ROME, Mar 22: The Italian soccer federation has halved a controversial four-match ban on Sampdoria defender Sinisa Mihailovic after a referee had a change of heart, an official said today, reports Reuter.

Yugoslavia's Mihailovic was given the severe ban earlier this month following a Sunday league match, when he kicked the ball in the direction of the referee and insulted him after a penalty had been awarded to opponents Atalanta.

Sampdoria's general director Emiliano Salvarezza called the ban "shameful and squalid" and the club's fans held a minute's silence at the start of last Sunday's league encounter to protest against the punishment.

The federation's disciplinary committee reduced the ban to two games after the match referee Salvatore Racalbuto changed his report to say that Mihailovic had kicked the ball "towards" him "in a non-violent fashion" and not "against" him. as he had previously written.

Mihailovic will have to sit out this weekend's match against Piacenza but will be back for Sampdoria's subsequent league game against Parma.

Romanian soccer club fined

BUCHAREST, Mar 22: The Romanian soccer federation fined First-Division club Universitatea Craiova 4,400 dollars suspended five of their players and barred them from staging matches at their home field for the rest of the season for violence during last Saturday's league game, a club official said Friday, reports AP.

Seven people were reported detained by police. Central Stadium was packed to a capacity of 35,000 after many tickets were distributed free.

Referee Sorin Vadana was shoved by Universitatea Craiova players after he awarded a controversial penalty to Bucharest's Sportul Studentesc, which converted for a 2-1 victory.

The victory gave Sportul 24 points and moved them up to 15th in the 18-team league. Universitatea Craiova and Petrolul Ploiesti share 12th

place with 26 points. After the match, thousands of fans in the southern city threw pieces of wood and other projectiles onto the pitch and battled with police in the worst Romanian soccer violence in years. Nobody was seriously in-

jured. Universitatea Craiova's officials called the punishments. announced late Thursday, un-

justified. This is abusive. Most of the incidents happened outside of the stadium. They have no right (to inflict such punishment). The referee made a mistake." club deputy manager Marcel Popescu said via telephone from Craiova. He said the club would appeal the sanctions.

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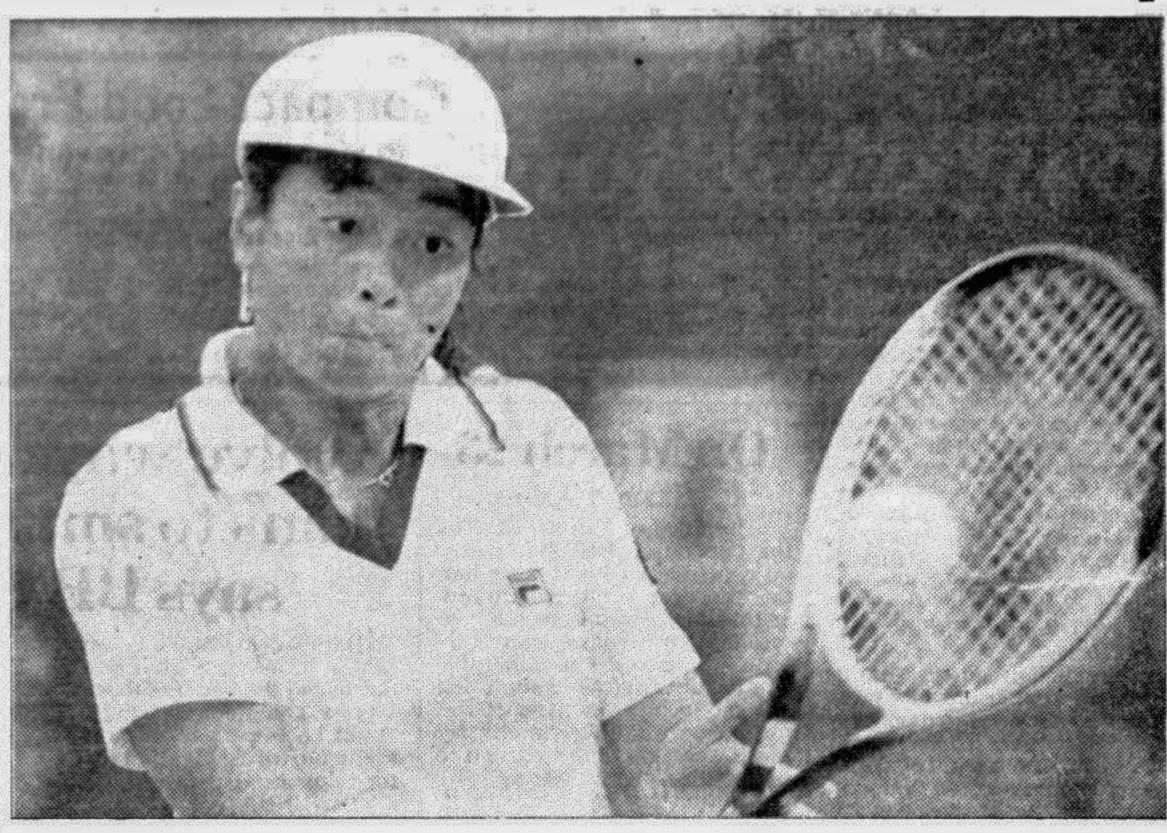
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Canadian Patricia Hy-Boulais plays backhand against top seed Swiss Martina Hingis during their second round action at the Lipton Championships in Florida on Mar 21. - AFP/UNB photo

