

FRIDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 3 ISSUE 212 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

WARRANT FOR DPP'S ARREST WITHDRAWN

Story on Page 2



On Thursday, Venezuela's Ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda, Carmen Velasquez, made a donation of supplies to the Simón Bolívar Preschool. *Story on page 5.*

Local News



AG Benjamin: Interpol arrest warrant for DPP withdrawn

Attorney General Steadroy Benjamin has confirmed his chamber is aware that a Red Notice was issued by Interpol for the arrest of Anthony Armstrong - Antigua and Barbuda's Director of Public Prosecution - that has since been withdrawn.

According to the International Police, "A Red Notice is a request to law enforcement worldwide to locate and provisionally arrest a person pending extradition, surrender, or similar legal action."

The initial request dated 31st October, 2022, is believed to have been made by



Attorney General Steadroy Benjamin

Jamaican authorities in relation to a matter in that country for which Armstrong was found guilty of professional misconduct by the General Legal Council.

Benjamin, who is acting prime minister while Prime Minister Gaston Browne at-

tends COP 27 in Egypt, confirmed that one day later on 1st November, the notice was withdrawn.

"Kindly note that the Red Notice for this subject has been withdrawn based on some developments in the matter that will be dealt with locally. Whenever Mr. Armstrong comes to Jamaica, necessities will be done," the attorney general read from the Interpol advisory.

Benjamin said the withdrawal notice was signed by Ricardo Murphy, a law enforcement administrator from Jamaica.

"As soon as I have all the information together, I shall be issuing a more detailed statement touching all of these recent developments," he assured.

Armstrong proceeded on special leave in February, 2022, to appeal a decision by Jamaica's General Legal Council which found him guilty of professional misconduct in a matter involving the alleged sale of three properties belonging to a former client of his more than twenty years ago.

According to the General

cont'd on pg 3

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APUA management faces “serious consequences” if water issues aren’t addressed

The cabinet again summoned the Antigua Public Utilities Authority’s (APUA) general manager, Esworth Martin, water manager, Ian Lewis and others to explain the ongoing interruptions in service.

According to the government, with the daily water production now at 7 million gallons of water per day thanks to its investment in several reverse osmosis plants, there is no reason why severe water shortages should still exist.

The country has an estimated requirement of 8 million gallons of water per day.

At this rate of production, Information Minister Melford Nicholas said water outages of more than two days in any area are now unreasonable.

“We invited the APUA officials to express at this time, significant dissatisfaction with the Water Division, espe-

cially in light of the fact that we would have provided much material resources to enable them to get to the level of production of reverse osmosis water,” he stated.

Nicholas said APUA was “read the riot act” on Wednesday during the cabinet’s meeting and guaranteed that APUA’s management will face “serious consequences” if they fail to address the country’s water woes.

“Notwithstanding, various members of parliament, including myself, have been complaining over significant periods of time that there are pockets of persons in the communities that [are] still experiencing, for periods of time, no supply of water.

“This has been going on for between four and five days in some areas and for as much as three weeks in others. This is totally unacceptable!” Nicholas de-



APUA Water Manager, Ian Lewis

clared.

The APUA managers were instructed to carefully rotate the distribution of water so that all communities are served regularly. He warned that the consequences could be severe if the problem persists.

While Nicholas did not say what form these consequences would take, he said the APUA officials were told “to shape up or ship out”.

“It’s unfortunate, as Wednesday’s discussion can be viewed as them (APUA) being read the riot act!” he stated.

cont’d from pg 2

Legal Council, Armstrong acted in contravention of the laws of Jamaica when he signed a document as a witness for someone who was not physically pres-

ent. It is unclear whether the appeal was filed and heard in Jamaica, but Anthony Armstrong resumed duties as Antigua and Barbuda’s chief prosecutor in May, 2022.



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Local News



Gov't willing to re-examine penalties for injury, deaths caused by dangerous driving

As part of a discussion examining the consequences of serious traffic accidents, particularly on the victims, the government has confirmed that several issues are being considered.

One of these is opening consultations with local insurance companies to discuss increasing the payouts received by victims in the instance of injury.

On Thursday morning, Minister of Information, Melford Nicholas, said that in recent times, insurance



companies have enjoyed increases in profits of more than 12 percent.

As such, the cabinet believes that this economic success should translate to

increased benefits to those who are left with sometimes lifelong injuries.

The minister added that the government may also be open to reviewing the

Vehicles and Road Traffic Act and the sections which speak to the penalties associated with dangerous driving and death caused by dangerous driving as additional deterrents to driving habits which are adversarial to the safety, wellbeing, and life of other road users.

He noted that this would be an undertaking that the office of the Attorney General would have to pursue to determine whether any changes to the law should be made.



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Venezuelan Embassy makes donation to Simón Bolívar Preschool

The Simón Bolívar Pre-school was the recipient of a donation of much needed school supplies, equipment and a new identification sign presented by the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

During a brief ceremony at the school's compound yesterday, Venezuela's Ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda, Carmen Velasquez said early childhood education is a priority.

She noted that children's brain development at this stage of life is critical and added that it is also the phase at which they are most receptive to influences from their environment.

She continued that the

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela shares a connection with the Simón Bolívar Pre-school and offered the commitment that the institution will be an example of public education in Antigua and Barbuda and the Caribbean.

Also on hand at the ceremony were Minister of Education, Daryll Matthew, Director of Early Childhood Education, Embler Spencer, and the supervisor of Simón Bolívar, Oniecia Browne.

Minister Matthew noted that any investment in children translates to an investment in the country's future and he expressed his gratitude to the ambassador and the government of Venezuela for their timely donation.

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Community First hit by systems outage

A system blackout at Community First Cooperative Credit Union is causing chaos and panic among the financial institution's customers.

The outage took place on Tuesday and was not resolved up to closing time yesterday.

Community First did not reveal the cause of the problem but told customers, "We are working to address an outage on our network that has affected our Online Services and Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) services."

Anxious and frustrated account holders are now worried that they could default on financial obligations as the credit union has implemented a \$200 daily limit on withdrawals.

It is believed one reason for implementing this limit is that the credit union cannot access information relating to its clients or their account bal-



ances.

The credit union operated from 10:30 am to 4:00 pm on Thursday and that is likely to continue today if the problem is not resolved.

Community First Cooperative Credit Union has apologised to its clients and has promised to provide them with regular updates as they seek to resolve the problem.

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Dollar Barrel is back!

Residents are finalising their shopping lists as the popular Dollar Barrel Initiative has made its return.

The announcement came from Prime Minister Gaston Browne during his address to the nation on Independence Day.

Browne said that the programme will “resume on November 2”.

While he did not disclose how long it will run this season, in the past it has often run for months.

With preparations now underway for the upcoming Christmas Holiday season, this is welcome news for holiday shoppers.

The Christmas Barrel initiative allows householders to import clothing, food items and toiletries for personal use in a standard sized shipping barrel or a 17.9 cubic foot e-container, which is equivalent to a standard barrel.



A similar programme - the ‘Pandemic Relief Barrel Initiative’ - was launched in 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic which provided relief to residents who were able to import food,

clothing, toiletries and personal hygiene products for \$10 per barrel.

That initiative was extended until the end of 2021 despite reported losses of millions of dollars by the port.

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- **Vegetarian Cooking Classes**
October 30 (2:30-6:00 PM)
- **Children's Cooking Classes**
November 3 (4:30-6:30 PM)
- **5K Run/Walk** (Cobbs Cross Primary to New Bethel Academy) November 6 (6:00 AM)
- **Vegetarian Cooking Classes**
November 8th, 9th, 15th, 16th (4:00-6:30 PM)
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Local News



Inland Revenue Department announces Property Tax amnesty

The Inland Revenue Department (IRD) has announced that it will extend an amnesty on property taxes beginning in the new year.

The amnesty will run from 1st January to 31st March, 2023 and applies to residential property owners only.

To qualify for the am-

nesty, homeowners must pay their 2022 taxes in full. Once this requirement is satisfied, outstanding arrears for the years 2016 - 2021 will be waived.

A notice published by the IRD said that payments made in 2022 will also qualify for the property tax amnesty.

Meanwhile, homeowners who are up to date on their taxes will not be left out.

The IRD will offer a 10 percent discount to property owners who settle their 2023 taxes during the amnesty period.

Additional information can be obtained by emailing the IRD at irdproperty@ab.gov.ag.

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Local News



Graduates of the GARD Centre's Hydroponics Programme are poised to reduce food insecurity

Given the island's history of drought, the graduates of the Sandals Foundation-sponsored hydroponics programme at the Gilberts Agricultural Rural Development (GARD) Centre are prepared to embark on climate-smart farming to help strengthen the nation's food security.

By trading soil for nutrient-rich water, these graduates will be able to produce crops at any time of the year and achieve higher yields with fewer resources.

"With the NFT (nutrient film technique) hydroponics unit, 80 to 90 per cent less water can be used to produce a lot more crops in a lot less space," said Julia Roberts, a graduate.

"This is amazing, especially for us in Antigua where we are affected by drought," she added.

Over a three-month period, more than a dozen students covered content in backyard gardening, nutrient solutions, plant problems, plant growth and culture in a hands-on learning course.

The graduates' new knowledge, paired with the impressive potential of the hydroponics unit to mass produce crops, has now empowered them to join the ranks of local food producers.

"I experimented with growing lettuce, cabbage, chive, and cucumbers; herbs and vegetables useful in everyday cooking.

"It was incredible to see how quickly they grew and with far less effort than if I had ploughed the ground and planted seedlings," another graduate said.

He continued, "I can't wait to start growing more and selling to local markets and shops based on demand and



A Sandals Foundation-sponsored climate smart farming training graduate explains how the hydroponic unit works to a visiting group at the Gilbert Agriculture Rural Development Centre (GARD Centre).

supply, as well as challenging myself to grow tomatoes and peppers, which are additional food items that we consume on a daily basis."

