

XXCE



MIRZAPUR 3

THE HYPE IS REAL!

P8

NOD TO SUSTAINABILITY P10-11

P14 BRUNCH BASH

PICTURE: PABITRA DAS



PICTURE: B HALDER

- B'DAY, WATCHIT 2
- TGIF'S TRADEMARKS 3
- TECH TOOLS, TOLLY TIDBITS 4,6
- BOOKS, PETS 12,15



P.V. SINDHU

This year don't dwell too much on what is troubling you. Instead, focus on what is coming your way because you determine your fate. Take time to acknowledge and process feelings of loss or disappointment before moving forward. Pay attention to your health. Finances will be stable and work will move at a steady pace.

— Nita Chhotalal

TODAY'S TIPS by Nita Chhotalal



ARIES

DO connect to your inner child by embracing the frivolous side of life
DON'T be overly sensitive
EXPECT to gain a level of emotional maturity that allows you to be kind



TAURUS

DO expand horizons and make plans to take your company global
DON'T restrict yourself by thinking negatively
EXPECT to reap the rewards of your success



GEMINI

DO be generous towards others in terms of giving your time, support or advice
DON'T be careless
EXPECT to be enterprising and principled



CANCER

DO focus on the new path forward because that is where your life is meant to go
DON'T feel guilty about what has happened
EXPECT to heal the past and move on



LEO

DO let go of any unhealthy attachments
DON'T cling to your current path if it feels unsafe
EXPECT to welcome change and open new doors to life



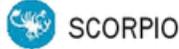
VIRGO

DO overcome personal discouragements
DON'T get distracted
EXPECT to be serious about moving forward on the path that you have chosen



LIBRA

DO focus on your accomplishments
DON'T be argumentative
EXPECT to achieve something more than you could have ever dreamed of



SCORPIO

DO radiate love and affection towards loved ones
DON'T forget to thank the universe
EXPECT to share your qualities and achievements with everyone



SAGITTARIUS

DO judge without being emotional
DON'T be impulsive
EXPECT to rely on unbiased intelligence, which has you researching alternative options



CAPRICORN

DO take accountability for a situation that you dislike
DON'T blame your circumstances
EXPECT to have more choices than you think you do



AQUARIUS

DO create your goals and put your plans into action
DON'T feel stressed and overwhelmed
EXPECT to stay on track with strategies and think out of the box



PISCES

DO defeat the challenges and banish what is attempting to block your path
DON'T give up
EXPECT to address a number of issues and find a solution for them

Nita Chhotalal is on [f @Divine Grace - Nita Chhotalal](#) [@mysticalguidancebynita](#)

Instagram



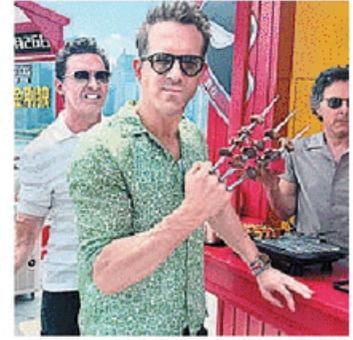
SUMMER FEELS:

Uploaded by @kritisanon (Kriti Sanon)



PURPLE HEARTS:

Yep, still got it! Can't believe it's been 25 years and they still fit! We love you so much @BrooklynPeltzBeckham @RomeoBeckham @CruzBeckham
Uploaded by @victoriabeckham (Victoria Beckham)



NEXT STOP:

Leaving Shanghai is bittersweet... This was the first stop on the #DeadpoolAndWolverineTour. As we make our way to Korea, we want to thank the people of Shanghai for their incredible hospitality and warmth.
Uploaded by @vancityreynolds (Ryan Reynolds)



STRIKE A POSE:

Uploaded by @billieeilish (Billie Eilish)

WATCHIT!



Lifeguard Mitch Buchannon (Dwayne Johnson) of Florida's Emerald Bay beach must team up with brash, rookie recruit Matt Brody (Zac Efron) and bring down a local drug dealer.
Baywatch, STAR Movies, 7.15pm

ENGLISH

MOVIES OF THE DAY

The Angry Birds Movie 2: &flix, 1.05pm
Mortal Kombat: Sony Pix, 1.25pm
Holmes & Watson: &Prive HD, 2.40pm
Hotel Transylvania 3, Summer Vacation: Sony Pix, 3.05pm
Black Adam: STAR Movies, 3.30pm
Spider-Man, Across the Spider-Verse: Sony Pix, 4.50pm
Cinderella: STAR Movies, 5.30pm
A Dog's Way Home: &Prive HD, 5.50pm
Baywatch: STAR Movies, 7.15pm
Escape Room: Sony Pix, 7.15pm
Destined to Ride: &Prive HD, 7.25pm
The Amazing Spider-Man: STAR Movies, 9pm
John Wick, Chapter 2: Sony Pix, 9pm
Them That Follow: &Prive HD, 10.35pm
SuperFly: &flix, 10.55pm
San Andreas: Sony Pix, 11.05pm
Deadpool: STAR Movies, 11.15pm

SHOWSTOPPERS

The Good Doctor: Colors Infinity, 7pm
The Office: Comedy Central, 7pm

Extraordinary You: Zee Cafe, 7pm
Shark Tank: Colors Infinity, 8pm
Brooklyn Nine-Nine: Comedy Central, 8pm
The \$100,000 Pyramid: Zee Cafe, 8pm
Fantasy Island: Colors Infinity, 9pm
AP Bio: Comedy Central, 9pm
Tribal Bootcamp: Sony BBC Earth, 9pm
Preacher: Zee Cafe, 9pm
Line of Duty: Colors Infinity, 10pm
Nathan For You: Comedy Central, 10pm
Where the Wild Men Are with Ben Fogle: Sony BBC Earth, 10pm
House of Cards: Zee Cafe, 10pm
Better Call Saul: Colors Infinity, 11pm
Community: Zee Cafe, 11pm

HINDI

SHOWSTOPPERS

Suhaagan: Colors, 6.30pm
Meetha Khatta Pyaar Hamara: STAR Plus, 6.30pm
Krishna Mohini: Colors, 7pm
Maati Se Bandhi Dor: STAR Plus, 7.30pm
Kavya - Ek Jazbaa, Ek Junoon: Sony, 7.30pm
Main Hoon Saath Tere: Zee TV, 7.30pm

BENGALI

MOVIES OF THE DAY

Simul Parul: Zee Bangla Cinema, 12.30pm
Bolo Na Tumi Amaar: Jalsha Movies, 1pm
Naach Nagini Naach Re: Colors Bangla Cinema, 1pm
Sukh Dukher Sansar: Zee Bangla Cinema, 3pm
Swamir Ghar: Jalsha Movies, 4.25pm
Shatrur Muqabila: Colors Bangla Cinema, 4pm
Shapath Nilam: Zee Bangla Cinema, 6pm
Le Halua Le: Colors Bangla Cinema, 7pm
Bangali Babu: Jalsha Movies, 7.40pm
Bikram Singha - The Lion Is Back: Colors Bangla Cinema, 10pm
Sriman Bhootnath: Jalsha Movies, 11.10pm