Hingis, Seles put to tests



KEY BISCAYNE. Florida, Mar 22: Former and future world number ones Monica Seles and Martina Hin-

gis had to go the distance in their opening matches at the 1.75 million dollars WTA Lipton Championship Friday, report agencies.

Seles, playing her first match since November due to a broken finger, outlasted 45thrated Naoko Sawamatsu of Japan 6-3, 2-6, 6-2.

Hingis rallied to beat 59th ranked Patricia Hy-Boulais of Canada 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

"I was fighting against myself," said Hingis after stretching her unbeaten record in 1997 to 24 matches.

Seles won the Lipton in 1990 and 1991. She was sidelined for two years after being stabbed in the back by a deranged fan during a match in Germany in

Seles lost her share of the No 1 ranking last November and has slipped to fifth. She sheepishly admitted that while her finger feels fine, she's not in the best of shape.

"I haven't done anything," she said. "I haven't done too

much but practice a lot the last two weeks. The next four or five weeks I'm playing tournaments, and I'll have time to focus on

tennis, not distractions.' Seles struggled with rusty timing against Sawamatsu but also showed flashes of the form that has won nine Grand Slams. She spanked baseline winners from both sides and twice topped 100 mph (160 kph) with her serve, a weakness fast year because of a chronic shoulder ailment.

Seles raced to a 4-0 lead in the final set, twice breaking Sawamatsu's serve at 15. When the victory was complete, she gave the crowd a wave and a smile and signed autographs on her way off the court. She next plays American Amy Erazier or Germany's Barbara Rittner.

Hingis lost her first match here last year to Japan's Nana Miyagi, and there were moments on Friday when she looked as though she might go the same way again. She was certainly pleased to get through against Sawamatsu.

"It's good to win a match like this," Hingis said. "If I want to still compete in this tournament. I will have to play better in my next match.

Hingis now faces a thirdround showdown with either 16-year-old American Venus Williams, or former teenage star Jennifer Capriati, who is making a comeback after drug and legal troubles.

Hingis came out on court under threatening skies after a rain delay of more than five hours and quickly showed frustration at the wind and her own errors.

She slammed one ball to the far end of the court in the fourth game and another into the stands two points from the finish of the first set.

Hy-Boulais broke Hingis for a 2-1 lead with a forehand winner beyond the Swiss girl's reach, then broke again for a 5-2 edge. Hingis answered by breaking back but then squandered the set on two shots beyond the baseline.

Hingis rallied in the second set, breaking Hy-Boulais' final three service games to even the

She needed three deuces to hold serve in the first game of the third set then broke Hy-Boulais in the next game and the final game to win.

Martina not satisfied



KEY BISCAYNE. Florida, Mar 22: Martina Hingis says she has earned her upcoming

world number-

one ranking and should not be considered a fill-in for injured German star Steffi Graf, reports

Bangladesh National Museum

Shahbag, Dhaka-1000

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presence (if any) of the tenderers. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all

Graf was unable to seek her fourth consecutive WTA Lipton Championships title here because of a knee injury.

As a result, she will lose enough points to ensure the Swiss 16-year-old becomes the youngest number one ever.

