

THURSDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 3 ISSUE 231 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

# MAN FOUND DEAD ON SOUTH STREET

*Story on Page 2*

**⇒ EQUALIZE ⇒**

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1 DECEMBER 2022



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# Local News

## Elderly man dies suddenly on South Street sidewalk

A male pensioner died yesterday on the steps of a beauty salon on Corn Alley and South Street.

Up to last evening, his identity remained unknown.

It is believed that the elderly man, who was walking through the area, felt unwell and decided to sit on the steps of the building that houses the beauty salon.

People who operate small businesses in the area realised something was wrong after he was ob-

served sitting in the same position, motionless, for an unusually long time.

The EMS were summoned, and it was determined that he had died.

District Doctor, Delrose Christian, visited the scene and officially pronounced the man dead.

His body was then transported to a funeral home where it will remain until an autopsy is conducted to determine his cause of death.





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## Increased police patrol among plans to tackle youth violence

Stakeholders in education have agreed to several plans of action to deal with the recent increase in youth violence in Antigua and Barbuda.

The issue was discussed at length yesterday during an emergency meeting that was convened and chaired by Director of Education, Clare Browne.

At the end of the four-hour long meeting that in-

cluded top officials from the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force and Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda, Browne said agreement was reached on short to long term strategies to counteract the problem.

“The plans include increased mobile patrol by the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda after schools have been dis-



Director of Education, Clare Browne

missed.

“Mobile patrols to areas such as Redcliffe Quay, YMCA and other hotspots where students congregate in and around St. John’s,” he revealed.

Additionally, attention will be placed on public education campaigns with special emphasis on parents, guardians and students.

Director Browne, who expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the meeting, described the discussions as “spirited”.

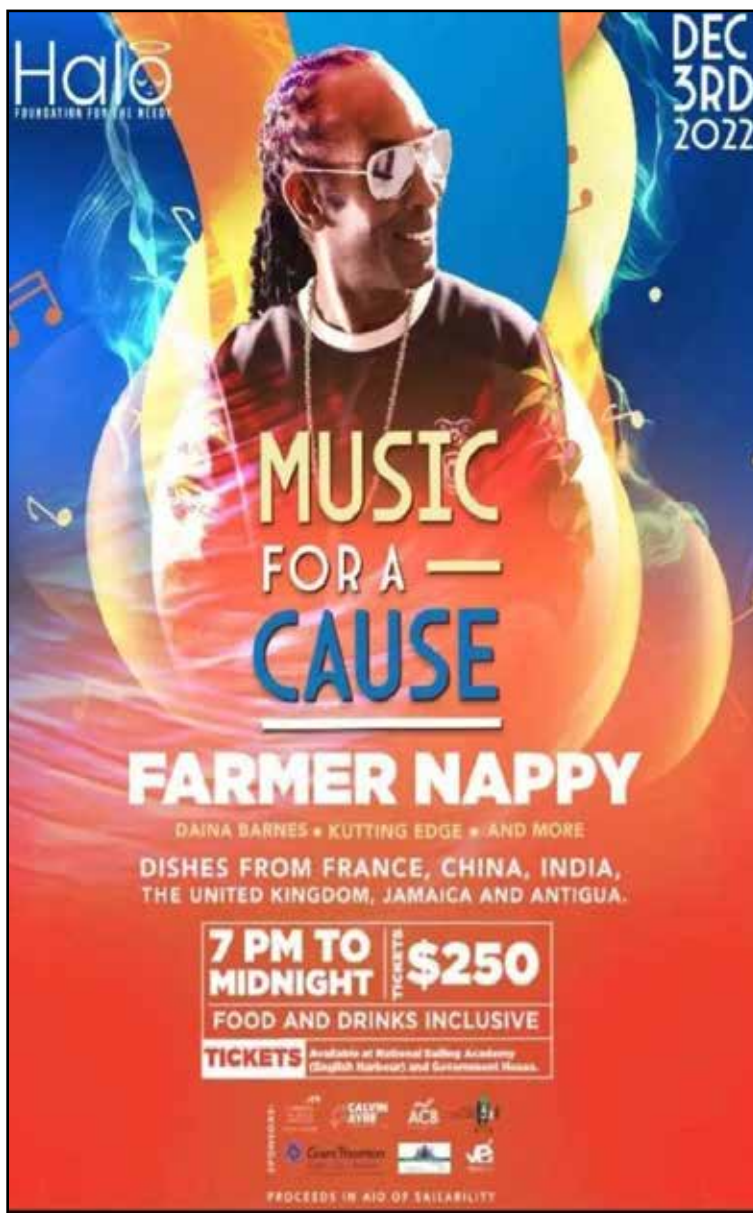
Also present at the emergency gathering were representatives of the National Parent Teachers Association, the Antigua and Barbuda Union of Teach-

ers (A&BUT) and the Ministry of Education and Sports.

The agreed plans will be implemented with immediate effect, Browne revealed.

Growing incidents of cutlass attacks on teen boys by their peers have sparked public outrage and demands for the Ministry of Education and Sports and the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda to intervene and devise a plan to stamp out the problem that has reached a crescendo.

