

## ROBBED OF GLORY BY A WHISKER

The Colts, University of Ceylon, NCC and SSC played each other once in the finals. The Colts played all three games at their home ground. The Colts started off badly losing by an innings to the SSC but subsequently beat the NCC convincingly. While Darrell wasn't economical against the S.S.C. (5-78) he fared much better against the N.C.C. (6-45).

### An innings defeat

## 'C.I.', Kodituwakku pull SSC round

A fine unbroken stand of 58 for the fifth wicket—a sound 52 by Nihal Kodituwakku and a hectic 41 by C. I. Gunasekera—bolstered the S.S.C. total to 154 for 4 in their Final Round Sara Trophy encounter against Colts played at Havelock Road yesterday.

S.S.C. — 1st Innings	
S. SILVA, c. D. P. de Silva, b. Lieversz	1.
C. H. GUNASEKERA b. Lieversz	16.
NIHAL KODITUWAKKU not out	52
S. SAMARASINGHE, c. H. A. Perera, b. Dorenanagama	11
L. Senanayake, c. Samarasekera, b. Lieversz	29
C. I. GUNASEKERA not out	41
Extras	4
Total (for 4 wickets) at stumps	154
Wickets fell at: 1, 20, 49, 96.	

## S.S.C. well placed

A BRIGHT knock by C. I. Gunasekera who figured in an unbroken stand of 58 runs for the 5th wicket with N. S. Kodituwakku placed the SSC in a strong position in their P. Sara final league match against the Colts which began yesterday at Havelock Park. At stumps the champions had totalled 154 for the loss of 4 wickets.

In the pre tea session the SSC had to struggle for runs against some splendid bowling by Lieversz, Dorenanagama and Burke and they got only 56 runs for 3 wickets in this period.

Kodituwakku, who batted practically for the whole of the afternoon played pluckily to remain unbeaten with 53 while L. Senanayake (29) helped to put on 47 for the 4th wicket.

C. I. Gunasekera's advent to the crease brightened up SSC batting. In his short stay of 29 minutes he had collected 41 runs which included 8 fours.

### Bowled steadily

Lieversz bowled steadily throughout to finish up with 1 for 56 in 21 overs.

SSC—1st Innings: Sarath Silva b Lieversz 1; C. H. Gunasekera b Lieversz 16; N. S. Kodituwakku not out 52; S. C. Samarasinghe c H. A. Perera b Dorenanagama 11; L. Senanayake c Samarasekera b Lieversz 29; C. I. Gunasekera not out 41; Extras 4; Total (for 4 wickets) 154.

Fall of wickets: 1, 20, 49, 96.  
BOWLING: P. Dorenanagama 16-4-38-1; D. Lieversz 21-8-56-3; F. Burke 16-6-39-0; B. Buell 6-3-11-0; D. P. de Silva 2-0-6-0.

## ***'C.I.', Kodituwakku pull SSC round***

A fine unbroken stand of 58 for the fifth wicket—a sound 52 by Nihal Kodituwakku and a hectic 41 by C. I. Gunasekera—bolstered the S.S.C. total to 154 for 4 in their Final Round Sara Trophy encounter against Colts played at Havelock Road

yesterday.

S.S.C. — St. Innings	
S. SILVA, c. D. P. de Silva, b. Lieversz	1.
C. H. GUNASEKERA b. Lieversz	16.
NIHAL KODITUWAKKU not out	52
S. SAMARASINGHE, c. H. A. Perera, b. Doranagama	11
L. Senanayake, c. Samarasekera, b. Lieversz	29
C. I. GUNASEKERA not out	41
Extras	4
Total (for 4 wickets) at stumps	154
Wickets fell at: 1, 20, 49, 96.	

Five of the six SSC batsmen who featured in the first day's play were ex Royalists, two of whom, C.H. Gunasekera and C.I. Gunasekera had played in teams that beat STC. Kodituwakku<sup>1</sup>, Senanayake and Samarasinghe were some of the demi-gods that the chronicler hero worshipped while studying at Royal Primary. They were up against the sole Royalist in the Colts, Darrell Lieversz, who had superseded the chronicler's previous Royal cricketing heroes.

The Colts lost by an innings to an SSC side that had three players over forty. Captain Bertie Wijesinghe, C.I. Gunasekera and Ben Navaratne. Perhaps if the Colts had batted first Darrell Lieversz could have put more pressure against the SSC batsmen, bowling against a total. As it was, the SSC relied on two batsmen for its runs. Probably, going into bat the Colts were demoralised following the SSC recovery. The only young bowler to capture wickets for the SSC was Sarath Wimalaratne who captured four wickets. But Bertie Wijesinghe and C.I. Gunasekera were amongst the wickets. And P.I Pieris whom the chronicler faced without much trouble in the early seventies, albeit when he was past his prime, could never have matched Darrell Lieversz in venom and ferocity at any age. The deciding factor was probably the bowling changes wrought by Bertie Wijesinghe, a very knowledgeable cricketer, who had coached the chronicler in 1961, because of which he made his house and school cricket debut in 1962. Bertie proved to be a shrewd old fox.

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<sup>1</sup> Kodituwakku blossomed into an opening batsman after leaving school. He compensated for his lack of height thrown batting nonchalance and fluency. His positioning was immaculate and he fell into his shot. He was loose, supple, lithe and nonchalant. The chronicler recalls watching Tennekoon and Kodituwakku bat together on the Moors mat at Braybrooke Place. Tennekoon seemed contrived compared to Kodituwakku who fell into position so smoothly. When facing Lieversz he probably delayed his shot to negotiate late ball movement.

The SSC depended a lot on players in their twilight years. And maybe this told against them in the game against the Varsity.

At the end of the first week of final round games, the SSC led followed by the University, who had beaten the NCC. The Colts were last and had to beat the NCC to have any hope of winning the competition.

## **Remarkable keeping brought S.S.C. victory**

# **BEN IS STILL THE MAESTRO**

THE magic of Ben Navaratne behind the stumps. That was what cricket fans saw at Havelock Park yesterday when the veteran All-Ceylon and SSC cricketer played a major role in helping his Club take full points from the Colts with an innings win with five minutes to spare.

Ben was brought down all the way from Galle for this final round match in the Saravanamuttu Trophy match. For the past season he has played only in "Daily News" Cup games. When asked whether he got any practice at Galle, Ben stated

"No, I don't get any. As for my wicket-keeping, I don't need practice but I would like some, to get back into form in batting."

Ben led SSC team back into the pavilion in both innings after his wonderful exhibition of 'keeping' and he richly deserved the standing ovation he received from the large crowd.

In both innings, the SSC bowlers maintained terrific pressure with Ben to give them all the assistance behind the stumps. He stood back only to Stanley de Alwis and his 'keeping' on the leg side when standing up to pacemen P. I. Peiris and S. Wimalaratne were a joy to watch.

### **EXEMPLARY**

In the first innings his dismissal of H. A. Perera was brilliant, up to the highest standard of wicket-keeping. Perera moved and inch out of his crease to meet Wimalaratne and was beaten. Ben had the balls off in a flash before Perera could move his foot back. He also held a snick off a rising ball to dismiss Burke off Wimalaratne in the second innings —

a chance which I doubt any other wicket-keeper would have held as it was lifting over his shoulder.

Navaratne's performance yesterday proved that at 47 he is still the best wicket-keeper we have in Ceylon and the best example to any schoolboy. His keeping also helped to get the best out of P. I. Peiris whose accurate bowling enabled them to break through in the Colts second innings.

With Navaratne standing up, the batsmen had to counter Peiris' inswinger from the crease. He moved the ball into the batsmen with a strong leg trap and they could do very little. P. I. captured 4 for 27 and bowled equally well in the first to finish with 2 for 17 in 17 overs.

### **POOR BATTING**

It was a pathetic batting display by the Colts who were out for 84 and 90 after the SSC had scored 212 in their first innings.

The SSC owe much to G. I. Gunasekera who attacked the bowling on Saturday afternoon when Colts bowlers were on top and with Kodituwakku put on 89 runs for the fifth wicket. G. I. had ten fours, mostly off strong drives in his 69 while Kodituwakku was out chasing quick runs for a well compiled 73 which had eight fours.

The Colts pace attack had plenty of work to do. Darrell Lieversz bore the brunt of it and finished with

5 for 78 in 28 overs while Burke captured 3 for 56.

None of the Colts batsmen impressed in either innings. On an easy wicket they had no counter to the SSC attack of pacemen de Alwis P. I. Peiris and Wimalaratne and the spinners of G. I. Gunasekera and skipper Wijesinha. G. I. was the most successful bowler with 3 for 14 while Wimalaratne captured two good wickets in both innings.



**E.W.R.**

**BEN NAVARATNE**



## SARAVANAMUTTU TROPHY Colts crumble and lose to champions

(By WRONG 'UN)

Out-manoeuvring their opponents in all departments of the game, Sinhalese Sports Club obtained maximum points in their Saravanamuttu Trophy final round match against Colts at the Havelock Park yesterday.

With ten minutes to spare, the S.S.C. mopped up the last few Colts batsmen to win by an innings and chalk up 12,060 points to their credit in one single match.

The S.S.C. who were 154 for 4 overnight collected 212 runs mainly due to some superb batting by Nihal Kodituwakku (73) and Ivers Gunasekera (60). The pair associated themselves in a fifth wicket stand of 80 runs despite some on-the-spot bowling by the Havelock Park club.

Colts in their first innings were shot out for a paltry 84 runs shortly before tea and when they were sent in again they did slightly better collecting 90 runs. Failing to take advantage of playing on their home wicket, Colts went down without a fight and at no stage of the match did they appear to pull the game out of the rut which it had got into.

One of the chief reasons for S.S.C.'s sweeping win was the astute handling of the bowling by skipper R. B. Wijesinghe.

Ben Navaratne after a long lay-off from the game also contributed in no small way to S.S.C.'s win, when he claimed six victims with the agility and stamina reminiscent of a teenager. He was a great source of encouragement to any bowler and a menace to batsmen trying to take liberties.

The bowler who impressed most was lanky P. I. Pieris. His cutters with his ambling run-up and the occasional ball which he lifted off a good length proved to be most effective on batsmen failing to make strokes.

S.S.C.—1st Innings 154 for 4 overnight contd.

N. Kodituwakku c Lieversz b Burke 73; C. I. Gunasekera c B. de Silva b Buell 60; P. I. Pieris lbw b Lieversz 1; S. Wimalaratne c Samarasekera b Burke 4; R. B. Wijesinghe c Premaratne b Lieversz 11; Ben Navaratne lbw b Burke 1; S. de Alwis not out 0. Extras 5. Total 212.

Fall: 1, 20, 49, 96, 176, 183, 195, 209, 212, 212.

Bowling: Doranagama 18-5-

40-1, Lieversz 28-11-78-5,

Burke 19.5-6-50-3; Buell 12-3-33-1; D. P. de Silva 2-0-6-0.

Colts—1st Innings: B. de Silva c Samarasinghe b Peris 12; R. Alles c Navaratne b Wijesinghe 9; D. P. de Silva lbw de Alwis 8; R. Samarasekera b P. I. Pieris 0; W. Premaratne b Wimalaratne 0; H. A. Perera st. Navaratne b Wimalaratne 10; B. Seneviratne st. Navaratne b Senanayake 14; S. Doranagama c Wimalaratne b C. I. Gunasekera 10; D. W. L. Lieversz lbw b C. I. Gunasekera 3; F. Burke not out 11; D. Buell b C. I. Gunasekera 1. Extras 6. Total 84.

Fall: 20, 30, 30, 30, 42, 43, 69, 69, 82.

Bowling: S. de Alwis 9-3-16-1; P. I. Pieris 17-9-17-2; S. Wimalaratne 7-3-14-2; R. B. Wijesinghe 4-3-4-1; C. I. Gunasekera 8-1-3-14-3; L. Senanayake 4-1-13-1.

Colts—2nd Innings: B. de Silva lbw b Wijesinghe 9; R. Alles c Navaratne b Pieris 17; D. P. de Silva lbw b Pieris 6; R. Samarasekera c Samarasinghe b Wijesinghe 8; H. A. Perera c Samarasinghe b Pieris 0; B. Seneviratne b Pieris 6; F. Burke c Navaratne b Wimalaratne 19; W. Premaratne b Wimalaratne 2; D. W. L. Lieversz lbw b Senanayake 10; S. Doranagama lbw b C. I. Gunasekera 8; D. Buell not out 0. Extras 5. Total 90.

Fall: 25, 28, 38, 38, 46, 50, 70, 73, 90, 90.

Bowling: S. de Alwis 3-0-12-0; P. I. Pieris 10-6-27-4; R. B. Wijesinghe 6-3-7-2; S. Wimalaratne 5-2-20-2; C. I. Gunasekera 5-0-16-1; L. Senanayake 1.3-0-3-1.

## University play S.S.C. in key game

WITH the completion of two of the six final round matches of the P. Saravanamuttu trophy tournament, the position of the four teams is as follows, the Sinhalese Sports Club who are reigning champions, lead with 13,060 points, the Ceylon University are second with 10,620 points, the Nondescripts, last year's runners-up are third with 2,225 points and the Colts fourth with 1,870 points; each club has played one match and has two more to play.

The S.S.C. defeated the Colts last week-end by an innings to gain full points while the University gained first innings points in their fixture with the Nondescripts the previous week.

The champions won in convincing manner, owing much to R. B. Wijesinghe's clever leadership. Navaratne's classic wicket-keeping, the Ceylon captain C. I. Gunasekera's all-round work, Kodituwakku's batting, P. I. Pieris' bowling and above all solid team-work where every single member contributed towards the success.

For the losers, Lieversz, on a wicket un suited to his speed, adapted himself so well, that he needed careful watching always.

### Lieversz excels

With the improvement shown in every match, Lieversz must be considered the best bowler of his type in the island today. This is an outstanding achievement for a player in his first season of 'Varsa trophy cricket.

The Colts batting broke down completely in both innings, against the varied attack they were up against. They were allowed no respite whatever by Wijesinghe, whose every change brought fresh disasters in its wake for the Colts' batsmen.

On Saturday, on a soft wicket, Lieversz and Doranagama dismissed three S.S.C. batsmen for 49 runs. Then L. Senanayake and Kodituwakku added 47 for the fourth wicket, displaying well high faultless technique. C. I.

Gunasekera playing in the manner he likes best—aggressively—helped Kodituwakku who reached a half-century before the close to boost the score to 184 for four wickets.

On Sunday morning, the S.S.C. lost most of their wickets in a quest for quick runs.

