

Exhibition

Indigo makes a grand comeback

Neel Utsab, an exhibition of wide ranging indigo products organised jointly by Aranya and Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), opens at Aranya centre at Banani today

ZIAUL KARIM

BURIED in the harrowing past of colonial India for over a hundred years, indigo-- the magic natural dye -- has made an astounding comeback in Bangladesh. A wide range of household products and dresses from kurta, sari, to salwar-kameeze, shawl, scarf with shining blue will be featuring at the Neel Utsab at Aranya beginning today.

At a press preview yesterday Ruby Ghuznavi, Managing Director of Aranya and the guiding angel behind the indigo revival in Bangladesh said that the search for indigo in country started in 1982 when she undertook a survey for the Vegetable Dye Society. The journey that led to the revival was not a smooth one. The whole attempt raised many eyebrows and the tainted past of indigo cultivation by the British in this part of the world made it even difficult to make breakthrough. A pilot project, Ghuznavi told the press preview, was launched in 1983 on one acre of land assigned for the project. The project yielded a phenomenal success. With the success of the pilot project the pioneers of the projects were convinced of an indigo revival in the country.

Aranya's success inspired MCC, a North American NGO, to initiate a research for an indigo project. MCC was convinced that indigo cultivation would help create sustainable employment for the rural poor and regain the Bangladesh's prestige as one of the finest indigo producers in the world.

The materials used in indigo collection at the show are Tasar silk, soft silk, linen, khaddar, fine



Strips wear a new look with the touch of indigo

cotton and hand loom. And what is most heart warming about the show is everything that is being used is hundred per cent locally produced. The shining blue as Ghuznavi reminded us had always expressed the mood of festival and passion as well and in capturing these moods nothing could beat indigo.

Senior project development officer with MCC Arun Naha informed the press preview that currently the demand for indigo was 3000 kg and the yield from the project was 125 kg. Representative from Prabantana said indigo was environment friendly. The waste from the indigo extraction he added had been in use as fertilizer for cen-

turies. The fascinating range of products on display at this unique show are creation of Aranya and its partner organisations Aarong, Kumudini, Tangail sari Kurir, Prabartana, Proshika, Grameen Uddog and Kushal.

The lamp shade in vibrating blue, and saris glistening deep ultramarine would greet one to the first ever grand indigo products and crafts show at Aranya. Punjabis are lent a majestic aura with the brilliant touch of indigo that the country is experiencing a re-entry from the blind alley of the colonial past.

Arun Naha enlightened the media persons by giving a



A model displays an exquisite sari brighten with indigo ultramarine

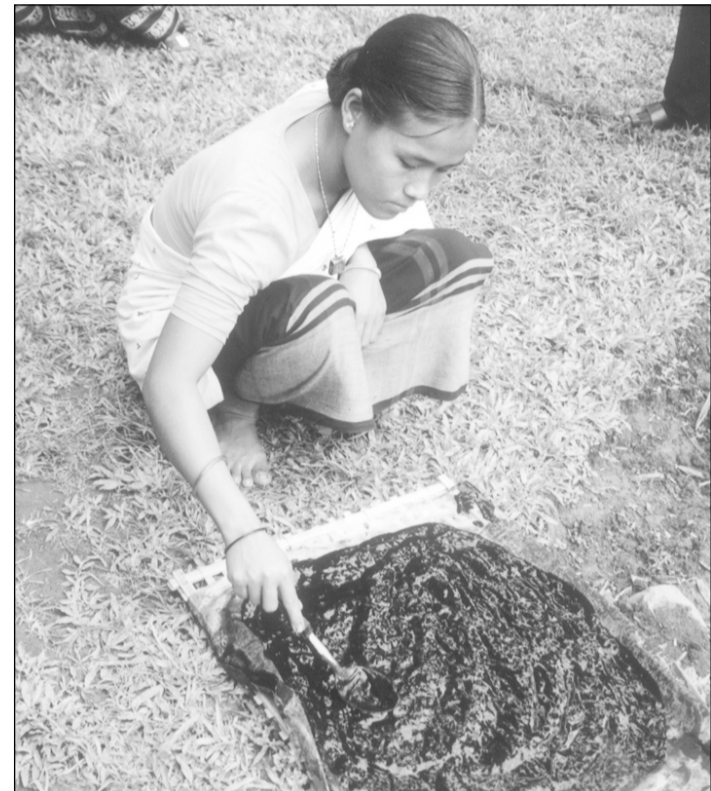
detailed account of indigo extraction. Leaves of indigo plant are used for producing indigo dye.