June Jackson, Executive Director of the GARD Center, explained the programme's outcomes.

"Throughout the training, the young men and women were also taught how to construct a hydroponic unit and explored how hydroponic vegetable production can be turned into a business."

Jackson added that these lessons, along with field trips to functional backyard gardens, have equipped the graduates with a holistic training that positions them to pursue innovative climate-smart farming practices that will increase the country's food security.

Farming and agriculture support forms one of six key areas of interven-

tion being implemented by the Sandals Foundation as it implements 40 sustainable community projects that have the power to transform Caribbean communities and improve lives.

Other projects to support food security in the region include strengthening the capacity of farmers in Hermitage, Jamaica to grow more and maximise their earning potential and the construction of a hen house and greenhouse at LN Coakley High School in The Bahamas.

The Foundation is also empowering the Grenada Network of Rural Women Producers (GRENROP) through farm business training.

Community compost training initiatives are being undertaken in the Turks and Caicos Islands to improve soil fertility, enhance school and backyard gardening which will in turn reduce the reliance on imported goods.



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Opinion



US Mid-term elections: A defining moment for the world

By Sir Ronald Sanders

(The writer is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States of America and the Organization of American States. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London and Massey College in the University of Toronto)

Democracy is at stake in the country that proclaims itself as the world's bastion of democracy.

That is the judgement of no less a person than the President of the United States of America (US), Joseph Biden Jr. The President made this riveting statement on November 2 in the heart of the Nation's capital, Washington, DC.

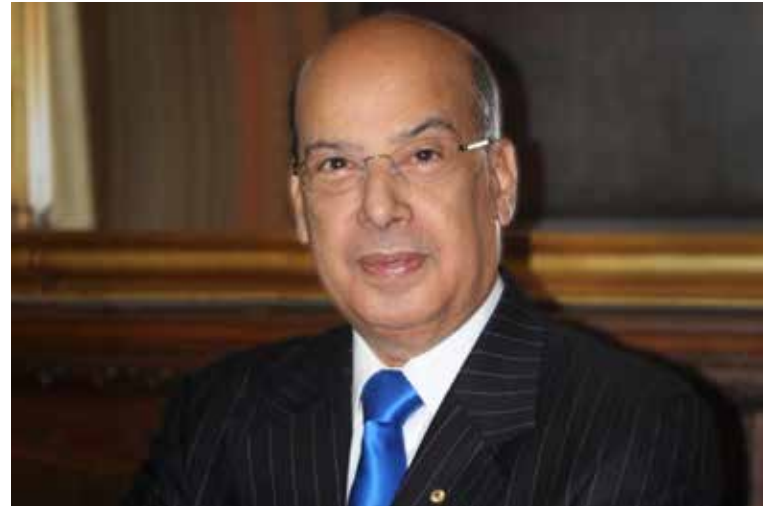
Biden cited several incidents as evidence for his worrying statement. These included an invasion of the home of the House Speaker, Nancy Pelosi, and a savage attack by an intruder on her 82-year-old husband, Paul Pelosi, who was struck in his head with a hammer.

Speaker Pelosi has been the target of far-right supporters of former President Donald Trump, who never formally conceded his overwhelming loss of the November 3, 2020 Presidential elections, and who is being investigated by a select committee of the U.S. House of Representatives for his role in an invasion of

Capitol Hill with the intention of stopping the formal acceptance of the elections result. During the invasion, the rioters declared their intention to kill or maim House Representatives, particularly Nancy Pelosi.

President Biden listed a long number of violations of democratic principles and values, including intimidation of early voters for mid-term elections to the Congress on November 8, and death threats to election officials and election workers in a number of states. The President described this situation in the following stark terms: "This violence against Democrats, Republicans, and nonpartisan officials just doing their jobs, are the consequence of lies told for power and profit. Lies of conspiracy and malice, lies repeated over and over to generate a cycle of anger, hate, vitriol and even violence".

Former President Barack Obama was sufficiently stirred by events that he felt constrained to return to the political hustings to express grave concern about "this erosion of just basic civility and democratic norms". He warned that "If the Republican candidates here are successful, Democracy as we know it may not survive in Arizona." And, he added, "That's not an exaggeration. That is a fact."



Sir Ronald Sanders

These circumstances are being played out in the US, not in a country with an immature democracy or a record of disregard for democratic principles of freedom, the rule of law and respect for justice. Therefore, it is terrifying. For, if democracy is overcome in the U.S. in favour of fascism and tyranny, it will quickly spread the world over with troubling consequences.

Apart from the erosion of democracy elsewhere in the world, and the encouragement that will be given to politicians with autocratic tendencies, the advent of far-right representatives taking control, or significantly influencing, policies and laws created by the U.S. Congress, has consequences for all developing countries.

It is well known, for instance, that Donald Trump and his supporters had little time for developing countries and developed no policies to engage with their

development issues. The description of some, mostly black States as "shit hole countries", the manipulation of several of them in the narrow pursuit of his own political agenda, and the rejection of issues and institutions of vital importance to them caused great alarm. Among the critical issues were the harmful impact of Climate Change and the withdrawal of funding from the World Health Organization. The Trump posture remains, and, if anything, has been strengthened by the Republican candidates who are vying for office on November 8.

Right now the Democratic Party has control of the Senate in the U.S. Congress only because Vice President Kamala Harris has a casting vote. The Senate is equally divided 50-50 between the Democrats and the Republicans. At the mid-term elections on November 8, 12 Democratic-held seats and

cont'd on pg 13

cont'd from pg 12

23 Republican-held seats are being contested. If the Democrats lose only one of their seats to the Republicans without winning two, the Senate will pass to Republican control.

The situation is worse for the U.S. House of Representatives, all of whose 435 seats are up for grabs. The Democrats need to win 218 seats to maintain their majority. They now have 221 to the Republicans 211. It is only in recent days that polls are suggesting that the Democratic party could be victorious.

Should the Democratic Party lose control of the Congress, the Republicans would not only frustrate the legislative programme of the Biden administration, but they would also advance the policies that they favour, including selling guns; approving excessive behaviour by the police force; ending a woman's right to choose abortions; closing U.S. borders to immigrants; introduce harsh measures for dealing with refugees to severely reduce programmes to help the poor. Aid programmes to developing countries will also assume a transactional nature, rather than responding to developmental needs.

It is normal in every election for political parties and candidates to hold differing positions. While it should not be acceptable, it has become par for the course that, in their attempt to win votes, parties and candidates spin

the truth, exaggerate, and talk down their opponents. However, in the run-up to these mid-terms, candidates of the extreme Republican right wing have been found lying, defaming, and preaching a toxic level of vitriol, including encouraging voter intimidation and tearing down institutions.

President Biden has also pointed out that, "there are

candidates running for every level of office in America, for governor, congress, attorney general, secretary of state, who will not commit to accepting the results of the election that they're running in. This is a path to chaos in America".

In the context of all this, there is good reason to be alarmed about the threats to democracy in the U.S. and,

as a consequence, to threats to freedom, democracy, and the rule of law everywhere.

These mid-term elections might well be a defining event not just for the U.S. but for the world in the struggle for supremacy between democracy and fascism.

Responses and previous commentaries: www.sirronaldsanders.com

Pointe Xpress Weekend Puzzle

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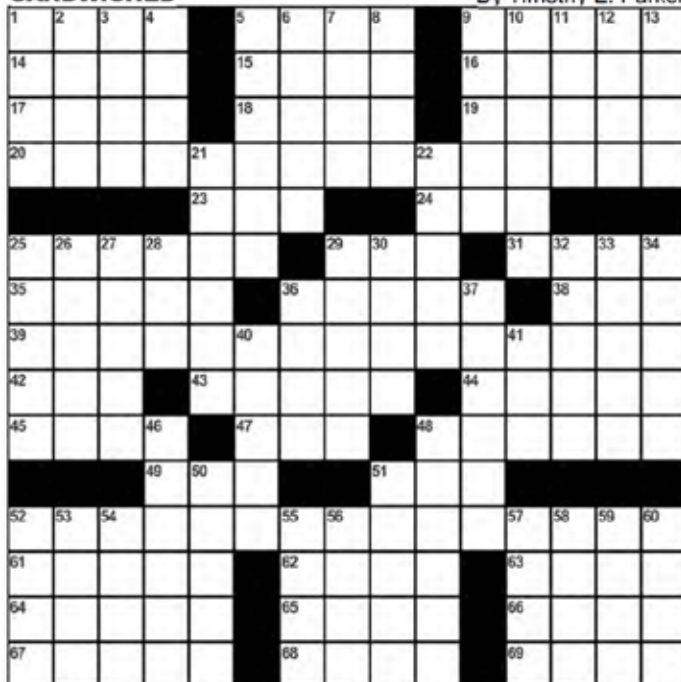
- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1) Having packed on the years | 42) Nightfall, poetically |
| 5) Fair share, often | 43) Fertile type of soil |
| 9) Agenda entries | 44) About to go off |
| 14) Was a passenger | 45) Branch headquarters? |
| 15) Abbr. at the end of lists, sometimes | 47) Functioned as |
| 16) Kathmandu's locale | 48) Everyday or usual |
| 17) Blue hue | 49) Bitterly regret |
| 18) Opera solo | 51) Darjeeling, for one |
| 19) Egypt's capital | 52) Company picnic event |
| 20) Painful thing to pull | 61) It's what's happening now |
| 23) Olympic powerhouse | 62) Artist Chagall |
| 24) "___ you sure?" | 63) False god |
| 25) Crooked | 64) Flower girl, often |
| 29) Joke | 65) About |
| 31) Hardware for a bulletin board | 66) Dice dots |
| 35) Disdain | 67) Certain venomous snake |
| 36) Part of a TV feed | 68) Put on weight |
| 38) Couple thousand pounds | 69) Eyelid affliction |
| 39) Sandwich feature, often | |

DOWN

- 1) Flatfoot's lack
- 2) "Duchess of Alba" painter
- 3) Dutch dairy product
- 4) Shelters for some animals
- 5) The real Citizen Kane
- 6) Skylit lobbies
- 7) "Lie" form
- 8) It represents a country
- 9) Bring upon oneself
- 10) Child's dishes
- 11) Cast-of-thousands film
- 12) Loose, crumbly deposit
- 13) ___ gin fizz
- 21) Kind of vision
- 22) David Blaine's art
- 25) Colorado resort
- 26) Debris of fallen rocks
- 27) Nutty birds?
- 28) Circle section
- 29) Take a wild stab
- 30) Does a bit of math
- 32) Mr. T's TV unit
- 33) ___ del Sol
- 34) Prepare to propose
- 36) Between ports
- 37) Cleveland native
- 40) Scattered, as seed
- 41) "To ___ is human ..."
- 46) Hypnotic state
- 48) Converted liberal, informally
- 50) Anesthetized
- 51) They show off abs of stone
- 52) Volcano in Sicily
- 53) Electrical power network
- 54) Turned right, on a horse
- 55) Bad air
- 56) "Legal" prefix
- 57) Tears violently
- 58) Mine entrance
- 59) Cheat, in a way
- 60) "... or ___!"

