

CULTURAL FEAST

Photo Exhibition

Title: Visible
Organiser: Bangladeshi Street Children
Venue: National Museum
Date: January 22-February 4

Cultural Programme

Title: Shahoshor Pochish Bacchor
Organiser: Nijera Kori
Venue: Rabindra Sarobar (near Dhanmondi Lake)
Date: January 27-28 from 3 pm
Featuring: Patho Natak, Gono Sangeet and Pater Gaan
Title: Muktiuddha O'Nail
Organiser: Woman Studies Department
Venue: Liberation War Museum
Schedule:
 Jolbalka (theatre) on January 30
 Pelagaon on January 31

Kathak Dance

Troupe: Shovana Narayan and her troupe
Organiser: High Commission on India
Venue: Osmani Memorial Hall
Date: January 31 at 7:00 pm

Theatre Festival

Venue: National Theatre Stage, Shilpakala Academy
Schedule:

Play	Troupe	Date
Bindoni	Dhaka Theatre	Feb 1
Nityupuran	Desh Nalok	Feb 2
Chhoy	Theatre	Feb 3
Beharir		
Pekli		
Konush	Loko Natyadal	Feb 4
Shyamopom	Prangone Mor	Feb 5
Samayer	Theatre Art	Feb 6
Proyogone	Unit	
Rastang	Aranyak	Feb 7
	Natyadal	
Projapati	Natyakendra	Feb 8
Circus Circus	Prachyanaut	Feb 9
Chhayanaut	Nagorik	Feb 10

Exhibition

Title: Anirbikkhon
Artist: Swapan Chowdhury
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
Date: January 22-February 5

National Music Festival

Bangladesh

Organiser: Centre for Education, Creative and Performing Arts, Unesco Dhaka and Bangladesh National Commission for Unesco
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum
Schedule:
 Folk songs on January 29 at 6:00 pm
 Classical, semi-classical and instrumental music on January 30 at 6:00 pm
 Tagore songs, Nazrul songs, songs by Atulprasad, DL Roy, Rajanikanta Sen and modern Bangla songs on January 31 at 6:00 pm

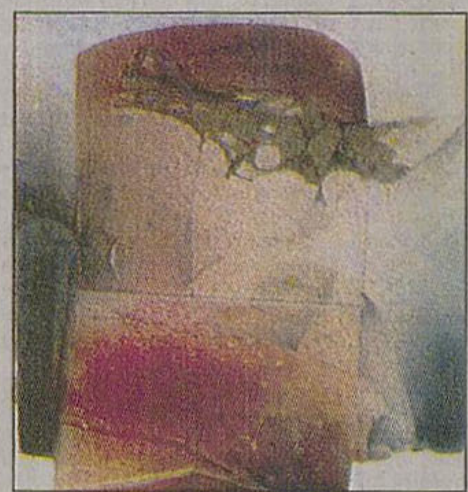
Exhibition

An introspective Swapan Chowdhury

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

SWAPAN Chowdhury, whose exhibition of watercolour and mixed media titled *Introspection*, is on at the Bengal Gallery, says, "I came into the field of fine arts on my own volition, but I did get the economical support of my family. My inspiration to work freelance at full pitch can be traced to the Liberation War. The war has a profound effect on my subjects and style." Swapan continues, "I believe in art for art's sake. I've tried to portray the war that took place 35 years ago, as well as the socio-political upsurges. I'm also influenced, like most modern artists are, by the beauty of nature around me, and some lyrical forms, even though I simplify my subjects. I blend my feelings and vision with nature found in my environment."

When it comes to human forms, Swapan does not paint the entire image but perhaps the nose or the lips, along with other images. Thus to the viewer, the items on the paper or canvas appears like new forms. He values forms and texture a



Inner beauty of time-4

Kidman named UN goodwill ambassador

Actress Nicole Kidman was appointed a goodwill ambassador last Thursday for a UN organisation that fights for women's rights.

"I have been given many, many blessings in this life, and so much of it is about now, a time and a place about giving back," Kidman said.

