

TOON RAJINIKANTH, COURTESY IIM-B



Facebook and other social networking sites are sporting caricatures of the bold and the famous. All this thanks to IIM-B students who are gung-ho about celebrating their cultural fest Unmaad which kicks off on Oct 2

SAMEER RANJAN BAKSHI

Don't be surprised if you see caricatures of Tamil superstar Rajinikanth, former US President George W Bush, legendary pop singer Michael Jackson and others on Facebook. What is even more of a surprise is that these caricatures have been uploaded by students of the Indian Institute of Management-Bangalore (IIM-B)! Infact, this is a new strategy which has been adopted by students of the top B-school to promote their cultural fest Unmaad which kicks off on Oct 2.

Instead of promoting the fest by way of posters and boards, the students at IIMB for the first time decided to have a mascot. The mascot called Globtrotter represents the freedom to travel, to explore and discover new experiences. Globu, as he is affectionately called, is the face of Unmaad 2009 and will be seen on campus during the three-day fest. "The theme of the fest is 'the world is Bangalore' and the fact that the mascot will be seen on cam-

pus during the fest underlies the fact that Bangalore symbolises globalisation and it is in fact a global city," said Vernon Fernandez, a student of IIMB. The mascot was designed by the publicity team headed by Mainak Chakraborty, a second year student. Mainak, who heads the publicity team of the students' cell said, "Cartoons are being posted on social networking sites to attract publicity. Last year, we organised the fest like any other college. But this time, we wanted to organise it in a different way by bringing in an element of humour."

Unmaad was traditionally held in February every year with the last edition being Unmaad February 2009.

This year, the students and faculty

members decided to swap the timings of the cultural and business fests. The business fest is usually held in the month of October. The decision was arrived at in order to give the exchange students on campus a chance to enjoy themselves by participating

in the cultural activities on a much larger scale. Another reason for deciding to hold the festival in October was to avoid a clash with the cultural fests of other colleges. The future editions of Unmaad will be held in the month of October as well.



Tragic adieu to Navaratri

A young lad was run over by a bike while returning home after celebrating the fest at his grandmother's place

BANGALORE MIRROR BUREAU

A 12-year-old's Navaratri celebration ended tragically when he was knocked down by a bike on Tuesday. Naveen Kumar (12), a sixth standard student of New Clarence Public School, had gone to his grandmother's place in Yelahanka to celebrate the festival and was returning with his mother Rathnamma, an employee in a private firm, to their residence in Banasawadi. He was walking on the footpath at around 7:30 am when a biker, Pavan Kumar, swerved to avoid colliding with a bike coming from the opposite direction and hit the boy. Naveen sustained severe head injuries and died while being taken to a hospital, while Pavan is under treatment.

The other biker, who was identified by the police as B T Dasar, took the duo to the hospital but fled the scene, leaving behind his bike, when he learnt that Naveen had succumbed to his injuries. "The accident was Dasar's fault and he will be nabbed soon," said Banasawadi police inspector Guru Swamy.

Naveen's mother Rathnamma, a widow, was in a state of shock after losing her only child.

PRIEST KILLED

In another accident on the Banasawadi main road, a priest, Ramananda Swamiji (44), was on his way home at around 8 pm on Monday after finishing a pooja at the Siddhi Vinayaka temple when he was knocked down fatally by a moped. The biker, Narasimha Murthy, is absconding.

BIKERS MEET WITH FATAL ACCIDENT

The misadventure of a car driver on Hosur Road near Jhonson Market opposite Elgin apartments killed two bike riders on the spot on Tuesday evening. One of the deceased has been identified as Sher Singh (28), an electrician residing in Yelahanka. The identity of the other person is not known as yet. The accident caused a huge pile up on Hosur Road for about 2 hours.

According to the police, Subhahin Das, the car driver was trying to cross the road by riding on the centre road median. The newly introduced BMTC 'Big 10' bus coming from Audugodi, in trying to avoid colliding with the car, swerved to the right. The bike riders who were right behind the bus tried to overtake it and ended up being caught between the bus and the car. After the accident, the BMTC bus driver escaped while the car driver has been admitted to a hospital with severe injuries.

Honest Manja

COVER STORY

As we had not known his name, we could not recognise him. But, Manjunatha introduced himself stating that he had dropped us from K R Puram to Shivajinagar and wanted to return the laptops. He asked us to be at the place where we got down from the auto. Though, we could not believe this initially, the prompt auto driver landed at the place at 3 pm," Naveesh said. The trio said they were really grateful to the auto driver as he had brought back the laptops which had so much valuable information in them, and that too without expecting any returns.

I DID MY DUTY

On the other hand, 30-year-old Manjunatha, the auto driver, who saved the day for the techies said he did not do anything great except his duty. "Last Wednesday, after dropping three techies, I ferried two women from Infantry Road to Mysore Road. That's when I saw the laptop bag. I asked the women whether it was theirs. But, when they said no, I checked the bag and found visiting cards and then I called the techies," he said.

NOT THE FIRST INSTANCE

Manjunatha, who has been driving an auto for the past three-and-a-half years, said he was suitably re-



Manjunatha with his auto



WHEN I GAVE THEM THEIR LAPTOPS, THEY GAVE ME RS 1,000. THAT WAS VERY NICE

— Manjunatha

warded. "When I gave them their laptops, they gave me Rs 1,000. That was very nice," he said. But didn't he feel, at least for a moment, like selling the laptops and pocketing the cash. Manjunatha shot back: "This is not my property. Moreover, I was sure the laptops contained important documents and gave it back."

This is not the first time Manjunatha has displayed such honesty. "Couple of months ago, one lady had left her mobile phone behind in my auto. I remembered her place and returned it," he revealed matter-of-factly. Time, we began to see auto drivers in a new light.