the STAR
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The Man of the Match

Shakib al Hasan's rise to fame has been interesting too see and brilliant to experience, because his performances have both pushed him into the limelight as well as invigorated the nation. The recent test and one day international (ODI) series victory in the West Indies brought some much needed relief to the cricket crazy nation of Bangladesh, but it also catapulted Shakib into the public eye like never before.



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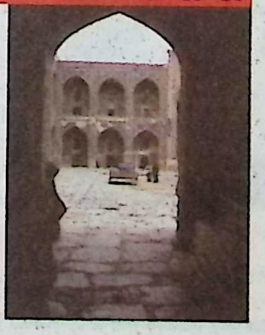
Laced with Poison



In the 1980s to early 1990s thousands of infants died of renal failure after being given contaminated paracetamol syrup. At that time the government stopped production of the five accused pharmaceutical companies, however, lack of monitoring of the government agency Drug Administration, history repeated itself last month. Twenty-five children between one and five have died. Tests have confirmed the presence of the toxic chemical, diethylene glycol in the medicine.

24-27 Travel

On the Silk Road



On my first day in Tashkent, fully-aware of the moral and statistical wrongness of trying to judge a people based on first-time chance encounters I was enchanted by its people. I was in Uzbekistan: a middle-income country, three times the size of ours, with a 95% literacy-rate, a legacy of modern infrastructure, extremely strategic location bang in the middle of Asia yet mostly relegated by us as one of those tottering spin-offs from the Soviet Disintegration.

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