

# RISING STARS

**J**UPITER was going to be no more in two years. Finally, that huge gaseous mass was about to be exploded. The gas shortage on Earth predicted by pundits for years was imminent and the "Group of 7" — the 7 most powerful nations on Earth — had gotten together to wrack their heads for a solution. After months of deliberations, seminars, research, Jupiter was finally chosen on. They'd been mining on Mars for years, so why not use Jupiter? It was ripe for the picking, had been so for billions of years, waiting for technical progress to take its course. Finally, in 2027, tenders were invited for a hydrogen plant to be set up on the orbit of Jupiter, to suck out that plentitude of H<sub>2</sub>. And Sudhir Bose had won, so to speak, the final round; he had been granted the rights to set up the plan. His firm, Indotech, became the first firm from the subcontinent to undertake such a task outside Earth. The Mars mines were all run by the Swedes and the Japanese. So Sudhir Bose couldn't help feeling a sense of pride looking back on the day when he had been granted the rights. This had been the culmination of everything he'd worked for all his life. He was the pride of all India. Sudhir Bose became a household name, a national hero. He symbolized a generation of young hopfuls, a generation of self-made men and women, ambitious people who'd made it all the way to the top.

He remembered the first few hectic months of work after Indotech had earned the rights. There had already been lots of hard work lobbying Indotech's cause, bribing officials, dining with ministers, inviting important Heads of State to Sudhir's plush Bombay home. But now the real work had begun for Sudhir and his young management team at Indotech. Raising capital for the project had not been much of a problem. At 27, Sudhir was India's youngest billionaire and that guaranteed a lot of

