

COP27: PM BROWNE CALLS FOR “GLOBAL CARBON TAX”

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Prime Minister Gaston Browne called for the world's largest fossil fuel emitters to pay what he called a "global carbon tax" which would protect the loss and damage suffered by SIDS as a result of climate change. [Photo: AP Photo/Peter Dejong]

Local News

COP27: Small island nations call for windfall tax on Big Oil to pay for loss and damage

Small island nations suffering some of the worst impacts of climate change want oil giants to pay for damage from climate change and rising sea levels.

On Tuesday at COP27, Prime Minister of Antigua Gaston Browne said that it was high time fossil fuel companies were made to pay a “global carbon tax” on their profits as a source of funding for loss and damage.

“Profligate producers of fossil fuels have benefited from extortionate profits at the expense of human civilization. While they are profiting, the planet is burning,” he told attendees at the climate conference on the second day of speeches from heads of state and government.

Browne also pointed out that in the first half of this year, six fossil fuel companies alone had made nearly €70 billion in profits - “more than enough money to cover the costs of major climate damages in developing nations”.

The idea for a windfall tax to fund loss and damage was proposed by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on the first day of the climate conference.

“Those who contribut-



Gaston Browne, prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda, speaks at the COP27 UN Climate Summit on 8th November, 2022, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

ed least to the climate crisis are reaping the whirlwind sown by others,” he said.

“[This is why] I am asking that all governments tax the windfall profits of fossil fuel companies.”

Guterres said that the money should be redirected to those struggling with rising food and energy prices, as well as countries facing loss and damage caused by the climate crisis.

Speaking on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), the Prime Minister of Antigua

also called for an end to fossil fuel subsidies and collective action to reduce emissions.

“Financing to address loss and damage and a re-commitment to keeping 1.5 alive in the face of the current energy crisis, are the key critical success factors of COP27.”

Other members of AOSIS echoed Browne on the injustices for those on the frontlines of the climate crisis.

“Like other islands, our contribution in the de-

struction of the planet is minimal, yet we suffer the most,” said Wavel Ramkalawan, President of Seychelles.

He added that the carbon emissions of Seychelles were very low and cleaned up by mangroves and seagrass meadows. Ramkalawan said it makes the country a “zero contributor to the destruction of the planet”.

“And yet, our islands are disappearing and our coasts are being destroyed.”

AG threatens legal action if Barbuda Council issues land certificates

Attorney General Steadroy Benjamin has issued a stern warning to the Barbuda Council to refrain from moving ahead with their plan to issue Certificates of Allotment to residents who have acquired land.

In a notice issued on 4th November, 2022, the Barbuda Council Lands Department informed the public that the certificate is a "Collective Title" which serves to confirm ownership of land in Barbuda.

This, the Council claims, is being done as they continue to upgrade the local land registration and distribution process.

AG Benjamin, however, says the Barbuda Council has no authority to take these actions which are considered "wholly unlawful and unconstitutional, and all such allotments void".

In a statement, Minister Benjamin



Attorney General Steadroy Benjamin

said the Barbuda Council has no legal or constitutional authority to allot land to anyone "without the sanction and approval of the Cabinet of the Unitary State of Antigua and Barbuda. And certainly, no power to vest any ownership of any land in Barbuda".

He added, "Further, as this purported action comes after the long history of losing cases in the local courts and more recently in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, I must condemn this action on the part of the Barbuda Council as a cheap political stunt."

The Barbuda Council, in detailing its plan and soliciting the cooperation of the Barbudan public, said its land officers will be moving throughout the community to gather information from land occupiers with a view to expediting the registration process for acquiring the Certificate of Allotment.

This process, the Council continued, could be completed by visiting the lands office with the relevant documentation commencing Monday 7th November, 2022.

Attorney General Benjamin has warned, however, if the Barbuda Council does not abandon its plan, legal action will be taken against the body.

"I therefore wish to advise the Council that this blatant partisan usurpation of authority and stunt, must cease immediately, failing which legal action will be taken forthwith."

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A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board



Local News



PM Browne continues high level meetings with world leaders

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has been holding a series of bilateral discussions with world leaders on the margins of COP27 in Egypt.

On Tuesday, the prime minister met with his Belgian counterpart, Alexander De Croo, to discuss building a closer relationship with a view to partnering to address the climate crises.

PM Browne thanked Belgium for its support of Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) at a high-level meeting that was co-hosted by both countries and held in Antigua and Barbuda in 2019.

Belgium has also provided financial support to Antigua and Barbuda and other SIDS in support of efforts to combat climate change and its impact



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

on small nations.

The leaders further pledged to work harder on the issue of loss and damage against the backdrop of Belgium's recent announcement that it will provide funding for loss and damage.

During their talks, Prime Minister Browne raised the issue of technical

and financial support for the 4th UN international conference for SIDS that will be hosted by Antigua and Barbuda in 2024.

Prime Minister De Croo offered his country's unwavering support for Antigua and Barbuda ahead of the conference and indicated that Belgium will provide any assistance needed to make the conference a success.

On Monday, the Antiguan and Barbudan leader held bilateral discussions with Venezuelan President Nicholas Maduro in which ALBA and Petro-Caribe featured prominently.

A day later Tuesday evening, PM Browne held bilateral discussions with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and various AOSIS heads.

2

Tuesday & Wednesday

2

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Ag. DPP Jones-Gittens gets ringing endorsement from AG

Minister of Legal Affairs, Steadroy Benjamin, has expressed confidence in the abilities of Shannon Jones-Gittens who has been appointed to act as Director of Public Prosecutions following Anthony Armstrong's arrest in Jamaica last weekend on charges of conspiracy and fraudulent conversion.

The position of DPP became vacant after Armstrong left Antigua and Barbuda on Saturday to meet with police in Jamaica for questioning over his role in the disputed sale of three properties 18 years ago which belonged to a former client of his who was incarcerated in the United States.

The allegations concerning the sale of the properties were first raised when Armstrong's former client lodged a complaint against the attorney with the Disciplinary Committee of Jamaica's General Legal Council (GLC) in 1999.

While the GLC did not determine wrongdoing on Armstrong's part in the matter of the sale of the properties, they did find that Armstrong was guilty of professional misconduct as he affixed his signature to a legal document as a witness in the absence of the person for whom he bore witness.

On Monday, considering the recent developments, Attorney General Benjamin

gave his full endorsement to Senior Crown Counsel Jones-Gittens.

"She has been there for some twelve years, she is absolutely competent and a talented young lady who we believe will be able to do a fantastic job in the interim," Minister Benjamin said.

He explained that Jones-Gittens' appointment to the position of Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions was in the process of being confirmed, however, based on recent developments, the Senior Crown Counsel will act as DPP.

"I am confident, having discussed the matter with all the legal luminaries in the state and other authorities, that she's quite capable of handling this position," the AG stated.

Concerning the legal quagmire in which Armstrong has found himself, Benjamin said his office will be obligated to act in light of what has transpired in Jamaica.

He did not, however, reveal the specifics of the case



Acting Director of Public Prosecutions, Shannon Jones-Gittens as it is now sub judice, or before the court and therefore prohibited from public discussion.

Attorney General Benjamin did disclose, however, that it is likely that at least two people may be required to travel to Jamaica to give evidence in the matter.

Armstrong was granted

bail on Monday following his arrest on the weekend in the sum of J\$500,000.

Parish Judge Venise Blackstock-Murray, sitting in the Kingston and St. Andrew Parish Court will rule tomorrow on whether Armstrong's passport, which was seized on his arrest, will be returned to him.

Wed 09 Day		Wed 09 Night	
85°	19% ESE 13 mph	78°	19% ESE 9 mph
Cloudy skies. High near 85F. Winds ESE at 10 to 15 mph.		Overcast. Low 78F. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph.	
Humidity 75%	UV Index 6 of 10	Humidity 83%	UV Index 0 of 10
Sunrise 6:08 am	Sunset 5:33 pm	Moonrise 6:30 pm	Moonset 7:04 am
		○ Waning Gibbous	

Local News

Over six thousand cruise tourism holiday-makers visit

Over six thousand cruise ship passengers spent Tuesday in Antigua and Barbuda as the country sits poised to set new post-pandemic figures for arrivals.