The Colts batting before lunch gave no hint of what was to follow after the interval. Then six wickets crashed for 164 runs. Navaratne's display behind the stumps was truly amazing. It was that rare combination of gifted wicket-keeping and accurate batting skill which is seen only once in several years.

The S.S.C. vs Ceylon University match this week, is a key game. The winners of this fixture will probably be eventual champions.

It would be foolish to hazard a guess as to who will win this match, so much similar are their records during the season, and although the champions are unbeaten and the University conceded first innings points once.

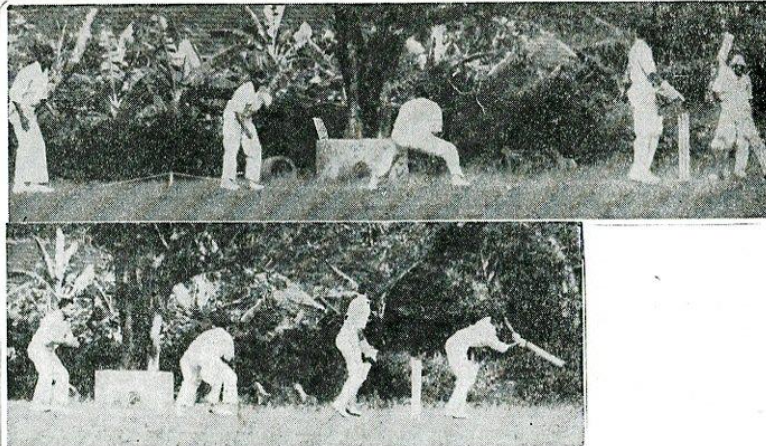
The game although played on matting, should produce much good cricket, on both days at Thurstan Road.

At Havelock Park the Colts and the NCC will be meeting again. This is their third fixture for the season, the first was ruined by rain at Havelock Park, and the second was won on the first innings by the NCC at Maidland Pore after a brilliant century by the captain M. I. K. Fernando.

If the Colts batting shows improvement on last week's performance, the game should produce even exchanges.

### The NCC succumb to the Colts

At the end of the first day's play, it seemed unlikely that the Colts would defeat the NCC because the total they looked likely to set was lower than which they had set the NCC in the previous game against the same side, a game which the Colts had lost. The only consolation was that the Colts were better at defending a total than chasing one. And in the absence of Premaratne's contribution with the bat the Colts total would have been considerably less.



COLTS skipper W. Premaratne plays defensively in his innings of 61 against the N.C.C. yesterday, and Samarasinghe, who helped in a productive stand with Premaratne, counters the spin of Priya Perera of the N.C.C.

## COLTS CHANCES SLIM

THE N.C.C. bowlers performed their task admirably dismissing Colts for 144 runs. Now it's left for their batsmen to drive home the advantage if they are to get the better of Colts in their Final Round. Saravanamuttu Trophy cricket encounter played yesterday at Havelock Park.

Colts have little chance of skittling their opponents for less than 144 runs, for they are without the services of their most consistent wicket-taker, Sali Doranagama.

Batting first on a plumb turf wicket, Colts never looked confident against the N.C.C. pace attack. Cecil Waidyaratne in his third over had R. Alles snapped behind the wickets by skipper H. I. K. Fernando. Three runs later E. de Silva followed in the same way—caught behind by "H.I.K." off Waidyaratne.

### Rally

Then D. P. de Silva and W. Premaratne "dug in" to pull Colts from the poor position. Showing great caution both these batsmen only waited for the loose ball to score off. The partnership saw Colts reach their 50 without further loss.

Then the N.C.C. spinners F. B. Crozier and Priya Perera struck length D. P. de Silva was the first to make his exit when the spinners came on being caught Priya Perera off Crozier.

Premaratne found another able partner in R. Samarasekera and this pair engaged in another lucrative partnership for the Colts. They put on 42 runs for the fourth wicket in 103 minutes and raised the Colts' total to 100 for 3. A run later R. Samarasekera was out for 19 being dismissed by a smart return catch by Priya Perera.

### Solid knock

None of the other Colts batsmen could offer any type of resistance to the nagging spin attack and their total slumped from 101 for 4 to 144 all-out.

Premaratne alone stayed to help Colts out of trouble. He batted for 116 minutes hit the bowling all round the wicket and reach the ropes on eight occasions. When 61 he was caught in the slips by K. M. T. Perera off Waidyaratne.

Left-spinner Priya Perera bowled best for N.C.C. He had three spells and it was in the last spell that he really struck form, claiming three wickets in his last four overs to wind up with the figures 14.2-4-35-4.

In half an hour of batting N.C.C. had hit up 19 runs for no loss.

The match will be continued at 10.15 a.m. today.

### Colts 1st innings

B. DE SILVA, c H. I. K. Fernando, b Waidyaratne	...	3
R. ALLES c H. I. K. Fernando b Waidyaratne	...	0
D. P. DE SILVA c P. Perera b Crozier	...	27

W. PREMARATNE, c K. M. T. Perera, b Waidyaratne	...	61
R. SAMARASEKERA c and b P. Perera	...	19
B. SENEVIRATNE b P. Perera	...	16
N. L. FERNANDO, c H. I. K. Fernando b P. Perera	...	0
H. A. PERERA b P. Perera	...	6
T. N. FERNANDO c K. M. T. Perera b F. B. Crozier	...	0
F. BURKE run out	...	1
D. LIEVERSZ not out	...	1
EXTRAS	...	10
TOTAL	...	144

WICKETS FELL AT: 3, 6, 59, 101, 134, 134, 138, 142, 144.

### Bowling

C. Waidyaratne	10-1-38-3
K. M. T. Perera	7-2-16-0
F. B. Crozier	12-3-37-2
P. Perera	14.2-4-35-4
A. E. De Silva	1-0-8-0

### N.C.C. 1st Innings

T. C. T. EDWARD not out	...	7
R. PERERA not out	...	12
EXTRAS	...	0

TOTAL (for no loss) at stumps ... 19

### Bowling

D. Lieversz	4-1-9-0
F. Burke	4-0-10-0
D. P. DE SILVA	1-1-0-0



# Premaratne to the Colts' rescue

THE Colts, after a promising start, with 100 runs scored for the loss of three wickets, were eventually dismissed for 144 runs in their final round P. 'Sara' trophy match against the Nondescripts begun at Havelock Park yesterday.

At the close, the visitors had made 19 runs for no loss in half an hour.

The Colts lost Alles and B. de Silva, their opening pair of batsmen for 6 runs both were caught at the wicket by H. I. K. Fernando the NCC captain off Waldiyaratne.

D. P. de Silva and the Colts captain Premaratne,

then figured in a 53 run partnership for the third wicket when de Silva was out to Crozier for 27 compiled in 50 minutes and including three fours.

Premaratne and Samarasakera added 42 for the fourth wicket, but with Samarasakera's dismissal, only the captain offered any worthwhile resistance.

Eighth out at 138, Premaratne played in attractive manner for two hours. He hit eight fours, three threes and eight two's.

P. Perera, Waldiyaratne and Crozier were the NCC's successful bowlers, off-spinner Perera capturing four wickets while conceding 35 runs.

COLTS 1st Innings: B. de Silva c H. I. K. Fernando b Waldiyaratne 3; R. Alles c H. I. K. Fernando b Waldiyaratne 0; D. P. de Silva c P. Perera b Crozier 27; W. Premaratne c K. M. T. Perera b Waldiyaratne 61; R. Samarasakera c and b P. Perera 19; B. Seneviratne b P. Perera 16; N. L. Fernando c H. I. K. Fernando b P. Perera 0; H. A. Perera b P. Perera 6; T. N. Fernando c K. M. T. Perera b Crozier 0; F. Burke run out 1; D. Lieversz not out 1; Extras 10—Total—144.

Fall of wickets: 3, 6 50, 101, 134, 134, 138, 138, 142 144.

Bowling: C. Waldiyaratne 10—1—38—3; K. M. T. Perera 7—2—16—0; F. B. Crozier 12—3—37—2; P. Perera 14—4—35—4 A. E. de Silva 1—0—8—0.

NCC 1st Innings: T. C. T. Edward not out 7; R. Perera not out 12; Extras 0; Total—(for no wkt) 19.

Bowling: D. Lieversz 4—1—0—0; F. Burke 4—0—10—0; D. P. de Silva 1—1—0—0.

On Sunday morning the Colts proved their critics wrong. By 1.40 pm it was all over. The Colts had gained first innings points.

H.I.K. Fernando, the centurion of the previous game between the two sides, scored 10. He failed in the second innings too. His century in the previous game against the Colts proved to be a one off.

Tissera and Prins, the two batsmen whom Lieversz had dismissed for ducks in the game they lost to the NCC, did not play in this game. It is highly probable that Prins had given the game away. He did once remark to the chronicler that he retired from the game after being bowled by Lieversz.

**THE** Colts, thanks to first-rate inswing bowling by D. W. L. Lieversz (jnr.) gained first innings points against the Nondescripts Cricket Club in their final round P. Saravanamuttu trophy match continued at Havelock Park yesterday. In reply to the home team's first innings total of 144 runs the visitors' scored 92 runs.

The NCC lost Perera five minutes after play commenced yesterday, and from then onwards the visitors were in distress. Half the side was out for 54 runs and the lower half of the batting added 38 runs. Of the



D. Liefersz

five batsmen to enter double figures. Crozier's 15 runs was the highest.

The innings ended at 1.40 p.m., Lieversz finished up with six for 45 in 19 overs and Burke three for 33 in 20.5 overs.

Batting again, the Colts declared at 4:15 p.m. with 136 for five. The captain again top-scored, his 42 included five hits to the boundary. Alles too had five fours in his 34 runs.

Edward and H. C. Perera each hit four fours in their second innings efforts, Edward top-scoring with 30 runs and Perera scoring 26 run out.

Premaratne, the Colts captain, in addition to his batting successes led the side skilfully.

COLTS—1st Innings 144.

NCC—1st Innings (continued  
from 19 for no loss on Saturday):

T. C. T. Edwaid, c Samarasekera, b Lieversz 9; R. Perera, b Lieversz 13; H. I. K. Fernando, c T. N. Fernando, b Lieversz 10; F. Pereira c Lieversz, b Burke 11; A. Gunasena, c Samarasekera, b Lieversz 7; H. C. Perera, c and b Burke 7; E. B. Pereira, c Alles, b Lieversz 10; F. B. Crozier, run out 15; A. E. de Silva, c Alles, b Lieversz 4; E. Wandyaratne, c Alles, b Burke 5; K. K. Perera, not out 0; Extras 1. Total 92.

Fall of wickets: 21, 31, 32, 48, 54, 53, 79, 83, 88.

Bowling: D. W. L. Lievacz 19-6  
-45-6; F. Burke 20.5-8-33-3;  
D. P. de Silva 5-5-0-0; T. N.  
Fernando 5-0-13-0.

**COLTS** — 2nd Innings: B. de Silva, c P. Perera, b Crozier 17; R. Alles, run out 34; D. P. de Silva, c P. Perera, b Crozier 3. W. Pre-

mharatne, st. Fernando, b de Silva  
42; R. Samarasekera, c Edwards  
b de Silva 19; B. Seneviratne, not  
out 19; N. L. Fernando, not out  
0; Extras 4. Total (for 5 wks  
dec) 136.

Fall of wks: 50, 50, 53, 83, 135.  
Bowling: C. Waldayeratne 8-1-35-0; K. M. T. Perera 7-2-26-0; F. B. Crozier 7-2-13-2; P. Perera 7-0-21-0; A. E. de Silva 8-1-26-2; E. B. Ferreira 2-0-11-0.

NCC—2nd Innings. I. C. T. Edward, c and b D. P. de Silva 30; H. I. K. Fernando, c N. L. Fernando, b Burke 8; F. B. Crozier, c Seneviratne, b T. N. Fernando 17; P. Perera, c Premaratne, b T. N. Fernando 19; E. B. Pereira, not out 4; H. C. Perera, run out 26; P. Perera, not out 4; Extras 3. Total (for 5 wickets) 111.

Bowling: D. W. L. Lloverez 5-1-22-0; F. Burke 5-0-15-1; D. P. de Silva 7-0-36-1; T. N. Fernando 5-1-28-2; R. Samarasakera 2-0-3-0; B. de Silva 1-0-4-0.

## SCORES AT A GLANCE

COLTS 1st Innings 144 and 136 for 5 dec. (W. Premaratne 42, R. Alles 32).  
NOC 1st Innings 92 (D. Liveray 6 for 45) and 111 for 5 wks (T. C.T. Edwards 30, H. C. Perera 26).

**A** DEVASTATING spell of bowling by Darrell Hieversz (6 for 45) enabled Colts to a comfortable first innings points victory over the Nondescripts CC in their P. Saravanasubuttu final round match which was continued at Havelock Park yesterday.

The Maitland PACE club continuing with their overnight score of 19 for no loss, lost Edwards when he fell to a smart catch taken by Samarasekera of Dederaz for 9. Rienza Perera was beaten all over by a Lievers inswing for 13. Skipper Herbert Fernando also fell to the former Royal paceman.

The rest of the batting had no answer to the combined pace attack of Burke and Lleveraz and were bundled out for 92 runs. Lleveraz and Burke bowling with accuracy shared nine wickets.

The Havelock Park club going in for the second time at 1.55 scored 136 for 5 wickets before they declared at 4.15 p.m. Openen Allie batted with confidence to score a bright 32 while skipper Premaratne once again batted with assurance to compile a fine 42 which included five fours.

The visitors who were set a target of 189 runs for victory to be made in 8 minutes scored 111 for 25-overs.

COLTS — 1st Innings  
144  
NCC — 1st Innings

T. C. T. Edwards.  
Samarasekera, b Lieveiras  
9: R. Pereira, b Lieveiras 13  
H. I. K. Fernando, c Fer  
nando, b Lieveiras 10: F  
Pereira, c Lieveiras, b Bur  
11: A. Gunasena, c Samara  
seker, b Lieveiras 7: H. C  
Pereira, c and b Burke 7: M  
B. Pereira, c Alies, b LM  
vieira 10: F. B. Crozier ru  
out 15: A. E. de Silva  
Alies, b Lieveiras 4: C. Wa  
dyaratne, not out 6. Extra

1. Total 92.  
Fall of wickets: 21. 31. 3  
48. 54. 83. 79. 83 88.  
Bowling: D. Lieveers 19-  
6-45-6; P. Burke 20-5-  
8-33-3; D. P. de Silva 5-  
5-0-0; T. N. Fernando 5-  
0-13-0.

