

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition
47th Solo Exhibition
Artist: Jamal Ahmed
Venue: Jama's Gallery, Husain Plaza, Dhanmondi 15 (New)
Time: July 09-30, 11am to 08pm

Emono Ghanoghor Borishay
Artist: Ferdousi Priyobhoshini
Organiser: Bengal Foundation
Venue: Bengal Shipalaya, House-275/F, Road-27, Dhanmondi
Time: July 10-24

5th Solo Painting Exhibition
Artist: Ifat Ara Dewan
Venue: Shipangan, Road 5, House 25, Dhanmondi
Time: July 23-August 01, From 10 am to 1 pm and 5 pm to 9 pm.

Ingmar Bergman Retrospective
Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society
Event: Film show
Venue: Alliance Francaise, Road 3, Dhanmondi

July 19
5pm: *Through a Glass Darkly* (1962)
7pm: *Winter Lights* (1963)

July 20
5pm: *The Silence* (1963)
6:30pm: *Ingmar Bergman Makes a Movie* (1963)

July 21
5pm: *Hour of the Wolf* (1968)
7pm: *Perssona* (1966)

THEATRE FESTIVAL SCHEDULES (JULY 19-JULY 23)

July 19
Play: *Bhubaner Ghate*
Playwright: Syed Manzurul Islam
Director: Munira Yusuf Memi
Group: Natyajan

July 20
Play: *Shurjumukha*
Playwright: Rafiqul Islam
Director: Shahidul Islam
Group: Mukta Mancha Theatre

July 21
Play: *Daybadhya*
Playwright: Chandan Sen
Director: Arpan Aro
Group: Bahubachan

July 22
Play: *Gandar*
Playwright: Eugene Ionesco
Director: Shaiful Islam Emon
Group: Prachyanut

July 23
Play: *Bhager Manush*
Playwright: Mannan Heera
Director: Aly Zaker
Group: Samay Shankskritik Gosthi

Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy; Time: 7 pm
Tickets are available at Sagar Publishers, Baily Road and at the venue before shows. Prices: Tk. 30, Tk. 50 and Tk. 100.
Schedules, provided by BGTF, are subject to change without any prior notice.

Collage workshop at Savar
Bengal Foundation's new venture in painting

FAYZA HAQ

EMINENT artist Monirul Islam, who conducted the collage workshop at Savar, organised by Bengal Foundation, said about the project, 'I think the endeavour is fantastic. I've introduced some local materials like corrugated board, the pigments, which included the burnt rice reduced to dust. Also we used the 'acrymyn' colour which is normally used for painting cloth, and is good for our humid weather and is fungus resistant. I didn't interfere with the artists' images as that would be interfering with their personal world. The artists used acrylic colours too.'

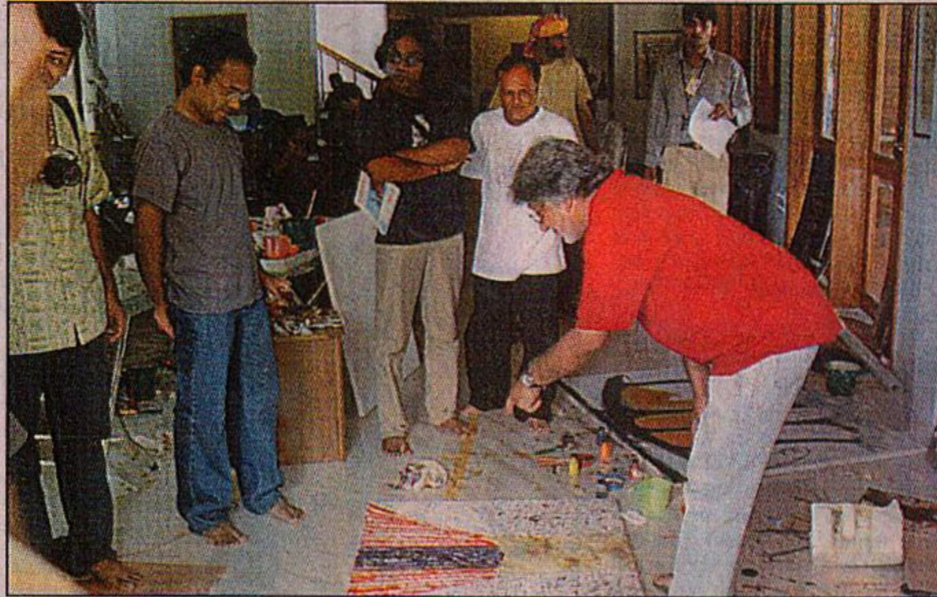
The 17 invited artists included Hamiduzzaman Khan, Mohammed Eunus, Rafi Haque, Ranjit Das, Alakesh and other young, active artists. 'I didn't want to touch or influence the creation of mature artists,' Monir said, 'I helped more in the technical side and in the exchange of ideas on art. The collage involved pasting of paper or other items on board along with the rest of the painting to add dimension and volume to the artwork.'