The Antigua Cruise Ports Ltd. said the visitors came aboard four cruise ships that docked at the St. John's Harbour for the day.

According to figures released by ACP, the vessels brought a total of 6,687 passengers who spent the day visiting places of interest, shopping or walking in St. John's or visiting one of the many beaches near the capital.

The vessels that were in port were the Celebrity Millennium with 1,226 passengers, Disney Magic with 1,864 passengers, Aida Perla with 2,189 passengers and Aida Luna with 1,408 passengers.

ACP Operations Manager, Rawle Reynolds was elated when contacted to comment on the four cruise ships in the harbour. "Today is a very good day for us. With four cruise ships bringing close to seven thousand passengers, this is a sure sign that the cruise sector in Anti-



gua and Barbuda has rebounded and is doing very well," he observed.

He reported that the vendors and taxi operations enjoyed brisk business throughout the day. "The taxi operators and vendors also did very good business. At one point, visitors had to wait at the entrance of Heritage Quay for taxis which were in short supply at that time," he recalled.

Reynolds revealed that a total of 36 calls are slated for November and another 66 already booked for December.

"You can see that we are off to a very good start," he added.

Antigua and Barbuda is looking to regain lost business coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic when most cruise ships were made idle as demand for cruise holidays dropped precipitously.

The cruise tourism sector is a critical component of Antigua and Barbuda's overall tourism product. Tourism accounts for approximately seventy percent of the country's gross domestic product.

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System collapse responsible for Monday's power outage

Antigua Public Utilities Authority has explained the reason behind the Monday morning island-wide power outage.

APUA said the outage was the result of a total sys-

tem collapse that occurred at approximately 10:15 AM.

According to the utilities company, a preliminary assessment revealed a fault on the 69 KV line between Crabbs and Lavington Sub-

stations.

The affected section of the network was isolated, however, all online generators tripped offline resulting in an island-wide outage.

Once conditions were safe, power was restored to the entire island by 11:35 AM on Monday.

APUA stated further investigations are being carried out to determine the

cause of fault on the 69 KV line, the subsequent tripping of the generators and future mitigation measures against the recurrence of the fault type.

APUA's Electricity Business Unit has apologised for the inconvenience caused and thanked its customers and members of the public for their patience and understanding during the outage.



Michele-Anne Langford at Government House

Random act of kindness recognized by Halo

Michele-Anne Langford, who donated a kidney to a total stranger last year, was presented with a token of appreciation by H.E. Lady Sandra Williams at Government House on Monday.

"There is nothing that we can give to you that can reward you for your bravery and self-sacrifice.

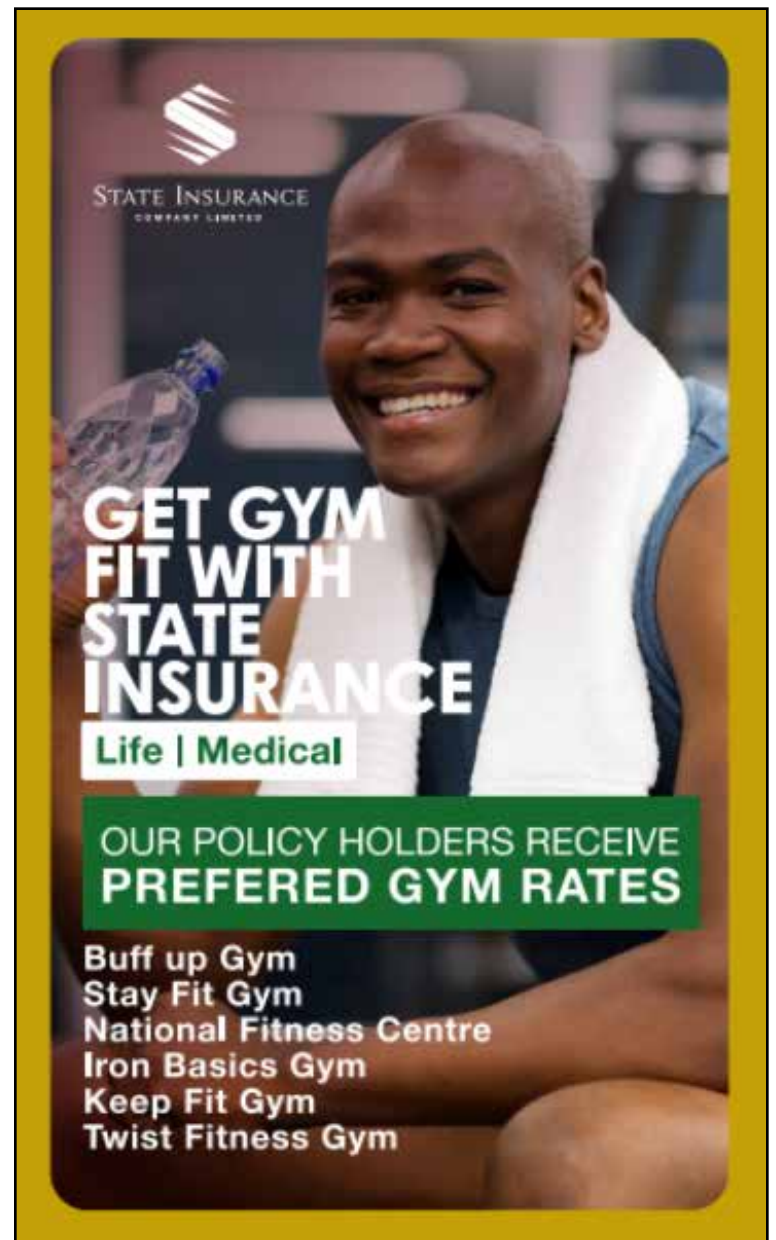
"The world needs to be laced and graced with your

special brand of kindness", Lady Williams commented.

The gift package included dinner for two at Le Bistro.

Langford said that she would invite the recipient of her kidney to the dinner celebration.

Every month, one awardee will receive a gift from the Halo Foundation for his or her "Random Act of Kindness".



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Local News



Salvation Army Christmas Kettle launches this week

Christmas preparations are now underway and a staple event of the merry season, the Salvation Army's Christmas Kettle charity initiative, will launch on Friday.

The launch is scheduled to take place at Epicurean Fine Foods and Pharmacy on Friars Hill Road at 10 AM.

A kettle will be posted outside the supermarket, and at several other locations across the country, until the end of the holiday season.

The annual Christmas



Kettle event is the religious organisation's main fundraising drive.

This year, they hope to raise EC\$160,000.00

which will be used to support community outreach programmes including their food and clothes distribution initiatives.

The Salvation Army usually meets, and often exceeds, its financial goal.

Last year proved no different, despite the impacts of the pandemic, as the organisation reported raising just over EC\$200,000.00.

The organisation says it is also welcoming volunteers who are interested in participating in the drive.

Volunteers may call 462-0115 or visit the #36 Long Street Office to sign up. The programme will run from 12th November to 24th December, 2022.



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Workplace



Mental health in the workplace

Recently, human resource (HR) practitioners, have been giving more attention to mental health, particularly in the workplace, and especially since the start of the Covid-19 Pandemic. But has the number of employees experiencing mental health challenges increased since the pandemic? Or is it that employees now feel more comfortable reporting their mental health challenges and are seeking help?

HRPAB believes both to be true in Antigua and Barbuda.

We have no local statistical data regarding the number of employees who have sought help for mental issues but according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the United States, "Mental health disorders are among the most burdensome health concerns in the United States. Nearly one in five US adults (44.7 mil-

lion people) aged 18 or older reported a mental illness in 2016. In addition, seventy-one percent of adults reported at least one symptom of stress, such as a headache or feeling overwhelmed or anxious." This number has skyrocketed since the start of the pandemic in 2020.

The CDC article goes on to report that many people with mental health disorders also need care for other physical health conditions, including heart disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, and disorders that affect muscles, bones, and joints.

The costs for treating people with both mental health disorders and other physical conditions are two to three times higher than for those without co-occurring illnesses.

Mental health affects companies and the people they employ. Employees suffering with even moderate effects

from mental health issues may produce less efficiently when compared with their peers. They may also be less engaged.

