

A BYTE OF LIFE

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

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Vol. 2 No. 215

12

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ALL THE RIGHT CHORDS

As Vaaranam Aayiram hits the theatres finally, V.Lokpria caught up with Harris Jayaraj and found out about the magic behind the music.

PAGE 10

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TO LAUGH OR NOT TO

Ever played a prank on some one? Or did you ever become a victim of one – funny or not-so-funny? Tell us about it in not more than 150 words. Mail your memory to feedback@goergo.in with the subject line 'PRANK' before Wednesday evening

Drunk sets himself afire accidentally, dies

An inebriated man who threatened to commit suicide in front of his wife after dousing himself with kerosene was later immolated after he lit a beedi and accidentally dropped the matchstick on himself. He later died in hospital.

According Pallikaranai police, the deceased was identified as Suresh (28), a painter residing in Mylai Balaji Nagar in Pallikaranai.

Suresh, who is known to be an alcoholic, had a history of frequent quarrel with his wife Nagamma (27). On Thursday night, November 6, Suresh came home in an inebriated state and had an argument with his wife. He doused himself with kerosene outside his house and threatened to set himself on fire. Therefore, an irked Nagamma took their children Pavithra (11) and Sundar (8) and left for her mother's place a couple of streets away.

An exhausted Suresh sat down outside his house and lit a beedi, when disaster struck. Neighbours rushed a badly burnt Suresh to the Government Kilpauk Medical College hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries on Monday evening.

Ergo Correspondent



Everybody loves David

Two things don't change much at this small eatery in Mandaveli: taste and price!

NANDHINI RAMKUMAR

Inflation may have hit the big and medium hotels hard enough to warrant a price hike. And though D. Jaba wants to do the same he has compelling reasons not to. "My mom is against the idea," he says. "We feel happy when we see our customers enjoying our good food, at a cheap rate."

Jaba runs 'David Idly Shop,' a small eatery at Mandaveli, where crowd buzzes through the day, with people ordering for parcels or a quick meal to fill themselves.

Run by the mother-son duo, Rajam and Jaba, this shop sells a variety of tiffin items like idli, vada, puri and pongal. Rajam is famous in the area for her hot Thavala vadai and this is the favourite next to the soft idlis.

Talking about their ten years' experience, Jaba says: "We had helpers when we first started off, then we decided to take care of the shop all by ourselves. People prefer that we do the cooking and mom's the best."

David is Jaba's dad, who ran a betel leaf business out of Mandaveli before the eatery came up. Word of mouth publicity and some of dad's customers make up the chunk of Jaba's customers. It has now become a favourite for several bachelors who look out for some cheap and tasty food.

While idli, vada, pongal, adai and puri make up the breakfast menu, variety rice like lemon and tomato is served for lunch. The idlis and vadas are priced at Rs 3 and Rs. 4 and the puris, pongal and lunch comes at Rs. 10.

People prefer to parcel the food especially for dinner and no extra money is charged for it. "We open up at 4:30 a.m. to prepare the food and customers start coming in by 7:30 a.m.," says Rajam. Selling 500 idlis per day, David idli shop is on good food on the go. ■

Too Good for Critics is a weekly column to celebrate Namma Chennai's 'Kaiyendi Bhavans' and small eateries. If you can think of a similar place, mail us at feedback@goergo.in

How to get there?
David Idly Kadai is situated at 47, Kesava Perumal East Ward Street, Mandaveli. Just take the road straight down Madaveli market towards St Antony's School.



David Idly Shop at Mandaveli. PHOTO : R.RAVINDRAN



Ashley News bags gold

Ashley News, the quarterly in-house journal of Ashok Leyland, has won gold at the Association of Business of India(ABCI)'s 48th annual awards. It was judged best among more than 50 entries in the internal magazine(English) category, for the year 2007.

Seen a rogue driver? Report it here!

A web community initiative that asks eye-witnesses to register violations seen on the road



ABHISHEK



www.trafficviolators.com

LIFFY THOMAS
liffythomas@goergo.in

This morning while I was negotiating the busy Nandanam signal on my bike, waiting for the traffic signal to turn green, I saw this company bus coming from the opposite direction. The yellow signal had turned red and vehicles from my direction were all set to leave when the blue-white bus jumped the signal to tear across the road. A poor cyclist, who was a few yards before all of us, narrowly escaped the driver's fury.

A dozen vehicles honked, the lonely traffic inspector whistled and many screamed 'Eppadi poran paaru arivu kettavan...'

Sounds similar to something you have got used to seeing and hearing while driving on the city's choc-a-bloc roads? Some of you may rant and a few may write posts on their blog. But a majority do nothing. Which is where www.trafficviolators.com offers an interesting option. That's the citizen initiative to make roads a safer place.

Booking the violators

TrafficViolators is a non-profit

initiative started by Abhishek Kant, an employee of Microsoft in Gurgaon, to encourage safe driving. The core participants of the website are citizens who like to vent their anger on various types of violations on the road.

The idea to bring the culprit to book through the virtual platform struck Abhishek two years ago, after a youngster in his apartment block died in an accident. Neither the local community nor the police could do much to proceed with the case.

"This is a community initiative and relies on people accurately reporting the violations on the road so that other people can become aware of the threats posed by dangerous drivers on the road," says the community programme manager, who spent a week designing the website.

So, how do you benefit from noting the registration number and putting it on the website? Perhaps, an immediate satisfaction that 480 registered users (their current strength) have taken note of the violator's vehicle number. "Or, if a person has violated rules more than a couple of times, it calls for an 'investigative scenario'. One could even join

hands with NGOs to bring justice to an individual," says Abhishek.

Still wondering about its effectiveness? The repeated offenders are top in the list and the most frequent type of violator is reported. "Interestingly, Chennai tops with the maximum number of violators," says Abhishek. Also, if the violator has registered with the site, with his email id and other details, it is brought to his notice.

Interactive

If you are too lazy to note down the violator's registration number, you could click photographs or shoot a video that can be uploaded on the site. The 'Shame Board' has all details of the violator – city, vehicle type, violation type, location, etc. The 'API' is another interesting feature, where all info on the website can be shared or used by others.

Though the police has not joined hands with TrafficViolators to book violators, Abhishek says that the day is not far away. "Nowadays, police takes help from citizens in their various social initiatives and, hopefully, this will become a platform to book traffic offenders." ■

»A cool nap



An ice cream vendor takes a nap on his cart at Marina Beach after the rains in Chennai.
PHOTO: S.S. KUMAR

Blood donation camp at HCL



A voluntary blood donation and eye donation awareness camp was held at HCL Technologies (Ambattur 6) recently. Several HCL-ites donated blood and registered for eye donation. "The diverse donors included not only the software engineers, but also the housekeeping team and the security guards of this facility," said S. Samson, the Community Service Council head of HCL. He added that similar camps will be conducted across all the HCL facilities in Chennai.

Ergo Correspondent



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Newspaper reading

It has been estimated that the typical American will spend an average of two years of his/her life reading newspapers.



Pig organs soon to be ready for human use

The first pig organs genetically modified for human transplants could be ready in just two years, according to esteemed British scientist Professor Robert Winston. Organs will need to be tested to prove they are safe and effective, with the first transplant possibly occurring in just a decade. Lord Winston is currently conducting experiments that could lead to pig cells being modified with human genes. He believes these 'humanised' organs are unlikely to be rejected once they are transplanted into patients. The human immune systems are unlikely to reject the pig organs because the proteins on the surface of the cell will be replaced with human versions, Winston predicts.

Dell axes inline music player

Computer giants Dell Inc have decided not to launch their online music player before the holiday season, according to a report from the Wall Street Journal. The ambitious project was set to be linked to online entertainment software and released in the fall. But the company has decided to hold off on the music player indefinitely. It will instead proceed with its entertainment software -dubbed Zing, which was tested earlier this year (08). Zing software organises downloaded music and movies on personal computers.



