

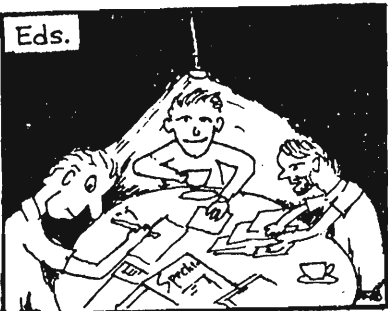
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BOUNCER ISSUE

Spectator

— INTER IIT SPECIAL —

Eds.



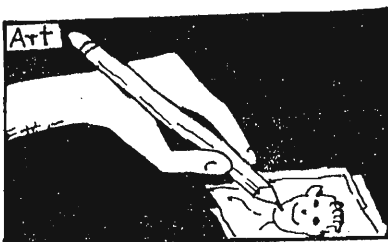
SHIVA
BALACHANDRAN (BUCKET)
CHANDRAMOULI

Type



RAJESH GUPTA

Art



RAFEEQ



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EDITORIAL

"Where shall we three meet again? In thunder, lightning or rain?"

The last issue of this semester is out and is a bouncer on inter-IIT.

When, where and how did it all begin? The thrills, the sacrifices, and the excitement that the participants partake in in every meet?

The grapevine reveals that the concept of an inter-IIT meet was first thought of by a prominent Surd (yes, we read Surd) from Bombay. The idea, it seems, was put forward as a proposed dual meet between KGP and Bombay, and over the years, it has grown into a full-fledged meet. The first meet was held in Bombay. Though a makeshift affair, as are all pioneer efforts, it has set a tradition in the span of twenty years, which to some has become a festival, to some others a ritual and to yet others a coveted prize to be won at all costs. The meet started off on a knockout basis but turned league with the Bombay meet in 1978.

Madras first won the general championship in 1970 (8th inter-IIT, which it hosted) and has been winning it ever since. In an attempt to stem this flow, the idea of splitting the inter-IIT meet into simultaneous meets, each IIT hosting some games by rotation each year has been mooted. Contingents with common players will be affected.

Over the past few years, the meets seem to be breeding-places for unpleasant incidents. There seems to be some sort of bad blood, or one could call it a case of misplaced interests, a sort of apathetic indifference in some, a cloak-and-dagger nature in others,...

A healthy spirit of competitiveness should prevail, but one should be careful enough not to exceed the limit. In this regard, we can't but recall the words of the reviver of the Olympic movement, Baron de Coubertin, who said, "The important thing in life is not the triumph, but the struggle." These words have been in the first pages of the inter-IIT souvenirs over the years, but to little avail.

In this inter-IIT preview issue, we present various facets of inter-IIT as seen by students, captains, advisors and the Director. SPECTATOR will be covering the meet and bringing out daily tabloids at Kharagpur.

Here's a thought for our sportsmen going to KGP:

"That which we are, we are;

One equal temper of heroic hearts,
Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will
To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

- Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

SPECTATOR wishes our contingent all the best in their quest for the General Championship for the eleventh time in succession.

INTERVIEW WITH VENKATESH



S: As the cricket captain, how do you rate your chances at the inter-IIT?

V: This year's team is approximately the same as last year's. Last year we cashed a gold at Bombay. Given fair conditions (umpiring and otherwise), we should be able to retain the title.

S: Last year, cricket was held separately at Bombay, whereas the previous year it was held at Delhi along with the regular inter-IIT meet. You've attended both these meets. Which way would you like it to be held?

V: I think holding cricket separately would be better. When you go with the regular inter-IIT contingent, you are just one more team in the janta. On the other hand if the meet were held separately then you are the centre of attention. Last year at Bombay we had crowds of 700-1000 watching every match. If the meet is held separately then we have a rest day between matches; this is not the case if it is held along with the regular meet.

S: To what factor do you attribute your success at Bombay last year?

V: Without doubt: 'Team Spirit'. The atmosphere was just right for cricket, it breathed of cricket. We had team meetings before every match where we discussed strategy for the next match, etc. Equally important was Sagar winning the toss in all the matches.

S: How has the practice been this semester?

V: The boys have put in a lot of work. We had a practice match against a second division side and we tied with them. It was a good match and my boys played well.

(2) spectator bouncer issue

S: Could you please assess your team?

V: Well, our strength is our batting, we have batting right to No. 11. As for bowling, our spin attack is I suppose the best we've had for many years.

S: Who are the key figures in your team?

V: Last year at Bombay we had Shiva batting very consistently, Vijaynath bowling beautifully supported by a good all round performance from Murali. These three should provide the key to our success. The other team members will automatically click.

S: What would you consider a safe score for the 40 over matches you'll play at KGP?

V: Around 175 should be okay; but last year against Bombay we made 197 and they replied with 195. It was frightfully close.

S: What strategy would you adopt for the matches?

V: I would like to have a good start, say with 60 runs, and then accelerate. The last ten overs should fetch 70 runs.

S: Are you asking for a coach for the camp?

V: No, I don't think a coach can do anything at this stage.

S: How do you plan to phase your preparation in the camp?

V: I plan to have exercises and fielding in the morning and nets in the afternoon.

S: Thank you, Venki.

The team:

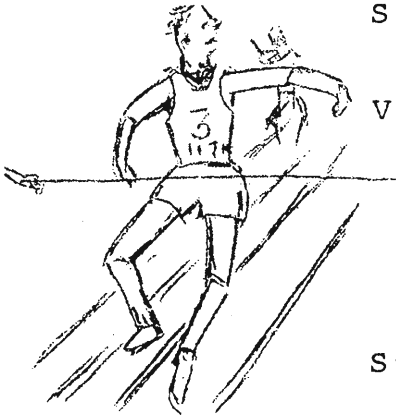
1. Venkatesh (Go)	9. Ramesh (Ga)
2. Shiva (Na)	10. Munavar (Ta)
3. Ramesh N. (Sa)	11. Vishwanath (Kr)
4. Ananth (Sa)	12. Kannan (Kr)
5. Murali (Go)	13. Chelluri (Go)
6. Kripa (Na)	14. Palli (Go)
7. Vijaynath (Kr)	15. Dattar (Sa)
8. Meenakshi (Sa)	16. Bucket (Ga)

P.S.: It hasn't yet been confirmed whether cricket will be one of the events at KGP. If so, the points will be 5-3-1; if not, a separate inter-11T cricket meet will be held at Delhi (most probably).

