

SIR RICHIE TO BE HONOURRED BY UWI

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Earlier this month, 75 children from Prime Minister Gaston Browne's annual City West summer camp surprised him at his office on Queen Elizabeth Highway. The children had the opportunity to interact with the country's leader and were given the opportunity to see what it was like to be prime minister for the morning. During the visit, the prime minister gave the children a tour of his office where they were allowed to sit at his desk and answer calls. (Photo credit: Office of the Prime Minister)

Local News



UWI to confer Honorary Degree on Sir Richie Richardson

Antiguan and Barbudan cricketing great Sir Richard “Richie” Benjamin Richardson is to be honoured by the University of the West Indies with an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree (LLD).

He is among sixteen “outstanding global citizens”, including Dr. Joy St. John, Executive Director of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) and Adam Stewart, Executive Chairman of Sandals Resorts International, who will be recognised by UWI for their contributions to sports, law, business, culture and science.

The UWI’s 2022 Graduation Ceremonies will take place between 8th October and 5th November. With the exception of the Open Campus, which will hold a virtual graduation ceremony, the landed campuses will return to face-to-face graduations, therefore, the honourees will be able to attend this year’s ceremonies.

Sir Richie is one of two persons who will be recognised at the UWI Five Islands Campus on 8th October. The other is Alston “Becket” Cyrus of St. Vincent and the Grenadines who is being honoured for his

contributions as a Soca Artist and Composer. The popular musician will receive a Doctor of Letters (DLitt) honorary degree.

Sir Richie began his professional cricketing career in 1983 under the West Indies Cricket Board of Control captaining the West Indies Team from 1991 to 1996. In a career spanning three decades, he went on to play and coach professional club cricket in the United Kingdom and South Africa and played in three ICC Cricket World Cup Tournaments.

Sir Richie has also served as Senior Team Operational Manager with the West Indies Cricket Board Inc.; CEO of the Antigua and Barbuda Sports Tourism Authority and has been an International Elite Panel Match Referee with the International Cricket Council (ICC) since 2016.

His passion for the development of West Indies Cricket, together with a heart for mentorship, led him to establish the Richie Richardson Scholarship Foundation (1998) and facilitate two Antiguan and Barbudan youth cricket teams on tours to the UK (1987, 2002).

He is also the founder



Sir Richie Richardson after receiving his knighthood.

of The Annual Antigua and Barbuda International Masters Cricket Festival and the Richie Richardson Cricket Academy.

A profile prepared by the UWI said, “From his boyhood days as captain of his school’s cricket team to his esteemed present-day role as Ambassador at Large of Antigua and Barbuda, Sir Richard B. Richardson KCN, GCM has spent a lifetime committed to the sport of Cricket. In his own words, he desires to one day see cricket become a ‘fully globalised sport’.”

Antigua and Barbuda awarded Sir Richard Richardson the Grand Cross of the Most Illustrious Order of Merit (GMC) and the Knight Commander of the Most

Distinguished Order of the Nation (KCN) in 2003 and 2014 respectively.

He was also appointed Ambassador at Large by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda.

In October, 2021, cricket legend, Sir Andy Roberts, and physician, Dr. George Mansoor, were conferred Honorary Doctorate Degrees by The UWI Five Islands.

In July that year, The UWI FIC conferred an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree on Antiguan and Barbudan psychiatrist, Dr. Ruby Lake-Richards. She is one of the first 33 medical students to attend The UWI (then University College of the West Indies). She is also the first female UWI graduate from Antigua and Barbuda.

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South Korea seeks Antigua and Barbuda's support



From left: Ambassador Dr. Derrick Marshall, Foreign Affairs Minister E. P. Chet Greene and Ambassador Inho Lee

South Korea is seeking Antigua and Barbuda's support for its bid to host World Expo 2030.

The request came from the country's ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda, Inho Lee, who is based in the Dominican Republic, during a courtesy call on Foreign Affairs Minister, E. P. Chet Greene on Tuesday.

During the meeting, Ambassador Lee presented a brochure titled Humanity and Planet Earth: The time for change is now, which highlights South Korea's strengths and makes the case for why it would be an ideal venue for World Expo 2030.

He described South Korea as a "Symbol of Hope and a Powerhouse of Culture and Technology", noting that the Asian nation has advanced from being a recipient of aid to a global contributor.

Lee said South Korea is at the forefront in the 4th Industrial Revolution and soft power.

In response, Minister Greene spoke extensively on the relationship that exists between the Republic of Korea and Antigua and Barbuda. Further, he agreed that South Korea is a contributor to developing nations.

The foreign minister also identified several ways in which Antigua and Barbuda has benefitted from that country's generosity.

As a result, Greene urged South Korea to continue its assistance to Antigua and Barbuda by making training opportunities available to nationals.

In attendance at yesterday's meeting was Antigua and Barbuda's non-resident ambassador to South Korea, Dr. Derrick Marshall.



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Local News



Red Cross boss ponders wrongful prosecution lawsuit

Red Cross President Elvis Murray-Watkins is considering bringing a lawsuit against the police and a former girlfriend over his alleged wrongful prosecution after he was freed in the Magistrates' Court on a

charge of inflicting grievous bodily harm.

Murray-Watkins walked out of the courtroom vindicated after the case against him was thrown out by Chief Magistrate Joanne Walsh after the prosecution

called its first witness, the virtual complainant, Viveca Shadrach.

Shadrach claimed she was beaten by the Red Cross boss on her right shoulder and received injuries to her face on the night of 31st October, 2021.

It was reported that Shadrach made an unannounced visit to Murray-Watkins' home that night where she found him with another woman.

She supposedly tried to force her way into the house, and in doing so, allegedly destroyed several windows.

Murray-Watkins called the police but later decided against involving the police further.

Several months later in February 2022, Shadrach reported to the police that she was beaten by Murray-Watkins who then was arrested, charged, and remanded to Her Majesty's Prison for several days after his first appearance before then Acting Chief Magistrate Dexter



Elvis Murray-Watkins Wason.

Following intense cross examination of Shadrach, the prosecutor asked that the case be discontinued.

Chief Magistrate Walsh commended the prosecution for not wasting the court's time as several inconsistencies were pointed out in the woman's testimony.

Following the court's decision, Murray-Watkins' attorney, Wendel Robinson, said a compelling case can be made to sue both the police and the virtual complainant for malicious prosecution.

The Red Cross official is now said to be contemplating pursuing legal action given the reputational harm he suffered because of the high-profile case.

In addition to his role as president of the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society, he also serves on the board of at least one other international organisation.

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Abundant sunshine. High 87F. Winds NNE at 10 to 15 mph.

Humidity 65%

UV Index Extreme

Sunrise 5:53 am

Sunset 6:21 pm

Wed 31 | Night

79°



Mostly clear skies. Low 79F. Winds NNE at 10 to 15 mph.

