

RISING STARS

Parents vs Children

Accept, Your Baby has Grown up

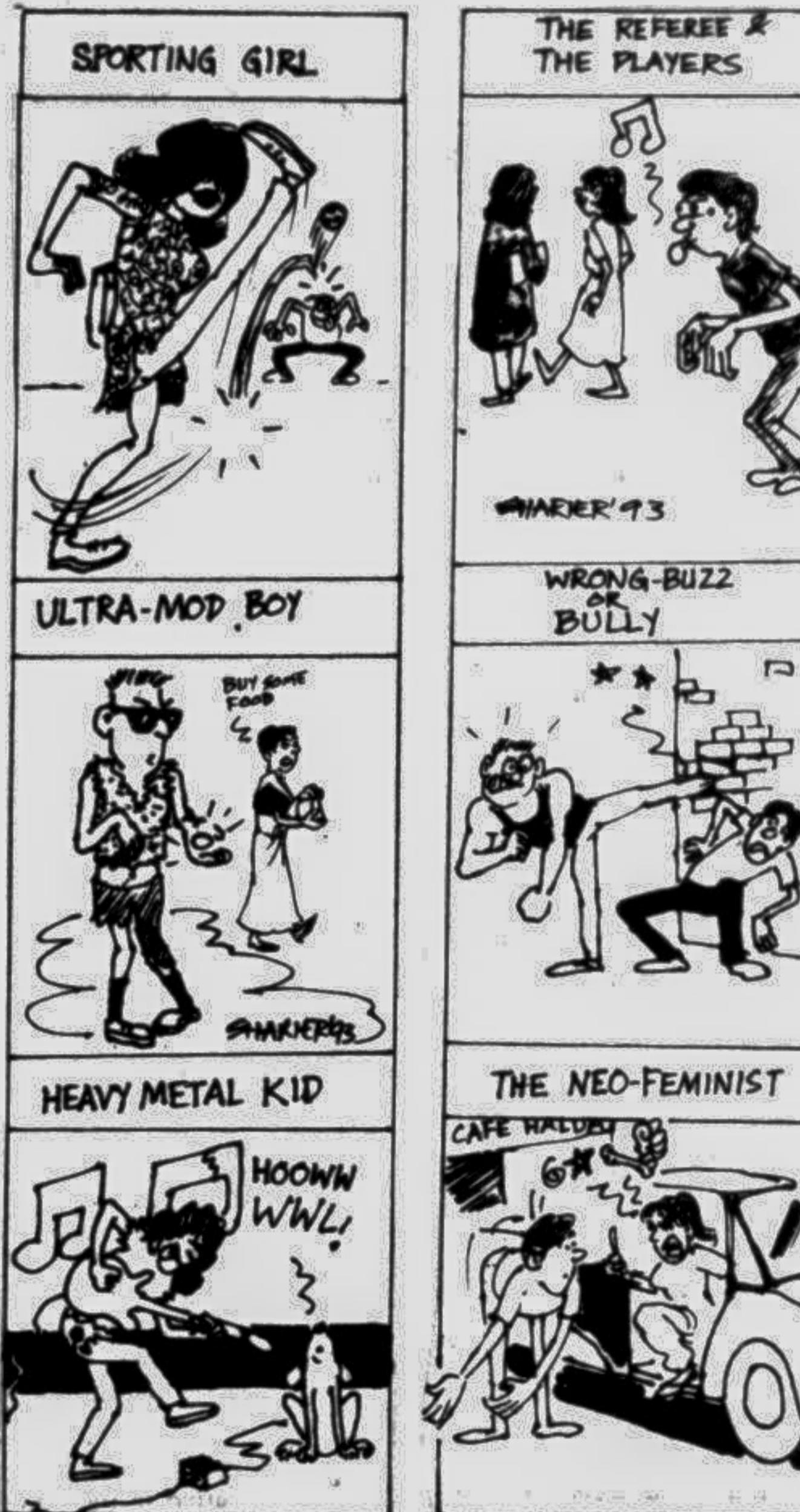
by Trishna

IT cannot be denied that a teen-aged child is a family's liability. At that age a person changes both physically and mentally. The person's way of thinking and curiosity to know all that is unknown bring the worst out of parents. However, their 'Do's and Don'ts' don't work then, but may be counter productive. As soon as parents put a seal of 'DON'T' on any item, the child gets anxious to find out 'why' it has been restricted, and there it goes Long hours of arguing, shouting and no talking (but this even continues for days). Being almost seventeen, I often get answers in silence when I ask my parents why certain things have been forbidden. But sometimes they simply answer that I can't do it because they don't want me to. I often wonder whose life is it anyway? Being fed up, and out of frustrations I did ask the former question to my parents and they informed that when I get married and earn a living then I can consider it as my life and then it'll be my turn to lead my life the way I want to. But now it's mine, alright, but under their control. I only wish my husband to be different from the ones who dominate their wives, otherwise, I'll never get a life of my own.

This is a new world. Its people have changed and so has the life-style. A boy chatting with a girl or a girl calling up a guy should no more be considered to be a big deal. But parents always smell a rat in these things. When they were teenagers, meeting friends and throwing parties were a dream and nothing more. But since now it has become something normal, they can't believe or accept the fact that their children will do something that they themselves had once dreamt of. For them it's shameful. When told, everybody else is doing it, they boldly answer, 'why do what others follow?' — completely being unaware that it is them who a few weeks ago during another argument might have said that we should learn from others. They just can't accept that their 'BABIES' have grown-up.

God bless you if you're a daughter of your parents who discriminate you for your sex. The other day I overheard my sister begging of my mother to go out for a walk in the evening. My mother's answer was obviously 'No' but she agreed on a condition, which was to take the little boy-servant along. My sister was stunned, thinking how that little lad, who was much younger to her, could protect her from any danger. I chuckled, saying to myself, 'sister, after all he's a MALE.' Next comes the parent's obsession for judging themselves to be right 'all the time'. I received this statement from my father the other day. Well I too feel that I'm not always 'WRONG' either. Yes, it's their duty to show as the two paths and it's our job to choose one. And this job is especially for their 'kids' who are no longer kids.

