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DHAKA WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1996

Let's toast a free & fair election

Khondakar M Mostafa
 kmms126@pitt.edu
 USA:

Banladesh is indeed going through a transitional phase. Under the pressure from the opposition parties and a mass movement, KZ was forced to resign. BNP created a caretaker government of its own veneration without consulting the opposition parties. The caretaker gov't of Justice Rahman is in control of the situation, and there is a great likelihood of holding a free and fair election. Foreign observers are going to

Banladesh to monitor the election. This is indeed a very healthy development for a politically corrupt country like ours.

Anyway, with so much disappointment, lets look at the positive side: BD is going to have (hopefully) a free and fair election; and lets respect the result whoever comes to power; provided there is no smell of conspiracy real or otherwise.

Lets toast a free & fair election.

Some thoughts on the upcoming election

Saleh Tanveer
 tanveer@math.ohio-state.edu
 USA:

The election is to-day. The question that may decide what's in store for Bangladesh in the near future is not who is going to win, but whether one of the two major parties losing the election will accept the results. The signs so far are not encouraging. Each party seems to be expressing its misgivings about the fairness of the upcoming elections. At the best, this is a means to pressure the care-taker government and the election commission. At the worst, such posturing is a precursor to plans for widescale agitation if the election results are not to the liking of any particular party.

In this context, the level of back and forth acrimonious political discourse among the highly educated is particularly discouraging. The supposedly intellectual class is completely neutralized in its say in national politics by failing to form any kind of consensus on what is acceptable and not acceptable in BD politics, in the light of national interest.

That politics is acrimonious is not the issue. The problem is the lack of any consensus on the rules of the game. The constitutional change to form a care-taker government was touted as a means for a level playing field. This would make sense if the players abide by

some rules. If in a game, you think that the opposing players are fouling you, you try to get the attention of the referee. If you think the referee is partial, you appeal to some higher authority. At some point, regardless of whether such appeals went in favor or against you, whether they are just or unjust, you have to abide by the decision. Otherwise, there is no game to be played. In politics as well, all parties must come to some common understanding on basic rules. Otherwise, there will not be a nation left to run.

It is unrealistic to hope that a Bangladesh election will be completely free of rigging. If you are a losing politician, it will not be difficult for you to point to these irregularities and claim this as the reason for your loss. Judging by the kind of allegiance each party has among its followers, it is not difficult to see that if the losing party were to call for a mass movement, it will succeed in doing so even if it means leading our nation to anarchy. The often used argument on "Brihottoro Sharto" (greater good) will surely sway the followers.

Can the party leaders be urged to act differently? If there is any hope, it must come from those of you who are active in party politics and have influence with your party leaders.

The articles, or "posts" (to use Internet parlance) published in this page come from the Bangladesh Internet news group called "soc.culture.bangladesh," or SCB. In this newsgroup, Internet users from around the world, mostly Bangalees, discuss issues relevant to Bangladesh. In "Live from the Internet" the Daily Star reprints these posts verbatim (complete with English language errors) — just as they would appear on your computer screen. They have only been edited for size and relevance to the subject matter.

Debate on Politics: We need to be alert

Ahmed
 ahmed@vax0.gram.edu
 USA:

I must say people in Internet are doing a great job. We need this type of alertness and consciousness to fight against anti-democratic, fascist tendencies that our beloved country is facing since its inception.

In contemporary world if we want to progress and be competitive with the rest of the world we need a democratic constitution based on rule of law. BD came reality with a great sacrifice. Al had lot of immaturity in the beginning and made lot of mistakes in early 70s. But that should not be an obstacle to recognize their contribution to the nation. Since Zia came to power in mid 70s, he basically rewrote the history of Bangladesh and completely erased the role of Bangabandhu and famous AL leaders like Tajuddin, Nazrul Islam, Kamruzzaman, and Monsur Ali etc. The present generation does not know who is Tajuddin. Other than Bangabandhu, no one else can match his contribution to the creation of Bangladesh.

K.M. Maniruzzaman
 manir@okabe.tu-tokyo.ac.jp
 Japan:

Which is a REAL shame. Think of educated indians who don't know about Nehru. Or Americans who nothing about, say, Lincoln.

Sheikh Mujib provided the inspiration, Tajuddin was the brains and the administrator behind the liberation struggle. And he had to provide leadership against all odds, including conspiracy against the emergence of Bangladesh from his own ministers (Khandoker Mushtaque). It is also a shame that Sheikh Mujib virtually sacked Tajuddin from his cabinet after liberation. Honest, intelligent leaders like Tajuddin are rare in Bangladesh. If he were not killed in jail by the army butchers in 1975, the history of our nation could have been different.