Several students sustained injuries in the attacks, many of which were carried out in broad daylight.



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## Barbuda Council loses another legal fight

A High Court judge has ruled against the Barbuda Council dealing the body its latest legal loss in the last several months.

This time around, the Council sought to stop the proposed construction of two private homes at Cedar Tree Point, located in the Codrington Lagoon National Park - protected area - and Ramsar Site.

In its submissions to the court, the Council claimed that it had a responsibility to protect the lives and the livelihoods of residents of the sister island as most are seafarers.

After considering the evidence presented by the opposing attorneys, Justice Nicola Byers ruled that the case should be withdrawn.

The court further ordered that costs for the defendants - Henry Anderson, the proposed home owner (\$5,000.00), and the Development Control Author-



ity (DCA) \$3,000.00) - be paid by the Council.

Justice Byers also took issue with several elements of the case presented by the Barbuda Council.

“What the judge found to be particularly astonishing was that the Barbuda Council sought to provide questionable statements in a legal sub-

*cont'd on pg 5*

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**DEC 3-11**

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**DEC 5**

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**DEC 6**

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*cont'd from pg 4*

mission known as *ex parte*, meaning that the application to the court is done behind the defendants back without giving them the opportunity to defend themselves.

“Fortunately, Justice Byers did not allow this action to proceed and invited Anderson and the DCA to court to defend themselves,” a spokesman for the DCA explained.

The Barbuda Council engaged the services of Dr. Adelle Blair, who described herself as an advisor to the Council and expert in matters related to Barbuda’s unique circumstances.

According to the DCA spokesman, despite being aware that the evidence she presented related to an earlier application that had been withdrawn, Dr. Blair still submitted it to the court.

“The court found that she was aware that the application she was commenting on was withdrawn as she made reference to the final planning application in her writing but still continues to make comments based on a withdrawn application.

“Dr Blair submitted ‘facts’ regarding the location of the property that were easily [disproved].

“One such ‘fact’ was that the property showed no regard to the lawful setbacks from the ocean, or a setback from the bird sanctuary.

“This is entirely false. The property is set back 300 feet from both the permanent line of vegetation and 300 feet from the edge of

the bird sanctuary. In fact, it is in excess of 5,000 feet from the frigate bird nesting site,” the spokesman contended.

The Barbuda Council also told the court that the founder of PLH was building a home at the site.

According to the DCA source, this is entirely false as no such second property exists and no building permit or DCA approval was sought for such a property.

This, they said, is well known by the Barbuda Council as they were invited to comment on the final application that was submitted.

The spokesman ex-

plained that the DCA has the ultimate authority on planning applications and can invite the Department of Environment (DoE) to comment before making their decision.

In this instance, the DCA considered the DoE’s advice and went further, insisting on strict environmental measures and setbacks.

Building in a Ramsar site is common and a great deal of Barbuda’s land space falls within this specially designated zone.

These sites, located all over the planet are named for the location in Iran where the Ramsar Conven-

tion on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat was signed in 1971.

There are several properties within the zone that were approved under the previous United Progressive Party administration that were not subjected to the rigorous environmental controls imposed in this case.

Despite this, those earlier properties have not negatively affected Barbuda’s frigate bird population. Therefore, the DCA’s decision to approve the disputed construction is eminently sensible and was executed in accordance with the law.



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Samantha Marshall



Maria Browne

# More top roles for women in new ABLP government

Prime Minister Gaston Browne says when his administration is returned to power after the next election, women will play a prominent role.

In an appearance on Pointe FM this week, the Antigua Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP) leader said Samantha Marshall and Maria Browne, who are poised to retain their parliamentary seats, will be joined by Gail Christian and Knacyntar Nedd-Charles who are both expected to win in their constituencies.

“It’s not very often I go as far as guaranteeing cabinet positions, but I’ll say here that in the case of Samantha Marshall, who is the Labour Party’s female pioneer in the Lower House, I mean, her position in the cabinet is assured.

“Minister [Maria] Browne has a great seat in the cabinet, so evidently, her position is also assured. Now...we know for sure that Comrade Gail, based on empirical evidence, is winning, and we haven’t polled Barbuda, but we have information to confirm that Comrade Knacyntar Nedd is definitely on her way into the Lower House,” Browne said.

The prime minister in the latter part of this administration has made clear that he is intent on closing the gender



Knacyntar Nedd-Charles

gap and including more youthful representation at the highest levels of government.

To this end, he noted both Christian, who will appear on the St. John’s City West ballot, and Nedd, who challenges the incumbent Trevor Walker in Barbuda, will be welcomed to his cabinet in the new ABLP administration.

“I want to assure both Comrades Christian and Nedd that [they] have a place in the cabinet.

“This is driven by the need for greater gender equity, not only in the Lower House, but also gender equity in the cab-



Gail Christian

inet,” said Browne.

The Gaston Browne administration has been the most progressive in its inclusion of women and young people in top roles.

Most recently, it was announced that Caleb Gardiner, 23, will replace Eustace Lake in the Senate upon his retirement.

