

RECOMMENDATIONS

MUSIC

**April 25**  
Srijon, a cultural organisation, has arranged a musical evening at the Biswa Shahitya Kendra auditorium at 6:30 pm. Singer Begum Mahbuba Rahman will be present as the chief guest while Nazrul singer Begum Ferdous Ara and Begum Zinat Chowdhury will perform songs as the special guests. Both prominent and promising singers will perform songs of yesteryears in this regular monthly programme organised by Srijon.

**April 30**  
The Indian High Commission in Dhaka, in conjunction with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, will present a light classical music programme by Penaz Masani at 7 pm at the Osmani Memorial Hall, Dhaka.

EXHIBITION

**April 01-29**  
Russian Cultural Centre has arranged a photo and stamp exhibition on aviation and cosmonautics to celebrate the International Day of Cosmonautics and Aviation at the center's library.

FILM SHOW

**April 05-26**  
The Indian High Commission will screen films *Bobby*, *Hungama* and *Aankhen* on April 19, 20 and 21 as part of its regular bi-weekly film show programme. Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, Gulshan-2. Time: 6 pm.

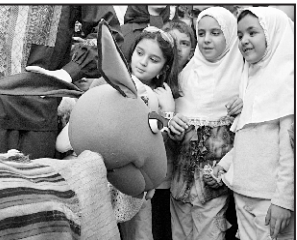
SCULPTURE

**April 13-30**  
British Council Bangladesh holds a bamboo sculpture exhibition at its compound at 5 Fuller Road. The display presents works of 9 sculptors and two traditional bamboo artisans. The display remains open from 10 am to 7 pm daily.

CHILDREN'S WORLD



Turkish children holding banners reading as 'War is not a Game, Guns are not Toys' (foreground), 'Don't let Children die, Let them eat candies' (background) during the Children Festival celebrations held in Istanbul on April 23.



Iranian girls gather to watch a puppet show during a festival to mark the world puppet theatre day at an Iranian artist's house in Tehran on April 23.

PHOTOS: AFP

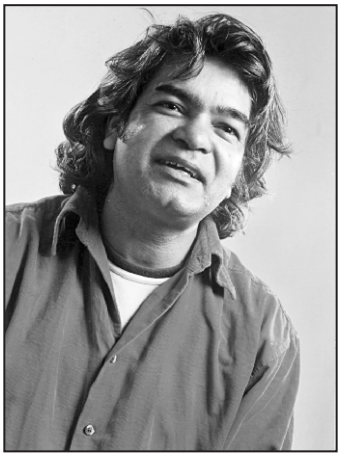
Open-air sculpture display

R A Kajol and the bamboo sculpture display at the British Council

Combining art with craft

FAYZA HAQ

RUHUL Amin Kajol had won the admiration of every fine arts connoisseur back in 1992, when he wasn't even in the country to provide explanations or footnotes for his painting exhibit at La Gallery, Banani. He is now back from Copenhagen, with his more



Ruhul Amin Kajol

recent idea of bamboo sculpture, along with his colleagues, to present a superb open-air display at the British Council premises. One has known Kajol, working in between, at European capital cities, with his street paintings, which have been amply covered earlier in *The Daily Star*. His recent bamboo sculpture display at the British Council, is not his sole venture, as his earlier assails in Dhaka. It is a team work, which meant more planning and co-ordination. The bamboo work has included muscle power, plus craft and imagination in ingenious weaving of bamboo strips on bamboo bars. In this, both his Bangladeshi colleagues and the craftsmen from the villages, have taken part.