Monir said that he too learnt a lot from the workshop. The artists had come out of the studios and worked in a new atmosphere, trying to do something that they had never done before. Sometimes Monir helped the artists. The medium was different and lending a hand increased the



The surroundings had an impact on the artists

appeal of the collage work. Trying out chalk powder, zinc oxide, red oxide (brick powder), the blue we use as dye for whitening our white clothes was an experience by itself.



Monirul Islam (R) guiding the participants at the collage workshop

Hamiduzzaman Khan, the well-known sculptor, talking about his experience at the workshop, said, 'We were lucky to get Monirul Islam to join us. Working with local materials, the sheets and paints, was also mind-expanding. Some of our materials and techniques were the same but the paintings had individual characteristics. I myself did a number of paintings dealing with forms, using red and orange. We had a lot of freedom and did not necessarily stick to collage only, although the 3-D effect of collage was indeed marvellous and unique. Sometimes they reminded me of sculpture.'

Mohammed Eunus said, 'We have the guidance of a major artist, which was not the case with the other workshops in Bangladesh. Earlier, we worked together in camps. There is a lot of freedom currently in the use of materials.' In one of his works, he had combined three squares of canvas and had used actual musical discs to bring in the theme of musical notes.

Tayyaba Begum Lipi, who won the coveted award at the last Asian Biennale for Bangladesh, had done a woman's figure with a jute doll pinned on it to signify that women have a confined life

like Egyptian mummies. The body of the woman itself was stiff and bound like that of a mummy while the eyes and hair were wild. Women have very little say in major decisions, Lipi believes. She said, 'If we had more time, we could have been more bold and experimental and gone beyond the paintings and done installations too,' she said, adding, 'The interaction with the other artists is inspiring and informative. We four women artists - Jolly, Nilu, Shulekha and I, who are sharing a room at Savar - talked late into the night analysing our work.'

Dilara Begum Jolly from Chittagong, said, 'Since we've crossed the river in boats, I brought in boats in my painting, which could also be seen as images of women's eyes. I've combined the two forms together. I've been to workshops before in Sweden, India and conducted a workshop myself in Chittagong and I find them all very enriching and enjoyable. Learning about the feelings and experiences of others is very moving. It is not often that you can get together at leisure to share your ideas and emotions.'

The workshop was indeed unique and inspiring.

Megabond: A new mega serial with a difference

AFSAR AHMED

EVER been so annoyed with a drama serial that you just felt that you had to articulate your displeasure? Or perhaps you have noticed that certain dramas seem to take ideas from other shows, alter it, then use it for their own diabolical purposes. Or you are just getting bored with the plots and the acting of so-called mega serials. In either case, Kalindi Production's first ever mega serial titled *Megabond*, can probably help you to get rid of these plights.

So what's so special in this serial? 'We have a think tank of three persons to judge this project properly and to guide us in the right direction,' said Shahidul Alam Sachchu, one of the directors of the serial during a homely get together with the journalists recently.

