

RISING STARS

Quiz Club

Here are ten quizzes for you. Crack them, send the answers (as soon as possible) and win away the Quiz Club Prize

1. Who is the writer of the Poem, 'Paradise lost'?
2. Which sea is on the verge of drying up?
3. What is the full form of Cobol?
4. Who is the President of Maldives?
5. Which is the largest country in Africa?
6. Which country has the highest GNP per capita?
7. Who is the Secretary General of UN?
8. What is the function of Ribosomes?
9. Who stars as 'Murphy' in the comedy series, Murphy Brown?
10. What is the name of the largest lake in Bangladesh?

Answers (15:09:95)

1. Gabriel Garcia Marquez
2. Nypd Blue
3. Cloro-Floro-Carbon
4. Involvement in 'Watergate Scandal' 1946
5. Southern Vietnam
6. Giza
7. Organelle where combustion of oxygen occurs
8. River Nile
9. Chapal Nawabganj.

Top Ten Singles

1. I Live My Live For You — Fire House
2. Childhood — Micheal Jackson
3. Always — Air Supply
4. When I Come Around — Green Day
5. Somebody's Crying — Cris Isaak
6. You Are The Star — Rod Stewart
7. I Can Love You Like That — All 4 One
8. Back For Good — Take That
9. High & Dry — Radio Head
10. December — Collective Soul

Hot Hit Albums

These Albums were sold like hot cakes in this week.

1. Yanni — Live at the Acropolis
2. Pink Floyd — Pulse
3. Micheal Jackson — History
4. Deep Forest — Boheme
5. Bon Jovi — These Days

Source : Rainbow Recording Centre

Books of Interest

In his book, 'The General in his Labyrinth', the noble prize winner, Gabriel Garcia Marquez presents the portrait of Simon Bolivar, the extraordinary general who pushed the Spanish out of South America and whose dream of independence made him a hero in five countries. Among other books of the Colombian Author, 'The Autumn of the Patriarch' the novel, 'One Hundred years of Solitude', are also available in the markets.

Isaac Asimov's science fictional books are dominating the market sales. His posthumous book, 'Nightfall', is being sold like hot cakes.

Steven Weinberg presents to the general reader a book related to Big Bang theory, 'Fast three Minutes'. Also available in the markets is a book of children's profound interest, Hamlyn's Junior Encyclopedia (illustrated).

'Just Friends?' Goes into Battle

by Gulnaz Alam

It does not take one to possess a brain-piercing, mind-bending intellect to grasp the obviously offensive remarks made by both Trishna and A Zaki Choudhury over the free-mixing debate published on July 28 and August 25, '95 respectively. Readers did not even have to read in between the lines to spot them. But unfortunately we do have among us a handful of insensitive creatures who are so much more thick-skinned than rhinoceros that they do not even recognize insults, glaring ones at that.

It seems that it is Mr Choudhury who needs to lie down, count to a hundred and then pour a bucket full of cold water on his head. In his hypercritical mood and excitement he seemed to have got his facts mixed up. Those of you who have been following this debate closely will remember that I accused Trishna of blatantly insulting those belonging to the so-called ANTI-free-mixing group and not the free-mixing group as Mr Choudhury misquoted.

I talked to 59 Rising Stars readers (32 of them virtually strangers to me), fifty-three of them found at least 3 offensive comments in Trishna's 'Just Friends', four found less than 3 while two found nothing abusive. I cannot be accused of interviewing only those whose opinions would support my article since I did not know the views of the strangers beforehand. This informal survey is self-explanatory.

When I said, "Approximately half of our society has accepted free-mixing," I meant half of the urban society, not the entire of Bangladesh. If the suburban society had been included, the acceptance percentage would certainly have been much lower but not as low as 5 per cent (by the way, where did Mr Choudhury get such a specific figure?). We left behind the Dark Ages quite a number of centuries ago.