STOP STENCIL ! Unconfirmed reports indicate that two members of the cricket team are in danger of being left out because they were heard talking about cricket in South Africa.

spectator bouncer issue (3)

INTERVIEW WITH V³



S: What is the overall impression you have of your team?

V: 75 % of the guys in this year's athletic team are new and a lot would depend on how they shape up at the meet. We have been weakened in throws by the loss of Chandy and Chief. Our team may look weak on paper but we are very strong on the track.

S: What are you doing about improving the throws team?

V: Nothing much I can do except hope that Peza, Burman and Ranganathan put in plenty of hard work.

S: Who are the track stalwarts in your team?

V: This year, everyone is of such a high standard that no one can take his place in the team for any particular event for granted. Anyway, Sridhar is bound to win 2 golds. Manimaran and Palanisamy are also good. Distance events should be cash for George, Sunder, Harihar and me. In 110 m hurdles Sithu should get a gold. Only 400 m is our Achilles' heel - we have no explosive runners like Sandy (IIT K).

S: How come Sunder didn't run during the selections?

V: He was anyway in the team and there is not much point in a runner running if he is not in training.

S: How about jumps and relays?

V: Shyam Sunder (broad jump) and Sithu (triple jump) are cinches, Satyapal and Ravikumar (high jump) should get placed. The 4 x 400 m and 4 x 100 m relays should at least fetch us silvers.

S: Who in your opinion is a threat in athletics?

V: I think we'll find Kanpur a hard nut to crack.

S: Could you please brief us on the Ladies' team?

V: I'm very pleased that for the 1st time 3 girls are coming along. There are only 5 athletic events for ladies - 100 m, 200 m, 400 m, shot putt and long jump. Mangala Gowri will surely get us some medals, and with placings from Maithili and Shanti, the ladies overall championship is not beyond us.

S: What would your reaction be if women's events carried points?

V: It wouldn't be a handicap.

S: How has your practice been this sem.?

V: It has been riddled with problems. The track is very uneven. The thorns and bushes near the shot putt area have never been cleared. The markers are non-cooperative as usual. Something must be done about these matters. One great thing about our practice is the help that we get from our coach - he's a total cat coach - Mr. Krishnamurthy.

S: How do diet and weather conditions affect your performance?

V: The diet during the camp is good. It would be nice if we could land up at KGP two days early to acclimatise ourselves.

S: How do you rate our chances for the general championship?

V: I'd say 60-40 in our favour.

S: Who is your idol?

V: My idol is not an athlete. He is Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi. Besides, I always had a soft spot for Seb Coe.

S: What do you think of SPECTATOR?

V: It's been good. A very pleasant feature is its regularity. One thing I must say for you guys: you have immense drive - great!

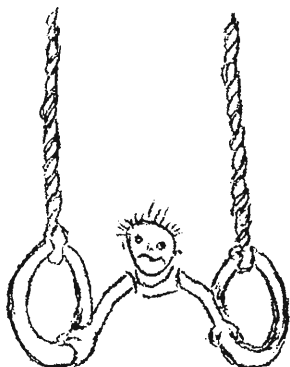
The team:

1. V.V.Vishwanathan	(Sa)	17. T.C.Lazar	(Go)
2. P.Palanisamy	(Ca)	18. Sridhar	(Sa)
3. R.Harihar	(DS)	19. Burman	(Ta)
4. C.George	(Ca)	20. Satyapal	(Ca)
5. A.Sunder	(Ja)	21. Kumaraguru	(Na)
6. Sethu Subramaniam	(Na)	22. Ahobala kao	(Na)
7. Ranganathan	(Ga)	23. Sithu	(Ga)
8. S.G.Ravikumar	(Ja)	24. Radhakant	(Ja)
9. N.Ravishankar	(Ja)	25. Raja	(Ga)
10. A.Venkateshwar	(Ta)	26. Suthakar	(Ca)
11. V.Murali	(DS)		
12. Shyam S.D.	(Ga)	<u>Ladies' Team</u>	
13. M.R.Manimaran	(Ja)	1. Mangala Gowri	
14. P.Shivakumar	(Ta)	2. Shanti S.	
15. G.H.Reza	(Na)	3. Maithili	
16. Perry Srinivasa Rao	(Go)		

INTERVIEW WITH HSS MANI

S: How's your squad this year?

M: The team is bad but the chances are good (hey! some paradox). I'll have to do most of the slogging for us to do well. I'm prepared for it. I want to give



everything I have towards this meet for this will be my last meet; yes, I'm not going for next year's meet regardless of where it's held.

S: Gymnastics is one sport where none of us have any fundas. Why don't you tell us something about it?

M: There are six events in all: floor (exercises), vaulting horse, pommel horse, parallel bars, Roman rings and horizontal. Well, not only you guys, but no one here seems to care or even know about gymnastics. The facilities are bad. We buy equipment only once in five years when we host the inter-IIT. The Gymkhana must do something to promote and popularise gymnastics.

S: How do you rate your chances?

M: It will be close between Bombay and us.

S: With such poor standards and low spectator value, do you think it is worth having gymnastics at inter-IIT?

M: Agreed, standards are bad; but one shouldn't expect something like Olympic grace here. It should be relatively scaled down. In the South, gymnastics is not a sport, it is a stunt. (Quotable quote?) I think gymnastics could be dropped.

S: Do you think it is worth having an inter-IIT at all?

M: Definitely yes - that's the only thing which keeps everyone going. The thrill of winning it the tenth time or eleventh time.

S: What are your favourite events?

M: Floor, parallel bars and horizontal.

S: Any plans for the camp?

M: Our coach has been coming for the past 15-20 days. If the other members put in a good effort, the camp will be worth it.

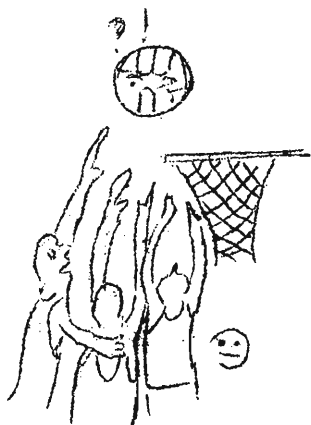
S: What do you think of SPECTATOR?