Craigslist cracking down on prostitution

Online classified site Craigslist.com is introducing new rules in a bid to crack down on advertisements for prostitutes. Craigslist will now charge a small fee and require credit card verification for postings in the 'eroticservices' section of the site, and users will also have to provide a working phone number. The site says all of the revenue from the ads would be donated to charity. Craigslist chief executive Jim Buckmaster says, "Requiring credit card verification, and charging a fee to post in this category raises accountability to a point where we expect few illicit ads will remain. For those that do persist, telephone and credit card information will be available to law enforcement via subpoena."

METROSEXUAL

Cool in the cold

Frizzy hair, white elbows and chapped skin! Veena Kumaravel of Naturals gives us some winter care tips

MONISHA MOHANDAS

Winter is not just about warm clothes, fireside reading and nestling close to the pillows, wrapped from head to toe in a comfortable cover. It is time to encounter the cold winds that affect your body and hair. A little care will keep the wintry troubles at bay.

Hair

Before the winter winds can work havoc with your hair, expose your hair to deep conditioning. Since the cold weather dries your hair, massage your mane with aloe vera juice or coconut and almond oil for a few minutes. This will restore its softness. Olive oil can work wonders in inducting moisture into your hair.

Woollen hats and scarves can cause damage to your hairline. Since they can cause breakage, first cover your hair with a silk scarf before exposing it to winter wraps.

It is the appropriate time for split ends to work their way up to the hair shafts. Hence, don't forget to trim your split ends. Many of us suffer from dry, brittle or frizzy hair because our hair is deficient in moisture. Curly or frizzy hair can often be very hard to manage. Harder still is trying to turn your frizzy, curly hair into a smooth, straight and silky-looking hairdo.

For curly hair, work anti-frizz gel through hair. For straight hair, apply straightening cream and then divide hair into sections and massage. A salon can help you rejuvenate your hair by giving you a hydrating treatment.

Body and skin

During winter, your skin is already low on necessary oil and use of soap can only worsen the condition. So, avoid soap and, instead, use a mild soap-less hydrating cleanser. Your skin texture depends not only on external treatments but also on the intake.



A proper nutritious intake helps in rejuvenating the skin from within. Avoid using talcum powder as much as possible. Water plays an important role in keeping your skin alive. A good amount of water helps in retaining the moisture of your skin as well as keeping skin disorders at bay.

Moisturisers and cold creams are a must in the winters. Apply some good cold cream to your face before going to bed. Moisten your skin with a good moisturiser or a creamy hand and body lotion. But don't ignore the sunscreens when winter begins. In fact, the sun's reflective powers on snow in winter can be higher than on the sand of a beach in summer.

Use sun protection. This will act as a barrier against the harsh elements and is especially important if you will be outside for any length of time.

(Veena recommends the mulberry extract treatment and milk bath at Naturals for better-looking skin.)

Since the skin on your lips dries out faster, apply a lip moisturiser with sun block. It is dual purpose

and gives you the softest pucker ever. Keep a lip balm in your purse and apply it when you're tempted!

Eyes

A mixture of potato and cucumber juice in equal ratio applied around your eye and kept for 20 minutes proves to be very useful in removing wrinkles and dark circles.

Hands and feet

Pedicures and manicures are a good option for soft feet and hands. (Naturals has come out with the milk and chocolate extract treatment.)

Grab those gloves. Wear gloves and other protective covering before you go out in the cold and before you tuck your hands inside your mittens or gloves apply some sort of hand lotion. Protecting hands from the cold air and low humidity plays an important role in preventing flare-ups. Make sure the gloves are made from material that does not irritate your skin. For your foot protection, dip your feet in lukewarm water, apply foot cream and wear socks. ■

Websites of the day

Keep up to date with all the scores at the world's most famous tennis tournament: http://www.wimbledon.org/en_GB/index.html
 Find out more about the alluring dancing and cymbal-clashing movement: <http://www.harekrishna.com/>

**RUPEE RUN RATE**

SOURCE: RBI

Carried away by jute



Jute bags at Ballyfabs are eco-friendly, pocket-friendly and don't look like the 'jhola' one is used to seeing

V. LOKPRIA

How would you react if you came to know that a branded jute case for your water bottle is available for a mere Rs. 30? Surprised? Don't be! Ballyfabs at Spencer Plaza is for everything jute, in bags that is.

The first thing that attracts you when you enter this shop is the bright colours of the bags that adorn the stands. Fashion and utility take a unique blend at this shop through its in-house Design Development team, resulting in constantly upgrading ranges of diversified products including bags, purses and floor coverings, all made of jute.

Started in 2004, the shop has seen a steady increase in its customer base. Ballyfabs stocks highly exclusive designer bags for women. Besides all-jute ones, there are jute cotton, jute denim and faux leather bags. Being a Jain company, the store does not sell leather bags. One can easily pick up a trendy yet simple jute bag at a cool Rs. 90. The price ranges from Rs. 30 to Rs. 2,500.

Jute bags with sequin work and denim sell like hot cakes. Word-of-mouth publicity has made this shop a popular one for jute bag lovers. At present, there is a 40 per cent discount on bags priced above Rs. 300.

"Quality, wide price range, design and durability is our U.S.P," says Rahul Bhattacharya, manager of the Chennai branch.

Students from fashion schools design the bags. The most striking aspect of this shop is that one will find bags for all occasions and in all shapes, not always fitting into the general perception of how jute bags are supposed to look.

"The promotion of using eco-friendly products is an important part of any firm's ethos and strategy.

Keeping that in mind, the takeaway bag given is also made of jute," says Rahul. ■

Address:
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93B, First Floor,
Phase II, Spencer Plaza,
Anna Salai,
Chennai
Email: web@ballyfabs.com



Fax us
28576691



Mail us
859 & 860, Anna Salai,
Chennai-600 002

Circuit city bankrupt

The second largest electronics retailer in the U.S., Circuit City Stores Inc, has filed for bankruptcy protection on Monday.



French cops arrest anarchists for train sabotage

French police raided alleged anarchist cells in three cities on Tuesday and arrested at least 10 suspects following a series of sabotage attacks on the country's high-speed rail network. Interior Minister Michele Alliot-Marie said police intelligence officers had been investigating an "ultra-left anarchist movement" for several months and had acted following the weekend's disruption of train services.

AFP

World's largest mall opened

The highly anticipated Dubai Mall opened on November 4, unveiling the first phase of a new retail, fashion and entertainment mecca. At 5.6 million square feet of retail space, the mall is considered the largest in the world. There are 1,200 stores plus 160 food and beverage outlets, and the mall is expected to attract 30 million visitors in its first year. And while Dubai, like the rest of the world's economies, is experiencing a slowdown, the mall is poised

to do business in this major shopping and leisure destination. Yousef Al Ali, general manager, said Dubai Mall has more than 165 international stores that have not previously been represented in the Middle East. "To deliver a fresh retail experience, it was important for us to bring in names that are new to the region," he said. "We developed partnerships with many leading international retailers to open for the first time in Dubai."

NYT News Service



Britain's QE2 liner runs aground on final farewell

Queen Elizabeth 2, one of the world's most famous ocean liners, ran aground briefly off the south coast of Britain on Tuesday on her final farewell voyage. The Cunard ship, which in her 39 years of service has sailed 5.9 million nautical miles, completed 806 transatlantic crossings and carried more than 2.5 million guests, ran into a sandbank as she was coming into her home port of Southampton, south east England. "She touched a sandbank, but she's now clear and is on her way into port," Cunard spokesman Eric Flounders said. "She will be delayed by about 25 minutes." He said the accident was "no more than a little bump" and there were no reports of any damage or injuries. The liner reached her home port of Southampton at around 7:25 a.m. where she is due to receive a farewell visit from the Queen Elizabeth's husband, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Reuters

Thailand culls chickens after bird flu outbreak

Thailand has culled more than 200 chickens after detecting the H5N1 bird flu virus in a rural area more than 400 kms (250 miles) north of Bangkok, the Agriculture Ministry said on Tuesday. Tests confirmed the country's first outbreak in 10 months near the ancient capital of Sukhothai, where villagers had found several dead chickens. "Lab tests showed that the chickens died of the deadly H5N1 virus," Agriculture Minister Somsak Prisnanantakul told reporters.