Employees suffering from poor mental health usually interact less professionally with their coworkers, customers and clients, and exhibit disciplinary issues. This may result in less-than-optimal cooperation within a team environment and cause team members to feel physically threatened by their behaviour.

Also, employees suffering with mental health issues may take more sick days or personal time off than their colleagues. Something that the HR department would have to manage carefully.

Compassionate employers must demonstrably value their human re-

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- **Vegetarian Cooking Classes**
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- **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**
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Workplace

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sources by incorporating strategies for awareness of mental health issues and coping mechanisms for stress in their overall employee wellness programs.

Awareness of mental health and emotional challenges are not issues that HR professionals can drive alone. HRPAB advocates for a concerted effort within the workplace, at all levels. Astute supervisors and caring coworkers are often the first to notice a colleague who appears to be experiencing challenges.

However, it is incumbent on the HR professional with the support of the executive body to create and maintain a culture of wellness for the organization. Since this article is aimed at HR practitioners and people leaders, below is a list of actions that can be taken to spearhead these efforts.

Provide emotional intelligence training for all employees who are in a leadership role so that they can readily recognize the signs and symptoms of stress, anxiety and mental issues exhibited by their team members.

Offer materials such as flyers and pamphlets or links to online video resources promoting mental health awareness and treatment.

Introduce avenues by which employees can confidentially report and discuss any mental health challenges they are facing and be directed to appropriate support resources without fear of re-criminations.

Encourage employees to provide feedback on any aspect of their daily duties that create undue stress or triggers. Implement grief counselling in the event of the death of an employee as team members may need help coping with the loss of their colleague.

Total wellbeing is wellness of mind, body, and spirit. A healthy employee is a happy, productive employee. The cost to introduce wellness programs is minimal when one considers the return on that investment. If we value our employees as our greatest asset, attention must be given to the issue of

mental health in the workplace.

There is a plethora of local counsellors, psychologists and mental health experts who can be valuable resources for HR practitioners, in the event external professional support is required for an employee. There is a lingering stigma attached to mental health issues which we can overcome by consistently demonstrating support for each situation that arises, in a compassionate and caring manner.

The Human Resource Professionals of Antigua and Barbuda (HRPAB) is a registered non-profit, pro-

fessional association dedicated to the advancement of the HR profession for national development. We began informally from 2009 and legally registered in 2011. HRPAB's growing membership represents private and public organisations as well as independent consultants specializing in one or more areas of human resource management and development. Membership is offered for three categories: professional, non-professional, and honorary. You may contact us via email at hrpro.ab@gmail.com or on Facebook and Instagram @HRPro268.



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Opinion

A Republican win on November 8 does not mean a Trump comeback

By Joe Macaron

Republicans have been able to win back some voters they lost in 2020 for the midterms; but that can change by 2024.

The November 8 midterms are the first elections in the United States since the end of the COVID-19 crisis and the January 6, 2021 attack on the US Capitol. They will be held against a backdrop of a deepening US economic crisis and growing polarisation among Americans.

Democrats are expected to do poorly in the elections, which is typical for the political party that holds the presidency. The Republicans have the potential to bring under their control the House of Representatives and even the Senate.

Such a development, however, should not be interpreted as an indication that former President Donald Trump is definitely slated for a comeback in the 2024 presidential elections.

A Republican win

There are several factors that seem to be favouring a Republican win in the upcoming midterms.

First, amid a negative outlook for the US economy, Biden's approval rating has taken a hit, hovering around 40 percent in aggregated polls. This would certainly affect the Democratic Party's performance in the vote.



According to a Republican pollster, who looked at results from midterm elections between 1962 and 2018, US presidents with job approval ratings under 50 percent have lost 39 seats in the House of Representatives on average.

Trump, who has actively campaigned alongside Republican congressional candidates, has retained a certain level of popularity. Democrats' hopes that recent investigations into the former president and his associates would affect the pro-Trump camp have been dashed. The former president has maintained a favourable rating of around 44 percent, while the percentage of those who view him negatively has not increased from the low 50s.

The Democrats have

relied on politicised issues, such as abortion, to help them rally support and offset Biden's lower ratings. Indeed, the Supreme Court's June decision overturning a 1973 ruling that made abortion a federal right led to a surge in women registering to vote. In the 2018 midterm election, suburban and college-educated women helped the Democrats win back the House of Representatives from the Republicans, a major electoral defeat for the Trump administration.

But ahead of the elections, polls show that some women voters – in particular, white suburban women – care more about inflation and volatile gas prices and are shifting towards voting for the Republican Party.

It seems that Demo-

crats may also not be able to win the votes of moderate Republicans who backed Biden in the 2020 presidential election. The leftist base of the Democratic Party, which is the driving force behind the liberal vote, is focused on confronting Trumpism rather than luring moderate Republicans.

According to the Associated Press, more than a million voters have switched from the Democratic to Republican Party. Among them are swing voters who turned against Trump but are now going back to supporting the GOP.

The Republicans, as a party in opposition, also seem to have the edge on potential turnout in the midterms, fueled by the Supreme Court's ruling on

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abortion, which they see as a major victory, and the urge to vindicate Trump. In 2020, liberals were more motivated to turn up and vote to oust the president, but this momentum seems to have lost some steam. Democrats are struggling to convince the coalition of voters that elected Biden in 2020 to come out big again this year.

A Trump comeback?

Thus, Republicans regaining control of the House of Representatives and possibly the Senate does not mean a rise in Trump's popularity. Rather, a Republican victory would be a consequence of the slump in support for Biden amid an economic crisis and the failure of the Democratic Party to defend its economic policies and rally support for issues they advocate for, such as gun control and abortion rights.

Once Trump announces his intention to run in 2024, which is expected to happen after the midterms, electoral attitudes can easily change. As he engages with the public again as a presidential candidate, voters will be reminded of his controversial presidency and persona.

Furthermore, the economic situation in the US also may change by the beginning of the next election season. The ball will be in the Democrats' court in the next two years to lead the way out of the economic downturn. Biden has executive privileges which he could use to mitigate the

impact of inflation and improve economic indicators.

It is also not clear yet whether the 79-year-old incumbent will run for a second term or if the Democrats will put forward a different candidate.

If Trump returns to his divisive rhetoric, the Democratic Party would need to have a candidate that can inspire the liberal base to get out and vote without alienating centrists and independents. Trump struggled electorally in 2020 even in historically red states like Texas, Georgia, and Arizona, and his loyal base alone


might not be enough to carry him back to the White House.

Moreover, if Republicans control both the House and Senate, it would not necessarily mean an easy ride for proponents of conservative policies.

The Senate, which would likely be under the moderate Republican leadership of Mitch McConnell, may resist House draft bills that are perceived as too extreme, even if it means working with Democratic colleagues on legislative alternatives. Republican control of both chambers

of Congress might even reinforce the GOP's internal divisions over what policies to prioritise and what rhetoric to adopt leading up to the presidential election.

In other words, the political and economic situation in the US could be quite different from the present one in the fall of 2024. Indeed, Trump continues to have a significant sway over US politics, but his current level of popularity – stuck in the mid-40s – may not be enough to win him back the presidency. In this sense, the 2024 election is for the Democrats to lose.



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A single winning ticket for the \$2.04 billion Powerball jackpot was sold in California

By Aya Elamroussi and Dakin Andone

Alone winning ticket for the record \$2.04 billion Powerball lottery jackpot was sold in Altadena, California, lottery officials said Tuesday, making the lucky ticket holder the winner of the largest lottery prize ever.

The ticket was sold at a Joe's Service Center, the California Lottery said on Twitter. Results posted to Powerball.com similarly said there was one winner who matched all six numbers in California – the odds of which were 1 in 292.2 million, according to the Multi-State Lottery Association.

The winning numbers, which were announced Tuesday morning after Monday night's drawing was delayed, were 10-33-41-47-56 and the Powerball was 10, according to the association.

And while you likely weren't the jackpot winner, lotteries are urging players to check their tickets on the chance you won one of the other – albeit smaller – prizes: Per the Multi-State Lottery Association, more than 11.2 million tickets won cash prizes totaling \$98.1 million, including 22 tickets that won \$1 million prizes for matching the five white numbers but not the Powerball.