The prime minister also noted that several young people will take top leadership positions on various boards, as directors within the government and other key positions that will allow for a smooth transition of leadership in the country over time.

## Court upholds no case submission in former police officer's case

A former assistant superintendent of police is today a free man after a High Court judge upheld a no case submission against him on a charge of shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

Retired Assistant Superintendent of Police Everton Francis was initially charged and indicted for the offence of shooting with intent to murder and shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

The Crown proceeded on the second and lesser count in a judge alone trial.

Justice Colin Williams presided over the matter, while the Crown's case was led by Sean Nelson on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecution.

Several witnesses were called by the Crown to support its case.

On Tuesday, the court journeyed to the village of Bolans to visit the locus in quo (the scene of the alleged incident).

Later that day the prosecution closed its case.

The defense team, led by Sherfield Bowen, made a no case submission on the basis that the Crown's case was so weak and so discredited during cross-examination that it was not reasonable to subject the accused to further ordeal.

The crown responded.

Following a lengthy, oral decision



From left: Sherfield Bowen, Everton Francis Jr., Everton Francis Sr., and Wendel Robinson

given by the judge, the court told the defendant that he was free to go.

The incident occurred in Bolans on 20th December, 2018, when the virtual complainant was seen wrestling with a window of a house.

He was approached by the defendant who shouted, "Thief! Thief! Call the police!"

During a scuffle, the virtual complainant, Kyle Maxima, was shot with a licensed firearm belonging to Francis.

## Guns, drugs found at Deep Water Harbour

One hundred and forty-one rounds of ammunition, three firearms and thirty-seven pounds of cannabis were seized at the Deep Water Harbour on Tuesday.

The Police and Customs conducted a joint operation at the main seaport and discovered the illegal items concealed inside two separate shipments.

One barrel contained two 9mm pistols and 114 rounds of 9mm ammunition, one .380 pistol with 5 rounds of



.380 ammunition, one .22 pistol with 22 rounds of .22 ammunition, and 17 vacuum-sealed packages of cannabis

weighing 17 pounds.

Twenty pounds of cannabis were found hidden inside another barrel in vacuum-sealed packages.

The marijuana has an estimated value of EC\$ 262,000.00.

The items are all in the custody of the police.

Two men were detained and questioned in relation to the items, however they have been released pending further investigation.



# Local News

## A record filled and destructive 2022 Atlantic hurricane season ends

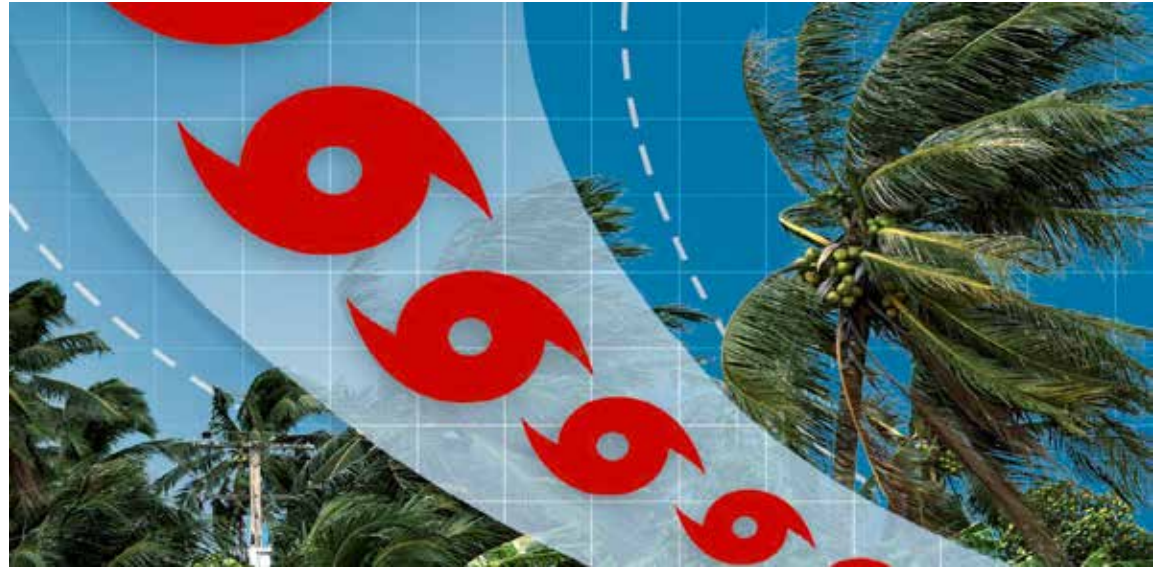
Antigua and Barbuda has been spared for another year from the devastation of major storms with the close of the Atlantic hurricane season on Wednesday.

While the country did feel the impact of tropical storm Fiona and experienced rain from passing bands associated with other systems, no hurricanes threatened or caused severe damage this year.

This hurricane season produced fourteen named storms, eight hurricanes, and two major hurricanes - Fiona and Ian.

