

WEEKEND VACCINATION ABORTED OVER MONEY!

SEE PAGE 4

No, our front page picture is not intended to represent or portray an aborted baby, lest that be suggested by its juxtaposition with the headline. Rather, it is a pencil drawing by our own inimitable Anson Henry, a local partner artist of the Halo Foundation and the Royal Drawing School (RDS) which have together put on a 3-month course for art teachers. *Find out more on PAGE 14*

INSIDE: Andy Roberts conferred with UWI Honorary Doctor of Laws
More climate advocacy by PM Browne
Psychiatric Hospital gets welcome donation

IMF to issue downbeat outlook as spectre of stagflation looms

Weaker global growth, vaccine protectionism and the spectre of 1970s-style inflation haunting large economies. As the International Monetary Fund (IMF) prepares for its annual gathering this week, the contrast with the spring could not be more stark.

Back in April, at the Washington-based fund's last virtual bash, there were sharp upgrades for global growth amid a sense of optimism for the road ahead, led by stronger-than-expected recoveries in the US, UK and other advanced economies. Vaccines would pave the way for the swift unlocking of pandemic restrictions, fuelling a rapid recovery from the worst global recession since the 1930s Great Depression.

Since then, the

sprint back to economic health has slowed to a hobble, the head of the IMF, Kristalina Georgieva, warned last week. "We are unable to walk forward properly – it is like walking with stones in our shoes!"

On Tuesday, the IMF is expected to issue a downbeat economic outlook for the rest of the year, as a summer of supply-chain bottlenecks and rising inflationary pressures risks worsening this autumn.

In July, the IMF predicted 6% growth for the global economy in 2021, but Georgieva said last week that this would be scaled down in its updated World Economic Outlook report.

The IMF is expected to warn that low-income nations are still not getting adequate access to COVID vaccines, in a development like-

ly to cost the world economy at large if left unaddressed. "We need a bigger push," Georgieva said last week, calling for a sharp increase in the delivery of doses to the developing world.

Taking place virtually for a second year running, the meetings come as a cloud of controversy swirls

around the IMF, following allegations that Georgieva – in her previous job at the bank – artificially boosted China's ranking in a flagship World Bank report on the best countries to do business with.

Georgieva met the IMF board last week in an attempt to rebut the accusations

Do you want to print?

- Business Cards •
- Letter Heads •
- Flyers •
- Booklets •
- Annual Reports •
- Certificates •
- Business Forms •
- Invoices •
- Receipt Books •
- Brochures •
- Calendars •
- Magazines •
- Invitations •
- ID Cards •

We print it for you.

INTER SOLUTIONS

268-562-4989
268-725-0636
268-770-4518

Lower North Road
St. John's, Antigua
Email: inter@inter.solutions.com

QUICK DELIVERY
LOWEST PRICE
INSTANT PRINTING

YOU THINK IT WE PRINT IT

against her, issuing a statement to say she looked forward to resolving the matter.

The controversy is, however, unlikely to overshadow the storm clouds gathering for the world economy. Alongside the mainly virtual event, Britain's finance minister (Chancellor of the Exchequer), Rishi Sunak, is expected to jet into Washington to attend a gathering of G20 finance ministers to discuss an action plan for the

deteriorating outlook.

Taking a break from budget preparations in his first trip to the US since becoming chancellor last year, Sunak will also chair a G7 meeting as part of the UK's revolving presidency of the group of rich western nations. Ministers are expected to rubber-stamp global tax reforms agreed at the OECD last week, though the weaker global outlook and the IMF's

support for developing nations are expected to dominate the agenda.

Concern is mounting over the strength of the global economy, with expectations that rising inflation could force major central banks to reduce their pandemic stimulus measures at a time when the recovery from COVID-19 remains incomplete.

With supply shortages set to persist well into next year as the coronavirus Del-

ta variant prevents a return to relative normality, a period of stagflation – stagnant growth and high inflation, reminiscent of the 1970s – could be on the cards.

It's all a long way from the IMF's optimism of the spring. If the outlook were to deteriorate at anything like the pace of the past six months, a renewed winter of discontent could lie ahead. *(Reprinted from the UK Guardian newspaper)*

POPCORN CHICKEN
\$9.99

4 STRIPS
\$9.99

5 HOT WINGS
\$9.99



SNACKABLES



Order Pickup + Delivery on



allmartplace.com

FOR DELIVERY 

736-7845 / 562-9444

or DOWNLOAD THE APP...

Apple Store / Google PlayStore



#StaySafe

 @kfcanu
  @kfcanu

#KFCANU #SOCIALDISTANCING #MADEFRESHEVERYDAY

No weekend vaccination; nurses refuse to work due to nonpayment of overtime

by *Shelton Daniel*

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has apologized for what he describes as a faux pas that resulted in no mass public vaccinations this past weekend, something that has almost never happened in the past several months since they were introduced and become very popular.

Weekend vaccinations – which have included mobile service and inoculation at sites other than the specially designated locations, which include established clinics – have accounted for very large numbers of people presenting themselves for vaccination against COVID-19.

But nurses who have been manning the weekend vaccination venues, refused to turn out

Saturday just past because they had not been paid. “Apparently the nurses were to be paid their overtime, and for some reason – even though the cheque was actually issued to pay them -- the bureaucracy didn’t get it right. Unfortunately, the nurses were not paid and I’m told, as a result, there are no vaccinations taking place today and tomorrow,” Browne said on Saturday during his weekend radio program, *The Browne & Browne Show* on **Pointe FM 99.1**.

He added: “That is so unfortunate because the last thing we want to do is lose momentum. And this is where, from time to time, we see public servants dropping the ball. The cheque was apparently issued over a week ago. Then,

apparently, some bureaucrat in the Ministry of Health said the cheque had to be done over; and, to get a replacement cheque, no one had the common sense to make sure that it got done and to ensure that the nurses got paid on a timely basis.” Said the Prime Minister further: “I cannot fault the nurses for not showing up to work, even though my preference was for them to exercise a little more patience ... The unfortunate thing about it is that only today – after the fact – we were told about it; because if we knew this was going to develop yesterday, we would definitely push them to get it done.”

Instead, he stated, “We were given all the assurances that they would have the payments ready for

the nurses, and they just dropped the ball.”

According to PM Browne, “This type of performance in the 21st Century is just totally unacceptable ... They have literally undermined the vaccination process by virtue of their incompetence ... I’m not happy about it, but that’s an issue for another time.”

It was during this segment of the program that the Prime Minister disclosed a challenge with the former National Technical Training Center (NTTC), recently converted to a healthcare facility that has been renamed the Sir Cuthwyn Lake Medical Center. “The problem is we do not have enough manpower to operate that facility, so we need healthcare workers soonest,” he declared.