**COLTS — 2nd Innings**  
B. de Silva, c P. Perera  
b Crozier 17; R. Alles, run  
out 32; D. R. de Silva, c

# GRAND COLTS VICTORY



LIEVERSZ BAGS  
6 FOR 45

Perera, b Crozier 3; W. Premaratne, st Fernando, b de Silva 42; E. Samarasekera, c Edwards, b de Silva 19; B. Seneyratne, not out 19; N. L. Fernando not out 0. Extras 4. Total (for 5 wkts. dec) 136.

Fall of wickets: 50, 50 53, 83, 125.

Bowling: C. Waidyaratne 1-35-0-0 K. M. T. Perera 7-2-26-0 F. B. Crozier 7-2-13-2 P. Samarasekera 7-1-21-0 A. E. de Silva 6-1-26-2 B. Seneyratne 6-0-11-0

# Negoml



# LIEVERSZ STEERS COLTS TO VICTORY

One of the most consistent wicket-takers in the Saravanamuttu Trophy cricket tournament, fast bowler, Darrel Lieversz again struck form and this time he was responsible for steering the Colts to a first innings win over the Nondescripts in a final round match played at the Havelock Park turf wicket yesterday.

With a mediocre score of 144 runs, Colts were able to humble the Nondescripts, who are now depleted without stars Vernon Prins, Michael Tissera, Lakshman Gunatilleke and Nimal Maralande. Lieversz bowled devastatingly and was backed up by keen fielding. Playing uncertain strokes, the N.C.C. batsmen could only reply with 92.

This was Nondescripts' second successive defeat in the final round of the tournament having

lost to the 'undergraduates' on the first occasion last week.

Colts 1st Innings 144

N.C.C. 1st Innings

T. C. T. Edward c Samarasera b Lieversz	9
R. Perera b Lieversz	13
H. I. K. Fernando c Perera b Lieversz	10
Priya Perera c Lieversz b Burke	11
A. Gunasekera c Samarasekera b Lieversz	7
H. C. Perera c and b Burke	7
E. B. Pereira c Alles b Lieversz	10
P. B. Crozier run out	15
A. E. de Silva c Alles b Lieversz	4
C. Waidyaratne c Alles b Burke	5
K. M. T. Perera not out	0
Extras	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>

Fall: 21, 31, 32, 48, 54, 63, 79, 83, 88.

Bowling: D. Lieversz 19-6-45

6. J. Burke 20-5-33-3; D. P. de Silva 5-5-0-0; T. N. Fernando 5-0-13-0.

Colts (2nd Innings)

B. de Silva c P. Perera b Crozier	17
R. Alles run out	34
D. P. de Silva c P. Perera b Crozier	3
W. Premaratne st. Fernando b A. E. de Silva	42
R. Samarasekera c Edward b A. E. de Silva	19
B. Seneviratne not out	19
Extras	4

Total (for 5 wks. dec.) 136

Fall 50, 56, 53, 83, 135.

Bowling: C. Waidyaratne 8-1-35-0; K. M. T. Perera 1-2-26-0; P. B. Crozier 7-2-13-2

Priya Perera 7-0-21-0; A. E. de Silva 2-1-26-2; E. B. Pereira 2-0-11-0.

N.C.C. (2nd Innings)

T. C. T. Edwards c and b D. P. de Silva	30
H. I. K. Fernando c T. Fernando b Burke	8
P. B. Crozier c B. Seneviratne b Fernando	17
Priya Perera c Premaratne b Fernando	19
E. B. Pereira not out	4
H. C. Perera run out	26
R. Perera not out	4
Extras	3

Total (for 5 wks) 111

Fall 12, 43, 69, 76, 106.

Bowling: D. Lieversz 3-1-22-0; F. Burke 5-0-15-1; D. P. de Silva 7-0-36-1; T. N. Fernando 5-1-28-2; R. Samarasekera 2-0-3-0; B. de Silva 1-0-4-0.

# DEADLY DARRELL

It was Darrell Lieversz again. His accurate in-swingers caused the downfall of the NCC yesterday and Colts ran away with first innings points when the N.C.C. were shot out for only 92. The target of 145 did not look too big for the NCC on the easy wicket even though they were without M. Tissera and V. G. Prins. But Lieversz put paid to their chances with a hostile opening spell which brought him four wickets. The former Royal captain had the NCC batsmen completely at sea and he wound up with the impressive figures of 6 for 45 in 19 overs.

Former Antonian cricket F. Burke also bowled exceptionally well to support Lieversz. He had a big job ahead of him since Dorenagama was not playing, and he stuck to his task heartedly to keep up the pressure. He wound up with 3 for 33 in 20 overs.

After an opening spell of 9 overs which brought him four wickets for only 16 runs Lieversz was rested for over half an hour. The NCC batsmen tried to stage a rally at this stage but no sooner did Lieversz come back into the attack he dismissed E. B. Pereira and A. E. de Silva to wrap up the innings. Both batsmen fell to his leg trap with Alles diving full length to hold two brilliant catches.

## Alles—two good catches

In the Colts second innings it was skipper Premaratne once again. Hooking and cutting savagely Premaratne notched a hard hit 42 runs that included five hits to the fence. Apparently he wasn't very particular about reaching the half-century mark for he waltzed down the pitch to hit A. E. de Silva offered a half-hearted stroke.

missed and never bothered to recover his ground.

Colts declared with a 138-run lead giving N.C.C. 80 minutes to score the required runs. Save for T. C. T. Edward and H. C. Perera none of the other N.C.C. batsmen made a resolute effort to make the runs and at close had made 111 for 5 wickets. Lieversz had bowled only 5 overs without any success while T. N. Fernando took 2 for 28.

Equally important as the Colts win was the Varsity win over the SSC. This meant that the Colts were almost on par with the SCC, their nemesis of the past week. Hence, the Colts were back in with a chance. But they had to beat the Varsity team.



### **Varsity come in as favourites**

Varsity was the only team out of the four finalists to have won two games. Hence, they came to Havelock Park as favourites. After all they had beaten the SSC who had beaten the Colts by an innings.

Theoretically the SSC could have won the competition by beating the NCC. But the Varsity was expected to win their third game in a succession.

The Varsity-Colts game was treated as a final despite the huge disparity in points between the two sides. It was Varsity's game to win or lose and the Colts was there to play a supporting role in the Varsity's expected coronation. It was a question of how dominant the Varsity would be in their march to triumph.

### **The missing Colts bowlers**

When the season commenced Dorenagama and Lieversz opened the bowling with Burke coming in first change. Yet, Dorenagama who fared better than Lieversz at the commencement of the season played in only one of the finals' games. He surely would have made a difference considering that there was no real back up to Lieversz and Burke. Two of the five bowlers used against the Varsity were part timers (D.P. de Silva and Brian de Silva).

Doranagama played in the game against the SSC without making much of an impact. It is probable that he was out of practice. Was Dorenagama who was in army, unable to obtain leave, or was he stationed too far away to attend practice and play in matches?

### **Fuard absents himself**

However, the most notable absentee was the country's number one spinner, Abu Fuard. He only played in the first two games for the season – against the Tamils and the Catamarans.

Fuard failed as an opener in both innings against the Catamarans. He didn't bat against the Catamarans where the Colts only lost five wickets. He was the sixth bowler to be used against the Tamil Union although he was brought on first change against the Catamarans.

Was there any animosity between Fuard and Premaratne? Did Fuard feel that he should have been captain? Did Premaratne, with the help of Anthonians such as Dorenagama, Burke and Samerasekera, engineer a coup? It is common knowledge that although it was expected that Premaratne would hold on to the captaincy for the next season Fuard successfully challenged Premaratne amidst much controversy and bitterness.

Fuard played against Ted Dexter's touring side in February 1962. He played against the M.C.C later in that year in a one-day game at the Oval in which L.R. Goonetilleke clean bowled Dexter. And he was in the pool of players to be coached by Leo O'Brien during the 1962-63 season<sup>2</sup>. So, there must have been a good reason for Fuard to be absent from the Colts team when the premier trophy was at stake.

Although pure speculation, Fuard may have been peeved at being discarded as an opening batsman. He may have been brought on first change as a form of compensation, but the damage had been done.

While T.N. Fernando appears to have been a useful bowler going by his 3 for 28 in the second NCC innings, if either Dorenagama or Fuard were available, Varsity would have struggled to reach 70 or lost another wicket, probably both, in its second innings.

However, in the two previous games which were not rain interrupted, more overs were bowled by the Colts than their opponents. Under these circumstances, if the three missing bowlers were available it would have taken some of the burden off Lieversz and Burke and presented a more balanced and varied attack. After facing three fast bowlers the batsmen would have found Fuard deceptive.

Fuard clearly put his petty grievances ahead of the club's interests. For that he must surely head the club's roll of dishonour.

If the Colts had curtailed the SSC batting and obtained more NCC wickets, she would have trailed by far fewer points coming into the final game of the season. Colts needed to be at full bowling strength much more than her three opponents because her batting was notoriously fragile which placed an extra burden on her bowlers. Hence, the absence of two of her top line bowlers was a tragedy.

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<sup>2</sup> Thirty-one of the country's leading cricketers were selected to attend coaching sessions held by Leo O'Brien at the Army Cricket Grounds at Galle Face. The Colts were represented by Darrell Lieversz, Abu Fuard and D.P. de Silva.



Darrell used his status as Royal's captain in the previous season to bring in Malalasekera, fresh from his century in the Royal-Thomian, into the side. But given the gap between school and club cricket, Malalasekera would struggle to duplicate his big match form. More importantly, the Colts needed a specialist bowler more than a batsman.

### **The legendary finish**

Cricket is often criticised for being slow and of long duration with nothing to show by way of completion. However, the very unplanned nature of the flow of the game occasionally makes for tense finishes fraught with excitement. The game between the Colts and the University of Ceylon played in March of 1963 was one such game because it involved deft calculations by both captains and technical skills on the part of batsmen to deny opponents match points and to maximize the points accruing to one's own team.

It took 119 years for the Colts to win its first major premier trophy. But it could have taken place 29 years earlier if the gods had looked down favourably on the Colts. However, the Colts can still take pride in being involved in one of the greatest games in the history of first-class cricket in Sri Lanka, and one which will never stop being spoken of by people who follow cricket at that level. The club was disappointed, but nonetheless ennobled by contributing to making the game a winner.

At the beginning of the second day of the Royal game versus Wesley in 1969 the chronicler's mind was solely on averting the follow on. He hadn't counted on being able to pursue victory and open his team to defeat after rescuing his team so gallantly. However, Wesley never stops talking about this game and as a result Royal is praised for her magnanimity in defeat. Perhaps to end a disappointing season with a defeat and victory which are still etched in people's minds, is a victory of sorts.

Losing is always hard, particularly when one either has had the better of the exchanges or has contributed to one's own demise by playing in a sportsmanlike fashion, because history is inevitably authored by the winners, or their spin doctors. And this certainly is the case with the final game of the 1962-63 Sara season when *Chase a crooked shadow* was screening at the Liberty and *David and Goliath* at the Odeon, Kandy.

The following pages feature two articles which described what was at stake for the teams involved and analysed their prospects. The article by E.W. Rulach titled "Lieversz - Bulwark against the Varsity" appeared the Observer. The other article titled "Toss-luck will be an advantage" also appears to be an article that appeared in the Observer.

# LIEVERSZ - BULWARK AGAINST UNIVERSITY

**DEADLY DARRELL.** THAT IS WHAT LAST YEAR'S ROYAL CAPTAIN DARRELL LIEVERSZ HAS BEEN CALLED, FOR HE HAS CAUSED THE "DEATH" OF MANY A GOOD BATSMEN WITH HIS ACCURATE INSWING BOWLING. IT HAS BEEN MAINLY HIS OUTSTANDING BOWLING EFFORTS THIS SEASON THAT HAVE HELPED THE COLTS REACH THE FINAL ROUND. NOW THEY WILL DEPEND ON HIM AGAIN ON SATURDAY IN THEIR KEY MATCH OF THE SARAFANAMUTTU TOURNAMENT, A MATCH THAT WILL DECIDE WHO WILL BE THE TROPHY CHAMPIONS.

The University of Ceylon batsmen will attempt to take the sting off his bowling on the turf at Havelock Park. This will be quite a difficult task but if they succeed then they have the Trophy in the bag.

The University has been improving with every match. They took first innings points from the NCC, and a fortnight ago they got first innings points from the SSC, holders of the Trophy.

But make no mistake, the University batting is suspect. Their batsmen have let them down, and it has been their fine team-work, fighting qualities and splendid fielding that has helped them to get within sight of the Trophy.

## Four stalwarts

Two weeks ago Buddy Reid with a memorable innings, ably assisted by Gurusinghe and Ernest, paved the way to victory over the SSC, after paceman Mohanlal Fernando had caused the SSC batting flop. So much will depend on these players again when they come up against the Colts.

There is every possibility that Buddy Reid will be promoted in the batting order to counter the inswingers of Lieversz. Also much responsibility falls on opener de Mel and Punniah, and skipper Carlyle Perera in giving them a good start and for countering the hostile attack of Lieversz and Doreenagama. The latter, however, has been outstation and not been able to get the practice so badly needed in a key match such as this one. The other medium-pacer Burke will also have plenty of work to do as the Colts do not have a recognised spinner in the side.

It will be Mohanlal Fernando's job to dismiss Malalasekera cheaply. The Royal batsman has been in great form

in the school season and last week took the Thomian bowling apart to score an unbeaten century. It will be interesting to see how he counters the pace of Fernando, the accurate swingers of Buddy Reid, and the leg-spin googly bowling of Lariff Idrom.

This will be a big test for Malalasekera in his first Sara Trophy game. He will have to curb his aggressive tendencies against more experienced bowlers than those he has come up against in school games. He will also have to watch his running between the wickets which has caused his downfall, and the dismissal of many Royalists this season.

## Irresponsible

With Malalasekera in the side the Colts have some depth in their batting. Throughout the season it has been their batting that has let them down but Lieversz with his great-hearted bowling has brought them victory. Three weeks ago they gave a dismal batting performance against the SSC and were beaten by an innings. Their batting did not improve very much against the NCC, and here again it was Lieversz who came to their rescue.

The Colts batsmen show a lack of responsibility getting themselves out to poor strokes. They will be easy meat for the Varsity bowlers if they do not put their heads down and concentrate on their job of getting runs. Only opening batsman Alles has shown some promise and so has wicket keeper H. A. Perera, who unfortunately has been sacrificed by being sent too far up in the batting order.