## Revolt

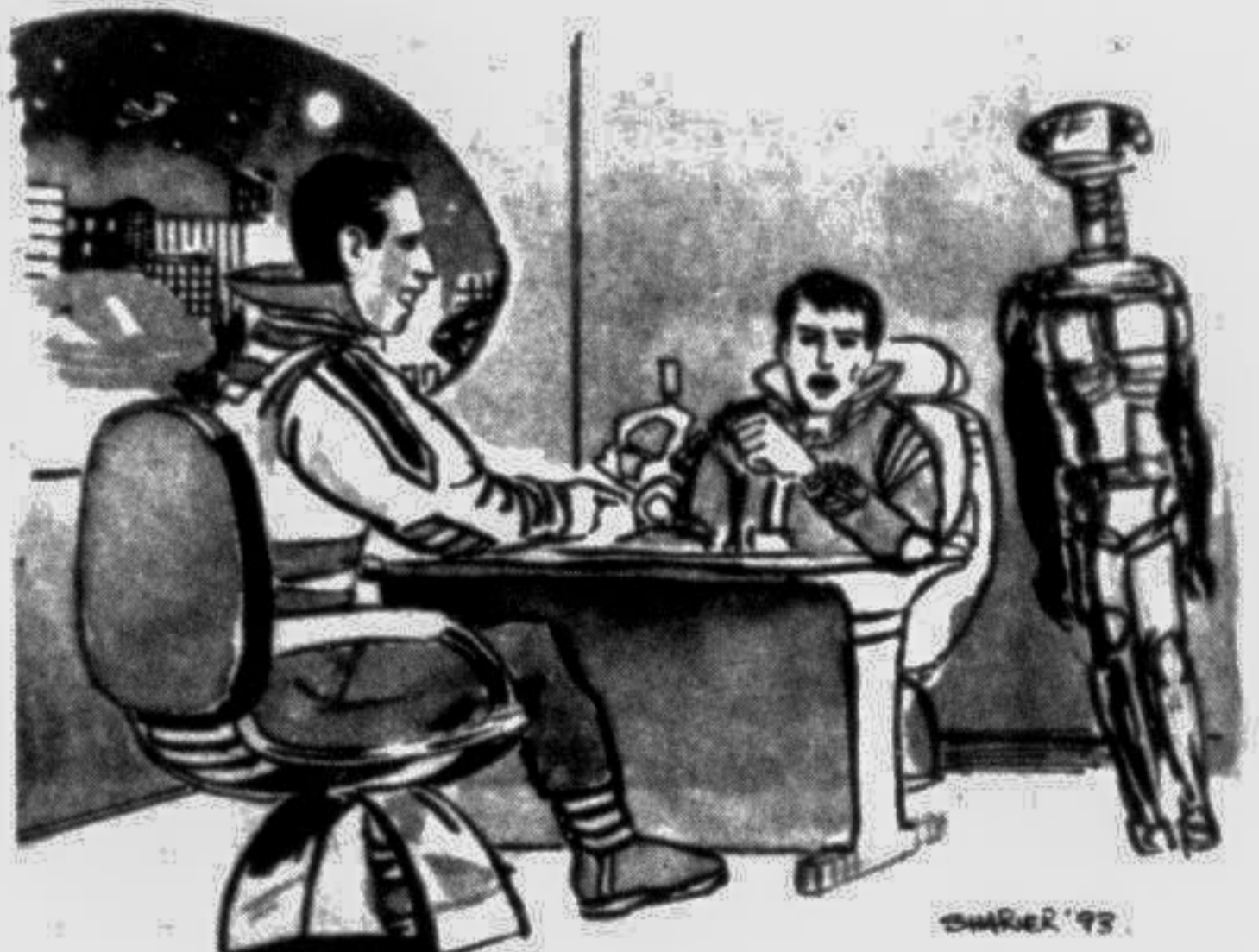
by Sagheer Bin Faiz

clout. People were only too willing to fund the project. By the end of the first year, most of the equipment was ready for launching into outer space. Sudhir had already made two trips to Jupiter's orbit to oversee the site of the construction of the satellite base. The plant, if all went well, would be finished in two years. There was one final problem — labour.

Sudhir had every businessman's urge to cut down on costs and maximize his profit margin. Though this was a

business world was an asset to Sudhir who had a sharp financial mind but was not very streetwise. "There's no way we'll get cheap labour in India," Sanjay told him, "not in the amount that we need, certainly not with all these goddamned labour protection laws and those human rights groups making a hue and cry every time we recruit cheap Indian labour. Slave labour, they call it." He snorted derisively and continued, "We're giving those

poverty levels in the world, which is to our advantage." "And I suppose their government will just let us take this labour by the handfals?" Sudhir asked skeptically. "Certainly!" Sanjay replied. "That's the beauty of it. They have possibly one of the world's most corrupt governments. The scent of big money should drive their ministers wild, added, of course, with discreet offers of handsome payments to their Swissbank accounts. It's so corrupt I'm amazed that they've managed to hold the country together for 56 years." "It's still going to cost a ton to transport this labour and house them," Sudhir said. "No problem!" said Sanjay. "We'll hire a space junkie. Costs chickenfeed." "And there'll be no complaints?" Sudhir asked incredulously. Space junkies were the most primitive forms of outer space transport. They consisted of cramped accommodations, cramped being an understatement since each room (or rather cubicle) housed 5 people. The sanitary conditions were worse than in a Somalian village; there were 12 common bathrooms for the 8000 men on board, the food was loathsome, and many human rights groups were lobbying to ban these space junkies. Few governments advocated, at least openly, the transport of labour by space junkies. In fact, nowadays, they were mainly utilized to transport animals used in outer space experiments. So Sudhir was naturally amazed that the Bangladesh government would allow thousands of its people to be shipped to space in these junkies, where they'd have to live throughout the construction project.



capital intensive project, a huge amount of labour was needed for the construction phase, representing a sizeable outlay on labour. It was Sanjay Oberoi, Sudhir's second-in-command, who came up with a suggestion. Sanjay was a year younger than Sudhir and was tremendously ambitious, sometimes too ambitious for Sudhir's liking. He used any and all means to satisfy his ambitions and his ruthlessness was sometimes repulsive, but his savoir-faire in the busi-

ness world was an asset to Sudhir who had a sharp financial mind but was not very streetwise. "There's no way we'll get cheap labour in India," Sanjay told him, "not in the amount that we need, certainly not with all these goddamned labour protection laws and those human rights groups making a hue and cry every time we recruit cheap Indian labour. Slave labour, they call it." He snorted derisively and continued, "We're giving those

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**Just For You**

\* "Mr Abu Zafar Robin (the spy)"

How was your double date with Sarah and PS? Don't tell me you are going to marry both of them! From the Super Sleuth."