SPORT

Wimbledon Championships - Gentlemen's and Ladies' Singles Third Round & Doubles Second Round - live: STAR Sports 2, 2 HD, Select 1, Select 1 HD, Select 2 & Select 2 HD, 3.30pm
World Championship of Legends, Australia Champions vs South Africa Champions - live: STAR Sports Hindi 1 & Hindi 1 HD, 5pm
Cycling World Tour, Tour de France, Stage 7 - live: EuroSport, 7pm
Tamil Nadu Premier League, Lyca Koval Kings vs Chepauk Super Gillies - live: STAR Sports 1 & 1 HD, 7.10pm
World Championship of Legends, India Champions vs West Indies Champions - live: STAR Sports Hindi 1 & Hindi 1 HD, 9pm
UEFA EURO, Quarter-final 1 - Spain vs Germany - live: Sony TEN 1 & 1 HD, 9.30pm
HSBC BWF World Tour, Yonex Canada Open - live: Sports18 1 & 1 HD, 9.30pm
UEFA EURO, Quarter-final 2 - Portugal vs France - live: Sony TEN 2, 12.30am
Vitality T20 Blast, MI New York vs Seattle Orcas - live: Sony TEN 1 & 1 HD, 1am

BIG SCREEN

ENGLISH

DESPICABLE ME 4 3D (U): Inox Quest (12.25, 4.55), Inox South City (9.10*, 11.20*, 1.30*, 2.50, 3.45*, 8.40), Inox Forum (9.25, 1.55, 7.55), Inox Salt Lake (9, 1.45, 7.45), Inox Rajarhat (9, 7.45), Inox Hilland (9, 7.45), Inox Swabhum (1.120, 7.20), PVR Avani (7.30pm), PVR Diamond Plaza (1.20, 7.25, 9.35)

DESPICABLE ME 4 (U): Inox Quest (9.50*, 2.40*, 7.30*), Inox Salt Lake (11.50am), Inox Hilland (noon), PVR Uniworld Downtown (7.15pm)

INSIDE OUT 2 (U): Inox Quest (2.40), Inox South City (12.40), Inox Forum (1.140am), Inox Rajarhat (1.145am)

A QUIET PLACE - DAY

ONE (A): Inox Quest (9.45pm*), Inox South City (10.20pm), Inox Forum (1.145am), Inox Salt Lake (10.30am), PVR Mani Square (noon)

HINDI

CHANDU CHAMPION

(U/A): Inox Quest (11*, 7.10), Inox South City (1.40), Inox Forum (4.25), Inox Salt Lake (2.05), Inox Rajarhat (5.50), Inox Swabhum (4.25), PVR Mani Square (4.55), PVR Diamond Plaza (11.05am)

DESPICABLE ME 4 3D (U): Inox Rajarhat (1.45), Inox Hilland (1.45), Inox Swabhum (9.10, 5.10), PVR Avani (11.15, 1.30), PVR Uniworld Downtown (12.45)

KALKI 2898 AD 3D (U/A): Inox Quest (9, 10.15, 11.15*, 12.50, 2.3*, 4.40, 5.45, 6.45*, 8.30, 9.30, 10.30*), Inox South City (9, 11, noon*, 2.45, 3.45*, 5, 6.30, 7.30*, 10.15, 11.15*), Inox Forum (9.45, 1.30, 4.10, 5.15, 9, 10.10), Inox Salt Lake (10, 11.15, 3, 4, 6.50, 9.55, 10.45), , Inox Rajarhat (10, 11.15, 3, 4, 6.50, 9.55, 10.45), Inox Metro (10, 1.50, 5.40, 9.30), Inox Hind (9.30, 1.20, 5.10, 9), Inox Hilland (10, 11.15, 3, 4, 6.50, 9.55, 10.45), Inox Swabhum (9, 11, 12.45, 1.30, 2.45, 4.30, 6.30, 8.15, 9.30, 10.15), PVR Avani (10.50, 2.45, 3.45, 6.40, 9.45, 10.30), PVR Mani Square (10, 1.50, 5.40, 9.30), PVR Diamond Plaza (10, 1.50, 3.40, 5.40, 9.30), PVR

Uniworld Downtown (9, 3, 6.45, 10.30), RDB Cinemas (11.05, 2.30, 6, 9.30)

KALKI 2898 AD (U/A): Inox Quest (10pm*), Inox South City (6*, 9.45*, 10.30), Inox Forum (11.40, 3.25, 7.15, 11.05), Inox Salt Lake (5.10, 9), Inox Rajarhat (9, 2, 9), Inox Metro (4.05, 10.30), Inox Hind (12.30, 6.45), Inox Hilland (5.10, 9), PVR Avani (9, 12.50, 4.40, 8.30), PVR Mani Square (9, 12.45, 4.30, 8.15), PVR Diamond Plaza (9, 11, 12.50, 4.40, 8.30, 10.30), PVR Uniworld Downtown (10.15, 2.545, 9.30), RDB Cinemas (9.15, 12.40, 4.05, 7.30, 11), Nazrulliritha (1.15, 4.40, 8.50, 8.10)

KILL (A): Inox Quest (10, 12.10, 2.10*, 5, 7.30*, 10.15), Inox South City (9, 11.20, 3, 8.05, 10.55), Inox Forum (9.15, 2, 7.30, 9.55), Inox Salt Lake (9.30, 3.40, 8.40, 11), Inox Rajarhat (9.20, 12.45, 3.10, 8.20, 10.45), Inox Metro (11.15, 1.40, 7.55), Inox Hind (10, 4.15, 10.30), Inox Hilland (9.30, noon, 4.55, 10.25), Inox Swabhum (9.20, 11.40, 2, 7.30, 9.55), PVR Avani (9.30, noon, 5.35, 10.50), PVR Mani Square (9.30, 2.25, 8, 7.30), PVR Diamond Plaza (10.55, 2.35, 10.55, 10.35), PVR Uniworld Downtown (11.30, 4.45, 9.35)

MUNJYA (U/A): Inox Quest (4.40*), Inox South City (9.15am), Inox Forum (9.05am), Inox Hilland (9.15am)

BENGALI

AJOGYA (U/A): Inox South City (7.40pm), Inox Salt Lake (1pm), Inox Hilland (2.25), PVR Diamond Plaza (5.05), Nazrulliritha (5.50)

ALEXANDERER PISI (U): Nazrulliritha (1pm)

ARANYAR PRACHIN PROBOD (U/A): Inox South City (5.25), Inox Salt Lake (6pm), Inox Rajarhat (5.35), Inox Hilland (2.10), PVR Avani (8.05pm), PVR Diamond Plaza (4.55), PVR Uniworld Downtown (2pm), Nazrulliritha (3.30)

ATHHOI (A): Nazrulliritha (8.15pm)

NERVE - A SAGA (U/A): Nazrulliritha (5.30)

TOOFAN (A): PVR Avani (2.30)

FOOD

t2 SOAKED IN THE AMERICAN VIBE AND SAVOURED THE SIGNATURE MENU AT TGIF, FORUM MALL

The American restaurant chain focusing primarily on American cuisine and casual dining, TGIF at Forum Mall has introduced their signature new menu that

captures the essence of authentic American bar culture. Offering a vibrant dining experience, the menu features classic bar favourites, such as juicy burgers, sizzling steaks and crispy chicken wings,

alongside innovative dishes that TGIF is popular for. With an extensive beverage menu, you can enjoy their signature cocktails and refreshing mocktails in a cosy and lively ambience. Here's what we liked from the menu.