While this hurricane season is considered average based on the predictions from the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) ahead of the start of the season this year, it produced some of the most destructive storms on record.

It is likely that the names of at least two storms, Fiona



and Ian, will be retired due to the devastation they caused.

Ian, with over US\$50 billion in damages and at least 145 deaths, ranks as the fifth-deadliest Atlantic hurricane of the past 60 years.

Ian's deadliness is surpassed only by hurricanes Maria (2017: 2189 deaths, US\$107 billion in damages), Katrina (2005: >1085 deaths, US\$186 billion in damages), Camille (1969: 363 deaths) and Sandy (2012: 159 deaths, US\$82 billion in damages).

Hurricane Fiona, which brought major destruction to Puerto Rico and Canada, may also very well have the name retired.

From 1991-2020 there were an average of 14.4 named storms, 7.2 hurricanes, 3.2 major hurricanes.

Conversely, the 2022 season was unusually quiet in July and August, with no named storm activity between 3rd July and 31st August.

According to a paper by



Dr. Phil Klotzbach of the Department of Atmospheric Science, Colorado State University, 2022 is the first time since 1941 that the Atlantic had no named storm activity between those dates.

This quiet also stood out as 2022 is La Niña year when Atlantic hurricane activity is usually higher than average.

November also made its mark.

November produced Lisa, Martin and Nicole whose development tied 2022 with 2001 for the most November Atlantic hurricane formations on record.

Hurricane Lisa also made the record books when it made landfall on 2nd November in Belize. This storm stood out as it was the first time since 1942 that a hurricane hit Belize in the month of November.

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Abundant sunshine. High 83F. Winds ENE at 10 to 15 mph.	21% ENE 12 mph	Partly cloudy. Low around 75F. Winds NE at 5 to 10 mph.	22% NE 10 mph
Humidity <b>69%</b>	UV Index <b>8 of 10</b>	Humidity <b>78%</b>	UV Index <b>0 of 10</b>
Sunrise <b>6:20 am</b>	Sunset <b>5:32 pm</b>	Moonrise <b>1:16 pm</b>	Moonset <b>12:31 am</b>
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# Opinion



## Open up for shared benefits and cooperate for win-win outcomes

**by Her Excellency Madame Zhang Yanling**

*Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Antigua and Barbuda*

Today, our world is changing in ways like never before. Deficit in peace, development, security and governance is growing and is posing unprecedented challenges for human society.

The world has reached a crossroads in history, and its future course will be decided by all the world's peoples.

The 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China was held from Oct 16th to 20th 2022. The Congress summarized the work of the past five years and the changes in the first decade of the new era, as well as laid out the goals, tasks and guiding policies for China's development in the next five years and beyond.

I would like to share my takeaway of the meeting captured in four words, certainty, new development, opening-up and win-win cooperation.

**Certainty:** During the past decade, China has been bringing certainty and stability in its own ways to an uncertain and unstable world. Once and for all, the country has eradicated absolute poverty and built a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

Food for more than 1.4 billion people are ensured with the grain output ranking first in the world. The life expectancy has reached 78.2 years. 1.04 billion people are covered by basic old-age insurance, and 95 percent of the population have basic medical insurance.

The Congress laid out objectives and missions of the country for the

next five years and beyond, which will continue to focus on meeting the people's aspirations for a better life, ensuring that China's socialist modernization advances along the right path, and that China continues to develop and add certainty to the world.

**New development:** Going forward, the central task will be to realize the Second Centenary Goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and to advance the rejuvenation of the nation through a Chinese path to modernization.

The Chinese path to modernization will not tread the old path of war, colonization, and plunder taken by some countries. Instead, China will strive to safeguard world peace as it pursues its own development, which will be interconnected and mutually reinforcing with the development of other countries.

To achieve modernization for more than 1.4 billion people, responsible, sustainable and high-quality development will be pursued, bearing in mind the country's realities and following its unique pathways.

More efforts will be made to adjust the energy mix, aimed at taking 30 years to move from carbon peak to carbon neutrality.

**Opening-up:** China will further deepen its approach to opening-up. For the past decade, by pursuing a proactive strategy of opening up, China has become a major trading partner for more than 140 countries and regions.

Looking forward, the country will keep on pursuing a mutually beneficial strategy of opening up, adhere to the right course of economic globalization and amplify the interplay between domestic and international markets and resources.

China will contribute its share to building an open global economy, while working with all countries and all parties to share the opportunities in its vast market.

It will further deepened international cooperation, create new drivers for global growth and provide all nations with greater and fairer access to the fruits of development.

**Win-win cooperation:** China is committed to its foreign policy goals of upholding world peace and promoting common development, and is dedicated to promoting a human community with a shared future.

The country remains firm in pursuing an independent foreign policy of peace, upholding the basic norms governing international relations and working to make global governance fairer and more equitable.

Guided by the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, China will deepen and expand global partnerships based on equality, openness, and cooperation, in an effort to broaden the convergence of interests with other countries.

It is also prepared to invest more resources in global development cooperation and is committed to narrowing the North-South gap, so as to assist other developing countries in accelerating development.