Humidity 77%

UV Index 0 of 10

Moonrise 9:26 am

Moonset 9:21 pm

Waxing Crescent

Hefty fine for Golden Grove man

The man who was arrested last week after police found a large sum of cash, ammunition and drugs at his Golden Grove home was fined when he appeared before the St. John's Magistrates' Court Tuesday.

Chief Magistrate Joanne Walsh fined Dane Airall Jr. \$40,000.00 for the cannabis and \$5000.00 for the bullets that were discovered at his residence.

Additionally, the local and foreign currencies seized by the police were forfeit and will be placed in the government's Consolidated Fund, but not before his attorney, Wendel

Robinson, argued for the cash to be returned to his client.

Robinson explained to the court that Airall is a businessman who operates a taxi and a snackette. He said his client makes approximately \$4000.00 monthly as a taxi operator with additional income earned through the snackette.

Despite advancing a strong argument, Airall's lawyer was unsuccessful in convincing the court to return the money.

Airall has until 30th December, 2022, to pay the fine of \$45,000. In default, he will spend 18 months in



prison.

Last Thursday, the police executed a search warrant in the presence of Airall and his partner Merlyn Richards.

Richards, who pleaded not guilty to the charges against her in court on

Monday, was freed after the prosecution moved for their dismissal.

During the search, the law enforcement officers discovered local and foreign currencies, ammunition, cannabis and drug paraphernalia.



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Local News



Voucher distribution surpasses twenty thousand as SUGP enters final week

More than 20,000 vouchers have been distributed under the School Uniform Grant Programme as it entered its final week on Monday.

Organizers say the total number of vouchers will be calculated and made public after the government initiative comes to an end on Friday 2nd September, 2022.

It will be the culmination of another successful year of voucher distribution for the programme that began on

4th July, 2022, where each beneficiary receives a pair of regular school uniform.

Supervisor of the SUGP, Tanesha Mc.Kenzie-James, is encouraging those who intend to, but have not yet done so, to access the programme before time runs out.

“We are expecting the remaining parents who have not yet come to make application for their vouchers to come in.

“We have a number of

school orientations that’s going on, we’ve seen a number of parents last week who would have come to make applications.

“So we are reminding parents that this is our final week and we will be there from 9 AM until 4PM Monday to Thursday and 9 AM to 12 noon on Friday, 2nd September.”

Parents joining the programme in the remaining days will be required to present a government issued

photo identification card, a birth certificate or any other form of identification for the child, along with an acceptance letter or third-term report for the new registrant.

For returning beneficiaries, the third-term report must be presented along with a form of identification for the parent or guardian.

The School Uniform Grant Programme is one of the largest social programmes of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda.

Meteorologists warn temperatures could pass 100F this week

Meteorologists are urging the public to exercise caution between today and Friday as temperatures could peak as high as 106 degrees Fahrenheit this week.

The excessive heat event advisory issued earlier this week indicated that temperatures are likely to be at their most intense between 9am and 4:30pm from Wednesday to Friday.

A decrease in wind speeds as the weekend approaches coupled with existing humidity will affect the heat index pushing it into the moderate category.

An excessive heat outlook is issued when the potential exists for an excessive heat event; a heat index of 38 C (100 F) or higher accompanied by a mean wind speed of 18 km/h (11 mph) or less, over 3 to 7 days.

The Antigua and Barbuda Meteorological Service noted that they will continue to monitor conditions as it may be necessary to issue a heat watch or warning.

While increased temperatures



pose a risk to all, children, the elderly, the unsheltered, those with chronic illnesses and in particular respiratory illnesses and those who work outdoors are at increased risk of heat related illnesses.

During periods of increased heat, it is beneficial to consume more water to stave off dehydration. Beverages containing caffeine and alcohol, which are both dehydrating, and hot beverages

should be avoided.

Wearing light weight, absorbent clothing and taking cool showers are also helpful.

If you or someone near you is experiencing signs of heat exhaustion, heat cramps or other heat related illnesses, efforts should be made immediately to move to a cool area, remove heavy clothing and offer cool beverages like low sugar sports drinks or water.



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Feature

Pat Whyte: A Personal Reflection

By Colin James

Patrick Cleofoster Whyte was a pantheon of sports in Antigua & Barbuda, the Caribbean and internationally.

He strode the sporting landscape like a colossus. Never fearful to express his view forthrightly to authorities and athletes; reasoned and compassionate in his thoughts and actions; and fair-minded and unbiased in applying the rules and regulations and laws of the game.

He will be remembered in the legion of Antiguan sports development as one of those who left an indelible mark and contributed immensely in taking it to another level.

From been a member of the sports committee who charted the pathway to stardom for Sirs Viv Richards and Andy Roberts – two of the Antigua & Barbuda's great cricket luminaries – to coordinator of school sports – initially cricket, football, netball and athletics – from his perch at Church St, and later as Director of Sports, from his office at Paynters, Pat Whyte played an indelible role in the transformation sports between the 1970s to early 2000s.

He served par excellence as an administrator, manager, umpire, commentator, statistician, advisor and motivator to all and sundry.



When his day at the office was over, Pat Whyte did not pack up and drive home; his next tour of duty was to walk across East Street (now Independence Avenue) to the cathedral of sports excellence – the Antigua Recreation Ground – to watch Premier Division football match or to conduct some administrative duty for the general upkeep of the venue, a meeting with the football fraternity, the umpires' body or the staff at the ARG.

He was always present and ready to serve, whether it was with the Antigua & Barbuda Football Association executive as second vice-president, as manager of the national senior or youth teams or umpiring.

I heard and knew of Pat Whyte as an early teenager

before he made a profound impression on my tenure as a sports administrator and coach, as well as a journalist and commentator.

Nonsense in approach; wary and witty was his articulation and studious in his application and dedication to duty – there are not many who could have and may not be able to emulate him.

My first knowledge of this affable individual was when my parents (the late Alfred 'Colo' and Tessie James) encouraged and insisted that I listened to the sports report on ABS Radio from the mid-1970s when the booming voice of Pat Whyte would permeate the airwaves about 7:30am and pm.

His affectionous voice was unmistakable and his depth

of insight and clarity made it pellucid to learn and understand.

I remember vividly walking down Michael's Mount after a football game and a car passed by and someone in my company said there goes Pat Whyte. You can imagine how disappointed I would have been only to have got a glimpse of him.

Over the next few years until I finished my stint at the Antigua Grammar School in 1984, the name Pat Whyte was synonymous with all-things sports. When I participated in school football, cricket and track, his personality cast a positive shadow. His name was on the tip-of-the-tongue of every athlete because we knew what he represented and

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stood for. As student-athletes we had to collect and return gear and equipment from the sports department for matches, and provide the scores and results from the matches, if the umpires and referees were tardy.

