

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

April 4-10
'Earthen', an institute of three artists Debashis, Swapan and Shahadat, holds a Terracotta Art Exhibition at the Zainul Gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. The show continues up to April 10 from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.

April 4-15
Shipangan is holding a special 12-day painting show by reputed painter Ranjit Das. The show remains open everyday from 10 am to 8 p.m.

Book Fair

April 2-15
'Shrabon'—a literary publishing house, holds an amazing book fair at its stall at the Aziz Super Market, to protest the ongoing US-led war against Iraq. The book fair is open until April 15.

The Academy Award (Oscars 2003) winning films

Zahir Raihan Film Society will be showing nine academy award winning films at the Goethe Institut (House No 10, Road No 9, Dhanmondi, Dhaka) this month.

The screening schedule is as follows:

Sunday, 13 April 2003:
3:00 PM "The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers" (Two Oscars)
6:00 PM "The Hours" (Best Actress)
8:00 PM "Adaptation" (Best Supporting Actor)
Tuesday, 15 April 2003:
3:00 PM "Spirted Away" (Best Animated Feature)
5:15 PM "Road to Perdition" (Best Cinematographer)
7:25 PM "Talk to Her" (Best Original Screenplay)
Wednesday, 16 April 2003:
3:00 PM "Frida" (Best Make-Up and Music Score)
5:15 PM "The Pianist" (Best Director + Two Oscars)
7:45 PM "Chicago" (Best Film + Five Oscars)

Music

An interview with world's youngest music genius 'Chitravina' N Ravikiran

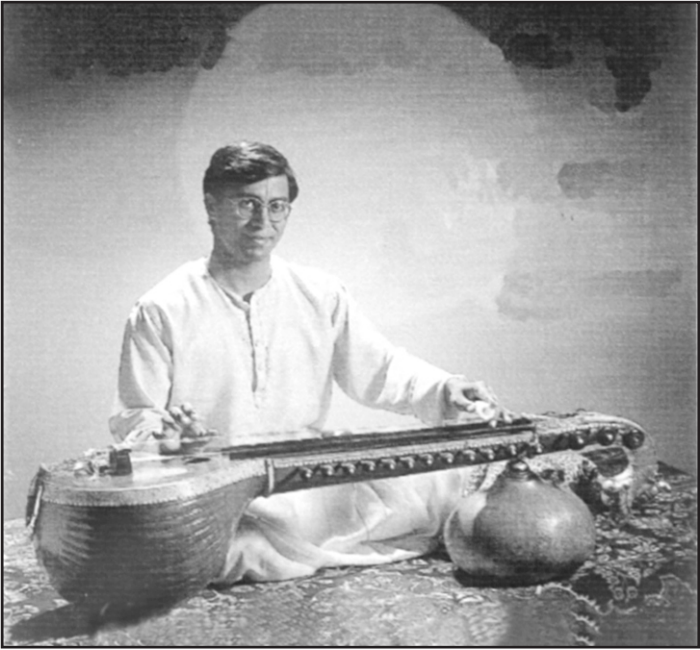
MEGHNA AMEEN

CHILD prodigy 'Chitravina' N Ravikiran is known as the "prince of Carnatic Music" who was born of a desire to share the joys, beauties and numerous other positive qualities of Carnatic music with the rest of the world. He began his career in 1969 at the age of two stunning everyone by identifying over 325 ragas, 175 talas and by answering various technical questions in Carnatic music. He started giving full-fledged vocal recitals by the time he was five, and switched to the chitravina (a 21-stringed fretless instrument, considered to be one of the most difficult to handle) in 1979. He is the recipient of many awards: Sangeet Samrat, Kalaimamani, Star of India etc. The International Foundation for Carnatic Music (IFCM) was founded by him in 1990.

MA: We all know that Carnatic Classical music means South Indian Classical music which is one of the two major systems (the other being Hindustani or North Indian Classical music) of Indian Classical music. My question is why is its name 'Carnatic' as it is not used in only part of Karnataka. Don't you think the name should be South Indian Classical music as it is sung all over the Southern part of India?

CNR: Carnatic has little to do with the state of Karnataka today. The word Carnatic means "classical and pleasing to the ears." Thus Carnatic music is about a system that is classical and is pleasing to the ears. There is no doubt that its base is in South India but today, it has spread across the world with thousands of students and resident musicians and hundreds of organisations in numerous countries. Thus, the name, Carnatic music is most appropriate for this system. I sometimes joke with my friends that the name Hindustani music is not truly reflective of what it is since it is more a blend of Indian and Persian culture!! This is only in a lighter vein, of course.