In her work for the UN Development Fund for Women, or UNIFEM, Kidman said she hopes to focus attention on violence against women.

Noreen Heyzer, head of UNIFEM, called Kidman "a gift because she will use her visibility, her voice, her connections."

Heyzer said there had been some progress for women but said, "Progress is too slow when we look just at the range of violence that has affected women's lives, be it rape, be it abuse in the household, trafficking, because of traditional practices."

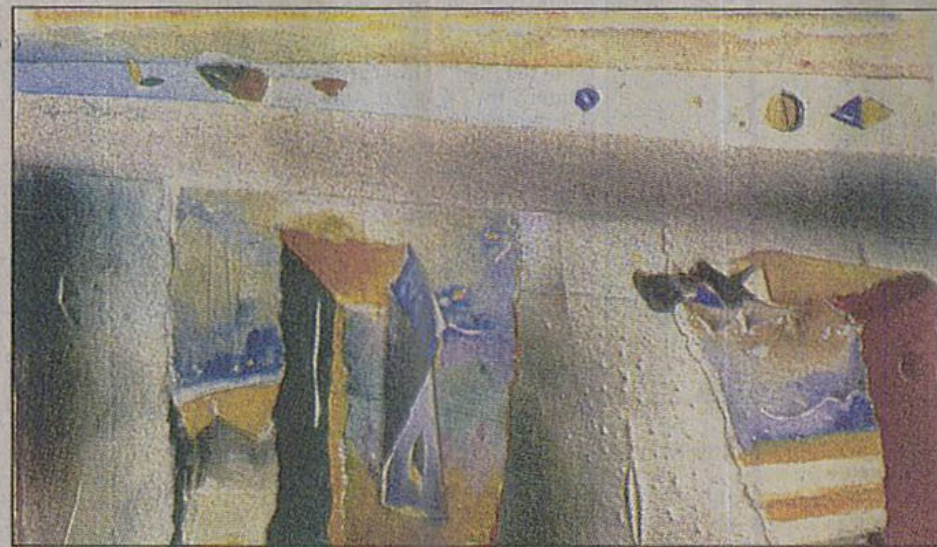
Kidman will start her work in a few weeks by traveling with UNIFEM to "educate herself" to hear firsthand from women about the problems they face.

Her possible stops include Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan and Liberia.

Kidman said it was her own "passion toward helping women" that motivated her to first call the United Nations and said she hoped it would "result in lifelong commitment."



Source: Internet



Inner beauty of time-5

great deal. He was not after photographic reality or similarity.

Asked about his guides at the Institute of Fine Arts Dhaka University, Swapan says that his teachers, Mohammed Kibria, Hashem Khan, Rafiqul Nabi and Abul Baset encouraged and egged him on. The works of the renowned modern artists of the West such as Modigliani, Picasso and Klee also went into molding his vision and style, although not consciously. He was also influenced by Indian artist Somnath Hor. "It's impossible to say that I've reached this level without the impact of artists of world fame," Swapan says.

The present solo exhibit at the Bengal Gallery has 61 paintings on hand-made paper. He says that he loves working on paper "as it has a surface that one can play on; one may twist and turn it, fold it, burn or tear it and make something interesting for the viewer after having treated it in whatever manner desired."

Dwelling on choice of bright hues in the East, as a contrast to the prevailing penchant for subdued colours in the West, Swapan says the colours are the same and it is light reflected on it that gives it the startling vermilion, turquoise blue, jade green and snow white. "There is not much colour variation in what we see around us. The changes in colour are there in the mind and heart. It is light, which is vital to us. The sun will always be red while the sky will be blue through the ages. The selection of colour lies in the artists' mind. The well-known colours see a sea change in the presentations in the paintings." Since there are romantic elements in Swapan's works, he's kept his hues soothing and appealing.

Swapan also runs a school for painters called Nandan, at Dhanmondi. He has recently retired from government service and now paints with unsurpassed dedication.

