

If you want to get away with anything in this lovely season, make flowers your tool and you will definitely not be the loser. In fact this season Dhaka means flowers, in fact since the range of flower production and import has increased; almost all sorts of flowers are easily available in all season now a days.

Well there are limitations to some extents. Yellow and lemon Marigolds are there in garlands, but to create a mischievous table arrangement with a

vase brimming with your garden collection of gay Marigolds, you'll have to wait for the winter to come. In that case don't loose hope. A great variety

of dainty Ixora flowers are there to give your table arrangements a rich look. Crimson and faded orange decorations of Ixora are truly amazing and very easily available. Nothing like a wide bowl of soothing Moshaindas in the drawing room for a cheery welcome to the guests.

Planning a party in your house? The artistically natural Japanese arrangement of white, purple and pink Bougainvillea can be very impressive. But you should be careful placing your arrangement, as these flowers need a cool corner to last long.

Those who are in to enchant or want to cast a spell should switch over to the exotically irresistible Gondhoraj flowers. A fresh bunch of icy white

Gondhoraj in your bedside table in a crystal vase will surely sooth your mind helping to forget (temporarily) the fat faced man behind the heavy specs bossing over you all day long (your boss of course!)

African violets are not much popular in our country but they are easily available in the

Say it with FLOWERS

Toma Haider



nurseries. This is a sort of pot plant with white, pink, blue, purple, red varieties of yellow centered flowers and fleshy velvety leaves which need good sun light, regular watering and high humidity to produce

several flush of flowers all the year long. You may keep the pot on a sunny windowpane and enjoy its beauty facing envious looks on your neighbors' faces.

If you have a babbling mother-in law who

hardly thinks you worthy of her son, you will simply have to depend on your innovation to change her. Whole lavish crops of Rojonigondha (White tube roses) have decorated the season already. Go and get a whole bunch of these marvelous long-stemmed flowers, tie them in a red ribbon and present the banquet to her. She will definitely act different. And who knows she may perhaps moon around in her wild young days forgetting and perhaps forgiving a little of the tempestuousness of the younger generation of today.

As a result of crossbreeding Roses in enormous varieties of colors and are sprouting like an epidemic although the year. If you have been neglecting in visiting a friend just go to his/her place with a huge bouquet of pink, yellow, orange and white roses and she will immediately forgive.

Already an hour late seeing your date and feeling a death-threat? Cool it down. Take a big bunch of rich yellow Sunflowers and say sorry with your best smile. Situation will definitely change.

But if your case is that of the over-busy husband who even forgot that today was your marriage day, then its time for you to react. Change your bedroom curtains pink; arrange a crystal bowl full of red roses very conspicuously. Finally fix some deep deep red rose, as deep as your passion, in your hair and watch out for the effect. When he returns home, see him turning into the poor moth going round and round the light (you of course!) in vain. Let him learn his lesson well.

Flowers are the gifts from the heaven, which have the strength to make the cruellest person to forget his cruelty. If you have to say anything to anyone in this lovely season, just say it with flowers. And you can get away with anything!

Whatzup this week

By Simnan Abbas



Weekly CD review

(Compiled from mtvsnia.com)



Mary J. Blige

"Mary" MCA records

Choice cuts: All That I Can Say, "Time," "Your Child," "Deep Inside"

Clearly a woman of substance, Mary J. Blige has been around the block enough times to know that histrionics and lyrical fluff are not the only tactics she can employ to make her mark in the industry.

She doesn't believe in the doo-wop dollops that artists with less to say indulge in, or the asphyxiated vocal posturing that wannabes with strong diaphragms bank on. Having matured like a bottle of good wine, she has come up with an album that packs a mean punch and which also gets decidedly better with each listen.

