matter again and again and such durning issues can be resolved in International Courts of Justice without any delay in order to achieve global peace.

is that supermarket trollies will be fitted with a receiver that will know exactly what is

communicate with a washing machine to determine what cleaning cycle to use

casualties would be much fewer, However, Palestinian bombers have taken to

forced in recent years to deal with terrorist activity that targets buses." Transport

passengers to exit, while preventing bombers from climbing aboard from the

consensus - and it honestly acknowledges unknowns

A D D

Stories

The Skull Tree

All the children in the Glentown neighborhood knew about the skull tree. It was just one of those things that, hey, you know, kids know about. This is the story of some of those kids. Ally and Ryan Burch lived on Glenhaven Drive a couple of blocks from their school, Glenhaven Elementary, and the soccer fields. They also had a convenience store nearby that sold really good frozen cola and cherry drinks. On some school nights after soccer practice, they would ride their bikes by the store and buy a frozen drink. Ally liked the cola flavor, Ryan liked cherry. So before it became dark, they would pull in, park their bikes, buy those drinks, and take off for home—pedaling and slurping. But as you probably know by now, all fun things can have a drawback, or say, a downside. Ally and Ryan knew that they couldn't linger too long in getting home. Because if the darkness of nightfall set in, the big, beautiful oak tree located between the convenience store and their street, Glenhaven Drive, would drastically change.

The tree had a big round black hole in it. This hole was about 15 feet up the trunk of that tree. In the daytime this looked like a hole any normal tree would have. But at night, as all the kids in this neighborhood knew, a big white skull would appear in the black hole. So the kids all dreaded going by this tree at night. So everyday when soccer practice was over. Ally and Ryan would stop by the convenience store, quickly buy their frozen drinks, and pedal and slurp all the way home. One night Ryan's coach kept him late, and Ally nervously waited for him on the bleachers. Finally it was time to go, but it was almost dark. They hopped onto their bikes and began to pedal home. "I guess there's no way we can stop for a frozen drink tonight," said Ryan. "No way," said Ally "let's just get home

But the night came too quickly, and it became dark as they pedaled. When they were almost to the tree. Ryan said, "Ally, don't look at the tree." So she squenched her eyes shut for a couple of seconds, but she had to keep her eyes open to ride the bike. And then curiosity got the better of her. She looked up, and there it was, the huge white object in the black hole of the tree. It was the skull! Her legs felt wobbly like jello and somehow she just barely managed to ride that bike as steady as she could. She didn't stop pedaling hard until she saw her driveway. And Ryan, too, had looked up, because he just couldn't help it! And he, too, had been pedaling fast. "Whew" he said as he pulled into the driveway with Ally. "I'll never stay late after practice again." So they made it home every night after that, long before the darkness set in. But on one particular night things were different. It was October 31st, Halloween night, Ally, Ryan, and their good friend Andrew who lived next door to them were trick-or-treating all over the neighborhood. Andrew really wanted to fill his pillowcase all the way to the top with candy. "Come on Andrew," Ally told him, "you've got enough candy. We'll never make it home before dark if you make us go to every house on every street." Ryan said, "Yeah, she's right Andrew. We've all got enough candy to last 3 months." Darkness began to fall, and pretty soon. they all took their masks off because they just couldn't see a thing peering through the little mask eye holes in the dark. And with each step homeward, their bags of candy became heavier and heavier. Ally could see the skull tree off in the distance. and she told the boys,"When we get sort of close to the tree, let's run as fast as we can until we're way past it." Andrew said, "I'll never make it, this candy is too heavy." "Well, TRY!" said Ryan. "When I say go, make a run for it!"

So when they were almost up to the tree, Ryan yelled "GO!" and they took off. But Andrew fell behind as he had to lug a heavier bag. "Help me! Help me!" he yelled. So Ally and Ryan turned back and grabbed his heavy, bulging pillowcase. As they tightened their grip and began to run, the pillowcase started to rip and the candy burst out all over the sidewalk, scattering everywhere. Ally looked up and realized they were next to the skull tree. "It's right above us" she whimpered, and the boys looked up in dread. "We've got to pick up this candy" said Andrew. So they began quickly scooping it up and stuffing it back into Andrew's torn pillowcase. As they did this, they heard a strange eerie noise, It sounded as if it came from the skull in the tree and sounded like "EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!!!!". Leaving the candy behind, they ran across the street to see what was happening, and to get away from it, whatever IT was,

As they watched, the skull became wider and grew wings. It lifted out of the tree and smoothly soared up into the sky. "It's a skull with wings" said Ally. "No, said Ryan, "It's an owl ... a beautiful owl. All this time we've been so scared of something that is actually a great creature. Whew! Now we can relax."

"No", said Andrew, "I'm still going for a record. We've got to get the rest of this candy picked up!"