Reuters

Pet offer for Obama's kids from Peru

Offer after Obama announced that his elder daughter is allergic to most breeds

Will a Peruvian hairless male dog accompany Barack Obama's daughters to the White House? Owners of the Peruvian Hairless dog, a breed dating back 3,000 years and depicted in pre-Hispanic ceramics, have offered a male puppy to the Obama family, saying it is perfect for children who suffer from allergies.

The search for a pet started after the US President-elect promised his daughters a puppy when they move to the White House. Obama had also said that his elder daughter Malia (10) is allergic to most breeds. "Sasha and Malia, I love you

both so much, and you have earned the new puppy that's coming with us to the White House," Obama had said while delivering his victory speech after he was elected US President on November 4.

Claudia Galvez, Director of the Friends of Peruvian Hairless Dog Association, delivered a letter to the US Embassy in Lima yesterday detailing her offer.

"We want to give a male puppy to Obama's daughters, so they get to experience all the joys of having a dog but without any allergies," she told 'Daily Telegraph'. Galvez also expressed hoped that Obamas will

accept the offer.

If Obamas accept the offer from Peruvians, Galvez will send a 4-month-old pedigree puppy currently known as 'Ears' to them. "But if we send it to the United States, its official name will be Machu Picchu," she said, referring to the ancient Incan citadel, Peru's top tourist attraction.

According to Peruvian folklore, the dogs have above-average body temperature, which compensates for their lack of hair and helps alleviate symptoms of asthma or arthritis suffered by their owners. ■



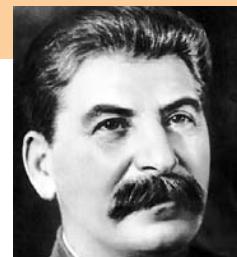
PTI

Geese dive

U.K. football team Manchester United's training ground has been invaded - by Canada geese, which 'dive' onto the players as they practice, according to reports in British newspaper The Sun.

**This day, that year**

It was on November 12, 1927 that Joseph Stalin became ruler of the Soviet Union.



After moon odyssey, it's 'Mission Sun' for ISRO

After Chandrayaan-I moon odyssey, it's in a way 'Mission Sun' for team ISRO.

Scientists at the Indian Space Research Organisation are in an advance stage of designing a spacecraft, named 'Aditya', to study the outermost region of the Sun called corona.

"That's a mini satellite. In fact, the design is just getting completed," ISRO Chairman G Madhavan Nair told PTI.

"During solar maxim which is happening we would like to see the type of emissions which are taking place in the Sun and how it interacts with the ionosphere and atmosphere and so on," he said.

According to Dr Jayati Datta, Deputy Programme Director, Space Science Office, ISRO, Aditya is the first space based Solar Coronalograph intended to

study corona.

'Aditya' would be the first attempt by the Indian scientific community to unravel the mysteries associated with coronal heating, coronal mass ejections and the associated space

'Aditya' would be the first attempt by the Indian scientific community to unravel the mysteries associated with coronal heating, coronal mass ejections and the associated space weather processes

weather processes and study of these would provide important information on the solar activity conditions, she said.

"A basic understanding of the physical processes and continuous monitoring would help in taking necessary steps towards protecting ISRO's satellites either by switching them off or putting them on a stand-by mode as warranted by the background conditions," Datta Said.

The temperature of the solar corona goes beyond million degrees. From the Earth, corona can be seen only during total solar eclipses mainly due to the bright Solar disc and the scattering of the sunlight by the Earth's atmosphere. One has to go beyond the atmosphere to be able to mask the bright solar disc and study the corona. ■

PTI

Walk to school and earn money

Come January one overweight parents in Manchester will be paid to walk their children to school by the city administration.

This scheme is part of a 30million drive to improve health condition of the people, including tackling obesity, in Manchester, one of UK's unhealthiest cities.

People who attend keep-fit classes, weight-loss clubs or even go for a run in a park would also be eligible for rewards.

They will get points on supermarket-style loyalty cards which would be redeemed against healthy food, sports equipment or gym sessions, 'The Mail' reported on Tuesday.

The scheme which comes into force on January 1, 2009 in Manchester will be extended across

the country if it is successful. Those who attend the classes or walk their children or walk to the bus stop or train station will also get rewarded.

Joggers can also swipe their cards at machines installed at the parks and collect points given in accordance with the distance run.

Buying healthy food from chosen retailers would also earn rewards. These could be redeemed against products and services such as sports equipment, more healthy food and free places on children's activity schemes, the paper reported. However, critics believe that the payments are tantamount to bribery - and that the scheme is open to fraud. ■

» Devil dance



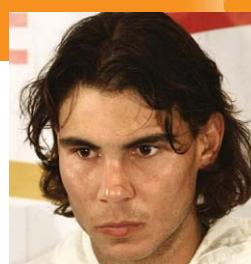
▲ Masqueraded fools dance in front of the city hall in Duesseldorf, western Germany, on Tuesday. Carnival revellers in the Rhine region celebrated the launch of the carnival season at 11 minutes past 11 o'clock. AFP PHOTO

People who attend keep-fit classes, weight-loss clubs or even go for a run in a park would also be eligible for rewards

PTI



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Nadal to miss Davis Cup final

Rafael Nadal will miss Spain's Davis Cup final against Argentina because of a knee injury. The top-ranked Nadal has said he was still struggling with tendinitis in his right knee following a week of treatment. "The knee said no," the 22-year-old said on Monday.

'Ganguly gave India strength of character'



After Sri Lanka Cricket chairman Arjuna Ranatunga, captain Mahela Jayawardene and vice-captain Kumar Sangakkara took their turn to lavish praise on retired former Indian captain Sourav Ganguly, saying he brought the strength of character in the team.

"In my opinion he is the captain who gave India the strength of character to compete on the world arena and stand up to teams like Australia," Sangakkara said. Commending Ganguly's achievements, Sangakkara said the retirement of Ganguly, who played last Test of his career in Nagpur on Monday, was a loss to the Asian sub-continent. "I think it is a sad day when a great player from any country retires especially Dada when he is retiring. I think it is sadder for the Asian sub continent in general because he has been a fantastic servant of the game," he said.

Jayawardene said Ganguly showed determination while staging a comeback into the team and added the Bengal left-hander also "showed lot of character probably to leave in his own terms". "Ganguly's retirement is a great loss to international cricket. I think he has shown lot of character. He brought lot of character into the Indian team not only as a player but especially as a captain also. I think when he was captaining we saw lot of aggression from the Indian guys," Jayawardene said.

PTI

Nielsen defends under fire Ponting

Defending under fire Ricky Ponting for his tactics to make up for slow over-rate, Australia's chief coach Tim Nielsen has questioned the captain's critics if it was right to break the rules just for a win. Two days after Ponting used part-time slow bowlers on the penultimate day of the fourth and final match of the lost Test series against India, Nielsen emphasised that the Australian skipper had many other things than the slow over-rate problem to bother about.

"Ricky had to take a number of things into consideration and having the prospect of a suspension for slow over rate hanging over his head was only part of it," Nielsen wrote in his blog for Cricket Australia's website. "It's all well and good to now say that he should have kept bowling the quicks at any cost but the question I ask is what sort of leadership is that as a captain of Australia? Is it all right to break the rules as long as you win without worrying about the consequences?" he said.

Ponting has been in the firing line since he used part-timers instead of pacers to avoid slow over-rate charge which would have resulted in his suspension, besides it also led to Australia's humiliating 172-run defeat in the fourth Test, causing a series defeat.