So who are the think tankers? They are also well known in their respective fields - cartoonist Shishir Bhattacharya, architect Enamul Karim Nijhor and Professor Geeti Ara Nasrin.

'It is the first ever long term project, as we generally call mega serial,' by this production house. We are proud to have Shayer Khan, who

has earned his credentials as a humorous writer, as a script writer as well as one of the directors of the serial,' said Rehana Samdani, the producer.

Before working on the script, the



Shayer Khan and Shahidul Alam Sachchu: Giving TV viewers an innovative alternative

artists have surveyed people from different walks of life such as professors, school students, housewives, maids, garment workers and others to verify their

tastes and preferences. 'By choosing randomly 135 people and taking their views we have come to finalize a concept and thus the script of the *Megabond*'s first 40 episodes have been written,' said Sachchu who also acts in the serial. He also promised to follow up the reviews from the viewers and from the 'think tankers' during the transmission of the serial. 'As soon as the viewers reject this serial or they get bored, we will try to introduce changes in the script, actors or we can even shut down the serial,' he added.

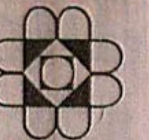
Megabond is a sitcom or situation comedy which is a genre of comedy performance where a situation demands some comic efforts. 'Almost 60 percent of the cast in this serial is new. So through this serial the viewers may get to see a brand new bunch of stars in future,' said Sachchu.

This serial will go on air at the end of this month on a satellite TV channel. 'Our aim is to give a tasteful production to our viewers so that they can gradually draw away from the Hindi serials and view programmes that are close to our own culture. With this end in view, we will telecast our serial on the slot when these Indian serials are transmitted,' ended the directors.



Dhaka Drama Festival 2004

Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation
(June 17-July 23)



REVIEW

Nittapuram

An adapted play from the Mahabharata

IT is well-known that in the classical epics like the *Iliad*, *Mahabharata* and others, human beings are divided by religion and caste. This fact is reflected in Desh Natak's production *Nittapuram*. As part of the drama festival arranged by BGTF, Desh Natak staged their popular classic on July 17 at the Experimental Theatre Stage.

Nittapuram presents the history of human civilisation with a unique touch. Adapted from the *Mahabharata*, Masum Reza's play *Nittapuram* presents Eklabba, a minor character in the epic, as the protagonist because of his latent truth and heroism. Through a storyteller, the playwright narrates Eklabba's story, which has a greater effect on us than that of the whole of *Mahabharata*. The narrator further adds that they will present Vyas Dev's epic in a new way.

In the play some legendary characters, such as the five Pandabs, are depicted as villains. Many lower caste human beings like Eklabba and others are the victims of jealousy, vindictiveness and tricky politics of gods and upper caste people. This eternal social problem is the theme of the play. The playwright has successfully expressed some implicit facts and questions of the myth through logic. Some dialogues of the play are very emotional and philosophical. Masum Reza's play has a poetic flavour. And his dialogue diction expresses the grandeur of the legend.

But, to portray Eklabba as superior to the upper caste heroes in every way, Masum has presented him as a character with double standards. For example, at the beginning of the play Eklabba says, 'Only the Pandabs and Kaurabs heroes are wily' and later when he meets Draupadi, he again says, 'I am not less wily than you are'. Eklabba's double standard, in fact, goes against his heroism. However, Masum's handling of the sequences - such as cutting the thumb of Eklabba to pay the due to his imaginary mentor Dronacharya and in the final scene when Draupadi declares on seeing the corpse of Eklabba, 'Here lies the greatest human being -' touches the heart of the audience.



A sequence from the play

As a director, Masum Reza is also successful at handling the narrative technique. He unfolds the story of the play through a narrator. He has also handled the climax of the play quite successfully. The choreography, particularly in case of archery, is spectacular.

Kamaluddin Kabir's set design is simple but symbolically effective to support the theme. He has used a statue at the back stage. Light designer Nasirul Haq Khokon has once again proved his usual mastery. The best part of his designing is visibility, texture and use of symbolic colours on the cyclorama.

