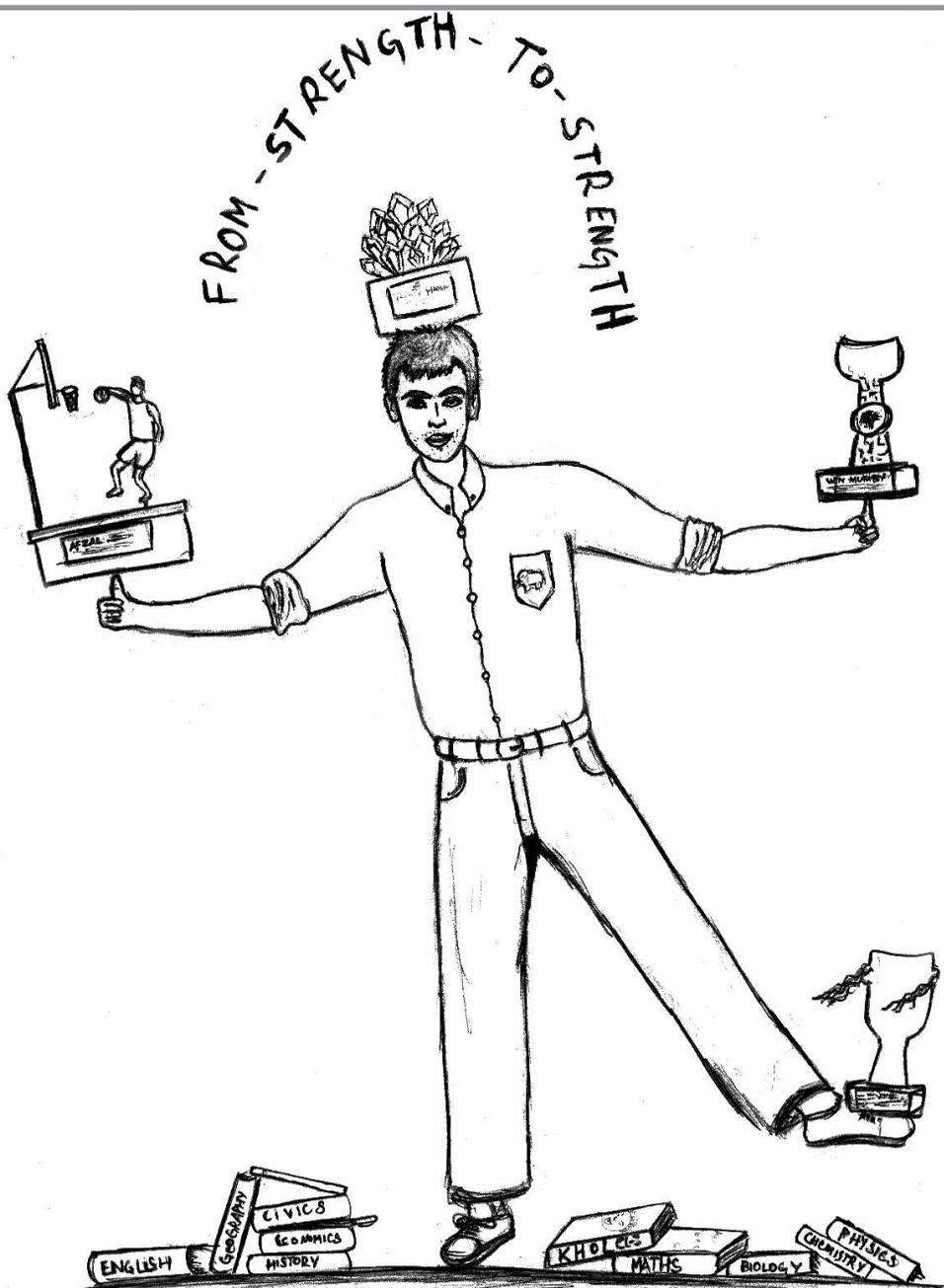
The Elephant

WELHAM BOYS SCHOOL

THINK ABOUT IT...

I prefer to be a dreamer among the humblest, with visions to be realised, than lord among these without dreams and desires.

Kahlil Gibran



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Editorial

The summer gets worse as mercury rises across the globe. India is facing one of its hottest years in all times. Yet, Welham continues to grow from strength to strength.

The last couple of weeks at Welham have been nothing less than 'action packed'. After an "overcrowded" Baisakhi, the Golden Jubilee and S. Kandhari tournaments have provided the adrenaline rush. First, I would like to congratulate the basketball team on their record breaking season (they have won all their matches), and also the hockey team for putting up a fine performance at the recently concluded S.Kandhari Memorial hockey tournament (the jinx never seems to break!!!). Details of all the sporting action can be read in this month's Ringside View.

Speaking of the summer, the sweetness of our lives has returned with the return of Mangoes. It is even more heartening to know that Kalimullah Khan, an elderly farmer from Malihabad, Lucknow, has named a new variety of mango after Sachin Tendulkar-but says it will not go on sale as "Tendulkar is priceless". True, the master

blaster has proved this time and time again, most recently for the Mumbai Indians. But more than Chennai's victory, the limelight in the IPL has been stolen by the Lalit Modi scandal. God only knows how much money is involved in this scandal. It all goes to show the power media has in this country. One day it's all glitz and glamour, skirts and whisky, immediately after that you see the man responsible for all of this being called 'arrogant' and 'untrustworthy'. I am in no way taking sides here, but just pointing out how fickle minded we people are. Our perceptions get the better of us, and when we come to face reality, we are shocked by it!

Recently, the lower house in the Belgian parliament made the burqa illegal. They look at it as a step to increase security, and make women free of a 'walking prison'. Amnesty International has called it a direct violation of 'freedom of expression and religion'. The only comment that comes to my mind about this ruling is that there were no burqa-clad women who caused 26/11 or 9/11. Making a religious custom illegal heightens the already tense situations

prevailing around the world. Toying with the sentiments of people can only make matters worse. France has the highest population of Muslims in Europe; let's see what Sarkozy and co. come up with as they are the next country to be discussing the burqa verdict.

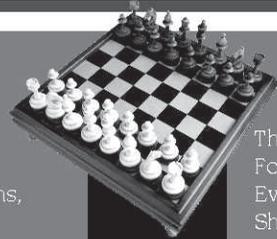
As we draw closer to the end of term, a sadness comes to me, as I realize this is my last summer at Welham Boys School. After staying for so long at the same place, one tends to get 'institutionalized'. It is one of the most difficult things in the world, to leave something so close to your heart and belief. I speak for all my classmates when I say that Welham has shown us life through all its ups and downs. Hopefully, our vacation will provide us with some much needed rest, for surely next term will be something far greater than what this term was.

Till the rains come back again,

Adieu to you my understanding friend.



Jatan Singh Soni



Checkmate

Bring on a chess board
With it a clock.
Come on! O! pieces and pawns,
It's time to rock.
It doesn't matter if
You get black or whites
It's your move that has to be right.
Concentrate hard to win the game,
You have that fire,
You have that flame.
It's time for action, with some fun,
You better let your mind on the run.
Your opponent and you
Are the only two,
In this jam-packed ring.
All you have to do is save your king.
Trust your rook and your pawn,
They'll one day save the crown,
Till the game is on.
For the attack you have
Bishops and Knights.
They'll do the damage
And keep you in fright

Then there's the Queen,
For backup and support.
Even if well guarded,
She'll break through
The enemy's fort.

But they come forward,
Your foes' pieces,
Your enemy's pawns,
In your way, a group of thorns.
But, be not hassled,
If necessary, castle.
As the danger is foreseen,
Call back your Queen.

Suddenly it gets edgy,
The cross board play.
You begin to lose
And pray to God in Dismay;

"Keep on with the game till it's won,
If I don't win, let it be drawn."
And then, with a shock,
You see the inescapable,
The unstoppable clock,

It's then you see the time getting over.
You feel the power and finally totter
Fantabulously over the math.
You play your strengths
And get ready to snatch
The well deserved.
You realise it now, it's his King
He has been sieged and you win!
You feel the joy, you rejoice,
But the only choice, if you had lost,
Would be to win the next at any cost.

It's same as you sit, defeated,
Declined in life,
Determined to add more,
In the next strife.
This Great Spirit keeps it on,
In all the dusks and the dawns,
After all, this is the game of
The king and his pawns.

Aishwarye Choudhary

RINGSIDE VIEW

HOOP DIARIES

We did it! We completed a hat-trick of the Big Three! The Afzal Khan Basketball tournament. The Win Mumby Basketball Tournament. The Golden Jubilee Tournament. In between we also played the District U-18 matches with only the final left to play - which we hope will be the fourth feather in our crown. The realization of what we have achieved is yet to fully sink in. The euphoria continues. Three weeks of playing matches continuously, almost one a day, so much so that by the semi-final of the Golden Jubilee our legs felt like lead and it was only the constant goading of our coach and our will-power that carried us through. What a year!

We had a dream which we knew we could realise. But we were cautious. And when 'the' moment came, we were numb. 41 played, 41 won. It is a historic feat. Was it a matter of luck? Skill? Will? Or was it something more. Whatever! We won them all.

Here is an insight into my world of basketball, where the amazing happened.

With the end of every new basketball season, the new one kicks off almost seamlessly. As the to-be basketball captain, I was given charge of the squad and knew I had to keep the flag flying high as basketball is one of the most popular sports in both Welham and the world - much like soccer.

Step 1 : Gather the veterans.

Step 2 : Scout for young talent. We have several enthusiastic young hopefuls who join us each year. My challenge lay in spotting individuals with a favourable physique for the game. Getting 7th and

8th graders to realise the heights of success this sport could take them to was not easy. Unlike other sports, this one demands sacrifices. For example, when all your friends are snoring away in 'la la' land, you have to give up the heavenly warmth of your quilt and rush for morning practise every single day. Whether it is Eid, Diwali, a Sunday or Baisakhi you have to be beating the skin of the basketball every single morning. And with a series of tournaments coming up you might even have to give up one of the most memorable parts of boarding school life, mid-term. If you are hockey lover you have to make the choice. My predecessor, Marif Aziz Khan, did. He knew where his duty lay. The crux of the problem lies in the fact that sacrifices have to be made - even when you are a teenager.