The decor is inspired by traditional American bars, with wooden furniture and neon signs. TGIF hosts televised sports events with good music, making it a go-to spot on match nights.



The Triple Chicken Sampler is a shareable platter that consists of Texas Spiced wings, whisky-glazed strips and chicken quesadillas drizzled with balsamic glaze, perfect for a friends' night out. ₹1,325



The BBQ Chicken Salad has sweet and smoky barbeque glazed chicken on a bed of mixed greens with tomatoes, green onions, cilantro and Monterey Jack cheese, served with TGIF'S tangy barbeque vinaigrette. ₹440



Looking for a refreshing fizzy cocktail on a hot day? Try the Ultimate Coronarita, a cool and refreshing combination of Corona beer and margarita. ₹1,395

Rohini Chakraborty
Pictures: B Halder



The Wingman Burger features a char-grilled seasoned tenderloin patty topped with jalapenos, onions, tomato, lettuce and chipotle aioli gently spread on a toasted bun. ₹695



Made with vanilla ice cream and sweetened wonton crisps, served with fresh fruit cuts like pineapple, mango and strawberries, and then drizzled with caramel sauce and topped with whipped cream, TGIF'S Island Breeze Sundae is a dessert lover's paradise!

STANDUP COMEDY

DHANDHO

MUNAWAR FARUQUI

KOLKATA

Tomorrow
6th July at 7.00 pm.

SCIENCE CITY (East Topsia)

Tickets Available
bookmyshow

Bluetooth speakers have been a major fixture among most of us because we want to go beyond the sound smartphones offer. I use them to listen to podcasts or my favourite playlists while I'm cooking or if I'm going on a weekend trip. The question one must ask is do you need big, booming sounds with some app support or do you simply want a speaker that's all about sound engineering? Sony has a solution for the party crowd: Sony's ULT Field 1 Bluetooth speaker tries to deliver sonic punches that defy the size of the device.

RUGGED DESIGN, BUILT TO LAST

The speaker is built for portability and ruggedness with a dash of party flair in mind. It's just about eight inches long, three inches high and three inches deep. It's surprisingly lightweight. There are rubberised end caps that allow the speaker to stabilise itself when it's on a flat surface so it's not going to vibrate and move the speaker around when you're listening to music. These also help utilise Sony's "Sound Diffusion Processor" technology that intends to fill a room with music rather than just play music into it.

You also have some dedicated control buttons for power, pairing, voice assistant and track controls alongside a new ULT mode button, which is backlit when turned on. The volume buttons are tactile and clicky but I have a quibble: To change the volume, you need to mash the buttons more times than required.

The Field 1 comes with a built-in microphone that allows you to use it as a speaker phone or to connect to your smartphone's voice assistant to control whatever kind of playlist or music you're listening to through that. Though I am not sure how many would use a microphone that comes on a speaker, it offers good echo cancellation.

All the technology and drivers, everything that comes in the package is wrapped in a mesh fabric that surrounds the entire speaker despite the fact music will only be projected in the direction of the Sony logo with a sealed-off compartment on the back which, once opened, will reveal a USB-C port that you're going to use to

SONY ULT FIELD 1 CAN WITHSTAND TUMBLES AND SPLASHES, AND IT DELIVERS AN EXPANSIVE SOUNDSTAGE



recharge the ULT Field 1 Bluetooth speaker. For additional portability, you are also getting a built-in removable rope strap, which you could use as a little handle or you may use this to attach the speaker to, say, a backpack.

The speaker has IP67 ingress rating, allowing it to withstand dust and water. Further, it is shockproof so it can take some bumps. Overall, design-wise, there's a lot to love about the Sony offering.

BOOM-BOOM MAGIC

The Field 1 supports AAC and SBC audio codecs, but there's no LDAC support here, which is not

← The speaker is waterproof and dust-proof, with IP67 rating. It is rated for up to 12 hours of battery life at moderate volume levels

When you press the ULT button, you get a bass boost and overall fuller sound ↘



a surprise when you consider the price point. It's something more than a no-frills speaker, that is, there is the ability to set custom EQ preset from Sony's companion app.

The big selling point is the ULT mode or something like the "ultra" mode. Once you slip into this mode, you will get a richer, fuller and more powerful sound than usual. It brings out the best in the drivers. The ULT mode offers a punchy sound with slightly more emphasis



Sony ULT Field 1 celebrates the idea of deep bass. Pictures: The Telegraph

in the low end than you're probably used to out of a speaker this size. I have noticed that when you start to crank up the volume, you don't lose clarity. Of course, if you cross 85 per cent volume, it may take some patience to figure out the lyrics to most Elton John songs. Does he sing "hold me closer

Tony Danza" or "hold me closer tiny dancer"?! I think the sweet spot is 60-65 per cent but if you want to enjoy a bit of bass, keep it between 75-85 per cent.

When you have been elbow-bending the entire evening and wouldn't mind singing *Dancing Queen* aloud, max out the volume. Or you could always get a second Sony ULT Field 1 and pair them together for a stereo pair.

If you consider the situations in which you'll use the Field 1 Bluetooth speaker, like pool parties, I think this is a fantastic device.

SHOULD YOU BUY IT?

What's the battery life like on the Field 1? Sony is promising around 12 hours of listening time with ULT mode turned on and when you're at around 50 per cent volume. But if you find yourself constantly cranking up the volume on this thing close to max, that's where you're going to notice a dip in battery life. We got around seven hours because the volume was dialed up and ULT mode was turned on. Even then, that is enough to float you through a party. If you are using this Bluetooth speaker in more intimate settings, you will get all-day battery life. Just a quick 10-minute charge yields around three hours of battery life.

Sure, its volume buttons take time getting adjusted to but if that's my biggest gripe, it's fair to say that the speaker is a winner. Sony ULT Field 1 can withstand tumbles and splashes but, more importantly, it delivers an expansive soundstage.

Mathures Paul

AT A GLANCE

Device: Sony ULT Field 1
Price: Rs 10,990

HIGH NOTES

- ▶ Booming sound
- ▶ Sturdy design
- ▶ IP67 ingress rating
- ▶ Custom equaliser setting
- ▶ Good soundstage

MUFFLED NOTES

- ▶ Limited equaliser setting
- ▶ Volume buttons need some mashing

THREADS CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY WITH OVER 175 MILLION MONTHLY ACTIVE USERS

Threads, Meta Platforms' latest social media offering, has over 175 million monthly active users, CEO Mark Zuckerberg has announced, ahead of its first anniversary.

The challenger to X (formerly Twitter) appeared on app stores on July 5 last year, just in time to attract users from a chaotic phase Twitter was going through — the appearance of its new owner Elon Musk. In less than a week, Threads had 100 million users, partly because users were allowed to set up their Threads profile using the Instagram app.