Remarks by Prime Minister Gaston Browne at UWI launch of Global Institute for Climate-Smart & Resilient Development – Thursday 7 October 2021



Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

It is an honour for me to be invited to speak at today's launch of the Global Institute for Climate-Smart and Resilient Develop-

ment at the University of the West Indies.

At the outset, I want to congratulate the University of the West Indies

(UWI) for its most recent ranking in the top 1.5% of all universities in the world. This ranking is an improvement, up from 3% in the

previous year. The UWI, having moved up 94 places, now stands alongside the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany. This is a notable achievement, and I join the applause.

Colleagues, human-caused climate change is already upon us. Our work is to figure out how to live with climate change, to adapt our [societies], our economies and infrastructure to extreme weather, and to mitigate the losses and damages to which we cannot adapt.

Our vulnerable region has more storms, drought, extreme rain and coastal flooding because of climate change. Of these, hurricanes and

storms are the most frequent and the most costly climate damage affecting our countries. The Caribbean was hit by over 110 storms between 1980 and 2016, inflicting nearly 95% of all damage from weather disasters. Hurricanes are already more intense since 2000.

We have come a long way with climate resilience.

It is more expensive to build a basic home in the Caribbean than in Latin America. Why? Because, among other factors, our building codes include mandatory structural protection against strong hurricane-force winds. But we still have a long way to go to achieve the vision of the Caribbean as a climate-resilient zone.

The financial sector globally is already climate stress-testing their portfolios, but our banks and financial institutions are slow off the mark in this area. We need local talent, skilled with the latest cutting-edge climate technologies, to be employed by our financial institutions to transition their portfolios.

When it comes to reducing emissions, jobs for solar and wind technicians are in the top 10 fastest growing in the US; and if we don't catch

up with local skilled technicians, we will be forced to bring in expensive international consultants when our people could be learning and building our future clean and climate resilient economies.

Climate finance is scaling up, and I am encouraged to see – with the Covid-19 economic downturn – that institutions like UWI look to international climate finance to scale up action locally.

Our region has just five national and regional institutions accredited to the Green Climate Fund, with only four approved projects combined. Of the approved climate finance so far, only 40% has been disbursed in the Caribbean on average.

This simple statistic highlights our project implementation challenges. This is not good enough; we can and we will do better.

Small islands have well-known capacity challenges: we are not receiving our fair share of global climate finance. We must be strategic and work together regionally to secure more international projects, and to spend and implement approved projects to deliver impact that keeps pace with climate change and the shift to a net-zero car-

bon economy. We suffer too much at the hands of climate change; we need to urgently capitalize on the opportunities of this global transition.

Antigua and Barbuda is the proud home of UWI's newest Five Islands Campus and the Centre of Excellence for Oceanography & the Blue Economy.

We have seen first-hand the benefits of a collaborative, regional approach to addressing common challenges.

This new Global Institute is an important step, with targeted outcomes to increase mitigation and adaptation solutions, to test and pilot climate resilient products and services and greenhouse gas reduction technologies and using new online learning tools. The work of this Institute will help our region to secure more climate finance, and to therefore manage the transition to a low-carbon economy with minimal disruption.

I commend the University of the West Indies for launching an Institute that will educate a new generation of climate, energy and environmental innovators to bring us closer to a net-zero carbon and climate resilient region. Thank you.

Food drive for Clarevue Psychiatric Hospital on Mental Health Day

In recognition of World Mental Health Day and spreading awareness of mental health support mechanisms and institutions, the JCI Antigua RISE committee hosted a food drive.

All received items went to the Clarevue Psychiatric Hospital where the donation was presented on Thursday 7th October in time for World Mental Health Day, observed on October 10th.

According to the president of JCI Antigua, Laycia Samuels, “A person who believes in the Creed will most definitely find service to humanity as the best work of life. Our committee organized a food drive in which we donated the items to Clarevue Psychiatric Hospital to spread awareness about the mental healthcare institution.”

Madam President Leycia and co-Chair of the JCI Rise Committee Anique Hillaire delivered the items to the deputy superintendent of the institution.

The JCI Antigua president stated that the pandemic has forced us to confront the importance of mental health.

“The committee recognizes that much assistance has not been shown to our mental [healthcare] institution(s) on the island. To bring awareness, the committee decided to host a food drive in which the selected institution was the Clarevue Psychiatric Hospital. Items donated to the institution were provisions (potatoes, plantains, cucumbers, season peppers); canned items such as milk, sardine, tuna, mackerel, luncheon meat... Cornmeal, assorted pasta, [lentils], rice and Crix, were among the donated items. The approximate cost of the items donated to the institution is \$700,” president Samuels indicated.

She went on to explain that JCI Antigua recognizes the importance of mental health and its institutions to the community and has made several donations over many decades.

The local NGO further stated that one of the mandates of its 61st president is to focus on mental health and determine how, as an organization, it can assist in whatever way possible.

'THE STIGMA ATTACHED TO MENTAL INSTITUTIONS.'

A PANEL DISCUSSION ON MENTAL HEALTH, SPIRITUALITY, COMPASSION, AND OVERCOMING CHALLENGES.

MS. JO-NELLE WALSH
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

MR. RICHIE RICHARDS
AUTHOR

MS. CAVELL MORRIS
PSYCHIATRIC NURSE

DR. NNEKA HULL JAMES
HOST

DATE: OCTOBER 19TH 2021 TIME: 7:00 PM
ZOOM: 835 6064 1721 PASSCODE: 457642



A webinar – initially planned for World Mental Health Day – on the topic ‘The stigma attached to mental institutions’, was rescheduled for Tuesday, Octo-

ber 19, 2021.

Too often persons fear seeking help and society tends to shun these persons. It is hoped that, through this webinar, that cycle can be broken.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that **Ms. REBEKA BLANCHARD of SOUTHERLAND village, St. John's, Antigua** is applying to the Minister for Naturalisation and that any person who knows any reason why Naturalisation should not be granted should send a written and signed statement of the facts to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.



Give us a call 481-2500 and Roll Like a PRO

Sir Andy Roberts awarded Doctor of Laws at UWI Graduation!

For their outstanding contributions to regional and international development, The University of the West Indies (The UWI) will present honorary degrees to 14 eminent persons at its 2021 graduation ceremonies.

Of these 14 eminent persons, two Antiguan were honored on Sunday October 10, 2021, during The UWI Five Islands Campus virtual graduation ceremony.

Dr. George A. Mansoor (physician, educator and entrepreneur) was awarded Doctor of Science (DSc) while Sir Anderson Montgomery

Everton Roberts is considered the father of modern West Indies fast bowling.

According to ESPN *Cricketinfo* and Britannica, Roberts was the first player from Antigua to represent the West Indies. He was a vital member of the four-pronged pace (fast-bowling) attack that made the West Indies such a feared team in the 1970s and '80s. The senior fast bowler on the team, he handed down his experience to the likes of Michael Holding, Joel Garner, Colin Croft, Wayne Daniel, Courtney Walsh, and Curtly Ambrose.