Bangladeshi woman honored
 M. Zahurul Islam
 mohammed@atwa-rd.com
 USA:

Few weeks back, VH1 Honor, a program by the music channel VH-1 on cable TV, honored Bangladeshi women's right activist Salma (couldn't remember her last name). This was a story of a Bangladeshi woman who was prosecuted by some village mullahs for having an affair with a man of different religion. Apparently, Salma helped bring those mullahs to justice (something like that). Would appreciate if anybody else could elaborate on that story.

BDesh-Electronic Newsletter
 Md Rezaul Abid
 abidmr@newton.ccs.tuhs.ca
 Canada:

I am glad to announce that "BDesh" the first ever electronic newsletter for Bangladesh is back on-line again. The first six issues (March 20 -- April 01, 1996) are now on the shelf at the following WWW site:
<http://www.tuhs.ca/~abidmr/bdesh.html>

Top ten reasons to finish graduate school
 Polish
 mhullah@univ.ncsu.edu
 North Carolina State University, USA:

Recently I have come across to the top ten reasons to finish graduate school. They are:

1. Graduate students you helped to recruit have graduated.
2. The new faculty hires are younger than you.
3. All your living committee members have retired.
4. You know you can run a lab better than your supervisor.
5. You've actually seen a project started by the university physical plant completed.
6. Eating out means going to 'tao hell'!
7. You envy the industry jobs held by your lab's former dishwashers.
8. Your student loans rival the national debt.
9. People ask why your research is important and you can't remember.
10. Your exit seminar doubles as your retirement party.

Hope some readers will enjoy!!!

Female Crimes

Irmgard Kuster
 Irmgard.Kuster@avro.nl
 Nether Lands:

Dear reader,

I hope you can help me with the following matter.

The AVRO is one of the major Dutch television networks. I am a journalist working for AVRO. At the moment I am researching a documentary called 'female crimes'. Our goal is to make three programmes in three different countries around the world about women who have committed a crime and therefore are (or were) involved in a legal matter (trial, sentence).

We think that some of these crimes tell a lot about the situation of women, or a large group of women, in those particular countries. The documentary should give more insight in the three societies and the position of women, the reasons why these women committed a crime (are they victims?), the way the legal system treats women and the chances women have after they have been sentenced.

We are looking for cases were a woman for example:

- has killed or tried to kill her partner (or tried to do so)
- has killed or tried to kill her children (or tried to do so)
- had an illegal abortion (or tried to do so)
- stole money or goods from her boss (or tried to do so)

-kidnapped her children (or tried to do so)

-who are actively involved in organised crime

-did something criminal that is typical for some/a lot of women in a region or in the country.

The AVRO believes some women become criminals because all kinds of circumstances force them to do so. Because they have been battered by their husband/relative(s), or they are mistreated by their boss, or they cannot go along with the legal system in their country or area, or because nobody takes care of them, or they are desperate.

Is it possible for you to help us find a case or cases in your country or in another countries you know about? The case could be in court right now or in the future. It also might be a case where the trial already has been and the woman is free or still in jail.

I hope you understand the meaning of this project. The actual filming is not planned yet, it depends if we can find suitable cases. I hope you can help us find a case or cases, or other organisations or people who can help me with this. I have two months left to do the research. Thank you very much for your attention, succes with your work and I hope to hear from you soon.

Rashed Tanvir Islam
 rislam@mail.utexas.edu
 USA:

I agree with you. I really thought that his contributions are tremendous, yet at the same time I was confused how

blame to Mir Zafar and this name has a special meaning in our country. In Russia, may be Leylen (please ignore spelling mistakes) was treated differently for the first 70 years but now people of Russia are removing every signs for Leylen. There may be many such examples around the world.

So, men take time to write their history, to explain their actions.

nrhp
 nrhp@nando.net
 USA:

We did not see this type of posting for long time. Thanks to Mr. Rashed Tanvir Islam for his efforts which will answer precisely and strongly some unnecessarily created confusion and deception of truth by some people.

Higher education in Social Work

Golam Mohammed Mathbor
 gmmathbo@acs.ucalgary.ca
 Canada:

Hi folks:

I was wondering whether any Bangladeshi scholar is doing MSW or Ph.D in Social Work in North America or in Europe. I am doing my Ph.D in Social Work with the Faculty of Social Work, The University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. My area of interest is Coastal Community Economic Development with particular reference to Bangladesh. I have finished my Masters in Social Work (MSW) at McGill University, Montreal, Canada.