The turf wicket at Havelock Park should turn out to be a good batting wicket but it should also help the pace bowlers. So some interesting an entertain-

ing cricket is in store for all lovers of the game.

## Disappointing

The depleted NCC team are hoping that their pace bowler "Lucky" Gunatilleke, who has taken up a planting assignment in the KV District, will be available for their match against the SSC at Maitland Place. They are also attempting to get their former opening batsman Ronnie Reid who is in Galle for this game. Reid showed good form for Alken Spence in the Mercantile final played recently but he was sporting a game knee and may not be completely fit.

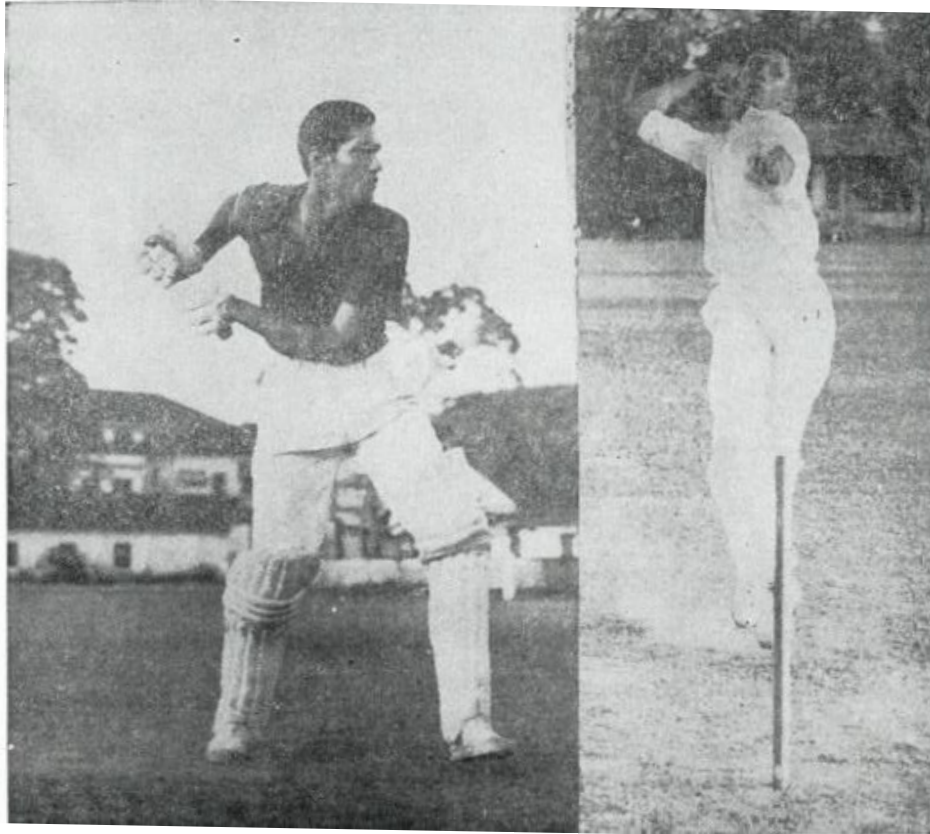
The NCC will be without Michael Tissera, who is ill and Vernon Prins who has temporarily retired from the game. Their batting has been weakened considerably without them and their showing in the final round matches has been most disappointing. They are fortunate that Priya Perera is in such good form but the experienced Club players such as Edward, Rienzie Perera, skipper H. I. K. Fernando and Gunaseena, will have to get some runs if they hope to give the SSC a game.

The SSC will be far happier on turf than they were on matting when they were beaten by Varsity. They will be fielding practically the same team as the one that played against the Varsity.

The wicket at the NCC should be good for many runs and the SSC have talented batsmen in youngsters Wimalaratne, Koditwakku, L. Senanayake and S. Samarasinghe and the experienced players C. I. Gunasekera, P. I. Peris and Ben Navaratne to get them runs against the depleted attack - if Gunatilleke is not available for the NCC.

**E.W.R.**





VARSIITY stalwarts Buddy Reid and Mohanlal Fernando at practice for the match agaainst the Colts on Saturday.

Although Alles and Lieversz may have been selective in their retention of newspaper reports of the two games to conclude the season, it does appear that the local press focused on the Colts versus Varsity game. This was because the Varsity were the only unbeaten team of the four finalists and were expected to romp home and claim the title without much difficulty. The Colts were merely a sideshow in the Varsity coronation ceremony.

*\* \* In the two key cricket matches this week-end*

# TOSS-LUCK WILL BE AN ADVANTAGE



● AT PRACTICE—The key players of the Colts at practice yesterday for the Sara Trophy game against the Varsity tomorrow Darrell Lieversz (above) and Royal batsman V. P. Malaisiekera.



The turf wicket at Havelock Park should be ideal for batting so that the luck of the toss will play a vital part in the key match between University of Ceylon and Colts tomorrow.

The bowlers are at a disadvantage on this wicket and the bright hot sun and humid conditions will not make them any happier. It will be remembered that on a feather-bed wicket a month ago over 600 runs were scored in two days when Colts met the BRC.

On a wicket like this Colts key bowler Darrell Lieversz will attempt an early breakthrough with the new ball when he should get some life out of the pitch. But once the effects of the roller wear off, it will be a trying job. Lieversz will also need all the support from Dorenagama and Burke as they do not have a stock spinner in the side.

While Lieversz concentrates on swing, Mohanlal Fernando of the Varsity is faster and can get 12½ ball to come through quicker. He has also been able to maintain his hostility even at the end of a long spell which gives the batsmen no relief at all. They too do not have a recognised offspinner although Ernest can turn the ball. So Buddy Reid, Samara-jiwa and Idroos have their work cut out for them.

## NCC pitch will favour batsmen

The wicket on the NCC ground should also be easy and favour batting. So here too the luck of the toss is vital to either Club—particularly the NCC who have a depleted bowling attack.

It is interesting to note that the SSC veterans have outshone the youngsters this season. There is C. I. Gunasekera, the Ceylon captain whose attacking batting and leg-spin googly bowling is as good as ever. Ben Navaratne has shown his class behind the stumps while Bertie Wijesinha has proved to be a shrewd captain.

Then there is Stanley de Alwis whose opening overs are full of hostility and F. I. Peris with his accurate swingers. Both are batsmen who can upset the most accurate bowling with their eye for quick runs.



KEY 'SARA' TROPHY MATCHES THIS WEEK-END

# Varsity will rely on team work

## V. MALALASEKERA TO PLAY FOR COLTS

THIS week-end will see the completion of the 1962/63 P. Saravanamuttu trophy tournament, when the Ceylon University Meet the Colts at Havelock Park and the Nondescripts play the Sinhalese Sports Club—who are reigning champions—on their own grounds at Maitland Place.

The University who have won both matches they have played, on the first innings, will annex the trophy if they defeat the Colts even on the first innings.

The undergraduates will rely on teamwork rather than individual effort, although Reid, M. Fernando and Idroos could each turn in a match-winning individual performance.

In the last match with the S.S.C., the University batsmen showed fighting qualities of a high order when they retrieved a game that seemed hopelessly lost.

They will make a determined effort to win this match when so much is at stake

### Strengthened

The Havelock Park team will be strengthened by the inclusion of the Royalist batsman Malalasekera who made a brilliant century against St. Thomas's last Saturday. His fielding in the covers too will be valuable.

The Colts may have to take the field without Dorenegama, in which event Lievers will have a heavier burden to shoulder. The team's chances of success will depend on a satisfactory showing by the batsmen and fieldmen.

The S.S.C. like the Colts, will have to win if they are to have any hope of retaining the championship.

This match should also produce a keen contest. Just as the champions will be anxious

to finish the season as the leading cricket club in Ceylon, the Nondescripts would like to register their first final round win and also defeat their old rivals.



V. MALALASEKERA

### THE TEAMS COLTS VS. UNIVERSITY

(Havelock Park)  
COLTS: (from) W. Premaratne (capt), D. P. de Silva, B. de Silva, B. Dorenegama, F. Burke, R. Allen, R. Samarasekera, B. Seneviratne, H. A. Perera, V. P. Malalasekera, T. N. Fernando, P. Goveindunkula, A. L. Fernando, D. W. A. Lievers.

UNIVERSITY: (from) C. Perera (capt), B. G. Reid, M. Fernando, M. L. Idroos, N. S. Gurusinghe, H. Samarasekera, N. J. S. de Mel, C. M. Ponniah, V. Sivaraman, C. R. P. Gunatilleke, C. Ernest.

S.S.C. VS. N.C.C.  
(NCC ground Maitland Place).



B. G. REID

S.S.C.: (from) R. B. Wijesinghe (capt), C. I. Gunasekera, C. H. Gunasekera, F. L. Perera, B. Navarathne, S. de Alwis, S. C. Samarasinghe, L. Senanayake, N. S. Kodumwakku, S. Wimalaratne, N. Amaradasa, S. Silva.  
N.C.C.: (from) H. I. K. Fernando (capt), R. Perera, H. G. Perera, L. R. Gunatilleke, H. Marcelline, N. Gunasekera, S. B. Perera, A. Gunasekera, C. Wandyaratne, T. C. T. Edward, P. Perera, A. E. de Silva.

## THE TABLE

The positions of the clubs are as follows:—

	P	W	1st Ing.	L	1st Ing.	Draw	Pts.
Varsity	2	—	2	—	—	—	21.333
S.S.C.	2	1	—	—	1	—	15.333
Colts	2	—	1	1	—	—	12.777
N.C.C.	2	—	—	—	2	—	4.760

# UNIVERSITY FAVOURED TO WIN SARA TROPHY

*Sunday will decide the winner*

NEVER BEFORE HAS THE FINAL ROUND OF THE SARAVANAMUTTU TROPHY CRICKET TOURNAMENT BEEN SO OPEN UNTIL THE END, WITH THREE OF THE FOUR TEAMS BATTLING IT OUT FOR TOP HONOURS.

In the closing stages of tomorrow's play, the championship will be decided either at Maitland Place, where the pennant holders, the Sinhalese Sports Club take on the Nondescripts or at Havelock Park, where the University, will make an all-out bid to wrest the Trophy in their game against the Colts.

The popular University go out favourites being in the best position with 21,160 points in two games. Their nearest rivals, the S.S.C. are lying second with 15,310 points. The only team out of the running is the Nondescripts who are at the bottom of the table with 4,740 points.

Both games are of equal importance but Havelock Park should attract bigger crowds because of the University's big following. Many people will also flock to see last week's Royal-Thomian hero, Vijaya Malasekera, who makes his debut for the Colts in representative cricket.

Both assignments for the Varsity and S.S.C. are tough ones for their opponents boasts of well-and-true teams capable of turning the tables. Varsity are the only matting wicket team and quite naturally they are at a slight disadvantage playing on turf.

It is still doubtful whether Sal Doranagama, who had previously formed such a menacing fast bowling combination with young Darrell Lieversz, will play in the key game because of military duty. In case he does not turn up, his vacancy will be filled by medium pacer, T. N. Fernando.

## With confidence

With Lieversz already there, the inclusion of Malasekera,

## By Wrong Un

will no doubt strengthen the batting in which department the Colts have always been suspect. Unlike in school cricket Malasekera will have to curb his impetuosity if he is to have a successful baptism in Saravanamuttu Trophy cricket.

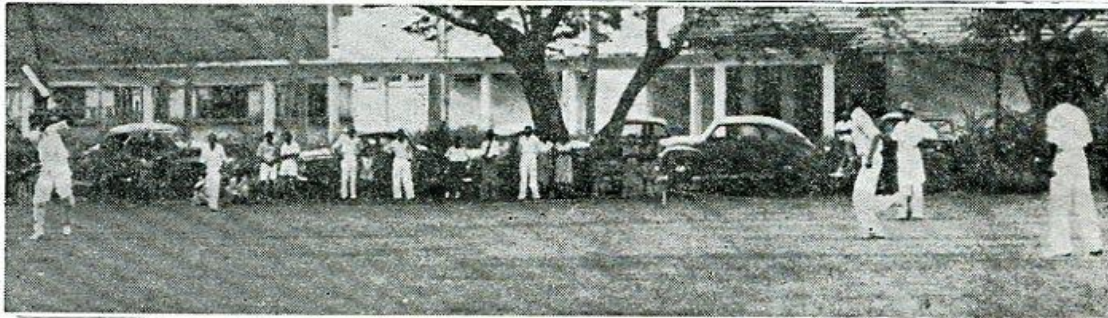
After their win over the Sinhalese, the 'undergraduates' take the field with confidence. If the University is to make a game of it and score the coveted Trophy for the first time, their batting must come up to expectations.

Supreme efforts are expected from openers, C. M. Ponniah and N. J. S. de Mel and lower down in the batting skipper, Carlyle Pereira, Buddy Reid, Nihal Gurusinghe, C. Ernest, M. L. Idroos and U. R. P. Goonetilleke must strike form.

Other than in pace in which department Lieversz, Burke and Fernando have revelled, the Colts lack top class spinners. If the University batsman be content in remaining at the crease long enough to wear out the

pacemen, the first step towards victory is assured.

## First day



D. P. DE SILVA drives a ball from BUDDY REID off the back-foot — in the Colts — Varsity game yesterday.

# COLTS 74 FOR 2 IN 105 MINUTES

**T**HE Colts had scored 74 for the loss of two wickets in their 'P. Sara' Trophy match against the Ceylon University in 105 minutes at Havelock Park, when rain at 4 p.m. caused play to be abandoned for the day.

Opening with Alles and H. A. Perera, the home team were off to a good start when the pair put on 37 runs in even time. At this stage Alles was out, neatly taken by Gurusinghe in the gully. The fieldsmen anticipating the catch, off a ball moving out from Reid which Alles failed to keep down, took it with ease. This was the 5th ball of Reid's 5th over, a maiden.

Perera and D. P. de Silva took the total to 54 made in 75 minutes, when Reid with the 3rd ball of his 10th over,

also a maiden, caught and bowled Perera. He hit a four and three two's.

Joined by the captain, Premaratne, D. P. de Silva helped to add 20 runs in an unfinished partnership for the third wicket, both batsmen playing with confidence.

Tea was taken at 4 p.m. but very heavy rain prevented further play.

The University had to contend with unfavourable conditions throughout, a thin drizzle and a wet ball and ground.

**COLTS—1st Innings:** R. Alles c Gurusinghe b Reid 25, H. A. Perera c and b Reid 17, D. P. de Silva not out 13, W. Premaratne not out 17; Extras 2; Total (for 2 wkts.) 74.