Dear friends, as China embarks on the new journey, it will achieve further development and create new opportunities for the world.

We stand ready to work with all countries including Antigua and Barbuda to pursue common development, engage in cooperation for mutual benefit, jointly meet all types of global challenges, and create an even brighter future for humanity.



## Egyptians call on British Museum to return Rosetta stone

By Jack B. Jeffery

The debate over who owns ancient artifacts has been an increasing challenge to museums across Europe and America, and the spotlight has fallen on the most visited piece in the British Museum: The Rosetta stone.

The inscriptions on the dark grey granite slab became the seminal breakthrough in deciphering ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics after it was taken from Egypt by forces of the British empire in 1801.

Now, as Britain's largest museum marks the 200-year anniversary of the decipherment of hieroglyphics, thousands of Egyptians are demanding the stone's return.

"The British Museum's holding of the stone is a symbol of Western cultural violence against Egypt," said Monica Hanna, dean at the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport, and organiser of one of two petitions calling for the stone's return.

The acquisition of the Rosetta Stone was tied up in the imperial battles between Britain and France. After Napoleon Bonaparte's military occupation of Egypt, French scientists uncovered the stone in 1799 in the northern town of Rashid, known by the French as Rosetta. When British forces defeated the French in



*This undated photo provided by the British Museum, shows the Rosetta Stone, the centrepiece of a new exhibition at London's largest museum titled, "Hieroglyphs unlocking ancient Egypt," celebrating the 200th anniversary of the stone's decipherment, at the British Museum, in London. Thousands of Egyptians are demanding that the British Museum return the Rosetta stone. The bilingual carvings on the stone proved to be the breakthrough in the decipherment of ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics after being unearthed by colonialists in Egypt in 1799. (The British Museum via AP)*

Egypt, the stone and over a dozen other antiquities were handed over to the British under the terms of an 1801 surrender deal between the generals of the two sides.

It has remained in the British Museum since.

Hanna's petition, with 4,200 signatures, says the stone was seized illegally and constitutes a "spoil of war." The claim is echoed in a near identical petition by Zahi Hawass, Egypt's former minister for antiquities affairs, which has more than 100,000 signatures. Hawass argues that Egypt had no say in the 1801 agreement.

The British Museum refutes this. In a statement, the Museum said the 1801 trea-

ty includes the signature of a representative of Egypt. It refers to an Ottoman admiral who fought alongside the British against the French. The Ottoman sultan in Istanbul was nominally the ruler of Egypt at the time of Napoleon's invasion.

The Museum also said Egypt's government has not submitted a request for its return. It added that there are 28 known copies of the same engraved decree and 21 of them remain in Egypt.

The contention over the original stone copy stems from its unrivalled significance to Egyptology. Carved in the 2nd century B.C., the slab contains three translations of a decree re-

lating to a settlement between the then-ruling Ptolemies and a sect of Egyptian priests. The first inscription is in classic hieroglyphics, the next is in a simplified hieroglyphic script known as Demotic, and the third is in Ancient Greek.

Through knowledge of the latter, academics were able to decipher the hieroglyphic symbols, with French Egyptologist Jean-Francois Champollion eventually cracking the language in 1822.

"Scholars from the previous 18th century had been longing to find a bilingual text written in a known language," said Ilona Regulski, the head of Egyptian Written Culture at the British Museum. Regulski is the lead curator of the museum's winter exhibition, "Hieroglyphs Unlocking Ancient Egypt," celebrating the 200th anniversary of Champollion's breakthrough.

The stone is one of more than 100,000 Egyptian and Sudanese relics housed in the British Museum. A large percentage were obtained during Britain's colonial rule over the region from 1883 to 1953.

It has grown increasingly common for museums and collectors to return artifacts to their country of origin, with new instances reported nearly monthly. Often, it's the result of a

*cont'd on pg 12*

# The World Around Us



*cont'd from pg 11*

court ruling, while some cases are voluntary, symbolising an act of atonement for historical wrongs.

New York's Metropolitan Museum returned 16 antiquities to Egypt in September after a U.S. investigation concluded they had been illegally trafficked. On Monday, London's Horniman Museum signed over 72 objects, including 12 Benin Bronzes, to Nigeria following a request from its government.

Nicholas Donnell, a Boston-based attorney specialising in cases concerning art and artifacts, said no common international legal framework exists for such disputes. Unless there is clear evidence an artifact was acquired illegally, repatriation is largely at the discretion of the museum.

"Given the treaty and the time-frame, the Rosetta stone is a hard legal battle to win," said Donnell.

The British Museum has acknowledged that several repatriation requests have been made to it from various countries for artifacts, but it did not provide The Associated Press with any details on their status or number. It also did not confirm whether it has ever repatriated an artifact from its collection. For Nigel Hetherington, an archaeologist and CEO of the online academic forum Past Preserves, the museum's lack of transparency suggests other motives.

"It's about money, maintaining relevance and a fear that in returning certain items people will stop coming," he said.