Step 3 : Time to play ball. Practices were scheduled. The senior players honed their skills and the juniors developed some. One beautiful principle of Welham basketball is that your seniority is defined by the level of your game. Thus, as an eleventh grader you could be 'junior' to an eighth grader.

Last term the swine flu scare hit the world. Schools were shut down. The death toll was on the rise. The virus was in the air. In a boarding school such as ours, one child getting the flu could lead to a domino effect. As a safety measure all outings and excursions were called off. And so, we could not participate in the IPSC basketball tournament, the only one to look forward to in the autumn term. The jinx reigned. I had a serious knee injury; three of the first five players hibernated into academic burrows to

study for their 10th board examinations. But life moves on, so did we.

Now, the only time we had to prepare ourselves for an eventful April, were the months of February and March. It was time to go all out. Three of our players (Rishab, Kishlay and Ravi) had just represented Uttarakhand in the U-18 National championship. This experience paid off. It added a whole new colour to Kishlay and Rishab's game. Morning practise suffered a jolt with the onset of the promotion exams. Nevertheless, a fresh lot of basketballers were gaining ground, in Welham.

Our first tournament was on the 13th of April, and as this date drew closer, practices intensified. A sense of nervousness began to catch up. The question 'What if we don't make it through?' buzzed our minds. Amidst this rising chaos, we played our first friendly match of the season, against Woodstock. We lost. Yes, you read it right we lost. I could justify the loss to myself saying that half of my players were freshers and thus inexperienced. The excuse that the Xth board-class students, were yet to play, could sound convincing. However, the truth was, I was starting to panic. If we could lose to Woodstock now, we could lose to other teams. We could lose. I did not even want a stroke of chance to take our dreams away. Last year, we had not lost a single match. We had a 100% winning rate. Only Marif had left the squad. It was our hat trick year at Afzal Khan and Golden Jubilee. Win Mumby was the one hyped this season as the tournament to win. We were the best last year. Could we be even better this year?

In my four years of playing basketball, I had never seen expectations soar as high as this year. We had everything to lose. Would we make it through? I was

panicking already. Our coach, synonymous with basketball for us, was disappointed. He had put in so much of his time and effort into us. He had taught us so much, that if we played to even 50% of our game, no team stood a chance before us. Our reputation preceded us and it was difficult to get teams to play 'friendly' matches against us.

There was a week to go for Midterm. As 12thies, this was our last midterm. Everybody lives for such moments and cherishes them for a lifetime. The board class students were pre-occupied with their exams. We had not been able to build the team chemistry. There were just 20 days left for our first official play off. What could I do to convince my coach that we could do it? What should I do to awaken the champions in my team mates? To add to my worries, one of my friends randomly remarked that when our school hockey team or soccer team loses, people praise them and say, 'well played'. But, if the basketball team loses even in the finals, people find it difficult to accept. Surprisingly, this was absolutely true. A lot was at stake, our school, our reputation, all those people who believed in us, hope.

I explained the situation to the Principal. He knew what I was hinting at -- a Basketball camp. I got into a tiff for my 1st minute appeal, but it was worth it. Mr.Rana took on the complete responsibility of organising it and within a day, we were given the news that our basketball camp would be held in Chandigarh where we would be practicing alongside the professional CRPF Basketball team. All credit to the Principal and Mr.Rana.

The next ten days gave us the edge we needed. The CRPF team was immensely humble and supportive, and made us practice. The whole team dropped by everyday to say 'hi' and ask if we needed anything. They assisted us in daily workouts, provided the post-match juice, "up", and consistently guided us on game plan. We gratefully recall Pallo cheering us up after a disappointing match, his exercises and his pose. All these efforts

did not go in vain. Our game resurrected. We felt like a 'group' of twelve now, not just twelve individuals. The defence was 'yelling' again. We were moving on each other's call, which was neither spoken nor indicated by any nuance of the body. It was understood. That was the beauty of it. We started to understand each other, to read each other. Demoralising criticism turned into motivational counselling. We began to observe the intricacies of a simple, yet fast game. The point blank 3-pointer shooter, Samarth Chaudhary emerged on the very 'last' day of the camp. Ravi was back in form. Our score sheet against the CRPF team [44-100] YPS, Mohali [94-63] epitomized our progress. The 44 points we scored against the CRPF team cost them two rounds of front rolls on the basketball court!

Finally it was D-day. Adrenaline levels rose. In our pool in the Afzal Khan Basketball tournament we had to face Woodstock and DPS. We had lost to Woodstock in the last match and we had not beaten DPS for the last four years. Needless to say, we were nervous. Our margin of winning - 35 and 37 points respectively. No one could catch up with Kishlay's fast breaks. Our ace shooter, Samarth, was increasing his count of 3 pointers match after match. Ravi did not let go of any rebounds. Rishab and Veer were two immovable defensive pillars. Zorawar and Vishal were also making their mark. There was nothing to stop us. The host tried in the semi-finals, but faced disappointment. Woodstock had bounced back to reach the finals. The rest is history. We became the first basketball team to win a hat trick at the Afzal Khan Basketball Tournament.

We could hear the applause. We could see the smiles. We could feel the pride. Welham was in high spirits. However, though the team was overjoyed with our victory we were disheartened as one of the stalwarts of our team was leaving. Ravi was leaving us. Ravi had become a basketballing legend not just across Welham, but across Uttarakhand and

across India. Now, it was time to let go of the friend he was, the brother he had been. Our spirit was dampened. It showed in our performance in the district championship. We felt a vacuum which had to be filled. We had to win, not only for all of us, but for Ravi. We were two steps away from living our dream. Win Mumby awaited us.

Veer and Rishab filled the gap left by Ravi. Kishlay kept the fast breaks going. Samarth took to jump shots and boy, there was no arm that could block his flow. Inch by inch, we marched the glory road. Co-incidentally, we faced the hosts Woodstock once again in the Semi-Finals. That pre-match uneasiness was evident. This is when Mr. Kailkura walked up and said, "Why are you all worried about winning or losing? Leave it for the coach. You don't need to worry about all this. You have proved yourselves on numerous occasions. Now just think of 'how much you know', 'what you can do.' No matter whether we win or lose today, you showcase your game. We are here to earn our name. After the match people should remember this team. They should remember the game you play."

We smiled, looked at each other and realised he was right. We were ready to take on any team. The 'elephants' overthrew the 'tigers' in the semi-finals and then the Manorites in the battle of the finalists. As I said earlier, the rest is history. After four years, Welhamites brought home the Win Mumby trophy. The Headmaster of the Doon School said, "It is a treat to watch you all play." So also said the chief guest at the Win Mumby finals and if I am not mistaken, so said the girls.

Finally it was time for our very own 24th Golden Jubilee Basketball Tournament. We earned friends not only as hospitable hosts but also as arch rivals. This tournament also taught us an interesting lesson about our 'best' friends - the Doscoc. As rivals we have always hated them and wished they always lose. If they got knocked out in the group stage, it

would normally bring us immense joy. So bitter is the rivalry. St. Georges had snatched an expected victory from their hands in the Semi-Finals of the Win Mumby. Now, the Doscocs had lost the pool stage matches. Their exit was inevitable. The twelfthies in Doon's team [Rajan, Chat, Asim, Pal, and Bishnoi] said this was probably the last forty minutes of Basketball they would ever play. They look disheartened, sounded low. For the first time in my life an explicable sympathy for them bubbled in my heart. For the first time, we were on 'their' side.

Unfortunately, they lost. We felt bad and empathized with them. I was personally amazed - the people whom we hated in the morning seemed like old pals in the evening. Somehow, they were allowed by their authorities to come for the Golden Jubilee dinner. We ate. We talked about flings. 'Cyber scams' [Did someone say "Oie!!"]. Nationals...It was fun being friends with 'foes'. Chat gifted Veer a jersey saying 'Bros for Eva'. As we walked them to their car, the bitterest rivals I knew, who could not stand each other's presence, were having a good time together. Truly LEGENDARY!

Our last match of the season was to be the toughest one we played this season. In the finals of the 24th Golden Jubilee Basketball Tournament, the IPSC winners 2009, the Motilal Nehru School of Sports, Rai, stood between us and the Cup. Veer had been pulled out of the match. On D-day, people kept coming to me, wishing me luck and telling me, "Do win". What else was our goal? For the first time, we felt that here was a team which could challenge our reign. This was our last entry to the tune of Travis Barker. It was our last Golden Jubilee and we were not ready to settle for any compromise. We shot. We scored. We shot. They blocked. We faked. They moved. They shot. They scored. We contained. They held. 40 minutes of the season's finest basketball ended with the final whistle and as I said earlier, the rest is...

Abhineet Kanodia

SCORES

AFZAL KHAN

- Group Stage
- WBS beat Woodstock 57-21
- WBS beat DPS Mathura Road 56-22
- Semi Finals
- WBS beat The Doon School 85-51
- Finals
- WBS beat Woodstock 66-46

GOLDEN JUBILEE

- Group Stage
- WBS beat ShriRam 55-17
- WBS beat Wyneberg Allen 61-22
- Semi Finals
- WBS beat SGC 50-34
- Finals
- WBS beat MNSS 74-67

WIN MUMBY

- Group Stage
- WBS beat YPS Patiala 58-19
- WBS beat SGC 61-22
- Quarter Finals
- WBS beat Modern 56-13
- Semi Finals
- WBS beat Woodstock 65-51
- Finals
- WBS beat SGC 79-43

U-18

- WBS beat Moravian 34-7
- WBS beat ASIAN 29-0
- WBS beat Selaqui 34-10
- WBS beat Scholars Home 42-12
- Semis
- WBS beat Hilton 55-14
- Finals not yet played

INTERVIEW WITH MR. AJAY KAILKHURA

Oli: People are saying that this is the best basketball team ever. What is your take on this?

Mr. Kelly: Well, in my opinion, no one is a star. Yes, I believe it was entirely a collaborative team effort that made us win all the games. No one can call himself a better player than another, because on the courts everyone plays as a team.

Oli: How do you feel after creating history... thrice?

Mr. Kelly: When I joined the school, my first tournament was Afzal Khan, the second one was the Woodstock tournament (which changed its name to Win Mumby in 2001), and the third one was, of course, the Golden Jubilee. It had always been my dream to win all three together. This year, I have not only achieved that dream, but also two more,

winning the Afzal Khan three years continuously and winning the Golden Jubilee and the Win Mumby in the same year.