Fall of wkts.: 37, 54.

**Bowling:** M. Fernando 11-0-43-0; B. G. Reid 10-3-20-2; C. Ernest 5-2-8-0.



# TURNING PITCH: COLTS — NO SPINNER



BUDDY REID accepts an easy return catch from H. A. Perera, of the Colts — in the key Sara Trophy encounter at Havelock Park yesterday.

*Bright sunshine should produce drying pitch*

RAIN WAS A BIG DAMPER FOR CRICKET YESTERDAY. AT MATTLAND PLACE NOT A BALL WAS BOWLED IN THE SSC-NCC SARAVANAMUTTU TROPHY MATCH WHILE AT HAVELOCK PARK, THE GAME ENDED AT THE TEA INTERVAL, WITH THE COLTS 74 FOR 2 IN THEIR MATCH AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY OF CEYLON.

The Saravanamuttu Trophy Champions will be known today and much will depend on the weather this morning.

Both turf wickets were soaked after the heavy rains and it will need some bright sunshine today if play is to be continued at 10.15 a.m.

If there is bright sunshine this morning then the wicket should dry up quickly and take spin.

Ernest who bowled well yesterday and Idroos should get some turns off the wicket with their spinners, but Colts do not have a recognised spin bowler to exploit the wicket.

So an interesting finish is in store if the weather clears up today.

The Colts won the toss and elected to bat on an easy wicket. The Varsity bowlers were handicapped by a wet, slippery ball, and their openers Mohanlal Fernando and Buddy Reid could do nothing with the new ball.

## A "LIFE"

The Colts openers, Alles and H. A. Perera took advantage of the adverse conditions to hit 37 runs in 45 minutes before Alles went forward to play Reid and edged a catch to Gurusinghe at gully.

Alles showed a sound technique for his 25 runs.

D. P. de Silva had a "life" as he came in. He got an edge off Reid, but wicket-keeper Sivanathan, who is nursing an injured arm, failed to hold the catch.

Silva remains unbeaten with 13 runs.

H. A. Perera, who was concentrating on defence, suddenly attempted to hook a short-pitched ball from Reid. He played too soon to a ball which came through very slowly off the wicket and cocked up an easy catch to the bowler.

Skipper Premaratne looked for quick runs. He went for his shots and hit 3 fours — two pulls to the mid-wicket boundary and a fine square-cut.

He was 17 not out when the rains came at the tea interval.

Varsity included A. Angbie in their team as a reserve

wicket-keeper as Sivanathan is not completely fit, and left out Samarajecwa.

Colts skipper Premaratne adopted aggressive tactics, his 17 including 3 fours — two pulls and a square-cut.

COLTS — 1st Innings

R. ALLES c Guru-singhe, b Reid	... 25
H. A. PERERA c and b Reid	... 17
D. P. DE SILVA not out	... 13
W. PREMARATNE not out	... 17
EXTRAS:	... 2
<b>TOTAL (for 2 wickets)</b>	<b>...</b>

at tea) ... 74

Wickets fell at: 37, 54.

## BOWLING

M. Fernando	11-1-42-0
B. G. Reid	10-2-21-2
E. Ernest	5-2-8-0

## A mere fraction of a point

HOW THE POINTS ADDED UP			
Varsity		Colts	
Before game	points 21.18	Before game	points 12.77
7 Colts 1st innings. wkts.	.70	1st Innings. Points.	8.00
1st Innings score (54)	.27	1st Innings score (144)	.72
4 Colts 2nd Innings. wkts.	.40	8 Varsity 1st Innings wkts.	.80
2nd Innings score (74)	.37	2nd Innings score (42)	.21
		4 Varsity 2nd Innings wkts.	.40
Total	22.92	Total	22.90

Taken from an article by Wrong 'Un

Coming into the game, the Colts had 12.77 points to the Varsity's 21.18. The Colts had to win on the first innings to have any chance of bridging the gap and commenced the process by declaring her first innings at 144 for seven wickets. At this point Varsity led by 8.39 points compared to 8.41 points before the start of the game. If the rain returned at this point Varsity would have claimed the trophy.

No doubt Varsity intended batting out the game and possibly gaining first innings points. But losing three wickets before lunch and five more after lunch and then declaring at 54 for 8, Varsity led the Colts by .58 points.

"Deadly" Darrell lived up to his name by capturing five Varsity wickets and conceding eleven runs. Darrell was never more deadly than he was in the period after lunch, and it was his efforts that set the stage for an exciting finish.

If Varsity hadn't declared and she was dismissed for say 60 runs, which was very likely the way in which Darrell was slicing through the Varsity batting, the Colts would have led by 0.31 points. Hence, the declaration was strategic more than sportsmanlike.

When the Colts declared her second innings at 42 for 4 Varsity led by a mere 0.05 points. During the Varsity second innings, Colts obtained .40 points to Varsity's .37 and therefore lost by .02 points.

Darrell describes how he perceived the unfolding points situation –

"I am not sure what the points situation was before the game. As far as I can remember (very vaguely), we had to get first innings points first. This happened when they suddenly declared before being all out. They must have had "bonus points" on their mind when they did this. Then the bonus points fun started after Colts went into bat. There were no electronic calculators around at that time and I could see all the budding accountants and academics getting together with pencil and paper planning the next move. All I remember when we were walking out to field for the final inning was that for every 20 runs, they scored we had to get **1 wicket**. The rest is sad and frustrating history."

When four Varsity wickets fell in the second innings with 35 runs on the board Colts would have appeared to have been home and hosed. But Reid and Gurusinghe held on to take the score to 74 without further loss by close. However, if the Colts had obtained a wicket on the last ball of the day, she would still have made it. She would have obtained an extra 0.50 bonus points to Varsity's 0.37, and a competition lead of 0.08 points, enough to get her over the line. How Varsity managed to survive makes interesting discussion.

All three of Darrell's second innings wickets were to catches in the slips cordon. Hence, according to paper reports the batsmen left alone balls going down the leg side. But even when Darrell had batsmen caught at short leg, they were to balls that were directed at the stumps. Indeed, he clean bowled four of his five first innings victims.

### **The then LBW rule**

The batting technique of Reid has been complimented as highly as Carlyle Perera's captaincy. But in Darrell's view the main culprit was the L.B.W. rule strictly implemented by the umpires. Here is his view in response to my query as to whether they pretended to offer a shot or blatantly padded deliveries –

“No, they were NOT offering a stroke. Their bats were up in the air and most often above their shoulders. Another thing they were doing was batting outside the crease and taking a “gigantic” step forward and not offering a stroke when they faced the delivery, probably to negate being caught by 2 leg slips and a short leg. Maybe the balls had pitched outside the line and hit the pads in line, but some umpires at the time preferred to turn down any LBW appeal if a batsman played so far forward even if it was a **straight ball pitched in line with the stumps**. It was very frustrating, but I suppose “that was Cricket” at the time.

That used to be the rule but not today as you know. I can't imagine how many more wickets we as bowlers could have got.!!!!”

Today, a batsman can be adjudged L.B.W. when not offering a shot to a ball pitched outside the off stump. Furthermore, if there is minimum bounce in the wicket a batsman is at risk of being given out L.B.W. to balls which hit the front pad and the ball was pitched in line with the stumps.

To the chronicler's way of thinking good technique is about the skillful use of the bat in association with good footwork. He is talking about batsmen who shuffle back and then move to hit the ball after it has completed its movement, rather than commit to a shot when the ball is in its initial line. Good technique is also playing the ball into the ground to smother movement. In all instances, it is about using the bat rather than relying on outmoded and unfair L.B.W. rules.

Because there were three close-in fieldsman on the leg side, did the umpires assume that all of Darrell's deliveries would have missed leg stump? Did Darrell's bowling tactics in the second Varsity innings differ from that of the first innings?



In August of 2013 the chronicler noticed Darrell and Buddy (now doctor) in conversation at the wedding of Darrell's niece. The chronicler politely refrained from remarking that Buddy would probably have been given out L.B.W. by today's umpires. And if rain hadn't interfered, given that the Colts controlled the game for the most part, the Colts would have won the game outright. Anyway, the Ceylon University no longer fields a cricket team while the Colts is today a very competitive side.

The newspaper cuttings of the time make interesting reading and the chronicler is grateful to Darrell for allowing him access to them.

The article below titled Margin of triumph .02 of a point probably appeared in the Observer going by the font and format. The article by "Wrong Un" titled Varsity win Sara Trophy in photo finish probably appeared in the Times of Ceylon. The article by Eustace Rulach appeared either in the Daily News or the Observer, probably the latter. And the article titled Varsity are champs probably appeared in the Daily Mirror, the sister paper of the Ceylon Times.

## MARGIN OF TRIUMPH .02 OF A POINT

**IN a thrilling finale to the 1962-63 National Cricket Championship of Ceylon for the P. Saravanamuttu trophy, the champions and the runners up both emerged when the Colts vs. Ceylon University match was concluded yesterday at Havelock Park. The undergraduates with 22.92 points are the new champions, they displace the Sinhalese Sports Club, while the Colts with 22.90 points finish second in place of the Nondescripts.**

The game must be reckoned the most sensational of the entire series for the issue was in doubt till the

last ball for the day was bowled.

When the University batted a second time, the ultimate result depended on bonus points. The closeness of the struggle could be realised when after the 5th ball of the last over the Colts could yet have won by capturing a wicket with the last ball, this would have given them the points and victory.

### Cricket at its best

Three highly intelligent declarations, two by the Colts, captain Premaratne, and one by C. Perera the University leader, contributed in no small measure to the enjoyment of the largest crowd ever present at Havelock Park for a cricket match. This was indeed cricket at its glorious best.

The individual honours went to Lieversz who was unplayable

in the University's first innings and Premaratne for the Colts who batted with skill and grace and Reid, de Mel, and Gurusinghe for the University for some highly skilful batting.

Lieversz and Reid finished the season in a blaze of glory. The Colts bowler in capturing eight wickets yesterday, made his season's tally 68.

Reid capped a season's great work as an allrounder, with another match-winning display.

The University owed their victory to him, when he batted for 62 minutes in the second innings adapting his tactics to suit the demands of the moment.

Resuming at 74 for two, Premaratne declared at 11.45 and with the fall of the 7th wicket at 144, he top scored with an elegant 46 made in 99 minutes including six fours. Maialasekera made an impressive 19 in 25 minutes with three fours in it.

The University lost three wickets, two to Burke and one run-out before lunch.

After the interval, Lieversz bowled Anghie at 28 and then dismissed four more in a row, when Perera declared at 54 for 8 at 2.20 p.m. de Mel, who made a courageous 33 out of 38, batted for 56 minutes and hit three fours. Lieversz took 5 for 12 in 9.4 overs four of which were maidens.

The Colts second declaration was made at 4 p.m.; and the undergraduates had lost four wickets for 34 at 4.46 p.m., of these de Mel had scored 30 with three fours. His runs were compiled in the same determined manner as his first innings effort.

Then came in Gurusinghe, and a 'repeat' of the Reid-Gurusinghe partnership made two weeks' ago against the SSC. They batted on doggedly to the close. The unbroken partnership was worth 40 runs in 59 minutes and with it victory for the University.

The fielding of both teams was of a high standard.

# IN PHOTO FINISH

For first time—and by the narrowest margin ever (0.02 pts.)

In their last game which wound up the season it was not the result that mattered, but the bonus points tally. The Varsity lost this Havelock Park match on the first innings but snatched the Trophy on bonus points by the narrowest of margins—0.02.

By Wrong 'Un

### Battle of tactics

It is a pity that the Colts were called a "one and done" way to lose in this fashion after having beaten the opposition convincingly on the first innings. It must have been really heart-breaking for Leever, who shouldered the responsibility magnificently to claim five wickets for 12 runs in a marathon spell of sustained fast and accurate bowling. In fact the Varsity batsmen except for diminutive N. J. S. de Mel did not have a clue how to play the moving ball.

### Close verdict

The Colts took up the challenge when the Varsity made their declaration at 54 for the fall of the eighth wicket and they did likewise when wickets were tumbling and declared with 41 on the board with four wickets down. At this stage the Varsity were given to make 132 to win in 95 minutes. But it was not an outright win that the 'undergraduates' needed; it was to keep their wickets intact.

One by one the wickets fell and Varadly was setting into trouble until B. G. Reid and Nihal Gurusinghe, who refused to be shaken, steered the side to victory. The result was a

close that there was pandemonium in the pavilion.

This was one of the closest games ever seen on Havelack Park and the large crowd present—the biggest in any Saravannamuttu Trophy tournament—were given an exciting time until the last ball was bowled.

COLTS—1st Innings 74 for

D. P. de Silva b Reid 14; W. Premaratne c C. Perera b Idroos 45; B. de Silva c Angihe b Fernando 10; V. Malaissekera c B. Idroos 19; R. Samarasekera c Reid b Ernest 0; B. Senewiratne not out 8; D. Lieveers not out 2. Extras 3. Total (for 7 wickets decl.) 114.

Fall: 83, 104, 128, 129, 141.  
 Bowling: M. Fernando 15-2-43-1; B. G. Reid 14-7-28-3; C. Ernest 14-3-26-1; M. L. Idroos 6-0-24-2.

VARSDTY-1st Inning

C. C. Ponniah c Perera b  
Burke 0; N. J. S. de Mel b  
Lieviers 33; C. Perera c Perera  
b Burke 0; M. L. Idroos run  
out 6; A. Angille b Lieviers 3  
N. S. Gurusinghe b Lieviers 0  
B. G. Reid b Lieviers 4; U. R.  
P. Goonetilleke c Fernando b  
Lieviers 1; C. Ernest not out 0  
M. Fernando not out 0. Extras  
Total (for 2 wickets decl.) 54.  
Fall: 1. 3, 10, 26, 38, 49, 51.  
Bowling: Lieviers 9-4-4-12-  
5; E. Burke 9-0-28-2.

COLTS—2nd Innings

B. de Silva e Ernest b Fernando 6; R. Allen e Fernando b Ernest 12; D. P. de Silva bow b Fernando 7; W. Premaratne not out 9; V. Mahalingetera e and b Ernest 1. Extras 7. Total (4 wickets decl. 42).

Fall: 14, 23, 32, 42.

Bowling: M. Fernando 11-4-16-2; B. G. Reid 7-2-11-0; C. Ernest 3.5-2-8-2.