The jackpot was a record \$1.9 billion but grew to \$2.04 billion by the time of the drawing, the association said in a statement, "making it the world's largest lottery prize" – just as its organizers intended when they changed the odds in 2015.

The announcement Tuesday came after officials delayed the drawing Monday night, due to what the Multi-



A customer purchases a ticket for the Powerball jackpot at a newsstand in New York City, U.S., November 7, 2022. REUTERS/Brendan McDermid/File Photo

State Lottery Association called a "technical issue."

The association initially said overnight the delay was caused when one participating lottery needed more time to process its sales and play data, echoing an earlier statement by the California Lottery, which said one lottery needed additional time to complete the necessary security protocols.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Minnesota Lottery announced its sales verification system caused a processing delay, prompting the postponement of the drawing.

"The delay was necessary to confirm the Powerball drawing could be conducted securely and accurately," the Minnesota Lottery release said. "At no time was the integrity of the process compromised."

All 48 participating lotteries are required to submit their sales and

plays before the winning numbers can be selected, the Multi-State Lottery Association said in a statement overnight. "Powerball has stringent security requirements to protect the integrity of the game and remains committed to holding a drawing that gives all players a fair chance to win," the association said.

"Like the rest of America, Powerball is eager to hold its drawing for the world record jackpot," the association said in a follow-up statement Tuesday morning before the drawing, "however, protecting the integrity of the draw is of utmost importance, even if that means a further delay," the statement early Tuesday said, urging players to hold on to their tickets.

According to the Multi-State Lottery Association, Tuesday's jackpot was hit on the 41st draw of the run,

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Regional and international lawyers condemn arrest and detention of attorney in Guyana

CMC - The Jamaican Bar Association (JBA) has joined its counterpart in Guyana in condemning the arrest of attorney Tamioka Clarke for advising a client to remain silent during questioning.

The Guyana Bar Association (GBA), Guyana Association of Women Lawyers, the Organization of Commonwealth Caribbean Bar Associations (OCCBA) and the Commonwealth Lawyers Association (CLA) have all condemned the arrest.

In a statement, the JBA said it regards the arrest and detention of Tamioka Clarke as “an attack on a fundamental principle of the rule of law.

“We condemn this action and are very concerned about this assault on the legal profession. It is a clear departure from the Constitution of Guyana which enshrines the right to silence in

the course of criminal investigation consistent with the advice of counsel in the matter. This gross encroachment by the State has the result of undermining the rule of law and we shall remain carefully attentive in this cause,” the Jamaica Bar Association added.

Clarke last Friday moved to the High Court after she was arrested on October 28, by members of the Guyana Police Force’s Special Organized Crime Unit (SOCU) for informing her client, who has been accused of computer-related fraud, to remain silent.

She has since sued the Guyana Police Force (GPF) for more than GUY\$300,000 (One Guyana dollar=US\$0.004 cents) for her wrongful arrest and detention by police and the temporary seizure of her mobile phone without justification.

Clarke wants the High



Guyanese attorney, Tamioka Clarke, was arrested by police for advising her client to remain silent.

Court to declare that her fundamental right to personal liberty as guaranteed and protected by Article 139 of Guyana’s Constitution was breached by SOCU officers when she was arrested and detained for advising her client to remain silent.

Further, she is asking the High Court to declare that her fundamental right and freedom against arbitrary arrest as set out and provided for in Article 40 of Guyana’s Constitution was breached and/or violated by police

officers when they arrested and detained her at SOCU’s headquarters and that the detention and seizure of her cellular phone by SOCU officers without her permission and without lawful excuse was wrongful.

Tamioka Clarke is seeking a High Court declaration that any lawyer practicing in Guyana is entitled to advise a client of the Client’s entitlement to remain silent when being questioned by members of any law enforcement agency or body in Guyana; is entitled to consult with his/her client in private without the contents of the said consultation being recorded in any way including by means of audio-visual recording by any law enforcement agency in Guyana or elsewhere, and is entitled to advise any person who has sought her counsel to exercise the right to remain silent when questioned by a member of any law enforcement agency in Guyana.

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marking the sixth time the Powerball jackpot was hit in 2022. The last Powerball jackpot was won on August 3 in Pennsylvania.

The largest Powerball jackpot ever won was in January 2016, when three winners split a prize advertised at \$1.586 billion. Each took their share of the cash value, which added up to \$983.5 million.

Powerball draws take place every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday at 10:59 p.m. ET.

Powerball is played by charging \$2 per ticket and having players choose five

white balls between the numbers 1 to 69 and a red Powerball from the numbers 1 to 26. If a player gets all six numbers correct, they win the massive jackpot.

The odds of winning the jackpot by matching all 5 numbers and the Powerball number are one in 292.2 million.

Prior to 2015, though, the white balls were numbered 1 to 59 and the Powerball was numbered 1 to 35. The change means that now gamblers have better odds of winning small prizes but worse odds of winning the jackpot, making it more likely that the big number will grow to record sizes.

Regional News



Haitian gang members charged with missionaries' kidnapping

AP – The U.S. Department of Justice on Monday announced criminal charges against seven Haitian gang leaders for the kidnappings of numerous U.S. citizens, including Christian missionaries and children.

The missionaries were part of a group of 16 U.S. citizens, most of whom were held captive for 61 days before escaping. The group included five children, the Justice Department said in a news release.

The Department of State announced a \$1 million reward Monday for each of the three gang members who they say were responsible for that kidnapping: Lanmo Sanjou, aka Joseph Wilson; and Jermaine Stephenson, aka Gaspiyay, both current leaders of the 400 Mawozo gang; and Vitel'homme Innocent, leader of the Kraze Barye gang. All three have been charged with conspiracy to commit hostage-taking and hostage-taking.



People are seen at the Christian Aid Ministries compound after the organisation announced the release of three missionaries who were kidnapped along with others in October, in Titanyen, on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, Haiti December 6, 2021. REUTERS/Ralph Tedy Erol/File Photo

The missionaries, who were serving near Port-au-Prince, were abducted on Oct. 16, 2021, the Justice Department said. Two of the hostages

were released in late November and three more were released in early December. The remaining hostages es-

cont'd on pg 17

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POINTE ON DE STREETZ

St. Vincent and the Grenadines' bee population under threat

CMC – Bees and other pollinators as well as beneficial predatory insects are suffering from increased urbanisation, as well as the use of pesticides in agriculture, landscaping, and vector control, St. Vincent and the Grenadines Environment Fund (SVGEF) has warned.

As a result, the SVGEF says it is grateful that there has been a ban on the aerial spraying of bananas, noting that the move has been critical in saving the bees and the butterflies.

"It is only anecdotal evidence but I do believe we have all noticed an increase in the presence of both bees and butterflies since the ban on aerial spraying," said SVGEF's executive director Louise Mitchell.

Addressing the three-day 11th Caribbean Beekeeping Congress, Mitchell said the frequent use of the chemical malathion to combat mosquito-borne



diseases "may well serve to counteract/nullify some of the benefits that the ban on aerial spraying of bananas may have achieved.

"This is a matter of concern to the SVGEF and leads us to raise a series of questions that have relevance in this forum," Mitchell said, adding, "we ask the question, is fogging using this chemical the best

that we can do to address the issue of mosquitos?"

"Have there been any studies on the possible harmful impacts of this chemical to beneficial predatory insects and indeed to humans? Is there awareness of the fact that the use of malathion has been banned in the European Union because it is deemed harmful to pollinators?"

She said reducing beneficial insects, such as dragonflies, Jack Spaniards (paper wasps), ladybugs, butterflies, and bees, which were "arguably all more prevalent in our childhoods" has a ripple effect through the entire ecosystem.

"A dragonfly can eat hundreds of mosquitos in one day," and Mitchell said it is the hope of SVGEF that one of the outcomes of this congress "is an examination into the effects of fogging and possible better biological solutions, which would provide better long-term solutions that are less harmful to human health".

SVGEF, which is part of the Conservation Collective network of environment funds worldwide established by Ben Goldsmith, was a sponsor of the Bee Keeping Congress 2022, which was hosted by the SVG Beekeepers Association.

cont'd from pg 16

caped captivity in mid-December, the department said.