Oli: What was it that actually made the difference and motivated the team to do so well?

Mr Kelly: Well, just before the match started, I told my players only one thing, "Whatever you have done, all the hard work you have done in those sweaty 365 days, just show it in the next 15 days, and believe me, it will pay off."

Oli: Anything you would like to say to all those aspiring Jordans striving hard to get into the team?

Mr. Kelly: Well, just one thing, "Believe in yourself, the result will be worth it."

Interview by Raj Shekhar and Akul Gurtu

Wrap-Up

It is jinxed! I am talking about the S.Kandhari Hockey Tournament. In its 6th edition, Welham Boys reached the finals for the 4th time, but lost yet again, this time to Maharana Pratap Sports College.

The team's performance was incredible, frankly speaking, no one gave them a chance but they emerged as the dark horses of the tournament, beating teams such as RIMC, where when tempers were rising, and the rush of adrenalin was too much, the team came down scoring 2 goals in the last 8 minutes to win the match 2-1. Against St. Georges in the semi-finals, our defence was formidable, and time and again we attacked their territory. At the end of regulation time the scoreline read 0-0. Nerves of steel were needed to take those penalty strokes, where we won 5-4. A special word for Narayan, who converted 2 strokes, taking them splendidly and nor to forget the splendid goal-keeping of Chetan Anand. Now it was the Big Match, the finds 2010. Full credit goes to MPSC, who put up a brilliant show of hockey, quickshort passes and tricky stickwork was the brand of hockey they exhibited and rightly won the match 2-0. In this match, Welham Boys' looked slightly out of touch, but still the enthusiasm was not down. We attacked the MPSC defence many a times, unfortunately, we could not get the better of their goal-keeper who saved some great shots. Anyway, hats off to the Hockey Team, we are privileged to have such committed sportsmen amidst us.

Gaurav Dwivedi, Narayan Dev Prasher, Bharat Manchanda and Chetan Anand were the four pillars of this team. Gaurav who has always played as a forward chose to play as a defender this time, all because the team needed that. That is leadership, making sacrifices. The Hockey team needed some inspiration, and in Gaurav they found that. As for Narayan Dev, had there been an MVP award, it would have definitely gone to him, striding up and down the pitch, dribbling at full throttle, he was the linchpin of the team. His temper has become famous and his frequent run-ins with the

opponents often caused him to get a cautionary card from the referees.

Bharat Manchanda was the spark in the Half, initiating moves and passing the ball beautifully, and scoring goals at crunch times. His saluting celebration after the goal shall be remembered in this school for years to come. Lastly, Chetan, whose goalkeeping skills were not known to everyone before this tournament. But now he is a star; he made saves at every point of time, some of them exhilarating to watch.

We have some great prospects for the future, in Fahad, who was awarded the Most Promising Player, Shivesh Kumar, Shubhankar. I hope Welham Boys' wins this trophy which has eluded them for the past 7 years.

The skating team has continued its knack of winning medals "wholesale" as they once again proved it in the all India tournament conducted in Dehra Dun recently.

Kishay Jha, XII-Hum

Wasatch Academy

March 10, 2010
Mr. Dev Lahiri
Welham Boys School
5 Circular Road
Dehra Dun -248001 Uttarakhand, India

Dear Dev,

Thank you so much for your hospitality in hosting my visit to the Welham Boys School last week, The ardor with which you communicate and execute the extraordinary mission of Welham Boys School in Dehra Dun inspired me. In you I met a colleague in my profession as a school administrator who shares a similar educational philosophy. Quickly I realize, from witnessing first hand your eloquence as a motivational speaker at your school's daily assemblies, that you would be an outstanding baccalaureate speaker at Wasatch. Academy upcoming graduation. It is my hope that you will accept an invitation to accept my formal invitation for you to address the Wasatch Academy graduating class of 2010 on May 29, 2010. Ideally we would like for you to arrive in Mount Pleasant early in the week of graduation to familiarize yourself with the Wasatch Academy learning commodity.

Dev, your acceptance of our invitation would be a great honor for all of us at Wasatch Academy. Please contact me with any questions regarding your invitation to be the Baccalaureate Speaker at this year's Wasatch Academy graduation. Hopefully, I will see you on our campus the last week of May.

Joe

Joseph Loftin President
Wasatch Academy
120 South 200 West
Mount Pleasant, Utah 84647 USA



THE FLYING BEAUTIES

Satyendra Pal (with inputs from Mr. Ajay Sharma)
Photos- Karna Puri

Name: *Coppersmith Barbet*
Scientific Name: *Megalaima Haemacephala*
Sighting Spots: Peepal tree behind Shikhar Hostel, ficus tree beside the hospital (feeding on the figs)



This social and inquisitive bird is about 15-18 cms. long, with a brightly coloured head. Its upperparts are grass green, whereas the under parts are a paler greenish, diffusely streaked with darker green. It has a black-bordered yellow face with black eye strips, a red fore-crown and throat patch. The younger birds have no red colour. The bill is dark and stout. It nests in tree holes, and perches on bare branches. It creates a tuk-tuk-tuk sound, like a hammer beating on a metal sheet, hence its English name.

We often have them chirping or flying around in the campus, but do not always pay any attention to them. Their presence on the campus adds to the liveliness of the school. These beautiful flying creatures are a delight to watch. Even the Houses across the LOC are named after some of these beauties. These are some exotic birds that are a sure sighting in our campus at this time of the year:



Name: *Red-Vented Bulbul*
Scientific Name: *Pycnonotus Cafer*
Sighting Spots: Found everywhere in the school, can be spotted making nests in front of the lawn in the Junior School.

Name: *Grey Hornbill*
Scientific Name: *Tockus Birostris*
Sighting Spots: Hollock trees bordering the riding paddock, Eucalyptus trees behind the principal's office, Silver Oak trees in front of Junior School.



This large (about 60 cms. long) grayish coloured bird is quite social. Its long and decurved bill has a black colour with yellow base. It has blackish eye strips, and black and white tipped tail. The male's bill is less pointed, and the black casque is longer and pointed. It is a very noisy bird, and produces high-pitched squealing ka-ka-ka-keee. It is often observed that the male seals the incubating female in the nest, with mud.

It is a dark sooty brown bird with a red vent. The feather edgings have a paler colour, giving a scaly appearance to its back and breast. It has a black head with a peaked crown. The plain brown tail has a black sub-terminal band and white tips. This bold and inquisitive bird flies in pairs or in small parties.

The next time you see them flying around in the campus, try to identify them and enjoy the glimpse.

Excavations at Welham.

The pupils of Class 6 had a special event last month. This is what they had to say about it.

THE EVENT

"The date was 24th of April 2010 when Class 6 excavated." *Madhav*

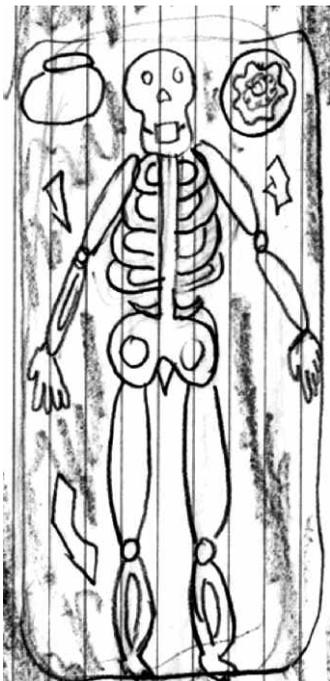
"Our teachers Mrs. Lahiri, Mr. Sinha, Ms. Kini, Charles and some boys of Class 11 organised this wonderful activity for us." *Yash*

"We were split into four groups - reporters, forensic scientists, research scientists and excavators." *Prabhapaar.*

"I was a reporter and I had to interview the others and write down what they were doing." *Vidul*

"My role was that of a forensic scientist. I had to find out about the things that were dug out by the excavators. The research scientists helped me." *Mukul*

"I chose to be an excavator as I like to be dirty." *Naman*



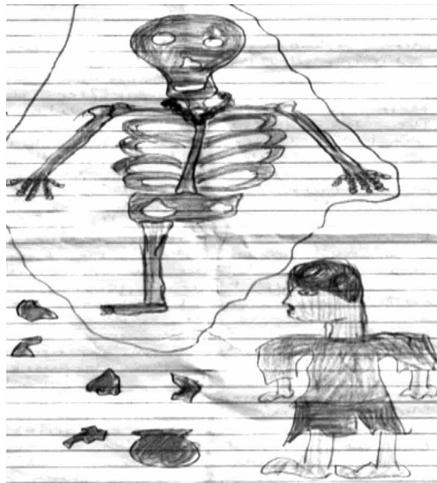
WHAT THEY FOUND

"We dug a little and found a skull. Then we dug carefully and we found a skeleton." *Madhav.*

"The excavators were very careful. They were fragile bones." *Yash*

"We found artifacts of clay, like pots, toys..." *Sushen*

"I was excavating and I found a dead body but it was not real." *Adarsh*



"With the skeleton we found a broken plate which had a wonderful design in black and white..." *Nikhil*

"We found jewellery too. The beads were colourful and charming." *Shivam*

"The Research and Forensic scientists of our group sat together and discussed why were the artifacts buried with the skeleton and finally came to the conclusion that they may have thought like the Egyptians that there was another world after this and their belongings would help them in the next world." *Satvik*

"We didn't find any weapons which was most interesting. It meant that the people were peaceful." *Mukul*

REACTIONS

"From here we got to learn how carefully we have to dig out the artifacts." *Pranav*

"The little archaeologists had done a brilliant job." *Raghav.*

"We were not happy because we did not get a real dead body, but we still enjoyed ourselves." *Santanu*

"At the end of the activity we were all dirty but we still enjoyed it." *Aakarsh.*

And we had a lot of fun excavating and we all learnt how hard an archaeologist has to work."

An unnamed archaeologist.

"Maybe I will be influenced by this and become a reporter." *Vikram*

"We learnt a lot of things and had great fun." *Prabhapaar*

"Then Mohit Sir asked us, 'Did you enjoy the activity?' and all of us said 'Yes!Yes!Yes!!!'" *Adarsh*



"We all enjoyed the work and got dirty too." *Akshat*

"I would like to do this type of activity again." *Anmol.*



This Is An Extract From 'in The Arena Of Sports' Which Was Published 25 Years Ago In The Oliphant.