SANDWICHED

By Timothy E. Parker



Houston officials plead for witnesses to come forward in killing of 'peaceful' rapper Takeoff

By Elliott C. McLaughlin and Amir Vera

Houston officials vowed to deliver justice in the killing of rapper Takeoff, with the chief of police calling the 28-year-old Atlantan a "peaceful" man and urging any witnesses to the shooting to come forward.

The rapper, part of the multiplatinum hip-hop trio Migos, was at a bowling alley and billiards hall where a private party was held early Tuesday. A 911 call received at 2:34 a.m. reported a shooting in progress, and officers discovered Takeoff dead on the third level, just outside the front door, police said. The Harris County medical examiner ruled Takeoff died from "penetrating gunshot wounds of head and torso into arm."

There were roughly 40 people at the event, many of whom left "possibly out of fear," Houston Police Chief Troy Finner said.

A man, 23, and woman, 24, also were injured and took private vehicles to the hospital, Sgt. Michael Arrington of the homicide division told reporters Tuesday. He did not elaborate on their injuries but said, "They're both going to be OK."

Employees told police gunfire erupted after the party, when a large group of people gathered outside the front door "and it led to an argument where the shooting took place from the disagreement," Arrington said.

"A lot of people that were there fled the scene and did not stick around to give a statement," the sergeant said. "All we can hope is you all will reach out and give us evidence to solve the death of Takeoff."

Investigators believe the suspect or suspects, possibly in their 20s, attended



Takeoff

the private party, and at least two guns were discharged, Finner said. Police are in the process of tracing shell casings and reviewing surveillance footage, he said.

"Mark my words," Finner said. "This great city, with our great citizens, with our police department – we will find who's responsible for it. ... We're going to get them in custody, OK?"

'What if it was your brother?'

Investigators face the challenge of an anti-snitch culture that many hip-hop artists have long embraced. Takeoff's uncle and bandmate, Quavo, appeared on a posthumous 2020 track by Pop Smoke, "Snitching," which decried "rats" and talking to police. Pop Smoke was fatally shot in Los Angeles months before the track was released.

Finner was clear, however, that investigators do not believe Takeoff was "involved in anything criminal at the time," he said.

"I got many calls from Houston and outside of Houston, and everyone spoke of what a great young man this is, how peaceful he is, what a great artist (he is)," the chief said. "Based on what people say about him, he's well respected, nonviolent. I would not expect him to be involved, but I do want to wait on the investigation."

He continued, "I ask you one thing and I want this to resonate with every-

body: What if it was your brother? What if it was your son? You'd want somebody to step up, so please step up. Get the information to us so we can bring some closure to this family who's hurting right now."

Finner cautioned against blaming hip-hop, saying, "Sometimes the hip-hop community gets a bad name," but he knows and respects many in the community. Like Atlanta, Houston boasts a robust rap scene and claims several stars, including Travis Scott, Megan Thee Stallion, Paul Wall and the prolific producer, DJ Premier.

"There's so many talented individuals, men and women in that community who again I love and I respect, and we all need to stand together and make sure nobody tears down that industry," Finner said. "I'm calling to start here ... as possibly as early as next week. I want to meet with some of our artists and see how we can taper things down."

Mayor Sylvester Turner also issued a plea: "If you have any information – for those in the hip-hop community, to those who were there last night – please, please provide that information to HPD."

He emphasized the shooting spoke to an issue larger than hip-hop and expressed concern that, though murders and violent crime are down in Houston, too many young men of color were killing each other.

"Now, everybody has access to guns," the mayor said. "In my day, you have a disagreement – fist fight and you deal with it. In this day, if there's a disagreement, in those few seconds when the emotions are running high, people pull their guns and then they're shooting – and as a consequence of that, we have

cont'd on pg 15

Entertainer Spice not in a coma, says booking agent

Dancehall star Spice is not in a coma, according to her booking agent Ray Alexander.

"She didn't suffer a heart attack and she is not in a coma," Alexander told Loop News on Wednesday evening.

The booking agent dispelled the rumours, which reportedly started with news that the 'So Mi Like It' singer had developed complications during a cosmetic medical procedure at an undisclosed medical facility in the Dominican Republic.

Even Minister Marion Hall, the dancehall artiste-turned-Christian formerly known as Lady Saw and the former queen of dancehall, urged her followers to pray for the current queen of dancehall during a livestream on Wednesday.

Despite Alexander insisting the comments are rumours, this would not be Spice's first time under the knife as



Spice

she previously had cosmetic surgery in 2020. In November of that year, she shared a photo of her "new designer body" to her Instagram page.

Cosmetic surgery enhances appearance for non-medical reasons, addressing physical features that can bring a person closer to their ideal body image.

The entertainer — whose given name is Grace Hamilton — is known

for a slew of hit songs, such as 'Send It Up', 'Sheet', 'Indicator', 'Genie', and 'Fight Over Man', and 'Romping Shop' featuring Vybz Kartel.

Just over two weeks ago, in a post to her Instagram page, the recording artiste said she would be taking a break from social media. Since sharing that on October 17, no new posts have been made to her Instagram account.

In fact, if one checked her Instagram account, they would see only posts related to her latest album 'Emancipated', which debuted at No 7 on the Billboard Reggae Albums chart.

Her debut album '10' was nominated for Best Reggae Album last year.

In recent years, Spice has expanded her brand beyond the confines of dancehall, co-starring in the VH1 reality series *Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta*, and championing her own clothing line, Graci Noir. (Loop)

cont'd from pg 14

too many young men of colour that are being injured or fatally killed and their future is cut off and family members and friends are left to mourn. This does not have to be our reality."

Standing alongside law enforcement, he echoed Finner's promise that Houston police would find the person or people responsible for the rhymesmith's slaying.

"We will solve this particular case. We will find the shooter or shooters, but information provided will help to expedite that," he said.

Rap star was on an upward trajectory

The news of Takeoff's death was a blow to the hip-hop community, still reeling from the fatal shooting of rapper PnB Rock in September. Rapper Ja Rule tweeted, "this s**t has to STOP," while Houston's Lecrae, wrote, "No hot takes. No profound thoughts. Just sad that another rapper, son, brother, and friend has been killed. God be with all those who feel the loss."

Born in Lawrenceville, Georgia, Takeoff began performing with Quavo and another relative, Offset, in 2008, and the trio found success with their 2013 single, "Versace." Three years later, their

track "Bad and Boujee" with Lil Uzi Vert thrust them into the international spotlight.

Migos now have four studio albums, two of which have gone platinum, along with a handful of solo projects and more than a dozen mix-tapes. Takeoff's 2018 solo effort, "The Last Rocket," hit No. 4 on the US charts.

Takeoff and Quavo had just recently announced they'd be performing under the moniker, Unc & Phew, and their first album, "Only Built 4 Infinity Links," dropped last month, with Billboard reporting it had reached No. 1 on the rap charts.

Hours before he was

killed, Takeoff tweeted the video to the single, "Messy," off the project. On the track, Takeoff rhymes, "Wanna know my moves and all my spots, but I move clever/ Wanna know my stash, how much I got, but I ain't gonna tell 'em."

Last month, he and Quavo appeared on the podcast "Drink Champs," and in response to praise for his lyricism on "Infinity Links," Takeoff told listeners, "It's time to pop it, you know what I mean? It's time to give me my flowers, you know what I mean? I don't want them later on when I ain't here. I want them right now, so ..."

Winston Duke, Sheryl Lee Ralph to appear in Savage X Fenty show

By Laura Dowrich-Phillips

Rihanna has tapped Caribbean celebrities to participate in her upcoming Savage X Fenty show.

Tobago-born Winston Duke and Sheryl Lee Ralph, whose parents are Jamaican, are among the stars featured in the fashion experience.

A release from Amazon said Savage X Fenty Show Vol. 4 would feature performances by global musical artists including Anitta, Burna Boy, Don Toliver, and Maxwell.

There will be special appearances from Ángela Aguilar, Avani Gregg, Bella Poarch, Cara Delevingne, Damson Idris, Irina Shayk, Joan Smalls, Kornbread, Lara Stone, Lilly Singh, Marsai Martin, Precious Lee, Rickey Thompson, Sheryl Lee Ralph, Simu Liu, Taraji P. Henson, Taylour Paige, Winston Duke, Zach Miko, and many



Winston Duke, who plays Mbaku in the *Black Panther* movie, will be a model for the Savage X Fenty fashion show that airs from November 9 on Prime Video.

more.