The United Nations estimates that gangs control about 60% of Port-au-Prince, acting with violence and setting homes on fire as they fight to control more territory in the wake of the July 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moïse.

The Justice Department also announced charges Monday against four leaders of three other Haitian gangs who prosecutors say kidnapped other

U.S. citizens in the country.

Renel Destina, aka Ti Lapli, leader of the gang Gran Ravine, was indicted on charges of hostage taking for the 14-day kidnapping of a U.S citizen in February 2021.

"The victim was threatened daily at gunpoint, while his family scrambled to secure funds for release," the Justice Department said. The victim was released on Feb. 16, 2021, after a ransom was paid.

Emanuel Solomon, aka Manno, a leader of the gang Village de Dieu, was

charged with kidnapping a U.S. citizen in January 2021. The victim was held for about 11 days until his family and friends in the United States sent a ransom payment, the department said.

John Peter Fleronvil and Jean Renald Dolcin, two leaders of the gang Kokorat san Ras, were charged with the armed kidnapping of three U.S. citizens in July. Two of the victims were a married couple and a third was taken captive the day after and held in the same location. They were all released following ransom payments.

Treaty against fossil fuels floated at UN climate summit

AP – The world should confront climate change the way it does nuclear weapons, by agreeing to a non-proliferation treaty that stops further production of fossil fuels, a small island nation leader proposed Tuesday as vulnerable nations pushed for more action and money at international climate talks.

“We all know that the leading cause of the climate crisis is fossil fuels,” Tuvalu Prime Minister Kausea Natano told his fellow leaders. So his country has “joined Vanuatu and other nations calling for a fossil fuels non-proliferation treaty... It’s getting too hot and there is very (little) time to slow and reverse the increasing temperature. Therefore, it is essential to prioritise fast acting strategies that avoids the most warming.”

Vanuatu and Tuvalu, along with other vulnerable nations, have been flexing their moral authority in negotiations, especially in light of mega climate disasters. The idea of a non-proliferation treaty for coal, oil and natural gas has been advanced by churches, including the Vatican, and some scientists, but Natano’s speech gives it a bigger boost in front of a global audience.

A year ago at climate talks in Glasgow, a proposal to call for a “phase out” coal — the dirtiest of the fossil fuels — was changed at the last minute to “phase down” by a demand from India, earning the wrath of small island nations and some vulnerable countries.

Small island nation leaders also called for a global tax on the profits of fossil fuel corporations that are making billions of dollars of profit a day during a global energy crisis triggered by the Russian invasion of Ukraine.



Kausea Natano, prime minister of Tuvalu, speaks at the COP27 U.N. Climate Summit, Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. (AP Photo/Peter Dejong)

“While they are profiting, the planet is burning,” said Gaston Browne, prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda, speaking on behalf of his and other small island nations.

Zimbabwe President Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa called on similar nations to form a “countermanding bloc of the victims of climate change.”

In a departure from the criticism that rich countries have so far endured from many developing nations’ leaders at this year’s international climate meeting, the president of Malawi praised leaders present in Egypt for simply showing up.

“The temptation to abstain from COP this year was great,” President Lazarus Chakwera said, referring to the talks by their U.N. acronym, “because of the great and unprecedented economic hardships your citizens are suffering in your own nation,” he said. “But you resisted this temptation and chose the path of courage.”

Chakwera said any agreements forged at the two-week meeting in Sharm el-Sheikh should recognise the different abilities of developed nations like the United States and high-pro-

ductivity countries such as China on the one hand, and developing nations like his own on the other.

So far, China has insisted that it cannot be held to the same standards as developed economies such as the United States or Europe because it is still lifting millions of its citizens out of poverty. But there is growing pressure on Beijing to step up its climate efforts given its massive economic clout.

Jochen Flasbarth, a senior German official and veteran climate negotiator, said China only formally meets the criteria of a developing country.

“In truth it is the top emitter worldwide and it is also an extremely prosperous economy,” he said. “That’s why we expect, and this is also being done in some areas, that more responsibility is taken on (by China), nationally and internationally.”

Meanwhile, Guterres and leaders such as Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley said it was time to make fossil fuel companies contribute to funds which would provide vulnerable countries with financial aid for the climate-related losses they are suffering.

“It is about time that these companies are made to pay a global carbon tax on their profits as a source of funding for loss and damage,” Antigua’s Browne said. “Profligate producers of fossil fuels have benefited from extortionate profits at the expense of human civilization.”

And if the small islands can’t get a global tax on fossil fuel profits, Browne suggested going to international courts to get polluters to pay for what they’ve done. A group of scientists from Dartmouth College calculated specific damages for all the world’s

cont’d on pg 18

Congo war planes bombing M23 rebel targets

AP – Congolese fighter jets began bombing rebel targets Tuesday in the country's embattled east, escalating its fight against the M23 group that the government alleges has been advancing with help from neighboring Rwanda.

Jean Claude Bambaze, president of Rutshuru's civil society, told The Associated Press that aerial bombardments were reported in the villages of Chanzu and Musungati, about 35 kilometres (22 miles) from Rutshuru.

"We are seeing the comings and goings of Congolese warplanes," he said. "We call on the Congolese government to finish quickly with this M23 affair, because



Democratic Republic of the Congo youth get the first steps of basic military training in Goma, eastern Congo, Monday, Nov. 7, 2022. More than 3,000 new Congolese military recruits began training Monday as the army steps up its fight against the M23 rebels in the country's east that the government alleges are backed by neighbouring Rwanda. (AP Photo/Moses Sawasawa)

people have already fled their homes and others are confined in camps without humanitarian assistance."

There was no immediate confirmation or comment

from the Congolese military on the reported aerial bombardments. However, M23 spokesman Lawrence Kanyuka accused the army of attacking heavily populat-

ed areas and "trampling on the call for dialogue."

"This warmongering option is counterproductive and puts the lives of many citizens in the areas under our control in extreme danger and exacerbates the humanitarian situation in the region," Kanyuka said in a statement.

Neighbouring Rwanda has long denied providing support to the M23, which re-emerged a year ago after being mostly dormant for a decade. The rebel group has rapidly advanced in recent weeks, doubling the amount of territory it controls.

In a show of force, Congo's military began training some 3,000 new recruits on Monday in Goma.

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countries and how much was caused by other nations, saying it would work well in international court cases.

Browne also quoted William Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' in sharing his frustration with lack of action.

"Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow creeps in this petty pace from day to day to the last syllable of recorded time. And all our yesterdays have lighted fools the way to dusty death," Browne said. Despite 27 climate summits "tomorrow has not come. Governments and corporations come to the COP each year delivering grand statements with lofty commitments. But these commitments are only partially honoured."

The idea of a windfall tax on carbon profits has gained traction in re-

cent months amid sky-high earnings for oil and gas majors even as consumers struggle to pay the cost of heating their homes and filling their cars. For the first time, delegates at this year's U.N. climate conference are to discuss demands by developing nations that the richest, most polluting countries pay compensation for damage wreaked on them by climate change, which in climate negotiations is called "loss and damage."

The U.S. midterm elections were hanging over the talks Tuesday, with many environmental campaigners worried that defeat for the Democrats could make it harder for President Joe Biden to pursue his ambitious climate agenda.

Germany climate envoy Jennifer Morgan said the Biden administra-

tion's recent climate law had given the United States "a higher level of standing" internationally.

Asked about the possible impact of the U.S. midterm election on the talks, Morgan said that individual votes "can't change the fact that we're in a climate emergency."

Also hanging over the conference was the fate of one of Egypt's most prominent jailed pro-democracy activists, Alaa Abdel-Fattah, who has been imprisoned for most of the past decade.

His family stepped up pleas for world leaders to win his release after he stepped up a longtime hunger strike. Abdel-Fattah stopped even drinking water on Sunday, the first day of the conference, vowing he is willing to die if not released, his family says.

N. Korea denies US claims it sent artillery shells to Russia

AP – North Korea has denied American claims that it's shipping artillery shells and ammunition to Russia for use in its war against Ukraine, and on Tuesday accused the United States of lying.