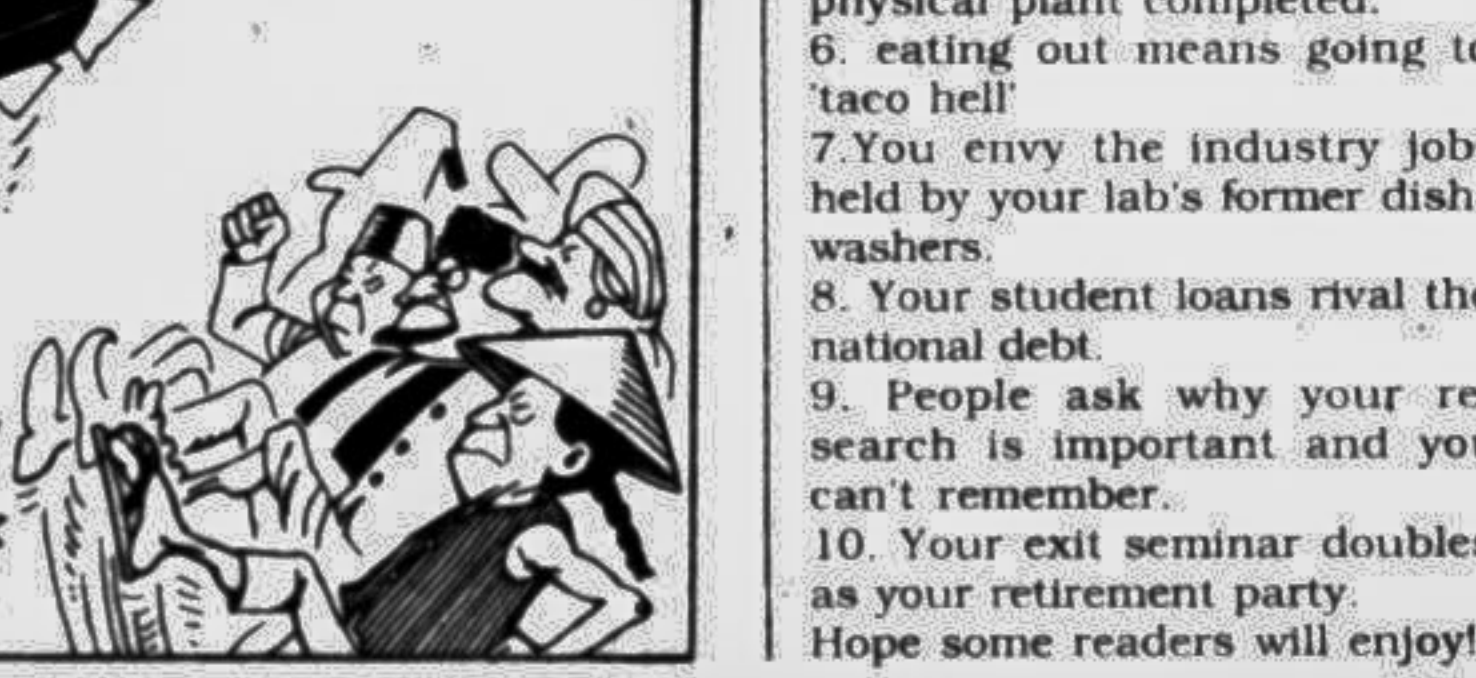
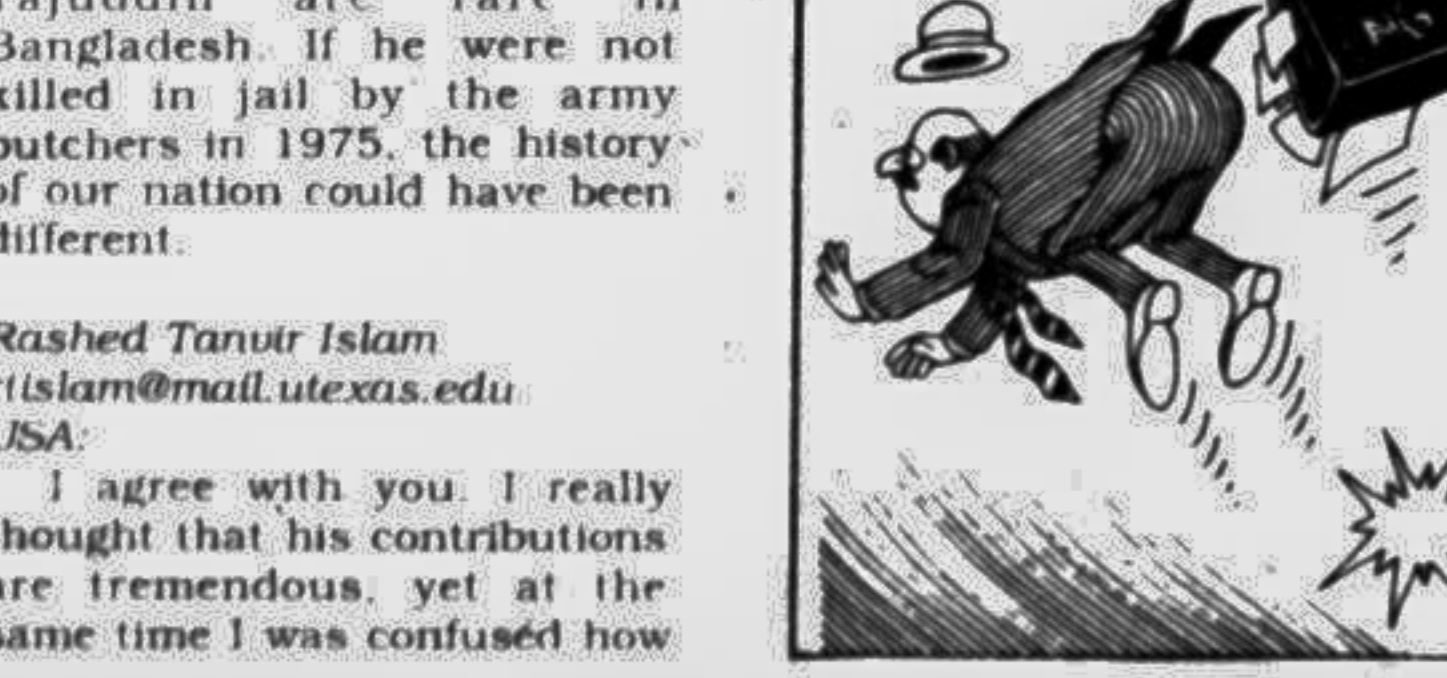
I would be happy to keep in touch with afore mentioned professionals or other Social Sciences scholars interested in my same area of research. My address is as follows:
 Golam M. Mathbor (Mahmood) Doctoral student
 Faculty of Social Work
 The University of Calgary
 2500 University Drive N.W.
 Calgary, Alberta,
 T2N 1N4 Canada.