Roberts was at his best during the West Indies' tour of India in 1975 when he was named *Wisden Cricketer of the Year*. He



took his 100th wicket in his 19th Test (international two-innings, five-day match), faster than any other bowler to date. In only 47 Test appearances, Roberts picked up 202 wickets.

Moreover, he was not unskilled as a batsman and managed three half-centuries (scores of at least 50-runs but less than 100) in Test competition. During the 1975 World

Cup, his last wicket partnership of 60-plus runs with Deryck Murray took West Indies to a thrilling victory over Pakistan.

He served as the coach of the West Indies in the 1990s and was a member of the inaugural induction class of the International Cricket Council's Hall of Fame in 2009.



APUA ELECTRICITY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

These planned outages are necessary for our continuous upgrade and maintenance programme to provide reliable and consistent service to our customers.

Monday, 11th October 2021	Tuesday, 12th October 2021	Wednesday, 13th October 2021	Friday, 15th October 2021
Section of Pares east of the Primary School 8:15 AM - 11:30 AM	Lightfoot East 8:15 AM - 11:30 AM	Pares Village, Diamond and south of Lindsay 8:15 AM - 12:00 PM	Bendals Water Treatment Plant 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Buckleys Line from KFC to Olivers 8:15 AM - 11:30 AM	Section of Buckleys Main Road west of Island Academy 8:15 AM - 11:30 AM		Newfield, St. Phillips, Crossroads Centre, Browns Bay and Mill Reef 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Kindly note that this schedule is subject to slight variation. Changes will be communicated on the APUA Facebook page. Any service disruptions outside of this schedule were not anticipated. For further information and updates please call 311.



Congratulations Dr. George Mansoor!

Dr. George Mansoor

The Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre has extended congratulatory messages to one of their own, Dr. George Mansoor.

Dr. Mansoor was, on Sunday, awarded with an Honorary Doctor of Science degree by The University of the West Indies (Five Islands) at its 2021 graduation ceremony.

Dr. Mansoor joins 14 eminent persons from across the

region who, according to The UWI, was awarded for “their outstanding contributions to regional and international development”.

Nominations from across The UWI’s five campuses were approved by the University Council at its sitting on April 30, 2021. These 2021 graduates will join a list of over 450 honorary degree recipi-

ents conferred by the regional university since 1965.

The UWI retains this annual tradition of conferring honorary degrees, even as some of its graduations are expected to again be held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic – this time during the customary ‘graduation season’ of October-November.



MONDAY-FRIDAY
7:00pm - 8:30pm

SPORTS OVERFLOW
With
VERNON A. SPRINGER
CO-HOST **ELWIN FRANCIS**

Powered By: 



Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre initiates universal Hepatitis B birth-dose vaccination

Starting today, Monday October 11, healthy newborns at Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre (SLBMC) will receive a birth-dose of Hepatitis B vaccine within the first 24 hours of life to improve their protection against the enduring and potentially fatal disease.

In 2009, the World Health Organization (WHO) emphasized prevention of mother-to-child Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) transmission, by recommending that all countries – even those with low HBV prevalence – introduce universal Hepatitis B birth-dose vaccination.

“Hepatitis B can lead to devastating life-long illnesses or even death, so this vaccine is a critical safety net to protect babies from acquiring a potentially serious infection at the time of birth,” said Dr. Shivon Belle-Jarvis, MD, SLBMC Pediatric Department Chair. “Many adults with an infection do not feel or look sick and are not even aware that they carry the virus. It is contagious and adults

can transmit it while caring for an infant after birth.”

Hepatitis B is a viral infection that attacks the liver and can cause both acute and chronic disease. Chronic infection over the course of a lifetime can lead to liver damage, liver failure, liver cancer, or even death.

“This is the first vaccine a baby receives,” said Ann-Marie Browne-Isaac, RN, SLBMC Maternity & Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Department Manager. “It is important that no newborn leaves the hospital without it. Infants are especially vulnerable to infection at the time of birth, and need the maximal protection provided by administering the first vaccine dose shortly after birth.”

All medically stable newborns with a minimum birth weight of 2,000 grams (about 4 lbs, 6 oz) and born to mothers who are Hepatitis B-negative, will receive the vaccine within 24 hours of birth.

For infants born to Hepatitis B-posi-



(L-R): Nurse Ann-Marie Browne-Isaac, RN, SLBMC Maternity & Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Department Manager; and Dr. Shivon Belle-Jarvis, MD, SLBMC Pediatric Department Chair – pictured with the vaccine refrigerator (estimated value \$6000 XCD) donated by the Kiwanis Club of St. John's Antigua.

tive mothers, the first dose of Hepatitis B vaccine and Hepatitis B immunoglobulin will be administered at birth, which is not new, regardless of birth weight or other co-morbidities.

The vaccine is well tolerated in infants.

Salma Crump, SLBMC Head of Marketing & Communications, said: “This policy change is being guided by the Ministry of

Health Wellness & the Environment. We're grateful for the support of the Pan American Health Association (PAHO) who assisted with funding for our education program, which is ongoing—as well the support of the Kiwanis Club of St. John's Antigua, who immediately said yes when we asked for their assistance with purchasing a vaccination refrigerator.”

Reducing active COVID cases a hard task, unless more get vaccinated – PM



by **Shelton Daniel**

Why not reduce the number of active COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda before relaxing the regulations and associated restrictions that have been in place to contain the disease?

That was a question put to Prime Minister Gaston Browne on Saturday during his weekly radio program, *The Browne & Browne Show* on **Pointe FM 99.1**.

Government on Thursday announced an extension of the daily hours of public

access to the nation's beaches, a pending reopening of gyms, a resumption of dining-in at restaurants which were restricted to takeaway service only, among other easing of curtailments.

Prime Minister Browne said a significant reduction in active COVID cases was not something that could be counted upon to happen anytime soon, because the national level of risk and vulnerability remains high, due to still-insufficient numbers of vaccinated people.

"The problem is we have so many people who are unvaccinated ... it is unlikely that we are going to see any significant reduction down to single digit and so on. Those days are gone. We won't see any single digit total cases. You may get single digit daily cases. We have to understand that there is widespread community [transmission] and as a consequence the virus is out there replicating itself among unvaccinated persons; and [even] some vaccinated persons are [also] be-

ing infected."

Browne said a practical view of the situation is essential. "If you have 1,000 cases out there already and the Delta variant, in particular, multiplies by about five or six times – potentially we may have 5,000 or 6,000 cases out there; and, to reign in 6,000 cases with the contact tracing teams that we have in place, it is impracticable for them to achieve that."