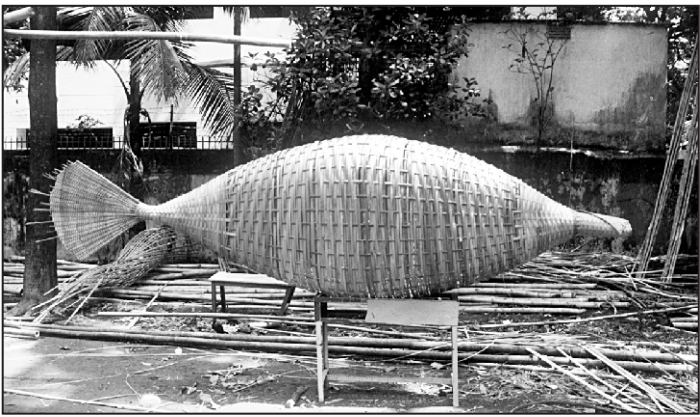
Kajol's colleagues and the craftsmen, who have helped him in his outdoor sculpture, include Saidul Haque Juisse (*Mongol Jharu*) and (*Amar Shonar Bangla*), Shakawat Hossain (*Garden*), Mir Abdul Hamid (*Chapa Bhair* and

*Chai*), Tarun Ghosh (*Man of Tree*), Fahmida Akhtar (*Flame of Society*), Mostafa Jamil Shameem (*Uporeu Basha Achee*), Belayet Hossain and his group (*Fish*), and Kamruzzaman Shadhain (*AIDS*). There were 16 sculptures on display; Kajol himself had two items, viz. *Heaven's Gate-1* and *Heaven's Gate-2*.

Dwelling on the root of the concept of the sculpture exhibition at the British Council, Kajol said, 'This has a long history. I began working with bamboo sculpture in 1993 in Denmark. I took the split bamboo pieces in the form of strips with me from Bangladesh. These items had weighed 500 kilos and they had been air borne. The Swallows, a foreign NGO had paid for this. Working on them were my friends who I'd invited overseas and they were Saleh Mahmoud, Saidul Haque Juisse and Shakawat Hussain. Saleh was the first of my co-mates who was experimenting with bamboo sculpture forms back in 1989, when I came back from Denmark for the 2nd time, in Pahela Baishakh arrangements in street pageants, I believe. Before that I didn't realise that bamboo could be used for sculpted forms or figures on its own. These forms, taken from folklore, had been covered with jute, cloth or paper and painted over. I wanted to work with bamboo alone but I didn't, then get the approval of my friends like Saleh and Shakawat. I waited for the help of my friends, Juisse, Shakawat and Saleh, who were all necessary for a major venture in bamboo sculpture.'

In 1993, Kajol along with his colleagues went to Denmark on his concept. The origin of the effort were the folk toy figures but the presentations were on a large scale. The bamboo bars were interwoven then with bamboo strips as has been seen in the present display at the British Council. As one uses more strips, the sculpture becomes more solid. The inside of the rounded form remains hollow. This had culminated in an exhibition at Vesterbro Cultural Week at Copenhagen, along with a carnival held later in the city.

Kajol had experimented further



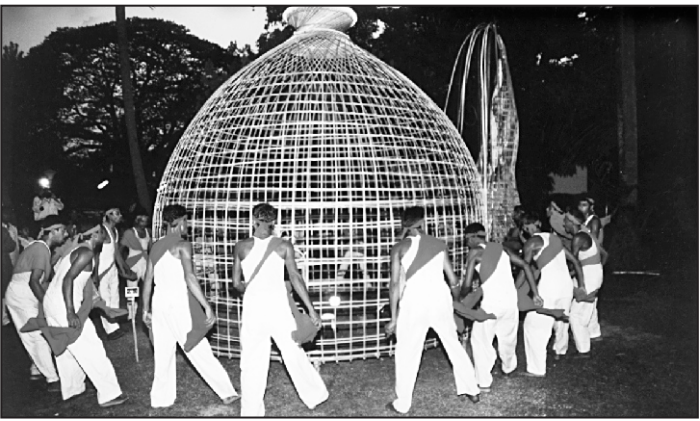
Fish, by Belayet Hossain and his group

with bamboo sculpture at an international workshop Oulu in Finland. People had watched how it was done in 15 days and it was then placed on a water fountain made by another European artist for a 4-month display.

Much later, after many overseas projects with bamboo sculpture, where Kajol aimed at the modern rather than the naïve slant, in 2003, in *Images of Asia* in Denmark he again went in for his latest passion for bamboo sculpture, complete

Bangladeshi village schools and buildings. Facing much frustration, eventually meeting up with June Rollinson, Director of the British Council, during Tareq Masud's film show, the Director saw photographs of Kajol's experiments in Denmark, and getting the consent of his artist co-mates like Saidul Haque Juisse he sailed forth with the bamboo sculpture exhibition.