MA: From my own experience I noticed that some people -- especially the music lovers -- have a kind of fearfulness about Carnatic music. Usually they make this type of com-



Chitravina. N. Ravikiran

ment: "Oh!, Carnatic music is very hard: compared to Carnatic music, Hindustani music is much more easier." What is your opinion on this matter?

CNR: I totally disagree. I have taught Carnatic music to people from many parts of the world, including Americans, Canadians, Germans, French, Africans and Indians from Punjab, Gujarat or Bengal, to name a few. They have all found NO problems learning Carnatic. In fact, they have all found it a great experience to learn it and have been captivated by its beauty. I wouldn't say Carnatic is harder or anything. But I'd certainly say it is a very sophisticated system, more challenging sometimes, since there are more details to be focused on. Thus, one has to work hard on more aspects but this challenge is a very positive one, in my opinion. Also, Carnatic music is extremely well organised and scientifically well defined in many areas which makes it easier. Another thing is: BOTH Carnatic and Hindustani have many similarities which makes it easier for people with Hindustani background to study it.

MA: What you have just said, I agree with you completely. But I think this is applicable only for the Carnatic music learners and regular listeners. I am talking about those peoples and musicians (like Bangladeshi) who are not familiar with Carnatic music at all. As a Carnatic music listener and learner I myself switched from Hindustani classical music to Carnatic music only a few years back, as I found this type of music very systematic, structured, and richer than any other music system. There are types of people who don't want to put any effort in music but to obtain fame as quickly as possible through different media's. To be in love with Carnatic music listeners/musicians have to have a very elegant taste in music; or in other word Carnatic music is not for all kind of music lovers. What do you think?

CNR: I agree with you that the way in which Carnatic Music is PERCEIVED or projected by some people may make it seem that way. Actually, to gain reasonable excellence, any system demands a lot and Hindustani maestros have worked very hard to gain perfection in their

areas. There are no short cuts to success in any system and Carnatic music is no exception. But one way to look at it may be that there are areas where it is more challenging than any other system and there are areas where it is easier than some other systems. For examples, Carnatic music is full of many simple songs, which are in catchy tunes and easy for even 3-4 year olds to learn. On the other hand, there are sophisticated masterpieces which will take months to understand and perfect for even seasoned professionals.

MA: The concept and system of Carnatic music is unparallel in the history of the word 'music.' Then why isn't it more popular than any other music system especially Hindustani Classical music?

CNR: Carnatic music today is almost as popular as any other system in the world. It has been featured in most major festivals in the world including the Millennium Festival and the Olympics. It has a wide following in several countries and more and more artistes from other countries are working with top Carnatic musicians today.

MA: I can't agree 100% with your opinion. Yes, Carnatic music has been featured in Millenium festival, Olympics etc. But with all do respect let me ask you this: The way the music lovers around the world (including Bangladesh) are crazy about Ravishankar, are they crazy in the same way about Ravikiran? In USA I saw with my own eyes how much Americans are fond of Zakir Hussain, do they feel in the same way about T K Murthy? We both know that, the answer is 'No.' So according to my opinion Carnatic music is getting popular day by day, but not as popular as any other music system even though it is the best music system. And I also definitely believe that some day in near future Carnatic music and the musicians will be more popular than any other music system in the whole world. Am I right?

CNR: Here we have to remember one thing. Hindustani music was exported much earlier than Carnatic to

the rest of the world. Around the 1930s, my grandfather, Gotuvadym Narayana Iyengar, was one of the first ever Carnatic musicians to set foot outside of India and perform but even then, his travels were more in Burma, Malaysia and Singapore region. Only since 1960s have Carnatic musicians gone to places like US or Europe and considering this time lag, Carnatic music has made amazing progress to be featured in the kind of festivals I described. One other factor which has helped this is the jugalbandi concerts between Carnatic and Hindustani artistes and also the fusion exploits of artistes like L Shankar, L Subramaniam, Vikku Vinayakaram and so on, who are quite well known in world music circles. It's only a matter of a few years for more artistes to become household names!!