M: It's good. Really surprising that no one thought about it all these years.

The team is:

1. H.S.S.Mani	(Ja)	4. Hebbar	(Ga)
2. George Valliath	(Ga)	5. Kulkarni D.	(Ma)
3. Shankar N.	(Ja)	6. Vaidya S.	(Kr)

INTERVIEW WITH CHANDU



S: What are the prospects in basketball? How is the team?

C: The team is OK. Individually, we are superb, but we do not have enough match practice. I was elated by the performance of our team at Calicut. It showed that our players are shaping well and do have match temperament. This team is better than last year's (we got a silver last year). All said and done, we are quite confident, and the odds are stacked in our favour.

S: Please tell us whether the weather will have any bearing on your performance.

C: Most certainly. They keep insisting that we play under floodlights and we just can't play in the evenings. Our hands'll be numb. Basketball is a game of constant substitution and a substitute will not be warmed up enough to take the court.

S: What are your plans for the coaching camp?

C: We'll run to the gate everyday in the morning and play a match every evening. The first few days are the casualty days - blisters, pulled muscles, aches and pains and what not. This time, since we have a longer camp, we plan to go a little slow in the beginning. I plan to have massive match practice.

S: On which players does the success of the team depend?

C: This year our team is extremely flexible. Anyway I hope Nogo, Gadi and Raja (pivot) live up to my expectations.

S: Do you think it is worth having an inter-IIT meet?

C: Yes, I do. It is the only time we seriously strive to play well.

S: What is your reaction to IIT winning it 10 times?

C: Each time the margin has been closing, so we have to watch out. But inter-IIT will never lose its charm. As far as basketball is concerned, the team has no problems for the next two years, too.

S: How are the facilities at the various IITs?

C: Delhi is the best.

S: Have you made any plans for Kokila Rajiah?

C: No practice is going on. This just isn't my fault. I've

given them all the necessary encouragement and coached them them as much as possible. Girls who have played in their 1st year don't come for practice now. If there was some more enthu, we could have a go at the Kokila Rajiah trophy.

S: What do you think of SPECTATOR?

C: I think it's a decent idea. Most guys make it a point to read it. Your motivation is creditable.

The team:

1. Chandu	(Go)	8. Suthakar	(Ca)
2. Nagarajan	(Na)	9. Ramanujam	(Ca)
3. Radhakant	(Ja)	10. Shashi	(Na)
4. Murali	(Ga)	11. Anand	(Na)
5. Ashok	(Ga)	12. Gadi	(Na)
6. Raja	(Ga)	13. R.S.Srinivasan	(Go)
7. Prem Kumar	(Ta)	14. Murthy	(Ta)

INTERVIEW WITH MURALI



Apart from interviewing captains, we felt we should get the impressions of some students. We didn't have to go far. ... He adores Richards, admires Karpov, idolises McEnroe, is an ardent fan of Liem Swie King, and is fascinated by Michael Holding. He appreciates all things bright and beautiful. He went to Kanpur during last year's inter-IIT. In short he is what one would call a hostel sports-sec delite. He is Murali (Na)

S: Do you think inter-IIT is worth it?

M: Yes. Without a shadow of doubt, this is the only motivation for sportsmen. This catalyses improvement of standards. Most IITs, being away from cities, don't take part in enough tournaments - inter-IIT is an indispensable experience. I carry fond memories of Kanpur.

S: What do you think of our chances for the General Championship?

M: Maybe, our teams have been weakened, but I'm optimistic that we should win. One factor is that, having won it 10 years in a row, we have a distinct psychological advantage.

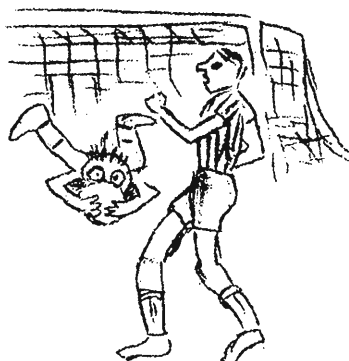
S: What do you think of the sports scene here?

M: The facilities are decent. The standards of inter-hostel matches are poor. The quality could be improved by having inter-year matches.

S: What do you think of SPECTATOR?

M: SPECTATOR is doing very good work. I personally enjoy reading SPECTATOR. The circulation should be increased. You could give flashes of crucial league ties next semester (Groan! Midnight editions!)

INTERVIEW WITH DIVAKAR REDDY



S: How do you rate our chances and our football team?

D: We have a good chance of coming second. Our main rivals are KGP and Bombay. KGP have regularly been winning it. Compared to last year, our team is better (we got a bronze last year).

S: How about your practice during the semester and during the coaching camp?

D: We haven't practised much during the semester. But we play matches every Saturday. On the whole, football enthu has increased this year. Ashok D'sa is a promising find. Unfortunately, due to a compulsory academic trip to Jampot I will not be able to attend the first half of the coaching camp. I will delegate my responsibilities to Billy in that period. We will be having Mr. Kuppuswami, a national coach.

S: Who are your key players?

D: I rely on Boutha, Burman, Billy and of course Satish Pai for success.

S: Do you think inter-IIT should be held at all in view of the staggering cost, the goodhals and the fighting involved?

D: Inter-IIT has degenerated but the competitive spirit is worthwhile. The problem is that the crowds are usually biased.

S: What do you think of Madras winning inter-IIT 10 times?

D: I like it. We should keep it up.

S: What do you think of the football fields in the various IITs?

D: The Delhi and Bombay grounds are lousy. In our institute facilities are good but enthu is lousy. But more important is the time for which matches are scheduled - for example, we'll be playing all our matches at 1 and 3 in the afternoon.

S: What are the chances of our team getting injured?

D: Before we return, at least five players will be injured.

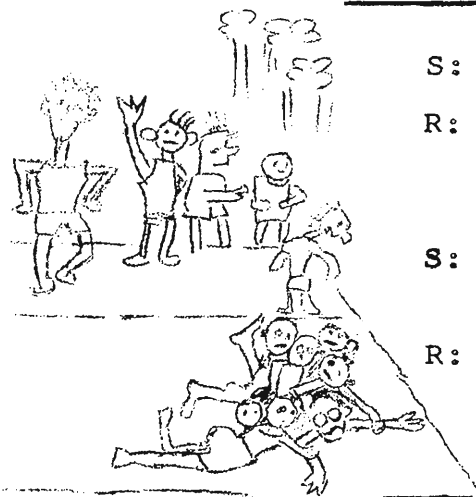
S: Who is your idol?