Oprah rips author into A Million Little Pieces

CNN, Chicago

Last Thursday author James Frey admitted he lied and embellished events about himself and other characters in his best-selling book about substance abuse and recovery.

"I made a mistake," he told Oprah Winfrey during Thursday's show. "I made a lot of mistakes in writing the book and promoting the book."

Did you lie or did you make a mistake? "I think probably both," he said. Winfrey, whose endorsement of *A Million Little Pieces* turned it into one of the top-selling books of 2005, retracted her support of the author, saying she felt "conned" by him. "It's embarrassing and disappointing for me," the talk-show queen said.

And even while Frey admitted altering information that he presented as facts, he maintained his book is a memoir.

"I don't think it's a novel. I still think it's a memoir," he said. "I don't feel like I conned you. I still think the book is about drug addiction and alcoholism and no one is disputing that I was a drug addict and an alcoholic, and it's about the battle to overcome that."

Among the facts he admitted to embellishing: he was jailed for only a few hours, not 87 days; and each character in the book wasn't wholly represented.

Winfrey also apologised to viewers for calling CNN's Larry King two weeks ago and lending her support to Frey.



James Frey with Oprah on the show

9th Int'l Film Festival Dhaka

Moving messages in Madur and Maqbool

FAYZA HAQ

Madur and *Maqbool* were both screened at the 9th International Film Festival Dhaka recently. Jayashree Bhattacharya, the director of *Madur* (The Mat) said that her film included actors from both Bangladesh and India, such as Raisul Islam Asad and Bibhash Chakrabarty. Quite a few of the 30 cast members are theatre artistes like Manisha Adak (the lead actress) and Pijush Ganguli. She had made a name for herself with films such as *Chilekothar Shipai* in Kolkata.

"When I read Utpal Sarkar's screenplay, which had the story-line by me," said Bhattacharya,

"I thought of the actors' personalities to match the cast. I got to know Raisul Islam Asad in 1998 when I was assisting Buddhadeb Das Gupta in *Uttara* (which was also included in the festival). When I asked him to work with me, he in turn invited me to Dhaka along with my script. Sitting in Hotel Rajmoni in January 2005, he promptly agreed and we began working on the film without further ado."

The plot, as Bhattacharya said, presents the simple story of a family tradition of mat weaving in a little village. The poverty-stricken protagonist makes a mat slowly by hand, failing to meet the demands of the go-between. The wife (Amina) of the mat weaver is determined to convince the clever go-between, and in the process develops a weakness for him. She is also beset with the dilemma of whether to modernise the mat weaving process. Thus the socio-economic theme is present as the plot unfolds. Through the film, the director depicts how an artisan makes sacrifices to resist the lure of modernisation and industrialisation.



Raisul Islam Asad (R) with co-actors in Madur

Asked to speak about her interest in filmmaking, Bhattacharya said that she started her career with theatre along with Asok Mukharjee and Bibhash Chakrabarty in 1991. Then she went into the National School of Drama in Delhi, in the children's wing in Theatre in Education (TIE) for over three years, and assisted Buddhadeb Dasgupta, Ritupurno Ghosh and others. She went into direction, as she puts it, for economic reasons, as she couldn't find a scope in acting.