The denial follows dozens of weapons tests by North Korea, including short-range missiles that are likely nuclear-capable and an intercontinental ballistic missile that could target the U.S. mainland. Pyongyang said it was testing the missiles and artillery so it could “mercilessly” strike key South Korean and U.S. targets if it chose to.

North Korea has been cozying up to traditional ally Russia in recent years and even hinted at sending workers to help rebuild Russian-occupied territories in Ukraine.

The United States has accused North Korea, one of the most weaponized countries in the world, of supplying Soviet-era ammunition such as artillery shells, to replenish Russian stockpiles that have been depleted in the Ukraine.

Last week, Russia sent North Korean leader Kim Jong Un a trainload of 30 thoroughbred horses, opening the border with its neighbour for the first time in 2 1/2 years.

Kim is an avid horseman and state media have



Russian President Vladimir Putin, right, and North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un shake hands during their meeting in Vladivostok, Russia on April 25, 2019. North Korea on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022 accused the United States of cooking up a "plot-breeding story" on its alleged arms transfer to Russia, arguing it has never sent artillery shells to Moscow. (AP Photo/Alexander Zemlianichenko, Pool, File)

often pictured him galloping on snowy mountain trails astride a white charger. The horses, Orlov trotters, are prized in Russia.

Spokespeople of Russia's Far Eastern Railway told the state-run news agency Nov. 2 that the first train headed to North Korea with the 30 horses and said the next train was to carry medicine.

Experts say North Korea may be seeking Russian fuel and also technology transfers and supplies needed to advance its military capabilities as it pursues more sophisticated weapons systems.

In September, North Korea restarted its freight train service with China, its biggest trading partner, ending a five-month hiatus.

Last week, U.S. National Security Council spokesperson John Kirby accused North Korea of covertly supplying a “significant number” of ammunition shipments to Russia. He said the United States believes North Korea was trying to obscure the transfer route by making it appear the weapons were being sent to countries in the Middle East or North Africa.

“We regard such moves of the U.S. as part of its hostile attempt to tarnish the image of (North Korea) in the international arena,” an unidentified vice director at the North Korean ministry's military foreign affairs office said in a statement carried by state media.

“We once again make clear that we have never

had ‘arms dealings’ with Russia and that we have no plan to do so in the future,” the vice director said.

In September, U.S. officials confirmed a newly declassified U.S. intelligence finding that Russia was in the process of purchasing millions of rockets and artillery shells from North Korea. North Korea later dismissed that report, calling on Washington to stop making “reckless remarks” and to “keep its mouth shut.”

On Nov. 2, Kirby said the U.S. has “an idea” of which country or countries the North may funnel the weapons through but wouldn't specify. He said the North Korean shipments are “not going to change the course of the war,” citing Western efforts to resupply the Ukrainian military.

Slapped by international sanctions and export controls, Russia in August bought Iranian-made drones that U.S. officials said had technical problems.

For Russia, experts say North Korea is likely another good option for its ammunitions supply, because the North keeps a significant stockpile of shells, many of them copies of Soviet-era ones.

Even as most of Europe and the West has pulled away, North Korea

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Hushpuppi: Notorious Nigerian fraudster jailed for 11 years in US

BBC - A notorious Instagram influencer from Nigeria has been jailed for more than 11 years in the US for his role in an international fraud syndicate.

Hushpuppi, whose real name is Ramon Abbas, was also ordered to pay \$1,732,841 (£1,516,182) in restitution to two victims.

The influencer rose to fame flaunting his wealthy lifestyle on his page, which boasted 2.8 million followers.

But it all came crashing down when he was arrested in Dubai two years ago.

According to Don Alway, the assistant director in charge of the FBI's Los Angeles field office, Abbas had - behind the glitz of his account - become "one of the most prolific money launderers in the world".

"Abbas leveraged his social media platforms... to gain notoriety and to brag about the immense wealth he acquired by conducting business email compromise scams, online bank heists and other cyber-enabled fraud that financial-

ly ruined scores of victims and provided assistance to the North Korean regime," Mr Alway said in a court document on Monday.

Abbas pleaded guilty to money laundering last year, admitting attempting to steal more than \$1.1m from someone who wanted to fund a new children's school in Qatar. Court documents in California say he played a key role in the scheme, playing "the roles of bank officials and creating a bogus website".

He also admitted to "several other cyber and business email compromise schemes that cumulatively caused more than \$24 million in losses", the US justice department said.

Among them was a 2019 scheme, which plunged the European island of Malta into chaos as payment systems shut down after he tried to launder €13m (\$13m) stolen by a gang of North Korean hackers from the Maltese Bank of Valletta.

At one point on Instagram, Abbas said he was



Hushpuppi's Instagram page remained available, even after he pleaded guilty to money laundering.

a real estate developer and had a category of videos called "Flexing" - social media lingo for showing off.

In 2020, he renewed his lease for another year at the exclusive Palazzo Versace apartments in Dubai under his real name and phone number.

"Thank you, Lord, for the many blessings in my life. Continue to shame those waiting for me to be shamed," he captioned an Instagram picture of a Rolls-Royce just a fortnight before he was arrested.

Those who knew Lagos-born Abbas before his transformation into Hushpuppi allege these are not

the first scams he has carried out.

He allegedly started his fraudulent lifestyle as a "Yahoo boy" - the Nigerian term for men who commit romance fraud by stealing other people's identities online and swindling their none-the-wiser lovers out of money.

Abbas is also under investigation in St. Kitts and Nevis where he has been accused of bribing a government official to assist him in obtaining a false marriage certificate to make him eligible for a passport.

Former Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, Dr. Timothy Harris at the time disclosed that 'Hushpuppi' married Shawana Nakesia Chapman, a 32-year-old citizen of both St. Kitts and Nevis and the United States of America.

The US Department of Justice said Hushpuppi used proceeds from the fraud to acquire citizenship in St. Kitts and Nevis.

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has pushed to boost relations with Russia, blaming the U.S. for the crisis and decrying the West's "hegemonic policy" as justifying military action by Russia in Ukraine to protect itself.

In July, North Korea became the only nation aside from Russia and Syria to recognize the Donetsk and Luhansk territories as independent.

North Korea's possible arms supply to Russia would be a violation of U.N. resolutions that ban the North from trading weapons with other countries.

But it's unlikely for North Korea to receive fresh sanctions for that because of a division at the U.N. Security Council over America's confrontations with Russia regarding its war in Ukraine and its separate strategic competitions with China.

Sports News



World Cup has three women set to referee matches in Qatar

AP – Japanese referee Yoshimi Yamashita knows that being one of three women picked to officiate matches at the World Cup — the first time a woman will be in charge on the game's biggest stage — is not simply about soccer.

Stephanie Frappart of France and Salima Mukansanga of Rwanda must be of the same mind. They are in a pool of 36 referees listed for Qatar — the rest are all men. FIFA has also named three female assistant referees in a pool of 69: Neuza Back of Brazil, Karen Diaz Medina of Mexico and Kathryn Nesbitt of the United States.

Yamashita is aware that her selection put the focus on Japan's low ranking on most measures of equal pay for women, and in global studies of gender equality.

"I would be very happy if women could play an active role in sports in this way, and if sports and especially

soccer could lead this," Yamashita said in an interview with The Associated Press. "In Japan, there is still a long way to go in the world of soccer (regarding participation of women), so it would be great if this could connect to the promotion of female participation in different ways, not only in soccer or in sports."

All three have worked men's matches, and their World Cup debut comes in a Middle Eastern country where the role of women is closely prescribed.

Frappart is the best known and has already worked men's games in World Cup qualifying, and the Champions League. She also handled the 2019 Women's World Cup final, and refereed this year's men's French Cup final.

Yamashita has worked games in Japan's men's league, and has also been in charge of the Asian equivalent of the men's Champions League. She



Japanese referee Yoshimi Yamashita warms up during a training session Monday, June 27, 2022, at JFA YUME Field in Chiba, near Tokyo. (AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko, File)

was also a referee at last year's Tokyo Olympics.

Earlier this year, Mukansanga became the first woman to referee an Africa Cup of Nations match, leading an all-female officiating team.

"As always, the criteria we have used is 'quality first' and the selected match officials represent the highest level of refereeing worldwide," said FIFA referees committee chairman Pierluigi Collina, who worked the 2002 World Cup final. "In this way, we clearly emphasise that it is quality that counts for us and not gender."