Rihanna dropped the lineup reveal via her Instagram account.

Speaking on the Jimmy Fallon show on Monday ahead of the second instalment of the *Black Panther* movie, Duke revealed he would be a part of the show.

"The legs will be oiled and they will be out," he said, "I will be a Savage Fenty man."

During an appearance on *Live with Kelly and Ryan*, Ralph said that Rihanna called her to ask if she would walk in her show.

"This is no Victoria Secret fashion show baby, this is something on a different level. When I saw the choreography, when I and her vision and what she had walking through the mountains, I was like alright then," she said.

Since its launch, the Savage X Fenty show has shaken up the industry with its diverse array of bodies and genders. Last year, the show won an Emmy award for its choreography.

Savage X Fenty show Vol 4 will stream exclusively on Prime Video in more than 240 countries and territories worldwide from November 9. (Loop)

Lena Horne becomes first Black woman to have a Broadway theatre named after her

By Marianne Garvey

A theatre on Broadway has been officially renamed in honour of the late actress and civil rights activist Lena Horne.

Horne is the first Black woman to have a theatre named in her honour.

The theatre, on West 47th Street, was built in 1926 and was originally named the Mansfield Theatre. In 1960, it was renamed the Brooks Atkinson Theatre in honour of the late New York Times drama critic.

The theatre has the original chandelier hanging inside after it was refurbished in 2000. It seats 1,069 and is one of The Nederlander Organization's nine Broadway theatres.

An official celebration took place outside the theatre Tuesday. The musical "Six" is currently playing at the theatre.

Horne, who won multiple Tony and Grammy awards, was a trailblazing entertainer. She died in 2010.

Horne also starred in



The Nederlander Organization unveiled Broadway's new Lena Horne Theatre on Tuesday.

movies and on television. She got her start at the famed Cotton Club in Harlem when she was a teenager.

In September, the Shubert Organization re-christened a Broadway theatre to honour actor James Earl Jones.

CIBC FirstCaribbean announces four new full scholarships in the name of retiring first female CEO

Scholarships in Business or Banking and Finance tenable at any UWI Campus

CIBC FirstCaribbean has announced four new one-off scholarships for female finance students in honour of retiring Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Colette Delaney, the first woman to head the regional bank.

In making the announcement recently, incoming CEO Mark St. Hill hailed his predecessor as a “champion for women, girls and diversity and inclusion at our bank.”

He said the bank could not think of a more fitting tribute to honour Delaney, a career banker who has been with the bank for the past nine years and CEO for the past four, than to “offer these scholarships to four deserving young women from across the region.”

The Colette Delaney Scholarship for Women in Business Studies will allow four young women across the Caribbean region to realise their dreams of pursuing studies in the field of Business or Banking & Finance at the UWI campus of their choice.

St. Hill said during her tenure Colette set up the Women’s Network for females in the bank - a support group



Colette Delaney

for senior females in the bank as they navigate the corporate world. She also placed renewed emphasis on developing regional people, evidenced by the number of management training programmes for senior leadership and mentorship programmes for employees at all levels that were established.

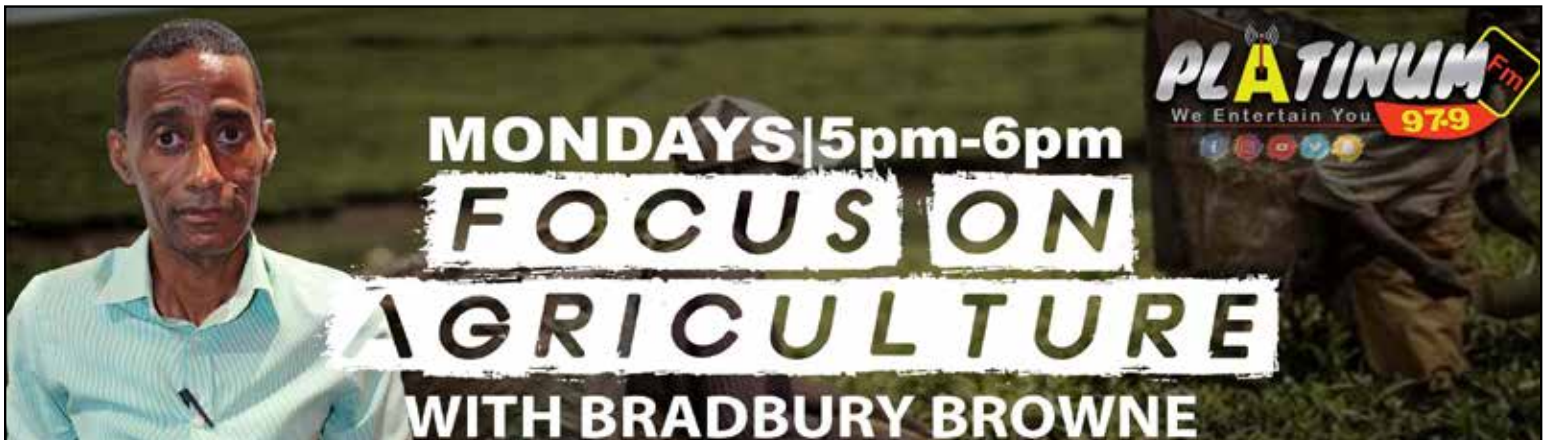
He added that she also promoted

a number of regional people to the bank’s Senior Executive Team.

St. Hill said Colette, the immediate past Chair of the bank’s charitable arm, the FirstCaribbean International ComTrust Foundation, took a deep satisfaction in the impact the work of the foundation had on communities and institutions across the region, especially its award of scores of undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships every year to students of the University of the West Indies.

Delaney said she was “touched and truly honoured that four deserving young women across the region will have another route to educational advancement with these scholarships offered by the bank.”

Colette’s appointment as Chief Executive Officer, the first woman to be appointed to the role, was a landmark in the bank’s history. She brought to her tenure as CEO the steady hand that the bank needed especially during turbulence caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Her ability to reassure both employees and clients of the bank’s stability and support helped to assuage the concerns of our various stakeholders during that testing period.



Climate change: Kilimanjaro's and Africa's last glaciers to go by 2050, says UN

By Patrick Hughes

Glaciers across the globe - including the last ones in Africa - will be unavoidably lost by 2050 due to climate change, the UN says in a report.

Glaciers in a third of UN World Heritage sites will melt within three decades, a UNESCO report found.

Mount Kilimanjaro's last glaciers will vanish as will glaciers in the Alps and Yosemite National Park in the US.

They will melt regardless of the world's actions to combat climate change, the authors say.

The report, which makes projections based on satellite data, comes as world leaders prepare to meet in Egypt for next week's COP27 climate change conference.

About 18,600 glaciers have been identified across 50 UN World Heritage sites. They represent almost 10% of the Earth's glacierised area and include renowned tourist spots and places sacred to local populations.

The retreat and disappearance of glaciers was "among the most dramatic evidence that Earth's climate is warming", the report said.

"We hope we might be wrong, but this is the hard science," said UNESCO project officer Tales Carvalho Resende, one of the authors. "Glaciers are



The glaciers that cap Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania will be gone by 2050

one of the valuable indicators of climate change, because they're visible. This is something we can really see happening."

The remaining glaciers in the other two thirds of UN World Heritage sites could be saved, but only if the world limits global warming to 1.5C, the authors say. Another UN report last week found that the world currently had "no credible pathway" to achieve that.

The projections build upon a previous report which used models to compute how World Heritage site glaciers would change over time.

"What is quite unprecedented in the historical record is how quickly this is happening," said Beata Csatho, a glaciologist from the University of Buffalo, who was not involved in the research.

"In the middle of the 1900s, glaciers were quite stable," she said. "Then there is this incredibly fast retreat."

World Heritage sites listed as having glaciers that

will disappear by 2050 are:

- Hyrcanian Forests (Iran)
- Durmitor National Park (Montenegro)
- Virunga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo)
- Huanlong Scenic and Historic Interest Area (China)
- Yellowstone National Park (United States of America)
- Mount Kenya National Park/Natural Forest (Kenya)
- Pyrenees Mont Perdu (France, Spain)
- Rwenzori Mountains National Park (Uganda)
- Putorana Plateau (Russia)
- Swiss Tectonic Arena Sardona (Switzerland)
- Nahanni National Park (Canada)
- Lorentz National Park (Indonesia)
- Natural System Of Wrangel Island Reserve (Russia)
- Kilimanjaro National Park (Tanzania)
- Yosemite National Park (United States of America)
- The Dolomites (Italy)
- Virgin Komi Forests (Russia)

The report said that ice loss in World Heritage sites

may have caused up to 4.5% of the observed global sea level rise between 2000 and 2020. These glaciers lose 58 billion tonnes of ice every year - equivalent to the total annual volume of water used in France and Spain put together.

Many people also depend on glaciers as their water source for domestic use and agriculture, and their loss could lead to a scarcity of fresh water during the dry seasons, said Prof Duncan Quincey, a glaciology expert at the University of Leeds who was not involved in the research.

"That leads to food security issues because they were using that water to irrigate their crops," said Quincey.

Local communities and indigenous people will bear the brunt of the flooding caused by glacier loss, say the report's authors, urging that early-warning and risk-reduction disaster systems be put in place.

However the most obvious thing we need to do is limit global warming.

"There's a message of hope here," said Carvalho Resende. "If we can manage to drastically cut emissions, we will be able to save most of these glaciers."

"This is really a call to take action at every level - not only at the political level, but at our level as human beings."

UN body urges action to save children in Haiti amid triple threat

CMC - Immediate action is needed to save children in Haiti amid the “triple threat” of cholera, malnutrition and violence, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) said on Tuesday.

CRC members urged the international community to support authorities in the Caribbean country in guaranteeing the rights of millions of children to live, grow, learn, and thrive.