MA: Don't you think Carnatic music itself is not responsible for not being popular that much?; it is rather the Carnatic musicians who are responsible for this by keeping themselves in a such a low profile.

CNR: What you say was true about 15-20 years back. Today, it is among the most popular since several top Carnatic artistes have been touring the world continuously, performing in high profile festivals, collaborating and composing with leading world artistes/orchestras which has firmly placed the system on par with the other premiere systems in the world.

The main thing I may like to suggest would be for everyone to be positive about beauty and quality. The people who have them should be willing to share and spread it. The people who receive them must have an open mind and not worry about where it is from or who is giving it. This real appreciation of beauty will make life enjoyable for everybody in the world and bring people closer together. In the context of Carnatic music, it is one of the most exquisite systems that can be appreciated emotionally or intellectually or even spiritually, if one is inclined that way. And, I urge the present and future generations to forget region or religion and just get immersed in beauty!!

Meghna Ameen is a Director of Sarva Sree, the first Carnatic Music centre in Bangladesh.

Exhibition

Syed Iqbal and Paresh Hazra's painting exhibition in Toronto



Syed Iqbal

Paresh Hazra

CULTURE DESK

SYED Iqbal, a Bangladeshi Painter, living in Toronto, Canada and Paresh Hazra of Bangalore, India are together showing off their paintings at a painting exhibition in Toronto. A total of 40 paintings based on the theme "Women in Art" will be displayed at this exhibition which is sponsored by South Asian Studies Program of University of Toronto.

Syed Iqbal recently became a member of Colour and Formal Society, the oldest and most prestigious

Artist Group in Toronto. He was also selected as one of the finalists among 800 renowned artists in IMAGO Canadian Nation Art Competition.

Paresh Hazra is very well known in India for his art work. His art works are displayed in major art galleries & museums across the country. He has had several solo exhibitions in all major cities in India. Mr. Hazra has recently finished his solo exhibition in New York USA.

The "Women in Art" Exhibition is scheduled to open on Saturday, April 12, 2003 and will continue for 10 days.

Music



Chris Martin of British band Coldplay performs on stage in Zurich, Switzerland on April 06

