

MRAN felt a chill run down his spine.

The infamous four was standing at the corner of the alley as usual. Jhuna is wearing * a dog's belt around his neck and a sunglass so dark that he could not see anything in the dim evening light. The winter is still four months away, but he is wearing the black leather jacket which he forcibly took from Imran last winter. Schizophrenic Tuhin stands beside him with a broken heavy chain around his neck. His parents used to lock him with the chain until one day. Tuhin locked their parents with the remaining of the chain. He had this khur in his hand as usual. Rabbi, the punk. was smoking a cigar. He had freshly shaved his head and wore his sister's earrings, a torn coat without sleeves, half

Revenge for Revenge

As Imran came close to the gang. Tuhin leaned to his face and sniffed, "Uh Uh, your mouth stinks." He drew out a toothpaste from - his pocket, actually we knew about your bad breath problem that's why we brought this toothpaste to wash your mouth."

"Whoa.." skinny Imran tried to run away but "bully" Jhuna stood in his way, "Come on friend, why make your mouth



pants and wooden kharams Finally there was Botts. He is just a "spoon" of the gang. He looks like a Negro, and wears a magenta shirt and chrome yellow pant and sponge sandals. He had the hockey stick with him but he is ready to run for life if anybody raises voice. Botts is only a title, his original

name has long been forgotten. Imran was scared of them because he had campaigned against the infamous four in the area. He called for collective resistance against mugging, gambling, terrorism of

Jhuna raised a warm smile. "Is it imran, the good guy?"

Imran felt a little relieved. perhaps the infamous four was not going to misbehave. "Ah! Heh heh, oh my, ain't it Jhuna?" he said.

cket, for a while. First time, in

the history of the World Cup

cricket this year. 12 teams are

participating in the touring

ment, nine Test playing

nations and three babies UAE.

Holland and Kenya. Just

imagine if we had qualified in

the last ICC tournament we

would have been performing

now, unfortunately we have

let us stop think-

ing of politics for once

and concentrate on cri-

stink by talking foul? Here, open your mouth, we will wash

Imran's mouth was forcibly opened and he had to swallow the whole 70-gram toothpaste. Its was a nauseatings experi-

"Is we bad?" Rabbi inquired in his bad English and released a thick cloud of smoke putting his cigar, on Imran's face, and "No no." choked Imran with the toothpaste in his mouth, "I don't have many friends to treat me to a toothpaste party. But honestly the paste lacked

"Lacked salt?" shouted Jhuna, "Let us feed you salt, you Australian cow, son of a chicken, crow!

"You can feed me sait with force," Imran trembled. "but that won't improve your IQ"

by Sharier Khan

"How can we improve our IQ then?" Botts queried, seriously. The three others of the gang stared at Botts coldly, "Shut up! or we will make you

eat the hockey stick." "Do it if you dare," Imran

shouted. "You are trying to strain our relationship. huh?" Jhuna pulled Imran's collar. Botts hit his legs with the stick. Tuhin poured some dust in his mouth and Rabbi thropped ash on his hair. "Is you ever gonna talks foul regarding us?" Rabbi screamed. (One clue about our Rabbi; he loves the English language but has no command over it, yet he talks ... and others tolerate.)

"Please spare me..." Imran choked, "I was just' kidding. You people are my heroes. was never campaigning against you. I was glorifying you. I was telling people how courageously you mug people, how amusingly you gamble and how excitingly you blast crackers in the area.

"We is your hero?" Rabbi said. The gang spared him. "Alright, you can go. Remember, we are heroes

"Of course. If you need my help.... I will be around." Imran started-running for home. After coming home, Imran

found himself burning with anger. He could not sleep at night. Something must be done. Few days passed by. Imran

had to swallow the insult apparently. But he was waiting for his chance.

The other day he was passing by an under-construction building in the area. Giggles and laughter from the building brought him to a stop. It was the infamous four, gambling as usual. "Hey Imraianah, come here," he heard Botts shouting at him. What an insult! "What is it?" Imran replied.

"Go, bring us a pack of Benson cigarette." Botts giggled. "Doesn't forget for bringing ive a match," Rabbi joined him.

The idea! Let's work for them for a while. Imran rushed to a nearby cigarette shop and bought the orders. Quickly he brought out few cigarettes from the pack and pressed out

half of the tobacco from each stick. Meticulously, he separated the "ammunition" from the heads of nearly 50 match sticks and inserted those inside the cigarettes along with the tobacco he had earlier pressed out. The cigarettes now look innocent, but they are ready to flare up. But this is merely one percent of his plan

to bring down the enemy. "Why are you so late?" charged Jhuna as Imran handed over the pack to him. Imran made a guilty face. "Sorry boss. Can I sit with

The Jhuna gang was sitting on the floor. There were cards and taka all around. There were two bottles of Phensidyl as well. The hockey stick of Botts, the khur of Tuhin, the dagger of Jhuna ... all were there.