But nobody ever hear our voices. Our hopes are never given any importance and our thoughts go in vain. I beg for forgiveness, but God might have made a mistake; he should've given brains to human beings only after they became parents, so that they could decide everything for the child without having to confront arguments. Children have their own brains and mind and it's the parents who make the decisions. So, it's just a waste of brains.



Friends

by a RS Member

WHO is your true friend? Your mother, father sister or brother — the answer is not so easy. In this hard world to find and have a true friend is a rare blessing that one may be blessed with.

But still we have or if we don't have, we know what a true friend is like. A true friend is one who stands by through good and through evil. Anyway I am lucky to have friends — true friends. I hope the readers also have friends and wish your friendship long lasting.

The Achievers

Name: Captain James Cook
DOB — October 28, 1728.
Died — January 1779.



Captain Cook, the explorer, by an unknown contemporary.

Captain Cook made the world infinitely smaller, and the British Empire magnificently greater. It was he who sailed to the unknown South Seas in the eighteenth century and claimed Australia and New Zealand for the crown. It was he who charted the expanse of the Pacific, discovering, re-discovering, and exactly locating its scattered islands and archipelagos. As a navigator and map-maker he was supreme, as a commander he was admirable. On long voyages in tiny ships he kept his crew efficient and healthy; he was the conqueror of scurvy, that scourge of the seas. His courage and determination may be gauged by his work: he spent his days in unknown seas, finding unknown lands and confronting the strange races that inhabited them; in a ship of less than five hundred tons he sailed the length and breadth of the Pacific Ocean from South Australia to Tierra del Fuego, from the Antarctic Circle to the Bering Straits.

He was killed by a tribe in Kealakekua Bay. His body was burnt but his bones were recovered and buried.

Steps toward Success -II

by Zinnia Ahmad

anything get out of my hand. No one was surprised when I refused to make tours around the country like the previous leaders offering fake sympathy and hope, or when I paid no attention to some trade unions which called a 90 hour nationwide strike — after which the era of strikes ended, or when my international tours in chiffon sarees and diamond earrings increased.

We made plans and pro-

I learned that he had a piece of land somewhere in Chittagong — a legacy from his only uncle.

In those early days, Shubro had to make a lot of international tours. I took advantage of one of those trips and secretly arranged for the land to be drilled. When the head driller told me what he found there, I wrote him a blank cheque and told him to enjoy the rest of his life with his family in America. The discovery remained my own dark secret until the time finally arrived.