TV GUIDE

<div>BTV 12.10 News Headlines 12.15 <i>Shubhechchha Nin</i> 12.30 <i>Shangbadpatrer Pata Thekey</i> 12.40 Health Bulletin 01.00 Khabar 01.05 Magazine Show: <i>Shur Ananda</i> (Re-telecast) 02.00 News Headlines 02.05 Cartoon Show 02.30 Open University 03.00 English News 03.10 Bangla Feature Film 04.00 News Headlines 05.00 Khabar 05.30 <i>Driswata</i> 06.00 Khabar-Desh <i>Janopad</i> 06.10 Talk Show: <i>Mukhomukhi Jiboner Alo</i> 06.35 News Headlines 07.00 Share Bazaar Weather Bulletin <i>Grontho Bhuban</i> 07.30 Film Show: <i>Dark Night</i> 08.00 8 o'clock Bengali News 08.30 E Shaptather Natok: <i>Moner Janala</i> 09.30 Selected Programme 10.00 English News at Ten 10.25 News Report 10.30 Telefilm 11.30 Khabar/The News CHANNEL-i 07.15 <i>Prothom Shur</i> 10.00 Music Plus 10.30 <i>Chhayay Jhankar</i> 11.00 Magazine Show: <i>Kichhu Money Korbenna Dotcom</i> 12.00 Drama Serial: <i>Kichhu Megh Kichhu Roddur</i> 01.00 Drama Serial: <i>Tomar Bashonto Diney</i> 02.00 Bangla Feature Film: <i>Bharosha</i> 05.35 <i>Janopader Khabar</i> 05.45 <i>Joto Pod Tato Mot</i> 06.10 Music Plus 06.45 <i>House Full</i> 07.15 Channel-i News 07.45 Ispahani-i Tele Quiz (Q) 07.50 Film Serial: <i>Queen</i> 08.25 Drama Serial: <i>Grihagalpo</i> 09.00 Channel-i News 09.31 Ispahani-i Tele Quiz (R) 09.35 Drama Serial: <i>Charisima</i> 10.00 <i>Close Up Heat Wave</i> 10.25 Channel-i Mobile Quiz 10.30 Channel-i News 11.15 <i>Shangbadpatrey Bangladesh</i> 11.30 Live Telecast of BTV Late Night News 12.15 Channel-i News</div>	<div>ATN BANGLA 06:00 Islamic Prog 08:00 ATN Bangla News 08:25 Gondoraz Samsung Cine Aaha 09:35 Musical Prog: 10:10 Drama Serial: Samuddra Kanna 10:50 Talk Show: Face to Face 12:00 ATN Bangla News 12:20 Aiker Sangbadpotro 12:40 Musical prog : ATN Music 01:20 Bengali feature film: Ami Ek Omanus 04:20 Islamic prog: 04:50 Aiker Sangbadpotro 05:00 Gram Gonger Sangbad 05:15 Film Magazine: A Sapteher Chobi 05:50 Musical prog: Saat Rang 06:25 Islamic prog : Islamee Sawal O Jawab 07:00 ATN Bangla Evening News 07:30 Mage Serial: Kun Sernamay Mukte 08:05 Drama Serial: Hada-Ar-Bhudar Kandokarkhan 08:40 Henolux Benudon Bichitra 09:00 ATN Bangla News 09:15 Prekhhapot 10:00 ATN Bangla News 10:35 Special Talk Show: Iraq Zudda 11:00 ATN Bangla News 12:00 Bengali film: Fasher Asame HBO 06:30 The Day Reagan was Shot 08:30 Showdown in Little Tokyo 10:00 When Trumpets Fade 12:00 A Very Brady Sequel 01:45 Malediction 03:30 Batman & Robin 06:00 Blooddist V: Human Target 07:45 Tequila Sunrise 10:00 ED TV 12:30 Dark Asylum</div>	<div>02:30 Showdown in Little Tokyo 04:00 Krull AXN 06:30 Movie : US Seals II: The Ultimate Force 08:30 The Right Stuff 09:30 The Price of Fame 10:30 The Outer Limits : Music of the Spheres 11:30 Core Culture 12:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation 01:30 Guinness World Records: Primetime 02:30 Movie : US Seals 04:30 The Right Stuff 05:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation: Revenge is Best Served Cold 06:30 The Outer Limits: Music of the Spheres 07:30 Core Culture 08:30 Martial Law: Funny Money 09:30 Now See This! 10:30 Relic Hunter: Wages of Sydney 11:30 Scariest Places On Earth 12:30 Now See This HALLMARK 06:59 Scholastic Clifford 07:29 Caillou 07:59 Sesame street (Season 29) 08:59 Christy: Choices of The Heart 10:59 And Then There Was One 12:59 Mcleod's Daughters 13:59 Adoption Series 14:59 Scholastic Clifford 15:29 Caillou 15:59 Flipper 16:59 Sesame Street 17:59 Star Trek: Voyager 18:59 The Locket 20:59 Guardian, The 21:59 Star Trek: Voyager 22:59 The Locket 00:59 Dogwoman: The Legend Of Dogwoman STAR MOVIES 06:00 The Eyes Of Laura Mars 07:45 A Glimpse Of Hell 09:30 Rhinestone 11:30 Blood And Wine 01:15 Sunset Strip 03:00 Red Sonja 04:45 Harrison's Flowers 07:00 Ticker 08:35 Good Advice 10:15 Coyote Ugly 11:45 Heart Of Midnight STAR WORLD 06:00 The Brady Bunch 06:30 Cheers 07:00 Oprah Winfrey Show 08:00 Chicago Hope 09:00 Charmed 10:00 Ally Mcbeal 11:00 Oprah Winfrey Show 11:58 Star Asia Travel 12:00 Titus 12:30 Two Guys And A Girl 01:00 Suddenly Susan 01:30 The Bold And The Beautiful 