Through the instrumentality of our football and cricket coach, Clancy Mack, my appreciation and admiration for Pat Whyte's work blossomed.

Sports reporter at ABS Radio

After completing AGS in 1984, I began a two-year stint at the government-owned Antigua Broadcasting Service that September, compiling and reporting the sports reports, with the assistance of now Ambassador Clarence Henry, and my late classmate, Raymond O'Keiffe.

One of my first assignments was to cover the opening of the school's football season, and obviously a first-hand opportunity to interview Pat Whyte during the curtain raiser match. There was a moment during the interview that's etched in memory. As he was answering a question posed as the match was in progress, a goal was scored and the cheers of the students of the school drowned his words. He instantaneously went silent and looked at me. In the blink of a second or two, this novice, rookie reporter had to respond. I somehow managed to scramble a few words to say: "well, one of the teams has just scored a goal and their supporters are rejoicing." Not the exact words but somehow close. It was my first lesson of how to handle the unexpected in doing a pre-recorded interview.

For the next 24 months, Pat Whyte was a source of information and results for my sports reports and programmes. We had a telepathic understanding. Religiously, on or about 6:30pm, I would receive schools' football results via telephone and they were read precisely based on the fixtures. The same was true for, for schools' cricket matches with the top performers highlighted.



If there was an issue or a controversial matter stirring up locally, regionally or internationally, Pat Whyte's counsel or opinion was canvassed. If he thought his comments conflicted with his substantive post – government or voluntary – he would speak-off-the-record.

He would offer advice on how to traverse tricky situations while instilling confidence and belief in my work.

Commentator for Premier Division football matches

It was a commentator's dream to have Pat Whyte as your co-commentator while doing live commentaries. Reluctant at first because his comments may be construed wrongly, whenever he took up the microphone, it was a joy to behold. Descriptive and analytic (and not afraid to be critical) were the

hallmarks of his trade.

He blended those with wit and satire: "Here comes the goalkeeper and he's caught in no-man's land as the goal-scorer slots the ball into an empty," leaves nothing to the listener's imagination.

What about this one: "And the defender is caught between the Devil and the deep blue sea as he attempts to clear while under pressure from the attacker and rather passing to his teammate loses possession and unfortunately made a mistake in his team conceding a goal."

Then there is a comment about no forgiveness for the team who lost a game which they should have won: "Well, I don't know why the players are crying because they only have

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Feature

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themselves to blame. They should be given a stone to dry their tears.”

There are countless others but those cited will suffice.

Unsuccessful attempt to work with him

So impactful was his influence – and my burning desire to learn and pick his brain – that I asked him to use his good offices to assist me in getting a job in the sports department in 1985. He agreed that I would have been as asset to the team who comprised Sir Reginald Samuel, then Director of Sports, Danny Livingstone, the outstanding cricket and football player

and coach, and the ever-dependable, Stanfield ‘Shipwreck’ Joseph, but the higher authorities didn’t concur. However, that did not put a strain on our booming relationship.

Invitation to serve as assistant manager of national football team

It blossomed further on another level. In April, 1989, I had just returned home from a tour of St Thomas, USVI, as manager of the Attackers Football Club, when my mom informed me of an urgent phone call from Pat Whyte and I should return the call soonest. Unaware of the content of the call, I was no doubt apprehensive to return it, but I did. To my wildest expectation he

summoned my services to be his assistant as manager of the national senior team for the inaugural Shell/Umbro Caribbean Cup, the region’s top competition. Overwhelmed by the invitation I had reciprocated after I took him out of his comfort zone a few years earlier to commentate.

With coaches Clancy Mack, assisted by Micah Samuel and Rowan ‘Porridge’ Benjamin, also Fernando Abraham (injured at the time), the national team comprising: Everton ‘Batow’ Gonsalves, Mervyn ‘Wiser’ Tittle, Sean Deterville, Andy ‘Job’ Christian, Ivor ‘Ninja’ Luke, Daryl Greenaway, Dale ‘World B’ Edwards, the late Eustace ‘Barba’ Ferrance among others, and the emerging Quentin Clarke, set about to make its mark on the regional scene.

Memorably, the campaign started successfully with a 1-0 win over Jamaica (before they were christened ‘The Reggae Boyz’) at the ARG, with Gonsalves (now president of the ABFA), the scorer. Other results didn’t materialise as expected, including a 1-0 loss to Guadeloupe when a draw would have been enough to reach the finals of the tournament.

By that November, Pat Whyte had given me the reins to manage the national team just aged 23. Two months earlier, Hurricane Hugo had left its mark on the sub-region and the Leeward Island leg of the then OECS tournament was played in St Kitts. I recalled he advised me to ensure all immigration forms were filled out prior to the team arriving at the airport for ease of checking-in; not to give the players permission to go sightseeing or go shopping before the matches concluded.

“Don’t allow them to tell you that they want to go see the damage the hurricane left,” he admonished me. “Some will tell you they want to go shopping to pick a few souvenirs, they

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can do that after the tournament,” he cautioned.

That was not my first opportunity to benefit from Pat Whyte’s influence as a manager. As a reporter I toured with the national youth in 1985 for a tournament in Martinique. A squad who included Tittle, Derrick ‘Pretty Boy’ Edwards (as goalkeeper then), my brother, Vorn ‘Popty’ James, Mitchel Thomas, Avery Jonas, brothers Aldrin and Gerard ‘Cougar’ Isaac, ‘Brigo’ Benjamin, Terry ‘Shifa’ Browne and George ‘Lamming’ Ralph. I arrived a day or two after the team left and when I got to the hotel I went to his room and was immediately struck by organisational acumen. All the playing kits were neatly assembled ready for the players.

National Sports Awards

I would frequent the sports department regularly, and virtually ‘moonlighted’ in the 1990s while I freelanced as a journalist. Our many debates on how to move sports forward caused him to invite me to serve on the committee to formulate the national sports awards. I was more than eager and enthusiastic to make my contribution as I figured he felt I could have brought value to the deliberations. The committee’s recommendations received Cabinet approval and so the sports awards were inaugurated in 1992.

The ceremony quickly became a staple on the sporting calendar, and although the top performing sportsman and sportswoman were recognised annually, Pat Whyte insisted that discipline and the propensity to become a role model be enshrined in the criteria.

There was a surreal moment during the 1999 ceremony which left the patrons stunned. At the podium, while apologising for the absence of then Prime Minister Lester Bird, because he had conveyed earlier that he was ill, it came as a “shock”, when the giant-size



figure of Sir Lester ‘ghosted’ into the Royal Antiguan hotel ballroom. The consternation in the audience, and bewilderment on Pat Whyte’s face, spoke volumes. Needless to say, he quickly retorted and ‘welcomed’ Sir Lester to present the top awards.