Dilip as Eklabba, Chumki as Draupadi and Suman as Dronacharya performed well. Dipanwita's acrobatic displays to portray the image of an arrow were really enjoyable. Other performers need to improve their skill to do justice to the play.

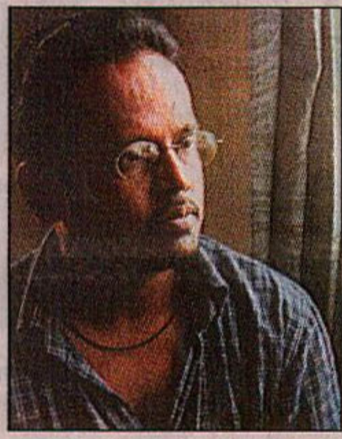
'I prefer giving maximum space to the director'

--M Shaiful Islam

M Shaiful Islam is one of the busiest backstage workers of the country. He is a set as well as light designer. The regular member of Prachyanut, M Shaiful Islam started his theatrical work in 1982.

Through his remarkable backstage work, Shaiful has become a prominent name in theatre arena. Shaiful said, 'As a painter, I give emphasis to colour during designing.'

Shaiful has introduced a new technique in set designing. He said, 'I usually use painted net as my set element. This type of set is less expensive and lasts longer. Moreover, if we consider it from the



aesthetic point of view, we see that many effects can be created on painted net by using several light effects.'

On his designing process Shaiful said, 'In case of set design I always prefer to give maximum space to the director so that he can use it for the performance. And in case of light design I basically concentrate on visibility, and then I try to create illusion by composition.'

So, far Shaiful has worked as a backstage worker for 60 plays. In the festival, he is the set and light designer of two plays -- *Bou Basanti* and *Gondar*.

ERSHAD KAMOL

'Robot' rages against Spidey at box office

There may be no place for Spider-Man in the future -- at least the future as imagined by *I, Robot*, which opens across North America Friday.

Starring box office phenomenon Will Smith, 20th Century Fox's futuristic action film could knock the webbed one down to street level. As the weekend approaches, *I, Robot* inspired by the Isaac Asimov stories, has been tracking extremely well with all segments of the movie going population. Projections are that its three-day gross should top US \$40 million and could rise as high as US \$50 million if crowds flock as expected.

Set in the year 2035, *I, Robot* dramatises a world where robots are an everyday household item that everyone trusts except for Smith's character, who believes that one of them has killed a scientist.

Directed by Alex Proyas (*Dark City*, *The Crow*), the PG-13 film should benefit from Smith's allure as well as the movie's sci-fi themes.



A scene from the movie I, Robot

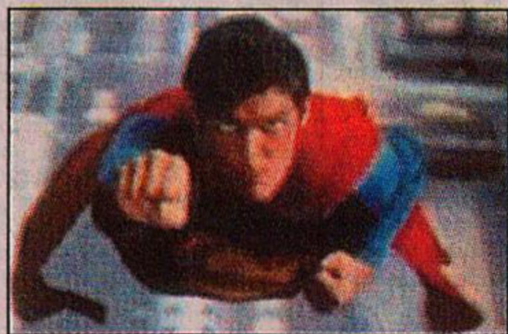
Source: Reuters

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Pishachini
On ATN Bangla at 8:30 pm
Drama Serial
Deepa Khondokar, Shahidul Alam Sachchu



Superman II
On HBO at 9:30 pm
Genre: Adventure / Fantasy / Sci-Fi / Action
Gene Hackman, Christopher Reeve, Ned Beatty

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

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

ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 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 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

ntv

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

TARA BANGLA

News Headlines (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 Bangladesh Hirdoy
08:30 Gomhira
09:00 Satellite programme
12:15 Shongbad Potrer Pata
12:30 Health Bulletin
01:05 Priyo, Shilpi Priyo
01:30 Abahaman Bangla
02:15 Live Telecast of Nitot-TATA National
Football League 2004
06:15 Dolon Champa
06:35 Dance Programme
07:05 Sur Anondo
07:30 Drama Serial: Anya
08:30 Rakam Bhalobasha
08:30 Contemporary Drama
09:30 Drama Serial: Hoyto
10:35 Tamar Jonyo
11:30 Shindhu Hindol