Western museums have long pointed to superior facilities and larger crowd draws to justify their holding of world treasures. Amid turmoil following the 2011 uprising that toppled autocrat Hosni Mubarak, Egypt saw an uptick in artifact smuggling,

which cost the country an estimated \$3 billion between 2011 and 2013, according to the U.S.-based Antiquities Coalition. In 2015, it was discovered that cleaners at Cairo's Egyptian Museum had damaged the burial mask of Pharaoh Tutankhamun by attempting to re-attach the beard with super glue.

But President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi's government has since invested heavily in its antiquities. Egypt has successfully reclaimed thousands of internationally smuggled artifacts and plans to open a newly built, state-of-the-art museum where tens of thousands of objects can be housed. The Grand Egyptian Museum has been under construction for well over a decade and there have been repeated delays to its opening.

Egypt's plethora of ancient monuments, from the pyramids of Giza to the towering statues of Abu Simbel at

*cont'd on pg 13*

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## Many regions including the Caribbean, still lacking in HIV prevention and treatment



Ahead of World AIDS Day on Thursday, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) is warning that progress in HIV prevention and treatment has nearly flatlined over the past three years, with many regions still not at pre-pandemic service coverage.

According to UNICEF, an estimated 110,000 young people under age 19 died last year from AIDS-related causes, noting that coupled with 310,000 newly infected, the total number of young people living with HIV stands at 2.7 million.

"Though children have long lagged behind adults in the AIDS response, the stagnation seen in the last three years is unprecedented, putting too many young lives at risk of sickness and death," said UNICEF Associate Chief of HIV/AIDS, Anurita Bains.

UNICEF said this comes on top of an existing and growing gap in treatment between adults and children, adolescents, and pregnant women.

"Children are falling

through the cracks because we are collectively failing to find and test them and get them on life-saving treatment.

"Every day that goes by without progress, over 300 children and adolescents lose their fight against AIDS," she added.

Despite accounting for only seven percent of overall people living with HIV, children and adolescents comprised 17 percent of AIDS-related deaths, and 21 percent of new HIV infections last year.

UNICEF warned that unless the drivers of inequities are addressed, ending AIDS in children and adolescents will continue to be

a distant dream.

But the UN agency said the snapshot points out that longer-term trends remain positive.

New HIV infections among children under age 14 dropped by 52 percent from 2010 to 2021, and new infections among 15- to 19-year-olds also dropped by 40 percent. Similarly, coverage of lifelong antiretroviral treatment (ART) among pregnant women living with HIV increased from 46 percent to 81 percent in a single decade.

But while the total number of children living with HIV is on the decline, the treatment gap between children and adults continues to

grow.

Globally, only 52 percent of children living with HIV had access to treatment, which has only marginally increased over the past few years.

UNICEF said during 2020, pregnant and breast-feeding women in Asia and the Pacific; the Caribbean; Eastern and Southern Africa; Latin America, the Middle East, and North Africa, and West and Central Africa all experienced treatment coverage drops.

In 2021, more than 75,000 new child infections occurred because pregnant women were not diagnosed, and treatment initiated. (CMC)

*cont'd from pg 12*

the Sudanese border, are the magnet for a tourism industry that drew in \$13 billion in 2021.

For Hanna, Egyptians' right to access their own history should remain the priority. "How many Egyptians

can travel to London or New York?" she said.

Egyptian authorities did not respond to a request for comment regarding Egypt's policy toward the Rosetta stone or other Egyptian artifacts displayed abroad. Hawass and Hanna

said they are not pinning hopes on the government to secure its return.

"The Rosetta stone is the icon of Egyptian identity," said Hawass. "I will use the media and the intellectuals to tell the (British) museum they have no right."

# Regional News



## Skerrit says opposition boycott of election is divine intervention

Prime Minister Dr Roosevelt Skerrit has said the boycott of next month's General Election by the United Workers Party (UWP) is God's way of allowing residents of opposition controlled constituencies to get the representation they deserve.

Speaking at a political rally in his Vieille Case constituency last evening, Skerrit said the constituencies of Marigot, Roseau North and Salisbury are being represented by "lazy" men who have not done anything to better the lives of residents.

"Dominica deserves better, Salisbury deserves better, Roseau North deserves better and Marigot deserves better," the prime minister stated.

The Dominica Labour Party (DLP) was forced to cancel a meeting in Salisbury last evening due to threats of violence.

Skerrit said he knows the people of Salisbury are better than that and the threats of violence are unfortunate.

The DLP's candidate for Salisbury in the December 6 General Election is



Lynsia Frank.

Skerrit blasted the UWP for fueling the threats against Frank, who is the youngest candidate in this election.

The prime minister said he is not afraid of the threats from the UWP and its supporters.

Frank said she was saddened that she could not launch her campaign in Salisbury but she will not let threats prevent her from contesting the election.

Frank said she will not be intimi-

dated by outgoing Member of parliament Hector John.

"Hector John can come and drive into my yard again...but you are not going to intimidate me," she said.

Frank urged residents not to turn to violence to solve their political differences.

The 31 year old said once she is elected as the Member of Parliament the constituency will receive a new access road, sporting facilities and a community centre.