PTI



change we



AYON SENGUPTA

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India out-boxed world champions Australia to an inspired 2-0 Test series win on Monday, giving a cricket-crazy billion hope for better things ahead. Taking a leaf out of the ever-dominant Australia's book, the Indians showed character, grit and hunger to seal a record-breaking 320-run win in the second Test in Mohali and then went on to crush Australia's invincible myth with a precision performance at the fourth and final Test in Nagpur which ended in a 172-run Indian victory on Monday.

Party-poopers

Interestingly, Australia, who had started every Test match as

favourites since the middle or late nineties, have hardly been pushed to the back foot and all their four Test defeats since 2005 Ashes have come against a resurgent Indian side.

After this ignominious thrashing, the first time the Aussies have lost two Test matches in a series without winning once since their 0-3 loss to the "other-invincible" side of Clive Lloyd in 1983-84, it will be difficult for the Aussies to either win back their lost reputation or to hold on to their No. 1 spot. The Kiwis under Daniel Vettori will be mightily eager to have a go at the depleted Australians when they clash in the first Test in Brisbane next week in a two-match series.

A below-par Brett Lee, a less-than-impressive batting quartet and a confused, under-fire skipper will definitely add to the Aus-

sie woes and the Kiwis will take no time to exploit them.

Not just home tigers

India, who have always enjoyed a tremendous home record, having lost just two series since their defeat to traditional rivals Pakistan in 1987 – against South Africa in 2000 and Australia in 2004 – have slowly also learned to win abroad, shrugging off their "home tigers" tag. Improving by leaps and bounds the side have travelled to Australia, drawing a series 1-1 at the devil's backyard in 2003, and have also claimed their maiden series win in Pakistan a year later. In 2006, the West Indies were also conquered again after a long wait of 35 years and a series was won in England after 21 years. In between they also achieved their first Test victory in South African soil.

wrong I always thought he (Ricky Ponting) was an ordinary captain and this proves it. His captaincy calculator isn't that brilliant, is it? Don't get me wrong, he's a great batsman but an ordinary captain.

Australian bowling great Jeff Thomson



Shoes to fill

Although India have lost their most talismanic bowler and leading wicket-taker, Anil Kumble, at the end of the Australian triumph, Harbhajan Singh after seven years in international cricket is surely ready to take over the mantle. But what is most heartening is India's two new-ball bowlers who have showed enough determination and talent to take on the best in the world. Ishant Sharma and Zaheer Khan have troubled the Australian batsmen with their pace and reverse-swing. With more promising pacers vying for the limited spots in the national team, things can only get better from here. Fence-sitters R.P. Singh, Munaf Patel and S. Sreesanth can walk into the team any day and opposition batsmen have a lot to fear.

The ageing middle-order may

have lost its first soldier in Sourav Ganguly but the likes of Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid and V.V.S. Laxman are sure to serve Indian cricket for a few more days. The opening slot looks taken for years with Virender Sehwag and Gautam Gambhir forging an unbreakable partnership.

Last-minute replacement Murali Vijay also looked solid.

The young lot led by a sound Rohit Sharma and a stylish Suresh Raina are eagerly waiting in the wings to fill those illustrious boots after setting the ODI stage on fire.

The experienced Yuvraj Singh may also be ready to hit form after missing out on a permanent Test spot for so long.

And with an able skipper to lead the pack, cricket is ready to take the next step up in India. ■





Fax us
28576691

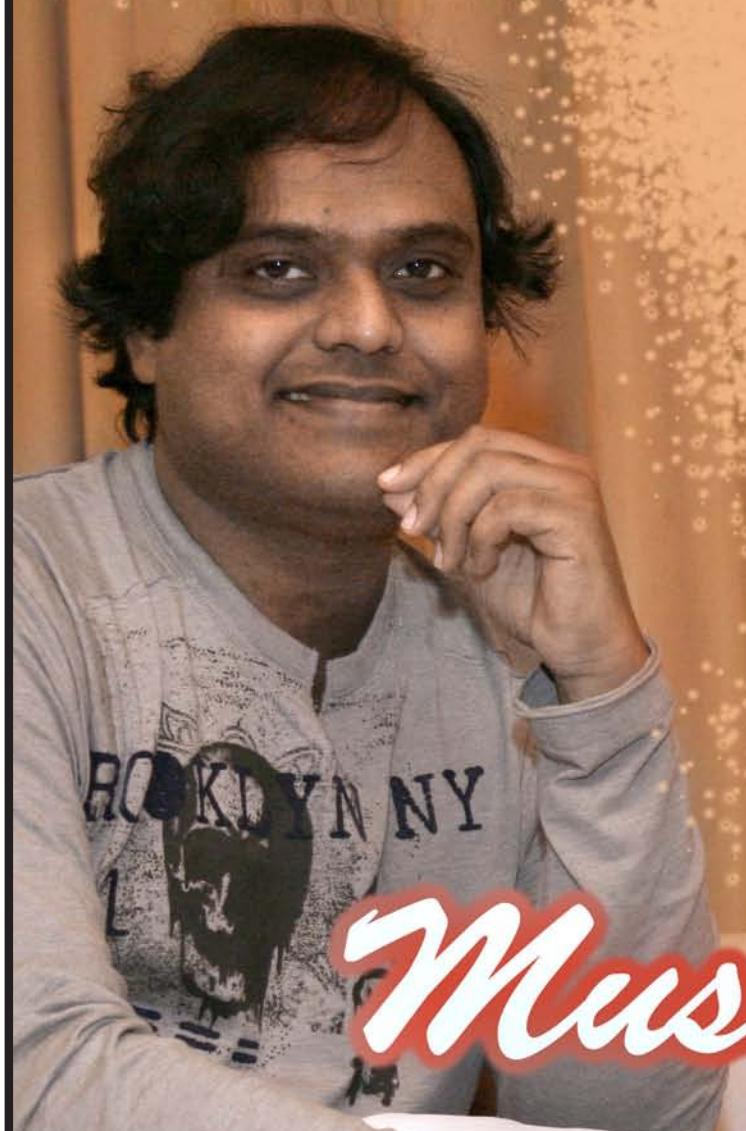


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Janet ready for motherhood

American singer Janet Jackson has revealed that she is looking forward to motherhood. Jackson, 42, admits that she is set to go ahead with becoming a mother, and that she is looking for the right time to do it.



V. LOKPRIA

Tell us about the music of Vaaranam Aayiram

Vaaranam Aayiram is a biography of a young person till he reaches 60 years of age. The music needs to gel with the script. It's a totally new concept. The music for this film is not conventional or systematic; it's based on the situation. The music has broken all myths that surround music. For the first time, I have composed seven tracks for a film and I am happy about it. The music of *Vaaranam Aayiram* will linger in the minds of listeners for a long time. And for the first time there is an English background score in the film which has been sung by pop singer Santhosh.

'Anjale': It's a folk melancholy number. The song is not purposeful but comes as a breather in the movie. The song satisfies the native listeners.

'Annal Mela': Gautham needed a romantic number on the lines of 'Vaseegra' and 'Paartha muthal naale'. I thought of packaging it differently and changing the face of the melody and, hence, added a Carnatic feel to the song by making Sudha Ragunathan sing it. Tabla and dholak were used. I wanted this song to be pleasant and hummable. This is my personal favourite in the album.

'Nenjukal Peidhum': It's a slow melody that will touch your heart. It was only when I was composing this song that I came up with 'Oh Shanti', which is a faster version of 'Nenjukal Peidhidum'. It added

more life to the song.

'Adiye Koluthe': This is the title track of the movie. It's a rock song. In every album there should be one song that lifts the spirits of the listeners and lets them loose themselves on the dance floor. This is one such song.

'Mundhinam Parthen': This was the last song I composed for this film. The song is set in the retro period. It has a classic vintage feel to it. This is the first song in the film, so I was conscious that this should not slow the pace of the movie, being a melody. The song has been an apt kick-starter for this film. This was a 5-minute magic that struck me when I was composing it.

What's the secret behind the winning combination of Gautham, Harris and Thamarai?