"It doesn't matter to me," Hingis said. "If she can't play at

Dated: 12.3.97

Time limit for work

15 (fifteen) days

15 (fifteen) days

Md Mizanur Rahman

Secretary

Bangladesh National Museum

this tournament, it is not my problem. She has to be prepared and try to play at these tournaments.

"If she is not able to, someone else will step there."

That someone has been Hingis, who is 24-0 this year and has won four WTA titles including her first Grand Slam crown at the Australian Open.

But Hingis still resists the urge to crown herself the 'queen of tennis' in Graf's absence. "Right at this moment I can't

say that." Hingis said. "I want to say that. I have won four tournaments in a row. I didn't play badly. Why can't I say that? "In every sport it's a goal to

worked for all my life. It feels great to be number one. It's like a little dream comes true now." Hingis has beaten Graf only once last year at the Italian Open. They were set to meet in

the Pan Pacific Open final be-

be the best. It's what I have

fore Graf dropped out with an They last played at the WTA championship finals in New York last November when a cramping Hingis forced Graf to

"If Steffi is coming back, I would like to play her once again," Hingis said. "It has been a long time, since New York."

five sets only to fall.

Hingis has vowed not to be changed by success. But like Peter Pan she is finding she cannot stay a child forever.

woman and unbeatable at the same time. "Everyone expected her to someday get to the top, but definitely not this quickly,"

The little girl is becoming a

Olympic champion Lindsay Davenport said. "Since the US Open, she has really grown up a lot, changed her game and gotten a lot of confidence." "She is not only great on the

court but off the court she seems to have a great balance." Seles

An act of unification? Rain plays foul at Eden Park

The match will be played

Rain left large puddles on the

Sunday if the weather im-

outfield Saturday morning and

umpires Doung Cowie and Brent

Bowden abandoned any hope of

play 75 minutes after the

three-match series will be

played in Christchurch on

Tuesday with the third sched-

uled for Wellington on Thurs-

Kenny confirms

for a transfer, reports AP.

for Newcastle's league game at

Dalglish said no decision

has been made on Ginola's

Wimbledon on Sunday.

transfer request.

night.

The second game in the

proves, officials said.

scheduled start time.

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Mar 22: Heavy morning rain forced the postponement of Saturday's opening limitedover cricket international between Sri Lanka and New Zealand at Eden Park, reports

in the air between the ATP and WTA Tours with future

dates together being discussed after enjoyable past encounters. Directors of both pro tennis tours are talking here this

KEY BISCAYNE.

Florida, Mar 22

(AFP): Romance is

weekend at the 4.45 milliondollar Lipton Championships about playing more events like this that combine men's and women's fields. 'You don't need to be a brain

surgeon to figure out that tennis should have more such events." said Butch Buchholz, Lipton's tournament director and a long-time supporter of unified events.

Davydovs' distinction

Ginola's plan MOSCOW, Mar 22: Anatoly Davydov, 43, became the oldest NEWCASTLE, Mar 22: Newplayer to appear in the Russian castle manager Kenny Dalglish Premier league when he turned confirmed Friday that French out in this week's season opener winger David Ginola has asked for Zenit St Petersburg, reports Reuter.

Ginola, who has not been a regular starter under Dalglish, He then went one better for stayed in France after Newthe record books when his son castle's exit from the UEFA Cup Dmitry, 22, came on as a lastagainst Morraco on Tuesday minute substitute in Monday's 1-0 win over Fakel Voronezh. It The Frenchman reported for was the first time a father and training Friday, and Dalglish son had played together in Russaid he could be in the lineup sia's top division.

> The previous Russian age record was a mere 39, set by Lada Togliatti goalkeeper Alexander Balakhnin in 1994.

"Combined men and womer events like the Grand Slams attract more television and gen-

eral interest from fans than the average tour event. The Lipton and last week's Evert Cup in Indian Wells, California, are the only two events outside the Grand Slams with

simultaneous men's and women's tournaments. The ATP and WTA each have nine tournaments, including here and Indian Wells, at a level just below the Grand Slams and season finals. The WTA would

like to combine fields at up to three more outdoor events. "Feasibility of this and other related issues, as well as the timing of any implementation. are being reviewed," a WTA

statement said. Rome and Hamburg, two French Open tuneup tournaments, would be easiest to combine. Women now play in each city one week before the men in

Another possibility is

Canada, where the women and men alternate years between playing at Toronto and Montreal. This year the WTA is in Toronto in August, two weeks after the men play in Montreal. Both are US Open tuneups. There are concerns about

loss of identity and potential overshadowing of one field by the other. But the possible benefits of working together are also great in dealing with sponsors and television contracts.

