First Citizens Sports Foundation

HALL OF FAME



Lancelot R. Pierre

Cricket

Inducted in 1985

'Lance' Pierre may have only played one Test match, but at least his team won that game to set up a historic 2-0 series win against England. It was 1948, with a world battered by war seeking to return to some semblance of the life that existed before World War II. Sport would play an important role in that endeavour, with the 1948 Olympics in London and, before that, a tour by the England cricket team to the Caribbean.

Pierre was – like so many sportsmen of the era – dividing his time between two sports as there were distinct seasons for football (rainy season) and cricket (dry season). At the age of 20 this bowler with the smooth action and high delivery had made his debut for Trinidad and Tobago before the War in Europe put a pause on sport across the globe.

Thus, he played one season before concentrating on football.

When regional cricket resumed, Pierre formed a formidable new ball partnership with Prior Jones, representing Trinidad and Tobago for three seasons, 1948-1950.

The English team played two warm-up matches against Trinidad and Tobago before the 2nd Test held at the Queen's Park Oval. Pierre was not selected for the first match, but playing in the second he returned figures of 2 for 56 and 2 for 29 in each English innings. He had piqued the Windies' selectors interest but did not play in the next Test in Port of Spain as expected.

Instead, was selected to bowl his fast medium controlled deliveries in the 3rd Test in Guyana, becoming the 22nd Trinidad and Tobago cricketer to represent the West Indies. He only bowled two overs in the first innings as England fell cheaply for 111 and followed on, and in the second innings Pierre's five overs also did not yield any wickets.

He returned to regional and domestic cricket for the 1948 and 1949 seasons, where his consistency saw him again gain selection for the Windies and their 1950 tour to England. He did not play in any of the four Test matches but took a liking to English conditions in the matches versus the English counties, culminating in eight wickets for 51 runs against Lancashire. He retired after this tour, injuries having been plaguing him for a few years and taken the edge off his raw pace.

For his part in the continuing legacy of Trinidad and Tobago fast bowling and his representation on the regional team, Lancelot Pierre was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame in 1985.

Matches: Test 1; First Class 35

Batting: First Class 131 runs, Average 6.23

Bowling: First Class Wickets 102, Average 24.72