All three of us strongly believe in making our presence felt. Gautham's one of the very few directors who gives equal importance to the music of the film. Thamarai's flair for the language makes her special and as far I am concerned I have an added responsibility to carry forward the efforts of these persons. We enjoy every minute of composing and aim at hitting bull's eye.

How far is music important in a film?

It's the album of the movie that releases first and, hence, serves as a visiting card to the film. There is a responsibility on the part of the music director as he sets the ground for the film, acting like an opener in the game of cricket. The songs of

the film take the movie one step ahead. Movies with good scripts have failed due to lack of music, and vice-versa.

Oh ma ha c ya, mehu mehu ...??

When I was a keyboard player, it was my hobby to evolve such musical bits from the original track. This habit grew on to become a musical signature. I feel it enhances the song.

Do you feel pressurised by the entry of a new breed of music directors?

No, not at all. I believe every person has his own space. My path is different. If there are a lot of music directors, it only helps in the growth of music.

On what basis do you select a script?

I don't believe in quantity. I swear by quality because I have created an image for myself and one needs to live up to it. I select a film based on the scope the script has for music, and the technicians, director, etc.

To what do you attribute your success?

I am someone today because of the Almighty, the support of my family and the trust my directors have in me.

What is your biggest challenge as a music director?

To try and break my previous record is my biggest challenge.

Your upcoming projects?

I am presently working on Surya's *Ayan* and an untitled film of Ajith for Sivaji Productions.

After the success of *Dhaam Dhoom*, the music maestro has struck the right chord once again with *Vaaranam Aayiram*. Harris Jayraj gets candid





Bond's six errors

The latest James Bond adventure, *Quantum of Solace*, has six factual and continuity errors, according to critics. The film, starring Daniel Craig as the British spy, is the 22nd Bond-based adventure and costs 100 million pounds.

"I'M NOT DOING A FILM WITH SRK"

Director Santosh Sivan is puzzled by reports that he is set to make an FX-driven fantasy film with superstar Shah Rukh Khan.

"I'm still scripting the fantasy film. And the screenplay is a long way from being completed. So how can I be thinking of casting? And I'm not doing a film with Shah Rukh at all," said Sivan, who had directed Shah Rukh in *Asoka*.

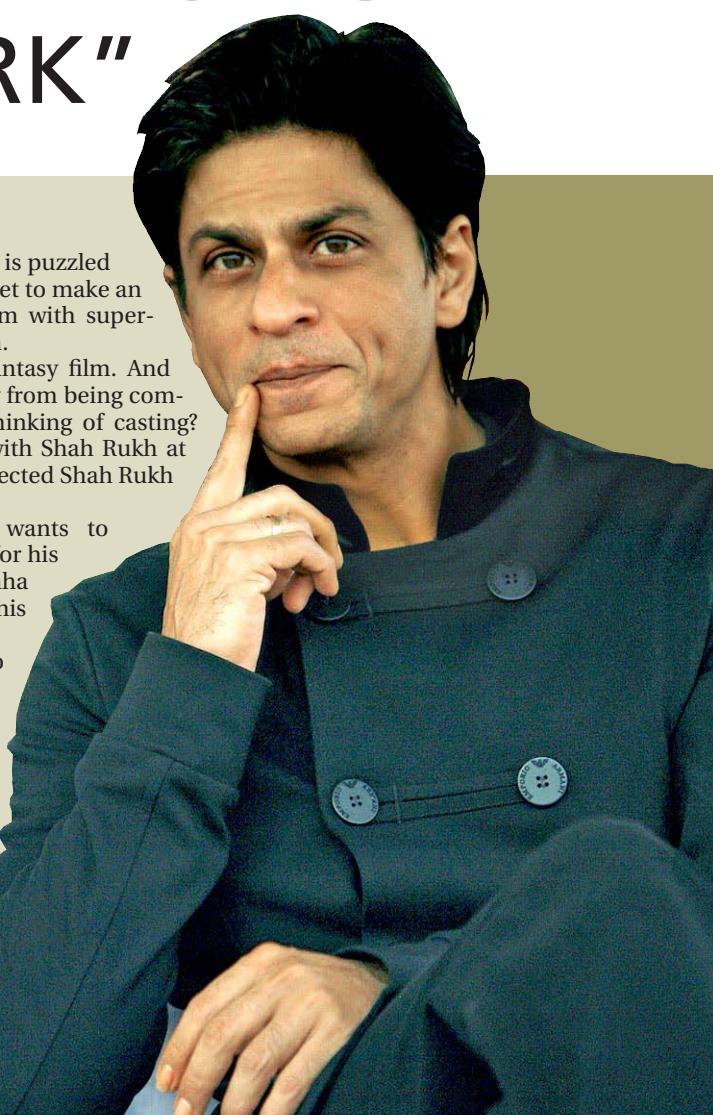
Shah Rukh apparently wants to make a big-budget FX film for his son's sake and Anubhav Sinha is said to be directing his dream project.

Though Sinha refuses to comment on the progress of the movie, it's learnt that the film is to be titled *Ra.One* and that the title was suggested by King Khan himself.

The film will go on floors once the star completes his current projects - Aditya Chopra's *Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi* to be followed by Karan Johar's *My Name Is Khan*. ■

IANS

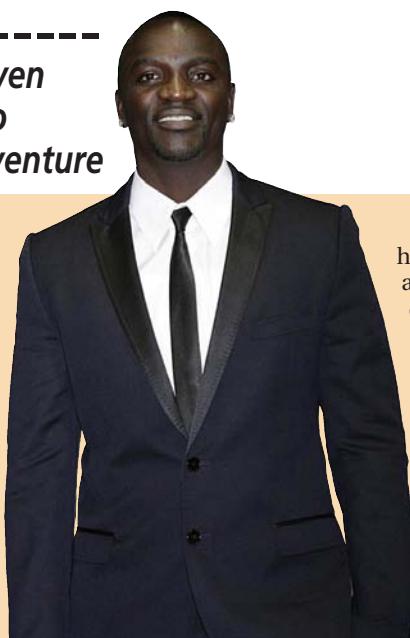
AFP



The rapper is even making plans to fund his Bond venture

Rapper Akon wants to be the first black James Bond and said he would pick *Pussycat Dolls* singer Nicole Scherzinger as his love interest.

Akon is even making plans to fund his own Bond venture if the present producers refuse to sign him. He said: "A lot of people don't know that I'm



heavily trained in martial arts. And when it comes to cars, that's my thing. I was raised on cars. I could do acting. It would probably take me six months to a year of training to make sure I'd get the role. I could handle that role, no problem. If I don't ever get the opportunity then I'm gonna shoot my own." ■

IANS

Akon wants to be the first black bond

Cine City

Marmayogi postponed

Though not shelved like *Marudhanayagam*, Kamal Hassan's mega budget flick *Marmayogi* has been postponed indefinitely due to financial constraints. Meanwhile, the actor has decided to do a comedy flick titled *Thalaivan Irakkiran*. To be directed by Kamal Haasan himself, the new film is expected to go on floors from January 2009. Neither the production house nor the star cast has been finalised. It is said that Kamal has finished writing the story and script for the new flick.