## Montserrat Civil Service Assoc lobbies for 10 per cent salary hike

The Montserrat Civil Service Association (MCSA) has written to the government asking that it consider offering a 10 per cent salary increase to public servants with effect from April 1, 2023.

The union's position on the salary increase was communicated to members in a letter by President Nyota Mulcare.

Mulcare advised the workers to "stand ready and



prepared to take the necessary actions" if the union does not receive a favourable or timely response.

The government has offered to give public servants a seven per cent increase

and the correct anomalies in the pay structure.

This will be the first increase for public servants since April 1, 2017.

MCSA said seven per cent is not enough to allow

public servants to live comfortable lives.

"There has been a significant increase in the cost of living on Montserrat, coupled with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic... The report I circulated in April 2022 fully captures this and solidifies the fact that the take home pay for Civil Servants is way below the liveable wage and the rate of inflation is constantly raising," Mulcare wrote.



## Suriname: Teachers to stay home tomorrow to protest high exchange rate

LOOP - The Federation of Organizations of Teachers in Suriname (Fols) is calling on its members to stay home on Wednesday to force the government to deal with what it claims is the runaway exchange rates for the US dollar and the Euro resulting in increased prices for goods and services.

The Fols, which groups several trade unions including the Catholic Teachers Union, the Christian Teachers Union Brotherhood, the Surinamese Public Teachers Union, the Islamic Teachers Union and Union of Teachers in Technical Education, said inflation and the volatile exchange rate are the "most painful" for the working class, pensioners and people with disabilities among others.

In order to stabilise the exchange rate in Suriname, President Chan San-



tokhi established the Platform Exchange Rate Stabilization in October aimed at discussing proposals and proposing solutions to be presented to the government within three months.

But critics say as of Tuesday, the Platform has been operating for more

than a month with the purchasing power of citizens decreasing daily.

Fols president Marcellino Nerkust said that the socio-economic situation has stalled and the government has no solution to bring relief to society as a

*cont'd on pg 16*

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# Regional News

## Haiti under violent gang rule, nearly 3,000 deaths

CMC - Several thousand people have been gunned down in Haiti this year, as a result of violence caused by heavily armed gangs calling the shots in the capital's poor and densely populated slum areas.

Defenders Plus (Défenseurs Plus), a prominent Haitian rights group, said at least 2769 people have been killed in the country between January 1 and October 31, while dozens of others wounded were admitted to the hospital.

"Two thousand, 769 people were killed in the capital's metropolitan area from January 1 to October 30, 2022," Antonal Mortimé, head of the human rights organisation, told HCNH on Monday.

"But this figure does not include a number of people who died in hospitals after being attacked and injured," headed.

Several rights groups have called attention to an exponential increase in violence in Haiti and complained about the fact that

people do not seem to be bothered anymore about seeing bodies on the streets in their neighbourhoods.

"On many occasions, you see corpses lying on the ground, while everyone goes about their normal business, as if nothing had happened," Mortimé said.

"Therefore, what should have been seen as tragic is considered normal," the rights advocate told HCNH, adding "also there have been more than 20,000 people displaced, during the past months, just in the capital".

Mortimé said 85 percent of those murdered were gunned down, while the 25 percent fell victim to mob violence or bladed weapon attacks.

Another rights group, Justice & Peace Commission, known as CE-JILAP in French and linked to the Catholic Church, has, on its part, indicated that it has collected data showing that 863 people were killed, mostly by gunshots, from January to Novem-



ber.

"Eight hundred and 63 people have been killed, including 792 by gunshots. Among those killed there were also 83 women, 11 children and 38 policemen," Jocelyne Colas, CE-JILAP's national director, stated over the weekend.

Colas, however, admitted that the figures released by her organisation represent a very conservative estimate of the total number of fatal victims since the beginning of the year.

Human rights observ-

ers say more than 20,000 people have been displaced over the past few months, as a result of gang violence in the metropolitan area of the capital Port-au-Prince.

Police officers often desert their own headquarters, fleeing danger posed by bandits, and leaving thousands in the hands of criminals, acting with complete impunity.

The international community, through the UN Security Council, decided last month to approve a series of sanctions aimed at quelling gang violence and getting Haitian political protagonists to come to an agreement, likely to help put an end to the everlasting political stalemate, choking the country's economy and worsening the already dire humanitarian situation.

*cont'd from pg 15*  
whole.

He said a major point of frustration is that in many retail outlets, goods are priced in US dollars and the customer has to pay the equivalent in SRD, with an exchange rate of between SRD\$31 and SRD\$34 to the US dollar.

The Fols said that it is urging its members to stay at home for one day noting that reports in the press quote the Epidemiology Department of the Bureau of Public Health as indicating that the number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases, as well as the number of hospital admissions, are increasing.



## U.S. House Democrats set to elect Hakeem Jeffries as first Black party leader

Reuters - Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives were poised on Wednesday to pass their leadership baton to a younger generation, marking the end of the Nancy Pelosi era and the widely anticipated opening of Hakeem Jeffries' party rule.