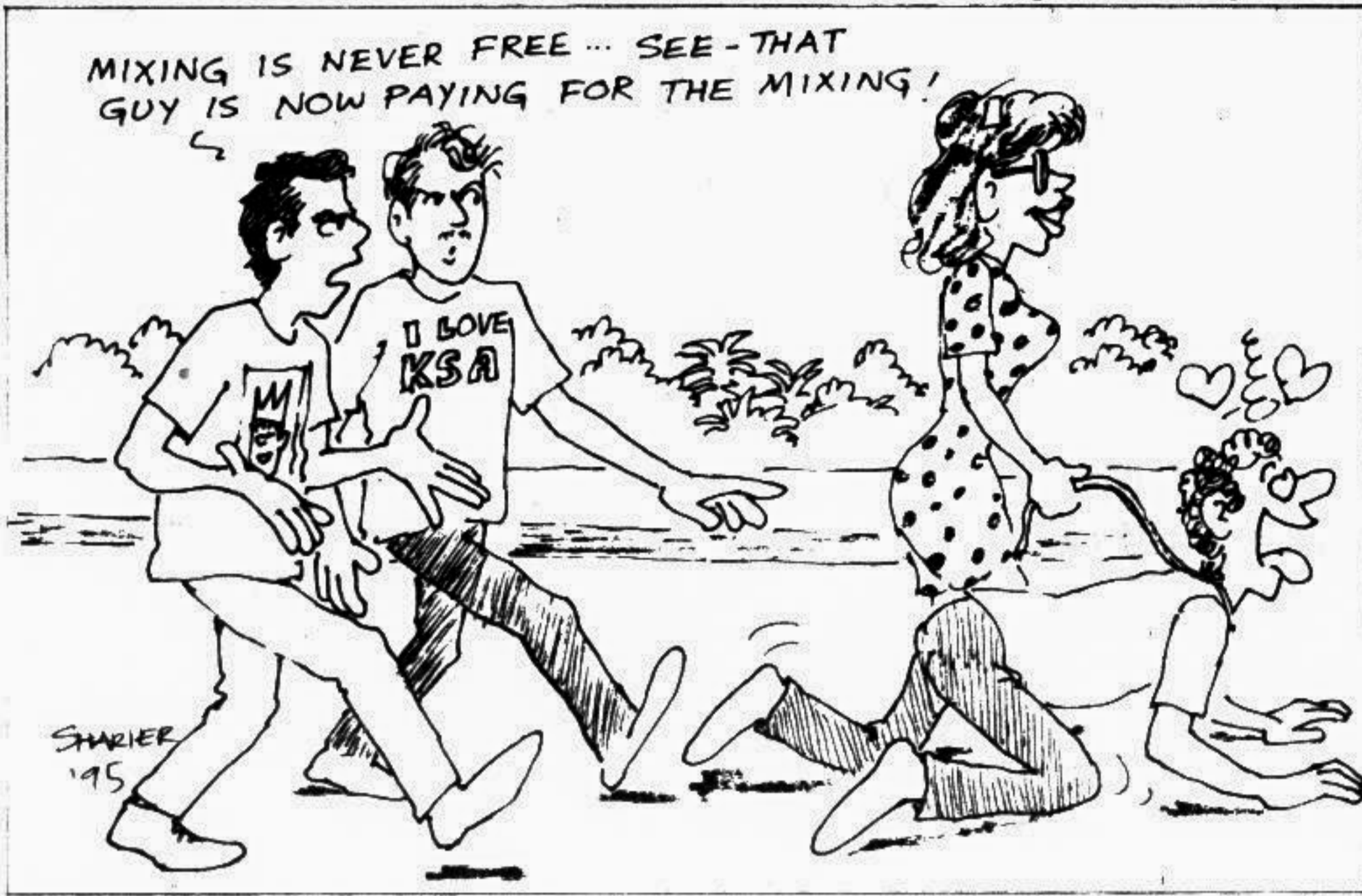
Half way through his writing, Mr Choudhury completely lost track of the subject under discussion. What

do Romeos and Juliets, Shiris and Farhads, Lialas and Majnus have anything to do with Trishna's or my article? We were talking about FRIENDSHIP between males and females in Bangladesh, that is, free-mixing, not romance between sweethearts and lovers. I would strongly advise Mr Choudhury to reread our articles before replying the next time. Parents do not allow their

mature enough to make correct decisions for themselves.

I am not throwing away the whole basket just for a few rotten apples as Mr Choudhury pleaded me not to. But would he be kind enough to advise me on what to do if there was a single drop of cow's urine in a bucket of milk (please forgive my crude example, I wish to offend no one)? Don't tell me

about their 'affair'. The only thing I object to is the rude manner in which she chose to write it without giving any proper explanation as to why our society is wary of wholeheartedly accepting free-mixing. Awareness cannot be grown among our so-called ultra-conservative society (which it is not) by open and hostile criticism. The reasons behind what make a conservative society and why a society should have mixed feelings concerning contro-



daughters to go out alone not because they do not want them to meet with boys but for safety purposes, though there are some cases where both reasons may be applied. As for screening telephone calls, like any other sensible person I believe that prevention is better than cure. Personally, I am all for boys and girls chatting over the telephone as long as they are not indulging in something silly or in something they are not ready for.

Youngsters in their teens are usually immature. As a result, they often cannot distinguish between right and wrong, and even if they can, they tend to do the wrong for the fun of it. It is the guardians' moral obligation to guide and chastise children until they are old enough and

that I should not throw it away and keep it.

