



Chamath Danawansha, the captain of Sampath Bank receives the Championship trophy from Kosala Dissanayake, Managing Director of Delmege Group after his team beat Nations Trust Bank in the 'A' Division final of the Delmege Super League basketball tournament played at the Otter's Court at Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo on Monday. Pic by Nihal Chandrakumara.

**Delmege Super League BB Tournament**  
**Sampath Bank win 'A' Division title**

by Manjula D. Phillips

The Delmege Super League Basketball Tournament, conducted by the Mercantile Services Basketball Association and sponsored by the Delmege Group for the seventh successive year came to an end on Monday at the Otter's Aquatic Club courts. In all 28 mercantile firms took part in the tournament where the men were competing in five different sections while the women were competing in 'A' and 'B' Divisions. In the 'A' Division final, Sampath Bank was playing Nations Trust Bank and the former were the favourites to win the title with their experience and excellent track record. The supporters of the teams, mostly the employees of the two banks came in numbers expecting a tight final. But Sampath Bank, who were led by Chamath Danawansha had no problems in securing the title in a one-sided final. Having outplayed Nations Trust Bank, captained by

Charitha Kulawardene, in every department of the game, Sampath Bank cruised to a comfortable 81-50 victory having led 44-23 at half-time. Mithila Abeysekara with 20 points and Virantha Bastian with 15 points top scored for Sampath Bank while Manjula Jayaratne with 17 points was the best scorer for the losers. Abeysekara was adjudged The Best Player of the 'A' Division while Chamath Danawansha, also of Sampath Bank was named as the Best Player of the final. Delmege is one of the pioneer members of the Mercantile Services Basketball Association and has been promoting Basketball for more than two decades now. Delmege were the national sponsors of Basketball in the mid 90's. However, the company, surprisingly didn't field a team for this year's tournament despite having in their ranks several present and former national basketball players.

**Australia win 2nd Test and series against Proteas**

**DURBAN, South Africa (AP)** - Australia clinched the series over South Africa to remain the No. 1-ranked test team in the world, beating the Proteas by 175 runs Tuesday to lead 2-0 with one match left to play. Fast bowler Peter Siddle and part-time wrist-spinner Simon Katich took three wickets each as South Africa lost seven wickets for 126 on Tuesday to be dismissed for 370-9 just before tea at Kingsmead, with captain Graeme Smith unable to bat due a fractured left little finger. Resuming on 244-2, South Africa needed Jacques Kallis and A.B. de Villiers to occupy the crease but both were out in the first hour of play.

Kallis was out in the sixth over for 93, edging a climbing delivery from Johnson slanted across him to captain Ricky Ponting at second slip to end a 187-run stand with De Villiers in 57 overs. Kallis had been dropped the previous over on 88, Michael Clarke uncharacteristically spilling a sitter at point off the bowling of Ben Hilfenhaus.

De Villiers was beaten by a leg-

cutter from Siddle and was caught on 84 by wicketkeeper Brad Haddin, three overs after Kallis' departure to leave the hosts on 279-4. De Villiers had hit nine fours in four hours.

J.P. Duminy, who was given a life on 6 when Haddin failed to hold a low, diving chance off Siddle, was eventually out for 17 to a brute of a ball from Hilfenhaus. The left-hander could not get out of the way of a bouncer and it touched his glove on the way to Haddin.

In the final over before lunch, Paul Harris was out for 5 as the Proteas went to the break on 307-6, still 239 runs short of victory, although survival for a draw was their objective on the final day.

The South Africans were bowled out seven minutes before tea with three wickets falling for 63 runs in the final session.

Mark Boucher was caught and bowled by part-time spinner Marcus North after scoring 25 in 158 minutes. Morne Morkel was then caught on 24 by Haddin off Katich when the ball became stuck between the keeper's legs, and Dale Steyn was stumped for 7 in Katich's next over to end the match as Australia avenged the recent 2-1 series loss at home to the Proteas.

The third test starts March 19 in Cape Town.