02:00 Hollywood Squares 02:30 The Brady Bunch 03:00 Baywatch 04:00 The Simpsons 05:00 Cheers 05:30 Starnews Asia 06:00 Frasier 06:30 Roswell</div>	<div>TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS  HBO: 10.00 p.m. <i>Ed TV</i>. Cynthia, TV producer, has an idea about how to save the station: A normal person's life should be broadcasted 24 hours a day. "Ed TV" is born the second her eye falls on Ed Pekumy, a sympathetic Joe Sixpack. After the first week on air Ed's fame grows and grows, but conflicts break open. His brother Ray publishes a very negative book about Ed, who now dates Ray's ex; Ed's parent's partnership problematic are broadcasted nationwide and a very attractive and seducing model uses innocent Ed to raise her own fame. STAR MOVIES: 10.15 p.m. <i>Coyote Ugly</i>. Sexy, romantic comedy about a girl in her early 20s named Violet Sanford going to NYC to pursue a dream of becoming a songwriter. Violet gets a "day" job as a bar maid at a nightclub called Coyote Ugly. Coyote Ugly is the city's newest hot spot were the employees are a team of sexy, resourceful women that provoke the clientele and press with their mischief.</div> <div>PICK OF THE DAY  On Star Movies at 8.35 p.m. Ryan Turner is a stockbroker who is self-centered and overly cocky. He is also a womanizer. He also has a girlfriend, Cindy Styne, who is a bit of an airhead. She works as an advice columnist for a struggling newspaper but she is so self-involved that her work is so backed up that her boss would like to get rid of her. But cause of her contract and papers' in the red, she has to put up with her until she can and also she cares more of what Ryan can give her than him.</div> <div>06:55 Starnews Asia 07:00 Dark Angel 08:00 Fight School 08:58 Star Asia Travel 09:00 Frasier 09:30 Roswell 10:30 Dark Angel 11:30 Fight School STAR PLUS 06:00 Bhabhi 06:30 Geet Bahar 07:00 Geet Bahar 07:30 Dr Morepen Tango - Daily 08:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom 09:00 Taaza Hits 09:05 Hit Filmmein Hit 09:30 Sangeet-20 M 09:30 Fox Kids 10:10 Hit Filmmein Hit 10:30 Sangeet-20 M 10:30 Eena Meena Deeka 11:00 Meri Saheli 11:30 Kabhii Sautan Kabhii Saheli 12:00 Shanti 12:30 Hit Filmmein Hit 12:55 Taaza Hits 01:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay 01:30 Kunkum-Pyara Sa Bandhan 02:00 Bhabhi 02:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi</div> <div>03:00 Kabhi Bahu Thi 03:30 Shagun 03:30 Kabhi Aaye Na Judai 04:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 04:30 Kaahin Kissi Roz 04:55 Film Topper-301 Series 05:00 Saans 05:30 Hit Filmmein Hit Sangeet-20 M 05:55 Taaza Hits 06:00 Hum Saath Aath Hain 06:30 Fox Kids 07:25 Film Topper-301 Series 07:30 Kunkum-Pyara Sa Bandhan 07:55 Film Topper-301 Series 08:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom 08:30 Kyun Hota Hai Pyarr 09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay 09:30 Kashmeer 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 11:30 Kaahin Kissi Roz 12:00 Bhabhi STAR GOLD 07:00 Geet Bahar 07:30 Shama Parwana 10:30 Bollywood Beats 10:55 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 11:00 Hit Filmmein Hit Sangeet-20 M 11:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 11:30 Amar Prem 11:30 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 11:30 Geet Bahar 12:00 Hit Filmmein Hit Sangeet-20 M 12:30 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 12:30 Madhumati 12:55 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 13:00 Hit Filmmein Hit Sangeet-20 M 13:30 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 13:30 Patita 13:30 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 14:00 Flashback 14:30 Hit Filmmein Hit Sangeet-20 M 14:55 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 15:00 Hit Filmmein Hit Sangeet-20 M 15:30 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 15:55 Insaaf Ki Pukar ADVENTURE ONE 06:00 Danger Diaries 07:00 Demolition Divers 07:30 Out There 08:00 Next Wave 08:30 Surfer's Journal 09:00 Explorer's Journal</div> <div>10:00 Firefight 11:00 Death Zone 12:00 Danger