The bundles leaves are packed into the taller, upper soaking tanks and loaded down with bamboo poles to prevent them from floating. Water is pumped into the upper tanks, completely submerging the packed indigo leaves. The tanks and leaves are then left to soak until the following day; 16 to 24 hours.

The next day, the water is let out of the upper tanks into a large round lower tank. During the night, organic compounds containing indigo leach into the water turning it green-yellow in

colour and imparting a distinctive odour. The leaves are then removed from the upper tank and sold as fertiliser. The water in the lower mixing tank is made alkaline by the addition of small quantities of caustic soda (about 1 gram of caustic per litre of water). Caustic soda increases the pH of the water and helps the indigo to form.

Next, the green-yellow indigo water is beaten with large bamboo poles to produce foam and bubbles which slowly turn from green to blue when exposed to the air; oxygen in the air causes the alkaline water to start forming the indigo. The water is then beaten for about 2 hours turning the water in the tank from



Making indigo paste

green-yellow to a very dark blue. The indigo in the tanks is allowed to settle overnight until it forms a thick layer of paste on the bottom of the lower tank. This paste is drawn off the bottom of the tank by a drain and filtered through thick cotton fabric. The cotton fabric catches all the indigo dye while allowing the water to pass through. The blue paste is scooped off the fabric and spread evenly on plastic sheets, placed on small bamboo trays and dried out completely. The dried indigo flakes are ground to powder, weighed and packaged for sale.

Indigo is not only brightening exquisite dresses and crafts but also finding its place at the

creative palette of the painters of the country. From ace painter Mohammad Kibria, Hasem Hkan, Mahmudul Haque to brilliant colourists like Jamal Ahmed, Nasim Ahmed Nadv's canvases are vibrating with deep blue of indigo revived by the joint endeavour of Aranya and MCC.

The Neel Utsab, a first in the country with its fascinating array of products, will be jointly inaugurated by indigo maker Maya Koibarta and master dyer and printer Mohammad Hossain is a refreshing change in our high-profile inauguration culture.

RECOMMENDATIONS



Kriti's Eid collection

Kriti's rich collection of sari and salwar-kameeze ensemble for the upcoming Eid festival opens at Aral Centre on November 29. Open from 10 am and 8 pm, the show will run till December 4.

Art show

A group art exhibition by Zahid, Shamim, Kakoli and Safin has opened at The High Commission of India cultural centre, 754, Satmasjid Road, Dharmondi. The show runs everyday from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. till November 29.

Crafts and fashion works show

A Crafts and Fashion Works Exhibition is now being held at the Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Shahbagh, Dhaka. The show will run till November 30.

Alfred Hitchcock Retrospective

Zahir Raihan Film Society, in collaboration with Indian High Commission in Dhaka, has organised a fortnight long Alfred Hitchcock Retrospective. Marnie, Starring Scan Connery Tippi Hedren & Diane Baker will be screened today at 6 Indian High Commission Auditorium at 6 in the evening.

Fashion

A colourful apparel show by Altamira, a fashion gallery, is now being held at House # 1, Road # 2, Dhannomdi. The show, open from 10 a.m to 10 p.m. everyday, runs till December 14.