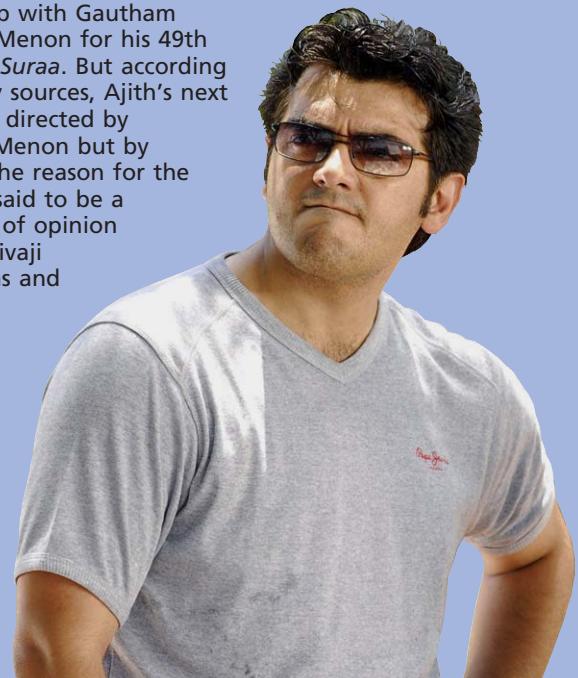
www.cinesnacks.com



Ajith's next

After *Aegan*, actor Ajith was said to be teaming up with Gautham Vasudeva Menon for his 49th film titled *Suraa*. But according to industry sources, Ajith's next flick is not directed by Gautham Menon but by Dharani. The reason for the change is said to be a difference of opinion between Sivaji Productions and Gautham Menon.

Director Dharani who gave hits like *Dhool* and *Ghilli* is teaming up with Ajith for the first time.



■ Napoleon and phoenixes are still born in this world, not to follow the path that others have taken, they write their own stories. And what a story Sourav Ganguly has written, it started back on 15th Dec,2006 in jo'burg and yesterday in Nagpur it finished one cycle. It's just the middle of a great novel, which is a grand hit.

*Sudipta Mukherjee,
sudipta.m@excelacom.in*

■ He had signed a personalised autograph for me at Chepauk stadium in 1998 during a India-Australia Test match. The concentration power he got while playing cricket was amazing.

*Sasi Subbaraman,
Perotsystems*

■ Ganguly the most successful Skipper of Indian cricket will be the "Unbeaten Hero of Indian Cricket". Dada's period of captaincy was Golden era of Indian cricket. It will always linger in our memories.

*Sanjay G,
Tata Consultancy Services*

■ It's not the time to be sad but the time to enjoy and feel proud about the man who has turned the face of INDIAN cricket". The captains around the world might have had a sigh of relief as their Woes of field placing for this tiger wouldn't continue any more. It's not just the quality of cricket he played but the aggression that he built inside the Youngsters who came up during his Captainship. He is a true champion.

*Raghav Viswanathan,
Hexaware Technologies*

■ Elegance class and style is what Ganguly's batting is all about. He rightly deserves to be called "THE GOD OF OFFSIDE".

*Raguraman Venkatakrishnan,
Wipro*

■ This is ten percent luck, twenty percent skill
Fifteen percent concentrated power of will
Five percent pleasure, fifty percent pain
And a 100 percent reason to Remember The NAME!
A song by Mike Shinoda vocalist, Linkin Park, I wonder if he wrote it for Sourav. A true fighter to the core, he brought the only thing missing in Indian Team – Attitude. He is the phoenix for Indian cricket. I just can't name another sportsman who has time and again proven his credentials like him. And rest as Mike said 'RE-MEMBER THE NAME'.

*Sudipta B,
Hexaware Technologies*

■ I really have no words to match the elegance of 'THE TIGER'. I am die hard fan of him, may be follower, for almost 10 years and I bet he is the best of the lots. People say he is arrogant, but mind it, it is the arrogance that transformed the Indian cricket itself.

*Radhika R,
Wipro*

■ Sourav Ganguly was the captain of bold decisions and aggressive winning attitude. He will be remembered for the winning spirit he brought in Indian Cricket. He will be remembered for his long sixes and dangerous opening partnership with Sachin Tendulkar.

*Manish Sinha,
HCL*

■ Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference. From days immemorial, when there were ardent fans of all other people to name. There was this lanky stranger who was slowly making his way in to the cricket arena. I am a huge fan of Sourav from his early days. I have huge amount of respect for him and always think that he is one amongst the cricketers who belong to the elite club.

*Swathi Palasamudram,
Cognizant*

■ Sourav Ganguly will live in our memory forever. He taught us not only cricket lessons but also life lessons. He didn't possess born talent like Sachin, but created everything on his own.

*Raghuram E,
Sify Technologies*

■ Now many may argue Dada is not a great player like Sachin Tendulkar, but he is one of the best player Indian cricket has ever seen.

When India was down and out due to match fixing allegations, and nobody was there to take the control in his hand and move Indian cricket to better directions, against all odds Dada came in.

*Debopratim Seal,
Satyam*

TRIBUTES TO DADA



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Tuesday's Question :

What is your most memorable Dada moment?

■ When Dada waved his T shirt to the England crowd after winning the NATWEST series final on July 2002 at Lord's, his team management, his centuries and sixes... We Love you Dada!!!

Nasir Ahmed, Arun, Loganathaan, Vivek, (Perot Systems), Jagadeesh V (TCS), Karthik Seshadri (CGSL), Jayakumar Raghunathan (Infosys), Vinoth Kumar, Jagan, Elaiyaraaja (Allsec), A. Arun Kumar (Sify Technology), Sreenivasa Rao (HCL), M. Hariharakumar, (Zylog Systems), Raj S Sreenivasan (Wipro)

■ The catch he took at Chennai to dismiss Sayeed Anwar at 194 is amazing. His head was bouncing like a foot ball but he didn't let the cricket ball slip.

Arun, TCS

■ When Dada did a Flint off at Lords

Sukesh, CTS

■ Its not jus one moment when it comes to Dada's. He has done a lot for Indian Cricket. It's not jus a memorable moment; it's more than that. We all love you Dada. You always live in our heart.

Balaji, TCS

■ Dada's 124 runs (138 balls, 11 fours, 1 six) in the independence cup final, 1998, Dhaka, against Pakistan that helped India win the cup. Kanithkar scored the winning runs but dada was the architect behind it.

Panasonic Team, R Systems

■ His 183 runs in the 1999 World Cup against Sri Lanka, what a wonderful sixer... I miss u Dada...

Suresh, Allsec Tech

■ England kooda final win pannapa kaluthula goldchains potttu Sattaiya kalatti summa sarunu sangusakkaram madhiri suthi Dada nu prove pannadhu maraka mudiyadhu

Ranjith K, Perot Systems

■ When Rahul Dravid once commented, "When it comes to playing on the Off-side, First is God, Second is Saurav"

Mahesh Rajamani, Perot Base Camp

■ What else could it be? It's just the ever cherishing moment of leading India to the finals of the World Cup 2003 which would prevail in the history for ever.

Nataraj, Changepond Tech

■ His strong comeback and breaking the nose of Greg Chappel.

Mani, Steria

■ In 1999, 183 against Sri Lanka. With sixes flying all around the stadium.

Jhenu, TCS

■ I love the way he comes out of the crease and hits a six which goes out of stadium this is like a tiger slowly coming out of the meadows and pouncing upon a deer. I like his aggressiveness too. I love u dada...

Satish, Ramco systems

■ The most memorable of Dada will be the test series win against Australia in which dada was the captain. It was dada and his brave men who cut short Aussie's winning trail with Laxman and Dravid leading India to victory from a follow on.

Rakshita, Wipro Technologies

■ Sahara series 1997 vs Pakistan, Dada got 4 Man of the Match awards out of 5 ODI Games

Peter Raj, TCS

■ Dada brought Indian team up to world cup final on 2003 after 1983. And Dada's last test 2nd innings duck out score. I can't forget these 2 moments forever

Prabahar Raj, Perot Systems

■ His opening partnership with Sachin at Sharjah 1997.

Sridhar R, STG

■ First century against England in his debut match is the most memorable moment about Dada.

Vignesh Kumar, R Systems

■ Stopping Aussies on 15 Consecutive victories and clinching the series in home. Dadagiri Never Ends.

Dinesh, Wipro technologies

■ Ball On Leg, Goes On Off. God Of Offside

Nehru, Wipro Technologies

■ Hundred in debut:) but duck on final:(You are always in our hearts Dada...

Fiaz, Wipro Technologies

Today's Query:
Remeber shipwrecked from your college cultural?
Give us one good reason why you must never get the pink slip?