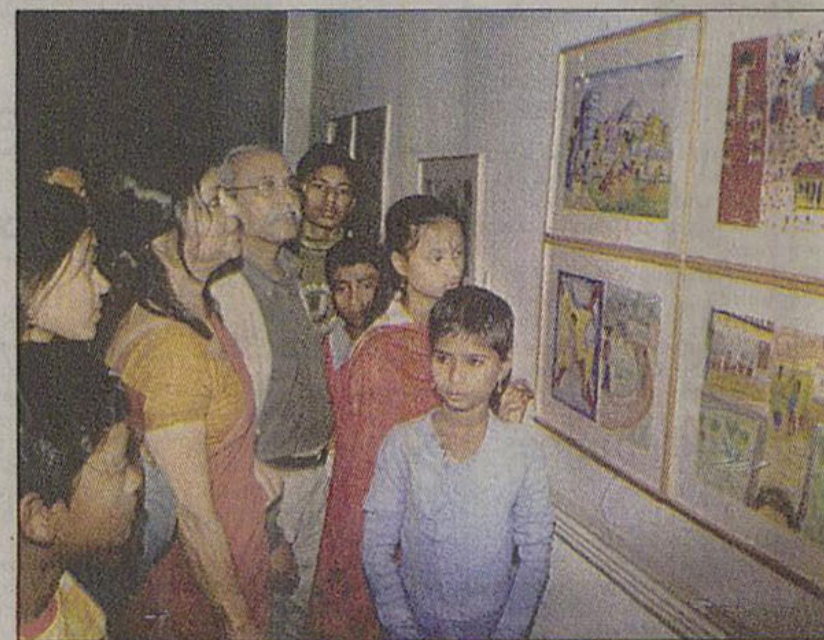
So far she has directed five films including *Noey Chhoy*, *Chilekothar Shipai*, *Chanchir* and *Madur*. Director Anwar Jamal persuaded her to enter *Madur* in the recent film festival in Dhaka organised by Rainbow Film Society. "I wanted to reach out to the viewers of Bangladesh and I've enjoyed every bit of my stay here," she said. After this the film travels to France and Norway. Her documentary, *Voice of Monimala* has won an award in Norway.

Puja Bedi, co-maker of *Maqbool* which drew a packed house at the Public Library recently, said she was here also with a German film in Bangla, *Shadows of time*, which was done in Kolkata, with a German co-producer, Bavaria Film. *Maqbool*, she explained, is an adaptation of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, set in the Mumbai underworld. The film premiered at the Toronto Film Festival and has been taken to over 30 film festivals including the ones in Berlin, Marakesh and Goa. "It's an honour for us to bring it to Dhaka. The story-line involves the aging underworld don, Abbaji, his young mistress Nimmi, and Maqbool, an ambitious gangster, who wins over the beautiful seductress," she said.

Dwelling on her career in the film world, Puja Bedi said, "I've begun in films for the channel Kaleidoscope Entertainment. I'm representing the filmmaker, Bobby Bedi, with *Electric Moon*, *Bandit Queen* and *Fire*. She and her co-producers continued with *Sathiya*. She said that she has been assisting Bobby Bedi for over 10 years."

Irfan Khan and Tabu in Maqbool

Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts recently organised an exhibition of paintings by underprivileged children of the child rights unit, Ain O Shalish Kendra at the Royal Orchid restaurant in Gulshan. The exhibition titled *Language of Joy* was inaugurated by child neurologist Dr Naila Khan. Artist Abul Barok Alvee and Naila Khan are seen along with the child artists at the exhibition.



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
 News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 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 pm.
 News (English) at 8:20 am, 7:00 pm.
 Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
CHANNEL i
 09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public Reaction
 09:45 Tiliyo Matri
 10:45 No Bola Kotha (Live)
 12:30 Aj Dupurey
 01:10 Ebonj Cinemas Gaan
 01:25 Public Reaction
 02:40 Shaat Rang
 03:10 Dhaka Guide
 03:30 Open Discussion On HIV
 04:10 Boshundhara Amader Gaan
 04:20 Hey Tarunyo
 05:15 Janapader Khabor
 05:30 Chokochchitra
 06:00 Shingobhala
 06:30 Music Plus
 06:30 Drama Serial: Dui Prohor
 07:50 Drama Serial: Shawnpoloker
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
 08:15 Shubhechchha Nin
 08:45 Shamprotk Biswa
 09:25 Shashwato Jibon
 09:35 Open University
 12:30 Shasthathayya
 01:00 Nibedan
 01:30 Cartoon
 02:15 Sisimpur
 02:40 Bangla Feature Film
 05:05 English Debating Competition
 06:10 Wrestling
 07:00 Shoto Phool Phutley Dao
 07:30 Drama Serial: Antoralek Anurag
 08:35 Magazine
 Programme: Anando Ajoyon
 09:00 Drama: Ekaki Shajon
 10:25 Yeknal Theke Tetula
 10:35 Bodle Jachhey, Bangladesh
 11:00 Chawa Pacwa
CHANNEL i
 09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public Reaction
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 06:00 Shingobhala
 06:30 Music Plus
 06:30 Drama Serial: Dui Prohor
 07:50 Drama Serial: Shawnpoloker
Rtv
 07:45 Shukhi Thakum Deho Money
 10:00 Swapno Diner Gaan
 10:30 Gopsho
 11:00 Drama: Iyo Noy Biye
 01:00 Sindabad O Tar
 01:30 Bondhura
 01:30 Sonali Rupali
 02:30 Istam O Bigyan

