SUNDAY OBSERVER SINGER Asian Fashion Designer 2011 ashions move to centre stage

BY MAHES PERERA

he Sunday Observer Most Popular Contestant contest has begun. The Coupon was published last week and you have a little more than six weeks to enthusiastically involve yourself in supporting the contestant of your choice. Make sure you get your copy of the Sunday Observer weekly and remem-

ber any number of coupons can be sent in one envelope. So hurry don't delay, mail vour entries fast. Time flies fast. Next Sun-

they present themselves with

their relevant outfits and

their models who will dis-

play their creations for the

evaluation of the judges.

This will be judgement day

for some. Because a short

listing will take place and

contestants whom Lady Luck

favours will be fortunate to

tre stage at the pageant on January 15, 2012. Ceylon Continental will host the colourful pageant and the day, November 27 all 25 conpresenters will be happy to testants who were selected see you being a part of the for the semi-final will be show. again 'suffering nerves' when

Part proceeds from this glittering show will be donated to the Sri Lankadhara Society to build classrooms for pre-school students. If you wish to make a contribution to the Sri Lankadhara Society please contact Princy Butani the Presenter on 7 7 3 5 2 7 0 9 0 / 0778127960/078702448.

move into the final to be cen-





A science student at Ladies College, Keshini wants to be a doctor. Fashion she says, "is a hobby. I enjoy it. I find it very relaxing. It gives me free way to express my creativity. My mother is very supportive. She encouraged me to apply for the contest. I was given the categories - office wear, swim wear and evening glamour. I design cos-

tumes for the Performing Arts group and I like using colours with plain designs". Keshini Nanayakkara joined the contest because she wanted to display her talents. "If I were to win, I would definitely do fashion as a side line, create costumes and evening glamour wear".

Thakshila Perera

Working at a bank and dabbling with cash, cheques and computer summaries is a far cry from designing clothes for females. But to Thakshila working at the Standard Chartered Bank fashion designing is a hobby and she enjoys creating styles. "As a hobby I keep on drawing and I do my own designing. What I look for in clothes is elegance and comfort and I advocate simplicity and elegance for others also. The younger genera-tion today, they go for simple styles and they should dress

according to the event especially the time of the day. My selections decided by the judges are swim wear, office wear and smart casual wear. I have ideas of making my swim wear sexy! Actually taking part in this competition is like a dream. I'm talking like a child. When I was young I used to think that I wanted to be a banker and a fashion designer. A fashion designer to collect funds for children's causes. My parents they are both supportive of my enthu-

siasm in this venture.





Thivanka Subasinghe

Confident of winning the contest, Thivanka is keen on going to Australia or the UK and acquiring a degree in fashion. "At present I have a diploma from LIFT International and I am working as an Assistant Designer at Eskimo Fashion Knit Wear at Kadirana, Negombo. When I come back from abroad after qualifying I hope to open my own fashion house and my own label."

A former student of St. Paul's, Milagiriya, Thivanka is happy that there is a competition such as this. Her sections given by the judges were saree, lingerie and swim wear, although she prefers casual and evening wear. "I cut and sew outfits and I enjoy hand painting and bead work and I have a lot of support from my parents and my sister-in-law.'

Pix: Vipula Amerasinghe



Dilum Sachindra

A past student of Kingswood College and Dharmaraja College, Kandy, Dilum after his A/L joined Felu German Academy, Nugegoda and gained a diploma in fashion designing. He's happy to participate in this contest. "It gives us the youth the opportunity and another avenue for us to shine. I'd like my designs to be displayed along with other foreign designs. If I win this contest, like what the others have said, I hope to open a fashion house. My sections to work on, given by judges, are office wear, swim wear and evening wear.'