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The opinions expressed in these columns are the author's own as they appear to all receivers of the Internet. We reproduce them authentically to permit our readers to know what Bangladeshis abroad are feeling and saying.

The Daily Star is not responsible for the opinions expressed in these columns.



The newsgroup, "soc.culture.bangladesh," has been provided courtesy of Agni Systems Limited (Tel. 882379). You can also take part in this page by sending us your views/questions/comments/inquiries (anything that you want). The Daily Star will then send your responses into the Internet newsgroup free of charge where they will be read and commented on by participants from around the world. Letters should be no more than 100 words in length and titled.

Please send or fax your Internet posts to: M. Shamimuzzaman, Page incharge, "Live from the Internet", The Daily Star, House 11, Road 3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205. (GPO Box no: 3257) Fax: 863035.

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Wednesday 12th June
 (All programmes are in local time. We recommend programmes printed in bold. There may be changes in the programmes)

BTV

3:00 Opening Announcement Al-Quran Programme Summary 3:10 Re-telecast of Selected Programme 4:00 News in Bangla 4:15 Sports Programme 4:45 Tagore Songs 5:00 News in Bangla 5:25 Moneer Khatu 6:00pm News in Bangla 6:05 Hjal Tamal 7:00 The News 7:05 Open University 7:25 Sangbad Parikrama 8:00 News in Bangla 8:30 Band Show 9:00 Mini Series: Shan Tazsukawa Story (II) 10:00 News in English 10:30 Shasthathaha: Health Programme Based on Child & Mother 10:35 Prottyasha Alo 11:30 News in Bangla 11:35 Thursday's programme 11:40 Close down