Financially, Threads remains a loss as there is no advertising but it can, at some

Threads marches on with content that doesn't lean towards politics. Illustration: The Telegraph



point, give Meta a new avenue to generate funds.

At first, Threads didn't have a lot of features, but most of these have already been addressed. The platform even has a web version, built-in translation, chronological search, fast switching between accounts, tags,

an API, and even integration with the fediverse.

The company says more than 50 million tags have been created, with some of the top ones being PhotographyThreads, BookThreads and GymThreads.

Elon Musk recently claimed that X now reaches 600 million monthly active users and

that half of these users use the platform daily but there has been no clarification if the number includes automated accounts or spam bots. *The Washington Post* reports that Emarketer estimates X had about 56 million users in the US at the end of 2023, compared with 29 million for Threads, a gap that may become slimmer in 2024.

One reason behind the success of Threads could be because it leans away from politics. Americans are paying less attention to political news, according to the Pew Research Centre. The company has long said most people use platforms like Facebook and Instagram more to share updates about their lives and follow creators. X, on the other hand, delves into "citizen journalism" to remain popular but advertisers have had a love-hate time with the platform because of the toxic behaviour of sections of users. Major brands often avoid placing ads near political content.

Mathures Paul

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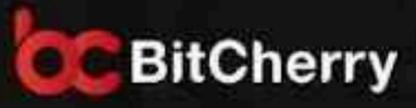
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 Daily Record
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Aparajita Adhya, Saswata Chatterjee, Shoumo Banerjee and Debleena Dutt



Amrita Chattopadhyay and Manasi Sinha



Tareen Jahan

Koneenica Banerjee

GLIMPSES FROM A SUCCESS PARTY AND THE LAUNCH OF FOUR FILMS

It was a shower of stories and stars as the cast and crew of five films got together recently. Four films were formally announced to be presented/released by Dhagaa Production, and a party was thrown to celebrate the success of *Eta Amader Golpo*. "I'm extremely happy to have celebrated the momentous milestone of 50 houseful days for our film *Eta Amader Golpo*... hope it crosses 100 days too! I extend a heartfelt thanks to our producers Suvankar Mitra of Dhagaa Production and Subhash Bera and our entire cast and crew, without whom we wouldn't have seen this success story unfold so far," said director Manasi Sinha.

"We are overwhelmed by the phenomenal response to *Eta Amader Golpo*. The core philosophy was to genuinely and passionately support good film content and the industry. Recently we announced acting auditions for our banking of talent and our new ventures. We were overwhelmed with over 2,000 registrations from talented aspirants. These are very exciting times for the Bangla film industry and we feel privileged to be at the cusp of this new horizon and leading pioneering initiatives," said Suvankar Mitra, producer, Dhagaa Production.

t2 spotlights the four films...

1. 5 NUMBER SWAPNAMOY LANE

Directed by: Manasi Sinha

Cast: Aparajita Adhya, Kharaj Mukherjee, Arjun Chakrabarty, Annwasha Hazra, Payel Mukherjee, Sayan Subhra Bhattacharya, Tareen Jahan, Sumit Samaddar, Falguni Chatterjee, Rana Basu Thakur, Suman Banerjee

Director speak: "I believe firmly in relationships. I think relationships are the sentinels of everything that concerns our lives. I feel a deep sense of empathy, especially for people who are forced to live alone due to myriad circumstances. This story is about those people who do not want to live alone. The title itself suggests it's an address of a house. Let's assume, it's a lost address. The story's narrative is about how this address got lost," said Sinha.

2. SARAH MEETS SAHIR

Directed by: Bappa

Cast: Ananya Chatterjee, Sujoy Prasad Chatterjee, Manasi Sinha, Rimii Deb, Rana Basu Thakur

Director speak: "During my theatre study days, our teachers used to recommend watching performances of certain actors, and among them was the exceptionally talented Ananya Chatterjee. Getting the opportunity to work with her, and more importantly, directing her, will truly be inspirational and certainly motivating. In this film, Manasi Sinha, my mentor, plays a special role. This experience will certainly enrich me to do even better work in the future," said Bappa.

Actor speak: "I will be essaying the lead character of Sarah, a professor of literature. She engages in a relationship with Sahir, and there is a significant age difference between the two. There are several nuanced layers in the storyline, which I found rather intriguing after reading the first draft. This will be my first film with Bappa. I quite like working with new directors, as they are full of energy and new hope. That apart, it's always great to work with old friends," said Ananya.

3. GIRGIT

Directed by: Bappa

Cast: Dibyendu Bhattacharya, Ipsita Chakravarty Singh, Joy Sengupta, Payel Mukherjee, Koneenica Banerjee, Donna Munshi

4. CHAABIWALA

Directed by: Raja Ghosh

Cast: Amrita Chatterjee, Rahul Arunoday Banerjee, Dhritiman Chatterjee, Subhasish Mukherjee, Shankar Debnath, Kaushik Kar