Imran needed time and he had it. From morning to evening, he stayed with the gang and did all he needed to do with the weapons of the garlg. Luckily, none of them smoked the tampered Bensons since they were already smoking hashish and 'what nots'.

Finally in the evening, the Jhuna gang told him to leave. linran slowly walked out, but he overheard Tuhin saying. "Let's go to the Kuddus" Corner.

Jhuna was saying. "Let it be. darker. Good

Imran rushed to the house of Botts. Botts father was a very religious person and was totally unaware of his son's activities.

"Salam uncle." Imran greeted him. Botts' father Mohammad Hossain was absent-minded. You are mistaken. I am not

Salam uncle. "No no, I mean Assala mualaikum. I came to tell you that your son is in trouble. Remember Jhuna. Tuhin and Rabbi? They are planning to beat your son, because he has protested against the misdeeds of Jhuna.

"I don't understand. thought Jhuna was a good boy. Anyway, where is he now?" I have seen Botts running

New Zealand is a team I be-

lieve can never win the World

Cup. They started the tourna-

ment with tremendous enthu-

from the last World Cup and it

seems they have not improved

much; they seem to lack ex-

perience. But maybe some-

time in future they will play

better and pose a threat for

the Cup. At present, however,

they are not a potential danger

for the heavyweight teams.

after winning same matches.

with a hockey stick in the alley in front of Kuddus' tea shop ...

think you will find him there." , "Botts? Who is Botts? Oh I see, my son? He plays hockey. Good. O.K. I am on my way. Let me take some musullis from the mosque to teach Jhuna a lesson," Botts' father rushed to the nearby mosque. ,

Jhuna's house is just a few yards away. His father, a retired police officer was walk-

rounded. Botts took the lead. He raised the hockey stick and. went closer to the victim. "Gimme all ya have..." and gave a hard puff. BAM! the cigarette flared up. "Orey baba!" Botts jumped. In the flame of the cigarette, he saw the face of a very angry victim - his father. "Orey haramjada ... tui mugging korosh!" his father roared. Before others could retain

this incident, roarings from all directions froze Jhuna, Tuhin and Rabbi. Ten to 20 people. armed with naan chaku, encyclopedia and double-barrel gun attacked them. Everybody was beating them mercilessly.

They were later admitted to a clinic. Their weapons were examined by their parents. No doubt the hockey stick belonged to Botts, the dagger to



ing in the lawn. "Uncle, uncle... do you know Jhuna is in trouble? I saw him being chased by-Botts. Tuhin and Rabbi.."

'What! Oi Jhunar ma, where is my double-barrel?" Jhuna's father rushed

Rabbi's father is an English teacher. When he heard that Rabbi was being attacked by Jhuna. Botts and Tuhin at the Kuddus Corner, he drew a huge size Encyclopedia Britan-

nica and rushed out. Finally. Tuhin's elder brother, a reputed mastaan since the dawn of civilization was seen with a "naan chaku" rushing to Kuddus' Tea Corner. The Jhuna gang was waiting

for their prey beside a wall near Kuddus'. "Halt!" Botts was puffing a Benson, the A very special one. The tall silhouette of an

elderly person stopped in the dark and stooped a bit to see the face of the prospective

The man was promptly sur-

Jhuna and the khur to Tuhin because they had their names embossed.

"Hello boss," Imran went to the clinic to meet Jhuna with some flowers. "You ... you did all these ... I

know I will kill you. Jhuna's father was arguing with Botts' father outside and Botts' father with Rabbi's father ... who was arguing with Tuhin's brother. Their allegation: Your son/brother is re-

All their arguments ended when Jhuna told Imran "I will kill ya."

sponsible for making them

They rushed inside the room screaming.

Few days later Imran saw in the 'paper, 'Jhuna leaves for higher study abroad Botts leaves for" etc. etc.

Imran knew all of them were sent, forcibly, to work as labourers in the deep forests of Malaysia.