Even after studying 'Just Friends' for five weeks neither I nor anyone I know found any of Trishna's attempts at pointing out some of her beliefs 'humorous', 'sarcastic and melodramatic', yes, but not humorous. If Mr Choudhury is one of the rare people perceptive enough to pick out humour that is not even there, why can't he be the more obvious insults? Is he being biased about the subject or the writers?

I am 110 per cent behind Trishna's viewpoints with regard to friendship between males and females; everyone should have the freedom to make friends with members of the opposite sex without having outsiders speculating

versal topics such as free-mixing must be analysed from a neutral point of view. 'Just Friends?' was an attempt at explaining the reasons behind why free-mixing is viewed with such suspicion in Bangladesh. I am not condemning those who are for free-mixing nor those who are adamantly against it. Each one of us has a different opinion about the subject matter and whatever that opinion is, everyone else should learn to respect it even if it does not coincide with theirs.

Lastly, I agree with Mr Choudhury that laughter (not humour) is the best medicine. And I have been laughing throughout this ridiculous debate which I seem to have got myself into.

Scientific Facts

100 km in just 1/2 secs

JUST in four and a half seconds the car's speed jumps from zero to 3 hundred kilometers. This is not a passenger carrying car, its rather a 'sports' or 'racing' car.

With the help of the famous Ford Company this new racing car was invented by a French designer called Tony Gillette. The minimum speed the car can reach is 250 km per hour! This four cylinder engine car has a strength of 217 HP. This car is only found in Europe and its price is approximately eighteen thousand lakh dollars!

Digital Radio

FROM the year 1998 the 'digital radio' will probably be introduced in America. While travelling in land people will be able to tune in to their favourite channel on this radio. The sound is generated by a computer. From the radio stations this sound will be transmitted all over the country and even to other countries as well. According to the Washington DC chairman of CD and radio institute, the digital radio is the threshold of revolution.

CD Radio and other institutes have asked the United States 'Federal communication' for digital — satellite license to start using the radio. This will be aired for 24hrs. At homes and in cars with a small 'satellite antenna', which looks like a one 'dollar coin' you will be able to receive its signals. To obtain the services of this radio people have to pay only 5-10 dollars per month.

Three Dimensional TV

THE moving pictures or scenes we see on TV and Movies are two dimensional. That is picture which has width and length but no depth. In TV and cinema whatever depth is obtained is due to a deviation of vision. But we will be really able to watch three dimensional pictures when the Japanese Sanio releases their '3D TV' in the market.

From ordinary video signals they have been able to convert them to digital, that is computer-like number wise analysis method. This contains a 'liquid crystal panel'. This panel is situated behind an image salt-petre curtain. This image salt-petre gradually divides and gives rise to transparent and opaque lines. This special curtain enables viewers to see partially and so the three dimensional image is formed. This TV is for the viewing of only one viewer, however, Sanio hopes to build four, six or ten inch TV.

It is said that 'computer aided design' (CAD) and 'simulation' — it will be used for these purposes. But slowly it will be used for TV games or individual purposes, as well. Around the year 1997 this will probably be released in the market.

QUICK/CHIP

INTEL'S 'pentium microsoft' was till now the fastest computer chip. But the new P-6 will be even faster than this. Unlike the pentium the P-6 will move with double the speed and the bill for electricity will also be less. This processor is made in such a way that in one square inch silicon plate 55 lakh minute transistors can be packed. This is actually the equivalent of two chips packed in one package. One part will have the microchip, another part 256k for memory and the other chip to act as processor so that it can send information very quickly. Its velocity per second is 133 megahatts. This new chip will probably come in the market at the end of this year.

Translated by Aliya F Khan
Courtesy: Anandamela

THE MISSING MACHINE

BY NAZMUL BANKU

Panel 1: "HAVE A LOOK AT THIS NEWS FEATURE!"

Panel 2: "FARMER RAISES GIANT CHICKEN" BY NAZMUL BANKU. "GANDOGRAM, a farmer appeared at the market of 'Gandogram' with a 45 kilo chicken yesterday." "I raised this poultry feeding it vitamin B complex daily," said Boudha, a farmer residing near Nilu lake." "I am astonishingly proud of this victory!"

Panel 3: "THE GREEK SOLD THE CHICKEN FOR 20,000 TAKA. MAN, THIS HEN MUST HAVE HAD BEEN ENLARGED WITH THE MACHINE!"

Panel 4: "RIGHT! AND THIS NEWS GIVES US CLUES TO FIND JAMRUL! HE MUST BE AROUND THE NILU LAKE. A 500 KM IRINE FROM HERE! LET'S MOVE!"

Panel 5: "WHO WOULD BE?" "YEAH! SHE BORES ME. LET'S NOW!"

Panel 6: "GOTTA GO WAY QUIDE!"