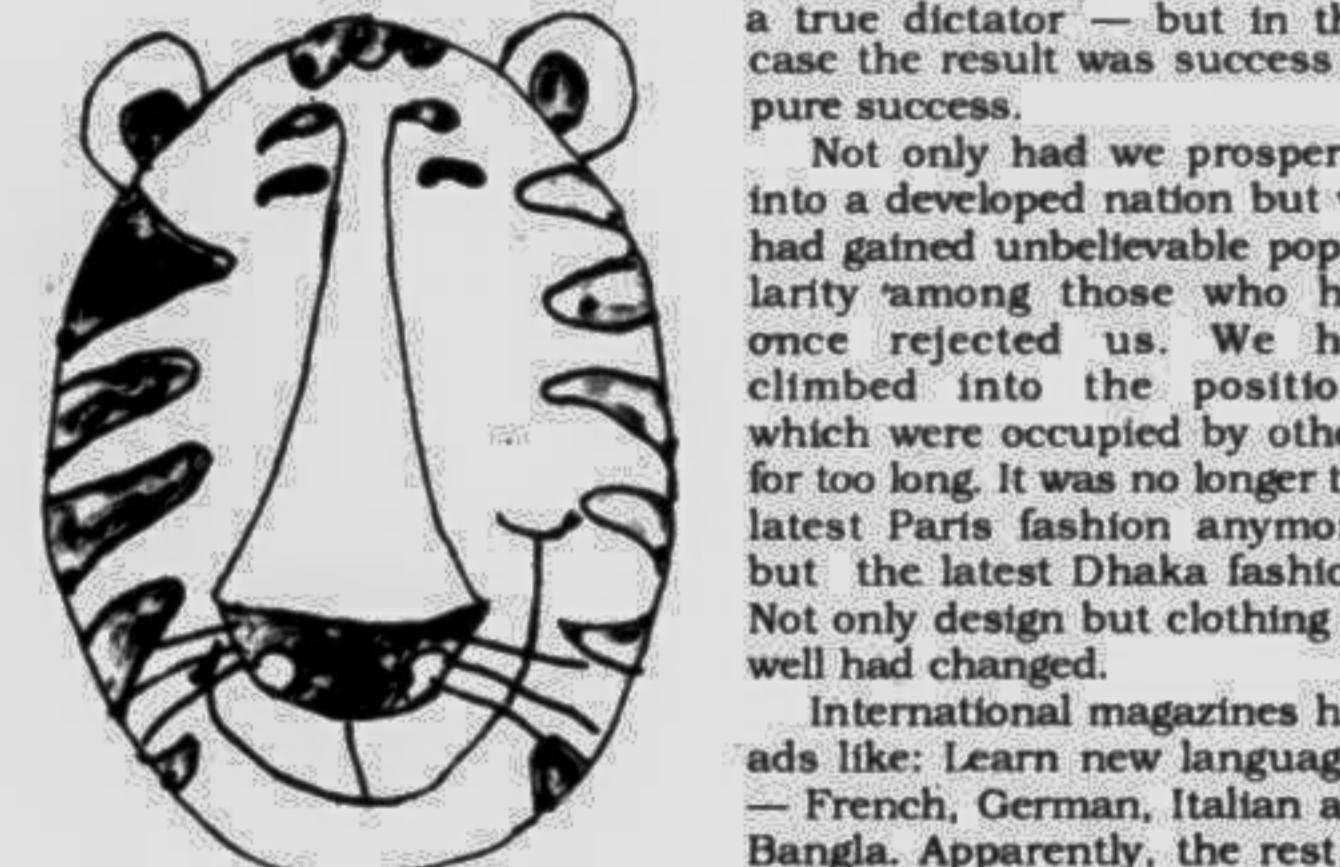
I was aware that it would take a long time to bring the country back to a decent position. But I believed that I had all the assets patience, honesty and courage. The first thing I had to do was induce these to my ministers and secretaries. That was a tough job but they were too scared of their boss to disobey. We had to plan cautiously and take each step towards success one by one. We just had to make it this time and secretly, deep down, I knew we would.

