

# Bangalore hold nerve to record 5 wickets win



Royal Challengers Bangalore's Shreevats Goswami plays a shot against Kolkata Knight Riders during their 2009 Indian Premier League cricket match in Durban, South Africa, Wednesday April 29, 2009. (AP Photo/Anan Sharma)

**DURBAN, South Africa (AP)** - The Bangalore Royal Challengers beat Kolkata Knight Riders by five wickets with just one ball to spare in an Indian Premier League match at Kingsmead on Wednesday.

said his team put up a good effort. "We gave as good as we got but when it came to the crunch we came up short."

Bangalore got off to a flying start, Goswami and Jacques Kallis putting on 69 for the first wicket. Goswami was the more offensive of the two, hitting over the top often and blasting six boundaries from his 46-ball innings. He was dismissed in the 12th over when attempting to sweep a delivery from Brad Hodge, giving wicketkeeper Morne van Wyk the first of his four catches.

Right-arm spinner Hodge was the pick of the bowlers for Kolkata, taking 3-29, while fast bowler Ishant Sharma swung the ball impressively to claim 2-15 from four overs.

Kallis struck 23 from 25 balls before he skied a catch to van Wyk as he attempted to pull a quicker delivery from Sharma.

Virat Kohli then edged a ball to van Wyk off Hodge for 19 to leave Bangalore on 3-106. Only one run was added before captain Kevin Pietersen was out for 13, caught by Wriddhiman Saha off Hodge attempting to chip over midwicket.

Roelof van der Merwe was the last wicket to fall, edging a Sharma away swinger to van Wyk for 9.

With the score tied and two balls remaining, Boucher clinched the win by hitting a boundary over midwicket.

Earlier, Morne Van Wyk top-scored with an unbeaten 43 and opener Chris Gayle scored 40 to guide the Kolkata Knight Riders to 139.

Bangalore opened their bowling with spin, Pietersen taking the new ball with South Africa left-arm spinner Roelof van der Merwe, and it paid off. Pietersen removing the out-of-form McCullum with the first ball as he looked to hit a slower delivery and was

## SCOREBOARD

Kolkata		
B. McCullum c Kohli b Pietersen	0	
C. Gayle c Goswami b Appana	40	
B. Hodge lbw Kumble	17	
S. Ganguly b Kallis b Kumar	1	
M. van Wyk not out	43	
W. Saha c Pietersen b Kumble	21	
L. Shukla lbw van der Merwe	2	
A. Agarkar not out	6	
Extras: (2lb, 7w)	9	
<b>TOTAL: (for six wickets)</b>	<b>139</b>	
<b>Overs: 20.</b>		
<b>Fall of wickets:</b> 1-0, 2-45, 3-54, 4-70, 5-110, 6-188		
<b>Did not bat:</b> M. Kartik, I. Sharma, A. Dinda		
<b>Bowling:</b> Pietersen 4-0-24-1 (2w), Merwe 4-0-28-1, P. Singh 1-0-14-0, Kumar 4-0-25-1 (1w), Kumble 4-0-16-2, Appana 3-0-30-1		
Bangalore		
J. Kallis c van Wyk b Sharma	23	
S. Goswami c van Wyk b Hodge	43	
K. Pietersen c Saha b Hodge	13	
V. Kohli c van Wyk b Hodge	19	
M. Boucher not out	25	
R. van der Merwe c van Wyk b Sharma	9	
M. Pandey not out	2	
Extras: (1b, 1lb, 7w)	9	
<b>TOTAL: (for five wickets)</b>	<b>143</b>	
<b>Overs: 19.5.</b>		
<b>Fall of wickets:</b> 1-69, 2-77, 3-106, 4-107, 5-129.		
<b>Did not bat:</b> P. Kumar, P. Singh, A. Kumble, K. Appana.		
<b>Bowling:</b> L. Sharma 4-0-15-2 (1w), Agarkar 2-0-23-0 (4w), Kartik 4-0-26-0 (1w), Gayle 3.5-0-31-0, Hodge 4-0-29-3, Ganguly 2-0-17-0		
<b>Umpires:</b> M. Benson, (Eng), T. Wijewardene, (SL)		
<b>Third umpire:</b> S. Shastrri, (Ind)		
<b>Match referee:</b> D. Govindjee, (SA)		

caught by Virat Kohli at backward point.

"Gayle and McCullum like to go hard at the fast bowlers so we opened with spin," Pietersen said.

Pietersen, who now leaves the IPL to join his England teammates for a series against the West Indies, was full in his praise for the tournament.

"I love this tournament! It's the best academy. No coach will teach youngsters here what they will learn in the coming weeks," Pietersen said.

# Rugby IC writes individually to rebel players

by Ravi Nagahawatte

The Rugby Interim Committee has written to all players who refrained from going to Dubai for the Asian Five Nations tournament with the national team to offer explanation for their actions.

These players have also been informed in the letter that the Rugby Interim Committee has suggested to the Sports Minister not to afford them opportunities to represent Sri Lanka till the inquiry into their actions concludes.

A reliable source told The Island that the letter sent to the players, the rugby interim committee queries why they stayed away from making the tour party when they were fully aware of the consequences.