The City West MP said he had "no doubt that we will reduce our numbers, but ... these under-20 met-

rics ... that were utilized by the CDC [US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention] and others to determine whether or not we had a high prevalence of COVID, I think they may have to review those metrics and increase them; because I do not believe that we are going back to total cases under 20 anytime soon ... It's going to take a little time for this virus to literally burn out, and it will not burn out unless we have most of our people vaccinated."

For these reasons, PM Browne disclosed, "The Cabinet is not under any illusion

that the prevalence of COVID will be significantly reduced to single digit anytime soon. In fact, it will continue to be high until national immunity is achieved."

But he explained that, "the Cabinet also had to [consider] the social tensions within the society" because "people are becoming genuinely frustrated with the measures and restrictions. It's been 19 months now, and the question is, 'How much can they take?' Those are all factors we had to take into consideration ... not out of fear, but out of empathy."

He said it was now up to

people to exercise the necessary vigilance as the measures are relaxed amid a still-high prevalence of COVID cases.

"Even after national immunity is achieved, COVID and its variants will collectively remain a significant challenge, because we cannot justify keeping our country's economy partially closed and limping into 2022 and perhaps having another 19 months of disruption ... We have to learn to live and work with COVID. Even if we are vaccinated, we still have to manage transmission of the virus ..."

GOT NEWS?

Send your news stories to
news@pointville.ag

Art teachers train with Royal Drawing School



Governor General Sir Rodney and Lady Williams – watched by Royal Drawing School (RDS) tutor Oliver MacDonald Oulds – address the class of art teachers in a session at The G (art gallery in Piccadilly) last week.

Twenty-seven (27) art teachers from public and private schools across the island are currently pursuing a 3-month certification course sponsored by the Halo Foundation and the Jumby Bay Fund, in conjunction with the Royal Drawing School (RDS), United Kingdom, the Ministry of Education, and The G (art gallery in Piccadilly).

RDS tutors Cherry Pickles and Oliver MacDonald Oulds have expressed satisfaction with the progress to date.

“The tasks we have set

so far have been very well executed by the students. Cherry and I have been excited by the results that we are already seeing,” said Mr. MacDonald Oulds. “We are really enjoying the process and extremely pleased with the outcome. The openness of the teachers (our students) is refreshing, and the enthusiasm is infectious in each class.”

Local artist counterpart Anson Henry is also working along with the RDS, sharing useful tips and information with the teachers. Mr. Henry,

famous for his meticulous and hyper-realistic drawings, is one of Antigua and Barbuda’s leading pencil artists.

Sir Rodney and Lady Williams recently paid a visit to observe one of the classes and took the opportunity to address the students.

Lady Williams explained: “We were forced to minimize the numbers in each group, given the current health protocols. The G is a large and airy studio with spectacular surrounding views, so this lends itself well to

the purpose of this exercise.”

She added: “Ultimately, we expect that any skills honed will be transferred to the pupils in classrooms across Antigua and Barbuda.”

Governor General Sir Rodney Williams said, “We are very much aware of the value of culture and the arts in defining and maintaining the creative integrity of a nation, and the Halo Foundation therefore seeks to be as supportive as possible in this area.”



ROAD WORKS MEDIA NOTICE

Kindly note the following with regards to the facilitation of APUA pipe crossings on Valley Road North (VRN) under the Second Road Infrastructure Road Rehabilitation Project (SRIRP).

The contractor is C.O. Williams Ltd.

The attention of the general public is drawn

to the fact that traffic on Valley Road North will be affected AT NIGHT during curfew hours 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.

The Installation of the crossings will result in a trench that will cut across the full width of the Road, including the shoulders, and will cause the closure of the road to Through

Traffic. Single-lane traffic will be in effect for light vehicles and emergency vehicles only.

The following is the schedule of works for October 11th and 12th, 2021.

Monday, October 11th 2021: The works will be between Jolly Harbour and Valley Church.

Tuesday, October 12th 2021: The works will be between Valley Church and the entrance to Ffryes Beach.

All road users are asked to obey the traffic signage and proceed with caution when traversing the construction site.

Barbados Light & Power Company asks for 11% electricity hike

Loop Barbados - Barbadians might soon have to pay more on their electricity bills.

The island's sole electricity company, Barbados Light & Power Co. Ltd. (BL&P) is pushing for an 11.9 percent increase in rates after 11 years.

In an issued statement, BL&P revealed that on Monday, October 4, they filed an application with the Fair Trading Commission (FTC) for a review of electricity rates.

BL&P stressed that it was compelled to advocate for a review, due to the increase in costs, as well as the establishment of the new Clean Energy Bridge plant in Trents, St. Lucy.

"The application is only the second one filed by the Company in nearly 40 years, requesting an adjustment to its electricity base rates. The last increase in base rates occurred in 2010, over 11 years ago.

"Light & Power has been able to defer a request for general rate review through careful cost management and process innovations. However, the significant increase in costs and necessary investments, like the new 33MW Clean Energy Bridge plant at Trents, St.



Lucy, compels us to seek an adjustment in electricity prices," the release said.

The company justified its suggested 11.9 percent increase as "substantially lower", considering the hike in Barbados' cost of living and the 10 percent reduction in BL&P's fuel costs anticipated from commissioning of the new 33MW Clean Energy Bridge by the end of 2021.

"While the cost of living has increased almost 40 percent since we last set rates, BLPC has invested

in efficiencies and managed costs such that we are able to make application for an 11.9 percent increase, substantially lower than the increase experienced by our customers for other goods and services in the same period," the company insisted.

Noting the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic challenges that have ensued, BL&P revealed it has created electricity rates that will be satisfactory to customers. "We have

proposed that increases should be no more than \$6 for those customers using less than 150 kWh in a month. These customers account for 35 percent of the Domestic Service Tariff group, assumed to consist mostly of low-income customers. The typical bill increase resulting from the proposed rates is estimated to range from five percent to 20 percent, depending on the tariff on which customers receive their service," the company announced.

Three die after separate bee attacks in Guyana

Guyana Chronicle

- THREE persons lost their lives after they were attacked by bees in separate incidents last Thursday and Friday in East Berbice, Corentyne.

Those killed are John Sutherland, 57; Dorothy Muriel Adams, 58; and Sirpaul Hemraj, 62, called "Rishi". Hemraj of Lot 95 Mibicuri, South Black Bush Polder (BBP) – a drainage and irrigation (D&I) worker – was pronounced dead at the Mibicuri Hospital after he was stung by bees in the Johanna BBP back dam around 13:17 hours on Friday.