BBC

6:00am BBC Newsroom inc. World Business Report/ Asia Today/24 Hours 7:00 BBC Newsroom inc. World Business Report/ Asia Today/24 Hours 8:00 BBC Newsroom inc. World Business Report/ Asia Today/24 Hours 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 Under the Sun 10:00 BBC Newsday 1:00 BBC World Headlines 1:05 Horizon 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 Time Out: The Travel Show 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out: Film '96 4:00 BBC Newsday 6:00pm BBC World News 6:15 Panorama 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 BBC Newsday Asia & Pacific 8:30 Time Out: The International Festival Of The Sea 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 Under the Sun 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 Time Out: Top Gear 11:00 The World Today 1:00 BBC World Headlines 1:05 The Tourist 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 Time Out: More Rhodes Around Britain 3:00 BBC World Report inc. World Business Report/24 Hours 4:00

CHANNEL V

7:50am Revind VJ Sopyha 8:00 Jump Start VJ Tray 9:00 Frame By Frame 12:00pm The Vibe VJ Laka 1:00 By Demand VJ Tray 2:00 Revind VJ Sopyha 3:00 Big Bang VJ Alessandra 4:30 By Demand VJ Tray 5:30 Revind VJ Sopyha 6:30 The Vibe VJ Laka 7:30 First Day First Show 8:00 Empty Nest 9:30 NYPD Blue 10:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 11:00 Home and Away 7:30 Entertainment Tonight 8:00 MASH 8:30 The Golden Girls 9:00 Empty Nest 9:30 NYPD Blue 10:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 11:00 Santa Barbara 12:00pm Hard Copy 12:30 The Extraordinary 1:30 Pickle Fences

STAR Sports

7:30am World Wrestling Federation Action Zone 8:30 Marlboro League '96 Chinese National Football League Beijing vs Shenzhen @ Beijing 10:30 Futbol Mundial 11:00 The Asian Football

STAR PLUS

6:30am Voltran 7:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 7:30 GI Joe 8:00 Saber Rider and the Star Sheriffs 8:30 The Adventures Of

ZEE TV

5:30am Entertainment 'TMM 6:00 News 6:30 Jagran 7:00 ZED: Management 7:30 ZED: Networking 8:00 ZED: Naya A To Z 8:30 Through The Gears 9:00 Helpine 9:30 Game Anyane 10:00 Lakme Khuburat 10:30 Duniya 11:00 Its My Show 11:30 Hum Paanch 12:00 17 Shery Road 12:30 Sur Taal 1:00 ZED Chota Byte 1:30 Asian Sky Show 2:30 Tara 3:00 Film Chakkar 3:30 Celeste 4:00 Bhayans 4:30 Positive Healthshow 5:00 ZED: Management 5:30 Hum Zameer

SONY ET

8:30 Rangela Re 9:00 The Three Stooges 9:30 Dennis The Menace 10:00 Dream Of Jeanne 10:30 Aama 11:00 Faasle 11:30 Cine Matinee-Hindi Feature Film 2:30pm Kismet 3:00 Zameer Asman 3:30 Mere Message Men Geet 4:00 Sur! Wheel Of Fortune 4:30 Ghaev 5:00 Sunday Ki Sunday 5:30 The Three Stooges 6:00 Dennis The Menace 6:30 Dream Of Jeanne 7:00 Mere Message Men Geet 7:30 Premier 8:00 Sur! Wheel Of Fortune 8:30 Faasle 9:00 Ghaev 9:30 O' Maria 10:00 Jannat Kaha Mera Jigar Gaya Ji 10:30 Cine Prime-Hindi Feature Film 1:30 Mere

DD 7

6:05am Jannamdi 8:10 Rabindra Sangket 8:20 Binodan 8:30 Chakra Khabar 8:50 Adhunik Gaan 9:00 Bakul Basar 9:30 Nandan Durgar Premier Gaan 10:00 Shastriya Sangket 10:15 Bhaktigeeti 12:30pm Chaiti Hawa 1:00 Janas (Serial) 1:30 Bengali Movie Club Film Show 5:05 Nepali Program 5:30 News 5:35 Chuching Fank 'Kathak Katha' 6:00 Pali Katha 6:30 Jay Jayanti 6:55 Kholer Prithibi 7:30 Bangla Sambad 8:00 Samayer Simanay 8:30 Sahitya