ARG resurfacing

Many would say Pat Whyte’s crowning moment was his supervisory role in the herculean task of resurfacing the outfield at the ARG to host the West Indies v England Test match in March, 1998. It was a race against time to get the job done as the importation of Bermuda grass from the US meant there were delays. But Pat Whyte assembled a team of capable workmen, professionals and advisors to marshal the operation, and against the cries of critics and sceptics when Chickie’s Hi-Fi boomed Baron’s “green, green grass of home”, a mere week before the Test bowled-off, the pride and joy of the nation was palpable.

Umpiring

Pat Whyte’s umpiring prowess was stymied and blighted by myopic regional administrators who could fathom that the men-in-the-white coats from the sub-region were just as

competent, and even better than those in the so-called ‘bigger’. That snub did not deter nor discourage him from educating and training a future generation of umpires to include Clancy Mack who officiated in Test and One-Day Internationals.

His stictudeness to correctness caused him to wail against commentators who refer to the ‘pitch’ as the ‘wicket’.

“The wicket is the three stumps. The pitch is 22 yards between the wickets,” he retorted.

Negative comments

Players and administrators who didn’t respect his selection decision or his views would poke negativity at his name by referring to him as ‘Pat-blight’, but later in life they would confess that what he did or said would have manifested in their lives.

They say many are called but few are chosen. Pat Whyte chose sports as his vocation after a stint as an insurance salesman.

He was selfless and fearless. He served generously and willingly. He answered his call and gave his all.

Rest In Peace, P. Whyte!

Gone, never to be forgotten!

Lifestyle



Tea drinkers enjoy possible health benefits, study suggests

By Carla K. Johnson

A cup of tea just got a bit more relaxing.

Tea can be part of a healthy diet and people who drink tea may even be a little more likely to live longer than those who don't, according to a large study.

Tea contains helpful substances known to reduce inflammation. Past studies in China and Japan, where green tea is popular, suggested health benefits.

The new study extends the good

news to the U.K.'s favourite drink: black tea.

Scientists from the U.S. National Cancer Institute asked about the tea habits of nearly a half million adults in the United Kingdom, then followed them for up to 14 years.

They adjusted for risk factors such as health, socioeconomics, smoking, alcohol intake, diet, age, race and gender.

Higher tea intake — two or more cups daily — was linked to a modest benefit: a 9% to 13% lower risk



of death from any cause vs. non-tea drinkers. Tea temperature, or adding milk or sugar, didn't change the results.

The study, published Monday in *Annals of Internal Medicine*, found the association held up for heart disease deaths, but there was no clear trend for cancer deaths.

Researchers weren't sure why, but it's possible there weren't enough cancer deaths for any effect to show up, said Maki Inoue-Choi, who led the study.

A study like this, based on observing people's habits and health, can't prove cause and effect.

"Observational studies like this always raise the question: Is there something else about tea drinkers that makes them healthier?" said Marion Nestle, a professor of food studies at New York University.

"I like tea. It's great to drink. But a cautious interpretation seems like a good idea."

There's not enough evidence to advise changing tea habits, said Inoue-Choi.

"If you drink one cup a day already, I think that is good," she said. "And please enjoy your cup of tea."

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Business

Virtual ECLAC seminar to deal with social security issues in the Caribbean

Representatives from held virtually.

government, international organisations, and academia will attend the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean's (ECLAC) second regional conference on social development from August 30 to September 1.

According to the ECLAC, the three-day seminar titled "Social security and the protracted crisis: an opportunity to combat inequality within the framework of a welfare state in Latin America and the Caribbean," will be

This event will be held within the framework of collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), as well as with the German Cooperation and the Facility for Development in Transition of the European Union.

The meeting, according to ECLAC, aims to be a space for dialogue and reflection on the region's social security systems. It will focus on diagnoses, challenges, and strate-



gic guidelines for reform and restructuring processes in pension and health systems, in an uncertain context of recovery from the crises triggered by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the need to

consolidate full guarantees for the exercise of social rights in the region's countries.

The inaugural session will be held on Tuesday and will include the participation of Mario Cimoli, ECLAC acting executive secretary, Fabio Bertranou, director of the ILO Office for the Southern Cone of Latin America; Dr. Carissa F. Etienne, director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); Volker Oel, commissioner for Latin America of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) of Germany; and Jutta Urpilainen, commissioner for International Associations of the European Commission.

Keynote speakers include Nicholas Barr, professor of economics at the London School of Economics, Carmelo Mesa-Lago, professor emeritus at the University of Pittsburgh, and Sir Michael Marmot, professor of epidemiology at University College London, among others. (CNW)



THE HULK SHOW
HOSTED BY: MAN HUNTE
Time : 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Mondays

Police startled by the prevalence of sexual violence in The Bahamas

CMC - The head of the Domestic Violence Unit of the Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF), Dellariece Ferguson, has described as “startling” the number of sexual violence cases in the territory.

The authorities also reported an increase in the number of rape cases so far this year.

Figures show that there have been 51 matters reported so far for the year when compared to 48 incidents that were recorded in 2021.

Police figures also show that there were 69 cases of indecent assault and 10 reported incidents of incest between January 1 and August 23.

As it relates to unlawful sexual intercourse, data shows there were seven cases reported to police; while there

were 39 incidents of unlawful sexual intercourse with a person under the age of 14 and another 37 reported unlawful sex cases with individuals between 14 and 16 years of age.

Fergusson, who is also the Assistant Commissioner of Police told the consultation meeting on the draft Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Regional Gender Equality Strategy (CRGES) that there was also one reported case of sexual violence with a mentally ill person and seven reported incidents involving dependents.

Police also received six unnatural male sexual intercourse reports.

“That’s our numbers for the year to date from the first of January to the 23rd of August. Those numbers, ladies and gentlemen in the room, (are) start-

ling,” she said, adding that there have also been six domestic violence murder cases recorded so far this year.

The senior police official warned that if the trend continues, this year’s figures could surpass that of 2021 and 2020 which represented eight and six respectively.

“Ladies and gentlemen, these are the numbers that we deal with on a daily basis and some of the incidents that come to our attention.

“But (what) I’d like to encourage you to do for us at the Domestic Violence Unit is to re-encourage those persons that you may know to give us a call and come and visit with us so that we can sit down and help them to go through the various situations that

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Regional News



St. Kitts & Nevis law criminalising gay sex ruled unconstitutional

AP – The top court for nine eastern Caribbean nations and territories has struck down a colonial-era law against homosexual conduct in St. Kitts and Nevis, ruling that sexual orientation is covered by the right to privacy.