D: Pele.

The inter-IIT football team is:

1. Divakar Reddy	(Ga)	10. Boudha	(Ca)
2. Ashok D'sa	(Ma)	11. Samir Bhattacharya	(Ca)
3. Satish Pai	(Ta)	12. Suthakar	(Ca)
4. S. Burman	(Ta)	13. Javed	(Ga)
5. Ashish Biswas	(Ta)	14. Pathak	(Ga)
6. Mandal	(Ta)	15. Vishvanath	(Ga)
7. Ahobala Rao	(Na)	16. Srinivasan	(Ca)
8. Kumaraguru	(Na)	17. Chaitya	(Go)
9. Song Kian-Kok	(Na)	18. Seshadri	(Ga)

INTERVIEW WITH RAMASWAMY



S: How about your chances?

R: They are decent since we have some hefty guys and some players with match experience.

S: How come you guys practise just for inter-IIT and nothing else?

R: Kabaddi is a rather dirty game; there's hazaar scope for getting an arm or leg broken. No one likes to keep playing everyday.

S: Any key players?

R: Mariappan, Karmalkar, Kumaraguru.

S: Any plans for the camp?

R: Last week I went and talked to the S. Railway captain (he's a national star). He's willing to coach us. I'm planning to have a series of matches against the S.Rly. team.

S: Do you think it's worth having an inter-IIT?

R: No comment.

S: What's your reaction to Madras winning the GC 10 times?

R: It's high time we ditched.

The kabaddi team is - (next page)

1. Ramaswamy	(Ja)	7. Karmalkar	(Ta)
2. Mariappan	(Na)	8. SN Sridhara	(Ca)
3. Atul Desai	(Na)	9. KN Sridhar	(Al)
4. Srinath	(Na)	10. Shankar	
5. Kumaraguru	(Na)	Narayanaswamy	(Al)
6. Babu Prasad	(Ta)	11. Reddy	(Ga)

INTERVIEW WITH RAMACHANDRA



S: How do you rate your chances?

R: I'm cock sure of victory. I don't think we should have any problems in getting back the gold that we richly deserve.

S: How are you so confident?

R: The volleyball teams of previous years lacked cohesion. (Oh, really!) This year we have excellent understanding and co-ordination between the offence and the defence. But please, we should be given decent umpires - last year's story should not be repeated.

S: How has the practice been going?

R: The boys are a dedicated lot, we've been training regularly. Right now we're in the transition period - changing over from leather balls to synthetic ones. The synthetic balls are very smooth and hence difficult to control. Also their bounce and wobble is not uniform.

S: Does your team depend on any key players?

R: No, we don't depend on any one player. Everyone contributes his bit for the success.

S: How are the facilities?

R: I haven't any reason to crib.

S: Do you think it's worth having inter-IIT?

R: As a sportsman I look forward to it but as a student I reel we could channel the money spent on it for other purposes. The inter-IIT is supposed to foster better understanding among the students; well, seeing the last few meets, I'm led to believe that it has done everything except its aim.

S: Any plans for the camp?

R: Yeah, exercises to improve physical fitness in the mornings

and practice of passes, etc. in the evenings.

S: Any plans for Sriram Memorial?

R: I'm planning to hold it in OAT. Nothing has been decided yet. Let's wait and see.

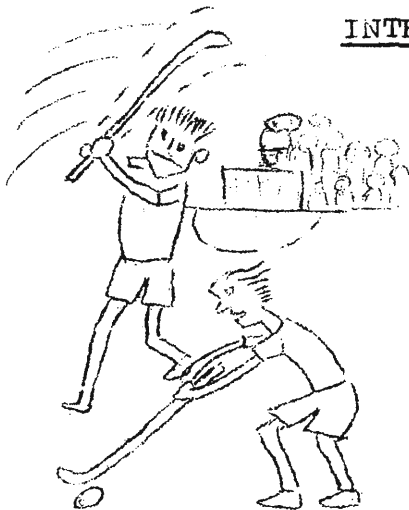
S: How do you find SPECTATOR?

R: The reporting and articles are of a very high standard. It's also very punctual, unlike the other mags. It's something I look forward to every week.

The members of the volleyball team are:

1. Anantha Narayanan (Sa)	7. Sivaprasad	(Ta)
2. Badri Narayanan (DS)	8. Srinivas	(Ga)
3. Janardhanan (Ca)	9. Thangaraj	(Ca)
4. Manohar (Ca)	10. Thomas Joseph	(DS)
5. Moses (Ca)	11. Venugopal	(DS)
6. Ramachandran (Sa)	12. Udayakumar	(Br)

INTERVIEW WITH T. R. RAMESH



S: What are the prospects for our hockey team?

R: We have a fair chance of a gold. I'm happy with the defence but our offence is not up to the mark (especially compared to last year). However, Mr. Joga Rao will see that we are toned up.

S: Who are the key players you rely on?

R: I rely mostly on a combined team effect. Of course, our forward line has to score the goals.

S: How has practice been and what are your plans for the camp?

R: Our practice has been fairly good and we have played a couple of practice matches. Unfortunately, due to my Works Programme in Jamshedpur, I will not be here for the first half of the coaching camp. During this period, Kalyan will shoulder my responsibilities and Mr. Joga Rao is always there. In the first few days, stamina and exercises will be given importance. We'll play a match every evening. In this respect we are lucky that we have a number of local teams who are willing to play with us.

S: Who are your main rivals?

R: KGP. We shared the gold with them last year.

S: How do the new rules affect your team?

R: We are better off with them. There is less scope for goodhal.

S: Are there any 1st years in your team?

R: Yes, one - Venkat Kumar.

S: A word about the facilities ...

R: One major crib - the field hasn't been rolled for years. There is no light in the store room. Other cribs are generally manageable. ... Delhi and Bombay have rather good facilities.

S: Do you think it's worth having an inter-IIT?

R: It's great fun. I think we should have it.

S: What do you think of splitting the meet?

R: It's a sick idea.