The world received a shock when the headline news on the 31st August 2023 said: World's richest country buying gold from world's poorest country. But news is news — a plain, straight fact, the rest of the story was quite simple. Overnight, this country became the centre of attention. All the other nations started showing interest in us. Deals, contracts, offers — they were endless. But there was still too much to do at home. It was my money being circulated around and I had to make sure it was utilised efficiently. Other than keeping an eye on the rest of the staff, I had to make sure that the people knew what I was doing.

But they relied on me. They knew I wouldn't steal my own money. The whole project was solely mine and I never let

grammes, carried them out, made transactions, paid loans, took loans. We did exactly what was done during the previous periods. Only now, no one called the country 'the bottomless basket' because gradually we were heaping wealth. We improved the economy, utilising each penny thoughtfully. And, step by step, we made progress. The development of the country was actually a miracle. I, myself, never thought it would happen so quickly. This time, the newspapers, magazines and journals admired us, WB and IMF praised and encouraged us, while the rest of the world wondered whether the earth had reversed its direction of rotation.

The End



If I was Invisible

by a RS Member

ONE Friday morning I was awakened by a fearful scream. I thought we had some burglars in our house so I got out of my



bed, and walked towards the door. But before I could reach it the door swung open. My mum, dad and my sister rushed in. Mum started moaning and pointing towards my bed. She said, 'Look! Tarannum is not here!' Then she started wailing again. But I could not understand why she could not find me while I was in the room? Then, I suddenly remembered that I had a test at school on Sunday about animals and I was wishing that I could be invisible and be able to pay a visit at the zoo. Then I rushed to my mirror, but I saw no reflection of myself. Hurrah! My wish had come true. Now I know why mum was wailing about me. So, quickly I decided that I must take action about my plan as my dream had come true.

I walked up the lane, and got into a car that was going for a picnic, or rather a visit to the zoo. So, I went through the entrance gate without even paying (It was wrong but could not help as I was invisible). Then I looked in amazement at all the beautiful birds and beasts. The tame deer were running across, the birds in the cages were so colourful and bright. Then, I felt so hot, that I felt that I needed some ice-cream. So I went to the snack-shop and grabbed some ice-cream from the waitress. Then the waitress screamed and said, 'My ices, I must serve them, oh! no!' I felt sorry for that waitress but I couldn't help being hungry. Then I decided to go home so I got on an empty taxi and started towards home.

The taxi stopped at a whistle from a couple. As they were getting in I got out. Luckily it was just a 15 minutes walk from home. At home, I looked at myself in the mirror. Wow! I have regained my appearance. My mum came in the room and said, 'where on earth have you been?' I did not reply but thought, would she believe me?

A Minor Electrical Fault

by Tasneem Iqbal Ali

IT was Thursday evening, I was in my office waiting eagerly for the clock to strike five. Wasim was waiting for me, he was supposed to take me to the concert. Whenever he wants to take me out, I am always half an hour late. So this time I didn't want to be late. As soon as the clock struck five I got up, and went towards the lift instead of going down the stairs.

At first it was amusing. Nissan Tools Ltd employed three thousand five hundred and seventy-five people but I was alone imprisoned by a minor electrical fault in one of their lifts. I was sure the electricians would soon free the circuit and I would descend the

It was eleven. I had lain on the floor. I had stood up. I had knelt down. I had read the contents of my hand bag over and over again and I realised that perhaps I would never get out.



Surely someone knew I was here! Someone ought to do something. Perhaps harassed technicians were feverishly repairing electrical joints and checking circuits to extricate me.

I tried to convince myself that hunger pains were only in the mind. I wondered what would happen if I died of starvation. Perhaps the snooty hall porter would lose his job because he had not checked that all the lifts were on the ground floor and empty before he went home. Disconnected pictures flashed through my mind. I reflected on all the problems that beset humanity in general, and myself in particular. I concluded that I had more than my fair share. Sometime after the morning, I fell asleep.

The sudden movement of the lift woke me. I heard lots of voices around me, the words muffled and incomprehensible. In the crowd I saw Wasim standing with a bouquet of flowers. He smiled and said 'Late Again'.

Tom: Yes, but I'm always asleep when it rings.

JOKES

There was a young lady called Knight
Who was flying a very large kite,

But the wind got too strong
And she held on too long.

And soon she was right out of sight!

Bill: Do buses run on Sundays here?