LGBTQ activists celebrated the ruling issued Tuesday by the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, noting that gay people on the twin-island nation have tended to avoid medical care for fear of losing their job, being assaulted or being prosecuted or stigma-

tized by health care providers and the government.

The nonprofit St. Kitts & Nevis Alliance for Equality and Jamal Jeffers, a gay man, had sued the small country's attorney general, arguing that the right to liberty allows people to choose an intimate partner and have consensual sex with whomever and however they want.

They also argued that the right to privacy in the local constitution is not limited to protection against unlawful searches.

The St. Lucia-based

court found in their favour, with High Court Judge Trevor Ward writing that the sections of the 1873 law dealing with sodomy impinge "upon the claimants' right to determine the way they, as individuals, choose to express their sexuality in private with another consenting adult."

The local government had argued that freedom of expression does not apply to favour sexual orientation and contended that moral norms were the bedrock of St. Kitts and Nevis:

"Any deviation from these fundamental beliefs opens the floodgates to practices that could alter and compromise survival of the culture and personality of the Federation," which it said was "established on the belief in Almighty God and the inherent dignity in each individual."

The law, while rarely invoked, was amended in 2012 to increase the maximum penalty for indecent assault against men from four years to 10 years, including the possibility of hard labour.

The chairman of the Evangelical Association of St. Kitts, which represents around 30 Christian churches, had filed an affidavit supporting the law, arguing that "the moral and religious fibre of the community should influence any interpretation of the Constitution," the ruling stated.

The court rejected those arguments, writing that "public morality is not synonymous with religious dogma or public opinion."

"We have achieved history," said Kenita Placide, executive director of the Eastern Caribbean Alliance for Diversity and Equality. "An affirmative decision means a yes to privacy and a yes to freedom of expression."

The Joint United Nations Program on HIV and AIDS tweeted its support for the ruling, calling it "great news."

Previously, courts in Belize, Trinidad & Tobago and Antigua & Barbuda have found such laws unconstitutional. Other cases in Barbados and St. Lucia are pending.

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Down Redcliffe
Up High Street
Up Factory Road
Police Ground

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are going on.

"I can tell you that we are working diligently, day in and day out to make sure that if a report is made against our very own, we leave no stone unturned," she said, committing the unit to ensure that domestic violence and gender-based violence is eliminated or "minimised to the greatest extent."

Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica say illegal flow of arms greatest threat to national security

CMC – The Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaican governments Monday warned that the greatest threat to national security in their respective countries is the illegal flow of arms and ammunition organized “not by stupid people”.

Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley and Jamaica’s Prime Minister Andrew Holness, Monday held bilateral talks at the Diplomatic Centre in St. Ann’s on the outskirts of the capital, with Rowley indicating that the two leaders agreed that the arms trade was being undertaken by people “who are very well aware of the circumstances around which we live and in which we live”.

He said this is something the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) had been able to impress upon the United States and that Washington “cannot turn a blind eye to us where every CARICOM country is in this predicament and your suppliers, and your diaspora people can just flood us...including with deportees”.

Rowley said the United States has the capacity to be more effective in following up on who is doing what and “it is something that we are cooperating on and today we signed on to that MOU (memorandum of understanding) and we had some discussions for further closer cooperation and in-

formation sharing between Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago”, particularly in the importation of small arms and assault weapons entering the countries from the United States.

Holness told reporters that “it is amazing when we exchanged notes on the national security front, the similarities, and commonalities not just on the violence front but on the elements that fuel it and enable it.

“So, weapons are an enabler of violence. How they get into our country and the people who are financing them there is just an incredible level of commonality. And so, while we are not saying much about what we are going to be doing, but certainly along the lines of collaboration and sharing information, we will be able to have an impact.

“But from a political standpoint, especially geopolitically we need to amplify our voice regarding the flow of small arms and light weapons into our region in which as we always say, we don’t make guns, we don’t make ammunition, but they are so widely available in our societies.”

Holness said the guns and ammunition are coming in through official airports as well as on boats from South America and Haiti.

“So, it comes in both, but the one we are really concerned about are those



Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley and Jamaica's Prime Minister Andrew Holness

that are coming in through our legal ports because if you think of it, it is where you have placed your most institutional resources and if it is coming through your ports then it speaks to a high level of possible corruption in the ports system and the customs system.

“So, we are concerned about that, I won’t speak too much about what we are doing, but in recent times we have integrated customs in our National Get the Gun strategy and other strategies that we have and as it relates to the illegal importation through unregistered ports for boats coming in we have increased our surveillance and our offshore patrolling and in recent times we have

been having success in stemming that flow,” Holness told reporters.

Jamaica has recorded 968 murders for the period January 1 to August 22 this year as compared with 929 killings last year, an increase of 4.2 percent. The Jamaica Constabulary Force is also reporting that there have been 767 shootings compared to 801 for the corresponding period last year.

In Trinidad and Tobago, acting Police Commissioner McDonald Jacob said 87 percent of the killings for the year so far were a result of gun violence. He said the police have seized 408 firearms for the year so far and charged over 1,000 persons for gun-related offences.

Mikhail Gorbachev, who steered Soviet breakup, dead at 91

AP – Mikhail Gorbachev, who as the last leader of the Soviet Union waged a losing battle to salvage a crumbling empire but produced extraordinary reforms that led to the end of the Cold War, died Tuesday. He was 91.

The Central Clinical Hospital said in a statement that Gorbachev died after a long illness. No other details were given.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said in a statement carried by Russian news agencies that Russian President Vladimir Putin offered deep condolences over Gorbachev's death and would send an official telegram to Gorbachev's family in the morning.

Though in power less than seven years, Gorbachev unleashed a breathtaking series of changes. But they quickly overtook him and resulted in the collapse of the authoritarian Soviet state, the freeing of Eastern European nations from Russian domination and the end of decades of East-West nuclear confrontation.

His decline was humiliating. His power hopelessly sapped by an attempted coup against him in August 1991, he spent his last months in office watching republic after republic declare independence until he resigned on Dec. 25, 1991. The Soviet Union wrote itself into oblivion a day later.

A quarter-century after the collapse, Gorbachev told The Associated Press that he had not considered using widespread force to try to keep the USSR together because he feared chaos in the nuclear country.

"The country was loaded to the brim with weapons. And it would have immediately pushed the country



Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev waves from the Red Square tribune during a Revolution Day celebration, in Moscow, Soviet Union, Tuesday, Nov. 7, 1989. Russian news agencies are reporting that former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has died at 91. The Tass, RIA Novosti and Interfax news agencies cited the Central Clinical Hospital. (AP Photo/Boris Yurchenko, File)

into a civil war," he said.

Many of the changes, including the Soviet breakup, bore no resemblance to the transformation that Gorbachev had envisioned when he became Soviet leader in March 1985.