\* "Mr Adeeb Zubair Mahmood"

Did Adeeba see your younger brother yet? Don't forget 17 +18=2\*14. May seem wrong but it's right. From the Untouchable."

\* "Mr Known Person I KNOW WHO YOU ARE: So start saying your prayers. For your information my choice isn't that (Unlike Tasin Ahmed) low that I would choose a NACI girl to be my friend. And I do live without girls and survive well in this crazy world. From J. Alamgir."

\* Dear J. Fess up!

\* Dear A. I already have!

\* Dear J. Liar!

\* Dear A. Want me to take a lie detector test?

## The World XI

by Masud Sohail

**A**LTHOUGH not a very modest person, I am sure that my selection for a cricket World XI is not probably the best and so I apologise to all young cricket fans, but frankly, tell me what you think of this?

First, I would like to tell you the composition of my selected XI. It would have five specialist batsmen, one all-rounder, one wicketkeeper-batsman and four bowlers.

Now getting down to business — my openers. The first one I name is Brian Lara, the dashing young opener from West Indies. David Boon and Graham Gooch are logical contenders for the other opener's slot but I would opt for Graham Gooch, and his vast experience. Richie Richardson, Robin Smith and Mohammad Azharuddin all lay claim to the one drop position but I think that the more responsible Azharuddin is best suited for the job. The number 4 position gives me the most problems. Should it be the highest run scorer in Test cricket — Allan Border? Or

master batsman Javed Miandad? Or yet still teenage prodigy Sachin Tendulkar? Maybe Kepler Wessels? I would rather go with Tendulkar as I sadly consider the other three to be past their prime. I have no problem in choosing the no. 5 batsman, 'the batsman of the nineties' — Martin Crowe.

Kapil Dev, Ian Botham, Carl Hooper and Steve Waugh all spring to mind for the all-rounder spot. Kapil and Botham's lack of form and Hooper's inconsistency rule them out. So, I opt for Steve Waugh, a very consistent batsman and a nagging medium pace bowler.

Alec Stewart and Ian Healy are the most eligible contenders for the wicketkeeper-batsman position. But I would prefer Alec Stewart with a batting average of 33 to Ian Healy (average 23) though Healy may be marginally the better keeper.

For the bowling department, 'master of swing' Wasim Akram, 'speed ace' Waqar Younis and Curtly 'deadly' Ambrose are automatic choices. Craig McDermott and

Allan Donald give little to choose between for the fourth bowler, but I think the younger Donald (23) should be preferred to the older McDermott (30) who may be well past his prime.

I have no hesitation in announcing my captain — Graham Gooch, a great experienced leader with Wasim Akram as deputy. Lack of world class spinners rules them out from my selection.

**The Team**

- 1) Brian Lara (West Indies)
- 2) Graham Gooch (c. England)
- 3) Mohammad Azharuddin (India)
- 4) Sachin Tendulkar (India)
- 5) Martin Crowe (New Zealand)
- 6) Steve Waugh (Australia)
- 7) Alec Stewart (England)
- 8) Wasim Akram (v.c. Pakistan)
- 9) Waqar Younis (Pakistan)
- 10) Curtly Ambrose (West Indies)
- 11) Allan Donald (South Africa)
- 12) Ian Botham (New Zealand)

## Welcome Democracy

by Tasin Ahmed



**D**ON'T know if your name was written, in the blood-stained shirt of Nur Hossain. Don't know if Dr. Milton talked about you, before his death.