TV GUIDE

EKUSHEY TV

- 9:00 Bangladesh-Zimbabwe One Day Cricket Match
- 3:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 5:00 Islamic Program: Oishee
- 5:30 E Shoptaher Bishsho
- 6:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 6:05 WWF Smackdown
- 6:55 Ekushey Headlines
- 7:00 Mukto Khobor
- 7:30 Ekushey News
- 7:58 Ek Minute
- 8:00 Dance Program
- 8:30 Anondo
- 9:00 News at Nine
- 9:05 Shukrobarer Natak: Bhranti
- 10:00 News : Simulcast from BTB
- 10:30 Music Hour: Star Search-2001
- 11:00 Ekushey Late Night News
- 11:30 Ei Shoptaho
- 12:00 Ekushey Headlines
- ATN**
- 4:30 Sehri Prog: Mobarak Ho Mahey Ramadan
- 5:30 Islamic Prog.
- 7:00 Sundor Jeebaner Jannee
- 7:35 Film Prog : Goto Saptaher Chhobi
- 8:00 ATN Bangla News
- 8:25 Musical Prog: Gan Sudhu Gan
- 9:00 Drama Serial : Asojo Sukh
- 9:35 Musical Prog : Bather Srabon
- 10:10 Reporting prog : Prekha Pot
- 11:30 Islamic Prog
- 12:00 ATN Bangla News
- 3:30 Bengali feature film: SashSongram
- 4:30 Iftar prog: Mobarak Ho Mahey Ramadan
- 6:32 Child's Prog: Cholo Gan Gai
- 7:00 ATN Bangla Evening News
- 7:10 Viewers Request Prog: Motamat
- 7:50 Drama Serial: Ultran
- 8:25 Musical Prog: Amar Suk Amar Biroh
- 9:00 Magazine prog: Tasmery Kechukkhon
- 9:35 Special Prog Gueanda Kaheni
- 10:00 ATN Bangla News
- 10:45 Drama: Chhoa
- 11:15 Bengali film: Jobab Chai
- 11:30 ATN Bangla News

CHANNEL-i

- 6:25 Surjer Sawpro
- 7:00 Jato Path Tato Mot
- 7:35 Abar Fire Dhekha
- 8:00 Din Protidin
- 8:15 Prosongo Chalochitto
- 9:40 Music Plus
- 10:45 Surjer Sawpro
- 11:15 Jato Path Tato Mot
- 12:00 Abar Fire Dhekha
- 12:35 Prosongo Chalochitto
- Drama: Ekti Premier
- 3:00 Janoy & Meghe Dhaka Akash
- 4:50 Mahe Ramadan
- 5:25 Hamd Nat
- 5:35 Monohor Ifar
- 5:45 Islam & Biggan
- 6:10 Music Plus
- 7:15 Chanel i Sangbad
- 7:25 Drama: Nisobdo Jattrra
- 8:00 Top of the Flop
- 8:30 I Tele Quise
- 9:00 Channel i Sangbad
- 9:20 Sangbad Patra Bangladesh
- 9:30 I Tele Quise
- 9:35 Ek Jaloke Channel i
- 10:00 Quize: 60 Sec.
- 10:01 Marine Location Theke Channel i Sangbad
- 11:00 Bangla Cinema: Basore Ghar
- BBC WORLD**
- 6:00 BBC News
- 6:30 World Business Report
- 7:00 BBC News
- 7:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report
- 8:00 BBC News
- 8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
- 9:00 BBC News
- 9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report
- 10:00 BBC News
- 10:30 Click Online
- 11:00 BBC News
- 11:30 EUR DIR
- 12:00 BBC News
- Hardtalk
- 1:00 BBC News
- 1:30 Top Gear
- 2:00 BBC News
- 2:30 Life
- 3:00 BBC News
- 3:30 Hardtalk
- 4:00 BBC News
- 4:30 Talking Movies
- 5:00 BBC News
- 5:30 Life
- 6:00 BBC News
- 6:30 IT: India Tomorrow Mastermind India
- 7:00 BBC News
- 7:15 World Business Report
- 7:30 Talking Movies
- 8:00 BBC News
- 8:30 Life
- 9:00 BBC News

Asia Today

- 10:00 BBC News
- 10:15 World Business Report
- 10:30 Hardtalk India
- 11:00 BBC News
- 11:30 World Business Report/World Sport
- 12:00 BBC News
- 12:30 Hardtalk
- 1:00 BBC News
- 1:30 Future Fantasti, QED, Clarkson
- 2:00 BBC News
- 2:30 World Business Report
- 3:00 BBC News
- 3:30 Correspondent ex supporting Roles
- 4:00 BBC News
- 4:30 World Business Report/Asia Today
- 5:00 BBC News
- 5:30 Hardtalk
- HBO**
- 7:00 Raising Cain
- 9:00 Bloodsport
- 11:00 Chances Are
- 1:15 Bugsy
- 4:00 K-9
- 6:00 Maternal Instincts
- 8:00 The Fury Within
- 10:00 The Militia
- 11:45 Band Of Brothers 04: Crossroads
- 1:00 Bloodsport
- 3:00 Last Rites
- 4:45 Chances Are
- STAR GOLD**
- 10:30 Amul Bollywood News
- 11:00 Geet Bahar
- 11:30 Arzoo (Dilip Kumar, Kamini Kaushal)
- 3:00 Amul Bollywood News
- 3:30 Teen Bahuraniyan (Prithviraj Kapoor)
- 7:00 Geet Bahar
- 7:30 Saturday Shukrawar Hanste Zakhm (Navin Nischol, Priya Rajvansh)
- 11:00 Amul Bollywood News
- 11:30 Elaan-e-Jung (Dharmendra)
- 12:30 Elaan-e-Jung (contd)
- 3:00 Geet Bahar
- 3:30 Teen Bahuraniyan (Prithviraj Kapoor)
- 7:00 Hanste Zakhm (Navin Nischol, Priya Rajvansh)
- STAR WORLD**
- 6:00 Happy Days
- 6:30 3rd Rock From The Sun
- 7:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
- 8:00 Water Rats
- 9:00 Roswell
- 10:00 Temptation Island
- 11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