Personalise your tabloid
my.ergo@goergo.in

Greetings

sticky@goergo.in

wonderful B'day. Actually London'aaaaaaa. Okok public public
 With lot of love,
 Cheer's Team... CTK,
 Satyam.

■ Dear Kiruki (Preethi),
 Many More Happy Returns of the Day. Wishing you to have A Birthday too special To ever forget... Wishing you success in what ever U do. Keep Smiling:) Iniya Piranthanaal Nalvalthukkal

With Love,
 Loosi (Janu).

■ Dear Supreeth,
 Look outside it's so pleasant moments sun is smiling with you trees dancing for you birds singing for you... Because all are wishing you happy birth day!!! Wishing you that you get best in life and filled great cheer and joy.

Hearty Wishes from,
 UST Global

■ Dear Patrick,
 Wish you many more Happy returns of the Day... Let your Dream come true...

With warm regards,
 Klarity Defect Team, HCLT

■ Hi Scooby dog,
 Wish u Many More Happy Returns Of The Day, I still remember this day 2 Decades before, Temple bells started ringing, Sky started crying in the form of Rain for loosing its bright star, and then the Great miracle happened, u were born. Wow what a gift 2 earth. Oops i forgot some more Dialogues. Anyways, ne sonna maariyae anupinaena, Mariyaadhaiya yenakku saera vaendiya Amounta Kuduthiru..

With Lots of Luv,
 Mickey... R.Arun Kumar,
 Infosys

■ Hi SaravanaKumar,
 Many Many More happy Returns of the day... A birthday is just the first day of another 365 days journey around the sun.... Enjoy the trip with your loved ones. I wish you a wonderful life filled with love and happiness only...I hope others bring you joy, just as you've brought joy to me, then you can weather any storm and be all you want to be.....

With Affection,
 Kotti & Friends.

■ Hey Jeya
 Happy Birthday... Wish you a sweet TEDDY B'DAY! better treat us....;-)
 (Le Royal Meridian)

Luv,
 Mega, Sindhya, Janani,
 Wipro Technologies

■ Dear Buji
 I might not have met ur expectations but i have a heart that always prays for ur success and well being. Words may fail but the feelings don't, however far you are, you are remembred in every beat of heart, You gave me happiness and a new meaning in life. Happy Birthday. Have a fantastic year ahead.

Thanks for everything
 Dora...Sowmya,
 Infosys

■ Hi Manivasagam,
 Wish you many many happy returns of the day. Wish you all success in your future endeavors.

Regards,
 Hemamalini, Emma Roshni,
 Kalpana K N, Neetu shukla R,
 Senthilnathan K, Leo alex Levin,
 Infosys Technologies Ltd, Mcity

■ Dear Hephiba,
 Belated Happy Bday Wishes da... May God Bless You and fullfill all your needs....

Regards Ramya,
 Tata Consultancy Services.

■ Dear Bilal (Lal),
 Wishing You Many More Happy Returns of this Day! May all your dreams (Of Course only the good ones) come true... Have a Great, Cheerful, & Colorful days ahead... By Ur Beloved Friends,

Muthu Saravanan, Shakeer & Balaji
 Perot Systems.

■ Hey Amrita (NAGA 85),
 On this special occasion we all are delighted to wish you a very happy birthday. May all your wishes come true. Enjoy the day with lots of fun. keep smiling.

With lots of care
 Debjit, Payel,
 Excelacom Technologies

■ Dear Pradip
 Wish you a very very happy birthday...May all your dreams get fulfilled in this very special day and let god shower his blessings for a happy life.

Cheers,
 CITI-IBS Statements,
 TCS. :-)

■ Hoi Chellam
 Wish you a lovely birthday da...God bless you dear!! Love Bava

Warm Regards,
 Roger Prakash.

■ Dear London FM alias Pratap
 On ur birthday, we wish all ur dreams come true. Have a



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Chennai-600 002



ERGO Wednesday, November 12, 2008

CLICKPICK



Dinesh Kumar Sivasubramani of Cybernet Slash Support sent us this photo. This rag picker in Anna Nagar shares whatever little he collects with the street dogs.

What strikes you the most when we talk about 'poverty'? Tell us through one of your best photographs that has moved you, with details of the place, person, etc. Theme 'Poverty' will be featured in the Click Pick section till November 15.

So you think you would make a terrific photographer but never really had the platform? Mail us your best work and we'll publish it in this space, with credit. E-mail: clickpick@goergo.in

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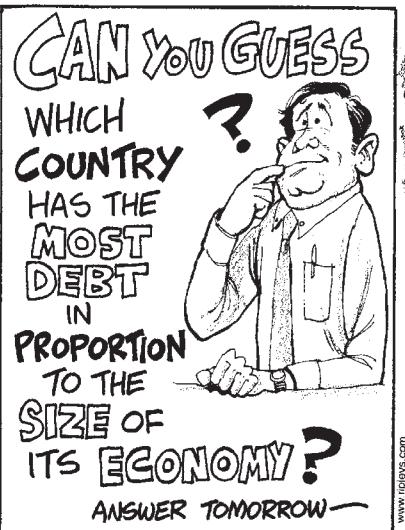
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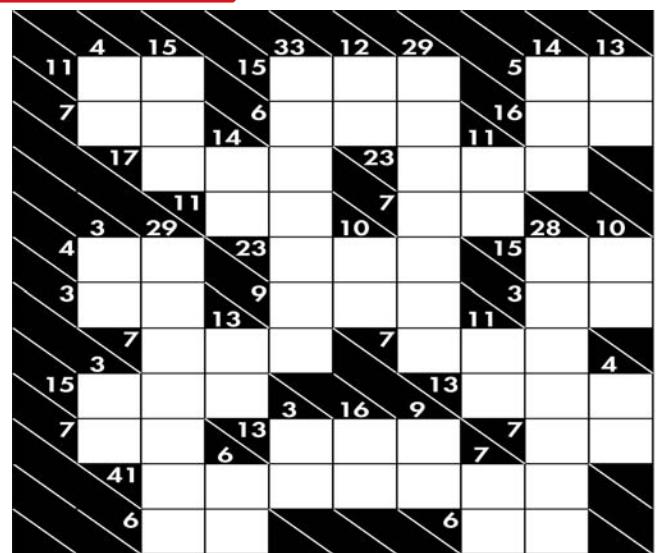
sudoku

5				1	3	7		9
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3				5	4	1	6	
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4	8	5	1				3	
				7	1			
2	1			9			4	8
6	3	8	4				2	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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KAKURO



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WORD WARP

7/3/08

by Bill Biggar and Tom Gauer
Find the word held in common by the three words in each puzzle. The three solution words will form a fourth puzzle. The numbers indicate each answer's length, and the + tells you its position. Example: The solution to +flower, Wailing+ and Berlin+ is Wall.

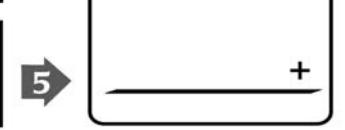
+fondue
+stock
+burrito



Sunset+
Gaza+
comic+



+Miss
+Army
+chocolate



FINAL ANSWER

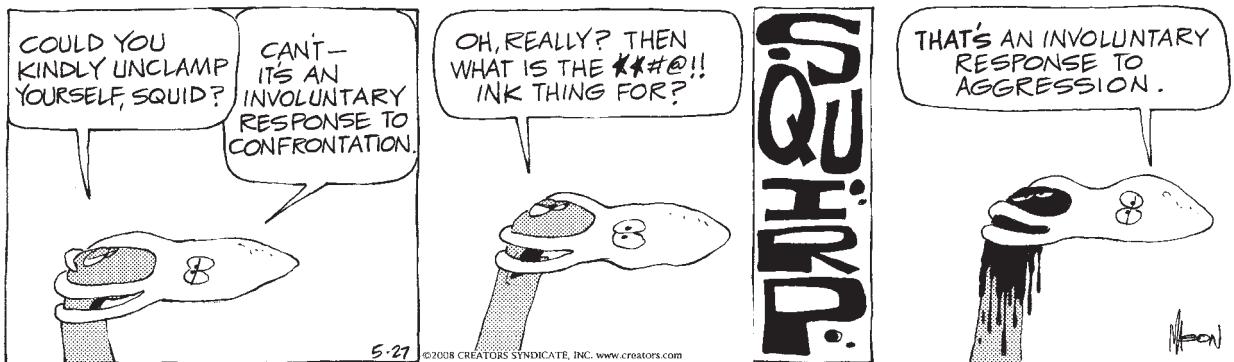


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Chopper lands next to shoppers

Shoppers in Romania were stunned after a helicopter landed between cars in a supermarket parking lot. The craft dropped off two men and returned an hour later to pick them up after they had shopped.