Kolkotha
 Drama Serial: Ekush Er Porey
 09:35 Hrodayo Mali O Manush
 10:00 Roxona Challenge
ATN BANGLA
 08:10 Bulbul
 08:45 Drama Serial: Feran Siren
 09:25 Drama Serial: Britto
 11:05 Wrestling
 11:35 Drama Serial: Horloner Bibi
 12:15 Drama Serial: Chir Deyaler Kobyo
 12:15 Bangla Feature Film: Megher Onok Raing
 03:45 Shurer Madhuri
 04:20 Chokul Gaan Gai
 05:10 Ishkul Bela
 05:45 Ishani Saveri O Jobab (live)
 06:20 Travel Show: Amar Danish Amar Bangladesh
 08:00 Drama Serial: Jol Porey Pata Noroy
 08:30 Drama Serial: The New Shabuj Opera
 09:00 Drama Serial: Lal Neli Beguni
 09:30 Drama Serial: Ek Jonomey
 10:35 Citycell Shusthya Thakun (live)
Rtv
 07:45 Shukhi Thakum Deho Money
 10:00 Swapno Diner Gaan
 10:30 Gopsho
 11:00 Drama: Iyo Noy Biye
 01:00 Sindabad O Tar
 01:30 Bondhura
 01:30 Sonali Rupali
 02:30 Istam O Bigyan

On ntv at 08:25 pm
 Genre: Drama Serial
 Cast: Tinni, Babu, Md Shooeb
BTV
 03:30 Bangla Feature Film: Anubhab
 05:20 Alokalp
 06:00 Aker Bangladesh
 06:30 Music Music
 07:45 Japito Jibon
 08:15 Tele-film: Shagor
 10:40 Riv Exclusive
 10:45 Dance-drama: Chirangada (Part 3)
ntv
 08:35 Aaker Shokal
 09:00 Kachher Manush
 09:30 Talk Show: Ki kotha Tahar Shatke
 10:05 Glamour's World
 10:30 Dhakar Cinema: Chapa Dangar Bou
 01:05 Muktaggon
 04:25 Tepantor Mathay

PICK OF THE DAY



Romijer Ayna
 On ntv at 08:25 pm
 Genre: Drama Serial
 Cast: Tinni, Babu, Md Shooeb



Vanity Fair
 On HBO at 9:30 pm
 Genre: Comedy
 Cast: Reese Witherspoon, Gabriel Byrne

STAR MOVIES

09:30 The Glass House
 11:15 Nutty Professor II: The Klumps
 01:00 Drumline
 03:00 Control
 04:45 Hidaig
 07:00 The Whole Ten Yards
 08:40 Pirates Of The Caribbean: Curse Of The Black Pearl
 11:05 Die Hard 2
STAR PLUS
 11:25 Film Topper
 12:55 Taaza Hits
 01:00 Star Bestsellers
 02:25 Film Topper
 03:00 Shanno Ki Shaadi
 03:00 Kora Kagaz

05:00 Hit Firmein Hit Sangeet
 05:30 Sashhhh...Koi Hai...
 06:30 House Of Mouse
 07:00 Hercules
 07:30 Meri Mrs Chanchala
 08:00 Pardey Ke Peechey
 08:30 Kaaboom
 09:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati 2
 10:30 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
 10:30 Tu Tu Main Main
STAR WORLD
 12:30 The Bold & The Beautiful
 01:30 Hollywood Shootouts
 01:30 My Wife And Kids
 02:00 King Of Queens
 02:30 The Office
 03:00 Coupling
 03:30 The Kumars At No. 42