Reports indicate that Hemraj left the Mibicuri Neighbourhood Democratic Council (NDC) office in the company of two others on his motorcycle to check on an excavator, which was doing drainage works, when the bee attack occurred. He was sitting on his motorcycle while Chandradall Nankoo, 50, and Rajendra Mohan, 49 – both rangers attached to the region – and Michael Tyndell, 25, a mechanic attached to the NDIA, were standing next to the said excavator when someone shouted "bees!" The trio ran in different directions seeking shelter while Hemraj



was left behind. About half-an-hour later, they all returned to the excavator where they saw Sirpaul covered in mud and what appeared to be red swelling marks about his body. He was rushed to the Mibicuri Public Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival. Meanwhile, on Thursday, the motionless body of John Sutherland of Eversham, Corentyne, Berbice, was found on the ground in the Eversham backlands after he was attacked by bees.

The incident occurred at around 12:20 hours.

According to reports, Sutherland had left his home on a tractor with two others to show them a rice field that had to be ploughed.

While in the field, Sutherland and another man were sitting on the tractor fender while the driver was ploughing

the rice field. During the ploughing, the driver of the tractor made a sudden stop and shouted "bees!"

The driver and the other man jumped off the tractor and made a run for safety. However, Sutherland, who had one foot, was left behind. Moments later, the duo saw the body of Sutherland lying motionless on the ground with several sting marks about his body.

He was escorted out of the back dam on the tractor to his home and then to Skeldon Public Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival. Sutherland's body is at the Skeldon Public Hospital Mortuary awaiting a post-mortem examination. One of the men was also stung several times. He was taken to the Port Mourant Hospital where he

was admitted a patient. Also on Thursday, Dorothy Muriel Adams, a housewife of Rotterdam, East Bank Berbice, also succumbed after being stung by bees.

According to her reputed husband, Vishnu Persaud, at about 17:00 hours she went to a shop to make a purchase and about 10 minutes later he was called by a passerby, who told him that his reputed wife was stung by bees and was lying under a house, some 400 meters away from his home.

He immediately went to her rescue and was also stung by the bees.

The woman was taken to the New Amsterdam Public Hospital where she was pronounced dead on arrival. Her body is at the New Amsterdam Public Hospital awaiting post-mortem examination.

St. Vincent: pandemic driving food prices up this Christmas

Media Institute of the Caribbean — As the COVID-19 pandemic wears on, and as the yuletide season approaches, residents of St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) can expect to see significant increases in food prices.

And, amid the compounding challenges resulting from April's eruption of La Soufriere volcano, the Ministry of Agriculture is "racing against time" to get vegetable and egg production to a stage where it could meet increased demand.

"Since the National Emergency Management Organisation gave the green light [in August and September] to return to the Red and Orange zones, we have brought in significant quantities of seeds and we are actually racing against time," Minister of Agriculture Saboto Caesar said.

"We have ordered the eggs; the baby chicks are going out. We have distributed the seeds; we are assisting with the construction of greenhouses. [Very soon], we will be approving and giving out loans probably in the tune of quarter million dollars to small farmers. We are giving out greenhouses, helping in the repairing of greenhouses ..."

The Minister said that from a production standpoint, SVG does not have a food security issue, although disruption of the food supply chain is the major impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the agriculture sector and food security in the region.

"... we do not have a food security issue because of the variety and the quantities of commodities that we are growing in the country. But we have an issue whereby many consumers have a preference for imported goods. So that's a whole different issue."

And it is this taste for imported food items that might cause consumers to see their purchasing power greatly reduced in the final quarter of the year, as COVID-19 impacts continue to cause food prices to skyrocket.

"We are in for a rough ride in this last quarter of this year. I am hoping that the people in North America still send home money for their families this Christmas. We are trying our best to find prices that have kind of remained at the low end of the scale, but it is difficult," one supermarket executive said. The executive asked for anonymity so as to speak candidly



on the issue without fear of negative impact on his business.

The higher prices are being driven by scarcity on the global market as well as the increasing cost of transportation of food items. However, the cost of food is also affected by a one-percentage-point increase in the customs service charge, a government levy that was increased to 6% on May 1.

"The one-percentage-point increase at the port, when you divide it over the number of pounds in a case of a product, it does not seem like much — if the prices had remained the same as nine months ago."

"But, with all the different increases to get it here, if you were paying the one-percentage-point increase on \$1, it was one cent. But now, if that product is costing you \$1.15, \$1.20 to import it, that has

increased to one-point-something cents. It adds up," the executive said.

The increases on the cost of food begin at the point of order.

"The first cost is up; the freight is up. The only thing in this equation that is not going up is people's salary. Further, more people are not working, so sales are down. It is a worrying factor. I am worried about this next quarter. The cost of everything is going up. Certain products, when you order, they are not available anymore."

The executive's comments seem to give credence to a warning issued by Minister of Finance Camillo Gonsalves who, in late September, said Vincentians will see their wages and salaries paying for less than they did a year ago because of higher prices as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

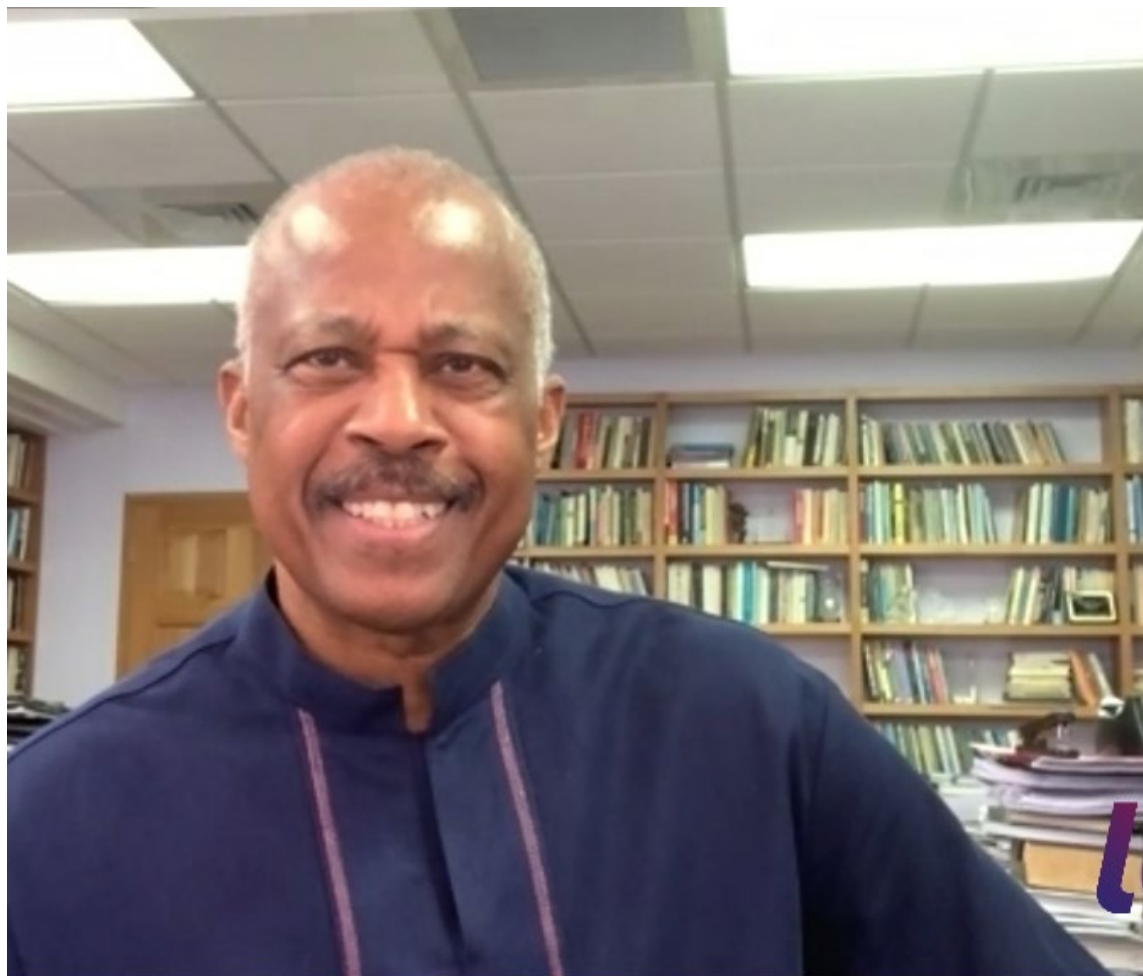
UWI responds: No evidence of widespread exam cheating