Don't know if Delowar wanted your presence, But what I know is, you finally came, You have come with the news of a new path.

I heard about you many times, many ways, Heard about you in the song of a cuckoo, In the joy of a rising star, In the love of a woman, But like a derby horse, you vanished, Disappeared from us time to time.

A thick layer of autocratic sand Stopped you from coming out, But today, here you are, democracy You are back in the heart of independent people. Don't know whether you will disappear again, Don't know if we will have to search for you again, But do know, that you are here, Among the twelve crore starving people. This time we will stop you, We will make you our property, Oh Democracy! Welcome.

## Biography of Lord Baden Powell

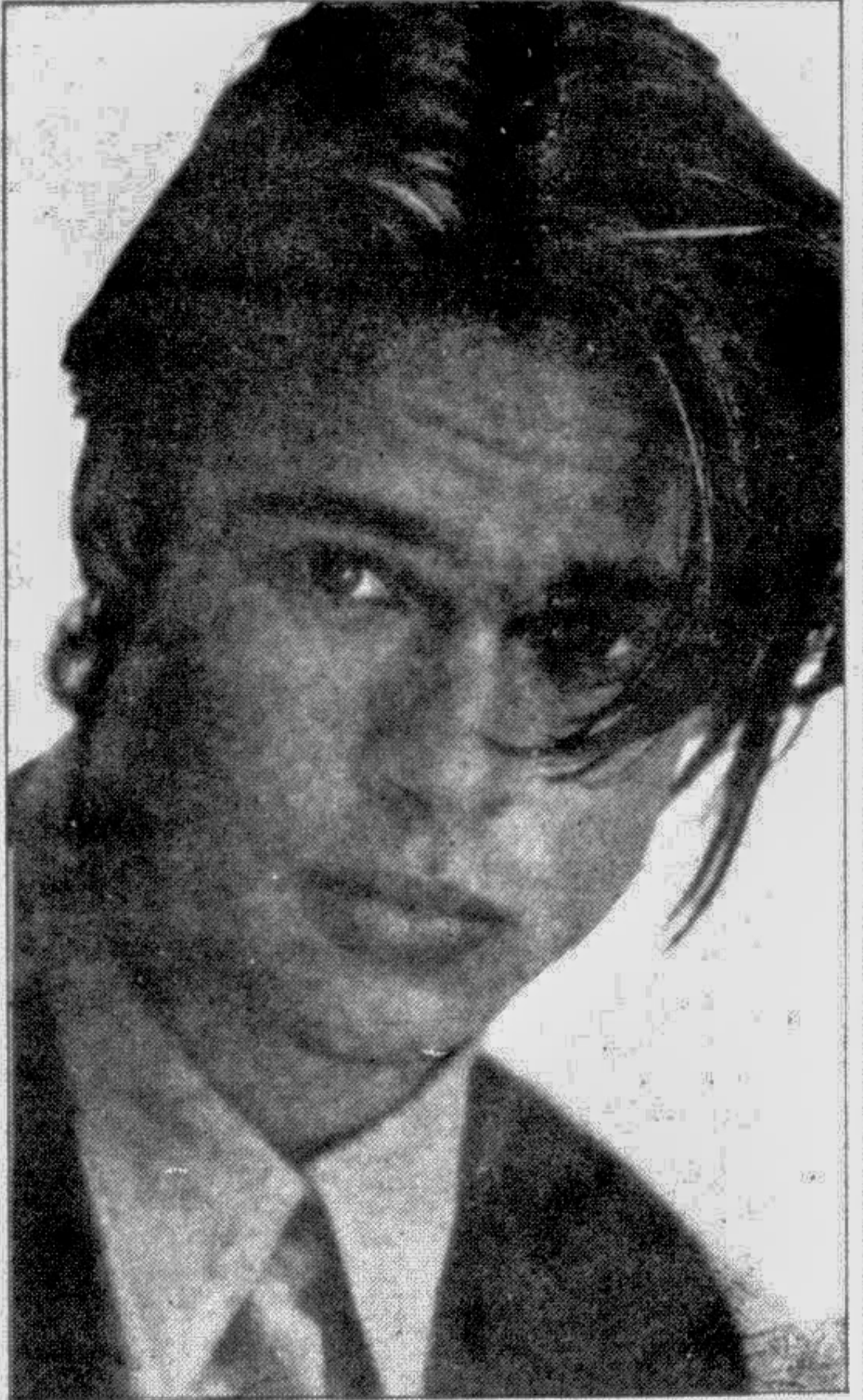
by Faraz Rahman

**R**OBERT Stevenson Smith Lord Baden Powell of Gilliwale was the founder of Scouting. He is usually known as Lord Baden Powell. He was born in 1857 at Gilliwale. Baden Powell was the son of Ravaren H G Baden Powell, who died in 1860. In 1876 Lord Baden Powell joined in army. He was taken as a prisoner in Mafeking for 217 days in the year 1899.

'Scouting' was introduced by Baden Powell in the year 1907. In the same year first time camping was done (it wasn't an official one), and in the year 1910 'Sea Scout' began. The British Government of that time permitted scouting officially. And from that time scouting became very famous.

In 1913 he married Miss Olav, and 'Cub Scout' for small boys came into being in the year 1914. In 1918 'Rover Scout' for men, above 25 years, started. Just after one year of 'Rover Scout' the 'First Scout Leaders Training Course' started. In the year 1920 'First Scout Jamboree' was performed, where scouts from all over the world came. Nineteen forty-one was the year when we lost our great scout leader Lord Baden Powell.

## STAR PROFILE



Name—William Bradley Pitt  
Age—25  
Marital Status—Single

His biggest break was in the 1991 movie 'Thelma and Louise', followed by 'Cool World' where he played opposite Kim Basinger. He has also acted in the TV series 'Dallas', where he has played the role of Jenna Wade's daughter, Charlie.

His previous jobs included being a summing pool attendant, bus boy, limo driver and refrigerator delivery boy.