S: What's your reaction to Madras having won the GC ten years in a row?

R: It's a splendid achievement by any standards.

S: How do you rate our chances for the GC this year?

R: Every year before we set out for inter-IIT we are definite of four golds at least. This year as far as I can see we are confident of only three golds - athletics, tennis and volleyball.
I hope we win the GC. It'll be freaky to win it this year.

S: Who are your idols?

R: Sir Garfield Sobers and Mohd. Shahid.

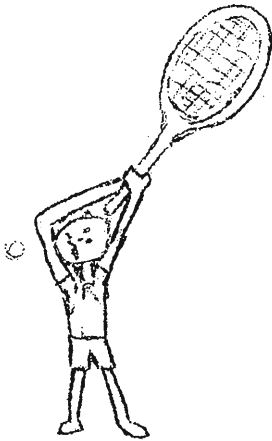
S: What do you think of SPECTATOR?

R: I think it's a splendid mag. I really look forward to reading it 'every Monday' - for after all that's 'your day'.

The team is:

1. King	(Na) GK	10. Ding	(Na) CF
2. Shajan	(Sa) GK	11. Paul	(Ca) RI
3. Kalyan	(Ja) LB	12. Vijay V	(Na) RO
4. Shiva	(Ta) RB	13. Kumar	(Na)
5. Satha	(Na) LH	14. Bilgi	(Sa)
6. TR	(Na) CH	15. Machado	(Na)
7. Sithu	(Ga) RH	16. Deshpande	(Ja)
8. Vijay R.	(Kr) LO	17. Venkat Kumar	(Go)
9. GS	(Go) LI	18. Venkatesh	(Sa)
		19. VV Vishwanathan	(Sa)

INTERVIEW WITH SHIVA



S: Can we win a gold in tennis this year?

K: If Satish Kharandikar of Bombay comes, it will be pretty close. Last year he didn't come (we won the gold last year). He is a third year student. Last year he went for the junior circuit, but I don't know if he's still a junior now. It'll be good if he comes.

S: Do you think Christie can beat Karandikar?

K: He'll find it tough.

S: There's a general crib that the facilities do not suffice and that newcomers do not get their money's worth out of the tennis club. They don't even get old balls to play at the wall.

K: I think four courts are enough. As for the newcomers, they should pain the coach more. Tennis balls are very expensive these days.

S: There is a proposal to have a concrete court. Comment.

K: Balls last for too short a time on concrete courts. Also, calf muscles pack up on such courts.

S: Does your post as HAS affect your work as tennis captain?

K: Absolutely not. The tennis captain has generally little to do.

S: Why has the open tennis tourney stopped?

K: Lousy weather for one. It will be completed next sem. Also, I wanted to avoid walk overs, as it was very informal. This led to the delay.

S: What do you feel about IIT M winning inter-IIT ten times?

K: The thrill is the same. But this time we may not win. The result of our string of victories is that the other IITs have turned antagonistic towards us. Our previous victories are due in no small measure to Kannan of Cauvery - our statistics manager.

S: Who are your lead players?

K: Christie and Ramesh.

S: What do you plan for the camp?

K: Exercises and drills in the morning and sets in the afternoon.

If it rains we'll be left high and dry, and we'll have to practise in the shuttle court.

S: How are the matches played? Is there any scope for the umpire to freak out?

K: 2 singles, 1 doubles and 2 reverse singles. No, the umpires cannot freak out.

S: Who are your idols?

K: I don't have any.

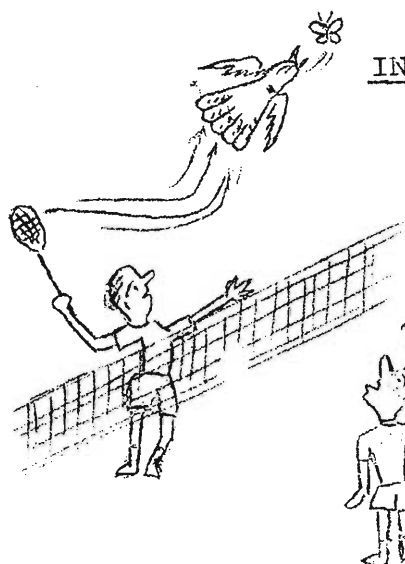
S: Do you read SPECTATOR?

K: No, I proof-read it.

The tennis team:

1. Shiva	(Na)	4. Ramesh	(Ja)
2. Christie	(Na)	5. Shyam	(Ga)
3. Shiv Baloo	(Na)		

INTERVIEW WITH MAHADEVAN



S: How do you think our badminton team will fare this year?

M: We should at least get a bronze like last year, and could get a silver or even a gold with practice. Our rivals are mbay and KGP who won the gold and silver last year. We are stronger in doubles this year.

S: How about our ladies' team?

M: They might get a silver with intense practice. Of course, we came fourth last time and practice has been irregular. Usha Sundaram played well last year and has better support this time.

S: How about practice?

M: There hasn't been much since my teammates have been individually busy. We haven't had any match practice. We plan to put in serious practice right from now and in the coaching camp. We don't have a coach now but we'll have an NIS coach during the camp.

S: How are the facilities here and in other IITs?

M: One court is inadequate - only the team gets to play most. It is poorly designed - 3 courts could easily have been fitted

in there with 10 feet more in breadth. I really liked the Delhi court. The court is sunk in with galleries above. This improves concentration and helps one to sight the shuttle clearly rather than against the background of the crowd.

S: What shuttles do they use in inter-IIT?

M: Indiana shuttles - they promised to send us 20 doz. for practice but they haven't yet arrived. Actually, it's uite an expensive affair - each shuttle costs Rs 5 and one needs 2-3 shuttles per match.

S: Who are your key players?

M: Ravi. Incidentally, four of the six players are final years. Next year, we must hope for some fresh talent.

S: What is the format in Baddy in inter-IIT?

M: 3 singles, 2 doubles. Each team gives in players A, B and C before the match. A plays A, B plays B and C plays C. A lot of thought goes into this crucial affair and there is an element of luck involved. The only place where the umpire can goodhal is in revealing your draw to the opponents.

S: Who are your idols?

M: I admire Prakash Padukone and Bjorn Borg.

S: What do you feel about our winning GC 10 times? About inter-IIT itself?