04:00 Arrested Development
 04:30 Smallville
 05:30 Life As We Know It
 06:30 Tru Calling
 07:30 The Collector
 08:30 The Xplosion
 09:30 What Were You Thinking?
 10:30 The Robinsons
ANIMAL PLANET
 10:00 Meerkat Manor
 10:30 One Planet
 12:30 Fun Zone
 01:30 Honda Presents: Animal Planet Insights
 02:30 Animal Planet at the movies
 03:00 Monkey Business
 03:30 Keepers of the Forest
 04:30 Animal Planet Showcase
 06:30 Indian Safari
 07:30 Ateborough Presents
 08:30 The Horsemen
 09:00 RSPCA: Have You Got What It Takes
 09:30 Wild Encounters
 10:30 One Planet
DISCOVERY
 10:30 History Week
 11:30 Technocops
 12:30 True Horror
 01:30 Wild India Week
 02:30 Impact: Stories of Survival
 03:30 Life On The Edge
 04:30 Wild India Week
 05:30 Discovery India People
 06:30 Extreme Machines
 07:30 Discover India
 09:30 Gandhi Jayanthi Special
 10:30 Discovery Wings
 11:30 Lifestyle Showcase
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
 10:30 Backyard Science

10:45 Doc Eureka
 11:00 Serious: Arctic
 12:00 Serious: Arctic
 12:30 Mission Udaan
 01:00 Wild Family Secrets
 01:30 When Nature Strikes Back
 02:30 Air Crash Investigation
 03:30 Frontlines Of Construction
 05:30 Megastructures
 07:30 Rough Trades
 08:30 Extreme Latitude
 09:30 Animals Behaving Worse
 10:30 Black Pinocchio
STAR SPORTS
 08:00 Australian Open 2006
 Sponsored By Kia Motors In Association With Gamier Melbourne
 Australia Women's Singles & Men's Doubles Finals(L)
 12:00 Australian Cricket Down Under - India's Tour Of Australia 2003/04 Part I(R)
 01:30 Australian Cricket Down Under - India's Tour Of Australia 2003/04 Part II(R)
 02:00 Asian Tour Asian Tour: Pakistan Open Highlights(T)
 03:30 Ice Cricket World (T)
 05:00 Cricket Classics Close Encounters (R)
 06:00 A1 Grand Prix
 08:30 Fa Cup 2005/06 Round 4(L)
 11:00 Australian Open 2006 Highlights Sponsored By Kia Motors In Association With Gamier Day #13 Highlights(S)

12:00 Australian Open 2006
 Sponsored By Kia Motors In Association With Gamier Women's Singles & Men's Doubles Finals(R)
ESPN
 08:30 Nba Basketball
 Houston Tx Usa Minnesota Timberwolves Vs Houston Rockets (L)
 11:00 Sportscenter Week In Review (T)
 12:30 Indian Premier Hockey League Pn Premier Division Chandigarh Pu India Bangalore Lions Vs Hyderabad Sultans Tier I(R)
 02:30 Cricket Classics Indian Legends (T)
 05:00 Bull Riding Pro Built Ford Tough Series 2005 Dallas Tx Usa (R)
 06:00 Cricket Classics David: The Wall (R)
 07:00 Indian Premier Hockey League Chandigarh Dynamos Vs Maratha Warriors Tier I(L)
 09:30 Team India Programming India Glorious (R)
 11:00 Fa Cup Fa Cup 2005/06 Round 4(L)
TEN SPORTS
 09:30 Gillette World Sport
 10:00 Winning Post
 11:00 Legends
 02:00 Trans World Sports
 04:30 WWE Experience
 07:30 EPGA: The Commercial Bank Qatar Masters Day 3
 08:30 Legends
 09:30 Italian League Highlights
 10:30 German League Highlights