"I would hope that in the future the selection of elite women's match officials for important men's competitions will be perceived as something normal and no longer as sensational."

Yamashita said the difference in the men's and women's game was, of course, speed. But not simply that some men might run faster.

"It's the speed, but not just the players' speed," she told the AP. "Not

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Referee Salima Mukansanga, of Rwanda, gestures towards the players during the African Cup of Nations 2022 group B soccer match between Zimbabwe and Guinea at the Ahmadou Ahidjo stadium in Yaounde, Cameroon, Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2022. (AP Photo/Themba Hadebe, File)



Referee Stephanie Frappart shows a yellow card during the Women Euro 2022 group B soccer match between Germany and Spain at Brentford Community Stadium in London, England, Tuesday, July 12, 2022. (AP Photo/Alessandra Tarantino, File)

Content former No 1 Ash Barty rules out tennis comeback

AP – Former world No. 1 Ash Barty has emphatically ruled out ever making a comeback to tennis, or switching to another sport.

Launching her autobiography at Melbourne Park — scene of her Australian Open triumph in January just two months before her shock retirement announcement — the 26-year-old said she had no desire to return to high-level sport, and was sure she never would.

“Nope, I’m done,” Barty told Australian Associated Press on Monday. “You can never say never but no. No, no, no. I’m done.”

The three-time Grand Slam singles winner, who spent 121 weeks with the top ranking, had played professional cricket with the Brisbane Heat during a hiatus from tennis.

She also plays golf off a handicap of four, prompting some observers to suggest she could pursue a future in that sport.



Australian former tennis player Ash Barty poses for a picture during the launch of her new book "My Dream Time" at Rod Laver Arena in Melbourne, Australia Monday, Nov. 7, 2022. (Diego Fedeles/AAP Image via AP)

But, launching her memoir “My Dream Time,” Barty insisted she was happy with her new, more settled life off the WTA Tour, and had no professional sports plan in mind.

“I miss competing and challenging myself against

the best of the world but I don’t miss a lot that comes with it,” she said. “I’m still competitive with myself when I train at home. I still try and push myself but there’s no white-line fever any more.

“And I never really felt

like there was this void that needed to be filled in because there was a genuine sense of fulfilment at the end of my career.”

Barty, who married long-time partner Garry Kissick in July, said she was unsure what her future held, although she was already enjoying mentoring young players — something which could point to a future role as Australian Billie Jean King Cup (formerly Fed Cup) captain.

She said that when she walked away from tennis for the first time in 2014, she was “searching . . . searching for stimulation, I was searching for other things.”

“But now I don’t need that. Now I have probably understood and realised that I’ve had an extremely full, fulfilling, incredible journey in my athletic and professional career and now it’s time to close that chapter,” she said.

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the ball speed. It’s just the game speed. It means for me I have to make quicker decisions — more speed.”

Then there’s the stress, the largest stage, and the attention she is certain to generate at the World Cup.

“Of course, I think the pressure is huge,” she said, “and I think I have a lot of responsibility. But I am really happy to take this duty and pressure, so I try to take it positively and I try to be happy.”

Though it’s likely that all three will

be in charge of games, it’s not a given. They could also be used as “fourth referees” on the sideline. However, they cannot be used as assistants.

Like many referees, Yamashita said her job was to stay out of the way and let the game shine.

“One of the big goals as a referee is to bring out the attractiveness of soccer,” she said. “I do my best for that, and I will do what I should at that time toward that end. So if I need to communicate with the players, I will do that. If I need to show a card, I will

show a card. Rather than control, I’m thinking about what to do toward the big goal of bringing out the appeal of soccer.”

Yamashita conducted most of the interview with the AP in Japanese, but said she would use English and “facial gestures, body gestures” when communicating with players in Qatar.

“Usually when I give a card, I say nothing,” she said, shifting to English. “But when I give a warning, I just tell them I’m not happy. They understand.”

Sports News



West Indies Women to host England Women in Antigua and Barbados

West Indies Women will welcome England Women to the Caribbean for an eight-match series next month. Cricket West Indies (CWI) and England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) announced the match schedule today which consists of a three-match CG United One-Day International (ODI) Series and a five-match T20 International (T20I) Series from Sunday 4 December to Thursday 22 December.

The CG United ODIs will be played at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium (SVRS) in Antigua on 4, 6 and 9 December. The first T20I will also be at the

picturesque ground on 11 December. The tour then moves to Barbados for four T20Is at the historic Kensington Oval on 14, 17, 18 and 22 December.

West Indies captain Hayley Matthews is eagerly looking forward to the upcoming home series as both teams will look to use the series as part of their preparation for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup to be played in South Africa early next year.

"We are really looking forward to this series against England. It will be hugely important for us. I'm hoping we can pick up some points in the ICC Women's



Championship as we take on a strong opposition at home. We also have our eyes on the ICC T20 World Cup in South Africa. It is always a big thing playing in a World Cup and this will be my first as captain so I will look to lead from the front. We will go in looking to play hard and give it all we have," she said.

The eighth edition of the marquee event will begin on 10 February 2023 with hosts South Africa taking on Sri Lanka. Cape Town, Paarl and Gqeberha will host the matches in the tournament with the knockout matches set to be played in Cape Town. The final will be held on 26 February with the reserve day available on 27 February.

The 10 teams will be drawn in two groups as follows, Group 1: Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh; with Group 2: England, In-

dia, West Indies, Pakistan and Ireland.

FULL MATCH SCHEDULE

West Indies Women v England Women

ODIs start 2pm (1pm Jamaica)

T20Is start 6pm (5pm Jamaica)

Sunday, 4 December – 1st CG United ODI at SVRS

Tuesday, 6 December – 2nd CG United ODI at SVRS

Friday, 9 December – 3rd CG United ODI at SVRS

Sunday, 11 December – 1st T20I at SVRS

Wednesday, 14 December – 2nd T20I at Kensington Oval

Saturday, 17 December – 3rd T20I at Kensington Oval

Sunday, 18 December – 4th T20I at Kensington Oval

Thursday, 22 December – 5th T20I at Kensington Oval

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Gomes and Harve duo wins ABNDA President's Pair contest

The combination of Sheldon Gomes and Maclean Harve of the Dominatrix club captured the Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association (ABNDA) President's Pair Four-Hand Competition at its headquarters in the former Ottos School in Ottos Newtown over the weekend.

The duo prevailed at the end of three nights of intense competition, outlasting a field of 28 pairs that had entered the contest.

The pair of Sheldon

Gomes, who is also President of the ABNDA, and Macleen Harve defeated the combination of Jason King and Sharon Matthew of Willikies Superstars in the final.

The team comprising Manlight Simmons and Dwayne George of Bolans Revellers prevailed against the pair of Dale Henry and Lionel Gomes of Double Six to capture third place.

The competition started with 28 pairs and 14 pairs were eliminated after the first round of matches.

The four winners of the



Sheldon Gomes, left, and Macleen Harve of the Dominatrix club captured the Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association President's Pair Four-Hand Competition at its headquarters in the former Ottos School in Ottos Newtown over the weekend. (Photo courtesy ABNDA)

quarter-final matches then advance to the semi-finals.

The pair of Sheldon Gomes and Macleen Harve, the combination of Jason King and Sharon Matthew, the team of Manlight Simmons and Dwayne George and the duo of Dale Henry and Lionel Gomes were victorious in the quarter-finals and booked their places into the semi-finals.

Sheldon Gomes and Macleen Harve of Dominatrix and Jason King and Sharon Matthew of Willikies Superstars won their semi-final matches to book their spots into the final.

The two losing semi-finalists, Manlight Simmons

and Dwayne George of Bolans Revellers and Dale Henry and Lionel Gomes of Double Six were then relegated to battle for third place honours.

The Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association will continue its domestic competition with the staging of another Four Hand competition at its headquarters in Ottos on Thursday, 10th November, starting at 8 pm.

The four-hand contest will be a 500, which is similar to 100 chalk, the only difference being the winner of a match must accumulate 500 points instead of 100 points.