**VARSITY**—2nd Inning  
C. M. Pennish, c. 8

auckera b Lieveers 0; N. J. S. de  
 Mel B. de Silva b T. N. Fernando  
 nando 30; C. Perera c Alles b  
 Lieveers 2; M. L. Idroos c Alles  
 b Lieveers 0; B. G. Reid not  
 out 19; N. S. Gurusinghe not  
 out 15. Extras 7. Total (for 4  
 wickets at close) 74.  
 Fall: 10, 24, 24, 35.  
 Bowling: D. W. L. Lieveers  
 11-4-22-3; F. Burke 7-0-21-  
 0; T. N. Fernando 4-0-11-1;  
 D. P. de Silva 4-0-8-0.

360

# UNIVERSITY are CHAMPIONS

## Win 'Sara' trophy despite losing to the Colts

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Resuming at 74 for two, Premaratne declared at 11.45 and with the fall of the 7th wicket at 144 he top scored with an elegant 46 made in 59 minutes including six fours. Malalasekera made an impressive 19 in 25 minutes with three fours in 8.

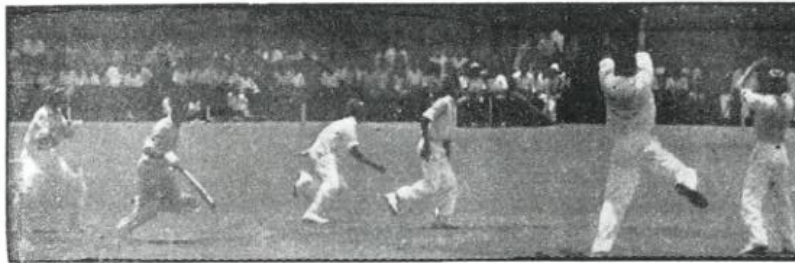
The University lost three wickets, two to Burke and one run-out before lunch.

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The Colts second declaration was made at 4 p.m. and the undergraduates had lost four wickets for 34 at 4.45 p.m. of these de Mel had scored 30 with three fours. His runs were compiled in the same determined manner as his first innings effort.

Then came in Gurusinghe, and a 'repeat' of the Reid-Gurusinghe partnership made two weeks' ago against the SSC. They batted on doggedly to the close. The unbroken partnership was worth 40 runs in 59 minutes and with a victory for the University.

The fielding of both teams was of a high standard.



WHILE the Sara trophy was being decided at Havelock Park and Maitland Place the 34<sup>th</sup> Battle of the Maroons was being fought out at the Oval. (above) D. Pathiravithane, Ananda, fails to make a catch off a drive by Abeysekera of Nalanda in their big match yesterday.



(Below) D.P. de Silva (Colts) is out leg-before to University bowler Mohanlal Fernando in the key 'Sara' trophy tournament match played at havelock Park yesterday. The University lost this game but won the tournament by .02 of a point.



BUDDY REID — flawless innings.



DARRELL LIEVERSZ — accurate bowling.

## ***The battle of bonus points***

**T**HE bonus points in this game which decided the winners of the Saravanamuttu Trophy are:—

Before the match began Varsity were 21.18 points and the Colts 12.77.

UNIVERSITY OF CEYLON

COLTS

21.18.

12.770.

.70 (for 7 wickets).

8.000 (for 1st ins. win)

.27 (for 54 runs)

.72 (for 141 runs)

.40 (for 4 wickets)

.80 (for 8 wickets)

.37 (for 74 runs)

.210 (for 42 runs)

22.928.

.400 (for 4 wickets)

22.96.

SSC who were 15,310 got 1.770 bonus points in their no-decision with NCC to finish third with 17.080. NCC got 1.720 in bonus points and were last with 6,460.

# ★ ★ .02 bonus points clinched Saravanamuttu trophy VARSITY ARE CHAMPIONS ON STATISTICS

By EUSTACE RULACH

IT WAS A BATTLE FOR BONUS POINTS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CEYLON MADE USE OF THEM TO SNATCH THE SARAVANAMUTTU TROPHY FROM THE COLTS IN A THRILLING FINISH AT HAVELOCK PARK YESTERDAY.

When the University flopped in their first innings it was evident that a decision in this game did not matter. Most important was which Club collected more bonus points and a battle of tactics followed with the Trophy champions not known till the final ball was bowled.

From a spectators point of view, the match had little to offer in the way of excitement, but to those statisticians it turned out to be sensational and a pulse-quickenng finish to the tournament.

When the Varsity batted a second time, they needed 29 runs per wicket to get the vital bonus points. The Colts, on the other hand — had to capture five wickets and the Trophy was theirs.

At one stage it looked a matter of time when the Colts would win the Trophy. This was one hour before stumps when Varsity were only 34 for 4. Their target was 70 runs as they were leading by .02 (ten runs) before the innings began. The Colts needed just one more wicket.

But Buddy Reid 19 not out).

and N. S. Gurusinghe (14 not out) not only deprived the Colts of getting this wicket but with some sound batting they got the 70 runs needed for the bonus points and for Varsity to win the Trophy by the narrowest of margins — .02 points.

Tension ran high in that final hour when Reid and Gurusinghe defied the hostile Lievers, and the pace of Burke and the de Silva seamers. Every ball was watched with bated breath — the Varsity supporters on the edge of their seats, and the Colts hoping for that wicket which never came.

Buddy Reid proved that he is technically the most correct batsman in the Clubs with his flawless innings. In the first innings he was out to Lievers on a ball which turned out to be the best of the match. It

was an inswinger that moved in the air and then whipped in off the pitch to get through Reid's bat and pad to hit the leg-stump.

## UPSET FIELD

In the second innings Reid countered Lievers beautifully. He made no attempt to play the ball moving away from him down the legside but waited for the ball slightly short of length to get his runs. Gurusinghe who offered no stroke to an inswinger from Lievers and was bowled in the first innings, also adopted these tactics. Lievers, who had four legslips could not tempt the batsmen into edging the ball to them.

Once Lievers was countered, both Reid and Gurusinghe drove and pulled strongly and went for quick singles to unsettle the fieldsmen. They succeeded to such an extent that the possible chances of run outs by them were missed & poor returns to the wicket.

Reid and Gurusinghe got 18 runs for bonus points 15 minutes before stumps and then played out time. Earlier N. J. S. de Mel went for quick runs & hit 30 out of 34 for 3 and took the sting out of the new ball bowlers.

But although the Varsity won on bonus points Colts had the better of them throughout the match. On a drying wicket last morning Colts skipper Premaratne went for his strokes and hit six fours with drives and pulls to leg in his 46 which came in 89 minutes. But with his dismissal when he attempted to hit idroos and lofted a catch to skipper Perera at mid-off, wickets fell quickly. Royal batsmen V. P. Malalasekera were for his shots and hit three fours past the bowler in his 19 before he punched a full toss back to idroos.

## BATTLE BEGAN...

Then the battle for bonus points began when Colts declared at 11.50 a.m. with their score at 144 for 7 which deprived the Varsity of a few bonus points had they got the whole side out. Reid was the most successful bowler with 3 for 28.

The half-hour before lunch caused the Varsity batting flop. On a soft wicket full of life Burke broke through with his lifting medium pacers when he snapped up two quick wickets. Idroos was run out attempting a single which was not there and Varsity were struggling.

Lievers broke through after lunch and captured five quick

wickets with a sustained spell of accurate inswinging bowling. None of the Varsity batsmen could counter him although N. J. S. de Mel had a bang at the bowling which brought him 22 runs. Skipper Perera stopped the humiliation when he declared at 2.35 p.m. with the total at 54 for 1. Lievers wound up with the remarkable figures of 5 for 12 in 9 overs.

With both sides going flat out for bonus points the Colts tried hard to keep the wickets intact. But the pace of Mohanlal Fernando and the offspinners of Ernest were too much and Colts lost 4 wickets for 42 runs before Premaratne declared at 4 p.m.

So the final issue rested on the bonus points of the Varsity second innings. The target was not an outright win by either side, but these bonus points, which Reid and Gurusinghe got for the Varsity in that final hour.

So the Varsity are champions for the first time and

It is an outstanding effort indeed since they were nearly left out of the tournament due to a late entry.

## Thrilling cricket at Havelock Park

# VARSIITY ARE CHAMPS

IN a game of tactics, snappy declarations and fluctuating fortunes the University of Ceylon, after conceding first innings points came back with a grand final hour's fighting cricket to snatch the 'P. Sara' trophy from the Colts by the very narrow margin of 62 of a point last evening at Havelock Park.

There was a very large crowd present yesterday to witness some very interesting cricket from two comparatively young teams, who fought out this key encounter till the very last ball of the match. It was anyone's game till the last ball was bowled.

Much credit for Varsity's first ever 'Sara Trophy' triumph

must undoubtedly go to those two fine old Thonlan cricketers, Buddy Reid and N. S. Gurusinghe who, for the second successive 'Sara' match pulled the Varsity game out of the fire. Getting together at the crease with just under an hour to go for stumps and 4 second wickets down for a pitiful 35 runs well behind their

opponents on bonus points—these two put their heads down and with some very courageous and purposeful batting pulled the game round with a grand unbroken partnership of 39 runs to collect those all important bonus points and the cup.

Bright sunshine throughout the morning enabled the overnight not out batsmen D. P. de Silva and skipper Premaratne to resume the Colts first innings from 74 for 3 sharp at 10.15 a.m.

De Silva taking the strike played down a maiden from off spinner Ernest to whom skipper Carylpe Perera entrusted the first over of 'as day. Reid too did likewise from the other end keeping left hander Premaratne too tied down to a maiden.

De Silva took a single off Ernest off the first ball of his second over but played down another maiden from Reid at the other end. Premaratne too scored his first run for the morning off Ernest, and after 15 minutes batting on a drying pitch only 2 runs were added to the Colts overnight score of 144.

Premaratne then straight drove Reid for a boundary to boost the Colts 88. But five runs later the home team lost their third wicket in Reid's fourth over for the morning. De Silva lifted his head in attempting a big hit and was clean bowled for 14 runs.

Brian de Silva joined his skipper at the wicket and these two moved the score along to see the 100 hoisted on the board in 155 minutes. Then with the score at 104 right-arm paceman Mohanlal Fernando who was brought into the attack in place of Ernest claimed his first wicket. Brian de Silva attempting to cut one outside the off stump got an edge and Adlai Anglie at first slip brought off a grand shoulder high catch.

Young Royalist Malalasekera was next man in. For his 'Sara Trophy' baptismal Malalasekera received a full toss from Mohanlal Fernando which he promptly dispatched over the bowler for two runs. The next delivery he snicked just over Reid's hands at second slip for 4 and almost got an edge on the leg side of the last ball of a fiery Fernando over which he did not face too comfortably.

Skipper Carylpe Perera then brought leg spinner

Idroos into the attack for the first time in the match in place of Reid who was rested after claiming 3 wickets for 38 runs.

Idroos took some time to settle down. Meanwhile Colts skipper Premaratne and Malalasekera going for the runs pushed the score along at a fair rate.

Premaratne moved into his forties with straight drive for 4 off an Idroos full toss. But with the Colts score at 138 and his own contribution 46 the left hander was out. Attempting to drive Idroos the Colts skipper failed to get on top of it and indeed a fairly easy catch to Carylpe Perera at mid-off.

Ranjit Samarasekera the next man in was never happy against off spinner Ernest, who was back in the attack once again. He was soon back in the position caught by Reid at short leg off an Ernest spinner for no score.

Colts were 139 for 6 when Seneviratne joined Malalasekera at the crease. These two added 12 more runs to the Colts' total before Malalasekera too was sent back, caught and bowled Idroos.

After Darrel Liveries joined Brian Seneviratne and three more runs were added skipper Premaratne declared the Colts' first innings at 144 for 7 giving the Undergrads about half an hour's batting before lunch. This was a shrewd move on the part of the Colts skipper as Varsity was soon in trouble.

Ponniah accompanied N. J. S. de Mel to the wicket to open the Varsity innings. After Ponniah played down a maiden first over from Darrel Liveries, De Mel took a single off Buras who was operating from the other end. Then with just this one run on the board Ponniah was out for a 'duck'. Playing back to the former Antonian he got a thin edge and keeper Harris Perera took a comfortable catch.

Skipper Carylpe Perera was next man in. But he too did not last long. With just 2 more runs added to the Varsity score Burke got one to stand up a bit from a good length and Carylpe Perera too was back caught behind for 0.

But Varsity's troubles

(Continued on page 11)

### SCOREBOARD

#### COLTS 1st INNINGS

(Overnight 74 for 2)

D. P. de Silva, b Reid 11; W. Premaratne, c C. Perera, b Idroos 46; B. de Silva, c Anglie, b Fernando 10; V. Malalasekera, c and b Idroos 13; B. Samarasekera, c Reid, b Ernest 6; B. Seneviratne not out 5; D. Liveries not out 2; Extras 1; Total (for 7 wickets declared) 144.

FALL: 85, 104, 128, 129, 141.

BOWLING: M. Fernando 13-3-53-1; B. G. Reid 16-7-28-3; C. Ernest 14-3-36-1; M. L. Idroos 9-4-24-3.

#### VARSIITY—1st Innings

C. E. M. Ponniah c Samarasekera b Liveries 3; N. J. S. de Mel c Liveries 33; C. Perera c Perera b Burke 0; M. L. Idroos run out 5; A. Anglie b Liveries 6; N. S. Gurusinghe b Liveries 6; B. D. Reid b Liveries 4; U. R. P. Goonetilleke c Fernando b Liveries 1; C. Ernest not out 6; M. Fernando not out 9; Extras 4; Total (for 8 wickets declared) 54.

FALL: 1, 2, 10, 29, 35, 49, 51.

BOWLING: D. Liveries 9.4-4-12-5; F. Burke 3-0-28-2.

#### COLTS—2nd Innings

B. de Silva c Ernest b M. Fernando 6; R. Alles c Fernando b Ernest 12; D. P. de Silva lbw b M. Fernando 7; W. Premaratne not out 9; V. P. Malalasekera c and b Ernest 1; Extras 7; Total (for 4 wickets declared) 42.

FALL: 14, 28, 32, 42.

BOWLING: M. Fernando 11-4-16-2; B. D. Reid 7-2-11-0; C. Ernest 3.5-2-8-2.

#### VARSIITY—2nd Innings

C. E. M. Ponniah c Samarasekera b Liveries 3; N. J. S. de Mel c Brian de Silva b Fernando 30; C. Perera c Alles b Liveries 3; M. L. Idroos c Alles b Liveries 9; B. G. Reid not out 19; N. S. Gurusinghe not out 15; Extras 7; Total (for 4 wickets) 74.

FALL: 18, 24, 34, 35.