By the end of his rule, he was powerless to halt the whirlwind he had sown. Yet Gorbachev may have had a greater impact on the second half of the 20th century than any other political figure.

"I see myself as a man who started the reforms that were necessary for the country and for Europe and the world," Gorbachev told The AP in a 1992 interview shortly after he left office.

"I am often asked, would I have started it all again if I had to repeat it? Yes, indeed. And with more per-

sistence and determination," he said.

Gorbachev won the 1990 Nobel Peace Prize for his role in ending the Cold War and spent his later years collecting accolades and awards from all corners of the world. Yet he was widely despised at home.

Russians blamed him for the 1991 implosion of the Soviet Union — a once-fearsome superpower whose territory fractured into 15 separate nations. His former allies deserted him and made him a scapegoat for the country's troubles.

His run for president in 1996 was a national joke, and he polled less than 1% of the vote.

The official news agency Tass reported that Gorbachev will be buried at Moscow's Novodevichy cemetery next to his wife.

WHO director in Asia accused of racism, abuse put on leave

AP – The World Health Organization's top director in the Western Pacific, Dr. Takeshi Kasai, has been indefinitely removed from his post, according to internal correspondence obtained by The Associated Press.

Kasai's removal comes months after an AP investigation revealed that dozens of staffers accused him of racist, abusive and unethical behaviour that undermined the U.N. agency's efforts to stop the coronavirus pandemic in Asia.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told staff in the Western Pacific in an email on Friday that Kasai was "on leave" without elaborating further. Tedros said Deputy Director-General, Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab, would be arriving Tuesday in Manila, WHO's regional headquarters, to "ensure business continuity." Two senior WHO officials who asked not to be identified because they were not authorised to speak to the press, said Kasai had been put on extended administrative leave after internal investigators substantiated some of the misconduct complaints.

In a statement, WHO said it was unknown how long Kasai would be away. The U.N. health agency said the investigation into



World Health Organization Regional Director for Western Pacific Takeshi Kasai addresses the media at the start of the five-day annual session Monday, Oct. 7, 2019, in Manila, Philippines. Kasai has been indefinitely removed from his post, according to internal correspondence Friday, Aug. 26, 2022, obtained by the Associated Press. (AP Photo/Bullit Marquez, File)

him was continuing and that it was believed to be the first time a regional director had been relieved of their duties. Kasai did not respond to requests for comment but previously denied he used racist language or acted unprofessionally.

In January, the AP reported that more than 30 unidentified staffers sent a confidential complaint to senior WHO leadership and members of the organisation's Executive Board, alleging that Kasai had created a "toxic atmosphere" in WHO's offices across the Western Pacific. Documents and recordings showed Kasai made racist remarks to his staff and blamed the rise of COVID-19 in some Pacific

documents and instructed IT staff "to monitor emails of all the staff members."

Kasai is a Japanese doctor who began his career in his country's public health system before moving to WHO, where he has worked for more than 15 years.

The removal of a regional director at WHO, even temporarily, is "unprecedented," according to Lawrence Gostin, director of the WHO Collaborating Center on Public Health Law and Human Rights at Georgetown University. "There have been a lot of bad regional directors at WHO, but I've never heard of action like this," Gostin said.

Kasai's removal stands in stark contrast to WHO's past reluctance to discipline perpetrators of unethical and sometimes illegal behaviour, including during the sex abuse uncovered during the Ebola outbreak in Congo from 2018-2020. More than 80 outbreak responders under WHO's direction sexually abused vulnerable women; an AP investigation found senior WHO management was informed of multiple exploitation claims in 2019 but refused to act and even promoted one of the managers involved. No senior WHO staffers linked to the abuse have been fired.

countries on their "lack of capacity due to their inferior culture, race and socio-economics level." Several WHO staffers working under Kasai said he improperly shared sensitive coronavirus vaccine information to help Japan, his home country, score political points with its donations.

Days after the AP report, WHO chief Tedros announced that an internal probe into Kasai had begun. Several months later, however, WHO staffers alleged that Kasai was manipulating the investigation. In a letter sent to the U.N. agency's top governing body in April, the Executive Board, the staffers wrote that Kasai had ordered senior managers to destroy any incriminating

Building collapses in Nigeria; eight people pulled from rubble

AP – A three-story building under construction collapsed Tuesday in north-western Nigeria, trapping shoppers in a busy neighbourhood. Emergency response workers told the Associated Press that at least eight people have been pulled from the rubble and they were searching for more.

The building in Kano state, northern Nigeria's commercial hub, was being constructed as a business centre though businesses were already operating on the ground floor, said Nura Abdullahi, head of Nigeria's National Emergency Management Agency in Kano.

So far, "no casualties yet (and) eight people have been rescued" from the rubble with varying injuries, Abdullahi said, adding that the rescue operation was continuing. Abdullahi said authorities have not yet confirmed the number of people trapped inside the structure.

Videos apparently recorded at the scene showed a large crowd trying to catch a glimpse of the debris pile as rescue workers arrived with tools.

Rescue operations continued late Tuesday with excavators and assistance from dozens nearby.

On social media, Nigerians urged authorities to take action against the trend of building collapses across the country.

In the last year, there have been more than 10 building collapses in this West African nation, often with authorities being accused of failing to enforce building safety regulations. Lagos, Nigeria's largest city, recorded five such collapses last year, including in November when more than 40 people died when a high rise still being constructed crumbled on workers.



Unvaccinated NBA players, staff must test weekly for COVID

AP — Unvaccinated NBA players and team personnel must submit to weekly COVID-19 testing this season, the league told its clubs in a memo Tuesday.

There will be certain exceptions to that mandate, the league said, such as when the unvaccinated person is considered to have been “recently recovered” from COVID-19.

But for all others, testing will not be required except when “directed by their team physician or a league physician or government authority,” the league said. Face masks also will not be required, though they will be rec-

ommended for use indoors in markets where coronavirus levels are classified by government officials as high.

The policy for the coming season — agreed to by the National Basketball Players Association — has been developed over the last several weeks and is consistent with what Commissioner Adam Silver said last month he would expect.

“It looks like we’ll be on our normal track in terms of when the season starts, in terms of our protocols around the game, particularly around the health and safety of our players,” Silver said at the

league’s Board of Governors meeting in mid-July. “I have learned over the last 2 1/2 years not to make any predictions when it comes to COVID, but only to say we’ll be prepared for anything that comes our way.”

The overwhelming majority of NBA players and team personnel were vaccinated last season, and the league said it is strongly recommending that those people remain up-to-date with their vaccination status. That means not only having received all doses

in the initial series of vaccinations but also all boosters that are recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

All players and team personnel will be required to get tested when exhibiting any symptoms, plus they will be required to report those symptoms, as well as any positive or inconclusive results of tests not administered by the team or the league. Players and personnel will also have to report when someone in their household tests positive for COVID-19.