M: Every year, we seem to somehow pull through and win the GC. But if we lost it, I would be sad. Perhaps inter-IIT could be held less fre uently.

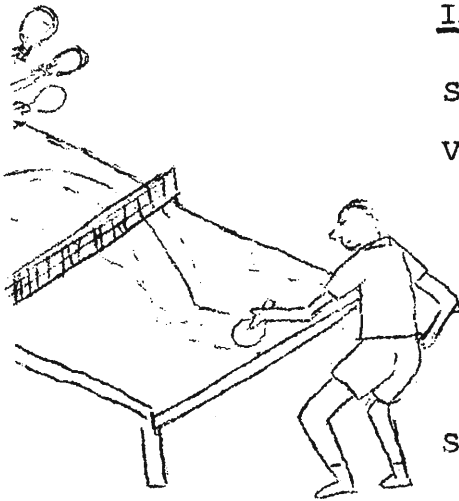
S: Finally, what do you think of SPECTATOR? Where can we improve?

M: It is a good effort. The coverage is nice. The regularity is amazing. Every Monday I expect not to see it but it's always there. Perhaps you could cut down on PJs.

The team:

1. Ravi	(Kr)	Ladies' team: (probables)
2. Ashok	(Ga)	
3. Kaushik	(Te)	1. Usha Sunderam
4. Raghu	(Ja)	2. Maya Srinivasan
5. Nandakumar	(Ca)	3. Chhaya
6. Mahadevan	(Gc)	4. Malati Viraraghavan

INTERVIEW WITH VATSA



S: What are the prospects in TT this year?

V: Our chances for a gold are pretty good. Last time we came second to Bombay. Although we miss Ranga, we have a balanced team this year. Also, we've been practising regularly. There is a very good contribution to the team from the first years.

S: Tell us something about the TT facilities here.

V: I would like to have Nitaku balls for practice (which are used in the inter-IIT meet) - but I suppose they are rather too expensive. The new table should be a great help. About shifting the TT room to the NCC block, I'd rather have had it where it is - it's closer. Also, the ceiling in the proposed room is quite low. I hope it's ready by the end of the month.

S: Who are your key players?

V: Overall performance matters the most - I rely on Nehru Isaac and Sriram.

S: How many matches are there in one encounter between two IITs?

V: Each team has 3 players. All three players of one team play each of the three of the other - nine matches in all. There are no doubles matches.

S: What about the ladies' team?

V: Last time they got a bronze. If Asha Unnikrishnan comes, the prospects are bright.

S: What do you feel about inter-IIT?

V: The inter-IIT should definitely be held. We should win the GC this year. ... If the meet is split, the spirit of winning the GC is lost. Go as a team, win as a team.

S: Who are your idols?

V: Prakash Padukone.

S: What are your views on SPECTATOR?

V: SPECTATOR is definitely good. There should be something of that sort. In the long run, it improves standards and sports consciousness. The thrill that if you play well, your name will come in SPECTATOR is really encouraging.

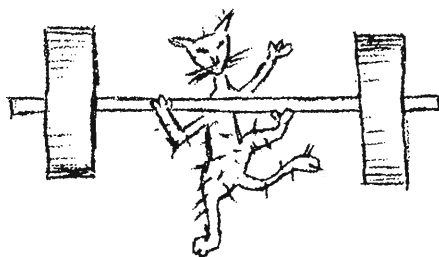
The team is:

- | | | |
|---------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 1. Vatsa Santhanam | (Ja) | Ladies' team: (probable) |
| 2. Nehru Isaac | (Br) | |
| 3. N. Sriram | (Ja) | 1. Kamala R. |
| 4. K. Vaidyanathan | (Ma) | 2. Asha Unnikrishnan |
| 5. A. B. Srinivasan | (Na) | 3. Maithili |

INTERVIEW WITH K. P. RAO

S: Please assess our chances in weightlifting this time.

R: We should get a silver this time. Last year we won a gold but our team is depleted this year.



S: How's weightlifting practice going on?

R: We practise lifting thrice a week and do weight training twice a week. We don't have a coach - I myself coach the team. For the coaching camp, we'll be doing light exercises and lifting practice. Only, those who are overweight for their class will have to do plenty of jogging.

S: Do you think we should have an inter-IIT?

R: Certainly. Our standards are too low to compete with other universities, so we should have this as a goal for our practice.

S: What do you feel about winning the GC 10 times?

R: It's good. We should try to keep it up. But each year it's getting more and more difficult to win.

S: Who are your key players? Who are the main rivals?

R: I rely on Krishnan. If Shekar reduces his weight to enter the 55 kg class, he is sure of a gold. He also has a chance of being Mr Inter-IIT. Our main rivals will be IIT-D.

S: What is the spectator value of weightlifting at inter-IIT?

R: It draws quite a decent crowd.

S: How do you rate our weight lifting gym and apparatus?

R: If I may say so, IIT(M) presently has the worst gym among all the IITs. Every year we have been complaining but there is no one to listen to us. Our minimum needs are not met. The gym now is much too tiny and turns into a mini swimming pool every time it rains. The room is too stuffy and poorly lighted - there isn't even a tube-light. Some time ago, one would even get a shock if he touched the windows of the

gym. Delhi has a beautiful gym in the indoor stadium. Compared to that ours is woefully inadequate. Our equipment is mostly rusted. At last, our gym is going to be shifted to NCC block.

S: Who is your idol?

R: My father, Mr. K. Easwar Rao. He was the national weight-lifting champ for fourteen years. He won the Arjuna award and represented India at the Melbourne and Helsinki Olympics. During his career he was the champion in every event at some time or the other.

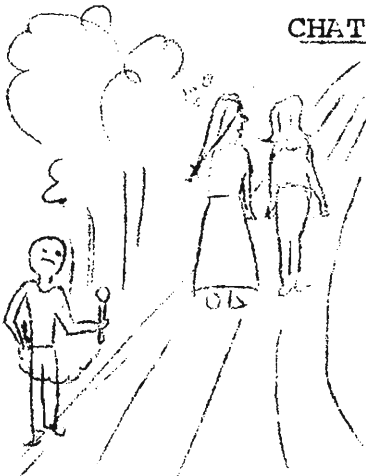
S: What do you think of SPECTATOR?

R: It's good, we should have something like it.

