

Cricket Hall of Fame to induct its first female

When the Cricket Hall of Fame holds its annual Induction Ceremony this year, among the inductees will be Barbados-born Barbara P. Lindo. Well-known for her work in the Hartford community and outstanding contributions to the sport of cricket in the area, Lindo will become the first woman to be afforded that honor. Her recognition will also make it the first time that a husband and wife team will be making it into the Hall of Fame. Her husband, Cyrus, was one of the earlier inductees.

The ceremony set for Saturday, October 1, 2005, at the new Marriott Hotel, Adriaen's Landing, downtown Hartford, boasts an impressive line-up of former international cricket stars who will also be inducted. They are former West Indies fast bowler, Andy Roberts of Antigua and Indian leg-spinner Bhagwat Chandrasekhar. Joining them will be well-known West Indian cricket writer Tony Becca of Jamaica.

Two other local personalities, Alvin "Al" Watson of Hartford/Florida (posthumously), and Carlyle Miller of New York will also be inducted for outstanding contributions to the sport in the U.S.

A menacing fast bowler, whose bouncer was regarded as one of the most dangerous, Roberts took less than two and a half years to reach 100 Test wickets, the quickest at that point. The modern West Indian game based on the heavy artillery of fast bowlers that served so well for a quarter of a century began with him, one writer said. He was a very intelligent cricketer, who plotted and planned the downfall of batsmen as if it were a military campaign.

A rare jewel in the game, Chandrasekhar remains India's biggest match winner overseas with 42 wickets in five tests. Batsmen didn't know quite what to expect from him and sometimes neither did Chandra himself, as he once admitted. He could often be erratic but no one among India's famed spin quartet was more likely to deliver an unplayable ball than Chandra.

Becca, who recently retired as Sports Editor of the Gleaner newspaper, is one of the most respected writers of the sport throughout the Caribbean region.

As usual, the Cricket Hall of Fame is working hard to produce a program with the same high quality as previous ones. Supporters can be assured that they will once a gain be treated to a very entertaining, exciting and enlightening program. It is possible that like the last year's ceremony they may be in for some surprises.

Persons interested in attending the function or need more information are asked to contact the Cricket Hall of Fame at (860) 246-5400, Stan Walker at (860) 243-5314, Mike Chambers at (860) 250-2796 or at email sgwalk@sbcglobal.net.