Buchholz sees greater unitication of the women's and men's tours helping fans make sense of the often jumbled global tennis scene, provided the tennis powers are willing to surrender some of their inde-

pendence. "I would like to see the ATP and WTA form a partnership.

he said. "The ranking systems could be the same for both.

Buchholz suggests having Fed Cup and Davis Cup matches the same weekend. "That way there would be

some form to the tennis calendar," he said. "I don't think the average fan can understand 88 separate men's tournaments and 66 separate women's

Romanian athlete in stew

BUCHAREST, Mar 22: Romanian junior world champion Andrea Burlacu failed a doping test this month, the Romanian athletics federation said on Friday, reports Reuter.

Burlacu, 400 metres gold medalist at the 1996 Junior World Championships in Sydney, tested positive when the first sample was analysed. The 20-year-old athlete

risks a two-year ban if the second sample shows a similar re-

"Burlacu was found positive earlier in March with metandienon metabolite," the federation said in a statement.

Any sanction will dependent on the findings from the second sample. Burlacu, 20, risks a two-year ban if the second sample is positive.

She won the 400 metres at the 1996 Junior World Championship in Sydney.

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Stand-By 4:40 Ajnabi 5:00 Su-

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The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Sunday 23rd March (All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programmes).

DFP-6201-16/3

G-795

SI No

BTV3:00 Opening Announcement Al-Quran Programme Summary 3:10 News in Bangla 3:15 Cartoon 3:45 Retelecast of Drama 4:00 News in Bangla 4:50 Marami 5:25 Sports Programme 6:30 Apnar Doctor 6:55 Open University 7:00 The News 7:10 Gonotantrer Abhijatra 7:25 Gitimalu 8:00 News in Bangla 8:25 71 Dinlipi 8:35 Balun Dakhy 9:00 Film Series: Queen 10:00 News in English 10:30 Chayachanda 11:30 News in Bangla 11:35 Monday's programme 11:40 Close

BBC

6:00am BBC World News 6:30 India Business Report 7:00 BBC World News 7:25 This Week 8:00 BBC World News 8:30 India Business Report 9:00 BBC World News 9:25 This Week 10:00 BBC World

Horizon 11:00 BBC World News 11:25 India Business Report 12:00noon BBC World News 12:20 Britain In View 1:00 BBC World News 1:20 This Week 2:00 BBC World Headlines 2:05 World Focus : Correspondent 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out: The Clothes Show 4:00 BBC World Headlines 4:05 World Focus: Everyman 5:00 BBC World News 5:20 Window On Europe 6:00pm BBC World Headlines 6:05 World Focus Pandora's Box 7:00 BBC World Headlines 7:05 Breakfast with Frost 8:00 BBC World News 8:30 Time Out: Holiday 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 World Focus Horizon 10:00 BBC World News 10:20 Earth Report 10:30 Time Out: Film '97 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 Time Out: Top Gear 12:00mn BBC World News 12:20 On The Record 1:00 BBC World News 1:20 Window On Europe 2:00 BBC World Headlines 2:05 World Focus : Under The Sun 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out Tomorrow's World 4:00 BBC World Report Inc. World Business Report/24

Headlines 10:05 World Focus

Hours 05:00 BBC World Report inc. World Business Report/24

Price of tender

CHANNEL V

6:00am Frame by Frame 7:00 Rewind VJ Sophiya 8:00 Frame By Frame 9:00 Big Bang Weekend VJ Alessandra 11:00 BPL Oye! 12:00 Videocon Mangta Hai 12:30 Liberty First Day First Show 1:00 Rewind VJ Sophiya 2:00 Speak Easy 2:30 Videocon Flashback 3:00 Asian Top 20 VJ Trey 4:30 The Vibe Weekend VJ Luke 6:00pm The Vibe Weekend VJ Luke 7:00pm Soul Curry 8:00 The Indian Top 10 8:30 Malibu Jammin 9:00 Big Bang India Featuring Pentagram 10:00 Launchpad VJ Samira 11:00 House Of Noise VJ Luke 12:00 Rewind VJ Sophiya 1:00 The Ride 2:00 By Demand VJ Trey 3:00 Big Bang VJ Alessandra 4:30 Launchpad VJ Samira 5:30 VJ Alessandra