The British Council and University of Development



Participant of the bambo display stepping lightly around a sculpture

with a set stage scene where Shakawat Hussain, Saleh and Imran Hussain (member of Britto) were present. The *Air Bash*, seen at BC premises carried out the same concept of working together with artists friends in Bangladesh. The displays is Kajol and his colleagues' dream fulfillment of nearly 15 years, as he puts it.

Asked about the problems that he faced in carrying out the present bamboo sculpture show at BC gardens, one was told about internal problems that thwarted an earlier scheduled presentation at the National Museum or the Public Library. Kajol claimed that his artist colleagues in Bangladesh were supposed to have done all the ground work for the bamboo sculptures. Coming on 22nd February, this year, Kajol's own attention was diverted in the project of mural painting in

Alternative (UODA) sponsored a number of elements that went into the final presentation of the endeavour that involved skill and imagination of both the artists and craftsmen. Kajol, his co-artists and the artisans began work at Gafarganj. Some of the bamboo strips were prepared in the village but putting together of the sculpture pieces was done in the British Council gardens. This took 13 days, working from morning till beyond midnight at times.

The result is *vraiment superb* -- specially by night. In the evening, as Kajol puts it, there is another dimension to this sculpture display. Nasirul Haq, working as the lighting designer for Nagorik, helped with the ethereal lighting effect.



The theatre delegates of Loko Natyadal

Festival

Tri-Nation Theatre Festival in Nepal

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Loko Natyadal, a popular theatre group of the country, is in Nepal attending the ongoing Tri-Nation Theatre Festival in Katmandu. Organised by International Theatre Institute (ITI) Nepal, the seven-day festival started on April 23. Headed by Liakat Ali Lucky, the 22-member delegation of Loko Natyadal left

Bangladesh on April 20.

Loko Natyadal is supposed to stage one of its famous productions *Taposhshi O Tarangini* of Buddhadev Basu.

Apart from staging plays, the festival also features a seminar on *The Issue and Achievement of South Asian Theatre*. Liakat Ali Lucky will present the country report on the subject.

From the location

Sporsher Bairey: Another tale of middle class existence

Selim- -'I can visualise their dreams and agonies'

AFSAR AHMED



Ntv will air a new mega serial *Sporsher Bairey* from May 4. It will be telecast on every Tuesday and Wednesday at the prime hour. Pantho Shahriar, who has already attracted attention as a playwright, has written the script. With the indefatigable effort of a panel of four directors--Shahiduzzaman Selim, Amitabh Reza, Tahir Shipon and Anindo Kabir--the shooting is

on in full swing.

Produced by Dream Factory, *Sporsher Bairey* is mainly a story of Sukannya--a teenage girl, Mamun and his younger brother Mukit. Overall it is a story about a typical middle class family of five members--father, mother, two brothers and their teenage sister. Rasha, a painter, and her brother Mahmud, also hold the focus of the story, says Shahiduzzaman Selim, one of the directors of the mega serial.

*Sporsher Bairey* was however previously named *Sporsho* which had to be changed because another serial with the same name is currently being shown on ATN Bangla.

The shooting of the serial started on April 1 and about 13 episodes have been shot till now.

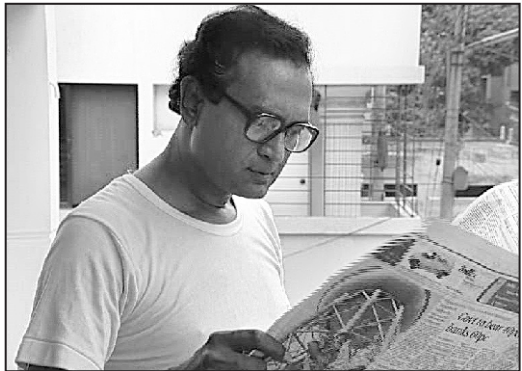
On the very first day of the shooting, director Amitabh Reza shot the title of the drama with a song by Shahana. Member of the popular band, Bangla, Arnab has directed the melodious song.