BOWLING: D. Liveries 11-4-22-3; F. Burke 7-0-28-0; T. N. Fernando 4-0-11-1; D. P. de Silva 4-0-6-0.



# VARSAITY ARE CHAMPIONS

(Continued from page 10)

were by no means over. A very silly attempt to steal a single cost Idroos his wicket, 7 runs later. De Mel drove one from Burke straight to Lavers at silly mid on, just a few yards off the wicket at the bowlers end. He called for a single but realised his mistake too late for Idroos was well out of his crease when Lavers lobbed the ball to Burke, who took the balls off.

Then Adiel Anghie joined de Mel and stayed till lunch which was taken with Variety 3 down for 19 runs—de Mel not out 8 and Anghie not out 4. Burke bowling on the spot and getting some response from the pitch had claimed two of the wickets for 4 runs.

After lunch Varsity once again walked into trouble. Darrel Lлевersz, who had not taken a wicket in his pre-lunch spell, got his arm going and had the Varsity batsmen tied up in knots with his late inswingers.

With a sustained spell of medium pace swing bowling he put the Colts well on top by dismissing five Varsity batsmen at a personal cost of 12 runs.

First he clean bowled Anglie for 6. Then with the Varsity score at 38 he dismissed Gurusinghe with a beauty—a ball pitched all outside the off stump.

to which Gurusinghe moved across, shouldered his bat and did not make a stroke, came in late to uproot his off stump. Opened Mel the only Varsity batsman who did not appear to be troubled by the Colts' pacemen was his next victim—also bowled in attempting to hit across one pitched well up to him U. R. P. Goonetilleke went next caught at first slip and when Reid was bowled by another late inswing Varsity had scratched together 51 runs for the loss of 8 wickets in just under 30 minutes batting. Hardly had Mohanlal Fernando joined Ernest at the crease when at 2.15 p.m. Varsity skipper Carlyle Perera too applied the closure at 54 for 8, no doubt in order to save bonus points on his last two wickets.

Colts who had a first innings lead of 90 runs lost two wickets for 32 runs before tea. Brian de Silva who opened with Alles, was first to go. With the score at 144 he attempted to glance one from Mohanlal Fernando and Ernest at leg slip took a grand catch No. 3 batsman D. P. de Silva joined Alles and took the Colts total to 28 before he was out i.b.w. to Mohanlal Fernando.

Alles was back in the pavilion soon after tea

caught by Fernando at mid on off spinner Ernest and when Malalasekera too was dismissed soon after caught and bowled Ernest for 1 Colts skipper Premaratne declared his second innings closed at 42 for 4

Varsity were now set to make 133 runs in 95 minutes for an outright win. This appeared to be a rather difficult task for the undergrads whose only hope of now winning the trophy was by attempting to collect the bonus points necessary by collecting the runs in proportion to their intact wickets.

With the Colts having collected 3 points for their first innings advantage the final outcome of the trophy was to be decided on bonus points.

But the Varsity batting once again failed. They lost four wickets for 35 runs—Lieverson claiming three of them.

Now Colts were well ahead on bonus points and Varsity had to collect at least another 36 runs without losing any more wickets if they hoped to win the trophy.

It was at this stage with just under an hour's play left and everything pointing to a Colts 'Sara Trophy' triumph that Buddy Reid and Gurusinghe began their

long and arduous fight  
back.

Taking no risks they set about their tasks like men dedicated to a cause. For once the Varsity appeared to get the measure of a thing but still dangerous Lieversz. Padding anything pitched outside the stumps these two quietly got on top of the bowling to slowly and surely pile up the necessary runs at the same time keeping their wickets intact.

If Colts had grabbed one more wicket at this stage then Varsity was doomed.

But in this tense atmosphere, and despite Colts skipper Premaratne bringing medium pacer T. N. Fernando and off spinner D. P. de Silva into the attack in his efforts to grab that all important wicket these two carried on as if their very lives depended on it.

With just two overs to go, Gurusinghe turned de Silva to leg for two runs which gave them the required 71 to edge the Colts out by the narrow margin of .02 of a point.

And when the news came across that the other key game between the SSC and NCC ended in a no decision this young Varsity side who were originally not to play in his 'Sara' tourney due to a technical infringement had covered themselves with glory.

## HOW THE POINTS ADDED UP

VARSITY		COLTS	
	points		points
Before game	21.18	Before game	12.77
7 Colts 1st innings. wks.	.70	1st Innings. Points.	8.00
1st Innings score (54)	.27	1st Innings score (144)	.72
4 Colts 2nd Innings. wks.	.40	8 Varsity 1st Innings wks.	.80
2nd Innings score (74)	.37	2nd Innings score (42)	.21
	.37	4 Varsity 2nd Innings wks.	.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>22.92</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>22.90</b>

Thawfeeq (2010) describes the last game of the season as related to him by Darrell.

“Liewersz recalls: It was the final game of the season and was referred to as the most sensational game ever in the Sara series. Praise must be given to the two captains, W. Premaratne of Colts, and Carlyle Perera of the University for their intelligent declarations during the course of the game. It was cricket at its glorious best wrote one sports journalist. We had the better of them throughout the game until Premaratne declared the Colts second innings with three wickets remaining which deprived the University of valuable bonus points if they had got the entire side out.

Darrell reflected back on that game, and the season, in 2014 –

“After leaving school in 1962 I played my first Sara Trophy season for the Colts Cricket Club. This was the year that the Colts missed winning the Sara Trophy by a mere 0.02 of a point to the University. It was the final game of the season and was referred to as the most sensational game ever in the Sara series. Praise must be given to the two captains, W. Premaratne of the Colts, and C. Perera of the University, for their intelligent declarations during the course of the game. “It was cricket at its glorious best” wrote one sports journalist. We had the better of them throughout the game until Premaratne declared the Colt’s second innings with three wickets remaining which deprived the University of valuable bonus points, if they got the whole side out. This was when the battle for bonus points began. When the University batted for the second time, they needed to score 20 runs per wicket to keep ahead of us in bonus points and all we needed was 5 wickets, and the Trophy would have been ours. It went down to the last hour when they were 4 wickets down for 34 runs. At this stage their target was 70 and we needed only one more wicket.

However, Buddy Reid who was one of the most technically perfect batsmen and Nihal Gurusinghe not only deprived us of that one wicket but with some stubborn batting managed to get the 70 runs needed for the bonus points for them to beat us by 0.02 of a point. At the end of the day all credit must go to the wonderful game of cricket.”

It was an excellent season for me as I had set a new bowling record of 72 wickets at 9.78 runs each. It would also have been my father’s first Sara Trophy win while being President of the Colts.”

Spare a thought for the sports department of Lake House and the Times as they attempted to analyse and describe the intricacies of bonus system for the next day’s issues, in an age of typesetting. Very rarely have cricket writers been confronted with such complex reporting. They had to do in one evening while the chronicler can take all the time in the world to comprehend what occurred after lunch on the Sunday of the game.

Of course, all those involved with the Varsity team can talk about this incident all their lives. If the Colts had taken the trophy as they deserved to, similar conversations would have permeated their lives ever after to the great disappointment of one single Colt, namely, Abu Fuard.

Sara trophy tourney review by Alban

# Team-work was the keynote of success

FOR the first occasion since its inception in 1950/51, the Ceylon University have won the P. Saravanamuttu trophy, which in reality is competed for the Cricket Championship of Ceylon. It is also the only instance when it has not been won by one of the 'big four', the Sinhalese Sports Club, the Tamil Union, the Burgher Recreation Club or the Nondescripts.

In fact the R.R.C. and the Tamil Union failed to qualify for the final round, while neither the S.S.C. nor the N.C.C. could finish as runners-up. In the case of the N.C.C., this was only the first year they have missed both the championship and the runners-up berths.

While no one will wish to gloat over the fall of the 'mighty', the University's victory is a new era, an era of hope for the rest of the clubs—those who have yet to win the trophy.

Not so long ago, the thought of any club, outside the 'big four', winning the Sara trophy was the cause of derisive laughter in most cricketing circles, as hopeless were their chances.

The rest acted for the most part as feeders to the 'big club', the University, who finished runners-up, have probably been the greatest sufferers. The reason for leaving usually given by those who transferred their affections, being the need for playing on turf. Happily for the Colts, they now possess a turf wicket and could cater to those who refuse to have nothing as a substitute.

## Turf wicket

There is no doubt that turf is the ideal for any serious type of cricket, but where there is no alternative, matting has to be used.

The University are the second team to win among the matting wicket clubs, the R.R.C. were the first.

Here again the University have given the matting-wicket clubs a flip. They have proved that a good cricketer could always adapt his technique to the surface on which he bats or bowls.

The preparation and maintenance of a turf wicket are so costly, that few existing matting wicket clubs will be able to do so. And for those who have the money, the problem of space is not easily surmounted.

As victory brings its rewards, the University in addition to their tour of Malaya, may be provided with a turf wicket in the near future. This would prove a great asset to the undergraduates.

The song of the Sara trophy champions has already been sung in union by all those who have the interests of the game at heart.

## A terrific boost

No praise has been too high for this gallant band of sportsmen. For they have by their victory given Ceylon club cricket a terrific boost and next year's matches including the preliminary rounds should be most interesting.

The margin of victory this year has been the smallest in the history of the tournament, home points deciding the ultimate issue.

The originator of the bonus points system was P. C. de Saram. The purpose was to prevent the loss of several hours play after a game had been decided in the first innings. Little could de Saram

have realized that some day a championship would be decided by two hundredths of a point! This was all the difference between the winners and the runners-up, the Colts. What is more, interest was maintained in this and some other games till the very last ball was bowled.

Reverting back to the final round of the Sara trophy there was little to choose between the four teams, the S.S.C., the N.C.C., the University and the Colts.

## Team-work

Eventually the XI that played best as a team were victorious, the University. The failure of the others could be attributed to their inability to produce that same high degree of team-work as the winners.

Here again, the University have set the other clubs an

example where team-work was the keynote of success, it seems invidious to pick out individuals. But Reid and Idroos as all-rounders, the captain, Gurusinghe, Ponniah, de Mel and Gunatilleke as batsmen and M. Fernando as seam bowler, were outstanding, some of them maintaining their fine form throughout the season.

Reid has arrived as a batsman of Ceylon standard, while his bowling with the new ball proved valuable. Fernando's ability to maintain fine control while moving the ball either way during long spells, proved a major contribution to winning championship honours.

Idroos' bowling and batting showed that degree of judgment associated with maturity, while Ernest was another who produced an extra effort as batsman or bowler whenever the side required it.

The correctly judged and fast run single especially by openers Ponniah and de Mel, provided an object lesson to most club cricketers, while the fielding throughout a strenuous season was of championship class.

Victory for the University was won the hard way and therefore well deserved.

## Colts

THE Colts, led by W. Premaratne, turned in their best performance in P. Sara trophy cricket to finish second, this being the third season they have been runners-up in the championship. The margin of points, 62 is also the narrowest between first and second in the history of this tournament, and the Harvard Park club could feel justifiably proud of its achievement.

The team could well have finished at the top of the table with more solidity in batting and sounder fielding. Most of the early matches were won by some exceptional fine seam bowling by A. Doranegama, Burke and Livera.

When Doranegama dropped out of the team later, Livera carried the main burden of the Colts' attack with such a high degree of competence, he very nearly bowled his side to the championship. He finished the season with a record number of wickets, and he and Doranegama have virtually forced themselves into a Ceylon side. Doranegama had the added distinction of carrying three hat-tricks during the season, two of them in tournament games.

While Livera has all the virtues of a near-perfect technique, Doranegama's lowish delivery may not satisfy the purists. However, the proof of the pudding is in its eating, and Doranegama's performances place him in the very select first flight of pace bowlers in Ceylon, has already shown the ability to mix a ball that moves away from the batsman, with his inswingers.

That the Colts could have finished second best club team



G. LIVERA

in the world with only three bowlers, is equivalent to what is the quality those practiced producers throughout a strenuous programme of 13 tournament fixtures, on all types of wickets and in all kinds of weather.

There is every reason to expect Premaratne will be able to lead the Colts to their first P. Sara championship this year. With the young man he leads, he is capable of moulding them into the finest combination in Ceylon.

## S.S.C.

THE Sinhalese Sports Club, champions in 1961/62 gained the only outright victory in the final round when they defeated the Colts.

But they were led by the University at Thurston Road and a no decision against the N.C.C. put them out of the reckoning, and they finished third.

C. I. Gunawartha, the Ceylon captain was a model of consistency in the last three matches, but of the younger players only Kodituwakku maintained his form throughout the season.

Like Reid, Doranegama and Livera, Kodituwakku is in Ceylon class, and what is more, he will improve. Possessed of a correct technique this batsman should be able to make runs on any type of wicket.

P. I. Perera settled down to be the team's most dangerous bowler, and among the younger set, Wimalaratne, L. Senanayake, Samarasinghe, and Caldera showed much promise.

Navaratne played in the final round matches, and showed he is still without a peer as a wicket-keeper.

## N.C.C.

THE Nondescripts finished last in the final round without even a single first innings victory for consolation.

Their failure could be put down to one of two causes, either the fact that a team plays below form once or twice in a season or the lack of team work.

The material is there in abundance and 1962/63 should see the N.C.C. back in their rightful place in Ceylon cricket.

Among the younger players who impressed were Waidyaratne and P. Perera, the latter in particular belongs to the highest class, and should be in a Ceylon team soon.

Prins, when available, proved he is still one of the most gifted all-rounders in the game.



R. REID

Ceylon an example worthy of emulation, to the manner of preparation for a championship.

With a carefully planned schedule of practices and practice matches, C. Perera the University captain set about his task of team-building in earnest.

## Outstanding

As we have pointed out before, the success or failure of a University cricket team is largely dependent on the captain—an acceptable and knowledgeable captain means a good side, whereas the finest University team could be ruined by an indifferent leader.

With a competent captain the process of building up a champion side was to be expected with the material at hand. And with the emphasis on team-work, time and again during the season, some member of the side came to the rescue, when all seemed lost.



### Colts player statistics

The following player statistics for the season are courtesy of Richard Alles. Alles passed away in 2009 and his family allowed the chronicler access to his scrapbook.