Loop TT - The University of the West Indies (The UWI) has categorically rejected what it has labelled as “misinformed” allegations in recent media coverage on the subject of the integrity of its examinations, as the institution transitioned to online evaluations in response to the exigencies of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It follows a report in the Jamaica Gleaner, in which it was reported that “a thriving culture of cheating has been documented across the campuses of The University of the West Indies, forcing the administration to pull the plug on remote testing and order all students return to physical sites.”

In a statement on Saturday, the UWI said it is confident there is absolutely no evidentiary basis upon which the media reporting of increased or widespread cheating can be taken as factual.

Vice-Chancellor of The UWI, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles stated: “These are highly offensive, inflammatory and unprofessional allegations because they are not rooted in any factual evidence. Once again, ad hoc and random references are unscientifically strung together to damage the hard-earned reputation of the university, but cannot stand as sound re-



Vice-Chancellor of The UWI, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles.

porting. To argue that the university is a cheater and has widespread student cheating is untrue, unethical, and is an unwarranted assault on The UWI and must be rejected.”

The University further assured that its systems for teaching and examination continue to be robust. It said it is for this reason that the initial anomalies – which were discovered and subjected to a detailed investigation in an internal report prepared by the Mona Campus to The UWI Academic Board – came to the fore.

The UWI added: “The university stands on the integrity of its examination processes. In this regard, there has always been keen attention to the full adherence of the system purposefully designed to monitor and identify irregularities and non-compliance. Pre-pandemic data on examinations, tracked from 2018 to present, show a mere average of less than 1% in irregularities.”

The University said it has been conducting further investigations across all its campuses to uncover whether there are any anomalies correlated

to the advent of remote learning in the COVID pandemic.

It said this is consistent with the university’s assessment regulations which detail a zero-tolerance policy in relation to cheating.

“Through its quality assurance mechanisms, the university meticulously assesses and guards against any propensity for cheating, and takes seriously the responsibility of monitoring, evaluating and preserving the standards of its degrees and processes,” the UWI added.

A dictator's son, a former actor, a champion boxer: Inside the manic race to replace Duterte as the Philippines' leader

(CNN) - A dictator's son. A former actor. A champion boxer.

A diverse field of candidates have put up their hands to succeed Philippines' President Rodrigo Duterte, who is stepping down after a single six-year term in line with the Philippines constitution.

Although the 2022 presidential election campaign is yet to begin, the machinations and drama are well underway.

Friday was the final day for candidates to announce their intention to run. Among those who officially filed are Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr., the son of a former Philippines dictator; Manny Pacquiao, a senator and former boxing champion; Vice President and Duterte critic Leni Robredo; and Isko Moreno, the mayor of Manila and a former actor.

Richard Heydarian, professor of history and political science at the Philippines' Polytechnic University, says there is no clear front-

runner. "It is going to be highly, highly competitive," he added.

The Philippines has only one round of voting, unlike many countries, such as France, where there is a second ballot between the two most popular candidates. This means that whoever is in front at the end of counting will become president -- no matter how small their total share of votes.

In a tight race, the prize could go to anyone. And the stakes are high.

With China and the US increasingly treating the Indo-Pacific as a staging ground for their global showdown, the Philippines will likely come under growing economic and geopolitical pressure, particularly as a claimant to part of the South China Sea.

During his time in office, Duterte aligned the Philippines closer to Beijing, publicly stating his "love" for President Xi Jinping as the leaders explored the possibility of joint resource contracts in



the South China Sea.

At home, he has cracked down on civil society and sparked a bloody war on drugs that has claimed the lives of more than 6,000 people, according to police.

And there are signs he may not be willing to let his influence go so easily. After accepting his party's candidacy for vice president, Duterte announced last week he would be retiring from politics.

Critics have pointed out Duterte also announced his retirement in 2015 before he changed his mind and ran for president.

Not only that, but his daughter – Davao Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio – still has a month to decide if she'll run for president as a substitute candidate.

Duterte has a personal incentive to retain some control over the future government: he's facing an investigation by the International Criminal Court (ICC) into his war on drugs, and his successor could influence how much access they get to the Philippines.

Journalist Maria Ressa, the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize winner and president and chief executive of local media outlet Rappler, said the 2022 elections were "existential for democracy".

"We're at the edge of a cliff ... whoever wins will determine whether we'll have rule of law, whether our economy can grow, whether we can survive the virus, whether our society can heal," she said.

US couple accused of selling nuclear submarine secrets

BBC - A US navy nuclear engineer and his wife have been charged with trying to sell nuclear secrets to what they thought was a foreign state.

Jonathan Toebbe and his wife Diana were arrested in West Virginia on Saturday, the Justice Department announced.

They allegedly tried to sell nuclear submarine design data, hidden in a peanut butter sandwich, to someone they thought represented another country.

In fact, it was an undercover FBI agent.

According to the statement, Mr. Toebbe and his partner - 42 and 45 respectively - have now been charged under the Atomic Energy Act.

Mr. Toebbe worked in the US Navy's nuclear propulsion programme and had national security clearance.

The Justice Department said that in April 2020 he sent a package to a foreign government containing restricted data and a message suggesting a covert relationship so



that they could buy more data from him.

He then allegedly began writing to an individual by encrypted email. While he thought this person represented the foreign government, it was actually an FBI agent, the affidavit said.

After several months, the accused couple allegedly made a deal to share secret information in exchange for around \$100,000 (£73,000) in cryptocurrency.