Australia's captain Ricky Ponting holds a stump after his team won the second Test match against South Africa at Kingsmead stadium in Durban, South Africa, Tuesday March 10, 2009. Australia won by 175 runs to lead the series 2-0, and retain their No.1 ranking. (AP Photo/Themba Hadebe)

| SCOREBOARD   |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>Australia 1st Innings: 352</b>  |            |
| <b>South Africa 1st Innings: 138</b>   |            |
| <b>Australia 2nd Innings: 331-5 dec.</b>   |            |
| <b>South Africa 2nd Innings</b>  |            |
| H. Amla c Ponting b Siddle   | 43         |
| N. McKenzie c Haddin b Siddle  | 31         |
| J. Kallis c Ponting b Johnson  | 93         |
| A.B. de Villiers c Haddin b Siddle   | 84         |
| J.P. Duminy c Haddin b Hilfenhaus  | 17         |
| M. Boucher c & b North   | 25         |
| P. Harris c Siddle b Katich  | 5          |
| M. Morkel c Haddin b Katich  | 24         |
| D. Steyn st Haddin b Katich  | 7          |
| M. Ntini not out   | 4          |
| <b>Extras: (9b, 15lb, 3w, 10nb)</b>  | <b>37</b>  |
| <b>Total: (for nine wickets)</b>   | <b>370</b> |
| <b>Overs: 132.2.</b>   |            |
| <b>Fall of wickets: 1-63, 2-80, 3-267, 4-279, 5-299, 6-307, 7-345, 8-363, 9-370.</b>   |            |
| <b>Did not bat: G. Smith (injured).</b>  |            |
| <b>Bowling: Johnson 33-9-78-1 (1nb), Hilfenhaus 24-4-79-1 (5nb, 3w), Siddle 28-12-61-3 (2nb), McDonald 16-3-47-0 (2nb), North 20-6-36-1, Katich 11.2-1-45-3.</b> |            |
| <b>Umpires: A. Rauf (Pak) B. Bowden (NZ)</b>   |            |
| <b>TV umpire: S. Bucknor (WI)</b>  |            |
| <b>Match Referee: J. Crowe (NZ)</b>  |            |
| <b>Toss: Aus</b>   |            |
| <b>Result: Aus won by 175 runs</b>   |            |
| <b>Series: Aus leads 2-0</b>   |            |

**Sri Lanka coach stunned after loss to Pakistan**

Chamila Karawita reporting from Sydney

The coach of the Sri Lanka women's cricket team Chitral Mendis, told media that he was taken aback at the way the Sri Lankans surrendered in the crucial group game against Pakistan in the ongoing Women's World Cup tournament in Australia. The Sri Lankans had an unbeaten record against Pakistan in One-Day Internationals having beaten the Asian neighbours on 19 instances, but when it mattered most, the Sri Lankans couldn't lift themselves and suffered a 57 run defeat. "There's no doubt that we are a better team than them, but the three run outs at crucial stages cost us the game and we have ourselves to blame," Mendis told journalists after the game at the Manuka Oval in Canberra.

Pakistan posted 161 for seven in 50 overs and in reply the Sri Lankans were bowled out for 104 with 62 balls to spare as captain Sashikala Siriwardene (58), Suvini de Alwis (01) and Dilani Manodara (09) all were run out.

That was Pakistan's first ever win in a World Cup encounter and their first victory over Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lankans were also beaten by England in a previous group game and although they still have a chance to qualify for the Super Sixes technically, the chances look very slim as their remaining group game against India is expected to be a tough contest.

To add salt to injury, the International Cricket Council on Monday announced that Sri Lankan bowler Rose Fernando and Englishwoman Jenny Gunn had been reported for suspect bowling actions.



**Chanderpaul pilots Windies close to England total**

**PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad (AP)** - Left-handers Shivnarine Chanderpaul and Brendan Nash completed defiant centuries Monday to lead West Indies to within two runs of England's first innings total, with the visitors aggressively pressing for a series-leveling win in the fifth and final test. West Indies was bowled out for 544 in reply to England's first innings of 546-6 declared. The visitors closed on 80-3 off 15 overs in the final 75 minutes, an overall lead of 82 runs with one day remaining.



West Indies' Brendan Nash, left, and Shivnarine Chanderpaul, right talk in between overs on the fourth day of the fifth and final cricket test match against England at Queen's Park Oval in Port of Spain, Trinidad Monday, March 9, 2009. (AP Photo/Lynne Sladky)

Kevin Pietersen led the intent with a swift, unbeaten 34 off 27 balls on a day that the TV review system again caused controversy.

England trails 0-1 in the five-match series and must win to retain the Wisden Trophy.

"We've got to be bold. Obviously we've got to stay very positive," off-spinner Graeme Swann said. "Hopefully we get a lead that leaves the West Indies under pressure and see what pressure can do."