Last month, the UN Security Council unanimously approved a sanctions regime for Haiti, targeting gang leaders and those who finance them, in a bid to ease months of violence and lawlessness that have fueled a humanitarian crisis



A young child is screened for malnutrition in Cité Soleil, Haiti. Photo UNICEF

Gangs have been blocking access to the main fuel terminal in the capital, Port-au-Prince, which has affected the delivery of healthcare and other critical services, at a time when Haiti is confronting a growing cholera epidemic.

The country also continues to face political and

economic meltdowns.

Amid the surge in violence, children's rights to life, education, safe water, sanitation, health and nutrition are under threat, the UN Committee said in a statement.

It added that escalating insecurity has meant that most have not gone to

school since the start of the academic year on October 3.

UN children's agency UNICEF has projected that nearly 100,000 under-fives face severe acute malnutrition, an alarming situation as malnourished children are at even greater risk of cholera.

Many of the poorest Haitian families have no safe drinking water, soap for handwashing, and basic sanitation, thus increasing cholera risk. Additionally, hospitals are only able to offer limited services due to fuel shortages and insecurity.

The Committee reported on other threats, as many Haitian children live

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Regional News



Former Grenada government minister admits sale of diplomatic passports

CMC - Former Grenadian Foreign Affairs Minister Oliver Joseph has admitted that the previous New National Party (NNP) administration had a policy of accepting cash for diplomatic passports. However, there have been denials that a Polish man was charged almost double the usual amount and a significant portion of that went to the bank account of an NNP constituency office.

Joseph confirmed that there was a policy of the former administration, led by Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell, of appointing diplomatic passport holders as ambassadors-at-large if there was no representation in the territory or jurisdiction from which an application for citizenship came. No diplomatic immunity was granted, however, he said.

Unlike an ambassador-in-residence, who is usually limited to a country or embassy, an ambassador-at-large operates in several neighbouring countries.

"What we [did] is conduct a thorough due diligence investigation and once approved they are then asked to pay the required funds to the state. The fee was US\$150,000, nothing more, and the Cabinet conclusions will reflect the same," Joseph said.

During a town hall meeting on Monday, Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell alleged that a Polish man had claimed that in June this year, in the midst of the general election campaign,

he was asked to pay US\$290,000 for a diplomatic passport, with US\$150,000 for the State and US\$140,000 for the NNP's constituency office in St George South.

"We have the records.... The Cabinet conclusion said it was US\$290,000 to the State of Grenada. The last time I checked, the constitution does not establish the New National Party South St George office as part of the State of Grenada, so my free advice now is that the New National Party South St George office, or the New National Party for that matter, should kindly hand over to the state of Grenada the US\$140,000 that magically found its way into your bank account," he said at the town hall meeting at the Grenada Trade Centre.

Describing the move by the Polish man as a gamble in which he lost, the prime minister said his government will not grant the request for the money to be returned.

"I do not know who advised the Polish gentleman.... The gentleman has been asking back for his money. The State of Grenada has no intention of paying back any money to anybody, but I also want to point out and give some free advice to the South St. George New National Party that you might have to pay back the man his money," he said.

"This is essentially trading in diplomacy or, more specifically, trading in a diplomatic passport. This admin-



Oliver Joseph

istration has put a stop to this, we will not do it, it is wrong. For a government, days before an election to be suggesting to people that they could be made diplomats in the middle of an election campaign ridiculous and that is the kind of challenge that we have to treat with," Prime Minister Mitchell declared.

However, Joseph insisted that the amount paid to the state was only US\$150,000 and there can be no other figures in the Cabinet conclusion.

Grenada's financial laws mandate that financial transactions of EC\$10,000 and up deposited into an account must have a source of funds declaration.

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in fear of being recruited, kidnapped, injured, or killed by gangs.

Children as young as ten, mainly girls, also have been subjected to hours of gang rape in front of their

parents. A quarter of girls and one-fifth of boys in the capital have been sexually abused.

"The Committee urges Haiti to comply with its international human rights obligations under the Con-

vention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography," the statement said.

Haitian government authorities and non-State actors have also been urged to protect the rights of all children and to facilitate humanitarian access to the most vulnerable families.

Jamaica's Health Ministry awaits PAHO report from investigation into babies' deaths

CMC - Jamaica's Ministry of Health and Wellness is awaiting a report from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) on the discovery of a cluster of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* infections at the Victoria Jubilee Hospital (VJH) which resulted in the deaths of 11 babies between July and September.

Health and Wellness Minister Dr. Christopher Tufton told the House of Representatives on Tuesday that PAHO was asked to carry out an independent assessment as to what may have been the issues, "out of an abundance of caution".

He said PAHO was also asked to inspect other institutions, such as Spanish Town and Bustamante Hospitals.

"I am now awaiting the final report from PAHO," Dr. Tufton said.

He confirmed last week that the babies had died from *Klebsiella pneumoniae* at the neonatal unit of VJH in Kingston.

Klebsiella pneumoniae is a bacterium that is responsible for a significant proportion of hospital-acquired infections. These include pneumonia and soft tissue infections, especially in immunocompromised individuals, such



Health Minister Dr. Christopher Tufton

as newborn children or neonates.

Dr. Tufton explained that in July, the Southeast Regional Health Authority (SERHA) discovered a bacterial infection at VJH, which triggered an immediate investigation and Ministry notification.

He said the investigation revealed a high patient-to-staff ratio and non-conformance with some infection-prevention and control (IPC) measures.

The minister explained that a plan was subsequently developed by a team from VJH, together with personnel from SERHA, the Kingston and St. Andrew Health Department, the National Public Health Laboratory and the Ministry's IPC team, to address

the issues identified.

This plan, Dr. Tufton outlined, involved confirmed and suspected cases, with new admissions being placed in a separate area; activation of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to evaluate the circumstances surrounding the increase in cases and oversee the relevant interventions for resolving the situation; increased surveillance to identify trends and patterns in incidence on the unit; redeployment of clinical officers to provide support for the unit as demands increased; and preparation of a critical-needs list for the urgent procurement of the items to discontinue the reuse of single-use items.

The plan also includes coordination of swabbing

and urgent deep-cleaning activities under the supervision of the local health department; evaluation of routine cleaning protocols and implementation of supervised cleaning and disinfecting activities; and re-training team members in IPC protocols along with close, direct supervision by the nurse in charge and the IPC team on the unit.

"Towards the end of August, I was briefed on the situation at VJH by the team at the Ministry of Health and Wellness. By then, the efforts appeared to have been working, with a decline in the number of deaths. There were two deaths in August, two in September, coming from seven in July. There were no deaths in October," Dr. Tufton said.

Meanwhile, the minister has expressed condolences to the family and loved ones of the babies succumbing to *Klebsiella pneumoniae* infections.

He said the loss of lives is sad and unfortunate and must never be downplayed, trivialised, or politicised.

"I also want to recognize the health team at VJH for their ongoing efforts to complete remediation measures at the hospital, following the cluster of cases," Dr. Tufton added.

French parliament stopped over 'racist' remark

BBC - The French parliament was brought to a halt after a far-right MP shouted "They should go back to Africa" as a black colleague talked about immigration.

Grégoire de Fournas, a member of National Rally (RN), said later his remark had not been aimed at Carlos Marten Bilongo himself but at migrants trying to reach Europe by sea.

Mr Bilongo said he had been born in France and the remark was "shameful".

Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne said there was "no room for racism".



The National Assembly's bureau would meet on Friday and decide on the "necessary sanction", the liberal politician told reporters.

Mr Bilongo had been questioning the government
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Police: Twenty-one bodies found at mine in South Africa

AP - South African police are investigating the discovery of at least 21 bodies suspected of being illegal miners and found near an active mine in the town of Krugersdorp, west of Johannesburg.

According to police, 19 bodies were discovered on Wednesday afternoon and two more were discovered on Thursday morning. Police said they suspect that the bodies were moved to the location where they were found, which is a privately-owned mine.

"We can confirm that this morning our search and rescue team went back to the scene and, as they were searching, they discovered two more bodies. They retrieved them from an open (mine) shaft," police spokeswoman Brenda Muridili said Thursday.

The grim discovery is the latest in a series of incidents related to illegal mining in the Krugersdorp area. In July, eight female members of a film crew were raped and robbed at an abandoned mine in the area, where they were working on a music video shoot. The incident sparked violent protests against illegal miners in surrounding communities.

Last week, rape and robbery charges against 14 men, who are also



Workers are seen underground in a mine on the outskirts of Johannesburg, South Africa. [File: Siphiwe Sibeko/Reuters] (Reuters)

suspected of being illegal miners, were withdrawn after police couldn't link them to the rapes through DNA evidence. The men were arrested during police raids on the abandoned mine where the rapes took place.

Illegal mining is rife in South Africa, with miners known locally as "zama zamas" searching for gold at the many disused and abandoned mines in and around the Johannesburg region. Krugersdorp is a mining town on the western edges of Johannesburg.

Illegal mining gangs are considered dangerous by the police, are usually armed and are known to fight violent turf battles with rival groups. The trade is believed to be dominated by immigrants who enter illegally from neighbouring countries Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

The 14 men who had rape and robbery charges against them dropped are accused of being in South Africa illegally and have been charged with immigration offenses.

cont'd from pg 22

about a request by the SOS Méditerranée non-governmental organisation for help in finding a port for 234 migrants rescued at sea in recent days.

When Mr de Fournas made his remark, the Speaker, Yael Braun-Pivet, demanded to know who had spoken. Then, as MPs chanted "Out! Out! Out!",

she suspended the session, declaring, "This is not possible."

Mr Bilongo, an MP from the the left-wing party France Unbowed (LFI), said: "Today it's come back to the colour of my skin. I was born in France, I am a French MP."

Mr de Fournas tried to defend himself, saying he had been referring to the

"boat transporting migrants to Europe" but he later apologised to Mr Bilongo for "the misunderstanding" his comments had caused and if he had been hurt by them.

