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DAY'S DIARY

Happy birthday

Comic book artist Jack Kirby was born on this day in New York. He created important and influential characters for Marvel and DC comics.

KING OF COMICS

Nicknamed the 'King of Comics', Kirby has been a driving force behind the industry during both the Golden Age of Comic Books in the 1940s and the Silver Age in the 1960s.



CREATIONS

With his partner Joe Simon, he created Captain America, and later with Stan Lee he developed iconic characters like the Fantastic Four, the Incredible Hulk and The Mighty Thor.



ANIMATION WORKS

In the late 70s, he ventured into animation. In the 80s, he worked for popular series like Turbo Teen, Scooby Doo and Scrappy Doo.

Puneeth to play cameo role in Maya Bazaar

PG 8

'Even to this day, I feel the public humiliation'

Vidya Iyengar

When actor and sportsperson Rahul Bose announced his retirement from professional rugby in 2008 after playing for India, little did he know he would hit back harder. It was during his last match between India and Philippines that he was to play in the second half. As he was warming up for his turn, he soon realised his coach had passed him over. While the team won the match and went on to celebrate, Bose found himself in a tight spot. "I hit the bar, drank beer from 6pm to 2am and was still sober. When I ran into the coach at the same bar, I went up to him and asked, 'Why?'. I got the most violent answer. Silence," shared Bose to members of the FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) during an hour-long talk on Making the Impossible Possible.

Back in Mumbai, he decided he wouldn't retire after all. He went on to engage his own sprint and conditioning coach to play a competitive game in Singapore. Even as he admitted it may have sounded "desperate" for a 42-year-old to go to this extent to prove himself, Bose decided that he had to ace the game. And he did - playing in the front 15 of the game. "Every single one of us has been in such a situa-

tion wherein we have been unfairly targeted. It could be at work where you've been hoping for that promotion, and not only are you passed on, but also demoted," he said, acknowledging that this was one of his most difficult moments to live and relive. "Even to this minute, I feel the public humiliation I experienced as the other team members celebrated the victory," he said.

While he might have learnt the lesson the hard way, Bose's invaluable lesson has been combating defeat by becoming better than the best.

"Hold it so close to you and prove yourself. Rugby has taught me more than my parents have," he said to the packed audience.

Bose has come a long way since his first film, which he shot in Andhra Pradesh in the early '90s. With no one to validate or guide him, he recalled being paralysed when he was told it was chosen for the Toronto Film Festival. "When the director called me to let me know, my first response was, 'But I haven't even watched the film.' To which he said, 'Just watch it when it's screened.' When I did reach there, I sat paralysed, watching myself for the first time and thought that I'd got away with minor injuries. If you are pushed to the wall, you will dive deep to achieve the impossible," he said.



I SPY WITH MY LITTLE EYE

• Bengaluru has its very own Nancy Drews and Hardy Boys, with millennials showing a keen interest in turning private detectives

Chetana Belagere

Private detective agencies are now hiring college students, armed with networking skills and tech knowledge, to help them crack cases. There are over 300 licensed private investigation agencies in the city, and most of them employ students on a freelance basis.

"Students come in very handy," Naiman Jain, managing director of Sleuths India Detective, which has been in the market for over 20 years, said. "Sometimes our regular employees find it difficult to access information. But students have good networking skills and access to many places. Also, they are tech-savvy," he added.

Private detective agencies are the go-to option for people who want guarded background checks on prospective brides and grooms, and employees. They also help parents keep tabs on children, while companies need to check duplication, and spouses want details about suspected infidelity. Students work as detectives in all these cases.

"While we hire most of them on a freelance basis, some are

so good at extracting information that we hire them," Kishan Rao of Eagle Eye Detective Services said.

A B.Com student from a private college told CE on condition of anonymity, "I enjoy being a detective. It's in my genes. My grandfather was in the police and I always wanted to be a cop, but I am not so good at studies. But I can do the same kind of job that he did," Shashank (name changed) quipped, adding that he was introduced to an agency located on MG Road through a friend. "I was assigned a case where I had to get evidence related to a pre-matrimonial case. I was shocked to find out that the boy had put up a 'person-next-door' image on his social media pro-

Files but was a flirt in real life," he revealed. Shashank said he followed the man, took pictures, gathered information about him and handed it over to the agency. Though he was curious to know if the marriage was cancelled, the agency didn't divulge that information. He has worked in several other cases, including tracing a missing teenager, finding out cases of drug addiction, and cheating spouses.

One needs patience, presence of mind and ability to maintain secrecy to do the job, said Jain. "We conduct an elaborate interview after going through the candidate's resume. A general aptitude test is done. The job aspirants are given situations and asked how they would handle it or solve a case," he added.

Though educational background is not much of a criteria, certain qualifications are more preferred. Students of criminology, forensic science and mass communication show more interest. However, even engineering and commerce students apply for the 'job' and internships.

Both boys and girls, aged between 18 and 25 years, are hired since that is when they are mature enough to understand the case and can enter pubs. Many engineering students help in cracking cybercrime-related cases. Cameras, recorders, microphones are given to them and they are taught how to handle these equipments.

They are sent on the field only after training and briefing. "We tell them to reveal their identities when caught but never give out the client's details. We ask them to call us when things go wrong," Divyansh Narana, a private detective, said. "But that happens rarely. Boys and girls are very smart."

Job Details	
Payment for freelance job ranges between ₹1,500 and 2,500 per day	Both boys and girls, aged between 18 and 25 years, are hired
Permanent employees earn ₹20-50,000 a month	Students from any academic background can take up the job, but some streams are preferred
While some cases involve a lump sum fee, others bring hourly charges	Candidates are hired after a screening process
Remuneration varies according to nature of case, time, manpower, travel expenses, etc.	Newcomers are trained and briefed, and also given necessary equipment by the detective agency

Iffath Fathima

DEBATING FOR

gained better standing.