WILLIAM Golding, born in Cornwall, England in 1911, was one of the most distinguished writers of his time. He is famous for 'Lord of the Flies', his first novel which won him a Nobel Prize. In this novel a group of preadolescent boys model to illustrate the relentless duel between the good and the bad.

In 'Lord of the Flies', Golding has a nuclear war as the plot. Trying to escape from the disaster, a plane carries a group of English boys to an unknown destination. Unfortunately the plane crashes, leaving only a number of boys as the survivors in a solitary island.

In the beginning all the boys are determined to live like civilized people. But soon some of them get involved in a conflict based on holding of the 'conch'. The conch is the symbol of rules and discipline to the boys. The boys believed that only the conch could have saved them from becoming savages, until the 'Lord of the Flies' took hold of their good minds.

Each character was manipulated cleverly allowing the boys to descend through the dark side of their personalities. The boys abruptly develop a hunger for power in themselves. So the value of the conch changes to them. And at one point the conch is defied for the boys surrender to superstition. But in the end civilization reappears when the boys get rescued.

In this novel all the boys are preadolescent. But each

Relentless Duel

by Rumana Tasmin Khan

of them represent a particular group of grown-up people who think alike, and are among us. They all seem to be specialized in one side, though comparatively dull in the other. This makes them have their own defects. Among the central characters, Simon was the one possessing the best quality — intuition. As this quality enabled him to discover the beast that lay within themselves, he was killed by the same 'beast'.

Simon had minimum interest in the internal conflict

deduce that all this was due to Beelzebub, the demon's presence in themselves. He also found out that the terrifying beast in the 'air' and 'water' was nothing but the body of a dead airman.

Simon did find out how blind with prejudices the others were behind their painted faces. But before he could pass the message about the demon, he was clubbed to death as a 'punishment' for not obeying the demon's commands. Beelzebub did not stop then, but continued with another tragic death. This death was as symbolic as the person's name was satirical: Piggy's name did not at all resemble his character, he was an intellectual.

Jack, the leader of the 'savages', was also the leader of the pig hunters. He used to hunt pigs brutally. With equal brutality he did not stop his followers' action that resulted in Piggy's death. And Piggy was never more vulnerable than before his death, helpless without his glasses, unable to participate in understanding the occurrences. Piggy's death was symbolic because Beelzebub attempted to destroy the symbols of both logic and laws by this. Piggy, holding the conch, was relying on it to establish order and discipline when a huge rock was pushed on him. Piggy was smashed and the conch was broken into many pieces instantly. This scene was the proof of how much empowered the Lord of the Flies was to destroy his opponents. This makes Piggy's death significant.



William Golding

Run From The Sun

by Kazi Khaled Arafat

DREAM-ON the verge of being realized it seems that I was only hypnotized. We've reached the edge of the cliff Now you and I must part The skies are for your eternity The sea's for my lonely heart.

Concentrate on the present, cuz the past is too bright I'll be lined by the memory of your light. Reality hurts, and it seems to me That all is dark when I don't see— Looking ahead, I want to cry Looking back, I want a last goodbye But dreams were never meant to be So farewell to the love Of you and me.

Comets

COMETS are bodies which revolve round the sun like the planets, only instead of being compact, solid bodies they consist of scattered particles and gases. Generally these ingredients are so thinly distributed that though a comet may extend for several million miles in space, the matter in it could often be packed into a small house. It is so tenuous that when the earth passes through a comet's tail (as it sometimes does) only the astronomers know that anything out of the ordinary has happened.

Most comets are invisible to the naked eye, but appear through telescopes as small faint patches of light. Their orbits round the sun are very elliptical so that they are

Occasionally a comet has two tails, and there was one in 1825 with five tails and another in 1744 with six tails. Halley's comet, which completes its long journey round the sun every seventy five years, was visible to the naked eye for four and a half months in 1910, when the earth passed through its tail.

A comet observed in 1845 split into two and continued to journey round the sun as two separate comets in 1846. It then travelled too far away to be seen but reappeared in 1852, the two comets being wider apart. It has never been seen since, but the dates on which it would be expected to appear generally show a remarkable number of meteors or 'shooting stars'.

Autobiography of a Biscuit

by Shahryar Qayem

Hi! My name is Sally Strawberry of the Nabisco Mixed Flavours. My father was a strawberry and my mother an oven. My father perished while I was being made. I was put in a stuffy cello bag which was sealed shut. The bag was small and I could hardly breathe. There wasn't even enough space to move a muscle.

There were about five of us six including me. There were Laura of Lime, Lucy Lemon, me, Cody Coconut and Turmeric Tom. We were taken to a shop-window beside a tin of foreign chocolates which were very expensive. One day, a little boy stole us. He tore open the bag and picked me up. With one foot in my grave, I bid you all goodbye.