Chanderpaul carried his 21st test century to a marathon, unbeaten 147 as he and Nash shared a record fifth-wicket stand of 234 that anchored the West Indies innings. The 34-year-old Chanderpaul, the reigning ICC Player of the Year, cracked 13 fours and

a six off 361 balls in 522 minutes.

The 31-year-old Nash, in his seventh test, hit a fine 109 which spanned 257 balls and 329 minutes and was decorated with 17 fours.

Captain Chris Gayle resumed after exiting with a strained hamstring, but only added two runs to his century.

England took the last five West Indian wickets for 62 to eek out a slim lead and provide a chance to push for an unlikely win.

"It is the last day. The pitch hopefully will start breaking up," Swann said. "We can only hope that the pitch does start to go down a little bit for the seamers and turns a little bit for me and Monty."

| SCOREBOARD  |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>England 1st Innings: 546-6 declared</b>  |            |
| <b>West Indies 1st Innings</b>  |            |
| C. Gayle c Strauss b Swann  | 102        |
| D. Smith b Panesar  | 28         |
| D. Powell c Pietersen b Broad   | 0          |
| R. Sarwan lbw b Khan  | 14         |
| L. Simmons lbw b Panesar  | 24         |
| S. Chanderpaul not out  | 147        |
| B. Nash c Collingwood b Broad   | 109        |
| R. Hinds st Prior b Swann   | 23         |
| D. Ramdin lbw b Anderson  | 15         |
| F. Edwards c wk Prior b Broad   | 8          |
| L. Baker lbw b Swann  | 0          |
| <b>Extras: (35b, 12lb, 11w, 16nb)</b>   | <b>74</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL: (all out)</b>   | <b>544</b> |
| <b>Overs: 178.4.</b>  |            |
| <b>Fall of wickets: 1-90, 2-96, 3-118, 4-203, 5-437, 6-482, 7-519, 8-526, 9-543, 10-544.</b>  |            |
| <b>NB: Gayle retired hurt at 3-195, resumed at 7-519.</b>   |            |
| <b>Bowling: Anderson 32-7-70-1, Broad 30-11-67-3 (1w), Khan 25-1-111-1 (10w, 16nb), Swann 45-4-12-130-3, Panesar 43-6-114-2, Pietersen 3-0-5-0.</b> |            |
| <b>England 2nd Innings</b>  |            |
| A. Strauss c and b Gayle  | 14         |
| A. Cook c wk Ramdin b Hinds   | 24         |
| O. Shah c wk Ramdin b Baker   | 1          |
| K. Pietersen not out  | 34         |
| P. Collingwood not out  | 1          |
| <b>Extras: (2b, 4nb)</b>  | <b>6</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL: (for three wickets)</b>   | <b>80</b>  |
| <b>Overs: 15</b>  |            |
| <b>Still to bat: M. Prior, S. Broad, G. Swann, J. Anderson, A. Khan, M. Panesar.</b>  |            |
| <b>Bowling: Edwards 5-1-29-0 (4nb), Baker 5-1-21-1, Gayle 3-0-16-1, Hinds 2-0-12-1.</b>   |            |
| <b>Umpires: D. Harper (Aus), R. Tiffin (Zim).</b>   |            |
| <b>Third umpire: A. Dar (Pak).</b>  |            |
| <b>Match referee: A. Hurst (Aus).</b>   |            |

**19TH ROYAL-THOMIAN PAST CRICKETERS ANNUAL DINNER**

**DATE: 11TH MARCH 2009**

Past cricketers of the prestigious colleges will meet for a fellowship dinner at the "Atrium Lobby" - Cinnamon Grand on 11th of March 2009 at 7.30 p.m. to reminisce the good old days of golden memories.

You may contact the following for tickets & tickets also will be available at the dinner. Prices are Rs. 1,500/- per ticket and for under 23 and seniors over 65, the pricing will be Rs. 1,000/- per ticket.

Mr. Ajith Pasqual - 0777364636  
Mr. Neil Chamugam - 0777300024  
Mr. Aruna Gunawardena - 0773187257  
Mr. L.C. Liyanage - 0777364610  
Mr. Ajith Jayasekera - 0773022442  
Capt. Ajith Peiris - 0777743899  
Mr. Trevor Rajaratnam - 0777750786  
Mr. Shashi Ganeshan - 6300754  
Mr. Anushka Polonowita - 0773028080  
Mr. Yasas Dhamarathne - 0777289672  
Mr. Manoj Mendis - 0773258822

Yours Sincerely  
Organizing Committee