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Cox fourth in Barbados Powerade marathon

Published: 7 Dec 2009

T&T's Curtis Cox had to settle for fourth spot in the Powerade Marathon yesterday to highlight the closing of the annual Run Barbados Series. The race was won by St Lucian veteran Victor Ledger who brilliantly paced himself to a sixth victory. Ledger clocked two hours, 32 minutes, 29 seconds for the only Caribbean triumph of the two-day series. He won ahead of Kenya's Simon Sawe, with St Lucian Zepherinus Joseph third.

In the marathon event, Ledger was among the leading group from the start and shrugged off a sustained challenge from Sawe to move clear for an uncontested victory at the Bay Street finish in front of Government House. "I was feeling good, I decided to make a move over the last four miles and it worked for me," said Ledger, who previously won in 1995, 1996, 2004, 2006 and 2007. "Training was good, it all worked out and I am looking forward to 2010," added Ledger, who was third last year. Sawe (Simon) clocked 2:33:59 for second with Joseph third in 2:34:56 and Cox, fourth in 2:38:18 with defending champion and three-time winner Pamenos Ballantyne, of St Vincent and the Grenadines, fifth in 2:39:59.

Jamaican Andrew Gutzmore was sixth in 2:40:33. Penina Sawe, of Kenya, won the women's 26.2-mile run in 3:13:34 to add to her 10K win on Saturday, while Kenya's Philip Lagat and American Erin O'Mara emerged champions of the Scotiabank Half Marathon, which was run simultaneously. Finishing 13th overall, Sawe was an unchallenged winner of the women's race over fellow Kenyan Josiane Aboungono (3:26:18) with veteran ex-champion Kim Goff, of the USA, third in 3:43:18.

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