<b>BATTING AVERAGES, 1962-63 SEASON</b>						
	Name	Inn	Not out	HS	Runs	Ave.
1.	D.P. de Silva	20	2	103	530	29.44
2.	W. Premaratne	17	2	61	333	22.20
3.	Brian Silva	22	1	94	454	21.62
4.	R. Samarasekera	12	1	84	225	20.45
5.	R. Alles	21	1	60	382	19.10
6.	H.A. Perera	16	2	47	254	18.14
7.	A. de Silva	7	-	33	104	14.86
8.	D. Lieversz	15	8	22*	93	13.29
9.	B. Seneviratne	19	3	39	197	12.31
10.	D. Abeysekera	9	-	41	100	11.11
11.	S. Dorenagama	12	1	17	81	7.36
12.	T.N. Fernando	5	1	12*	29	7.25
13.	F. Burke	9	2	19	46	6.57
<b>ALSO BATTED</b>						
	K. Labrooy	3	1	14	16	
	A.Fuard	2	-	11	15	
	N.L. Fernando	3	2	65*	65	
	C. Wimalaratne	1	-	6	6	
	B. Buell	2	-	19	20	

<b>BOWLING AVERAGES, 1962-63 SEASON</b>						
	Name	O	M	R	W	Ave.
1.	S. Doranagama	177.3	48	361	46	7.85
2.	D. Lieversz	274.5	86	703	72	9.76
3.	T.N. Fernando	52	8	128	10	12.80
4.	F. Burke	127.4	26	385	22	17.50
5.	D.P. de Silva	61	19	131	7	18.71
6.	R. Samarasekera	19.1	3	99	5	19.80
7.	A. de Silva	7	-	33	104	14.86
<b>ALSO BOWLED</b>						
	K. Labrooy	10	-	26	-	
	A Fuard	16	3	32	1	
	B. de Silva	3	2	1	-	
	N.L. Fernando	2	-	20	-	
	W. Premaratne	2	-	5	-	
	B. Seneviratne	19.1	3	82	2	
	B. Buell	12	3	33	1	

<b>FIELDING, 1962-63</b>		
1.	H.A. Perera (WK)	23 (inc. 2 stumpings)
2.	R. Alles	13
3.	B. Silva	8
4.	B. Seneviratne	7
5.	D. Lieversz	7
6.	R. Samarasekera	7
7.	W. Premaratne	6
8.	D.P. de Silva	5
9.	T.N. Fernando	4
10.	F. Burke	3
11.	S. Doranagama	2
12.	A. de Silva	2
13.	D. Abeysekera	1
14.	N.L. Fernando	1
15.	A.Fuard	1

Mention should be made of the fielding of D. Abeysekera. He took one catch, but the stats do not reveal the number of catches he dropped. A scene that has never left the chronicler's mind's eye is of Abeysekera dropping catch after catch at slip off the paceman.

He played nine innings which means that he played a maximum of five games before he was dropped. He took over Fuard in the opener's role in the third game against Negombo and scored 41. That was the only decent score he made and ended up with an average of 11 with the bat.

Not unlike Fuard he bore a resentment against the Colts. During the 1970-1 season he represented a BRC B side against a Colts B side. The Colts lost by an innings and Abeysekera was beside himself. He carried on as if he were settling scores against his old club.

## **Lieversz bowling statistics**

At the completion of the 1962-63 cricket season Denzil L. Peiris wrote an account of Darrell's performance with the ball which he titled "Unique record by Lieversz" and the article appeared in either the Daily News or Observer along with a picture. The author sent a copy to the secretary of the club along with a covering letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> April 1963 with an address of the Bank of Ceylon.

The article went as follows –

"Quite the best performance in the Sara Trophy Tournament was the feat of the young Darrell Lieversz of the Colts who captured seventy-two wickets in purely tournament cricket. He thus broke the record standing to the credit of the former All-Ceylon and BRC cricketer Bobby Schoorman who captured 68 wickets in 1955-56.

The record of Darrell Lieversz is all the more creditable in that he performed this feat in his very first year of first-class cricket and this record is not likely to be broken for very many years. It was only last season that Darrell captained Royal and his hostile bowling and shrewd leadership enabled his College to finish second to Wesley in the unofficial School championship. He also had the honour of leading the bowling averages with a bag of 60 wickets at a remarkably low average of 8.38.

### **No indication**

The performance of Darrell during the early part of the tournament gave no indication as to his real bowling capabilities for he captured only eight in the first four matches as against the twenty-nine captured by his club mate Saliya Dorenagama. He got his first bag of five wickets in an innings against the BRC and thereafter took over the leading role in the Colts attack which had been severely handicapped by the absence of the "Ceylon" cap Abu Fuard.

He captured five wickets and over in an innings on no less than eight occasions and twice had match bags of 10 wickets and over. His biggest bag in an innings was his 8 for 28 against Negombo.

It should also be mentioned that in the final league of the tournament he captured as many as 19 wickets in only three matches against the cream of the Ceylon's batting returning figures of 5 for 78 vs SSC, 6 for 45 vs the NCC, and 5 for 12 vs the Varsity.

### **Far superior**

The magnitude of Darrell's feat may be gauged that since the inception of the Sara Tournament in 1950/51 only five bowlers have succeeded in capturing over 50 wickets, but debutant Darrell's average is far superior to them all being the only one to average less than 10 runs per wicket.

1955/56 – G.P. Schoorman 68 wickets Avg. 13.40

1960/61 – Malcolm Berenger 61 wickets Avg. 10.46

1957/58 – Sathi Coomaraswamy 53 wickets Avg. 10.46

1961/62 - L.R. Goonetilleke 52 wickets Avg. 10.46

1961/62 Tony Buhar 55 wickets Avg. 15.29



Darrell's father D.W.L. Lieversz, the President of the Colts and member of the Board of Control, who has himself represented Ceylon against Jack Ryder's Australian team in 1935 must indeed be very proud of his son's achievements. It is indeed a pity that no foreign teams are due in Ceylon this year, for if a Ceylon team were to be picked now, Darrell would be an automatic choice to represent his country and emulate the feat of Channa Gunasekera who followed in the footsteps of his distinguished father Dr. C.H. Gunasekera in getting a Ceylon cap.

#### **Full figures**

The following are the full details of his bowling figures in the Sara Trophy matches: -  
16.3-4-28-3 vs Tamils; 10-4-27-1 and 4-1-11-0 vs Catamarans; 10-6—9-0 and 13-4-18-4 vs Negombo; 14-3-22-5 and 5-0-31-2 vs BRC; 4-0-14-0 vs NCC; 16.3-11-23-3 and 11-3-24-8 vs Negombo; 19.3-7-64-6 and 11-4-39-3 vs Tamils; 17-4-36-6 and 12-2-36-6 vs Catamarans; 22-3-82-4 vs NCC; 21-7-61-2 vs BRC.

#### **FINAL ROUND**

28-11-78-5 vs SSC; 19-6-45-6 and 5-1-22-0 vs NCC; 9.4-4-12-5 and 11-4-22-3 vs Varsity

Total – 279.1-89-704-72

Average 9.78

Two other articles appeared on the same topic. One article titled "Lieversz sets bowling record" appeared in the Daily News and is attributed to "Daily News" sports reporter who is likely to be Denzil Peiris. The other was by Denzil L. Peiris. Titled "Darrell's 72 Sara Scalps" it carries identical information to his article which I have transcribed above but is in a different format.



# DARELL'S 72 'SARA' SCALPS

BY DENZIL L. PEIRIS

capturing over 50 wickets but debutant, Darrell's average is far superior to them, all being the only one to average less than 10 runs per wicket.

1955-56—G. P. Schoorman: 68 wickets Avg. 13.40

1960-61—Malcolm Berenger: 61 wickets Avg. 10.00

1967-68—Sathi Coomaraswamy: 53 wickets Avg. 13.04

Darrell's father D. W. Lieversz, the President of the Colts and Member of the Board of Control, who has himself represented Ceylon against Jack Ryder's Australian team in 1935 must indeed be very proud of his son's achievements.

**Q**UITE the best performance in the Sara Trophy tournament was the feat of young Darrell Lieversz, of the Colts, who captured seventy two wickets in purely Tournament Cricket.

He thus broke the record standing to the credit of the former All-Ceylon and B.R.C. cricketer Bobby Schoorman who captured 68 wickets in 1955/56.

The record of Darrell Lieversz is all the more creditable in that he performed this feat in his very first year of first-class cricket and this record is not likely to be broken for very many years.

It was only last season that Darrell captained Royal and his hostile bowling earned him a bag of 50 wickets at a remarkably low average of 8.38.

In the tournament, Darrell got his first bag of five wickets in an innings against the B.R.C. and thereafter took over the leading role in the Colts' attack, which had been severely handicapped by the absence of the Ceylon cap, Abu Fuard.

He captured five wickets and over in an innings on no less than eight occasions and twice had match bags of 10 wickets and over. His biggest bag in an innings was his 8 for 24 against Negombo.

It should also be mentioned that in the Final League of the tournament he captured as many as 19 wickets in only three matches against the cream of the Ceylon's batting returning figures of 5 for 28 vs SSC, 6 for 45 vs the N.C.C. and 5 for 12 vs the Varsity.

The magnitude of Darrell's feat may be gauged by the fact that since the inception of the Sara Tournament in 1950—51 only three bowlers have succeeded in

FULL FIGURES				
O	M	R	W	
16.3	4	28	1	vs Tamils.
10	4	27	1	vs Galle.
4	1	11	0	—do—
10	6	9	0	vs Negombo.
13	4	16	4	—do—
14	3	22	5	vs B.R.C.
5	0	31	2	—do—
4	0	14	0	vs N.C.C.
16.3	11	23	1	vs Negombo.
11	3	24	0	—do—
19.3	7	64	4	vs Tamils.
11	4	39	3	—do—
17	4	36	0	vs Galle.
12	2	36	0	—do—
22	3	82	4	vs N.C.C.
21	7	61	2	vs B.R.C.
FINAL ROUND:				
28	11	78	5	vs S.S.C.
19	6	45	4	vs N.C.C.
5	1	22	0	—do—
9.4	4	12	5	vs Varsity
11	4	22	3	—do—
279.1	89	704	72	

AVERAGE 9.78

*Best performance in the Sara Trophy tournament*

# LIEVERSZ SETS BOWLING RECORD



Darrell Lieversz

*Seventy two wickets  
at 9.78 runs each*

(By a "Daily News" Sports reporter)

Quite the best performance in the Sara Trophy Tournament was the feat of young Darrell Lieversz of the Colts who captured seventy two wickets in purely tournament cricket.

He thus broke the record standing to the credit of the former All-Ceylon and B.R.C. cricketer Bobby Schoorman who captured 68 wickets in 1955 — 56, states Mr. Dennis Peiris, Hony. Recorder of the Ceylon Cricket Association.

The record of Darrell Lieversz is all the more creditable in that he performed this feat in his very first year of first-class cricket. This record is not likely to be broken for very many years.

It was only last season that Darrell captained Royal and his bowler bowling and shared leadership enabled his College to finish second to Wesley in the unofficial School championship. He also had the honour of leading the bowling with a bag of 60 wickets at a remarkably low average of 8.38.

Darrell's performance during the early part of the tournament gave no indication as to his real bowling capabilities for he captured only eight in the first four matches as against the twenty nine captured by his club mate Ravi Doreenagama. He got his first bag of five wickets in an innings against the B.R.C. and thereafter took over the leading role in the Colts attack which

had been severely handicapped by the absence of the "Ceylon Cap" Abu Fuard.

He captured five wickets and over in an innings on no less than eight occasions and twice had match bags of 16 wickets and over. His biggest bag in an innings was his 8 for 34 against Negombo.

It should also be mentioned that in the Final League of the tournament he captured as many as 19 wickets in only three matches against the cream of the Ceylon's batting returning figures of 5 for 78 vs F.S.C., 6 for 45 vs the N.C.C., and 5 for 12 vs the Varsity.

## Only three

The magnitude of Darrell's feat may be gauged by the fact that since the inception of the Sara Tournament in 1950-51 only three bowlers have succeeded in capturing over 50 wickets but certainly Darrell's average is far superior to them all being the only one to average less than 10 runs per wicket.

1955-56 — G. P. Schoorman  
68 wickets, Avg. 13.40  
1956-57 — Malcolm Berenger  
61 wickets, Avg. 18.60  
1957-58 — Ravi Doreenagama  
53 wickets, Avg. 13.04.

Darrell's father D. W. L. Lieversz the President of the Colts and member of the Board of Control, who has himself represented Ceylon against Jack Ryder's Australian team in 1930 must indeed be very proud of his son's achievements.

It is a pity that no foreign team are due in Ceylon this year for if a Ceylon team were to be picked now Darrell would be an automatic choice to represent his country and emulate the feat of Chandra Gunasekera who followed in the footsteps of his distinguished father Dr. C. N. Gunasekera in gaining a Ceylon Cap.

Darrell also holds the 400 metre record in Ceylon with a time of 49.8 seconds which bettered Dr. H. M. P. Perera's time.



<b>Lieversz's bowling record</b>				
<b>Full details of his bowling figures in the Sara Trophy matches</b>				
<b>OPPONENT</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>TAMILS</b>	16.3	4	28	3
<b>CATAMARANS</b>	8	3	25	1
<b>CATAMARANS</b>	4	1	11	0
<b>NEGOMBO</b>	10	6	9	0
<b>NEGOMBO</b>	13	4	18	4
<b>B.R.C.</b>	14.4	4	21	5
<b>B.R.C.</b>	5	0	31	2
<b>N.C.C.</b>	4	0	14	0
<b>NEGOMBO</b>	16.3	11	23	3
<b>NEGOMBO</b>	11	3	24	8
<b>TAMILS</b>	19.3	7	64	6
<b>TAMILS</b>	11	0	60	3
<b>CATAMARANS</b>	17	4	36	6
<b>CATAMARANS</b>	12	3	36	6
<b>N.C.C.</b>	22	3	82	4
<b>B.R.C.</b>	21	7	61	2
<b>FINAL ROUND</b>				
<b>S.S.C.</b>	28	11	78	5
<b>N.C.C.</b>	19	06	45	6
<b>N.C.C.</b>	5	1	22	0
<b>VARSIITY</b>	9.4	04	12	5
<b>VARSIITY</b>	11	1	22	3
<b>TOTAL</b>				
	<b>279.1</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>72</b>

### **A season and final for the ages**

The final of 1963, if not the season of 1962-63, is unlikely to be repeated in first division cricket in Sri Lanka. It was truly the stuff of heroics, tragedy and sorrow. Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides couldn't have come up with a better plot.

It was a time when club cricket was given a wider press coverage than it is today. And sports journalism was of a high calibre.

The chronicler is grateful to the players who had the foresight to collect the relevant news clips and archive them in an organised and tidy manner. As a result, the Colts narrative has acquired a lustre and historical depth that sets it apart from similar narratives.