

## **United Petrotrin Sports College by Afiya Butler**

The Company's traditional alliance with football continues to be the lifeblood of the sport, both at the local and national levels. Sponsorship of the Southern Football Association (SFA) has not only provided the opportunity for Clubs throughout the southland to participate in properly organized competitions, it has allowed the SFA to carry out developmental programmes that nurture future players, especially for the national age group teams.

Petrotrin's involvement in football in its fence line communities through its support for their Community Leagues has not only provided an avenue for players to showcase and develop their talents, it has fostered and strengthened inter community relationships. Company personnel have also served football in critical administrative and technical capacities.

Earlier this year, Petrotrin revived the United Petrotrin Team that had functioned under different names at predecessor companies. Basically, the idea is to recruit players from teams in the fence-line communities train them and enter them into the Trinidad and Tobago Professional Football League Competitions.

So far the United Petrotrin team has been very successful beating out teams such as W. Connection who have five foreign-based players on their team. United Petrotrin emerged the eventual winner of the "Big Six League" a noteworthy achievement for a team that had just re-formed in under one year.

Noteworthy also are employees who serve as President of the SFA and Vice President of the Trinidad and Tobago Football Federation and as the Manager and the Coach of the National Futsal Team that qualified for the CONCACAF playoffs, having won the Caribbean Championship.

Petrotrin also provides for national football the necessary assistance worthy of its role as a good corporate citizen. \$ 1 million dollars was recently granted to the Trinidad and Tobago Football Federation towards their quest for World Cup success in Germany.