Star World: 9:00 pm. Friends. Carol and Ross decide to have a threesome to spice up their marriage. Rachel goes to Joey's and kisses him. Chandler and Monica have sex and end up together anyway. Susan meets Carol. Rachel catches Barry cheating.



Ekushey: 9:05 pm. Bhranti. A middle class couple. The husband has a modest job and leads a simple life. His wife does not approve of his simple living. Because without money life is replete with difficulties. Always complaining, she make her husband's life unbearable.

PICK OF THE DAY



The Militia on HBO at 10:00 pm
To stop a subversive militia group from leveling the United States, ATF agent Ethan Carter will have to rub shoulders with former enemy William Fain, whom he put behind bars three years ago.

- 12:00 Maria Law
- 1:00 Media TV
- 1:30 The Bold & The Beautiful
- 2:00 Mork & Mindy
- 2:30 Happy Days
- 3:00 Baywatch
- 4:00 The Simpsons
- 4:30 3rd Rock From The Sun
- 5:00 Star News Asia
- 5:30 Friends
- 6:00 World's Wildest Police Videos
- 6:45 Asia News
- 7:00 Nash Bridges
- 8:00 Bugs
- 9:00 Friends
- 9:30 World's Wildest Police Videos
- 10:30 Nash Bridges
- 11:00 Bugs
- 12:30 World's Wildest Police Videos
- 1:30 Nash Bridges
- 2:30 It's Supernatural
- 3:00 Morris Cerullo
- 3:30 Exalted Word
- 4:00 Creffo Dollar, Changing Your World
- 4:30 World News
- 5:00 Mission Impossible

- STAR PLUS**
- 6:00 Sanskruti
- 6:30 Star Geetmala
- 7:30 Hum Saath Aath Hain
- 8:00 Aatma
- 9:00 Hit Filmlein Hit Sangeet
- 9:30 Fox Kids Daily
- 10:30 Small Wonder
- 11:00 Pal Chhin
- 11:30 Saahil
- 12:00 Shanti
- 12:30 Hit Filmlein Hit

- 1:00 Sangeet
- 1:00 Hum Saath Aath Hain
- 1:30 Musafir Hoon Yaaron
- 2:00 Mirch Masala
- 2:30 Star Bestsellers- Chaudhvir Ka Chand
- 3:00 Jubilee Plus
- 4:00 Kabhi Sauten Kabhi Saheli
- 4:30 Kalash
- 5:00 Meri Saheli
- 5:30 Hit Filmlein Hit Sangeet
- 6:00 Small Wonder
- 6:30 Fox Kids
- 7:00 Gharwali Uparwali
- 8:00 Hum Saath Aath Hain
- 8:30 Kya Masti Kya Khoom
- 9:30 Khull Ja simsim
- 10:30 Sshhh... Koi Hai
- 11:30 Kahani Jurm Ki
- 12:00 Aaj Ki Baat
- 12:30 Gharwali Uparwali
- 1:00 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri
- 2:00 Chhupa Rustam
- 2:30 Jap Tap Vrat
- 3:30 Kalash
- 4:00 Tu Tu Main Main