Dibyendu Bhattacharya



Joy Sarkar



Sujoy Prasad Chatterjee



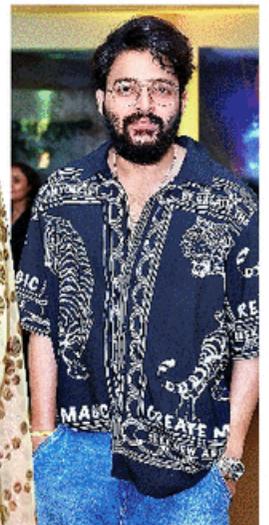
Debdu Ghosh



Suvankar Mitra

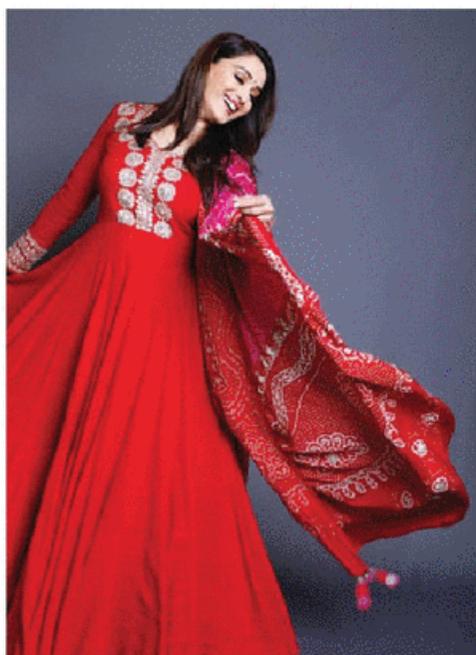


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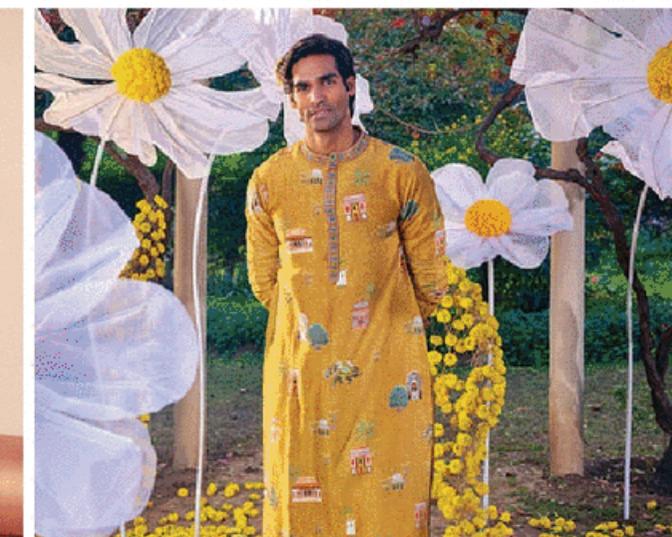
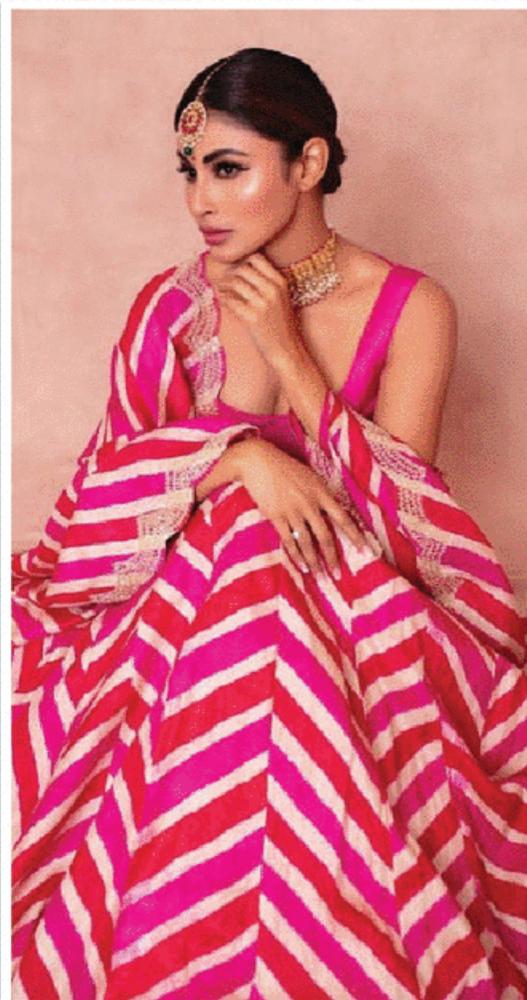
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If Prabhas took a shot every time someone uttered the word 'Bahubali' in *Mirzapur 3*, he would be dead-drunk till 2898 AD.

Jokes apart, *Mirzapur* is a show for the ages. Rarely has an Indian series managed to make such an enviable place for itself in the public consciousness, garner a fandom as strong as it is staunch, generate memes and theories in equal measure and made the arrival of every season a celebration that warrants (and deserves) millions of watch parties globally.

Breaking out in 2018, this guns-gangsters-gore fest left a mark even in a space and time where crime dramas set in the Indian hinterland retail at a dime a dozen. The shock ending of Season One — playing out like the climax of a Shakespearean tragedy but with far more blood and screams of 'behenc***d' — spurred a fever-pitch frenzy for the arrival of the second season in 2020. The intriguing cliffhanger of Season 2 kicked off a wait for the third outing that has lasted four years but feels far longer.

The good news is that Season 3 lives up to the hype and delivers on most counts. It deepens the drama. It strengthens its storytelling. It enhances the arc of some characters, completes the journey of a few others and

EXPECT BHUKAAL! SEASON 3 OF *MIRZAPUR* LIVES UP TO THE HYPE AND DELIVERS ON MOST COUNTS

introduces some compelling players into the mix. Most importantly, the third season, even while retaining the core of the powerfully produced and equally powerfully enacted drama, corroborates the fact that *Mirzapur* is more than just a blood-laden crime fest. It is raw, authentic, powerful — and more so this season — poignant storytelling at its best.

"Ab hum challenger nahin, contender hain," Gajagami Gupta aka Golu, played by Shweta Tripathi Sharma, tells Guddu Pandit (Ali Fazal) early on in the latest season, setting the tone for the 10 mammoth episodes, all of which are available to stream now on Prime Video.

Golu, metamorphosing from a happy-go-lucky college-going girl to a hard-as-nails trigger-happy crime maven is the real brain behind the all-brawn ambitions of Guddu, whose trajectory mirrors that of Hamlet, and that is not limited to him just saying: "I see dead people."

With Kaleen Bhaiyya (Pankaj Tripathi, sublime as always) almost fatally wounded in the grisly, take-no-prisoners-alive shootout in the penultimate moments of the show's sophomore season and given up for dead by most, the hot seat of *Mirzapur* — with Guddu taking the chair, both literally and metaphorically as the curtains came down four years ago — is now the prized trophy that stands to separate the men from the boys.

But as *Mirzapur* Season 3 hits the ground running, it is the women — ranging from charming and charismatic to competitive and cunning — who take the upper hand. Madhuri (Isha Talwar) ascends the chief minister's seat with the claim of "bhaymukt

pradesh" but what is really on her agenda is seeking revenge for the killings of both her father and husband Munna (Divyenndu's absence is deeply felt this season). For this, she isn't averse to shaking hands with those who break the law in order to bring Guddu to justice. Beena (Rasika Dugal) remains as wily as ever, playing both sides, using and betraying with abandon. Golu, with the petite Shweta embodying the character wholly, truly comes into her own this season, her varied character arc, powered more by practicality than emotionality, giving the series quite a bit of its drama.

As the wrestling bout for the crown of *Mirzapur* — and the dominance over 'Purvanchal' — traverses its bloody and bullet-riddled crests and troughs between Guddu and Jaunpur's 'Bahubali' Sharad Shukla (Anjum Ssharma is solid), the fate of those inexorably linked with them fluctuates in ways that keep the viewers' engagement with Season 3 alive episode after episode.

These include Guddu's father (Ramakant, played by the always dependable Rajesh Tailang), now doing time in jail for pulling the trigger on cop Maurya (Amit Sial) in the previous season. Lala (Anil George) is also in jail, leaving his daughter Shabnam (Shernavaz Jijina) in charge of his

Season 3 deepens the drama. It strengthens its storytelling. It enhances the arc of some characters, completes the journey of a few others and introduces some compelling players into the mix. Most importantly, the third season, even while retaining the core of the powerfully produced and equally powerfully enacted drama, corroborates the fact that *Mirzapur* is more than just a blood-laden crime fest. It is raw, authentic, powerful — and more so this season — poignant storytelling at its best

"vyapaar" and in close proximity to Guddu. Cantankerous politician J.P. Yadav (Pramad Pathak) is now in hiding but plotting his next move.

The key player in all of this is Vijay Varma's Tyagi whose betrayal of his family — and specifically of his twin brother — in Season 2 sets up a delectable dual-faced *dav-pech* that reminds one of the actor's equally intriguing mind games synonymous with his serial-killer character in last year's *Dahaad*, another winner from Prime Video. Compared to the first two

seasons, Season 3 doesn't use gratuitous sex and violence as clickbait. There is, of course, the series staples of grime and gore — including a decapitated head stuffed in a gift bag and an important character's eyes being gouged out with bare fingers — but the violence this time around is more felt than seen.