Preeti, who plays Sukannaya in the serial, roams around on a bicycle. The title sequence was shot on a road of Ultara, where a number of star struck viewers had gathered.

Sukannaya, a college girl and a part of the middle class society, is cycling around on her birthday. She needs affection from her family. Her family plans to give her a birthday surprise with their limited efforts. Then an accident occurs. This is the synopsis of the first episode.

With the hang over from its first episode in the 4th episode, it will show Mamun fired from his job and the whole family consequently fall into disarray. Subarna's dramatic entry will be shown in the 10th episode. 'There's a possibility of dramatic entry of Faridee, Afzal and Asaduzzaman Noor in the serial', said Selim.

Why another mega serial based on middle class sentiments? 'Because most of the TV viewers belong to that class; moreover, coming from that class, I can visualise the ups and downs of their lives and feel their happiness and agonies quite well,' Selim said.



Raisul Islam Asad plays the father's role in the serial

The cast of the serial has a number of popular and renowned artistes like Raisul Islam Asad, Subarna Mostofa, Afroza Banu, Azad Abul Kalam, Zahiruddin Piyar. The director said that in future there could be more popular figures in the serial. Asad plays the father's character while Afroza Banu acts as the mother, Azad Abul Kalam as Mamun, Hilol as Mukit and Preeti as Sukannaya. Subarna, plays the interesting character of Rasha, the painter who falls in love with Mukit, who is in fact younger than her. Zahiruddin Piyar plays the character of Rasha's brother.

Primarily the serial is slated to telecast 52 episodes, though the script needs 104 episodes for its proper completion. 'If we are satisfied with the project we can continue till 104 episodes', said Selim



Preeti and Afroza Banu in a sequence from the serial

Celebration

Bangladesh Folk Song Council

NOVERA DEEPTA

At the age of nine, little Zaima had the audience completely spell bound at the Biswa Shahittya Kendra, where she performed folk songs with passion. Her devotion for music is very conspicuous, as she sang *Keno tai kao to dadabhai, poray amar mon lage na, khelay moja pai* (Tell me, grandpa, why I don't feel like studying but love to play!).

Bangladesh Folk Music Council, recently, celebrated the Bangla New Year and the winning of *Phulkali Award* by the children of *Bangladesh Lok Sangeet Parishad* (Bangladesh Folk Music Council).

The members of the children's unit of the organisation received 10 awards for performing folk songs in different programmes. Four instrumentalists like Nasir in Dotara, Fayzul in Flute and Partha and Kamol for Tabla won awards as well. The children performed folk songs in the programme, which are written and tuned by the Founder Chairman of the organisation, Indra Mohan



Akramul Islam, Professor Dr Wakil Ahmad, Nasreen Ferdous Chaman and Indra Mohan Rajbongshi seen with the child performers

Rajbongshi. Through this programme, the childer came to learn some important aspects about stage performance.

The enthusiastic children started the programme with a song welcoming Bangla New Year, *Baishakh aile khushir joar jage shobar mone* (Everybody feels happy at the coming of the New Year). Irina Nawshin rendered *Hama zara sawal soto* (We, the

young people) while Shama performed *Kow na mago kemon kore aro bhalo howa jay* (Tell me, mother how can I be a good human being!). The children enthralled the audience.

Earlier in a discussion session Professor Dr Wakil Ahmad, folk singer Akramul Islam, Indra Mohan Rajbongshi and Nasreen Ferdous Chaman of the organisation gave their speeches.

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTV

News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.  
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.  
News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.  
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i

Breakfast News 7:15 am, 9:00 am  
News (Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.  
Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.  
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.  
Latest News (Bangla) at 9 a.m., 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

ntv

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 5:00 pm, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.  
News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.  
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA

NewsHeadlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm.  
Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.  
Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.  
BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