EL TV

9:00:30am Rajesh Khanna Special 1:30 Bachechan Man Ke 2:30 Sur Sargam 3:30 Gurra Hua Zamana 4:30 Dance Dance 5:30 Rajesh Khanna Special 6:30 Bachechan Man Ke 7:30 Sur Sargam 8:30 Gurra Hua Zamana 9:30 Dance Dance 10:30 Zandu Balm Dance Mama 11:00 V3 + 11:30 Karm 12:00pm Asha Bhonste Special 1:00 Pyar Hi Pyar 2:00 Guzara Hua Zamana 3:00 Godrej-Storvel Film Chaat 3:30 Fantasy Kal Bhi Aaj Bhi 4:00

ZEE CINEMA

8:30 Tarana 9:00 Hit Hai Frhai 9:30 Naukar 12:15 Anbani 12:45 Doli 3:30 Aaj Anadi Kal Khiladi 4:00 Mela 6:45 Bindiya Aur Bandook 9:30 Songs 10:00 Sharda 12:15 Off Screen 12:45 Integam

Wonderwings Amar Prem on EL TV tonight at 9:00

11:00 Top of the Pops 11:30 The Role VJ Tray 12:00pm Over the Edge VJ Sopyha 12:30 BPL Dye 1:30 Revind VJ Sopyha 2:00 By Demand VJ Tray 3:00 None Vision 5:00 Frame By Frame

STAR MOVIES

7:30am Comedy: Life Stinks 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 9:30 Family (Black Beauty 12 (Arabic Subtitles) 11:00 Comedy: Local Hero 12 (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Musical: At Long Last Love PG (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Classic: Baby Takes a Bow PG (Hindi Subtitles) 5:30 Family: The Christmas Marrian PG (Hindi Subtitles) 7:00 Bol Bollywood 7:30 Classic: It's Not Cricket PG? (Hindi Subtitles) 9:00 The Movie Show 9:30 Kyle MacLachlan Double Bill: The Hidden (Hindi Subtitles) 11:30 Kyle MacLachlan Double Bill: The Trial (Arabic Subtitles) 1:30 Thriller: House Of Games (Arabic Subtitles) 3:30 Action: Highlander II (Arabic Subtitles) 5:30 After Dark: Perfect

PTV

8:00am Talaat Aul Tarjamat Hahad/Naad 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Khabar 8:45 Mansobapat Gara Khud Kafalat 9:00 Sur Savaria & Saha Ka Safar & Sado-E-Kasim 9:40 Shana Ba Shana 9:50 Aaj Ki Kitaab-Ak Nazm 10:05 Boor Key Ladoo 10:30 English Film: Chop And Dale 10:55 Milk Nagma 11:00 Khabar 11:10 Ali Baba (Drama Serial) 11:35 Naughtaaz

TOM and JERRY

COME IN AND HAVE YOUR BATH, TUFFY!

I DON'T NEED A BATH...

I'VE BEEN SWIMMING.

LIght JUST WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN SWIMMING IN?

James Bond
 BY IAN FLEMING
 DRAWING BY HOOK

OK, LIMBY—GO WISE UP THE MANAGER THAT A MAJICK FUSE BLEW IN HERE DURING THE MEETING

SO I'M SEALING OFF THIS ROOM TILL I FIND OUT WHY WE'RE GETTING SUCH LOUSY WORKMANSHIP—AND TELL HIM MR. RUBY ROTKOPF WILL BE CHECKING OUT TONIGHT!

THEN DRINKS AND DINNER AT 8:30 SHARP—AND BRING ON THE DANCING GIRLS!... GOT THE PICTURE?

NYPD Blue on Star Plus tonight at 9:30

Russia v Brazil Or USA China v TBC Or USA Event Date: 7/6/96

STAR Sports

7:30am World Wrestling Federation Action Zone 8:30 Marlboro League '96 Chinese National Football League Beijing vs Shenzhen @ Beijing 10:30 Futbol Mundial 11:00 The Asian Football

RAJESH KHANNA SPECIAL

1:30 Bachechan Man Ke 2:30 Sur Sargam 3:30 Gurra Hua Zamana 4:30 Dance Dance 5:30 Rajesh Khanna Special 6:30 Bachechan Man Ke 7:30 Sur Sargam 8:30 Gurra Hua Zamana 9:30 Dance Dance 10:30 Zandu Balm Dance Mama 11:00 V3 + 11:30 Karm 12:00pm Asha Bhonste Special 1:00 Pyar Hi Pyar 2:00 Guzara Hua Zamana 3:00 Godrej-Storvel Film Chaat 3:30 Fantasy Kal Bhi Aaj Bhi 4:00