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Sports News



Local and regional golfers to contest Antigua & Barbuda Open Championship

Some of the top national golfers and their colleagues from St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Lucia are expected to converge at the Cedar Valley Golf Course this weekend for the Antigua and Barbuda Open Golf Championship.

The two-day event is being hosted by the Antigua and Barbuda Golf Association (ABGA) on 12-13 November.

President of the ABGA Avery Jonas said although regional travel has been significantly affected by the ongoing transition of LIAT, several regional golfers are still expected to arrive in the twin-island state to contest this weekend's event.

"I will say that travel across the region is not as easy as it used to be, so we really missed LIAT. I know that some of the overseas players are having some challenges getting here. Having said that, we still do expect players from St. Kitts and Nevis, and this time around, we are even going to have players here from St. Lucia," Jonas stated.

Among those expected in the country this weekend, will be defending champion Kittitian Adrian Norford, who won the title in 2020, the last time the event was held before the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Jonas said a number of top Antiguan and Barbudan players will also be competing for top honours, in-

cluding brothers Demar and Omorry James, Paul Michael and Wilston Charles.

"I don't want to say Demar is the top golfer, but he is definitely one of the top national golfers because his older brother Omorry James is still there," Jonas stated.

"Then you have Paul Michael, who is one of the most respected and recognized golfers in the entire Eastern Caribbean. You also have the other guys like Wilston Charles and Johnathan Piggott who are all going to be competing."

Jonas said registration is still open for anyone to contest this weekend's Antigua and Barbuda Open Golf Championship.

"Registration is still very much open. The Antigua and Barbuda Open entry form is posted on the notice board at Cedar Valley. While we would want players to register and enter into the tournament early, that is always a challenge. A lot of players tend to wait until last minute," Jonas said.

"Of course, that creates some challenges with the planning. It's always good to know how many people you can expect to participate in the tournament.

"We have to plan to feed a certain amount of people so we kind of basically go with a range of 65 to 75 people. We do that every year and it seems to work, but the entry to the tournament is still very



Adrian Norford of St Kitts holds the championship trophy after winning the 2020 Antigua and Barbuda Open Golf Championship at the Cedar Valley Golf Course on 23rd February, 2020. Norford will be defending his title at this year's Antigua and Barbuda Open Golf Championship at Cedar Valley on 12-13 November, 2022. (Photo courtesy ABGA)

much open.

"The entry fee for locals is US\$150 per player and the entry fee for the overseas players, like the guys from St. Kitts and St. Lucia and so on, will be US\$170 per player.

"There are no other requirements. This is an open championship and it is just what it says. It is open to anybody from anywhere."

Jonas said the recent rainy weather across Antigua and Barbuda did create some concerns, but those have been addressed by the authorities at the Cedar Val-

ley Golf Club.

"I must say that while the recent rainy weather has kept the Cedar Valley Golf course quite lush and green, it also means the grass has been growing very quickly. So initially, we did have quite a few areas of concerns," Jonas said.

"However, those concerns have since been addressed by the Cedar Valley Golf Club. Everything else is also falling into place nicely so plans for this weekend's event are coming along nicely."



Coordinator of the Schools' Football programme in the Ministry of Sports Rohan 'Porridge' Benjamin, left, interacts with players during a match in the Primary School Football Cup at the Golden Grove playing field on Wednesday, 4th May, 2022. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

Ministry of Sports faces challenge to play football matches in rural areas

Coordinator of the Schools' Football programme in the Ministry of Sports Rohan "Porridge" Benjamin admits it has been a challenge to play more matches in the current secondary schools' league in rural communities.

Benjamin said with the 2022/23 Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) national domestic leagues yet to start, a number of playing fields in the rural communities are not being kept in adequate conditions that would be sufficient to host matches in the current secondary schools' league.

Benjamin admits that while the Ministry of Sports assists with the cutting and marking of fields to host schools football matches, the current large number of under-prepared playing fields in some rural communities are proving to be too much for his department to handle.

"It is a real struggle I must say in terms of getting matches on certain fields at this present moment because of what is happening in several com-

munities," stated Benjamin, while speaking on the Sports Overflow Programme on Platinum Radio, 97.9 FM.

"This I believe is because the ABFA's games have not yet started and some of the communities would have failed to cut and mark their playing fields, so we in the Ministry of Sports now have to do that so that we are able to play some of these schools' league matches in those communities.

"Normally, if the ABFA's league would have already started, most of these communities would have already sorted their fields and we would not be needed to go and cut and mark these playing fields."

Benjamin said the football unit in the Ministry of Sports is trying to decentralize the matches from being played mainly in the St. John's area by playing the schools' league on a home and away basis, which would allow for some of the matches to be played in the rural communities.

"We are trying to really play these matches on a home and away format.

We are trying to do away with some of the double-headers at one venue and instead, try to get as many matches as possible into the rural areas," Benjamin said.

The schools' football programme coordinator said some schools in rural communities such as Pares and Glanvilles secondary are struggling to get enough students to play sports, including cricket and football.

Benjamin said getting the schools' sports matches back into the rural communities can be an effective way in attracting young people in those areas to gravitate towards playing some kind of sports.

The Ministry of Sports has been successful in hosting matches in this year's secondary schools' league in the rural communities of All Saints and Bolans.

Some matches have also been played on the outskirts of the capital at the playing fields in Potters, Ottos, Clare Hall and Golden Grove, along with the Police Recreation Grounds.

CWI lauds Shivnarine Chanderpaul – newest member of ICC Hall of Fame

West Indies cricket legend Shivnarine Chanderpaul was announced as one of the new members of International Cricket Council's (ICC) Hall of Fame on Tuesday afternoon in Australia (Monday night Caribbean Time).

He has joined the list of fellow cricketing icons who have received this prestigious honour. The ICC announced Chanderpaul will be joined in the Hall of Fame by Pakistan legendary leg-spinner Abdul Qadir and England trailblazer Charlotte Edwards.

The left-handed Chanderpaul played at the international level for over two decades and is among the leading run-scorers in the game's history. He made his Test debut in 1994 at age 19 against England at Bourda in his native Guyana. He played 164 Test matches – the most by a West Indian – and scored 11,867 runs at an average of 51.37, which included 30 centuries.

He also played 268 One-Day Internationals and made 8,778 runs with 11 centuries at an average of 41.60; while in 22 T20 Internationals he made 343 runs. His first-class career was outstanding with 27,545 runs in 385 matches at an average of over 53. He had 77 centuries including a career-best of 303 not out for Guyana against Jamaica.

Cricket West Indies (CWI) President and ICC Director, Ricky Skerritt, paid tribute to Chanderpaul.

"On behalf of all West Indies cricket stakeholders, I congratulate Shivnarine 'Shiv' Chanderpaul for re-



Shivnarine Chanderpaul

ceiving the highest honour of his career to date. Shiv's story exemplifies all that is good about him and the game of cricket – his hard work, commitment, adaptability and his resulting growth and achievements on and off the field. His love for the game is unmatched, and he demonstrated throughout his two decades on the field that he was the man for all seasons."

"From the early days in the Under-19 set-up in Guyana, Shiv showcased his immense batting talent. He honed his skills and worked tirelessly to become the number 1 ranked batsman in the world. He embodied the statement 'heights of great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight'. Shiv toiled hard to improve and at every stage was able to re-invent his game to meet the demands. We salute Shiv for his immense contribution to West Indies cricket and

world cricket."

Chanderpaul said, "It's an amazing honour to follow the footsteps of many legends and so many other great cricketers of the past. I'm grateful for the recognition and would like to enjoy the moment with family, friends and most importantly the West Indies cricket fans and fans around the world who passionately supported me throughout my career."

West Indians previously inducted into The ICC Hall of Fame: Sir Curtly Ambrose, Sir Learie Constantine, Joel Garner, Lance Gibbs, Sir Gordon Greenidge, Sir Wes Hall, the Most Hon. Desmond Haynes, George Headley, Michael Holding, Rohan Kanhai, Brian Lara, Sir Clive Lloyd, Malcolm Marshall, Sir Viv Richards, Sir Andy Roberts, Sir Garry Sobers, Courtney Walsh, Sir Clyde Walcott, Sir Everton Weekes, Sir Frank Worrell.