The Rainy Day After a cheerful Sunday,

Came a horing Monday. because I have to 90 to school. The day clowned with a gloomy look, The sky was forecasted with dark vatches loaded with heavy water I think it came to create a slaughter and atmosphere was Iyrs ahead of time. But it had not rained before I started 8.00 am for school. No sooner I crossed half way the rain set in. My umbrella could not save me, and I was not through and through.

I took shelter by a roadside shop Keeping high my hopes That rain might stop. Time rolled but rain did not show. any sign of easing. I feared, I might be late at school and everyone will tease me as fool. So I started of again and reached school ten mts before bell. I found very few pupils present, and even most of teachers were absent. All of student were like me wet. even benches were wet from water of our clothes. So we pulled off our shirts and made a great noise. The Headmaster came in and saw our miserable condition, and declared a holiday and bade us to go home. We thanked the rain and left the school with our text, Hoping the same on day next.

> - (Praina Brata Kar) XIB. V.K.V.

Real Life Adventures



Some Idioms & Phrases

To be in good humour - to be in a cheerful state of mind. You can have some advantage out of him only when he is in a good humour.

To fall from grace - to backslide; to lose one's good opinion or friendship.

A little slip made him fall from the grace of his boss. To be hand and glove with - to be very intimate and familiar with. Pakistan and China are hand and glove in military cooperation against India.

To lean upon - to depend upon. He leans upon me very much for financial help. A man of mark - a well known or famous man. Not only he but his father too was a man of mark and was respected by all.

To call names - to nickname; to abuse. Do not call any one names, that reflects on your upbringing.

Why Digital Cameras -**Better Photographers**

Digital cameras don't only eliminate the cost and hassle of film processing, they should help do away with bad holiday snaps and see us all become better photographers.

The scenario will be familiar to most of us. Having retrieved your photos from the chemist, you dart into a damp shop doorway and hurriedly rifle through the prints one by one, hoping to magically rekindle memories of a recent holiday. And what do you get instead? A disappointing crop of pictures which bear little resemblance to the mental snap shots you filed away at the time. Exposure problems, poor focussing, bad composition. flash flare and "red eye" are the most common problems experienced by amateur snappers.

Many such headaches are a symptom of traditional cameras and film. But news that Kodak is quitting sales of 35mm and APS cameras in Europe and the US, in favour of digital, is a sign of things to come. While some professionals still swear by the quality of film over digital, the new format is taking over. As more and more holiday-makers pack a digital camera in their suitcase, disappointing pictures should become a thing of the

Here are five reasons why digital cameras make us better photographers. How do the professionals get that exceptional shot? Sometimes, it's a case of just keeping a finger on the shutter button and seeing what comes out. That's an expensive exercise with film, but the "wipe clean and start again" nature of digital photography means it costs nothing.

"Professionals often don't know what they're doing," says photographer Daniel Meadows, "they'll just blast off up to 10 frames a second, and later look to see which works." At National Geographic - to some, the pinnacle of magazine photography snappers average 350 rolls of film per story

i-mate Launches Windows Mobile Smartphone In India

Bringing the familiarity of Windows Operating System to mobile phones, Carrier Devices owned i-mate on Thursday announced the launch of Windows Mobile smartphone and pocket PC phone in India targeted at the high end market.

The new i-mate Windows Mobile Pocket PC Phone Edition and i-mate smartphone2 would be distributed in India through echarge (Technology) Private Ltd. "While the smartphone is priced at Rs 24,999, the pocket PC comes with a price tag of Rs 38.999." e-charge CEO Karan Narula told reporters.

The smartphone offers full personal information management and e-mail functionality through Microsoft Pocket Outlook. "A web browser in Microsoft Pocket Internet Explorer, instant message capabilities with MSN messenger and ability to listen to music and play video with Microsoft Windows Media Player 9, all come as a standard in the smartphone model," Carrier Devices regional manager (Middle-east) Steffan De Rosairo, said.

Sacred Space

Love Of Self

It is not selfishness to strive for the emancipation of oneself alone It is selfishness if you consider vourself as a separate entity and work with the sole intention of amassing wealth, power, titles and such other benefits for vourself. But in a state of emancipation, when the entity of Self itself disappears, how can there be selfishness?

Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati

If you want the whole world to admire you, make everyoné happy and waste no time in self admiration. Seek your happiness in the happiness of all. Regard the sorrows and sufferings of others as yours and hasten to assuage them.

Sayings of Zarathustra

Love is of three varieties: unselfish (Samartha), mutual (Samanjasa), and

ordinary or selfish (Sadharana), Unselfish ove is of the highest kind Here, the one who loves, seeks only the welfare of the beloved and does not care whether he suffers pain and hardship thereby.

The second kind of love is mutual love in which the one who loves desires not only the happiness of his peloved, but has an eye to his own happiness also. Selfish love is the lowest It makes a man care only for his own happiness vithout having any regard for the feelings of the beloved.

Sri Ramakrishna