What really matters is how well

you perform in the world cup

and win. I am not undermining

the ability of the Sri Lankan

players; they are extremely ex-

citing to watch especially their

llamboyant opener Romesh

and they had good players. One

thing needs to be mentioned

here though, that they were

luckier that year and you can-

not be lucky twice! Pakistan is

a very strong force and they

have some tremendous

records in both Test and one-

day matches, both at home and

aboard. But recently their team

spirit seems to have dimin-

ished to a very low level;

maybe because the scandals

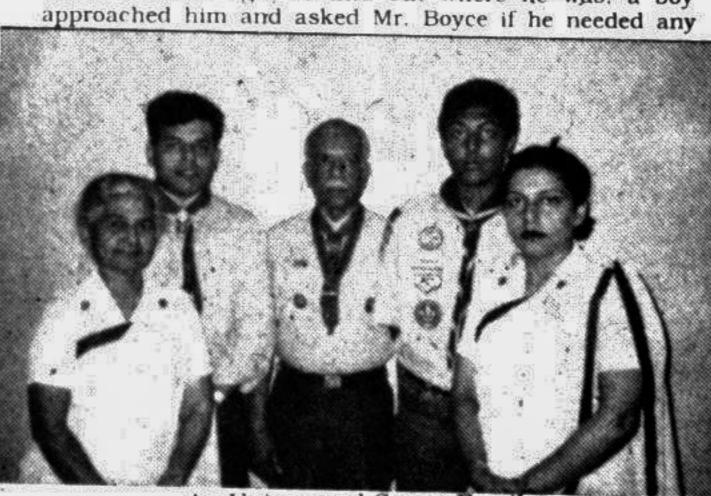
and internal quarrels among

the players. And the board

seem to have cast a very bad

spell over the whole team.

Kaluwirathana.



Scouting in the Family

by Shehriyar Rahman

From the family album. I find that my first birthday was

My first public appearance with my grandmother as a toddler

celebrated in Scout uniform, a present from my

grandmother, Mrs. Siddiqa Taufiq, a Girls Scout (called a

Girl Guide in Bangladesh). At that time, she was rendering

was on the 22nd of February celebrations, called "Thinking

Day" by the Girl Guides and "Founder's Day" by the Boy

Scouts. I gradually started growing up in a Scout and

vaguely remember my grandparents participating in

Scouting events in their uniform. My best memory, in fact,

is seeing my grandmother in a white and green sari which

I guess was her uniform, and my grandfather in a khaki

uniform with a bright green scarf. Generally when they

were in uniform, they were probably heading to a national

or an international event that was either at bome or

with the distinction of being a leader and organiser at

national events, also frequently represented Bangladesh

Scouts at international events and conferences. He is still

involved in Scouting in an advisory status with the Boy

Scouts of Bangladesh. My grandparents are not the only

member, since membership is open to all ages. She is one

person who I will always remember who sent off and took

back bags of soiled clothing that came with a son who was

exhausted from camping and hiking, and she always has

and they try to get themselves involved in Scouting as

much as possible. They believe that every family should

have at least one member who is a Scout. They believe that

this is vital because Scouting helps develop character and

offers the country people who are worthy of being called

patriots because they usually are dedicated people striving

Scouts in my family have been involved in Scouting in

Bangladesh. I am the exception. I am a member of the Boy

Scouts of America at the American International School of

Dhaka, the Scouting branch that is based on America. Our

Boyce on the 8th of February, 1910. It was not founded in

the same manner that Lord Baden Powell had founded his

Scouts. The World Boy Scout Movement was founded by

Baden Powell (BP) to help British boys grow up to become

fine young men. The same was with Mr. Boyce except in-

spired by the British Boy Scout. The story of how he was

It starts of when Mr Boyce was visiting London in 1909; when

he got lost in the dense fog which was usual. As he stopped

below a street light to find out where he was, a boy

inspired is often called "The Story Of A Good Turn."

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) was founded by William D.

I myself am a Scout. But there is one difference. All the

My grandparents love Scouting from the core of their hearts

My mother and my uncle were also involved as an adult

My grandfather, Group Captain Taufiq Khan, a Scout himself

parents a few days before my first birthday.

voluntary service as a Guide Commissioner.

guiding environment.

Scouts in my family.

them ready from the next time.

for the good of one another.

activities are very much the same.

was born on the 22nd of February, the joint birthday of

Lord and Lady Baden Powell, and came to Dhaka with my

'My Prediction and Favouritism'

lieve it was the management and the players I believe there are hundreds of players out there in the district level who. are excellent players and they are not just getting the proper exposure.

miserably failed and are paying the price. However I hope all our cricket loving fans have watched LAE in their two matches and I am not going to comment on them. I will leave it with the fans; but I will say one thing for sure, is Bangladesh worse than UAE .!?