LFI leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon tweeted that the MP's comments were "beyond intolerable" and he should be kicked out of the National Assembly.

Immigration featured

prominently in the RN's presidential and parliamentary election campaigns this year, with party leader Marine Le Pen proposing a referendum on major reductions in immigration if she became president.

In the parliamentary election in June, the party increased its presence in the National Assembly tenfold, winning 89 seats.

Imran Khan: Pakistan ex-prime minister wounded at protest march

BBC - Pakistan's ousted Prime Minister, Imran Khan, has survived a gun attack on his convoy while holding a protest march in the eastern city of Wazirabad.

He was injured in the leg and four other people were also hurt when a burst of gunfire hit their platform, a container towed by a lorry.

There was no immediate official comment on the motive for the attack which allies say was an assassination bid.

The protest march had been called to demand early elections. Mr Khan, 70, was leading the march, which was meant to end in the capital Islamabad. The former prime minister was seen being taken to a hospital in Lahore. A party spokesman said he had been hit in the shin. An official from his PTI party, provincial health minister Yasmeen Rashid, said Mr Khan was in a stable condition.

Police released a video confession of a man they say had attempted to kill the former prime minister.

It is unclear under what conditions the interview was carried out but in it the man is asked by police why he opened fire, and replies: "He was misguiding the people. I wanted to kill him. I tried to kill him."



Imran Khan is carried into a car after being shot at a protest march

Video footage from the scene shows Mr Khan and his supporters riding on top of the shipping container before a burst of gunfire is heard.

Mr Khan is then seen ducking, as those around him try to cover him. Another video shows a conscious Mr Khan with a bandage on his right leg being taken away in a vehicle after the shooting.

A PTI member is also seen with a bandage on his face and blood on his clothing, saying that people should pray for Mr Khan and all those injured.

"This was an attempt

to kill him, to assassinate him," Mr Khan's senior aide Raouf Hasan told AFP news agency.

Current Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif condemned the shooting and ordered an immediate investigation. President Arif Alvi said the incident was a "heinous assassination attempt".

Mr Khan has been leading a protest march - the second such rally this year - for the past seven days, calling for new elections.

The government has repeatedly said it will hold elections next year, as planned.

Last month, Pakistan's election commission disqualified Mr Khan from holding public office in a case described by the former star cricketer as politically motivated. He had been accused of incorrectly declaring details of gifts from foreign dignitaries and proceeds from their alleged sale. The gifts included Rolex watches, a ring and a pair of cufflinks.

Pakistan has a long history of deadly political violence. In the most high-profile case, former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was assassinated at a public rally in 2007.

Auger-Aliassime, Rublev in ATP Finals as Fritz, Nadal lose

AP- Felix Auger-Aliassime and Andrey Rublev qualified for the ATP Finals after Taylor Fritz and Hubert Hurkacz, the other contenders for the two remaining spots, lost in the second round of the Paris Masters on Wednesday.

Eighth-seeded Auger-Aliassime outlasted qualifier Mikael Ymer 6-7 (6), 6-4, 7-6 (6) to next play wild-card entry Gilles Simon, who overcame ninth-seeded Fritz 7-5, 5-7, 6-4.

Auger-Aliassime saved 14 of 17 break points and converted four of five to extend his winning streak to 14 matches.

Fritz failed to convert three set points on Simon's serve at 5-4 in the opening set. The American also failed to convert any of the three break points he had at 3-2 in the final set. He made 36 unforced errors to 16 for Simon, who is ranked 188th and plans to retire after this tournament.

Teenager Holger Rune stunned 10th-seeded Hurkacz 7-5, 6-1 to meet Rublev, who reached the third round on Tuesday.

Before the Paris Masters, Carlos Alcaraz, Stefanos Tsitsipas, Casper Ruud, Daniil Medvedev, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic had already qualified for the eight-man tournament in Turin from Nov.



Taylor Fritz of the United States reacts after losing a point against Gilles Simon of France during their second round match of the Paris Masters tennis tournament at the Accor Arena, Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2022 in Paris. (AP Photo/Michel Euler)

13-20.

Alcaraz, Tsitsipas, Alex de Minaur and Lorenzo Musetti also advanced to the third round in Paris, while Nadal's 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-1 loss to Tommy Paul raised questions about his fitness in his first singles match since the U.S. Open.

The second-seeded Nadal made 19 unforced errors to 18 for Paul and dropped serve three times in the final set, almost looking resigned.

"At the end, I need days on the tour," Nadal said. "It's true that for the last five months I didn't spend enough days on the tour. I don't even say competing on a tennis court. I say on the tour. Practising with the guys. That's what I need."

Paul next plays Pablo Carreno Busta, who edged Denis Shapovalov 7-6 (2), 2-6, 6-4.

De Minaur upset fourth-seeded Medvedev 6-4, 2-6, 7-5 to next face Frances Tiafoe, who beat Jack Draper 6-3, 7-5.

De Minaur beat Medvedev for the first time in five meetings.

After rallying from a 2-0 deficit in the final set, De Minaur failed to convert his first two match points at 5-4. He hit a return out on the first match point and made an unforced error on the second.

But the Australian got two more chances at 6-5. Medvedev saved the third match point with a service winner before double-faulting on the fourth and angrily throwing his racket to the ground.

"I'm glad I played a very tactical match," De Minaur told Tennis Channel. "I just tried to wait for my right ball and just back

myself and back my volley."

Medvedev, who won the Paris Masters in 2020 and was runner-up last year, dropped serve in the first set by overhitting a smash in the final game. But the Russian capitalised on unforced errors by De Minaur to break twice in the second set.

The top-seeded Alcaraz downed Yoshihito Nishio-ka 6-4, 6-4 to rack up more points in his chase for the year-end No. 1 ranking.

Alcaraz hit 30 winners to seven for the Japanese player and will next play Grigor Dimitrov who dispatched lucky loser Fabio Fognini 6-0, 7-5.

Fifth-seeded Tsitsipas beat Daniel Evans 6-3, 6-4 to lead the ATP tour with 58 wins this year.

Tsitsipas raced to a 3-0 lead in the first set. He then hit a forehand winner across court to break Evans in the opening game of the second, before converting his first match point with an ace.

"I'm happy with the level of tennis I brought when I had to," Tsitsipas said. "I was moving well, I was dictating well. I combined everything, including my defence."

Tsitsipas will take on Corentin Moutet, who beat Cameron Norrie 6-3, 5-7, 7-6 (3).

Sports News



Ronaldo, Messi and others likely playing at last World Cup

AP - Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi are among a handful of players hoping for a final hurrah in what is likely to be their last World Cup appearance.

Besides those two, there's also Robert Lewandowski, Luis Suárez, Luka Modric, Dani Alves, Manuel Neuer and Thomas Müller.

Hanging on for the next World Cup in 2026 in North America might just be a step too far for these veterans.

CRISTIANO RONALDO (Portugal)

Perhaps ominously for Portugal's Group H rivals, the 37-year-old Ronaldo has endured a frustrating season so far at Manchester United and will be eager to show what he can do in Qatar. Ronaldo is already the all-time top-scorer in men's international soccer with 117 goals and has made a Portuguese record 191 appearances. The five-time five Ballon d'Or winner has scored goals wherever he has played, whether in his first stint at United, in a trophy-laden spell at Real Madrid or in helping Juventus win two Serie A titles before his return to the Premier League. However, his return has not gone as he would have liked so far this season. Ronaldo has been restricted to only one goal in nine Premier League appearances — most of those as a substitute.

LIONEL MESSI (Argentina)

So much of Argentina's hope is pinned on the little artist from Rosario. The 35-year-old Messi has eclipsed Ronaldo with seven Ballon d'Or titles, all but the last of those coming for his outstanding play while at Barcelona. Now with Qatari-backed Paris Saint-Germain, Messi missed out on the 30-man shortlist for the 2022 Ballon d'Or award. Messi, however, has regained his form this season. He came close to winning the World Cup in 2014 when Argentina



Argentina's player Lionel Messi celebrates his goal during the second half of an international friendly soccer match against Jamaica on Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022, in Harrison, N.J. (AP Photo/Eduardo Munoz Alvarez, File)

reached the final, but so far his only major international title has been the 2021 Copa América.

ROBERT LEWANDOWSKI (Poland)

The 34-year-old Lewandowski perhaps never got the credit he deserved in the shadow cast by Messi and Ronaldo. Lewandowski quietly kept scoring goals for Borussia Dortmund, then Bayern Munich, where he racked up 312 goals in 384 appearances before his recent switch to Barcelona. Lewandowski is Poland's undisputed leader, the team captain and record scorer with 76 goals in 134 appearances, including nine goals during qualifying for the World Cup. Lewandowski has yet to score at a World Cup. In his only previous World Cup tournament in 2018, Poland was eliminated from the group stage.

LUIS SUÁREZ (Uruguay)

Uruguay's all-time leading scorer with 134 goals, the 35-year-old Suárez is set to play at his fourth World Cup tournament. It will be his first while playing back with boyhood club Nacional in the

Uruguayan capital of Montevideo after a storied career that wasn't without controversy at Ajax, Liverpool, Barcelona and Atlético Madrid. Suárez was sent home from the 2014 World Cup for biting Italy defender Giorgio Chiellini on the shoulder during a group game. Suárez helped Atlético win the Spanish league title in his first season with the club in 2021, staying another season before he returned to Nacional. He duelled with Ronaldo when they were playing for Barcelona and Real Madrid, respectively, and the old rivals are scheduled to meet again when Uruguay plays Portugal at Lusail Stadium on Nov. 28.