STAR PLUS

6:30am Voltron 7:00 Aerobics Oz Style 7:30 Spider Man 8:00

9:30 Buniyaad 10:00 Janata Ki Adalat 10:30 Chandrakanta 11:30 Amul India Show 12:00noon The Great Escape 12:30 India Business Week 1:00 Living On The Edge 1:30 Star Trek 2:30 Hindi Classic Film: Bheegl Raat 6:00pm Batman 6:30 Charlses Angels 7:00 Amul India Show 7:30 Plus Preview 8:00 Priva Tendulkar Show 9:00 Reporter 9:30 Chandrakanta 10:30 STAR News Sunday 11:30 Dynesty 12:30 India Business Week 1:00 Star News Sunday 2:00 BBC Documentary "Midas Touch" 3:00 Movie Classic : "Life With Father" 5:00 Seaforth

The Mighty Thor 8:30 Alaap

STAR SPORTS

6:30am World Wrestling Feder ation Blast off 8:00 Live Rugby World Cup Sevens 1997 4:30 NBA Game Of the Week Detroit @ Chicago 6:30 Inside PGA Tour 7:00 1997 NCAA Men's Basketball Championships 1st Round-Game TBC City TBC

ketball Championships 1st Round-Game TBC City TBC 10:30 Indian Football Philips Leauge Salgaocar vs Mahindra & Mahindra From Goa, India 12:00mn Australia Vs South Africa 3rd Test Match, Day 2 1:00 NBA Game Of The Week Detroit @ Chicago 3:00 World Wrestling Federation Raw 4:00 Inside PGA Tour 4:30 International Motorsports News 5:30 NBA Game Of The Week Detroit @ Chicago

8:30 1997 NCAA Men's Bas-

STAR MOVIES

7:30am Action: Melvin Purvis —

G-Man 12 9:30 Family : Once Upon A Forest G 11:00 The Bhaskar Ghose Show 11:30 Classic: The Island Of Lost Souls 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Classic: Peyton Place 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Sunday Show Time: Pee-Wee's Playhouse PG 4:30 Sunday Show Time: The Typewriter, The Rifle, and the Movie Camera 5:30 Sunday Family : Double Feature: Who

ZEE TV

6:00 News 6:30 Helpline 7:00

Has Seen The Wind 12 (Hindi

Subtitles) 7:30 Sunday Family

Double Feature: Trapped On

Toyworld 12 9:00 The Bhaskar

Ghose Show 9:30 Film 97

10:00 Gold Josh And SAM 15

12:00 True Story: Stir 18 (Hindi

Subtitles) 2:00 Thriller: when

The Bough Breaks 15 (Arabic

Subtitles) 4:00 Comedy: The

Adventures Of Priscilla, Queen

Of the Desert 18 (Hindi Subti-

tles) 5:00 Adventure: March Or

Die 15 (Hindi Subtitles)

Hum Zameen 7:30 Maa 8:00 Body To Body Soul to Soul 8:30 Kodak Klick Klick 9:00 Disney Hour 10:00 Ghumta Aaina 10:30 Aap Ki Adalat 11:00 Siyaram's Cine Magic 11:30 Lakme Khoobsurat 12:00 Aur Ek Minitue 12:30 Bournvita Quiz Contest 1:00 Haathi Cement Aashiana 1:30 Asian Sky Shop 2:00 Daak Ghar Apna Ghar 2:30 Tarannum 3:00 Hindi Feature Film 6:00 Gaane Anjaane

hat Aur Nafrat 10:00 Zee Horror Show 10:30 News 11:00 9 Malabar Hill 11:30 Philips Top Ten 12:30 Tara 1:00 Parampara 1:30 Raahat 2:00 Cam pus 2:30 TMM 4:00 Daraar 4:30 Dhara Zike Ka Safar 5:00 Suraal 5:30 Jagran