As it has been from its start, survival of the fittest remains the mantra of *Mirzapur*, but is spelt out succinctly this season. Every player, in his or her own way, works to survive by eliminating the closest threat. It all comes full circle when Ramakant, perhaps the only character untouched by the greys of crime and corruption around him, urges son Guddu to go all out and do all that he has to do to survive in this dog-eat-dog, or rather Bahubali-eat-Bahubali, world.

The relentless pace familiar to *Mirzapur* is, however, missing in the first few episodes and may make quite a few fans of the series restless, with a few predictable narrative turns treading *deja-vu* territory.

But directors Gurmmeet Singh and Anand Iyer, aided by writers Apurva Dhar Badgaiyan, Avinash Singh Tomar, Avinash Singh and Vijay Narayan Verma, as well as John Stewart Eduri's scintillating background score, ensure a rich payoff towards the end of the season. It marks the return to form of the show's master player — "Bhool toh nahi gaye humein?" — and a new lease of life (and a changed relationship) for two other *Mirzapur* MVPs. Expect more 'bhaukaal'... and a whole lot more of *Mirzapur*. No one is complaining.

Priyanka Roy

Why are you a *Mirzapur* fan?
Tell/t2@abp.in

All episodes of *Mirzapur 3* are now streaming on Prime Video



Shweta Tripathi Sharma as Golu

Vijay Varma as Bharat/Shatrughan Tyagi



Ali Fazal as Guddu in *Mirzapur* Season 3

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RE-WEAR YOUR OUTFITS TO MAKE A STATEMENT IN SUSTAINABILITY. t2 SHOWS YOU HOW

With every passing day, the percentage of textile waste's contribution to landfills and global carbon emissions is hitting startling numbers. This waste is largely produced by the fashion industry. In India, major fashion trends and choices are often inspired by Bollywood and its stars more than the ramps. It is noteworthy that the fashion influencers, that is the stars from this industry, are at a snail's pace taking steps towards sustainability, thereby changing mindsets of people at large. A star like Alia Bhatt, by re-wearing her wedding outfit, made an inspiring style statement recently. Re-wearing, redesigning and restyling are possibly the most sustainable ways going forward to lead a fashionable life responsibly. Repeating is not boring. All it needs is a dose of creativity and imagination. t2 gives you cues by restyling four looks to show how to repeat in style and take your style quotient a notch higher responsibly:



EVENING DAY

Riya Bhattacharjee's evening look for attending various occasions was planned minimal chic in a Pinki Sinha brocade co-ord set with sherwani-style jacket and straight pants. The colour palette of silver zari work on lush powder blue silk was complemented with burgundy lips, mascara eyes, the hair parted and worn into a bun and simple ethnic jewellery.



We styled up Riya for an office brunch look with a semi-formal touch and a Western twist to the ethnic ensemble. The brocade straight pants from Pinki Sinha's co-ord set was paired with Atrium's powder blue shirt with a hint of embroidery. Statement earrings, the hair worn open neatly and baby pink lips completed the look.



EVENING DAY



Choosing the easy-breezy draped skirt from Citrine's ensemble, a smart day occasionwear or brunch party look was created by teaming it up with an ombre shirt from Atrium. The look was enhanced with a broad belt and statement earrings, and bold lips.

Subhamita Banerjee posed in a party look in this Indo-western ensemble from Citrine. The fringed cape detailed with *cutdana*, thread embroidery and tassels was paired with a timeless draped skirt for an evening cocktail look. Statement earrings, the hair worn open in curls and minimal make-up completed the look.



Kutubuddin Sheikh, for the semi-formal or dapper party look, paired up the shirt with white straight pants from Son of a Noble Snob and Sahil Aneja's white linen jacket with black piping design from Dapper Menswear.

EVENING DAY



Kutubuddin exuded casual charm for the day look by teaming up a 16 Stitches printed cotton shirt with a pair of black silk pyjamas from No Grey Area. The pair of shades elevated the style quotient of this look sourced from Dapper Menswear.

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FROM PAGE 11



EVENING DAY

Subhamita's evening look in this Citrine ensemble was all about style with a hint of comfort. The effortless look was done with a three-piece co-ord set comprising a floral organza overlay cape, a bustier and flattering printed pants. Statement metal jewellery, a neat bun and bold brown lips completed the look.

Using the bustier from the yellow ensemble from Citrine, a cool and casual day look was created on Riya. The pair of comfy denims, sneakers, sling bag and shades exude the vibe. Apt for an afternoon date or cafe lunch with friends.

STYLIST SPEAK:

"While getting your wardrobe revamped by keeping more re-wearable looks, opt for solid colours and simple silhouettes. It was interesting to work on this lookbook because instead of just picking up designer outfits for each look, we had the opportunity to mix and match the ensembles to create different looks for different occasions using the same basic outfit. It was all about re-wearing an outfit over and over again by exploring it through different styles. While the morning looks were all about keeping it smart and chic, the evening look was all about glamming it up minimally for various occasions. Accessories played an important role in this lookbook, and we chose statement pieces to enhance each vibe even though parts of the outfits were being reused," said Anupam Chatterjee.

**HAIR AND MAKE-UP NOTES:**

"Since the lookbook was all about re-wearing outfits, we played around with the make-up and hairstyles for each look to give a different touch to each look. While the evening looks were all about clear hairdos and bold lips, the day looks were about wearing the hair open, with subtle make-up," said Abhijit Paul, make-up pro.



Priyanka A. Roy

Pictures: Pabitra Das

Location: Poach-Kitchen, Lake Road

Styling: Anupam Chatterjee

Hair and make-up: Abhijit Paul

Assisted by: Sananda Mondal Laha

Jewellery: Labanya

BOOKS

Sudeshna Chakravarty's debut book *Oddly Perfect* tugs at your heartstrings with its characters, setting, and language that bring about of freshness to this romantic comedy. Sudeshna who has had a sizable stint in journalism, is now following her passion and making a foray into the literary world. Talking about making her characters realistic, Sudeshna said: "I just had one thing in mind while writing and that was to make the characters as realistic as possible. The beauty of the characters is how they evolve. I first serialised the book on an online site. Initially, the readers hated the male lead but as the story progressed they liked the male lead so much, that one of them wrote, 'I want a Zen in my life'.

All the characters in this book are imperfect and crazy. The female lead is socially inept, the male lead is a complete brat. The beauty of the book lies in the imperfection of each character. They all have their negative and positive points and they shine through their imperfections. I feel no one is perfect and yet they form an essential part of the jigsaw puzzle called life, making it 'oddly

SUDESHNA CHAKRAVARTY WEAVES AN 'ODDLY PERFECT' ROMANTIC COMEDY IN HER DEBUT BOOK



Sudeshna Chakravarty



perfect."

Sudeshna, who swears by classic romantic reads and is an ardent fan of Jane Austen, kept humour as an important element in the book. Sharing her technique, she said: "The first thing I kept in mind was how I weave in humour.