An openly confessional "Deep Inside" catches your attention with its lucid lyrics and the poignant proclamations of self-realization that invite immediate empathy: "I don't have a lot of friends/And sometimes I have to wonder/Is it cash they see when they look at me/cos they're looking for a ride that's free." With inputs by Elton John and Bernie Taupin, the song almost qualifies as a sequel to the duo's event song, "Candle In The Wind." The

difference between the two songs is apparent in Blige's tough veneer, which precludes the possibility of her ever wilting like a fading flame under public scrutiny.

In "Time," she preaches pragmatism over sentimentalism when facing life's aches and pains, sagely reminding us that "time is not on our side." And it is exactly this prudence and state of enlightenment that keep her head above water in the ebbing and swelling sea of soulful singers.



Web-site of the week

www.lyrics.ch/index.htm

I know many people who spend a great deal of time online, just looking for lyrics of their favorite artists. (I never quite understood what they did with them though) If you are one of these lyric-searching maniacs this web-site has been made for you. You can now view more than 62,000 lyrics from a rapidly growing database of more than 130,000 songs. Lyrics.ch contains an easy to use search engine, which has three different modes.

Simple Search: In this mode you can find whatever lyrics you want by entering the Artist's name, the name of the song, and the name of the album.

Similarity Search: In this case you can type in words to find artists, albums and songs whose names you don't know how to spell. You don't have to give the full name of the artist, album or song. A close match of the text you enter will be displayed.

Full Text Search: Example: You heard the words "brought life wrong right voice speak" in a song you like very much. Simply type them in and hit return that's it!

The minimum requirements to be able to

use this web-site are: either Netscape 4.06 or Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.01 (or higher versions).

There are even separate instructions if you are using a Macintosh.

Things to do for the week:

I'm already running out of ideas for this part of the column. The only thing I can think of that is happening in Dhaka is that the month-long trade fair or something. Even then most people tell me that its hasn't been a burning sensation as yet. However this is just a rumor. I saw some Benson and Hedges Star search contest in the papers. If any of you out there are a bunch of band-wannabes you may consider applying for an audition. According to last year's statistics around a thousand artists sent in their applications. The number is bound to rise this time. Shopping tip- Most of you know this but just for those who didn't, did you know that the prices of clothes at Westecs and all the mart-this-and-that are three times the cost of the same thing at our beloved Bongo. Food for thought isn't it?



Book of the week

Shall we Tell the President

- Jeffrey Archer

This is an old book, however I found its plot so intriguing that I think it deserves mention. This book is actually a sequel to *The Prodigal Daughter* by the same author, however you don't have to read that to enjoy this one. Here's the summary: At the end of *The Prodigal Daughter* Florentyna Kane is elected President of the United States of America.

At 7:30 one evening the FBI learn of a plot to kill her- the 1572nd threat of that year. At 8:30 five people know of the details. By 9:30 four of them are dead. FBI agent Mark Andrews alone knows when. He also knows that a senator is involved. He has six days to learn where- and how- six days to prevent the certain death of the President.

When I read this I thought: "Here's goes the stereotypical assassination story. Yawn. Some moron tries to kill the president, and is foiled by some pen-pushing hump from the FBI or the CIA." That was before I read the story. Afterwards I realized that a book just doesn't sell around 2 million copies if its

that bad. Read this book, it's worth the time spent.



Movie of the week

Stuart Little

Rating: 4.5/5

Starring: Geena Davis, Hugh Laurie, Jonathan Lipnicki, Michael J. Fox and Gene Wilder

He's clever, enthusiastic, a 'can do' guy with attitude-and he's a mouse. Combining live-action with groundbreaking visual effects technology by the artists and innovators at Sony Pictures Imageworks, it's the story of a mouse who is raised by the Littles, a human family who learns to dream big and live large when they think little- Stuart Little. As Stuart embarks on adventures with a variety of characters, including his nemesis, Snowbell the cat, Stuart learns the true meaning of family, loyalty and friendship. This is a great Kid's movie. I remember reading the book when it first came out, sometime in the mid-eighties. The story is great and I would highly recommend it.



Stuart Little