6:30 Disney Hour 7:30 Zimbo

8:00 Casper Kya Scene Hai

8:30 Haste Khelte 9:00 Hi

Zindagi Bye Zindagi 9:30 Cha-

EL TV

12:30 Hindi Feature Film 1:30 Kinetic Pride Haseen Pal 1:40 Hakke Bakke 2:00 Yeh Duniya Gazab Ki 2:30 Superhit Hangama 3:30 Agar 4:00 Purushkshetra 4:30 TBCMBC 5:00 Yaadon Ki Baaraat 5:30 Rishtey 6:00 Jasbaat 6:30 Scandal 7:30 Navras 8:00 Atco Ru-Ba-Ru 8:30 Kandos It's My Choice 9:00 Bengali Band Repeat 10:00 Gujrati Band Repeat 11:00 Cine Smyle 12:00 Vishwamitra 1:00 Liberty Public Demand 1:30 Parag No.1 2:00 Gujrati Band Original 3:00 Purushkshetra 3:30 Chori

perhit Hungama 6:20 Yum keenz Must Must Show 6:50 Bengali Band Original 7:50 Lumsa Tea Chalo Cinema 8:30 Boroplus Real Countdown 9:00 V3+ 9:30 Shatrani 10:00 Atco Ru-Ba-Ru 10:30 Hindi Feature

PTV

8:00am Tilawat Aur Tarjuma/Hamd/Naat 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Khabrain 8:45 Fun Time 9:05 TV Encyclopedia 9:25 Khat Farmaish 9:40 Sports Clinic 10:05 PTV Gold 10:30 English Film: Darkwing Duck 10:55 Mast Mast Sanyo 11:00 Khabrain 11:10 Sports Hour 12:05pm Biscop 95/Qasmi Hahani 12:55 Quran-e-Hakeem 1:02 Bismillah 1:15 Aaj Di Kahani 1:40 Aai Di Shaam 2:00 Kinara Ep-71 (Drama Serial) 2:55 Ghost Writer 3:55 Karabar 4:15 Education 5:25 Riazi for 9th 5:55 Zameen Per Zindegi (Drama Serial) 6:25 Aiou Courses 7:00 English News

Ki Naam 9:00 Break for Headlines News 9:20 Sur Tasver (Pakistani Film 1947-95) 10:00 Khabarnama & Commercial News 11:00 Pezwaan 11:35 Home Victime (New Serial) 12:35 Music Masters-Raag Rang 1:00 Khas Khas Khabrain

7:30 English Film Star Trek

Deep Space Nine 8:20 Hawwa

DD 7

9:00 Janmadin 9:05 Geetmalay 9:30 Movie Club Film : Debar 1:00 Aaleya 1:30 Movie Club Film 3:30 Geet Sangeet 4:30 Sunday Bangla Film : 5:30 News 7:20 Binodon 7:30 Bangla Sambad 8:00 Shreoshi (Serial) 8:25 Geet Sangeet (Serial) 9:00 Pallikatha9:30 Drama 10:00 Dance Prog 10:30 News/Bengali Sambad 11:00 Closed

SONY ET

8:30am Jai Bir Hanuman 9:30 Gaane Jaane Maane 10:00 Jadugar 10:30 Sunday Ki Sunday 11:00 Taj Mahal Takita Dhin 12:00 BSA Star Ki Pasand 7:00 Boogi Bol 8:00 Hindi Feature Film 11:00 The Young And The Restless 12:00 Kash 12:30 Shiddhi (Serial) 1:00 Humse Barker Gong (Game Show) 1:30 Kismat 2:00 Prem ier 2:30 Closed ZEE CINEMA

12:30 Pehli Mulakat 1:00 Good

Shot 1:30 Pehchan 2:00 Yeh

Sadi Nahi Ho Sakti 2:30 Premier

3:00 Chamatkar 3:30 Five Star

Xpresiste 4:00 O' Maria (Serial)

4:30 Rasoi Show 5:00 Jeevan

Mirtyru 5:30 Cover Story

Hostel (Serial) 6:00 Take Five

6:45 Songs 8:00 Naya Andaz (B/W) (Kishore Kumar) 10:45 TBA 11:15 Hum Kisi Se Kum

Nahin (Rishi K. Kajal K.) 2:00 Zandu Filmi Batin 2:30 Ilzaam (Shashi Kapoor, Neelam, Govinda) 5:15 Cinema Cinema 5:30 Hit Thi Hit Hai 6:00 TBA 8:45 Cinema Cinema 9:00 Ikke Pe Ikka 9:30 Ghar Ho To Asia (Anil Kapoor, Meenakshi Sheshadri) 12:15 Filler 12:30 Hanste Khelte (Rahul Roy, Lisa Roy) 3:15 TBA 3:45 Baazi (Dhamendra, Waheeda Rehman)