The team:

1. K. P. Rao	(DS)	6. Shekhar	(Na)
2. Pavithran	(Al)	7. Balakrishnan	(Br)
3. Krishna	(Sa)	8. Chidambaresh	(Br)
4. Anil	(Al)	9. Raju Velaskar	(Sa)
5. Bhoopalan	(Sa)	10. Elangovan	(Sa)

CHAT WITH USHA SUNDARAM AND KAMAL



SPECTATOR goes to Sarayu to find out about the girls' side of things.

S: Do you think an inter-IIT meet is necessary? Should ladies' events be included in them?

U: I go to inter-IIT only for personal pleasure. I enjoy playing baddy.

K: Inter-IIT is a must. Since IITs have ladies, there must obviously be ladies' events. Most men's events have points of 10-6-2. I think they should make it

5-3-1 for the girls instead of the existing 10-6-2. They could also introduce ladies' tennis.

S: What is your reaction to splitting inter-IIT?

U: I'd rather have it in the hols - that way we can have plenty of practice and concentrate on it.

S: What do you think about Madras winning the GC 10 times?

K: I think IIT(M) had the maximum enthu for inter-IIT - with a

serious coaching camp and all - so Madras won.

S: What are our prospects in ladies' events this time?

U: If Asha comes, we could get a gold in TT. But for the GC, I think our chances are poor.

K: We have a fighting chance in TT and shuttle baddy this year.

S: The enthu among girls for sports is low. Sarayu doesn't even have a sports budget. What's wrong?

U: First of all, there aren't many girls here. Among them, only those who are really interested take part in sports.

K: Here, there are more PGs than UGs - roughly 53 PGs and 25 UGs. The PGs are too busy to play. Also many of us are the only girls in our classes - this makes a lot of difference. The boys happily cog assignments and study together while I have to do all my assignments myself.

S: How are the sports facilities for the girls?

U: When no one is interested, what's the point of providing facilities and having a sports budget?

S: Who are your idols?

U: Borg.

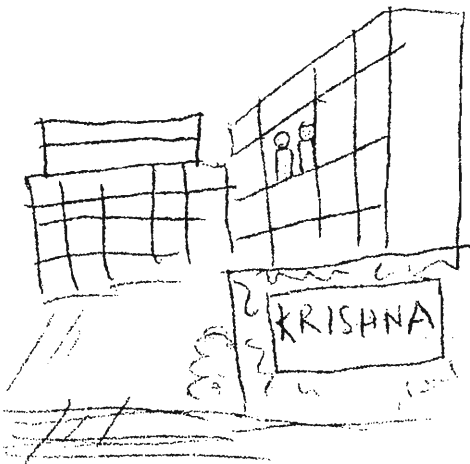
K: Borg.

S: What do you think about SPECTATOR?

U: No comment. (Perry Mason's client?)

K: It's readable. Coming out once a week must be pretty tough. But why do you make these sidey remarks about Sarayu?

INTERVIEW WITH RAVI MOHAN



We were introduced to Ravi Mohan, a PG student from Krishna. He is not active in any sport but likes watching games. He has never witnessed an inter-IIT.

S: What do you feel about the idea of splitting the inter-IIT?

M: I think it's a good idea. The average student, who pays for the expenses of the inter-IIT should be given a chance to watch a bit of action. In any case, it's a nice feeling - Madras winning the GC 10 times.

S: Don't you think academics will be affected?

M: The studies of only the sportsmen will be affected. - Anyway, I suppose they regularly practise throughout the year so it won't make a big difference. The only thing is that they won't be able to concentrate well on either sports or studies.

S: Why is there less sports enthu among the PGs? What can be done to improve this?

M: The PGs, particularly the research scholars, have no fixed timings of class. Also, many of them who might have been enthusiastic in their 'bachelor' days might have packed up - interest fades with age. The very fact that many PGs don't play shows that they have other better things to do - so let them.

S: Which college did you study in as a UG?

M: IIT Kharagpur.

S: Cash! In that case you should be able to compare the facilities, enthu and weather at KGP and Madras.

M: IIT Madras is much duller. There there is good participation and sports activities are taken up at a much higher tempo. Whole hostels land up to cheer their teams. The facilities are the same,—You'd better take your woolens along.

INTERVIEW WITH PROF. BALARAMAN



Prof. Balaraman is a professor in the Department of Aeronautics. He was our Sports Advisor for the last two years.

S: What do you think of the standards at inter-IIT?

B: The standards are declining every year. Great heights are never reached. I would consider winning the Stanley Cup or one game in the Bertram Tournaments a greater achievement than winning the GC, which is comparatively easy.

S: What do you think of splitting the inter-IIT meet?

B: Organizing an inter-IIT meet is pretty difficult. As it is, we have a full sports schedule and hence splitting the meet and holding it during the semester would create problems.

S: Recently, there has been some animosity between IITs over refereeing. What can be done to avoid this?

B: It can't be avoided completely. Such minor skirmishes should be taken in one's stride. The host IIT should be broad-minded and conscientious.

S: Did you have any special plans as the Sports Advisor?

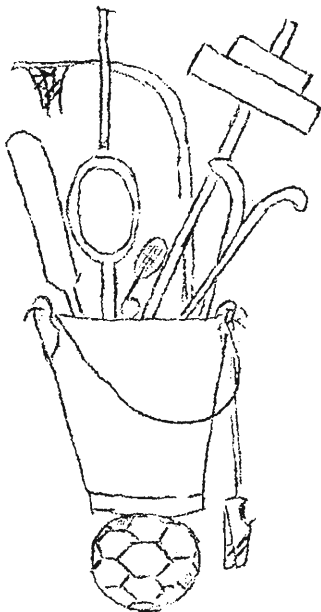
B: Yes. I wanted our motto to be that by the time a student leaves the portals of this institute, he should be good in at least one game; i.e. personal attention to be given to each student for proficiency in at least one game. Secondly, I wanted to have a system of giving Physical Fitness Certificates to all students. I also planned a better sports complex. One problem I felt very often was that students never brought back vouchers accounting for the money given to them. I had also planned to bring all sports entirely into the hostel sector. I had tried to involve the faculty in campus sports. My rapport with the students was also excellent.

S: What was your most memorable experience?

B: Undoubtedly when we won the GC last year. I was weeping with joy - it was the happy end of all my anxiety.