Diaries 01:00 Quest For K2 01:30 Out There 02:00 Next Wave 02:30 Surfer's Journal 03:00 Explorer's Journal 04:00 Firefight 05:00 Death Zone 06:00 Action Asia Challenge 07:00 Across The Line 07:30 Beyond Limits 08:30 Ng Adventures 09:30 Surfer's Journal 10:00 Action Asia Challenge 11:00 Across The Line 11:30 Beyond Limits NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 06:00 People Out There 06:30 Elephant Family-Bonds Of Life 07:30 Truth Files 08:30 Mummy Road Show 08:30 Tales Of The Living Dead 09:30 Precious Cargo 10:30 5 Weddings Couple Of Funeral 11:00 People Out There 11:30 Dogs With Jobs 12:00 Earthpulse 12:30 Savage Paradise 01:30 Trail Of The Cougar 02:30 Elephant Power 03:30 Hippos Of The Zam-bezi 04:30 Truth Files 05:30 Animal Edens 06:00 Mission Wild 06:30 Dogs With Jobs 07:00 Earth Pulse 07:30 Dragons Of The Namib 08:30 Giants Of Etosha 09:30 Lions Of Darkness 10:30 Poison! 11:30 Truth Files 15:00 The Masters Official Films The Masters Official Films 2002 (R) 15:30 Augusta Masters The Masters 2003 Preview (T) 16:30 Wrestling Apple Crush (T) 17:00 World Wide Rugby Super 12'S Rugby Brisbane, AUSTRALIA 17:30 Queensland Reds Vs Wellington Hurricanes Round 7 (T) 19:00 PGA Tour Highlights Bellsouth Classic (T) 20:00 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (L) 20:30 Cricket Talk Show Best Of Harsha Online (T) 21:00 The Masters Official Films The Masters Official Films 2002 (R) 22:00 Dream Team (T) 22:30 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (T) 23:00 Cricket Talk Show Best Of Harsha Online (R) 23:30 Augusta Masters The Masters 2003 Preview (R) 05:30 LPGA Golf Kraft Nabisco Championship Rancho Mirage, CA U.S.A. Third Round (R) 07:00 Winter X Games</div> <div>07:30 lights (R) 08:30 Futbol Mundial (T) 09:00 Dream Team (R) 09:30 English Premier League Highlights English Premier League Highlights 2002/03 (R) 10:30 National Rugby League 2003 Telstra Premiership New South Wales, AUSTRALIA Newcastle Knights Vs Melbourne Storm Round 4 (T) 12:30 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2002/03 Liverpool, ENGLAND Everton Vs Newcastle United (T) 14:30 The Masters Official Films The Masters Official Films 2002 (R) 15:30 Augusta Masters The Masters 2003 Preview (T) 16:30 Wrestling Apple Crush (T) 17:00 World Wide Rugby Super 12'S Rugby Brisbane, AUSTRALIA 17:30 Queensland Reds Vs Wellington Hurricanes Round 7 (T) 19:00 PGA Tour Highlights Bellsouth Classic (T) 20:00 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (L) 20:30 Cricket Talk Show Best Of Harsha Online (T) 21:00 The Masters Official Films The Masters Official Films 2002 (R) 22:00 Dream Team (T) 22:30 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (T) 23:00 Cricket Talk Show Best Of Harsha Online (R) 23:30 Augusta Masters The Masters 2003 Preview (R) 05:30 LPGA Golf Kraft Nabisco Championship Rancho Mirage, CA U.S.A. Third Round (R) 07:00 Winter X Games</div> <div>07:30 Classix Winter X Games Vi Classix - Slammed Mt. Aspen, CO USA (R) 07:30 School Quiz Show ESPN School Quiz 2003 (R) 08:00 Wrestling Apple Crush (R) 08:30 Motorsport Asia (R) 09:00 UEFA Champions League 2002/03 UEFA Champions League Madrid, SPAIN Real Madrid CF Vs Manchester United 11:00 Goals! (R) 11:30 School Quiz Show ESPN School Quiz 2003 (R) 12:00 LPGA Golf Kraft Nabisco Championship Rancho Mirage, CA U.S.A. Final Round (T) 14:00 Motorsport Asia (T) 14:30 Goals! (R) 15:00 UEFA Champions League 2002/03 UEFA Champions League Turin, ITALY Juventus FC Vs Barcelona 15:00 Quarterfinal #3, Leg #1 (R) 17:30 School Quiz Show ESPN School Quiz 2003 (T) 18:00 UEFA Champions League 2002/03 UEFA Champions League Milan, ITALY Inter Milan Vs Valencia CF 18:00 Quarterfinal #4, Leg #1 (S) 20:00 Australia Tour Of West Indies The Cable & Wireless Test Series 2003 Guyana, GUYANA West Indies Vs Australia 1st Test, Day 1, 1st Session (L) 22:05 Sportscenter Hindi (L) 22:35 Australia Tour Of West Indies The Cable & Wireless Test Series 2003 Guyana, GUYANA West Indies Vs Australia 1st Test, Day 1, 2nd & 3rd Ses-</div>
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