He's an extreme introvert, and hates talking about himself.

## Wildfire in our society

by Joy Alamgir

(with a little help from his RS friends)

**A**DDICTION to drugs is spreading like wildfire in our society. It is destroying so many prospective young "citizens of the future" and this really is a problem that cannot be solved by the government alone we all have to work together to solve it. To that end, we at RS have opened a weekly feature on drugs, an information column so to speak, to help heighten your awareness of the drugs scourge, and its effects.

**Categories**

Stimulant drugs — controls central nervous system i.e. can make you think you are a new species of bird and want to fly e.g. cocaine.

Depressant drugs — Used to overcome insomnia and epilepsy, e.g. prevents you from staying up the late night hours and having sudden convulsions and scaring your friends (what's so bad about that, you ask?)

Hallucinogenic drugs — cause hallucinations, makes you think your mother is a cactus.

Opiates — taken to relieve pain and induce sleep, e.g. opium, morphine and heroin. Helpful if you feel like a knockout punch.



## Tress

by Naina Ahmad

**L**ET us plant tree, One, two or three, It is neither tough Nor very rough, But one little tree Can save you and me!

## May and June

**I**N the month of May It's a wonderful day, When April showers Bring May flowers!

In the month of June There's a wonderful tune, When the rains pour down Like a little mad clown.

## JOKES

Officer: Do you like to take orders, private?  
Soldier: Only postal orders.

Man: How much is a hair cut?  
Barber: Two pounds.  
Man: How much a shave?  
Barber: Fifty pence.  
Man: Shave my head, please...

## Bet You Didn't Know

**Giant clams are strong enough to drown a man** Clams are called clams because of the way their two shells 'clam' together very tightly. There are many different kinds of clams, including mussels, oysters, scallops and razor shells. The most famous is probably the giant clam of the East Indies. This monster can grow to more than one metre (three feet) across and it can weigh more than 200 kilograms (440 pounds). If a swimmer should get his foot caught in the mouth of a giant clam, he would not be able to pull it out again.