B.C



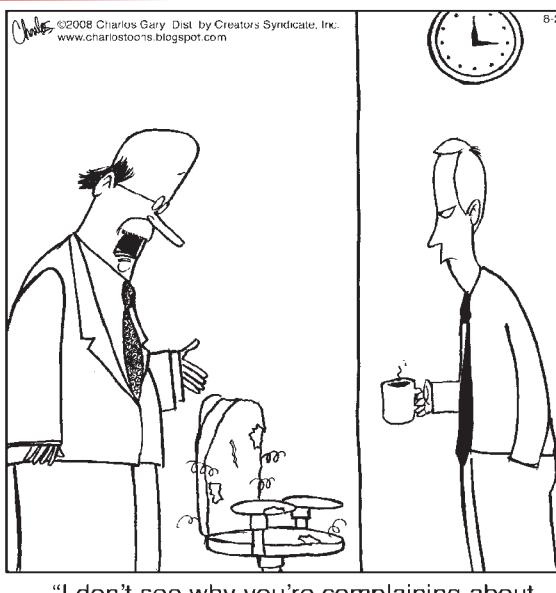
BORN LOSER



FREE RANGE



WORKING IT OUT



PREVIOUS ISSUE'S SOLUTIONS

4	8	2	5	1	3	6	7	9
3	1	6	2	7	9	8	4	5
7	9	5	6	4	8	3	1	2
8	6	3	4	5	2	7	9	1
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1	3	4	8	9	5	2	6	7

9	17	11	6	41	7	28	12	7	11
11	9	2	16	2	1	3	4	4	8
33	8	1	7	4	5	6	2	1	3
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16	9	7	8	4	3	1	3	1	2
10	7	3	17	6	9	2	4	3	1
3	2	1	23	14	9	7	12	10	8
23	6	8	9	4	1	3	2	10	8
5	1	4	15	8	3	4	13	4	9
6	3	5	9	6	1	2	12	5	7

Word's worth

"Yesterfang" (yes-ter-fang)
something that was caught or taken
yesterday.



Ganesha speaks™

astrology by bejan daruwalla

www.ganeshaspeaks.com

ARIES MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

You may be very much dedicated to your work in the first half but in the second part, your focus may remain on fiscal gains. You will be able to work with better concentration in the second half. You will appease your beloved to receive love in return.

Taurus April 21 - May 20

At the beginning of the day, you may be wasting energy behind fruitless pursuits at office. If you attend important meetings after lunch time, you will be able to impress others with your ideas. Lovers may be deeply involved in the relationship.

GEMINI MAY 21 - JUNE 20

You may start the day with a positive note. You will be able to work at double speed to meet deadlines. In second part of the day, you may be put off by someone, hence you will need to control your emotions. You will receive love from your beloved.

CANCER JUNE 21 - JULY 20

Ganesha's foresight says that you may be struggling a lot to resolve a technical problem at office. In the second part of the day you will be able to fix the problem successfully. Married life or love life may be smooth provided you avoid heated arguments.

LEO JULY 21 - AUG 20

You should try to remain low profile at workplace as others may be jealous of your progress. After lunch time, you must avoid confrontation with superiors. You will spend good time with family. In love life you may have compromising attitude.

VIRGO AUG 21 - SEPT 20

You will be rewarded well for the hard work that you have been putting in at office. Your health must be taken care of. You may plan to take your beloved or spouse to a nice restaurant for the dinner. Alternatively, you can also go for a movie.

LIBRA SEPT 21 - OCT 20

It is slightly unfavourable day for you. You must not confront with anyone at office. Your personal life may undergo some stress. You may get angry at your beloved for no reason! Ganesha suggests you to remain cool and handle personal life with care.

SCORPIO OCT 21 - NOV 20

At the beginning of the day you may list out pending tasks and in the second half, you may finish them off successfully. The day is favourable for technical work. Evening may be full of delight in the company of someone you love the most.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 21 - DEC 20

At the beginning of the day you will be very restless. If you take up more than one activity, you will not be able to finish desired job in time. Instead, you must go with proper planning. In love life, your approach may change.

CAPRICORN DEC 21 - JAN 20

First part of the day is average for you, but in the second half you have stars in favour. Do not plan important meeting before lunch time. Love life may seem more charming as Ganesha foresees you expressing your love very nicely to your partner.

AQUARIUS JAN 21 - FEB 20

Others may demand your attention in general. In the second half, you may be able to handle your work more easily. There may be some demand on the domestic front. You may be in a romantic mood but cold response from lover may put you off.

PISCES FEB 21 - MARCH 20

In first half of the day, you may take initiative and try to handle your work with best of your ability and understanding however, you may get irritated due to noise or side-talk going on at office. It is favourable day to express your love to your beloved.

Predictions by Bhavesh N. Patni



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ONE LOOK IS ALL IT TAKES

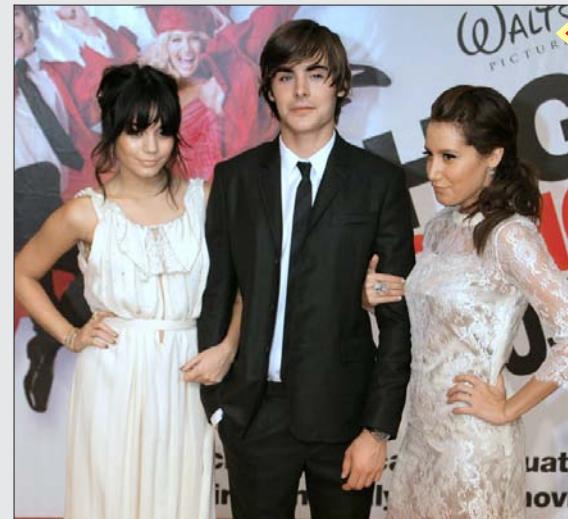
News and newsmakers in pictures



A tiny waxwork model of the fairy Tinker Bell is unveiled at Madame Tussauds on Monday in London, England. The figure is the smallest ever created at the attraction, measuring only five and a half inches. Getty Images

Armless TV thief wanted

A man without any arms is wanted by police in Germany after he walked out of a store with a television set. Accomplices clamped it to his body before he walked out the door



Vanessa Hudgens, Zac Efron and Ashley Tisdale arrive at the premiere of *High School Musical 3* at the Greater Union George Street cinemas on Monday in Sydney, Australia. GETTY IMAGES



A visitor takes part in an action art installation titled 'Knocking Table' by Chinese artist Shen Ye at the Nanjing 'Weightlessness' Contemporary Art Exhibition in Nanjing of Jiangsu Province, China. The exhibition, jointly hosted by Nanjing Arts Institute and Eckerd College of the United States, has attracted many artists from China, US, Germany and others. GETTY IMAGES



A worker of Serbia's Zastava car plant works on the production line in Kragujevac on November 9, 2008. The last Yugos, once a pride of former Yugoslav car industry, are coming down from the assembly lines after almost 30 years. An offspring of Fiat's 127 model, Yugo was born in 1980, in two versions: with three and five doors, which gained enormous popularity at the local market due to its low price and fuel consumption, quickly becoming accessible to everyone in the former communist federation.

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