I was careful that it did not seem like I was trying too hard to make people laugh. Whatever humour was put in needed to look natural. Secondly, sometimes when you are writing a mushy romance story, it tends to get too cheesy. So, the author needs to maintain a fine balance so that he or she keeps the mush and crushes the cheese. My endeavour was to do the same. Thirdly, I have played with words to add to the fun and humour element. Lastly and most importantly, in a romance the hero needs to maintain the aura and the arrogance and yet he had to contribute to the comedy element. This is the most difficult part. You have to make him desirable and hot and yet make him funny."

Sudeshna informs of a sequel, *Oddly Perfect — Stages of Courtship*, that will soon follow. She also plans a literary fiction called *Noise in the Island*.

Farah Khatoon

Pictures courtesy: Sudeshna Chakravarty



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HASHTAG HAS LAUNCHED A SUNDAY BRUNCH MENU WITH A DELISH SPREAD. t2 CHECKED IT OUT

The rooftop F&B spot on Chowringhee, Hashtag has introduced a brunch menu with a delightful spread. Now patrons can enjoy the delectable brunch every Sunday complemented by Hashtag's vibrant ambience. The brunch menu will feature new dishes every Sunday, ensuring that every palate

is catered to with their different food counters such as sushis and chaats, an Italian spread, a lavish main course spread and countless desserts. The menu offers an array of options, from traditional favourites to innovative creations, making it a perfect destination if you are looking for a place to brunch on a Sunday afternoon.

Recently, on a misty Sunday afternoon, actress Nussrat Jahan dropped by for the launch of the brunch menu and indulged in the delicious lavish spread. With its inviting ambience, Hashtag promises an unforgettable brunch experience, turning Sundays into a day of gastronomic delight and relaxation. Glimpses from the launch.



If you love sushi, then the Hashtag Sunday brunch is the correct place for you where you can watch the chefs making fresh sushi right in front of you. Enjoy exotic flavours and varieties of sushi as the chef slices the fish and rolls it into a mouthwatering piece of pleasure.



From creamy pasta to perfectly sauteed Aglio Olio, the Italian live counter serves everything cheesy and fresh.



t2 indulged in some mouthwatering and piping hot main course dishes like the Paneer Lathika, which were soft and stuffed cottage cheese rolls submerged in a creamy sauce.

In a white mini floral dress and minimal jewellery, perfect for the Sunday brunch vibe, Nussrat's first stop was the live sushi counter. She said: "I like the idea of a brunch on a Sunday afternoon. It's a great way to unwind. At Hashtag, having some lovely delicacies and enjoying the view of Victoria Memorial and the entire cityscape, live music and good cocktails is the best way to enjoy a Sunday afternoon with your friends and family."



The chaat counter features all kinds of street food like *phuchkas*, *papdi chaat*, *dahi chaat* and many more, perfect for your Sunday *chatpata* cravings.



Kacha Lonka Chicken caught our eyes with its vibrant green colour.



If you have a sweet tooth then the Sunday brunch is the perfect place for you as you would be tempted with an array of desserts like cake pops, tiramisu cups, live pancakes, mousses and many more.



Apart from crafted cocktails, detox yourself on a Sunday afternoon with refreshing mocktail shooters like the Watermelon Mojito and Virgin Mojito.

What: Sunday Brunch
Where: Hashtag, seventh floor, 50, Chowringhee Road
Timings: 12.30pm-4.30pm
Pocket pinch: ₹1,495 (without alcohol) and ₹2,495 with alcohol



Fitness trainers Vinit Baptist and Katherine Lee



Designer Mehek Talreja was the host of the Sunday brunch launch party, looking pretty in a beautiful blue-and-white co-ord dress.



Davina Thacker



Gitanjali Agarwal



Rohan Arora



"We have crafted a culinary experience that blends traditional favourites with innovative dishes, ensuring there's something delightful for everyone. Our goal is to create a relaxing and enjoyable atmosphere where friends and families can gather and savour delicious food on a lazy Sunday afternoon. We will feature different menus every Sunday. From fresh pastries to gourmet entrees, every item is prepared with the best quality and utmost care by our chefs. Guests can walk in and enjoy Sundays with good food and good music with a truly unforgettable brunch," said (l-r) Ankit and Khusboo Tibrewal with Praveen Mundhra, co-owners of Hashtag.



The afternoon party mood was set as local band Bandeh performed some soulful hits like *Kesariya*, *Tere bin*, *Satrange* and more.



Dimpy Pittu (left) and Alankrita Soni

Rohini Chakraborty

Pictures: B Halder

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BLUE BRIDGE CAFÉ IN BALLYGUNGE IS NOW SERVING FRESH FOOD FOR PETS IN COLLABORATION WITH HEADS UP FOR TAILS

Blue Bridge cafe in Ballygunge has tied up with pet store Heads Up For Tails and introduced a new pet menu called Sara's Wholesome Food. It serves dishes such as Classic Chicken & Brown Rice, Grain Free Lamb & Apple, Chicken Biryani (safe for pets), Hypoallergenic Duck & Quinoa, among others. "I'm glad that my pet-friendly cafe is now associated with the best pet brand of India. Our furry friends can also enjoy delicious food along with their pet parents," said owner Nilanjan Banerjee.