In June this year, Jonathan and Diana Toebbe travelled to West Virginia to drop off the data.

With Diana acting as a lookout, Jonathan "placed an SD card concealed within half a peanut butter sandwich" at a determined location, the affidavit said.

After the agent collected the card, they sent payment and received a decryption key to access the SD card. On it was re-

stricted data "related to submarine nuclear reactors". Mr. Toebbe then performed a second so-called dead drop - this time hidden inside a chewing gum packet - in August, with yet more secret data on it.

FBI agents then arrested the couple on Saturday during a third dead drop.

The two are set to appear in federal court on 12 October.

Taiwan won't be forced to bow to China, president says

(Reuters) – Taiwan will keep bolstering its defenses to ensure nobody can force them to accept the path China has laid down that offers neither freedom nor democracy, President Tsai Ing-wen said on Sunday, in a riposte to Beijing that its government denounced.

Claimed by China as its own territory, Taiwan has come under growing military and political pressure to accept Beijing's rule, including repeated Chinese air force missions in Taiwan's air defence identification zone, to international concern.

Chinese President Xi Jinping vowed on Saturday to realise "peaceful reunification" with Taiwan and did not directly mention the use of force. Still, he got an angry reaction from Taipei which said only Taiwan's people can decide its future.

Addressing a National Day rally, Tsai said she hoped for an easing of tensions across the Taiwan Strait, and reiterated that Taiwan will not "act rashly".

"But there should be absolutely no illusions that the Taiwanese people will bow to pressure," she said in the speech outside the presidential office in central Taipei. "We will continue to bolster our national defence and demonstrate our determination to defend ourselves in order to ensure that nobody can force Taiwan to take the path China has laid out for us," Tsai added.

"This is because the path that China has laid out offers neither a free and democratic way of life for Taiwan, nor sovereignty for our 23 million people."

China has offered a "one country, two systems" model of autonomy to Taiwan – much like it uses

with Hong Kong – but all major Taiwanese parties have rejected that, especially after China's security crackdown in the former British colony.

Tsai repeated an offer to talk to China on the basis of parity, but Beijing – responding some nine hours after she spoke – offered condemnation, saying the country must be "reunified" and that seeking independence closes the door to talks.

"This speech advocated Taiwan independence, incited confrontation, cut apart history and distorted facts," China's Taiwan Affairs Office said.

"The independence provocation by the Democratic Progressive Party authorities is the source of tension and turbulence in cross-strait relations and the greatest threat to peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait," it added, referring to Tsai's ruling party.

'COMPLEX' SITUATION

Beijing has refused to deal with Tsai, calling her a separatist who refuses to acknowledge Taiwan is part of "one China", and does not recognise Taiwan's government.

She says Taiwan is an independent country called the Republic of China, its formal name, and that she will not compromise on defending its sovereignty or freedom.

Still Taiwan's goodwill will not change, and it will do all it can to prevent the status quo with China from being unilaterally altered, she said.

Tsai warned that Taiwan's situation is "more complex and fluid than at any other point in the past



Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen waves during the national day celebration in Taipei, Taiwan, October 10, 2021.

72 years", and that China's routine military presence in Taiwan's air defence zone has seriously affected national security and aviation safety.

She is overseeing a military modernisation programme to bolster its defences and deterrence, including building its own submarines and long-range missiles that can strike deep into China.

The armed forces were a major part of the National Day parade Tsai oversaw, with fighter jets roaring across the skies above the presidential office and truck-mounted missile launchers among other weaponry passing in front of the stage where she sat.

Taiwan stands on the frontlines of defending democracy, Tsai added.

"The more we achieve, the greater the pressure we face from China. So I want to remind all my fellow citizens that we do not have the privilege of letting down our guard."

Nearly 140 countries reach deal on 15% corporate minimum tax



Al Jazeera - Nearly 140 countries have agreed on a tentative deal that would make sweeping changes to how big, multinational companies are taxed in order to deter them from stashing their profits in offshore havens where they pay little or no tax.

Under the agreement announced Friday, countries would enact a global minimum corporate tax of 15 percent on the biggest, internationally active companies.

United States President Joe Biden has been one of the driving forces behind the agreement as governments around the world seek to boost revenue following the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Today's agreement represents a once-in-a-generation accomplishment for economic diplomacy," US Treasury Secre-

tary Janet Yellen said in a statement.

The agreement was announced by the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) which hosted the talks that led to it.

The deal is an attempt to address the ways globalisation and digitalisation have changed the world economy. Alongside the minimum tax, it would allow countries to tax part of the earnings of companies whose activities – such as online retailing or web advertising – don't involve a physical presence.

On Thursday, Ireland announced that it would join the agreement, ditching the low-tax policy that has led companies like Google and Facebook to base their European operations there.

Although the Irish agreement was a step forward for the deal, developing countries have raised objections. Nigeria, Kenya, Pakistan and Sri Lanka have indicated they will not sign up.

Anti-poverty and tax fairness advocates have said the bulk of new revenue would go to wealthier countries and offer less to developing countries that are more dependent on corporate taxes.

The Group of 24 bloc of developing countries said that without a bigger share of revenue from reallocated profits, the deal would be "sub-optimal" and "not sustainable even in the short run".

The deal must clear several more hurdles. It will be taken up by the Group of 20 (G20) leaders at a summit in Rome from October 30 to 31. Then, the part of the deal that reallocates the right to tax corporate profits to where goods and services are consumed would ask countries to sign up to a diplomatic agreement.

The global minimum, on the other hand, could simply be enacted by countries in coordinated unilateral action. A top-up provision would mean tax avoided overseas would have to be paid at home. So long as at least the major headquarters countries implement the minimum tax, the deal would have most of its desired effect.

US approval of related tax legislation proposed by Biden will be key, especially since the US is home to many of the biggest multinationals. A rejection by the US Congress would cast uncertainty over the entire project.



TELL US WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Submit community notices to
news@pointville.ag

A poster for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It features three women of African descent standing in front of lush green foliage. The woman on the left has long braids, the woman in the middle is wearing a white lace top, and the woman on the right is wearing a yellow headwrap. A large pink ribbon is draped over the top right. Text on the right reads "OCTOBER Breast CANCER AWARENESS MONTH". In the bottom right corner, there is a steering wheel icon above a box containing the text "SALUTE TO WOMEN BEHIND THE WHEEL". In the bottom left corner, the ABTB logo is visible, with the text "A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board" below it.

OCTOBER
**Breast
CANCER**
AWARENESS
MONTH

**SALUTE TO
WOMEN**
BEHIND THE WHEEL

ABTB
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA TRANSPORT BOARD
A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board

Blessing Okagbare: Nigerian sprinter charged with three anti-doping offences

Nigerian sprinter Blessing Okagbare has been charged with three offences by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU).

She was suspended during the Tokyo Olympics after testing positive for a human growth hormone following an out-of-competition test on 19 July.