25 YEARS AGO IN WELHAM

Yet another victory for the Welham Cricket Team. This time it was an easy victory. The match was against a club.

Welham went into bat and put up a tidy sum of 225 in which Abhijit Ghosh put in 78 runs with Abhay Singh, 54 runs. The fielding was upto the mark and the bowling was extremely good. The visitors were packed off by 72 runs.

The hockey season is in full swing. The Inter School Hockey Tournament has also started.

Our school played the Hockey Council Matches and reached the semi-finals. It was a very good effort. Our first match was against Guru Nanak Academy. The Welhamites put up a fight but lost 3-2. It was a setback to Welham.

There was still hope. Welham needed a draw against St. Joseph's Academy to enter the semi-finals. This time our team was certainly more prepared and played a good game.

The match ended with a draw, which enabled Welham to enter semi-finals. The semi-finals were supposed to be played against our hot favourites Doon School and they certainly outclassed Welham. Welham just collapsed in the first half allowing the Dosco's to put in 3 goals in a span of just fifteen minutes. Welham played a sloppy game in the first half but fought gallantly in the second half. They scored a solitary goal. The final scores were 3-1 so Welham was unable to qualify for the finals. Anyway the team altogether played well.

The juniors too played the Council Matches. They certainly played very well. The first match they drew with St. Thomas. It could have been a victory but luck favoured the Thomasons. We won in the junior section with a very easy victory. Three goals to nil. Scorers for Welham were Rohit, Himanshu and Mohinder. We also won a match against Cambrian Hall. The score was 2-1. So our juniors have reached the finals and are eagerly waiting to play their finals. All the best juniors!!

The Inter House Swimming Tournament is going to start this term from the 28th of May. The heats will be held on 26th and 27th of the month.'

Wacky Woodseaters

BIGGER, BOLDER, BETTER

Now I can call myself a WELHAMITE as I have been here for the last two years. Here are a few of my experiences.

For the first two to three weeks at school I felt like crying at bedtime and specially on waking up. I really hated P.T. but now I love waking up early and love P.T. (THOUGH NOT TOO MUCH). When I joined school we couldn't understand each other and were a little "zapped". The biggest problem was that Siddhant sat beside me. He didn't know English at all and said 'Humko angrezi nahi ati hai'. After a few days I was admitted to the hospital, and surprisingly I loved it. I didn't know how good I was at academics when I came, but then I got good marks and also a Scholar's Award.

In Oliphant House I was so small and I thought no one would listen to me. I started to feel that teachers are also good.

Even the problem 'Siddhant' moved away.

Now my friends were great. 'Siddhant Bansal' the 'ginger-haired-gnome' who always cried now sees us crying and says 'Aal izz well'. I feel bad sometimes because my friend Parv left school last year. The teacher who was with us most of the time Sangeeta Ma'am also left. Two of my fattest and most helpful friends were Parv and Satvik. I got the duty of helping Rajvir. He used to get 40% and now he gets 68%. All the teachers were very happy with his progress.

Today I am proud of being a Welhamite and I feel lucky to have come to such a good school. If I had not been here I wouldn't have known any of my abilities.

-Dev Goyal [V-B]

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

One day I got a letter from Welham Boys School that I had passed the entrance test.

I was surprised and happy too. That night I couldn't sleep, I kept thinking how I would manage at a boarding school; I wondered how I would wake up early in the morning and how I would manage to study alone. I was very scared.

After a few weeks the time came to join Welham came. When I joined some things were quite hard, but after a few days it all became easy because of my friends and my house mother. They helped me a lot. I got better at academics because of all the teachers here. There are many activities and sports here. Earlier, I missed my parents but now I am emotionally strong. I love my parents but I don't miss them. Now I have adjusted well and I am not a "New Kid on the Block."

Yaksh Sheoran, V-B

How To Be A Good Orator

Our Principal is a really talented orator. He can hypnotize you, he can make you reconsider your choices and he can make you shake and shiver in fear. And, the most amazing thing is that he can do it all by the crafty use of words (No, he doesn't tell you ghost stories to make you shiver in fear...it's worse than that). Let me tell you a few of the many things that make him the orator extraordinaire that he is.

1) He can look at every person in the eye while giving a speech, even if it's a whole school he's addressing. But how is this possible? Does he have countless eyes like a fly? Believe it or not, he just needs four eyes to make this feat possible. Those timeless, not-so-sleek, and spectacular spectacles that he wears all the time aid him in making more effective oration. They shine in such a way that he looks as if he's staring at you in the eye (he'll still look that way even if he was dozing off standing..Scary!)

2) Use your prayers effectively like Mr. D. Lahiri does. If you think that the prayers we recite at the assembly everyday are too dull or boring, spice it up with some requests of your own that you want God to know. Mr.Lahiri did this a few weeks ago and as sure as hell, it all made us take him a lot more seriously (This is a man of God!). He made a request to the Almighty regarding something about "Inglis". Let's hope that prayer didn't go to that old, dusty 'Pending Section' of prayers in Heaven's HQ.

3) You have to be serious to be taken more seriously. Have you ever seen Mr.Lahiri on his way to the assembly, chatting with his colleagues and guffawing loudly? I won't be wrong to say that as soon as he enters the Assembly Hall in that black robe of his, he's certainly not jolly anymore. His expressions announce the end of the world. Try this one out once and I bet my bottom penny you won't be disappointed by the seriousness with which everyone regards you. (Just don't overdo it or you'll end up needing counselling for depression).

4) This one is really top secret, and I might get sacked from the Oli after this the top of your head is all you need to be the belle of the ball. Mr.Lahiri makes a fashion statement and as always, Welhamites take advantage of it. Hmph!

article. It's a really effective technique that guarantees instant and constant attention from the masses towards you. It was so effective that Mr.Lahiri stopped using it 2 years ago when some Welhamites began to ape him and take advantage of this technique. It is the so called 'idiot' hair that he used to sport to gain attention during the assemblies on the Peacock stage. A strand of hair standing up at ninety degrees from the top of your head is all you need to be the belle of the ball. Mr.Lahiri makes a fashion statement and as always, Welhamites take advantage of it. Hmph!

Well, that's all for now. You'll have to be more attentive during the assemblies if you want to learn more. Let's hope all of us learn and make new tricks of our own and move from Strength to Strength.

Lalremtlunga

XI Humanities

(Note: All the things mentioned are totally true. Made nothing up.)

MUSIC REVIEW

Artist: Street Sweeper Social Club

Album: Street Sweeper Social Club

Genre: Hip-Hop/Jazz/Reggae/Rock (confusing)

Release Date: 20th September, 2009



After the band Audioslave split-up because of their conflicts with well-known guitarist, Tom Morello, he formed his own band with Boots Riley (vocalist) and other amateur musicians. Let's have a look at what they have come up with.

The first track in this album is called "Fight!

Smash! Win!" which is more like a gang anthem. The music of this song is pretty decent, but the lyrics are unsuitable. Another song in this album is "The Oath", which also sounds like a gang anthem, but is worse. The only two songs in this album, which I liked are "Promenade" and "Nobody moves till we say go". Both the songs have good music and the lyrics make some sense.

Although the band has good musicians like Tom Morello, but still they haven't achieved much on this album. The album is only suitable for gang members, who play these songs in their 1980's Chevy's.

This album has created a new genre by mixing things up, but still it doesn't match with everyone's taste. According to me, things need to be improved, I don't know what, but still, something is missing.

Peace Out

Abhinav Suri, X-C

WOBS NEWS

- The Welham Old Boys Society is organising a get-together
- At the J W Marriot Hotel in Mumbai on Saturday 22nd May, 2010.
- We look forward to hearing more about it from the revellers!



The Oli 24 X 7

WELHAM NOW

Quizzes

- The quizzing team, comprising Jatan Singh Soni, Gaurav Dwivedi and Akul Gurtu, participated in the Miss Russell Environment and General Knowledge Quiz held at Welham Girls' School on the 27th of April. The team stood fourth (of the six teams competing).
- Jatan Singh Soni, Gaurav Dwivedi and Kunwar Lauren represented the school in the 'RIMC All India Quiz' held on the 21st of April. The team could only stay in the competition uptill the qualifying round (Well, better luck next time).
- The school hosted an 'All India Synergy Sports Quiz' on the 25th of April. A total of 62 participants competed (all from different schools). Fortunately seven Welhamites have qualified for the Television round and consequently will go to Delhi for their recording.
- Unfortunately, the school quizzing team could not participate in the Doon Library Quiz owing to some logistical problems.
- Welham participated in the 'Scholars Home' quiz and were runners up, losing by a mere 5 points. The school was represented by Jatan Singh Soni, Akul Gurtu and Kaushik Daga.

Debates

- Jatan Singh Soni and Jaskunwar Kohli represented the school in the Miss Saroj Srivastav English debate held at Welham Girls' School on 26th April.
- Parambir Singh Bajaj, Samarth Jain and Shriyam Gupta participated in the Hindi debate held at Welham Girls' School on 28th April.
- The school debating squad comprising Tushar Badjate, Yuvraj Goswami, Jaskunwar Kohli and Raj Shekhar participated in the Hugh Catchpole English debate held at RIMC from the 19th to 20th of April. The team stood

3rd out of 16 participating schools and Tushar Badjate and Jaskunwar Kohli were adjudged best speakers in the 3rd and 4th rounds and the semi-finals respectively.

- An inter-house Hindi debate was organized by the Hindi Department on 21st of April where Ganga house stood first while Raghav Mittal of Jamuna house and Shreyansh Bhalotia of Ganga were adjudged the Best Speaker and the Most Promising Speakers respectively.

Careers Department

- A one step education workshop was held on 25th of April at the LRC.
- Mr. Surya Pratap Singh (Batch of 2005), who is a co-pilot in Jet Airways and runs his own aviation academics across the country gave a talk on aviation on the 25th April.