The pet menu

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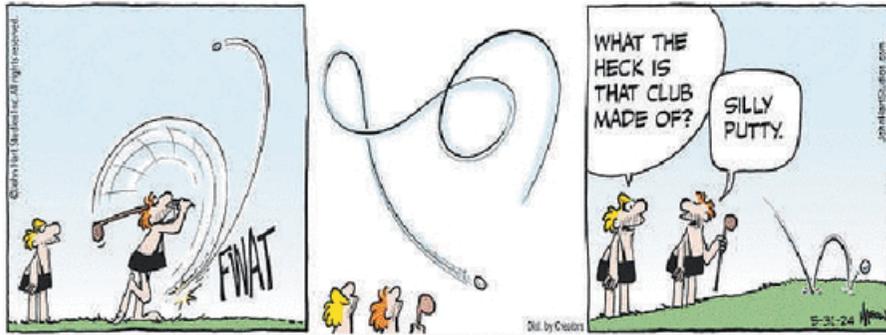
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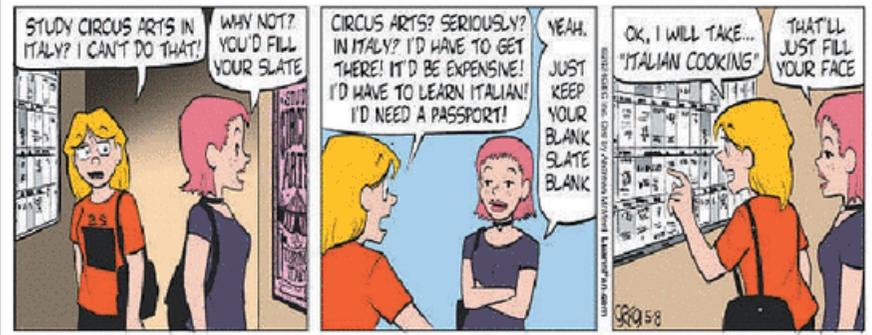
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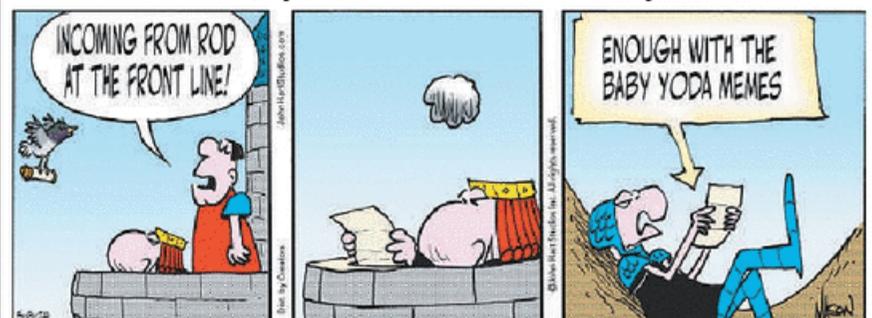
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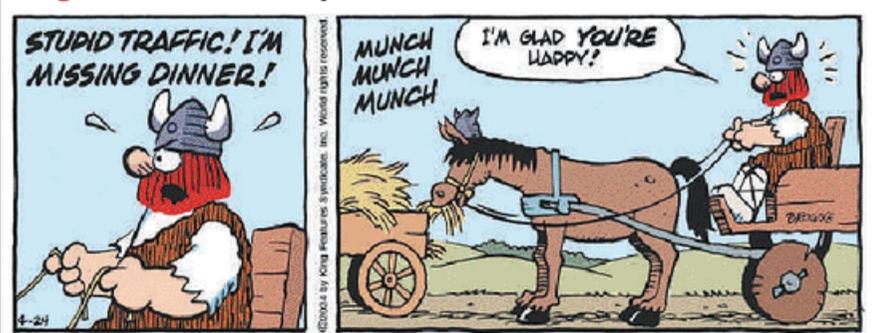
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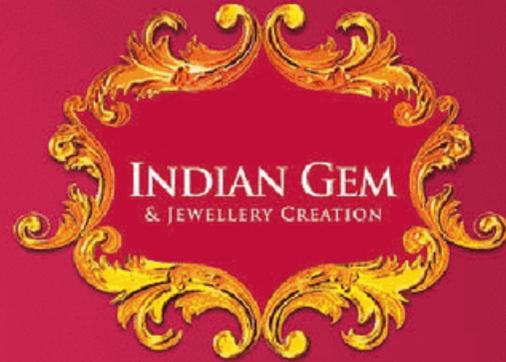


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 - 16 Such contestants may be furious with what's given by 12 Across? (4,5)
 - 21 A beer? It's almost closed (4)
 - 22 Former power of industry, were wealth to be redistributed (5,5)
 - 24 Reportedly visible urge (6)
 - 25 Tiresome following son's bad language (8)
- DOWN**
- 27 Press note what referee does (7)
 - 28 Key article delayed increase (8)
 - 29 High roller chap returned in new suit (7)
 - 2 Scholarly environment could see a targeted uprising across the borders of China (8)
 - 3 To veto old law is crazy (8)
 - 4 Moving clear of town lacking energy for traffic diversion (10)
 - 5 Tackle husband's old friends (4)
 - 6 Spot big house occupied by politician (6)
 - 7 Cocktail compartment for passenger (7)
 - 8 Rest still up in new house, lacking nothing (4-3)
 - 11 Food that's good after whisky, say (6,3)
 - 14 Unlucky about the last of Labour extremists (10)
 - 17 Endorse south with north in conflict (8)
 - 18 Truth and corporation split by love for versatile employee (8)
 - 19 Wind up person on the fiddle (7)
 - 20 Lag's time to reach out (7)
 - 23 Run on a bank – once in a blue moon (6)
 - 26 Makes clear profit from curtains (4)

Yesterday's solution

SCRAPHEAPS CLAP
E E R L I O E
VULNERABLE MOOD
E A D N L M K A
RETAIN LOCATION
E E L A W N N T
A T C T A F O Y
SWEETWILLIAM
S E I S K C G A
ORTHODOX STRAIN
R O N C A U Z O
TUTU GINGERBEER
E A A E E B A
DELI CLOSEDBOOK

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11046
SUDOKU MODERATE

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

Fill in the 9x9 square grid with the numbers one to nine. The numbers should be arranged in such a way that each row, column and mini-grid contains one of each number. Solution to Sudoku 11044 is on the right

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

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11047
SUDOKU DIABOLICAL

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

Fill in the 9x9 square grid with the numbers one to nine. The numbers should be arranged in such a way that each row, column and mini-grid contains one of each number. Solution to Sudoku 11045 is on the right

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

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Jumble
David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LD A V I

○ ○ ○ ○

Z A L E G

○ ○ ○ ○

G N O R E L

○ ○ ○ ○

D H L U E D

○ ○ ○ ○



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: ○ ○ ○ ○ - ○ ○ ○ ○

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLOSS UNCUT UPROOT GIGGLE
Answer: For her, learning to skate in the shape of an 8 wasn't too hard to – FIGURE OUT

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WHAT ARE KAREENA AND AYUSHMAN UP TO? GET TO KNOW BEFORE IT'S MADE OFFICIAL!

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14032
QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fuse metal (4)
 - 3 Relaxation (4)
 - 9 Cook in an oven (5)
 - 10 "Jerusalem" vegetable (9)
 - 11 Listen eagerly to; drink (3,2)
 - 12 Enduring (9)
 - 15 Chat idly (6)
 - 17 Help (6)
 - 19 Opening (speech)
- DOWN**
- (9)
 - 21 Fibbing (5)
 - 23 Highway repairs (9)
 - 24 — and fauna (5)
 - 25 Complain (4)
 - 26 Poems (4)
 - 1 Enveloping (8)
 - 2 Learned people (8)
 - 4 Otherworldly (6)
 - 5 Climbing frame for plants (7)
 - 6 Moist (4)
 - 7 Halt (4)
 - 8 Screening (4)
 - 13 Reflected (8)
 - 14 Employ (8)
 - 16 Prim age (anag) (7)
 - 18 Yellow fruit (6)
 - 20 Robe (4)
 - 21 Long sentence (4)
 - 22 Graven image (4)

Yesterday's solution

Across: 1 Rye; 3 Tan; 5 Gulls; 8 Topic; 9 Advance; 10 Sack; 11 Searched; 13 Posted; 14 Temper; 17 Interior; 19 Beef; 22 Coastal; 23 Ideal; 24 Silly; 25 Red; 26 Due.
Down: 1 Rates; 2 Expects; 3 Tack; 4 Nearer; 5 Governed; 6 Lunch; 7 Slender; 12 Secretly; 13 Princes; 15 Pretend; 16 Cooler; 18 Trail; 20 False; 21 Find.

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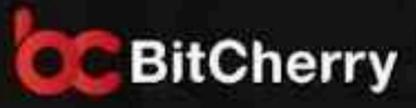
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