The 32-year-old later tested positive for another banned

substance, recombinant erythropoietin (EPO), which increases red blood cell count. She has also been charged for not co-operating with the AIU's investigation.

The AIU alleges Okagbare "failed to comply with a formal requirement to produce relevant documents, records and electronic storage devices" to the investigation.



Blessing Okagbare won her 100m heat at the Tokyo Olympics before being suspended.

Okagbare – a rival to Great Britain's Dina Asher-Smith – had won her 100m heat in Tokyo before being pulled out of the Games.

Okagbare – Olympic long jump silver medallist in Beijing in 2008 – denies all the charges.



CALL & SIGN UP TODAY
(268) 562-9023/4
Email: antiguainfo@kcocean.com

OUR NEW SERVICE

SHOP IT AND SHIP IT

ANTIGUA BROKERAGE AND PICK UP SERVICE

YOU SHOP & SHIP WE WILL TAKE CARE OF THE REST



ENROLL TODAY

SIZE RESTRICTIONS APPLY
BELOW 100CM X 40CM X 40CM

You will:

- Sign up for program
- Submit invoices by email
- Pick up your package(s) at our office

We will:

- Clear your package(s) at customs
- Bring it to our offices for collection
- Create one bill for your duties, BL, cost, Brokerage and Handling fees

Call us for more information.

RESPECT: Lennox Lewis embraces Tyson Fury after 'unbelievable' knockout win over Deontay Wilder

Lennox Lewis was so impressed by Tyson Fury's win over Deontay Wilder, he sought him out backstage to congratulate him. Fury knocked out Wilder on Saturday night and, despite being floored twice himself, he secured the victory in round 11. In an interview in his changing room after the historic third fight, Fury spotted Lewis and beckoned him over to have a quick word.

Lewis is heard saying: "Unbelievable! Great fight, man, you showed great heart, great resilience, and great IQ." Fury replied, "You can't go swimming and not get wet!"

Lewis, who was a three-time world heavyweight champion and a two-time lineal champion, shared the ring with some of the best divisional boxers of all time.



Fury swept the floor with Wilder in one of boxing's modern classics

In a glorious 14-year career, he beat Vitali Klitschko, Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield.

Lewis had more to say on the fight when speaking to Boxing Social after the bout, claiming Fury is the 'king of the division'.

"Oh my God, what a fight," he said.

"We saw the first fight and it was an amazing fight.

"We saw the second fight, even more

amazing. "The third was the cap. A great fight by both guys. Tyson Fury obviously came out the victor.

"Tough, back and forth, back and forth. I mean, you could tell they both wanted it, and you could tell they had a lot of heart and they're both soldiers. Great fight, I'm really happy with it.

"The key to Fury getting the win, what he did was basically put his weight on De-

ontay and was moving forward and coming in with left-rights.

"I think it would be a great fight," said Lewis when asked about his thoughts on Fury fighting Oleksandr Usyk. "Tyson is really big and 6'9. How tall is Usyk?

"It's going to be a difficult fight for him, but Tyson is a great fighter and a great champion. I think he's the king of the division right now."

Psychologists to monitor players in T20 World Cup, says ICC



The International Cricket Council (ICC) logo at the ICC headquarters in Dubai, October 31, 2010. — Reuters/File.

DUBAI: Psychologists will monitor players at the T20 World Cup to help cope with the growing number of mental health cases in coronavirus safety bubbles, cricket's governing body said Thursday.

The pandemic strain has become increasingly apparent in recent months with England's Ben Stokes on a prolonged mental health break, and other leading players complaining about the pressures of going from bubble to bubble in different tours and tournaments.

A number of players missed or left the conclusion of the Indian Premier League in the United Arab Emirates because of bio-bubble stress.

And the 16 nations at the World Cup, starting in the UAE and Oman on October 17, will be confined to their hotels for the majority of the month-long tournament.

"Some people will be affected, their mental health will be affect-

ed by being in confined conditions again, particularly perhaps those who have done it for a prolonged period of time," Alex Marshall, International Cricket Council head of integrity and biosafety, told reporters.

"The ICC will have available 24 hours a day, a psychologist to speak to any individual who seeks help.

"We are also providing (a) lot of resources, so people can decide what the best way of addressing the issue is for them."

Following comments by leading players, including India captain Virat Kohli, many teams have increased their psychological support for players ahead of the tournament.

Players and support staff will have to spend six days in isolation on arrival and pass three tests before moving into a managed environment for training.

Marshall said selfie-seeking fans

will be kept away from players.

"The players will be kept separate and will have to stay within the managed environment, so there won't be mixing directly physically between the fans and the players and I am sure everybody understands," he said.

"As long as we maintain that sensible separation and that group maintains those disciplines, we shouldn't get other problems throughout the tournament.

"So I am afraid at this World Cup (there) will not be an "arm around the shoulder-selfie opportunity" with the players."

Marshall said the ICC has learned from the Tokyo Olympics, Formula One world championship, Euro 2020 and the IPL.

He added players will be allowed to relax in their bio-secure space with a round of golf or a sightseeing trip.



T20 WORLD CUP: AFGHANISTAN CONFIRM

FINAL 15-MAN SQUAD, NABI NAMED CAPTAIN

File image of players of Afghanistan cricket team in action during a match. (AFP)

The Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) on Sunday announced a revised 15-member squad for the T20 World Cup, with Mohammad Nabi as captain.

Afghanistan is slotted in Group 2 of the Super 12s, along with India, Pakistan, and New Zealand.

In the revised 15-man squad, the likes of Shara-fuddin Ashraf and Dawlat Zadran, who were in the initially announced squad, have now been named travel reserves alongside Samiullah

Shinwari and Fazal Haq Farooqi. At the same time, Farid Ahmad Malik has been promoted to the top 15 from reserves.

Meanwhile, Afghanistan will kick-start their T20 World Cup campaign against a qualifier from Group B on October 25 at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium.

The winners of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 will take home a winners' cheque of USD 1.6 million while the runners-up will get half that

amount, the International Cricket Council (ICC) confirmed on Sunday.

All 16 competing teams will receive part of the USD 5.6 million allocated as prize money for the tournament, which will be played in the United Arab Emirates and Oman from October 17 to November 14.

Afghanistan squad for T20 World Cup 2021: Mohammad Nabi (C), Rahmanullah Gurbaz (WK), Hazratullah Zazai, Us-

man Ghani, Mohammad Shahzad, Hashmatullah Shahidi, Asghar Afghan, Gulbadin Naib, Najibullah Zadran, Karim Janat, Rashid Khan, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Hamid Hassan, Farid Ahmad Malik, and Naveen Ul Haq.

Reserve players: Shara-fuddin Ashraf, Samiullah Shinwari, Dawlat Zadran, and Fazal Haq Farooqi.

DEWS