Miscellaneous

- The Welham basketball team won all the three major tournaments this season, Afzal Khan, Golden Jubilee and Win Mumby (The District Final is yet to be played against The Doon School). Oli congratulates the team, wishing them all the best for the future.
- Scholar's Recognition Day, was held on the 16th of April. As an annual ritual, our school recognise students for their exemplary achievements on the academic front.
- While the country celebrated an exceptionally good harvest, the school celebrated the Annual Baisakhi Festival from 16th to 17th April. The remarkable event was followed by a night out.
- The school bids farewell to Ms Sangeeta Singh, Mr. D'Monte, Mrs. Neena Singh and Mr. Joy Arora. Oli wishes them the best of luck.
- The English Department presented a 'treat' on Shakespeare's works on the 23rd of April (his birthday). The Power Point Presentation was screened at the Doon Library (on the 24th April).
- The Activity Centre is being renovated with a state-of-the-art plastered 'teraflex' floor
- The 'Music Inter-house' was held on the 10th of May. There were three namely rounds, instrumental, vocal and Western Music. Cauvery house emerged victorious with a slender margin over Ganga. It was a delightful evening and the Music Department's initiative was well appreciated.
- The 7th 'S Kandhari Memorial Hockey Tournament' was held from 2nd to 10th of April in which Welham managed the second position (quite unexpectedly). The winners of the tournament 'Sports College' put up a great show.
- A summer bird census was conducted by Wings and Feathers Club on 30th April.
- The boys enjoyed a weekend as a tutor night-out took place on 1st and 2nd of May.
- The roller skating team participated in an inter-school skating tournament held at the Crony
- Skating Rink on 25th of April bagging more than 2 dozen medals.
- An excellent photography exhibition on 'Colour on Spring (on the campus)', Geography Excursion of class XII and mid-term (NIM) have been put up by Mr. S.S. Khaira.
- Jaskunwar Kohli and Meraj Khan represented Welham at the International Young Film Makers' Festival at the National Science Centre in New Delhi on the 14th and 15th of May, 2010. 52 schools from all over the world competed for the first prize. Welham was declared winner for their feature-cum-documentary film "Who Killed Rispana? – An Awakening."

O L I

FOCUS



BAISAKHI FIESTA

While the entire country was commemorating the first harvest of the year Welham Boys honoured the occasion in an entirely different manner. This year's Baisakhi, as has been the tradition over the last few years of this institution, started off with the PTM...of course, a bitter pill for some. Even though Baisakhi is the time when we get the opportunity to mingle with the opposite sex and it is probably the 'mingling' we look forward to most, there is another thing that we Welhamites like to rediscover every Baisakhi and that is, what we are actually made of? Is it the infrastructure, the debating...sports teams etc or is it the essence of being "proud" of being a Welhamite? It is through events such as these involving team spirit and hard work that we find the answers to our much thought about questions. This time the two day mega event electrified us not only with the awesome dances from around the world, the mindboggling performance by 'Ability Unlimited', but the overall impact the Welhamites left on everyone around. The whole event was "jam packed" with visitors from all over. The icing on the cake was Welham bringing home the Afzal Khan Trophy for the third time in a row. Let us have a peek into this colossal occasion.

Parent Teacher Interaction

As usual, the Baisakhi fiesta started with the PTM. For the first time Welham conducted this "undesirable" affair over two days and that too, with much "enthusiasm". This interaction was conducted in two

phases, one for the outstation parents and the other for the local parents, giving adequate time and opportunity to both. There were a handful of very talented people, like Shivang Juneja, who amidst all the hustle and bustle of Baisakhi found a place to hide from the teachers while his parents were busy looking for them. But there were some who were not that lucky and received the thrashing eventually. In the first day of this 'delightful' encounter, the parents had a one-to-one interaction with the teachers to discover their child's 'hidden' talents while the next day, it was Mr. Lahiri's turn. He and a few members of the senior faculty conducted a two hour discussion with the parents in the Activity Centre conferring, as they would like to call it, over 'important' things. The students were not allowed inside!

Fantasia

The performance by our dance group, Fantasia was what one could call truly amazing, or should I say 'fantabulous'. Their rigorous practice and hard work finally bore fruit on the 16th. Unlike in the past, this time the enthusiasts highlighted thirteen dance styles in the form of a rather interesting story. The story was the usual, but a differently framed, 'chor-sipahi'one. It included dances from around the world like Hip Hop, Fox- Trot, Bhangra, Mexican Hat, Moris, Tap Dogs, Circle Dance, African Dance, Bamboo Dance etc. With the able guidance and dedication of Ms Neena Singh, Ms Maitri, Mr Ishan and Mr Deepak they were able to set the stage on fire. The decor, supervised by Ms Namrita Kini, added to the overall effect. The superb

lighting and the theme of the dance with an AV presentation in between made the performance irresistible and soon the audience was on its feet. Spectators, including Hopetown Girls' School, Welham Girls' School, and RIMC came to witness the grand event. What really surprised us and rattled our limited brains to the fullest, was how the people we see every day, who eat the same food as we do, perform such great stunts so easily and with such amazing co-ordination. It was a treat, in the true sense of the word, to have Fantasia perform for us.

Ability Unlimited

Humans might have been able to get to the moon... and they might have evolved a great deal at that...but the one thing we haven't been able to crack is our limited thought process. There exist people whose courage and conviction have transformed our lives for the better. One such name is Pasha... Guruji Pasha, the founder of the group 'Ability Unlimited' who has dedicated his entire life to what he calls "differently abled" people. Rehearsing for hours at a stretch on wheel chairs...listening to music with the help of the vibrations that emanate from a speaker, his group comprising both girls and boys left the entire august gathering dumbstruck on the 17th by their overwhelming performance. Under his guidance this group of people have found a motive in life dance and music. They have performed in the House of Commons (U.K.), for the former and the present Prime Minister and the President of India, and it was our proud privilege to have them perform for us.

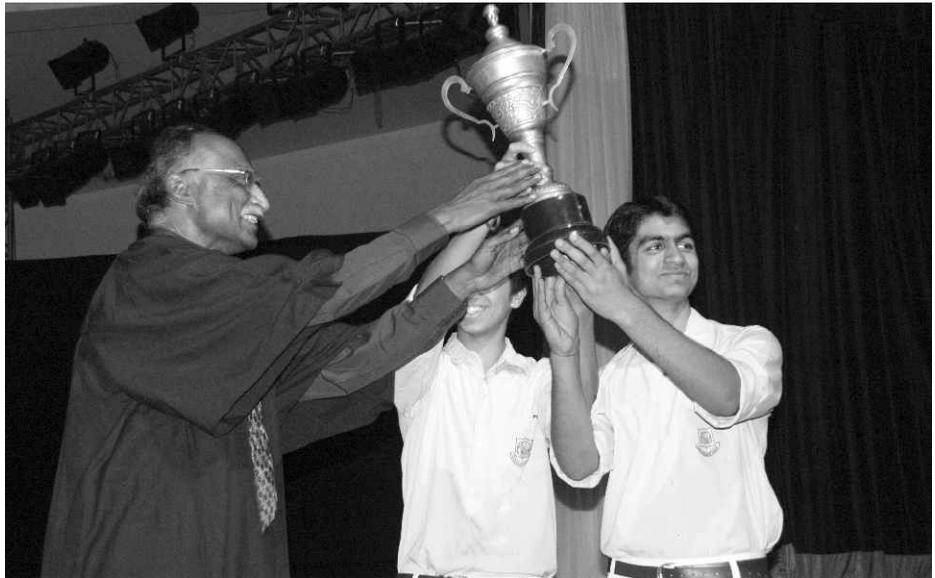
The show lasted for about one and a half hours in which their iridescent costumes, their makeup (which they applied themselves) and their terrific stunts made us believe that 'will power' and the "desire" to learn could transform a person's life. It was that day...the 17th ...when a handful made a thousand "believe." A total of eight rather diverse dances were performed from Bharatnatyam to Yoga on wheel chairs. There were as intense as they sound. They also performed the story of Durga and portrayed a fierce fight from the Mahabharata. Many parents donated huge amounts of money as their contribution for this noble cause.

The evening was a great success and left all the viewers with a thought which was so provoking that the basketball team was compelled to dedicate their Afzal Khan win to Guruji Pasha and his team of the extraordinary performances.

Scholar's Recognition Day

Hard work in this school never goes unnoticed and that is why our school dedicates one day to the achievers annually... and so this is the story of Scholar's Recognition Day. One of the most prestigious events in school this time the Scholar's Recognition Day was organised during Baisakhi giving an opportunity to parents to see of their child receive an award. Awards for both academics and co-curricular activities are given out because our school believes it is not only the academic performance which is important but the overall development of a child. Most of the boys and girls won one award each but there were some rather scary people like Rachit Nandwani who bagged half a dozen awards and there were some "trying-to- be-funny-people" like Jaskunwar Kohli who even after winning the Scholar's Scarf said, " I won without even studying." The scholar's gown was awarded to Eby Vincent Mathew, Vishal Bansal, Rachit Nandwani, Satyendar Pal and Tushar Singh.

There are different types of awards Welhamites are presented with and there is a separate criteria for each type. The Subject Award is presented to each of the most outstanding students from three sections- i.e. section A(classes 3,4,5),



section B(classes 6,7,8) and section C(classes 9,10,11) in each subject. The next category of awards is the Distinction Award given out to students who secure an overall aggregate 84.50% and above. This time 50 students received this award probably the most ever in our school's history. Students are also given different awards for exemplary performances in Art, Music, Public Speaking etc.

Pulse

From 2003 to 2010, music in Welham has evolved from a little room in the Activity Centre to a full fledged construction. From participating in IPSCs, inter- schools and hosting inter house competitions, music has become a part of our daily curriculum. But competitions aren't the only medium of showing your talent to the world at large. It can be done through performances too...the very reason for the existence of school bands. Our school has had many different bands (if the bands were to change according to their names). The current heartthrob band is "PULSE."