Ben: No, they run on wheels.

Teacher: You're late again, Tom. Have you got an alarm clock?

And the earth trembles when he rushes by

A Train

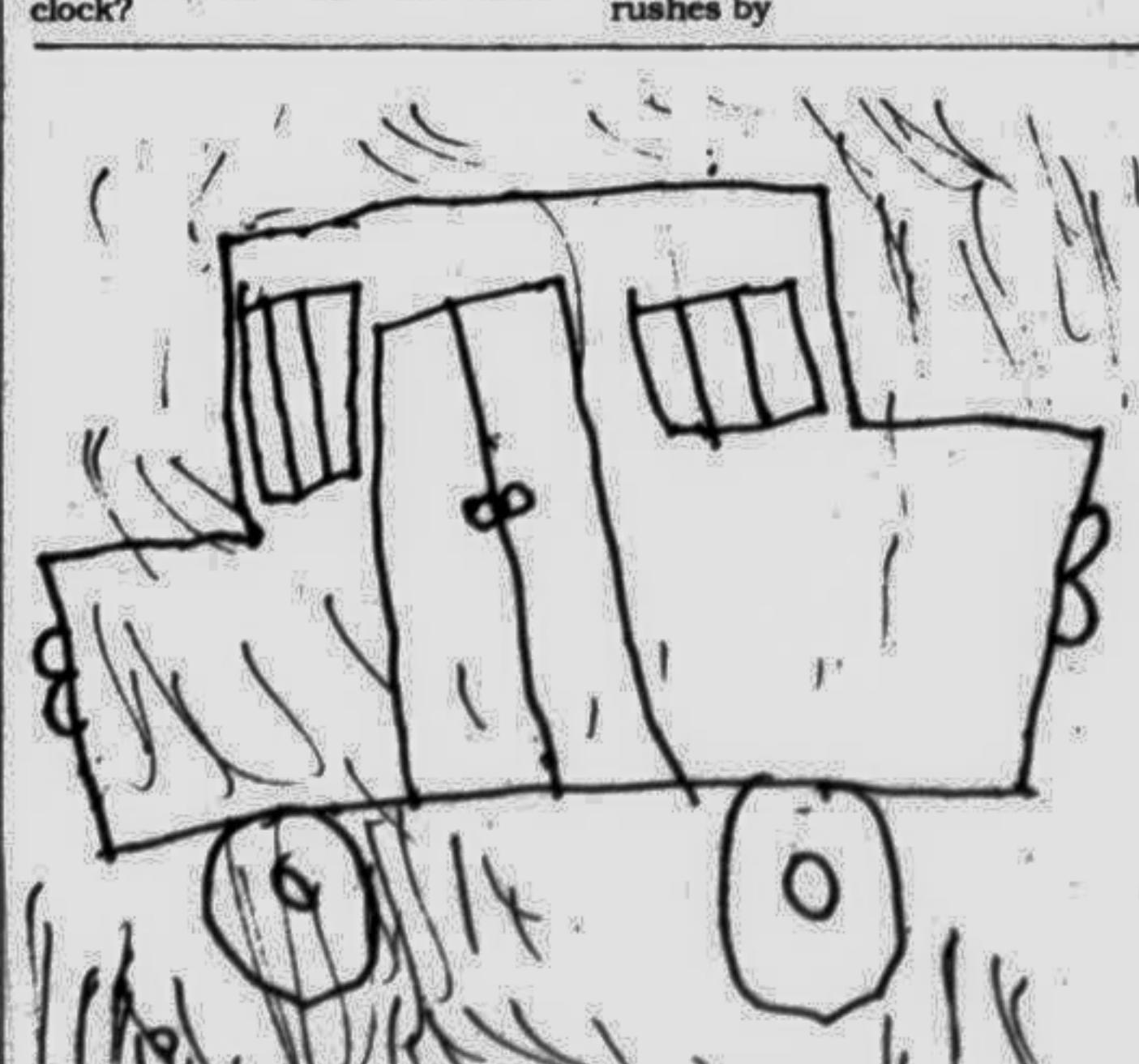
by Steve Jacob

A train is a dragon that roars through the dark

He wriggles his tail and he sends up a spark

He pierces the night with one yellow eye,

And the earth trembles when he rushes by



Drawn by Susmito Rittik