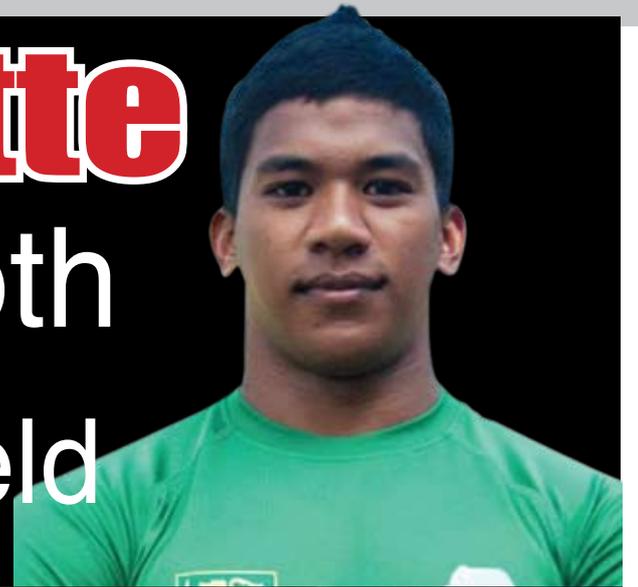


Field

# Nigel Ratwatte

## Prolific Goal Scorer Both On And Off The Rugby Field



By Cassandra Abeynaike

**T**wenty-four-year-old Nigel Ratwatte is a rugby player for the Sri Lankan national team and Upcountry Lions sports club. After another year he will be having a piloting license attaining the full accreditation for it. Amidst all these, he is working for John Keells as well.

Beginning with mini rugby at six years of age, he continued with it receiving immense support from his family because they too liked the sport.

Nigel has five years of club rugby experience under his belt including two years overseas and three years locally. In Sri Lanka, he first played for CR&FC for two years before joining Upcountry Lions. He gained the opportunity to play for Sri Lanka last year when he made his national rugby debut at the HSBC Asian Sevens tournament.

By training five days a week with gym sessions in the morning and ground work in the afternoon, Nigel has made quite a lot of achievements. He became the most popular player of the year from all the clubs in 2010, and won the plate finals in China, India and Singapore with the Sevens team in 2012. He was also named the most promising Upcountry Lions player in the same year and was able to win the national club 7s championship this year.

Nigel would like to thank his parents, wife and all the others who have been there to support him throughout his rugby career. He leaves this message for the children who wish to participate in his sport, "If they like it, they should train hard and be passionate about what they're doing and should love the game".

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