S: What do you think of SPECTATOR? Is there any way we can improve?

B: I find SPECTATOR quite interesting. I think it is just fine. Keep it up.



INTERVIEW WITH BUCKET

S: What are the chances at inter-IIT this year?

B: I don't want to make any rash predictions, but winning the GC now is not as easy as it once was.

S: What are the plans as far as splitting the inter-IIT is concerned?

B: Each IIT hosts 3 games which involve a total contingent of less than 35. This is held at different times in different institutes. Thus ordinary students get a chance to watch.

S: As Sports Sec, have you made any improvements?

B: I had originally planned two more cemented basketball courts (one between Saras and Godav and the other at the Instt. mud court), one cement tennis court and to make OAT a regular basketball court. Unfortunately, the Estates and Works Committee has commitments to the extent that they have no funds left for the above. I plan to improve the open gym

near Cauvery and provide horizontal bars at Sangam. I want to buy a "Hercules multi-trainer", which costs about Rs 23,000, by the end of the year. IIT(B) has one. Using it one can exercise all points of one's body. Twelve people can use it simultaneously. Unfortunately, funds are the problem. ... I'm shifting the cricket stadium to the NCC ground - there'll be one concrete pitch and two net practices can go on simultaneously. I also want to conduct an open carrom tournament this year.

- S: What plans do you have for the coaching camp?
- B: Unfortunately, I won't be in station for the first half of the camp. I will have to depute someone for this period. Generally, I will leave the practice of each team to be supervised by the respective captain.
- S: What is your reaction to the fighting that goes on between IITs at inter-IIT?
- B: I deplore such behaviour, but I think such incidents are blown up out of proportion.

INTERVIEW WITH PROF. SURJIT SINGH



Prof. Surjit Singh is a professor in the RSIC. He was the Gymkhana President from 1974 to 1976 and is our present SPORTS ADVISOR.

- S: Do you think there should be an inter-IIT meet at all?
- A: The inter-IIT meet is a good activity and must carry on - it promotes inter-IIT interaction.
- S: What are the pros and cons of splitting the meet?
- A: There are four basic problems with the present system. With contingents of 150 from each IIT an IIT (though not Madras) might find it difficult to accommodate such a large number. Secondly, with so many simultaneous games, we need many officials, who are difficult to procure, especially in small towns. The third problem is railway reservation. Last but not the least is the problem that the non-sportsmen who pay for the meet can't even watch it - whereas if we follow the plan of splitting the meet, all the four above problems get solved. Also, a 4 year course student may not even have a meet at his institute during his stay. Of course, I am open to suggestions. We could try it on an experimental basis for one year. If we find the system unacceptable, we could

always revert to the old system and continue the cycle from where we left off. The only drawback of the system is that the festivity is lost.

S: What do you feel about winning the GC 10 times?

A: It's a great feeling to win. We should now start working on the fields and prepare to win it an eleventh time.

S: What is the estimated expense of conducting an inter-IIT meet?

A: Rs. 1 lakh.

S: Why are our standards in sports generally lower than university standards?

A: This is because our students will not sacrifice their grades for sports. Ideally, sports and academics should be complementary to each other.

INTERVIEW WITH THE DIRECTOR

S: In view of the cost, is it worth having an inter-IIT meet?

I: Of course it is. The cost isn't very much.

S: What do you think about splitting the meet?

I: Personally, I am not in favour of splitting the inter-IIT meet. The organization of a large meet is much more challenging and is a worthwhile experience. Splitting up the meet is just evading the question. Secondly, I am not in favour of splitting the

contingents. As far as accommodation of spectators is concerned, the hosts can share rooms just for six days.

S: What is your reaction to Madras winning the inter-IIT 10 times?

I: As the director, I am very happy. If the other IITs do not mistake us, perhaps we could participate one year on a non-competitive basis.

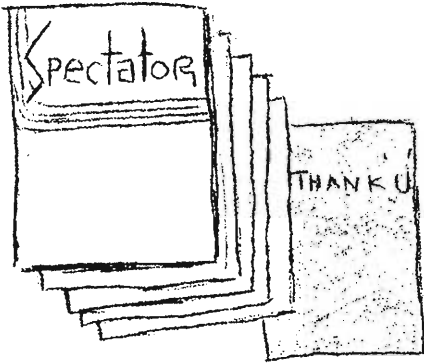
S: What is your reckoning of the sports facilities we have here?

I: They are inadequate. This is because the students and alumni do not contribute enough. If each outgoing student contributed Rs 100 as at other institutes, we could have terrific sports facilities.



- S: Sports enthusiasm is restricted by academic pressure. Do you have any suggestions?
- I: Why do you people have three periodicals a week? Why not have two short periodicals one after the other on a fixed day of the week? Also I suggest that one make a calendar of all sports, cultural, etc. events right at the beginning of the year. This will help a student to plan out his studies and extra-curricular activities. Thirdly, I think more importance should be given to lower levels of participation like the hostel level.
- S: Finally, Sir, what do you think of SPECTATOR?
- I: Oh! SPECTATOR is very good. This year the quality of all campus magazines has improved. SPECTATOR has a creative role to play. There should be a balanced view. You people bring out the jovial side while FOCUS cries all the time. A merger of SPECTATOR and FOCUS may help (Oh, no!).

ONE FINAL WORD



The idea of a bouncer originated some time back - we had planned one on Sriram Memorial/Seetha Memorial - both were not conducted. Next we had the Inter-IIT Sports Meet coming, and that was it.

Interviewing twenty personalities of various sizes and shapes and mental abilities - from the exuberant Murali to the curt Miss Usha Sundaram - turned out to be a novel experience.

The stationery procurement was made a lot easier by Prof. Srinivasan's swift action. Next, we wanted to be different - and we found out how. Mr Natarajan and Mr Srinivasan at the Director's office allowed us to use the electric typewriter. From type to print takes some effort and time - both on machine and man. Badri did our cyclo-styling in abs. record time. We gave him 15,000 pages to cyclostyle, and we got back 14,995 perfect in all respects - for an amazing 99.96% EFFICIENCY. Mr Swamy of the Reprographic Section took one look at our cover design and felt that anything less than offset printing would not do justice to the design. We got our cover page in 8 hours flat.

Merci bien.