- 4:30 Ji Mantriji
- 5:00 Son Pari
- 5:30 Star Bestsellers
- CHANNEL [V]**
- 7:30 [V] So Long Gone
- 8:30 [V] Jumpstart
- 10:30 [V] Hit Machine
- 12:30 [V] Jungli Jukebox
- 1:00 [V] FDFS
- 1:30 [V] Hit Machine
- 4:30 [V] Hotline
- 5:30 Very [V]
- 7:30 [V] Hit Machine

- ESPN**
- 6:30 Nba Action
- 7:00 Nba Basketball Indianapolis, IN USA Washington wizards @ Indiana pacers
- 9:00 Sportscenter Hindi
- 10:30 Xbs
- 10:30 World Cup Mix
- 11:00 Great Alaska Shootout Basketball Anchorage, AK USA Gonzaga @ St John's first Round
- 1:00 Cricket Programming Super Selector December Launch
- 2:00 South Africa Cricket India Tour of South Africa Centurion, South Africa 3rd Test, Day 1, Preview
- 2:30 South Africa Cricket India Tour of South Africa Centurion, South Africa 3rd Test, Day 1, 2nd Session
- 4:30 South Africa Cricket India Tour of South Africa Centurion, South Africa 3rd Test, Day 2, 1st Session
- 6:30 Australia Cricket New Zealand Tour of Australia 2001 Hobart, Australia New Zealand @ Australia 2nd Test, Day 2, 1st Session

- 7:00 Asia Sport Show
- 7:30 Sportsline Today
- 8:30 Australia Cricket New Zealand Tour of Australia 2001 Hobart, Australia New Zealand @ Australia 2nd Test, Day 2, 2nd & 3rd Session
- 1:00 Sportsline Today
- 1:30 English Premier Football League 2001/02 London, England Arsenal @ Chelsea
- 3:00 Cricket Talk Show Harsha Online
- 4:30 Samsung Nations Cup Samsung Nations Cup 2001 Washington, USA Highlights
- 5:30 Rally Racing Indian National Motorcross Championship 2001 Cochin, Ke India Cochin Championship
- 6:00 Rally Racing Indian National Motorcross Championship 2001 Cochin, Ke India Bangalore Rally
- 6:30 Sailing Sailing World

- 7:00 Asia Sport Show
- 7:30 Sportsline Today
- 8:30 Australia Cricket New Zealand Tour of Australia 2001 Hobart, Australia New Zealand @ Australia 2nd Test, Day 2, 2nd & 3rd Session
- 1:00 Sportsline Today
- 1:30 English Premier Football League 2001/02 London, England Arsenal @ Chelsea
- 3:00 Cricket Talk Show Harsha Online
- 4:30 Samsung Nations Cup Samsung Nations Cup 2001 Washington, USA Highlights
- 5:30 Rally Racing Indian National Motorcross Championship 2001 Cochin, Ke India Cochin Championship
- 6:00 Rally Racing Indian National Motorcross Championship 2001 Cochin, Ke India Bangalore Rally
- 6:30 Sailing Sailing World

- 8:00 PO [V]
- 9:30 [V] Jungli Jukebox
- 10:00 [V] FDFS
- 11:30 Shri 420
- 1:30 [V] Hit Machine
- 1:30 [V] Saturday Stack
- ZEE TV**
- 6:00 Yaadon Ke Pal
- 6:30 Aalaap
- 7:00 Yoga For Life
- 7:20 Jagran
- 7:50 Zee Gym & Eat Healthy
- 8:20 News
- 8:30 Ardhangini
- 8:45 Yaadein Radio Ceylon Ki
- 9:00 Nickelodeon on Zee
- 9:30 Nickelodeon
- 10:00 Guldasta
- 10:30 Shri 420
- 11:00 Ek Tukda Chand Ka
- 11:30 Ek Nazar
- 12:00 Wah Haseen Pal
- 1:00 Hamare Tumhare
- 1:25 Jhalak
- 1:30 Koi Apna Sa
- 2:00 Choti Maa Ek Anokha Bandhan
- 2:30 Gharana
- 3:00 Naukar/Feature Film
- 6:00 Ek Nazar
- 6:30 Nickelodeon On Zee
- 7:00 Nickelodeon
- 7:30 Ek Nazar
- 8:00 Hip Hip Hurray
- 8:30 Ek Tukda Chand Ka
- 9:00 Mujhe Dore Koi Khinchhe
- 9:30 Choti Maa Ek Anokha Bhandhan