In this July 29, 2020, file photo, signs lead to an NBA COVID-19 testing site inside the NBA bubble in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Unvaccinated NBA players and team personnel must submit to weekly COVID-19 testing this season, the league told its clubs in a memo Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2022. There will be certain exceptions to that mandate, the league said, such as when the unvaccinated person is considered to have been “recently recovered” from COVID-19. (AP Photo/Ashley Landis, File)



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Sports News



Smith, Niemann among players to join Saudi-backed LIV Golf

AP – British Open champion Cameron Smith and Joaquin Niemann are among six players to leave the PGA Tour for Saudi-funded LIV Golf, which returns this week for a fourth tournament, this time outside of Boston.

The signing of Smith, who had been deflecting questions about his imminent departure since the day he won the claret jug, gives Greg Norman his first player from the top 10 in the world.

Smith, a 29-year-old from Australia, rose to No. 2 in the world ranking after winning at St. Andrews.

He could have reached No. 1 with a victory at the start of the FedEx Cup playoffs. Now, that opportunity is gone. LIV Golf does not get ranking points, though it filed an application last month.



Cameron Smith, of Australia, hits from the third tee during the second round of the Tour Championship golf tournament at East Lake Golf Club, Friday, Aug. 26, 2022, in Atlanta. (AP Photo/John Bazemore)

The PGA Tour is suspending members as soon as they put a ball in play at LIV Golf events.

Others to sign are Marc Leishman, a six-time PGA Tour winner from Australia who at age 38 has dropped out

of the top 50 in the world, and three others who leave without ever having won on the PGA Tour — Americans Harold Varner III and Cameron Tringale and Anirban Lahiri of India.

Smith and Niemann, who is from Chile, were among the eight qualifiers for the International team at the Presidents Cup, which will be played in a month at Quail Hollow. Leishman and Lahiri previously have played in the matches.

Because the PGA Tour exclusively operates the Presidents Cup — unlike the Ryder Cup, which Europe operates on home soil — players who join LIV Golf are not eligible.

Niemann, 23, considered joining the rival league in February until Phil Mickelson's disparaging comments about the Saudis and the PGA Tour

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Chelsea squanders lead, loses 2-1 at Southampton in EPL

AP – Chelsea squandered a lead to lose 2-1 at Southampton and continue its inconsistent start to the Premier League season on Tuesday.

Goals by Romeo Lavia and Adam Armstrong saw Southampton recover from going behind to a 23rd-minute strike from Raheem Sterling, who now has three goals since his move from Manchester City and has been one of Chelsea's few successes this season.

That's already two losses in five games for Chelsea, which is missing the injured

N'Golo Kante in midfield and has a rebuilt defence that is leaking goals.

The impending arrival of French centre back Wesley Fofana from Leicester might improve things in defence while Chelsea manager Thomas Tuchel will hope attacking right back Reece James returns soon after missing the trip to St. Mary's stadium because of illness.

It could have been worse for Chelsea, with Marc Cucurella and Thiago Silva clearing shots off the line in the second half.



Chelsea players during the English Premier League soccer match between Southampton and Chelsea at St Mary's Stadium, Southampton, England, Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2022. (AP Photo/Ian Walton)

Southampton rebounded from a 1-0 home loss to Manchester United on Sat-

urday and joined Chelsea on seven points with a first win at St. Mary's since April.

Venus Williams out of US Open in first round for second time

AP – The welcome and support for Venus Williams in Arthur Ashe Stadium on Tuesday afternoon were not the same as they were for her sister, Serena, a night earlier. Nor was the result.

Venus, who turned 42 in June, has not made any pronouncements about her future in tennis, unlike her younger sibling, and while she has been successful and influential, too — a seven-time Grand Slam champion; a Black woman in a predominantly white sport — the fanfare and attention are not the same.

Playing in front of thousands of empty blue seats in an arena quite silent at the start, Venus bowed out in the first round of the U.S. Open for the second consecutive appearance, losing 6-1, 7-6 (5) to Alison Van Uytvanck.

“She means so much

to female tennis. Tennis, in general,” Van Uytvanck said. “She’s a legend.”

This was the 23rd trip to Flushing Meadows for Venus, who made it to the final in 1997 as a teen then won the trophy in 2000 and 2001, and her record 91st time participating in a major tournament.

Venus had never lost in the opening round at the U.S. Open until 2020, then was absent last year. She was off the tour in singles entirely from August 2021 until less than a month ago and is now 0-4 since her return. Her ranking — which 20 years ago was No. 1 — is 1,504th this week.

It was Serena who announced to the world on Aug. 9 that she was getting ready to step away from her playing career, leaving unclear exactly when the end would be, although



Venus Williams, of the United States, returns a shot to Alison Van Uytvanck, of Belgium, during the first round of the US Open tennis championships, Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2022, in New York. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

she hinted it could come at the U.S. Open. So her first-round match Monday fell into the category of a must-

see happening, drawing a record crowd of more than 29,000 to the tournament grounds, including more than 23,000 in Ashe — and the atmosphere was uproarious and electric from start to finish of her 6-3, 6-3 victory over Danka Kovinic.

Now Serena, who won six of her 23 Grand Slam singles titles in New York, will move on to a match-up against No. 2 seed Anett Kontaveit in Ashe on Wednesday night.

And she and Venus will join forces in doubles, teaming up for the first time anywhere since 2018 this week.

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stalled the launch of LIV Golf. Niemann then won the Genesis Invitational at Riviera and cited the competition and history as reasons he wanted to stay on the PGA Tour.

But all his best friends in golf have joined the rival series — Carlos Ortiz and Abraham Ancer of Mexico, Sergio Garcia of Spain — and they often shared a house and brought in their own chef for the week. His manager, Carlos Rodriguez of GSE Worldwide, said Niemann still had not signed a LIV Golf deal when he flew to Boston on Monday.

Along with winning the British Open

for his first major, Smith won The Players Championship in March by one shot over Lahiri. Paul Casey was two shots behind, and now all three players have joined LIV Golf.

Along with big signing bonuses — The Daily Telegraph reported \$150 million for Smith — players compete for \$25 million in prize money at each of the LIV Golf Invitational events.

The Boston event is at The International, which is about 45 minutes west of Boston. LIV Golf takes off next week because of the European tour flagship event at Wentworth in England, and then returns Sept. 16-18 to the Chicago suburbs.

Sports News



Gomes says recent tournaments prove coaching education bearing fruit

Technical Director of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA) Sowerby Gomes says the twin-island state's recent hosting of the inaugural Pride of the Caribbean Under-17 Boys tournament showed the positive effect of the coaches' education programme that has been taking place in the Confederation of North, Central America and the Caribbean Association of Football (CONCACAF) region to which territories of the Caribbean Football Union (CFU) are affiliated members.