CHANNEL-i

09:45 Tiliyo Matra
11:30 Diplomatic Sauce
12:30 Chitthi Palam
12:30 A J Dupurey
01:00 Eborng Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Sangbadpatrey
02:00 Bangladesh and Public Reaction
02:00 Bangladesh Feature Film: Mujahheed (Rozina, Jashim)
04:00 Banglar Gaan
05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:35 Janapooder Khobor
05:45 Ganatantra
06:10 Music Plus
06:45 Banjio o Arthonli
07:50 Drama Serial: Ruposhi
08:25 Drama: Biji Boarding
09:35 Drama Serial: Beast
10:00 Master
10:00 Drama Serial: Amader
Chhoto Nodi

ntv

08:00 Aajker Shakal
08:30 Gomhira
09:00 Khabor Deshey
09:30 Deshey
09:30 Images of Lights
10:05 Neel Paharer Gaan
10:30 Dhaka Cinema
10:30 Drama Serial: Teen
Purush
03:05 Right Click
03:40 Medhaha
04:25 Putul Naach
05:20 Anar Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Khobor
08:15 Shondhonyo
08:15 Drama Serial: Sorsheh Bairey
08:50 Sunskil Opshara
09:40 Drama Serial: Kheleghor
Dindarpan
11:20

ATN BANGLA

10:30 Annotidishi
11:15 Drama Serial: Baba
11:50 Law Programmer: Milo
Pholok Rai
12:30 Bangla Feature Film: Ahdaji
03:45 Uro Colo Saat Rang
04:20 Children's
Programme: Flying
House
05:10 Matir Shubash
05:45 Islami sawaol o jawab
06:20 Horek Moja
08:00 Drama Serial: Nishashash Ohuyue
Pai
08:30 Drama Serial: Pishachini
09:00 Live Health Care
Programme: Sushtha
thakun Live
10:35 Talk show: Katha mala
12:20 Bangla Feature Film: Meyer Aradhana

HBO

8:00 Tempted
10:00 Funny About Love
12:00 Babe
2:00 Sometimes They
Come Back... Again
4:00 Summer Catch
6:00 Bean
8:00 Not Another Teen
Movie
9:30 Superman II
12:00 Wild Wild West
2:30 Babe
4:30 Ghostbusters II
8:00 Hart's War
10:15 High Crimes
12:15 Tornado Warning
1:45 Home Room
4:00 Down Periscope
5:30 Child's Play
7:00 Arachnophobia

STAR GOLD

9:00 Naakabandi
1:00 Dulhan Hum Le
Jayenge
5:00 Maa Kasam
8:30 Badi
2:00 Bhabhi
2:30 Kosar
3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na Judai
3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi
Kabhi Bahu Thi
4:00 Kahin To Hoga
4:30 Kaahin Kissi Roz
5:00 Tedhe Medhe Sapney

STAR PLUS

12:00 Tanha
1:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
1:30 Kulkum - Pyara Sa
Bandhan
2:00 Bhabhi
2:30 Kosar
3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na Judai
3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi
Kabhi Bahu Thi
4:00 Kahin To Hoga
4:30 Kaahin Kissi Roz
5:00 Tedhe Medhe Sapney

HBO

6:00 Life Nahin Hai Ladoo
6:30 Fox Kids
7:30 Kulkum - Pyara Sa
Bandhan
8:00 Shaka Laka Boom
Boom
8:30 Dekho Magar Pyaar Se
9:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
9:30 Des Mein Nikke Hog
Chand
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi
Bahu Thi
11:30 Kahin To Hoga
12:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz

STAR MOVIES

8:00 Hart's War
10:15 High Crimes
12:15 Tornado Warning
1:45 Home Room
4:00 Down Periscope
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STAR PLUS