LUKA MODRIĆ (Croatia)

The 37-year-old Modrić is one of those players who seems to be getting better with age. Now in his 10th season with Real Madrid, Modrić played a key role in a decade of success for the Spanish club, winning five Champions League titles and three league titles in that time. He also won the Ballon d'Or in 2018 on the first occasion since 2007 that it wasn't won by Messi or Ronaldo. For Croatia, he's just as important — the all-seeing controller in midfield, the driving force that helped the team reach the World Cup final in 2018. Although Croatia lost to France in that final four years ago, Modrić was still awarded the Golden Ball for the best player at the tournament. This will be his fifth World Cup tournament.

DANI ALVES (Brazil)

One of the best attacking right backs ever to play the game, the 39-year-old Alves is determined to finish his international career on a high, particularly after missing the last World Cup because of a knee injury. Alves has only played in two World Cups, in 2010 and 2014. He came to prominence with lightning runs

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UEFA revamps women's national team soccer to end mismatches

AP - After a slew of mismatched, double-digit wins in qualifying for the Women's European Championship, UEFA on Thursday announced a more balanced system with three tiers of national teams ahead of Euro 2025 and the 2027 Women's World Cup.

A 14-0 win for Denmark over Georgia edged Spain's 13-0 rout of Azerbaijan as the biggest win in Euro 2022 qualifying groups. Those groupings matched the best and the worst 50-plus countries which have developed at different rates.

UEFA overhauled women's national team soccer in Europe — with a new Nations League competition like European men's teams have — to find a remedy for lopsided matches that have little sporting or commercial appeal.

There were also double-digit wins for Italy, Germany and Scotland in

Euro 2022 qualifying, while France scored 44 goals and conceded none in its eight-game group.

Even at the Euro 2022 finals in July, host England won 8-0 against former world champion Norway.

"The revamped format is interconnected, dynamic and meritocratic, and aims to create a more competitive environment with greater sporting and commercial interest," UEFA said in a statement.

A three-tier Nations League format, with 16 teams in the top level, will start in the autumn of 2023.

Four winners of the four-team groups in the top level will advance to a Final Four event. The two finalists will also advance to the 2024 Paris Olympics, joining host France as Europe's entries.

Nations League rankings, with promotion and relegation between the three



England's Georgia Stanway, right, challenges for the ball with United States' Sam Coffey, left, during the women's friendly soccer match between England and the US at Wembley stadium in London, Friday, Oct. 7, 2022. (AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth)

tiers, will feed into the Euro 2025 qualifying competition that starts in the European spring of 2024.

Eight countries will qualify directly for the 16-team Euro 2025 by winning or finishing runner-up in the four top-tier groups. Seven more Euro 2025 entries will be decided in playoffs scheduled in the autumn of

2024.

"We have built an open, competitive, and continuous system in which every match will matter, a true reflection of the European sports model," UEFA president Aleksander Čeferin said. "I am convinced that this format will help all European national associations."

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up and down the right side of the field in a successful spell at Sevilla before moving to Barcelona in 2008. He spent eight trophy-laden years at the Catalan club before spells at Juventus and Paris Saint-Germain, then São Paulo, before a return to Barcelona last year. He joined Mexican club Pumas this year.

MANUEL NEUER (Germany)

The 36-year-old Neuer is undoubtedly one of the best goalkeepers to have emerged from Germany, a country that has been spoiled with talent over the years with the likes of Oliver Kahn,

Jens Lehman, Harald Schumacher and Sepp Maier. Despite the strength of rivals like Barcelona's Marc-André ter Stegen or Eintracht Frankfurt's Kevin Trapp, Neuer has maintained his No. 1 status since claiming the spot at the 2010 World Cup. The Bayern Munich captain was voted goalkeeper of the tournament when Germany won in 2014. This year's tournament will be his fourth World Cup.

THOMAS MÜLLER (Germany)

The 33-year-old Müller scored five goals at the 2010 World Cup and has been an almost ever-present for Germa-

ny and Bayern Munich since. He was briefly dropped by Joachim Löw in 2019 in the then-Germany coach's ultimately unsuccessful shakeup of the team after its poor World Cup showing in 2018 as defending champion, but Müller was recalled for last year's European Championship and has established himself as a leader. When not scoring goals in typical Müller fashion — he has always had an uncanny knack for being in the right place at the right time — Müller can be seen encouraging his teammates and passing on tips and advice to younger players.

Sports News



CG United Insurance provides Super50 Cup tickets for boys and girls in Antigua

As the sponsor of the CG United Super50 Cup 2022, CG United Insurance Ltd. and Cricket West Indies (CWI) have embarked on a new initiative to support a ticket giveaway to school children to catch the action of the annual Men's regional 50-over cricket extravaganza.

This year's event features 15 matches in Antigua and Barbuda, including the semi-finals and finals, at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium (SRVS); as well as preliminary matches at Coolidge

Cricket Ground (CCG).

The tickets will be distributed to school children participating in local cricket programmes in Antigua and Barbuda both at school and club levels. It will provide an opportunity for young boys and girls to experience world-class cricket and watch their favourite players battle for the 50-over title. In addition to school children, essential workers, such as teachers and health and safety officers, will also receive tickets to attend matches.



Randy Graham, CEO of CG United, remarked that the CG United team was thrilled for this opportunity to expose more youth to

cricket.

"We want to see more of our children - boys and girls, playing cricket to ensure the future of the game in the region. The sport is ingrained in our culture, driving unity and pride and our hope is that this exposure will help to generate more interest.

"Along with our local partner Anjo Insurances, we are also happy to give back to our policyholders as well. We want to thank CWI for their support and look forward to another successful tournament."

Commenting on the initiative, Director of Education, Clare Brown stated: "It is important for children to have a well-rounded education, which includes experiences in and out of the physical classroom setting. Sports, especially cricket, is once such activity which has always allowed our children to express themselves through play and critical learning of life skills such as discipline, teamwork,

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CG UNITED SUPER50 CUP

SCHEDULE

LIVE FROM ANTIGUA!

| DATE | SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS STADIUM • TV | TIME (AST) |
|--------------|--|------------|
| SAT, 29 OCT | LEEWARD ISLANDS HURRICANES @ WEST INDIES ACADEMY | 1PM |
| TUE, 01 NOV | LEEWARD ISLANDS HURRICANES @ JAMAICA SCORPIONS | 1PM |
| THUR, 03 NOV | BARBADOS PRIDE @ JAMAICA SCORPIONS | 2PM |
| SAT, 05 NOV | JAMAICA SCORPIONS @ WEST INDIES ACADEMY | 9AM |
| SUN, 06 NOV | LEEWARD ISLANDS HURRICANES @ BARBADOS PRIDE | 2PM |
| TUES, 08 NOV | BARBADOS PRIDE @ JAMAICA SCORPIONS | 2PM |
| WED, 09 NOV | LEEWARD ISLANDS HURRICANES @ WEST INDIES ACADEMY | 2PM |
| FRI, 11 NOV | WEST INDIES ACADEMY @ BARBADOS PRIDE | 2PM |
| SUN, 13 NOV | LEEWARD ISLANDS HURRICANES @ BARBADOS PRIDE | 2PM |
| MON, 14 NOV | JAMAICA SCORPIONS @ WEST INDIES ACADEMY | 2PM |
| WED, 16 NOV | SEMI FINAL 1: WINNER ZONE A @ RUNNER UP ZONE B | 2PM |
| THUR, 17 NOV | SEMI FINAL 2: WINNER ZONE B @ RUNNER UP ZONE A | 2PM |
| SAT, 19 NOV | FINAL: WINNER SF1 @ WINNER SF 2 | 2PM |

COOLIDGE CRICKET GROUNDS • STREAMING

| | | |
|-------------|--|-----|
| TUE, 01 NOV | WEST INDIES ACADEMY @ BARBADOS PRIDE | 9AM |
| FRI, 11 NOV | LEEWARD ISLANDS HURRICANES @ JAMAICA SCORPIONS | 9AM |

OFFICIAL BROADCASTERS








Houston Astros make baseball history with no-hitter

AP - The Houston Astros have made history by completing baseball's first ever combined no-hitter in the sport's showcase event, the World Series.

The side's pitchers prevented the Philadelphia Phillies from hitting a single base in the nine-innings clash.

Houston ran out 5-0 winners to draw level in the seven-game series.

Star pitcher Cristian Javier also made history, becoming just the second player to pitch for six or more innings without conceding a hit.

A combined no-hitter occurs when more than one pitcher prevents the opposition from making a hit.

The sport has seen 18 in Major League Baseball history, but it had never happened in the league's franchise event.

Javier was joined in the achievement by relief pitchers Bryan Abreu, Rafael Montero and Ryan Pressly.



Cristian Javier led the side to an unprecedented combined no-hitter in baseball's showcase game.

But it was the 25-year-old Dominican's fastball, which can reach speeds of up to 93mph (149km/h), which flummoxed the host side and stunned fans at the Citizens Bank Park.

The Astros catcher Christian Vazquez hailed Javier's performance and said the star had "best fastball I've ever seen".

"You can call it whoever is in the batter's box and it's going to be awesome. It's going to be effective and it's going to do the job."

Javier joins former New

York Yankees pitcher Don Larsen - who threw a perfect game in game 5 of the 1956 World Series at Yankee Stadium - as the only pitchers in the World Series 118-year history to finish an outing conceding no hits.

He also becomes the first player to start in multiple combined no-hitters, re-enacting the key role he played against the New York Yankees in June.

Javier, who has only surrendered one run since 8 September, is one of the sport's most underappreci-

ated stars. He was signed as an undrafted free agent from the Dominican Republic in 2015.

"It hasn't sunk in yet," Houston manager Dusty Baker said of Javier after the game. "The sky is the limit for that young man."

The Phillies, who had been unbeaten at home this post-season, are fighting for their first World Series title since 2008.

But the Astros - who are appearing for the fourth time in six seasons - are seeking redemption after their 2017 win was tainted by revelations of illegal sign-stealing.