BTV

07:30 *Bangladesher Hridoy Hote*  
09:00 Satellite programme  
12:15 *Shongbad Potrer Pata Theke*  
12:30 Health Bulletin  
01:05 Quiz Quiz  
01:30 Cartoon Show: Meena  
02:05 *Computer Protidin*  
02:30 Tommy Mia's Kitchen  
03:05 Judo Tutorial  
04:05 *Bashori: Folk Song*  
04:30 *Mongna*  
05:05 Television Debate  
06:10 *Geetanjoli*  
06:35 Programme from Chittagong Centre  
07:00 Share Market and Weather Forecast  
07:05 *Mati O Manush*  
07:30 Film Show: The Lost World  
08:30 Drama Serial: *Jochhonar Phul*  
09:00 Drama: *Khoka*  
10:25 *Teknaf thekey Tetulia*  
10:30 *Priyo Shilpi Priyo Gan Jhilmil*  
11:00 *CHANNEL-i*  
09:45 *Tritiyo Matra*  
12:00 *Chithi Pelam*  
01:00 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*  
01:30 *Sangbadpatrey Bangladesh and public reaction*  
02:00 *Bangla Film: Amar Antore Tumi* (Shabnur, Bappara)  
04:30 *Toyota Wild Life*  
05:00 *Sa Re Ma Ga Ma*  
05:45 *FCT Business Talk*

Music Plus

06:10 *Baniyo O Orthonti*  
06:45 *Jibon Jekhane Jemon*  
07:55 Drama Serial: *Sharey Teen Tala*  
08:25 Mega Serial: *Ekanoborti*  
09:35 Drama Serial: *Ranu*  
10:00 Quiz Quiz  
08:00 *Aajker Shakal*  
08:30 *Chenashur*  
09:00 *Shonshkriti Ei Shoptaho*  
09:30 *Ei Shomoy*  
10:00 Hello Music  
10:30 *Arshinagar*  
11:00 Drama Serial: *Andhakarer Phul*  
11:30 Magazine Sequence  
12:02 Millennium  
02:30 *Ke Korbe Bajimat*  
03:05 Drama Serial: *Ronger Manush*  
03:40 Dhalywood Award (Part 1)  
05:10 Horicks Genius  
05:40 *Apnar Jigyasha*  
06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*  
06:50 *Khabor Deshey Deshey*  
08:10 Mega Serial: *Teen Purush*  
08:50 Right Click  
09:40 *Medhabi*  
11:20 *Dindarpan*  
12:00 *Ey shomoy*

CHANNEL-i

09:45 *Tritiyo Matra*  
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ntv

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CHANNEL-i

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04:30 *Toyota Wild Life*  
05:00 *Sa Re Ma Ga Ma*  
05:45 *FCT Business Talk*

PICK OF THE DAY



**Basic**  
On MGM at 9:00 pm  
Genre: Thriller/Drama/Mystery  
John Travolta, Connie Nielsen, Samuel L. Jackson



**Medhabi**  
On ntv at 9:40 pm  
Quiz Show  
Hosted by Suborna Mustafa  
Directed by Humayun Faridi



**Jeepers Creepers**  
On Star Movies at 7:00 pm  
Genre: Horror/Drama  
Gina Philips, Justin Long, Jonathan Breck

04:20 *Saat Manush*  
05:00 *Dama: Bhalobashar Phoo*  
05:50 *Jibon Jigasha*  
08:00 *Apnar Jigyasha*  
08:30 Drama Serial: *Baajpakhi*  
09:00 *The Adventure of Sinbad*  
09:30 Drama Serial: *Mohona*  
10:35 *Shamokalin Biswa*  
12:20 *Bangla Feature Film*  
12:30 *Post Mortem*  
2:00 *BFF*  
4:00 *State Govt. Lottery*  
4:30 *Bangladesh E Samay Rpt.*  
5:00 *Chokher Aloy*  
10:30 *Dehkechilem*  
5:30 *Tara News Aaj Bikele*

6:00 *Safar*  
6:30 *Spl Event Rpt*  
7:00 *Tulkalam*  
8:00 *Telefilm*  
9:30 *Spl Event Rpt*  
10:30 *Jalsaghar*  
11:30 *Tara News*  
12:00 *Tulkalam*  
HBO  
10:30 *Austin Powers: The Spy who Shagged Me*  
12:30 *American Pie 2*  
2:30 *The Mummy*  
5:00 *Tremors 3: Back to Perfection*  
7:00 *Alvin and The Chipmunks Meet Wolfman*  
8:30 *Striking Distance*  
10:30 *Tales from the Crypt*  
11 : *Split Second*