This time our school band performed an array of songs in both English and Hindi. They made the show a reality in just two days! The performers practised all by themselves and still managed to rock the evening. The team comprised Ayush Singh, Rajat Arora, Khyat Mahajan, Hrithik Aggarwal, Divij, Raghav Mittal, Abhinav Suri, Maitriya Joshi and Arushi Parmar. The songs they sang included 'With Arms Wide Open', 'On Fire', 'Outside', 'Love Story' etc. The

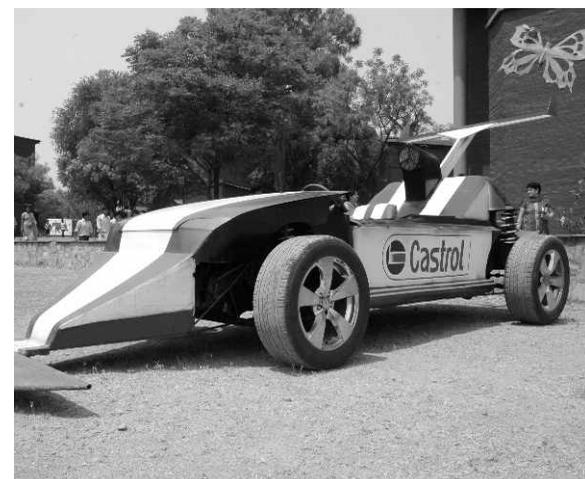
most treasured song was 'Give Me Some Sunshine' from the cult movie 3 Idiots. They also dedicated a song to YC and Aditya Raj which was a very good gesture on their part.

Oli Hawk

The race car constructed by the students was also on display during Baisakhi and several parents took the opportunity of testing it out by roaring up and down around the Lower Field.

Even though I hate this saying but it is usually said after big events such as this one that 'all great things must come to an end' and so too did this year's Baisakhi. But not without leaving us with a final gift. What else but the much looked-forward to night-out! A fitting finale indeed to an exhilarating week-end!

Parambir Singh Bajaj
XI-C



Music that lifts our heart in one breath to heaven...

Imagine what life would be without music ... a body without soul... an ocean without water... simply, a lifeless world.

The Inter-House Music Competition proved the fact that Welhamites are not to be left behind when it comes to music. The event was held on the 10th of May 2010. We are grateful to Mr. Ashish Sharma and Mrs. Vandana Singh who came to judge the competition. All the melodies in the instrumental category were chosen from Rabindranath Tagore's collection of songs to commemorate his 150th birth anniversary. The second category had folk songs from different regions and the final was the western music band.

Cauvery has some of the school's best percussionists and vocalists like Parambir Singh Bajaj, Adit Agarwal, Arushi Parmar and Utkarsh Negi. Rajat Arora was the lead

singer of their band named 'Thou Eagles'. Cauvery stood first in western and instrumental, second in vocal and bagged the overall trophy. In the western category, they performed 'Gimme Hope', 'All Rise' and an African rap and in vocals, they performed a Marathi folk song.

Ganga came second overall and first in the vocal category. They also secured second and third positions in instrumental and western band respectively. Ganga boasts of talented singers like Archit Goel and Khyat Mahajan. In the western category, they performed 'Escape' by Enrique and 'You and me' by Lifehouse while in the vocals they sang a Bengali folk song.

Jamuna came second in the vocals and third overall. They came last in the other two categories. Their main strength is our music captain Ayush Singh. They also had

Maitreyi Joshi who had been awarded the vocalist of the year this Baisakhi. They sang two songs in the western category namely 'Rockstar' by Miley Cyrus and 'Will you be my girl!'. For the vocal section they sang an Assamese folk song.

Krishna was adjudged second, third and fourth in western, vocals and instrumentals respectively. Krishna also had good percussionists like Anirudh Saraf and vocalists like Dhruv Changoiwala. Lalrentluanga, the lead singer of their band, had also composed the song 'All by myself', which they performed. They performed two other songs namely 'Mamma Mia' and 'Seasons'. In the vocals, they performed a Gujarati folk song.

The Inter house music competition gave a platform to unrecognized talents in the school. Shivam Rajput is the new heart throb of Welham. "Taka" has replaced "Auro". Krishna house's 'All By Myself' is the latest chartbuster. In short it was "legend-...wait for it, wait for it.....-dary."

Amit Agarwal, XI-Sc

Interview with Vivien Lafite

Mr. Vivien Lafite visited our school to teach Tennis. He is a national French player. Oli caught hold of him a day before his return. Let's see what did he have to say.

Oli: Sir, how did you come to know about Welham?

VL: Maybe you know Anna Tanvir? Her mother Mrs. Tanvir, she was a teacher here. I was the tennis coach of her son.

Mrs. Tanvir came to me and asked if I wanted to go to Dehra Dun and teach tennis at Welham Boys School. I agreed to the proposal. She arranged everything. She should be given credit for getting me here.

Oli: What do you think about Welham?

VL: It's great, it's big. You have lots of place. What I like about Welham is, that you can do a lot of activities here. Everything is available to you... from sports to arts. You also have a great library and the scenic beauty is striking.

Oli: How do you think sport influences a person's life?

VL: Sports is a very nice career. It gives you pleasure, for example, let's take tennis. It is

an individual sport. It teaches you to accept a challenge and overcome it. Team sports like soccer teach you to adjust with the society and maintain harmony with others.

Oli: Where do you think Indians stand in Tennis as compared to boys in France?

VL: It's very difficult to answer. I just know in France it's easier to try out tennis when you are young. In India there are no courts for tennis, in France tennis is the 2nd most popular sport of the country.

Oli: Do you think that Indians pay more importance to other activities as compared to sports? Do you think the time allotted for sports in India is sufficient?

VL: If you want to be professional, you have to play more of any sport. You have to be dedicated. You have to spend time on the courts, from 8 am to 8 pm. This practice is

followed everywhere in Europe and other parts of the world.

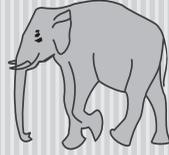
Oli: That is for people who take it as their career, for us it is more of leisure and physical activity to keep us fit and to help us relax, after studies. Do you think boys or girls in India or Welham get enough time to give to tennis as a sport.

VL: It's very difficult. Actually, here you have school from 7 in the morning to 2 in the afternoon, there it is 8 in the morning to 5 in the evening. Here you get 2 hours every day for sports but there they get only 45 minutes every day. So, I feel you people get sufficient time for your games. Here, the morning as well as evening practices go very smoothly.

Oli: What is the level of our tennis?

VL: The boys know how to play, they know where to be on the court and they can pick a volley. Talking about the main team, their techniques are good but one area they need to work on, is service. I am doing it with them.

Parambir Singh, Raghav Dahuja and Shreyansh Bhalotia



THE RISING INTELLIGENTSIA

A State of HIGHER (Un) consciousness***

Some drunkard said, "Save water, drink beer." Another one questioned this 'laterally-thinking' environmentalist, "How about whiskey?" A head popped up and added labels to this 'sensible' debate on how to save the planet - blue, red, green, black... Since, this topic still had a lot of ground to cover, the ones literally covering the ground gave in their contributions to the list too- single malt, double malt... This intellectual discussion got an international character when the Scottish Piper came up with his elite Scotch. Now, how could the French resist? Champagne took the floor. This went on and on, until all the plants and fruits in the world were smashed, brewed and blended to produce something that would enable us to know 'nothing' of what was going on. 'Left' would be 'wrong' and 'right' would be always 'right'. Walking would turn into Samba and if one was to run, he'd be 'too' fast to see where he was going, or anything for that matter of fact. In all, joyous hearts would be unimaginably happy and broken ones, extremely sad. Laughter would have no limits and if one sat down to cry, he would definitely cry himself a river. Amidst this melodrama, all of a sudden, the 'juices' bubbled in the bellies and with the quickest reflex, the day's meals were right before you - starters, main course, dessert and of course, the beverages, fresh as ever. Is it a mad mad world? Yes, it is, and this is where you and I belong.

Today, be it the President of the United States of America, or a bandit of Sherwood, a panwari of Benaras or a model in Milan, boozing is not just part of their lives, but they are 'into' it. In adolescence, one is filled with the curiosity of these 'wonder' drinks, yearning to take a sip of it and know how it feels like to have it in you. Even if

vaccines to pandemics like AIDS and cancer were invented, people would not be this anxious to consume them. In late adolescence, all dreams come true and this 'over-hyped' fluid finally makes its way through our lips, and onto our tongue and then "ewww". "Yuck!" It is neither sweeter than honey, nor more refreshing than apple juice. This is what a 'beginner' feels about it - "just sick". However, we do not give up as then we would not be man enough or woman enough, whichever may be the case, or both. We may give up on life, but not booze. In fact, we take it even when we have given up on everything else.

Alcoholism is in a different league. It's like an art which the world is desperate to master. With time, we become accustomed to the bitterness and the medicine-like fizz. The interesting thing is that we purposely indulge ourselves in a drink that tastes awful, though after an adequate intake, we have no control over our 'hi's and 'bye's. At the end of the session, we are in a 'soup' (looks like it), not forgetting subsequent hangover.

This billion dollar industry is the biggest scam ever. The pioneers of this business have 'addicted' the world to their product. The world is crazy over drinks that do not fascinate the senses but hits them and hits them hard. It doesn't taste nice, doesn't smell flowers, gets you numb, gives you head-aches, not to forget, makes you throw up. Perhaps this is the reason for its popularity. Nevertheless, this industry has done itself proud by marketing the devil, not just making it part of our shelves but of our lives. Ever since the word 'party' came to being, alcohol has been there, as though they are bonded in marriage. On most occasions, we 'have to' hold a glass in our hand (the biggest 'have to' ever) with

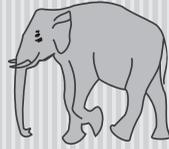
varying concentrations of alcohol, It seems like a passport to conversation with the gathering.

This is one mandate and code of conduct we always stick to and the funny thing is, it is voluntary. It has done so much magic over the years, that we probably see it as an Hobson's choice - to sink into it. This has been our state of HIGHER consciousness or being HIGHly unconscious. Cheers!

Abhineet Kanodia

Those Ones

- Mohit Sureka at the table: I don't like easy things
- Ms. Rashmi Rawat (Commenting on Shriyam's obsession with 3 idiots.): Why does a movie influence you so much that you can't stop thinking about it?
- Mrs. Toral Sharan: It is very important to smile when your chips are down.
- Mr. Srikant to Jaskunwar: Every penny that your parents spend on you for maths will be a dagger straight through my heart.
- Jaskunwar Kohli: Give people the freedom of expression and you will get the greatest articles for the Olphant.



LASAGNE

LAMPOON

Office-Office

ALL CHARACTERS EXPRESSED IN THIS ARTICLE ARE FICTICIOUS. THEY BEAR NO RESEMBLANCE TO ANY PERSON LIVING OR DEAD, ANY SIMILARITIES ARE PURELY CO-INCIDENTAL.