They were accused of using a video camera in the centre field to film the opposition team's hand signals regarding the next pitch.

The league imposed severe punishments on the side, with general manager Jeff Luhnow and field manager AJ Hinch receiving season long suspensions, and the club was fined \$5m (£4.38m).

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leadership, handling wins and defeats, learning emotional intelligence, self-confidence and much more.

"We are happy that CG United Insurance has given this learning and inspirational opportunity to our students, which I believe is positive and will be remembered for a life-time."

Johnny Grave, CEO of CWI said: "We are proud to have CG United Insurance as a long-standing title sponsor of our marquee 50-over event,

especially as they share our sentiment on how cricket impacts the lives of the Caribbean people.

"The opportunity and exposure which CG United has created for these aspiring young boys and girls in Antigua is significant, as they will be able to experience the thrill of this CG United Super50 Cup, drawing on inspiration from their cricket heroes on the field to build their confidence and set certain goals to help them achieve their full potential."

The CG United Super50 Cup 2022 started on Saturday 29 October and will run until Saturday 19 November.

Antigua is host of Group B which features the Leeward Islands Hurricanes, Barbados Pride, Jamaica Scorpions and the West Indies Academy.

Trinidad are the host of Group A which features the Windward Islands Volcanoes, Guyana Harpy Eagles, Combined Colleges and Campuses and defending champions the Trinidad and Tobago Red Force.

Sports News



OCS beat AGS to reach Under-20 Boys' Knockout Final



An Ottos Comprehensive School's defender (#4) moving with the ball during his team's Under-20 Boys' Secondary Schools' Knockout semi-finals against Antigua Grammar School at the King George V. Grounds in Grays Farm on Wednesday, 2nd November, 2022. (Photo courtesy Elwin Francis)

Ottos Comprehensive School (OCS) booked their spot into the Under-20 Boys' Knockout Final in the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Football Competitions on Wednesday.

Ottos Comprehensive prevailed 2-1 against Antigua Grammar School (AGS) in the Under-20 Boys' Division semi-finals at the King George V. Grounds in Gray's Farm.

Joylan Sinclair snatched the winner by scoring in the dying stages of the match to oust Antigua Grammar School from the competition.

An own-goal, scored by Dennison Stevens, had given Ottos Comprehensive a 1-0 halftime lead. But Stevens made amends when he scored Antigua Grammar Schools' equalizer early in the second half.

Ottos Comprehensive will face Irene B. Williams Secondary in the final on a date and venue yet to be decided by the organizers.

The organizers are also yet to decide the date and venue for the Girls'

Division Knockout final between Princess Margaret School (PMS) and Antigua Girls' High School.

Meanwhile, All Saints Secondary, defending champions Ottos Comprehensive and Jennings Secondary all recorded wins in the Under-20 Girls' Division of the Secondary Schools' Football League on Wednesday afternoon.

Goals by Kevoncia James and Shequanna Active gave All Saints Secondary a 2-0 victory against Antigua Girls' High School in their encounter at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints Village.

A Donesha Samuel conversion was sufficient to give cupholders Ottos Comprehensive School a 1-0 victory against Clare Hall Secondary at King George V. Grounds.

But the biggest margin of victory on the day was achieved by Jennings Secondary School. They hammered St. Anthony's Secondary School 12-0 in their encounter at the Golden Grove

playing field.

The Secondary Schools' Football League will continue with matches in the Female Division and the West Zone of the Under-20 Boys' Division today, Friday, 4th November.

Princess Margaret School will oppose Antigua State College in a female division encounter in the first game of a double header at the PMS playing field at 2:30 pm.

Antigua State College and Princess Margaret School will clash in an Under-20 Boys' Division affair in the second encounter at 3:50 pm.

Two other Under-20 Boys' Division league matches will take place today at 3 pm.

Antigua Grammar School will renew their acquaintance with their counterparts from Ottos Comprehensive School at Radio Range in Ottos, while St. Mary's Secondary School will host neighbours Jennings Secondary School in a round south derby at the Bolans playing field.

Golden Stars make winning start to Kweyol Basketball Tournament

The inaugural Kweyol Basketball Tournament which the combined female team Wings-Cyclones of Antigua and Barbuda is contesting commenced at the Massacre Indoor Facility in Dominica on Wednesday night.

Golden Stars of Martinique made a winning start to the women's competition by surging to a comfortable 67-41 victory over 767 SC/YSA Washers of Dominica in the opening match of the tournament.

Martinique's Golden stars were led by Charlotte Nicolas with 21pts. She was supported by Tania Boucand with 11 points and Romane Albert with 10 points.

The main scorer for 767 SC/YSA of Dominica was Gailene Gordon, who shot a game high 22 points. Teammates Valencia John and Dezra Clarke each contributed six points.

Phoenix of St. Martin also made a winning start to their campaign in the Under-20 Boys' competition by romping to an emphatic 106-55 victory over YSA washers of Dominica.

Alvarade Rahim shot



Members of the Wings-Cyclones female that will be competing in the inaugural Kweyol Basketball Tournament at the Massacre Indoor Facility in Dominica from Wednesday, 2nd November until Saturday, 6th November, 2022. (Photo courtesy CPTSA Wings and Cyclones sports clubs)

a game high 32 points for Phoenix. Brooks Sherron converted 27 points, Yance Richard sank 18 points and Emanuel Landerfort chipped in with 13 points for the victors.

David Jabalera scored 20 points, Caelan Paul had nine points and Dartanian Lataille contributed seven points for Ysa Washers.

Antigua and Barbuda's Wings-Cyclones were slated to launch their campaign against 767 SC/YSA Washers of Dominica last night.

They will then take on the Golden Stars of Marti-

nique in their second game today, Friday, 4th November, at 7 pm.

The top two teams at the end of the round-robin phase of both divisions will advance to the finals tomorrow night, Saturday, 5th November.

The women's championship game will take place tomorrow at 7 pm. It will precede the Under-20 Boys' final, which is set to tipoff at 9 pm.

Meanwhile, the CPTSA Wings Sports Club is expressing its gratitude to Commissioner of Sports Colin James for assisting

three of the Wings-Cyclones players with a monetary contribution towards their accommodations in Dominica.

According to a statement from the CPTSA Wings, "Colin James supported three of the girls in his constituency with EC\$1000.00, toward their accommodation.

"All other funds toward the team's participation at the Kweyol Basketball Tournament were raised through the contribution of the general public by way of donation sheets, parents and the CPTSA Wings Sports Club. Uniforms for the team along with travel and accommodation for the coaches were made possible by the CPTSA Wings Sports Club."

A 17-member Wings-Cyclones contingent, comprising 13 players and four officials, left Antigua and Barbuda yesterday for Dominica to participate in the 2nd to 6th November tournament.

The female team is a combination of players from CPTSA Wings and Cyclones sports clubs of Antigua and Barbuda.

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periods, there is no doubt we can make it to the first target, which is the semi-finals, and then take it from there," Cornwall stated.

Cornwall and the Leewards Hurricanes can take a huge step towards

that semi-finals berth by winning their next match against the Barbados Pride when action in Zone B of CG United Super50 Cup continues this weekend with two matches at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium.

The Leeward Islands Hurricanes

will clash with Barbados Pride in what is anticipated to be a keenly contested affair on Sunday, starting at 2 pm.

But before that encounter, Jamaica Scorpions will take on the West Indies Academy tomorrow, Saturday, 5th November, at 9 am.

Cornwall happy with Leewards start in Super-50 tournament

Allrounder Rahkeem “Jimbo” Cornwall is quite happy with his and the Leeward Islands Hurricanes’ start to the current regional CG United Super50 Cup, which is being jointly hosted in Antigua and Barbuda and Trinidad and Tobago.

Cornwall has produced impressive performances which have been instrumental in propelling the Hurricanes to victories in their first two matches in Cricket West Indies’ (CWI) premier senior domestic 50-over competition that is being contested this year from 29th October to 19th November.

Cornwall said he is quite satisfied with the way he and the rest of the Hurricanes have started their campaign in the regional limited overs tournament.

“Yes it’s a pretty good start. I think that we are playing as a team, not showing any signs to indicate that we are a one-man team. But I am happy with my performance so far,” Cornwall stated.

The Leeward Islands Hurricanes, contesting Zone B which is being hosted in Antigua and Barbuda, started their campaign with

a three-wicket win over West Indies Academy in the opening match of the tournament at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on Saturday, 29th October.

Cornwall, bowling his right-arm off-spin, grabbed four wickets for 42 runs in 10 overs to help restrict the West Indies Academy to 190 for nine off their 50 overs.

Led by middle-order batsman Keacey Carty’s composed unbeaten 103, the Leeward Islands Hurricanes claimed their first win by scoring 191 for seven in 39 overs.

Cornwall then produced a sterling display with the bat as the Leeward Islands Hurricanes surged to an emphatic 68-run victory over the Jamaica Scorpions at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on Tuesday night to record their second successive win in Group B in the CG United Super 50 Cup.

Cornwall hammered 81 off 72 balls with seven fours and five sixes to help rescue the Leewards, who eventually posted 270 for nine off their 50 overs, after the Hurricanes had slumped to 76 for five, having won the toss and elected to bat.



Leeward Islands allrounder Rahkeem ‘Jimbo’ Cornwall. (Photo courtesy CWI)

The powerfully built right-hander was involved in a match-winning 120-run sixth wicket partnership with Terrance Ward, who made 32 off 63 balls.

Fellow off-spinner Kofi James then grabbed four wickets for 32 runs in his 10 overs and Cornwall picked up one for 22 in six overs to restrict the Jamaica Scorpions to 202 for nine off their

allotted 50 overs.

Cornwall believes that once the Leewards continue to play well by consistently doing the right things, the Hurricanes can go on to lift the Super50 Cup at the end of the tournament.

“I think we can go all the way this year. Once we continue doing the right things consistently for long

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