- 7:00 One Ton Cup Cricket Talk Show
- 7:30 Harsha Online
- 8:00 Sportsline Tonight
- 8:30 Here We Go!
- 9:00 Futbol Mundial
- 9:30 Football Asia
- 10:00 Sports India
- 10:30 Sportsline Tonight
- 11:00 Australian Cricket New Zealand Tour of Australia 2001 Hobart, Australia New Zealand @ Australia 2nd Test, Day 2, Highlights
- 12:00 Sportsline Tonight
- 12:30 Cricket Programming Super Selector December Launch
- 1:30 Golf Tournament Bmw Asian Open Golf 2001 Taoyuan, Chinese Taipei Day One
- 3:30 Sportsline Tonight
- 5:00 Australian Cricket New Zealand Tour of Australia 2001 Hobart, Australia New Zealand @ Australia 2nd Test, Day 2, Highlights

- 10:00 Koi Apna Sa
- 10:30 Aaj Bhi... Ateet
- 11:00 Dollar Bah
- 11:30 Shri 420
- 12:00 Gharana
- 12:30 Koshish Ek Aashaa
- 1:00 Aaj Bhi... Ateet
- 1:30 Dollar Bah
- 2:00 Hip Hip Hurray
- 2:30 Gudgudee
- 3:00 Ghar Ghar Ki Kahani- Feature Film
- 5:30 News in Hindi
- ZEE CINEMA**
- 6:00 Feature Film
- 9:00 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme
- 9:15 Tara Rum
- 9:45 Movie Fare
- 10:00 Feature Film
- 11:30 Chatpati Chat
- 1:15 Madhyantar
- 1:30 Feature Film
- 5:00 Darpn
- 5:15 Making Of A Legend
- 5:45 Film Time
- 6:00 Feature Film
- 9:15 Cine News
- 9:30 Ikke Pe Ikka
- 10:00 Feature Film
- 1:45 Tara Rum
- 2:15 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme
- 2:30 Feature Film
- 5:30 Chhrehn
- ZEE MUSIC**
- 6:00 Music Plus
- 7:00 Aalaap
- 7:30 Tara Rum
- 8:30 Hit Pe Hit
- 10:30 Hit Mix
- 11:00 Music Box
- 12:00 Music Plus
- 1:00 Hit Pe Hit
- 2:00 Jharokha
- 2:35 Pyaar Mohabbat Etc
- 3:05 Tara Rum
- 4:00 Hit Pe Hit
- 5:00 Music Box
- 5:30 Hit Mix
- 6:00 Artist Of The Fortnight
- 6:30 Music Plus
- 7:30 Hit Pe Hit
- 8:30 Dial M
- 9:30 Music Box
- 10:00 Sizzlers
- 10:30 Jharokha
- 11:05 Compact Disc
- 11:35 Phoren Maal
- 12:35 Shabab
- 1:05 Music Box
- 1:30 Jharokha
- 2:00 Hit Pe Hit
- 3:00 Dil Se
- 3:30 Tara Rum
- 4:30 Phoren Maal
- 5:30 Sizzlers

- 10:00 Bangla Feature Film
- 10:45 Ek Palake
- 10:50 News
- 10:55 Ek Palake
- 11:00 Talk Jhal Misti
- 11:30 News
- 11:55 Ek Palake
- 12:00 Shesh Prashna
- 12:55 Ek Palake
- 12:30 Bangla Feature Film
- 3:00 Ki Likhi Tomai
- 3:30 Bharat Bhraman
- 4:00 Nayantara
- 4:30 Ek Akasher Niche
- 5:00 Chena Mukh Shari
- 5:30 Zee Jalsa
- HALLMARK**
- 12:00 Champagne Charlie
- 2:00 Katts and Dog
- 3:00 Champagne Charlie
- 5:00 Sesame Street
- 6:00 Side by Side
- 8:00 The Good Fight
- 10:00 Lonesome Dove: The Series
- 11:00 Foxfire
- 1:00 Sliders Season III
- 2:00 Sesame Street
- 3:00 Clifford
- 3:30 Caillou
- 4:00 Lonesome Dove: The Series
- 5:00 Star Trek : Voyager
- 6:00 Sliders Season III
- 7:00 Blonde
- 9:00 Star Trek : Voyager
- 10:00 Sioux City

ALPHA TV