Chamanlal is a student at Welfare of Boys School. He has a friend at Welfare of Girls School. He has to post a letter. He has a free school, and he needs a chit from an authority to go to the despatch office.

Oops! Poor thing.

"Um...Mr. Ramlal, Sird, are you free?" Mr. Ramlal, the Music Department head, looked through his spectacles and said, "No beta, I have the class with the boys. Why, beta?"

"Sir, chit to gho to despatch, sir..."

"You go to the class teacher of the class na, beta!"

"Ok, sir."

Chamanlal quickly made for Mr. Shyamlal's office.

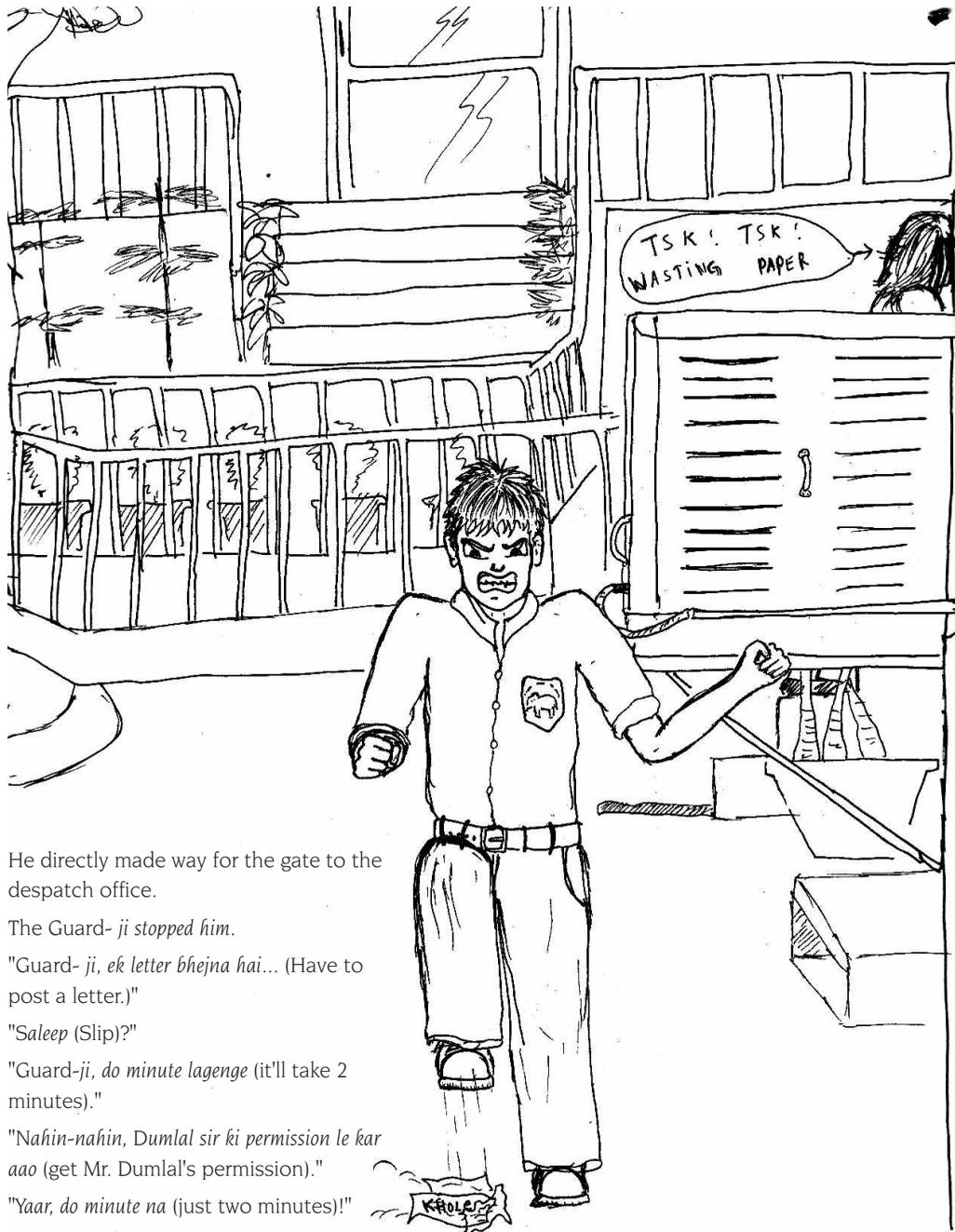
"Sir?"

Mr. Shyamlal looked up, "Yes?"

"Sir, chit to go to despatch, sir..."

"I can't give you. I'm not allowed. Go ask the Student Farewell In-charge (SFI)."

Chamanlal sighed and ignored the advice.



He directly made way for the gate to the despatch office.

The Guard- ji stopped him.

"Guard- ji, ek letter bhejna hai... (Have to post a letter.)"

"Saleep (Slip)?"

"Guard-ji, do minute lagenge (it'll take 2 minutes)."

"Nahin-nahin, Dumlal sir ki permission le kar aao (get Mr. Dumlal's permission)."

"Yaar, do minute na (just two minutes)!"

"Arre nahin na (No way)!"

The Guard- ji shouted.

Chamanlal grumbled something in English and dawdled to the SFI (Student Farewell Incharge) office. Mr. Dumlal was cyber loafing. As usual, Chamanlal thought.

"Excuse me, sir?" Chamanlal said.

The SFI smiled at something on the screen and looked at Chamanlal.

"Yean?"

Sir, could you please give me permission to

go to the despatch-"

"No." Mr. Dumlal said, "Not allowed during classes."

"Sir, it's a free school."

"Get a chit from the Don of Academics."

Chamanlal politely replied, "Ok, sir."

He made way for Dr. Bhanlal's office. It was closed.

"Sir, the office is closed, sir..."

Mr. Dumlal said, "Then ask Mr. Panlal. Get a chit, yean, I can't let you go without that."

Chamanlal stood there for twenty seconds, then quietly went to the Activity In-charge's office.

"Sir? Good morning, sir."

"Huh!?" Mr Panlal said.

"Sir, Good morning, sir."

"Good morning...good morning..."

"Sir, actually Mr. Dumlal told me to get a chit from Dr. Bhanlal saying that I have a free school, but he's not in his office. Sir, can you give me a chit?"

"Huh!? About what?"

"That I have a free school, sir..."

"Who said?"

Chamanlal gaped, "Sir, the time-table says it."

"You're trying to be funny? GET OUT!"

Chamanlal quickly shuffled out. Fortunately, he saw that Dr. Bhanlal had returned. He jogged to his office.

"Sir, good morning, sir. Sir, actually, I'll tell you, sir. I have to post a letter, and I have a free school. I asked Mr. Ramlal, who said I should go to the class teacher. Mr. Shyamlal told me to go to Mr. Dumlal, since he is SFI. I went to him and he said I should come to you for a chit saying that I have a free school, but your office was closed, so I went back to Mr. Dumlal, and he sent me to Mr. Panlal, but he asked that, well, um... who said it's a free school. I said that... it's in the time-table. No, actually, I said that the time-table said it. He told me to get out. So I did. So, sir, I saw your office was open so I thought that since Mr. Dumlal had first told me to come to you, I thought I'll just come to you now. Sir, now that I'm here, I need a slip - sorry - I request you to

please give me a slip saying I have a free school."

Chamanlal took a deep breath. After a two-second pause, Dr. Bhanlal said, "So?"

Chamanlal gaped. "Sir, can you please give me a slip saying I have a free school?"

"Who said?"

"Sir, it's in the time table!"

"How do I know that? Get a chit from your class-teacher."

Chamanlal stared as Dr. Bhanlal began correcting some paper. He literally sprinted to Mr. Shyamlal, explained the whole situation. Mr. Shyamlal said, "Let me check. You boys are big-big liars."

After around two minutes, he said, "Write on a piece of paper."

Chamanlal scurried around the class, quickly tore off a part of a register page, wrote "Chamanlal has a free school", handed it over to Mr. Shyamlal, who asked him to also write the date, the time, the period number, and all the little details. Chamanlal did, and Mr. Shyamlal read it once, said, "Hmm. Ok." He signed it.

Chamanlal sprinted back to the Don of Academics office, beamed, and thrust the piece of paper into Dr. Bhanlal's hands.

"Is this the way? You boys don't have any manners, yaar." Dr. Bhanlal read the little slip once, and said, "Write on a piece of paper."

Chamanlal scribbled all little details, including why he was getting it signed by Dr. Bhanlal that he had a free school, the time, the date, the period number, and filled half a page doing so. He handed it over to Dr. Bhanlal.

"Idiot. Why writing so much?" Dr. Bhanlal scrutinized the little sheet of paper, read, apparently everything, picked up the pen, played around with it a little, scratched his beard, hesitated twice, and signed it. And then, as if in a slow motion, he handed it over to Chamanlal, who extended his trembling hands in the same, slow, peaceful motion, closed his fingers around the little sheet of paper, felt his mouth open in disbelief, felt his eyes water. He closed them once, opened them, took a deep breath, and simply said, "Thank you, sir." He

turned around, again in slow motion, began running, as if his life had been renewed.

Now he was sprinting, real time, all he had to do was get this little chit to Mr. Dumlal - wait, he might as well write the chit first - he tore out a piece of paper, wrote all the details, again, secured the slip in his pocket, sprinted to the SFI office, his heart beating, his pulse racing, sweat pouring, it couldn't be, he'd done it, it couldn't be, it couldn't *possible*-

The SFI office was closed.

Chamanlal stood there, staring at a golden Godrej lock. His expression transitioned between anger and frustration, and anger and hopelessness. He let himself express his frustration - he chucked all three little slips on the ground, and stamped on them, hard.

Devilal, the Humanities Head, who happened to be passing by, saw him, began shaking her head, and muttered, "Wasting paper..." And then she shouted, "It's your school. Have a sense of pride! Pick it up and throw it in - no, wait - go keep it in the reuse and recycle box in 12th Humanities." Chamanlal did so.

*

Five minutes later, Chamanlal handed over a slip to the Guard-ji, reading, "Please allow Dharamraj to go to the despatch. Signed by Mr. Kumar Sangha."

Guard-ji said, "Naam (name)?"

Chamanlal said, "Dharamraj."

"Kaunsi teacher ka hai (which teacher's signature is it)?"

"Mr. Sangha. Dimaag ke baare mein padate hain (teaches psychology)."