I don't believe in luck I be

What's done is done Let us go back to the world class teams now. first, lets take a look at West Indies. They were the kings of the 70's and 80's when they had players like Vi vian Richards Clive Lloyed Malcolm Marshal, Greenidge Haynes But things have changed drastically since their retirement. The West Indies began to shake and were slip-

Keith Arthurton. When in full mare for their opposition.

hot favourites and the most world cup. They have the experienced Mark Taylor as their captain who seems to be doing quite well with his job Australia has some good butsman tike Mark Taylor and Michael D Bevan who seems to be doing their job quite well by scoring good runs for the first wicket. It is vital for the opening batsman to score so that the middle order can score without the extra pressure and the lower order score, if needed. And that is what Australia is doing at present. All the players know what they have to do to win. They don't rely on one specific player but all of them play well and are

England is a good team. they have some good players who can win the cup for the team. They have reached the final three times out of the six world cup but their fire seems to go off when it really matters, and I seriously do not think England can win the world cup this time. But who knows if Mike Artherton's team plays well there maybe a

very thin chance. South Africa are unquestionably at present a superb team. They have a ferocious hunger to win and they have some players who can turn the table around all the other teams. The Cup might just go to them. Even though they were isolated from international sports for all those years, they performed extremely well in the last world cup and I think they were robbed from what could have been a superb victory over

slasm but they seem to fuse Zimbabwe came into scene team fit enough will win!

> Now, finally let us look at India the first subcontinental team who won the World Cup in 1983 under the captainship of the great legendary player. Kapil Dev. It was a tremendous honour not only for India, but also for other subcontinental teams because an Asian team won the world cup for the first time and we should remember it regardless whether we support India or not. My personal favourite team to win the World Cup would be India, because India over the years have produced players like Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev. Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi, Syed Kirmani, Lala Amarnath, and many more. I think they can and wift win the Cup for the second time and rewrite the record books, provided all the players at the current Indian team are at full flow and fit to score

India have a very good batting line-up from number one to eight. They have the talent of their captain Azharuddin, the coolness of Navjot Singh Sidhu, Ajay Jadeja the all round ability of Manoi Probhakar, the flamboyant batting of Vinod Kambli and Sachin Tendulkar. And considering all these very good players, we can say that if they play up to their standard and perform well then they might win the World Cup. Obviously most people would differ from my predictions and will be angry with my favouritism but hey that is the way I feel !?

My dear friends out there this line is for you all: India is not 'Booua' and you will be amused when they win the World Cup, believe me.!

Now, let's talk about the current world Champions Pakistan. All I can say is that every An Unique and Smart Family year is not '92! No doubt that Pakistan is a very strong team help. Mr Boyce responded by saying that he was looking

for a business office in the city.

The unknown boy showed him the way and when Mr. Boyce reached into his pocket to reward the young man, the boy refused to accept saying that he was a Scout. He then proceeded to explain what a Scout was to Mr. Boyce, who by this time had become quite interested in such a group. After he finished his task. Boyce had the Scout take him to a British Scouting office. In the office, Boyce met BP and they talked for a while. At the

end, the impressed Mr. Boyce took Scouting with him when he went back to America. Thus on Feb 8th, 1910, Mr Boyce and a number of other people officially founded Scouting in America and the story of the unknown Scout and his good deed became legend in the legacy of the Boy Scouts.

Scouting at the American International School (AIS/Dhaka) is both similar and different to the other Scout in the world. What is different is that our school is an international school, meaning that the students are from different countries. Thus the BSA at AIS/D is an international group that belongs to the Direct Service Council of the BSA. The organisation of the troop is somewhat similar to other troops in the world. A troop consists of two or more Patrols which are the core of any Scout organisation.

The troop is headed by a Scoutmaster or Scoutmasters (SM). The Senior Patrol Leader's (SPL) duty is to be the liaison between the troop and SM. The SPL is also helped by another fellow Scout who is called the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL). The skills that are taught are decided by the Leadership Core which consists of the Scoutmasters. SPL. ASPI and the Patrol Leaders. •

The troop is further divided into smaller groups which are called patrols and each patrol has its own distinct name. Each patrol has patrol leader and an assistant who are in charge of the boys in patrol.

The activities planned by the leaders try to work both ways. They are planned in such a manner se that the boys can have fun as well as learn something. When a boy first joins Secuting, he is taught the necessary skills of Scouting. As all other Scout, the BSA also have a list of requirements that are necessary to complete so that the Scout can advance in rank.