The letter further states that the players have acted irresponsibly by pulling out 24 hours before the team's departure. It also states that they had given all indication that they would take part in the Asian Five Nations by posing for the team photograph along with national coach George Simpkins.

It has been conveyed to the players that the Rugby Interim Committee considered them as adults and they should have been aware that Sri Lanka would have been relegated to the bottom group and also faced disciplinary action in the case Sri Lanka failed to participate at the tournament.

The Rugby Interim Committee has in the letter been critical of the rebel players for keeping away from making the tour party without notifying their intentions in writing.

In the letter, the Rugby Interim Committee has informed the players that it has requested from the sports minister to carryout an investigation as to why these players didn't tour Dubai even after their names were ratified by the sports minister.

Rugby Interim Committee Secretary Kiran Attapattu when contacted confirmed the Rugby Interim Committee sending letters individually to the players.

"The players will be given two weeks to respond. I believe the Sports Minister will serve the hardest punishment on the players if they are found guilty in the inquiry," Attapattu said.

A three member committee is at present conducting an inquiry to figure out whether the players who refrained from making their services available for national duty for the tour of Dubai have committed an offense which is punishable.

## SL Under-19 in Bangladesh

### Angelo and Kusal shine in drawn match

Centuries by Angelo Perera and Kusal Perera were the highlights as Sri Lanka Under-19 earned first innings honours against Bangladesh Under-19 in the second Youth Test which ended in a draw at Motiur Rahman Stadium, Khulna, Bangladesh yesterday.



Kusal Angelo

Jayarathne and Shameera Weerasinghe picked up two wickets each.

**Scores:**

<b>Sri Lanka Under-19:</b> 280 all out in 93.2 overs (Dinesh Chandimal 49, Udara Jayasundara 34, Angelo Perera 112, Shameera Weerasinghe 44, Kamrul Islam 4/58, Saikat Ali 2/49, Taibur Rahman 2/19) and 260 for 6 at close in 74 overs (Kusal Perera 114n.o, Inesh Udayanga 78, Kamrul Islam 3/36, M. Hasan 2/18)
<b>Bangladesh Under-19:</b> 257 all out in 98.1 overs (Anamul Haque 43, Taibur Rahman 79, Noor Hossain 50, Chathura Jayaratne 2/74, Vimanga Perera 2/22, L. Jayaratne 2/44, Shameera Weerasinghe 2/64)

While Angelo Perera top scored with 112 runs for Sri Lanka to post 280 runs in the first innings, an unbeaten 114 from Kusal Janith and 78 runs from Inesh Udayanga helped Sri Lanka post 260 for six wickets at close.

Bangladesh in their essay struggled early, but half centuries from Taibur Rahman and Noor Hossain helped them stay afloat to post 257 runs.

For Sri Lanka Under-19, Chathura Peiris, Vimanga Perera, Lahiru

# SL Davis Cup team felicitated



by Revata S. Silva

This year's Sri Lanka Davis Cup team which won the much expected Group-II qualification in the Asia Oceania Zone Group-III held in Syria in the mid of April was felicitated by the Sri Lanka Tennis Association interim committee at the SLTA head-quarters on Wednesday (29).

The felicitation ceremony was graced by H. M. D. C. Herath, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Sports and Public Recreation, and D. B. Dahanayake, Director General of Sports.

Janaka Bogollagama, President, SLTA Interim Committee (IC), Maxwell de Silva, Gen. Secretary, SLTA IC, and Kumar Gunawardena, Treasurer, SLTA IC, too were present on the occasion.

Sri Lanka emerged second out of eight participating countries/regions in this year's Davis Cup held in Aleppo, Syria, to earn a promotion for their Zone's Group-II after a lapse of ten years.

Former SLTA Presidents Morris de Silva, D. L. Seneviratne and Suresh Subramanian too graced the occasion.

Davis Cup team 2009 (standing from L-R): Rajeev Rajapakse, Harshana Gokulnana, Asiri Idamalalgoda, Manager and Non-Playing Captain, Sankha Attukorale and Guyanga Weerasekera. Seated (from L-R): Kumar Gunawardena, Treasurer, SLTA Interim Committee, Vasantha Wijesekera, Janaka Bogollagama, President, SLTA IC, H.M.D.C. Herath, Additional Sec. Ministry of Sports and Public Recreation, Maxwell de Silva, Gen. Secretary, SLTA IC, and L. S. Shiran Abeysekera of the SLTA IC.

(Pic by Nimal Dayaratne)

## Yasas leads at Majors Division chess c-ships

Yasas Kalan Kuruwitige won three out of three games and took the lead in the ongoing Colombo Majors Division Chess Championships, at Royal College.

According to a press release issued by the Chess Federation of Sri Lanka (CFSL), Kuruwitige is followed by Sajith Peiris, LMTI Lansakara, Anup Perera, Mihiranga Jayawardena and R.K. Athavan who share second place with two and a half points each.

In the women's national qualifying tournament Sakuni Cooray, Diliny Anorathne, Naduni Abeywardene and Hasini Navudini share the number one spot with two and half points each.

The tournament for both men and women comprises seven rounds and is played in keeping with the Swiss System. The remaining four rounds will be played on May 2 and 3 at Royal College. (RN)