Guardi-ji said, "Acche bachche ho. Baat samjho, beta, kaam se zyada zaroori niyam hai (Understand, son, protocol is more important than the work)."

Chamanlal went through. Such an easy way, this was. Sometimes, he thought, corruption is the only way out.

Or, in this case, in.

"True story!" - Barney (HIMYM)

Jsk Yc Seth Kofli, XII Humanities

Dude of the Month...

Oli takes great pride in writing about 'God's gift to mankind', Shriyash Gupta.

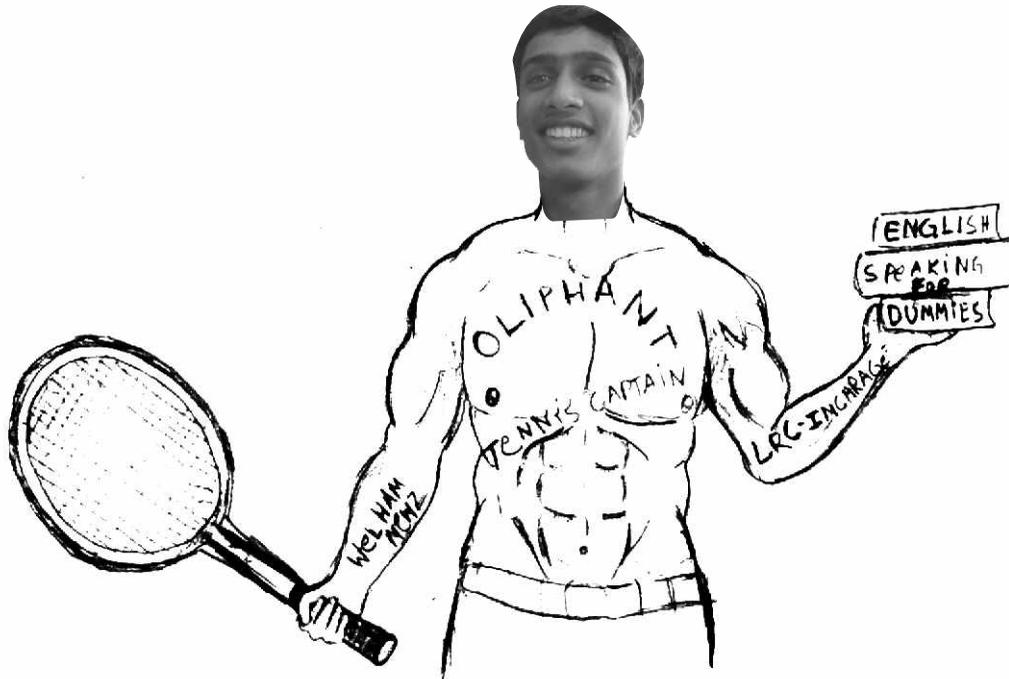
Oops... sorry, Shriyam Gupta, who is considered the "best public speaker" Welham has ever produced. So says the boss of the school, who was so impressed by his oratorical skills that he left the IAYP presentation mid-way. The birds across the L.O.C surely know what is being referred to here.

However, this chap then decided to take this compliment in a positive way and has never been heard talking in Hindi ever since. He is a very vital part of the Welham Newz. No one can doubt his commitment towards W/N. But, no one knows that what he actually does in W/N. Nevertheless, he is always spotted with the editor-in-chief of W/N, discussing... well something that concerns the W/N team, we guess.

Shriyam Gupta is also known for his extraordinary eating habits. He will never ever say no to toast and butter. Oli overheard from some of his tablemates that they don't get anything to eat because of him. We people feel sorry for you people. Next time you come across him during breakfast, please make sure you have toast and butter for him. You will definitely get a heart warming smile and a 'thank you'. On top of that, you will be doing a great favour to the bearer of the house, who is always on his toes because of this non-stop eating machine.

There is also a good part to 'God's gift'. He is the person behind the new furniture in the LRC. So, next time you are dozing off in the LRC in the comfortable new chairs, take time out to bless this messiah.

A die-hard tennis player who hasn't gone for a single practice ever since becoming



the captain; he is also a movie-manager. Mr. Srikant is always running away from him as he has no idea about the next difficult question Shriyam is going to toss towards him.

Oli recognised his immense effort and talent and appointed him the Brigadier of the Oli Army. The Oli Army has not gone to war, thanks to the brigadier, who writes all the articles by himself and does not ask the army to do it.

Well... next time you see him, you will notice a "zapped" look on his face. The look

will be there probably because of the 'English' words that his SAT teacher has given him to learn. Oli has tried its best to keep the words simple and spare him the horror. As Oli is completing its tribute to this great personality, it can still see him running for some "so called" important work.

Oli salutes this gem of a person.

WHAT'S IN

Gagandeep Singh
How I met your mother
Welham Newz Production(s)
"Legen – wait for it... dary"
Amit Agarwal

WHAT'S OUT

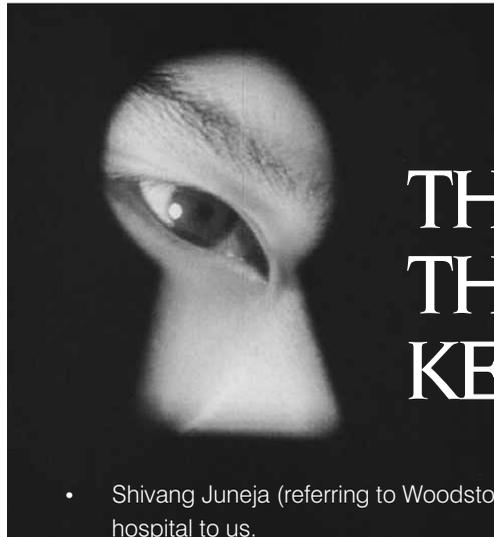
All India Radio.
Friends
Welham Newz
"Killer"
Jazzy

OLI'S BELIEVE IT OR ELSE

- Letter writing is much more famous than 'Facebooking'!
- Anant Gupta actually likes a "fe-male"
- The new issue in town is "Whether Jaskunwar is single or not".
- Ayush Mall is actually taking his CLAT classes seriously.

EVER WONDER WHY...

- At a very fortunate event in Dalanwala, Kingfisher beer bottles were found strewn left, right and centre.
- Mr. Barthwal is desperate to find himself a "laughing coach", and a "miracle hair growth".
- Whenever Varun Lohia sees a tree, he wants to climb it. (Did someone say Monkey)
- Narayan is doing research on the IPL and Satyam scams. (Did someone say Tuck shop scam???)
- Mr.Lahiri is promoting Facebook?
- Mr. Kandpal has started reading "long" prayers.
- Mr. Dhingra's love affair with "Nootan from Meerut" never ends.



THROUGH THE KEYHOLE...

- Shivang Juneja (referring to Woodstock's hospitality): They have to be hospital to us.
- Abdul Manan to Shivesh Kumar: Sachin's not playing because he has an injury.
Shivesh Kumar (Confidently): no man he's got hurt! (cricket is a religion!)
- Shreyansh Bhalotia: Guys, by the way who was Maneka Gandhi's husband?
Mohit Sureka: Sonia Gandhi (G.K?)
- Chetan Sharma (at Robber's cave): Look at those toad pals.(tadpoles)
- During a normal conversation Pulkit Bhuwalka to his classmates, "Guys, was it Obama Bin Laden who bombed the World Trade Centre?" (FBI will get you)
- Amit: Guys, contribute for the Olli's humour section ...
Vanshaj: haan haan, I'll give the sneak peek. (clearly, Welham Newz is more popular!)
- Yuvraj Goswami (After 'whitening' all the errors in his English Assignment): Ma'am, with the whitener I have tidied my untidiness!!

Separated at birth

John and Charles Casey

Rohit Choudhary

Mr. Om Prakash

Prateek Singh

Ravana and Indrajeet.

Vidya Balan.

B.t.Brinjal.

Amit Agarwal

SUBJECT AWARDS

This award is presented to students for consistent, outstanding academic achievement.

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Section - B (Classes VI, VII & VIII)

Section - C (Classes IX, X & XI)

ENGLISH

Mohit Gupta
Jai Vikram Singh
Jaskunwar S Kohli

MATHEMATICS

Saksham Goel
Jai Vikram Singh
Rachit Nandwani

HINDI

Mohit Gupta
Anubhav Goyal
Shreyansh Bhalotia

PHYSICS

Prabhapaar Batra
Raj Shekhar
Rachit Nandwani

CHEMISTRY

Prabhapaar Batra
Anubhav Goyal
Rachit Nandwani

BIOLOGY

Prabhapaar Batra
Jai Vikram Singh
Raghav Dahuja

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Muzammil Hussain
ChetanAnand

PHYSICAL

EDUCATION
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ACCOUNTANCY

Ananya Khemka

EED

Ashish Sikaria
Upam Lakhar

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Krishnanand Singh

VOCALIST OF THE YEAR:

Arushi Parmar And Maitreyi Joshi

INSTRUMENTALIST OF THE YEAR:

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Ayush Singh And Farah Khan

BEST ACTOR (ENGLISH):

Rahul Dahiya

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Mukul Gupta
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Saksham Goel
Yash Kirti
Mohit Gupta
Tarit Kandpal
Shivik Bindal
Aryan Kumar
Rahul Gupta

Dev Goel
Janarjan K.Kuniyal
Saurav Bidhuri
Vedant Dewan
Namit Bansal
Akshat Jain
Ritvik Kuchhal
Saket Bhalotia
Arpit Khemka
Raj Shekhar
Anubhav Goyal
Jai Vikram Singh
Harshun Mehta

Shivam Khanna
Visharad Jalan
Raghav Dahuja
Anant Gupta
Shourya Jaiswal
Hrithik Agarwal
Keshav Bhartia
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Rachit Nandwani(X)
Rachit Nandwani(Xi)
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Samarth Jain
Tushar Singh

Scholar's Gown:(only for classes IX,X and XI)

All those students who score 90% or above in aggregate in the whole academic year, but not less than 75% in each subject.

Eby Vincent Mathew Vishal Bansal Rachit Nandwani
Satyendra Pal Sahota Tushar Singh

Scholars' Scarf: (only for classes X to XII)

All those students who have achieved outstanding results in academics and related scholastic activities.

Rachit Nandwani Jaskunwar Singh Kohli

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