There are six rank. There are six ranks in total. They are Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star Scout, Life Scout and finally the Eagle Scout which is the highest rank in the BSA. What do we do? We go around camping and learning many skills that are fun. We stay in school. We go to Mouchak. Rajendrapur, Savar and various other places.

In short, the Boy Scout of America will go anywhere. Some of the activities that we learn involve merit badges. A merit badge is a badge that one earns after he has learnt specific skills and has demonstrated that he knows them. Merit Badges are not easy to earn! Other activities include learning first aid, cooking for camp and other activities that are essential to Scouting.

Being sixteen now and looking back, I find that Scouting has been unique for men in many ways. I started of being exposed as a small child to the Boy Scout of Bangladesh and I end up as being a Boy Scout of Americal My grandparents are very proud of me in the way that I have grasped Scouting. And I hope that the Scouting tradition will continue in my family.

Quiz Club

OT down the correct answers, send them by the usual deadline (In this case: Thursday, 7th March, 19-96) and win away the Quiz Club Prize Simple as that In the Wills World Cup Cricket, the match between Pak istan and Holland ended with Wasim taking - wickets. Who won the WWF Royal Rumble '96?

In Homer's 'The Odyssey.' Telemacho was -Who is the Prime Minister of Great Britain? Name a woman, noble laureate, pro-democracy leader,

Who is the writer of the book. 'Midnight's children'?

who comes from South East Asia. Who is the US Congressman recently visited Bangladesh? After a staggering nine-month Liberation War, the in-

strument of surrender was finally signed at -On Sunday, last week, two bombs exploded in Israel

killing — men. Arrwar Hossain Manju was arrested on -

11. What is the full form of L.A? 12. What are isomers? 13. What is E.P.E? Tripsin acts on ——

16. Yerevan is the ——— of Armenia 17. Before he could circumnavigate: Magellan was killed in -18. In which year Charles and Diana got married?

19. German Army officer. Erwin Rommel.' committed suicide in the year -20. What is the state language of Venezuela? Answers

15. What is the capital of Yemen?

 Zaire 8611m/28250 ft 163.2 m 36.6 %

1912 6690 km/4160 mi A box designed to maintain constant internal tempera Kinetic energy

Repeated stress above a certain critical value. 11. An electron ejected from an atom by a fast moving ioniz-12. 9th-11th century Scandinavian warriors.

13. St Petersburg. 14. George Washington 15. 1988

16. Jane Seymour 17. Pierce Brosnan 18. International Monetary Fund 19. Paris, France 20. 23%

by Shahed Latif

England

ping away from their throne. the players seem to have some problems among themselves and that has been affecting their cricket. But I personally am a great fan of the West Indies team and believe that they are still the best team in the world and if they all can put themselves together, they will win the Cup for a record third time. But they cannot just leave everything up to Brian Lara, he is no doubt unquestionably the greatest batsman of our time and it is exciting to watch this run machine play when on the full flow. But there are obviously other good players besides Richardson, Jimmy Adams, Phil Simmons, Carl Hooper, Sherwin Campbell,

flow, they all can be a night-Australia, at present is the well balanced team in this

thus so well balanced.

First let us look at the Sri Lankans. They are also one of the lavourites and likely to win the Wills World Cup or pose a serious threat. The sport pundits are terming Lankah as a potential champion because they have performed quite consistently over the years and deserve to win the Cup. They already seem on the right track with four points from their two walk over matches over West Indies and Australia. But we must remember that this is the World Cup and every team wants to win and the Sri Lanka has won the



As far as the three new teams. Kenya. UAE and Holland, are concerned I think Kenya is the best and in the next World Cup we have to look at them as a probable challenger, who is capable of upsetting the champions. As far as UAE is concerned they might win the cup some time in the next 100 years but that is still a dilemma. Holland, I don't know anything about their cricket and this is the first time I came to know they play cricket, but I guess we will see their bats flashing against UAE. Zimbahwe and Kenya. However, they are not a dangerous opponent. Let us now look at the three

teams of our subcontinent in-

dia. Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

Singer Cup held in Shariah defeating West Indies and current champions, Pakistan. That same year if we go back to April we will remember that they played the 'Sharjah Cup' where India and Pakistan also participated. We very well remember what happened; India won the Cup beating them quite comfortably in the final and breaking their jinx of not winning the Sharjah Cup for ten long years. Just winning one tournament does not make you a world championship challenger; but yes, a contender of course. We saw how they performed against Austrafta in the tests and the one day matches, and of course it does not matter whether you lose consistently for four years.