12:00 Tanha
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HBO

5:30 The Guardian-Season II
6:30 Agency-Season-II
7:30 3 AM
9:05 Judging Amy-Season-I
9:55 The Guardian Season II
10:45 3 AM
12:30 Bewitched
12:45 Fighting For My
Daughter
The Yam Princess
2:45
12:30 Perfect Man
1:00 What Not To Wear
Meeta
1:30 Baby Stories: Baby Sers
2:00 Kitchen Chemistry:
Chocolata
2:30 Case Studies in
Forensic Science
Infalible Witness
3:30 Moose Spirit of the
North Woods
4:30 Ogopogo Lake
Monster/Mummy Case
5:00 Truth or Scare
5:30 Bazaar: Bangkok
6:00 Great Castles of Europe
Neuschwanstein
6:30 Ushuaia Links to the
Past
7:30 Silhouettes of the
Desert
8:00 Battle of the Sexes
Choosy Females
8:30 Amazing Baby Videos
9:30 Medieval Castle House
10:30 The Roman Colosseum
11:30 New Detectives

HALLMARK

12:00 Bewitched
1:00 Mad About You
1:30 A Killing Spring: Play
with Me
3:30 Sesame
4:00 Sesame Street
5:00 Bewitched

ANIMAL PLANET

12:30 A brush with death
1:00 Feast of Snakes
1:30 Secret world of gardens
2:00 Secret world of gardens
: Wasps
2:30 Animal Planet
Showcase: Grizzly
3:30 Pet Nation

DISCOVERY

12:30 Perfect Man
1:00 What Not To Wear
Meeta
1:30 Baby Stories: Baby Sers
2:00 Kitchen Chemistry:
Chocolata
2:30 Case Studies in
Forensic Science
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STAR SPORTS

1:30 World Pool
Championships 2004
Taiwan Day 9 Final(S)
5:00 Molog World
Championship 2004
Germany Preview(S)
5:30 Molog World
Championship 2004
Germany 250cc(L):5
6:00 Sportsline (L)
6:30 Indian Oil Asia Cup
2004 Sri Lanka Vs India
6th Odi Highlights(T)
10:30 Sportsline (R)
11:00 2004 Formula One

STAR SPORTS

1:30 World Pool
Championships 2004
Taiwan Day 9 Final(S)
5:00 Molog World
Championship 2004
Germany Preview(S)
5:30 Molog World
Championship 2004
Germany 250cc(L):5
6:00 Sportsline (L)
6:30 Indian Oil Asia Cup
2004 Sri Lanka Vs India
6th Odi Highlights(T)
10:30 Sportsline (R)
11:00 2004 Formula One

ESPN

1:00 Tour De France 2004
Highlights Stage #14(S)
1:30 Motor City Madness (R)
2:00 The Open Championship
2004 (Jip) Ayrshire
Scotland Second
Round(R)
5:00 The Open Champion-
ship 2004 First &
Second Round
Highlights(T)
5:30 Cricket Gold (T)
6:30 Sportscenter India (L)
6:30 Classic's Billiards
9:00 Atlantic City Nj Usa
Luther Lassiter Vs U.J.
Puckett (R)
10:00 Classic Boxing Max
Schmeling: The
Championship Years (R)
11:00 Nba Anthology Sweet
Sixteen : 1985-1988
Boston Celtics Champ
Season (R)
11:30 Sportscenter India (R)
12:00 Sportscenter Asia (S)

TEN SPORT

9:00 Copa America: Quarter
Finals
10:00 WWE: Experience
Tour De France
1:00 Garter TV
1:30 Giletta World Sport
2:30 Beach Volleyball
Highlights
3:30 Legends: Murali
4:00 ICC Cricket World
Copa America H/Ls
:Quarter Finals
Raw
6:30 Airtels Greatest Games
7:30 Copa America H/Ls
:Quarter Finals

TEN SPORT

9:00 Copa America: Quarter
Finals
10:00 WWE: Experience
Tour De France
1:00 Garter TV
1:30 Giletta World Sport
2:30 Beach Volleyball
Highlights