Four CFU and CONCACAF member countries, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia and Grenada, participated in the Pride of the Caribbean competition, which was initiated, organized and hosted by the ABFA at its Technical Training Centre from 23rd to 27th August.

Gomes expressed satisfaction with the level of preparedness displayed by all the teams, which is a clear manifestation of the benefits of the coaches' education programmes that have been taking place for officials in the CFU in association with CONCACAF.

Gomes said the four-

team round robin competition, which was won by St. Lucia, was hosted by the ABFA to help prepare the young Benna Boys for a Concacaf Under-17 Men's Qualifying Tournament in Nicaragua from 31st August to 5th September.

But he added that the recent Under-17 boys' competition and the ABFA's hosting of the Jewels of the Caribbean Under-15 Girls tournament with five regional teams from 13th to 21st August, also provided opportunities for other officials such as referees and match commissioners to utilize their knowledge and skills that they would have developed after being exposed to training workshops conducted by the CFU in conjunction with CONCACAF.

"It was a preparatory stage for our Under-17 boys and it was certainly heartfelt gratitude when St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada could have joined our Under-17 boys here in Antigua to play in this first Pride of the Caribbean Tournament here in Antigua," Gomes stated.

"I am very pleased with the way all the teams have been prepared, from management staff, coach-

ing staff and the physios.

"You saw that synergy and you saw the level of education that is taking place across the Caribbean from the way each of these coaches from their respective countries are able to execute their plans.

"What is even more pleasing about the ABFA's hosting of the Jewels of the Caribbean Under-15 Girls and the Pride of the Caribbean Under-17 Boys Tournaments is that not only are we bringing the players to compete against each other, but we brought other officials such as referees out of St. Vincent, Grenada, St. Lucia, Dominica; and we also brought in match commissioners and venue coordinators out of these respective countries.

"In addition, we brought in referees' assessors to assess the referees. So yes, it might look like small tournaments, but it was also about development, not only for players but also for the other match officials who play important roles in the game of football."

"It has been a challenge to put it all together, but I am very happy with what transpired in the ABFA's hosting of these two tournaments because I am



Technical Director of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association Sowerby Gomes. (File photo)

seeing development taking place both on and off the field."

Gomes also expresses high commendations to sponsors Cool and Smooth, Jomo Caribbean, Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority and Paradiso Water for partnering with the ABFA in hosting the two tournaments.



Keiohn James, left, accepts his trophy from Coach Skey Anthony for winning the boys' category at the Paradiso Water Two-Day Junior Golf Championship at Cedar Valley over the weekend.



Lexi Hunte, left, accepts her trophy from Coach Skey Anthony for winning the girls' category at the Paradiso Water Two-Day Junior Golf Championship at Cedar Valley over the weekend. (Photos courtesy Marlon George)

James and Hunte claim titles at Paradiso Water championship

Keiohn James out-classed his rivals to claim the boys' division title, while Lexi Hunte emerged as champion of the girls' category at the Paradiso Water Two-Day Junior Golf Championship at Cedar Valley over the weekend.

James followed up his opening score of 73 on Saturday with another good showing of 79 on Sunday to easily win the biggest

trophy during the 36-hole contest.

His overall tally of 152 was five shots clear of the red-hot favourite Siyolo Joseph and Marquisse George who finished 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Both Joseph and George ended with joint scores of 157, but Siyolo took the runner-up spot via a play-off.

As for Hunte, the 15-year-old phenom broke

out of a three-way tie after the opening round to produce a masterclass performance on Sunday to run away with the girls' main trophy.

Her 75 on Sunday was by far the best score on the final day between both boys and girls as she ended with a two-day total of 159, having shot a score of 84, 24 hours earlier.

Meleah George finished second with 168 while

Akevia Warner grabbed the third spot with 169 gross.

In total, there were 18 players on show who all expressed appreciation to sponsors Paradiso Water and former parliamentary representative for All Saints West, Hilroy Humphreys, for putting on such a prestigious tournament.

The Paradiso Water Two-Day Championship was the penultimate tournament of the Striving for Excellence Golf Junior Programme Summer Series.

The 2022 summer series calendar will culminate with the A.S Bryden's Back to School Championship at the Cedar Valley Golf Course on Sunday, 4th September.

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at 7:30 pm on Friday, 2nd September following an encounter between Jamaica and South Africa at 6pm the same day.

Fly Ballers will then face Jamaica at 6pm on Saturday, 3rd September, then face Grenada in their final match at 6pm on Sunday, 4th September.

The team is scheduled to return home to Antigua and Barbuda the following day.

Keiohn James, left, accepts his trophy from Coach Skey Anthony for winning the boys' division title at the Paradiso Water Two-Day Junior Golf Championship at Cedar Valley over the weekend.

Fly Ballers to carry A&B flag at Americas Netball Men's Championship

An 11-member team of the Fly Ballers Netball Club will leave the island tomorrow (Thursday) for St. Vincent and the Grenadines to represent Antigua and Barbuda in the inaugural Americas Netball Men's Championship, which is scheduled for 1st to 4th September at the Arnos Vale Sports Complex.

The team will be led by captain Marcas Cornelius and includes vice-captain Akiel Hazelwood, Raenor Sharpe and Dwight Peters. The rest of the players are Daneil Perez, Danny Perez, Patrice Evans, Molefi Joseph, Darion Roberts, Jameel Lee and Omario Louie.

The team will be accompanied by coach Candace "Khandie" Jones and Rapheleen Samuel, who is also assistant coach, manager and president of the Fly Ballers Netball Club.

Fly Ballers Netball Club was started in the Ovals community by Samuel in 2019 and during that same year, it placed third in its division of the Antigua and Barbuda Netball Association's (ABNA) Village and Community League.



The Fly Ballers Netball Club contingent that will be representing Antigua and Barbuda at the inaugural Americas Netball Men's Championship, which is scheduled for 1st to 4th September at the Arnos Vale Sports Complex. (Photo courtesy ABNA)

Netball to make the sport gender inclusive and to ensure that netball is able to become an Olympic sport.

The team's participation is being funded by platinum sponsor Go To Enterprises and gold sponsors State Insurance, Cool & Smooth and Townhouse Furnishings.

The team from Antigua and Barbuda will compete against teams from Grenada, Jamaica, invited guest South Africa and host nation St. Vincent and the

Grenadines.

Fly Ballers will shoot off their campaign against South Africa at 7: 30 pm in the second game of the opening night's double header at the Arnos Vale Sporting Complex tomorrow, Thursday, 1st September.

Hosts St. Vincent and the Grenadines will clash in the first game of the tournament at 6pm tomorrow.

Fly Ballers will face St. Vincent and the Grenadines

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