**The first drawings of helicopters are nearly 500 years old** The painter and inventor Leonardo da Vinci, made the first drawings for a helicopter in about A.D. 1500, but he did not have the necessary power to drive the machine. In fact, toy helicopters, later called Chinese tops, had existed before Leonardo's time. The toy had four blades and a spindle, which sat in a hollow holder. A string was wound round the spindle and passed through a hole in the holder. When the string was pulled, the toy went flying into the air.

## Dilemma of 'Phones'

by Naina Ahmad

**T**ELEPHONES! What an invention! This article about telephones will just show you some drawbacks of loving a telephone. First of all those wrong numbers:

Caller: Hello, is this Indo-Suez Bank?  
Receiver: No, wrong number.  
Caller: Hey! Wait a minute, isn't this 316034?  
Receiver: Well, no. It's 506057.  
Caller: Are you sure?  
Receiver: Well, after all, it's my number! How can I not be sure of it?  
Caller: Now now... there's no need to get angry. Ok, ok don't have to get angry. Ok, ok don't have to slam the phone down — you'll break it — alright I'll hang up... yes I'm sorry...

There. Nice bit of a fuss-eh? But this is one of the most natural daily happening. Well, listen to this stubborn one...

Caller: Hello, is this Mr Yaqub's residence?  
Receiver: Yes, it is.  
Caller: Is he in?  
Receiver: No he isn't.  
Caller: May I talk to him?  
Receiver: He hasn't come home from office yet.  
Caller: This office number is left unanswered, I've got some important work to do...  
Receiver: Sorry I can't help you. He's not in.  
Caller: Well alright, but may I have his office number?  
Receiver: 812060 (a doorbell rings).  
Caller: Is that him? Will you please see?  
Receiver: No. It's my mom.  
Caller: May I leave a message?  
Receiver: Yes, of course.  
Caller: Ready? Please call back. 814030  
Receiver: Thank you... Good bye...  
Caller: No, wait please check again...  
Receiver: My father's not in and that's that! Slam!!!

Another case: Someone

calls and then says nothing. Or take my case. When I called my aunt it went to somebody's house and they pretended to be my aunt and gave me some nice wrong information. Here's it for you:

Naina (me)— Hello! Is aunt in?  
Receiver — Yes hold on! (chuckle chuckle)  
Naina — Hello aunt! How are you? I'm Naina. Will you be home tonight? Yes? Good. Then we will come at 7:30.  
Receiver: My dear, I hope you are well. I'll be pleased to see you. Why don't you stay for dinner?  
Naina —That's great, aunt, thanks! I'd better get ready now — bye.

Well, guess what? We went to my aunt's house and they were out! Believe it? What an embarrassment!

Well, maybe you'll say 'What a pessimistic girl!' But if you were in my shoes you'd say the same thing. I guess!

## Let's Talk About Boys

by Bushra and NK

**"What are boys made of? Frogs, snails and puppy dog tails That's what boys are made of."**

They do not cause any trouble. In any case girls go through a lot of pressure both physically and emotionally in the society. But when boys get angry they express it with brutal force. And in such situations any one can foresee trouble.

4. Boys pester girls by making stupid crank calls. Which is a waste of the girls' precious time; moreover, it

gets the poor girls in trouble with their parents.

5. It is almost habitual for guys to pass comments and cat-calls.

6. A boy can be such an egoist that he can never even make himself praise another boy.

Now because of this article all the boys of Dhaka might get mad at us, but remember it's only meant for stupid egomaniacs (like the boys of Mad Palace particularly Mr ..... we all know who). It is also known to us that there are a lot of nice guys in this world too.

Fill out this form and send it to us, and you will be a member of the Rising Star Club. Send in your writings, illustrations, and cartoons. It is an ideal opportunity to express yourself through the print media.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_