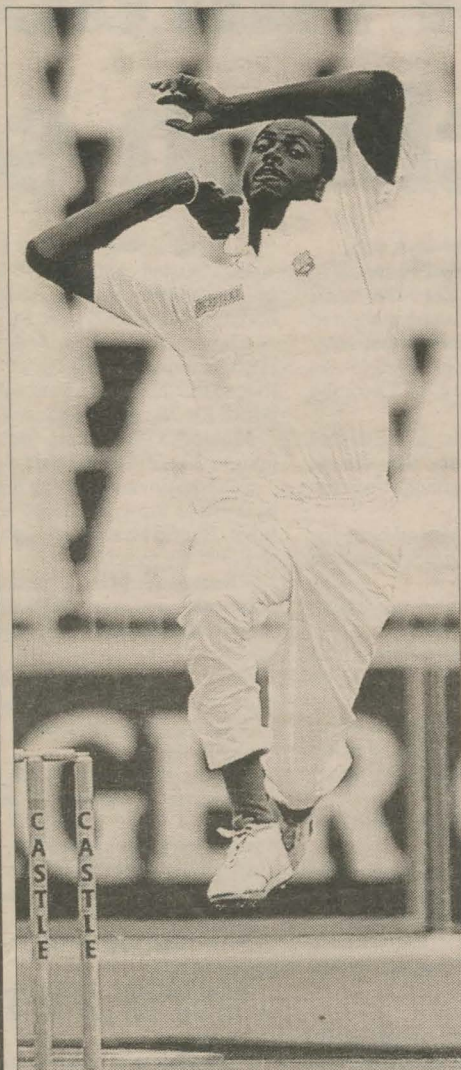


SPORT

B/N - WALSH, Courtney

Courtney Walsh appreciation year announced



Walsh

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, March 15 (CANA) — All Sport Promotions (ASP) Limited announced Wednesday that this year 2000 is being celebrated as “Courtney Walsh Appreciation Year”, honouring the outstanding West Indies pacer for his achievements.

The regional sports promotion and management company, will co-ordinate a series of events throughout the year to honour the 37-year-old Jamaican fast bowler, who is nine wickets away from breaking Kapil Dev’s world record for test wickets.

“I am very pleased and satisfied with what is being planned for me this year,” Walsh said Wednesday.

Several testimonial dinner functions are being planned, beginning next Monday night in Trinidad, where the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB), will be represented by the Secretariat’s staff, and the new management team.

Harford announced Wednesday that ASP would be approaching the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), to bestow a regional award on Walsh if he attains the world record.

“We see his contribution as a West Indies cricketer and more importantly as a West Indian citizen, as being sig-

nificant enough to merit celebration,” Harford said on the CANASport radio programme Wednesday.

“Also, he is very close to the world record and that in itself as a single item does beg considerable celebration as well in the Caribbean and indeed the wider cricketing community,” Harford said.

Other testimonial dinners for Walsh are planned for St Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Guyana, Barbados, Antigua & Barbuda, St Kitts & Nevis, Dominica, St Lucia, and New York.

Testimonial matches are slated for Canada, the Cayman Islands, Bermuda, India, and Florida, and plans are being made for events in his homeland Jamaica.

“Jamaica will be the centre piece of the celebration and we are not setting dates until all the plans are finalised,” Harford told CANA.

A television special on Walsh’s life is to be produced during the year, and a special set of phone cards celebrating him as a Caribbean hero, will be issued later in the year across the region.

A limited number of items celebrating Walsh’s world record, if achieved, will be marketed.