11:15 *Mean Machine*  
1:15 *Enemy at the Gates*  
MGM  
9:00 *Matilda*  
11:30 *Incognito*  
2:00 *Family Sundays: Everyone says I Love You*  
4:30 *The Music of Chance*  
7:00 *Diabolique*  
9:30 *Basic (John Travolta, Samuel L Jackson)*  
11:30 *Theodore Rex*  
STAR MOVIES  
9:50 *Marines*  
11:30 *One Hour Photo*  
1:15 *Black Knight*  
3:00 *Romancing The Stone*  
5:45 *We Were Soldiers*  
7:00 *Jeepers Creepers*  
8:30 *Pottergeist II: The Other*

Side  
Death Train  
11:45 *Afi's 100 Years...100 Movies*  
12:45 *Callas Forever*  
STAR GOLD  
9:00 *Haseena Maan Jayegi*  
12:30 *Avtaar*  
4:00 *Operation Gold*  
4:30 *Aapko Pehle Bhi Kabhi Dekha Hai*  
8:00 *Maya*  
8:30 *Abhay*  
STAR PLUS  
2:25 *Mail Milap*  
2:30 *Sundaymatinee*  
6:30 *Fox Kids Sunday - 500 Series*  
7:00 *Bachcha Party*  
7:25 *Series*  
9:30 *Vikraal Aur Gabraal*

World Championship  
Land of Wolves: Power of the Family  
11:30 *Mummies Forever: The Ultimate Guide: Mummies*  
ANIMAL PLANET  
1:30 *Wild Encounters: Man Eaters of Tsavo*  
2:30 *First Primates*  
3:30 *Croc Files: Trouble on the Hoof*  
4:00 *The Zoo*  
4:30 *O' Shea's Big Adventure*  
5:30 *Champions of the wild*  
6:30 *Wild Island: Zoonique Jobs*  
7:00 *Crocodile Hunter*  
8:30 *Hokkaido Garden of the Gods*  
9:30 *On the Path of the Reindeer*  
10:30 *Animal Planet Showcase: Monkeys*  
11:30 *Predators: Skill to Survive*  
12:00 *Secret World of Gardens: ants*  
STAR SPORTS  
2:30 *Futbol Mundial*  
3:00 *Tennis Masters Series Monte-Carlo Presented By Hsbc Monte Carlo Monaco Semifinal*  
5:00 *Race Day Imola San Marino Foster's San Marino Grand Prix (L)*  
5:45 *World Championships Imola San Marino Foster's San Marino Grand Prix*  
8:00 *Chequered Flag*

Formula One ImolaSan Marino Foster's San Marino Grand Prix (L)  
8:30 *Hitz (T)*  
9:00 *English Premier Football League 2003/04 (L)*  
12:00 *Tennis Masters Series Monte-Carlo Presented By Hsbc Monte Carlo Monaco Final(S)*  
ESPN  
12:00 *Sri Lanka Tour Of Zimbabwe Nissan One Day Internationals Zimbabwe Vs Sri Lanka 2nd ODI Highlights (R)*  
1:20 *Sri Lanka Tour Of Zimbabwe Nissan One Day Internationals Zimbabwe Vs Sri Lanka 3rd ODI (L)*  
5:00 *Uefa Champions League Magazine Show Sri Lanka Tour Of Zimbabwe Nissan One Day Internationals Zimbabwe Vs Sri Lanka 3rd ODI 2nd Session (L)*  
10:00 *English Premier Football League 2003/04 (S)*  
11:30 *Sportscenter Weekend (T)*  
11:35 *Espn School Quiz 2004 Review Show (R)*  
TEN SPORTS  
12:30 *Trans World Sports*  
1:00 *ICC Cricket World Wl v Eng : 2nd ODI*  
3:00 *Olympic Century: Part 1*  
5:00 *Trans World Sports*  
5:30 *Gillette Word Sport*  
7:30 *World Series LIVE*  
11:00 *Wl v Eng : 3rd ODI*