Jeffries, a 52-year-old New Yorker, is running for House Democratic leader for the next two years.

If he is elected as expected during closed-door voting, he would become the first Black person to hold a top party leadership job in the House or Senate.

When he formally announced his candidacy on Nov. 18, following a decade in the House, Jeffries pledged to preside over a caucus that would return power to committee members and give junior lawmakers more say in shaping legislation and being rewarded with high-profile positions.

"Meaningful policy-making and public engagement opportunities should be robustly distributed regardless of length of service," Jeffries wrote in a letter to fellow Democrats.

There were no apparent challengers to Jeffries.

The regime change for Democrats comes at a time when Republicans are set to take majority control of the House on Jan. 3 as a result of the Nov. 8 midterm elec-



*U.S. Representative Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) speaks in favour of voting rights legislation during a Congressional Black Caucus press conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S., January 12, 2022. REUTERS/Elizabeth Frantz*

tions.

That majority will be slim, with no more than a handful of seats.

Nonetheless, Republicans, including their leader Kevin McCarthy who wants to become the next speaker, have put Democrats on notice that they will hit the ground running, launching investigations of administration officials and even President Joe Biden himself and his son, Hunter.

They also say they want deep cuts in spending after years of both parties paying little to no attention to rising budget deficits and a national debt that now exceeds \$31.3 trillion. Tough new border security initiatives also rank high on the Republican agenda that Democrats will do battle over.

While they made tack-

ling inflation the centrepiece of their 2022 congressional campaigns, Republicans, since narrowly winning control of the House, have said little about that subject.

Currently, the principal three House Democratic leadership jobs are held by octogenarians who have been in control for two decades: Speaker Pelosi, 82, Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, 83, and Majority Whip James Clyburn, 82.

They have been under pressure for years to give way to a younger generation.

The moment for that came after Republicans won the majority, but without the "red wave" of massive wins they had expected - a turn of events that buoyed Democrats.

Running for election

as part of Jeffries' team are Representative Katherine Clark, 59, who is seeking the No. 2 Democratic whip job, and Pete Aguilar, 43, vying for Jeffries' current job of Democratic caucus chairman.

The three, representing districts in New York, Massachusetts and California, respectively, bring their own particular strengths to different segments of the Democratic caucus.

Clark has strong ties to House progressives, a group growing in influence, while Aguilar is seen as a bridge to more moderate Democrats and is a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

Jeffries is a member of the high-profile Congressional Black Caucus.

This leadership team, if elected, would have the luxury of learning on the job while in the minority, without all the pressure that majority status brings.

Pelosi, asked by reporters whether she will be on hand to advise that team, said, "Yeah," if she is sought out.

Speaking to a small group of reporters on Nov. 17 just minutes after her plan to leave leadership, Pelosi added: "I will not feel neglected if I'm not asked because I don't remember asking anybody" upon ascending to leadership herself.

# Jiang Zemin: Former Chinese leader dies aged 96

BBC - China's former leader Jiang Zemin, who came to power after the Tiananmen Square protests, has died at 96.

State media said he had died just after 12:00 local time (04:00 GMT), in Shanghai, on Wednesday.

Jiang presided over a time when China opened up on a vast scale and saw high-speed growth.

His death comes as China sees some of its most serious protests since Tiananmen, with many demonstrating against Covid restrictions.

A Chinese Communist Party statement said he died of leukaemia and multiple organ failure.

It added that he was recognised "as an outstanding leader with high prestige" and "a long-tested Communist fighter".

State media outlets, including the Global Times and the Xinhua news agency, turned their websites black and white in tribute.

State broadcaster CCTV lauded his role after the bloody 1989 crackdown on protesters in and around Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

"During the serious political turmoil in China in the spring and summer of 1989, Comrade Jiang Zemin supported and implemented the correct decision of the Party Central Committee to oppose unrest, defend the socialist state power and safeguard the fundamental interests of the people," it said.

The event saw China ostracised internationally and sparked a bitter power struggle at the top of the Communist Party between hard-line reactionaries and reformers.

It led to Jiang, who had originally been seen as a plodding bureaucrat, being elevated to high office. He was



*China's former leader Jiang Zemin*

chosen as a compromise leader, in the hope he would unify hardliners and more liberal elements.

Under his stewardship, a formidable economy was forged, the Communists tightened their grip on power, and China took its place at the top table of world powers.

He oversaw the peaceful handover of Hong Kong in 1997, and China's entry into the World Trade Organization in 2001 which intertwined the country with the global economy.

But political reforms were also put to one side and he crushed internal dissent while pursuing a hardline stance on Taiwan. He was criticised for the heavy-handed crackdown on the religious sect Falun Gong in 1999, which was seen as a threat to the Communist Party.

He was also keen to ensure that his position within the Communist Party was secure, and came up with his own political ideology - the Three Represents theory - in an attempt to modernise the party.

During his time in power, Jiang sought to strengthen ties with the US,

visiting the country several times and offering then-president George W Bush co-operation in Washington's "war on terror" following the 9/11 attacks.

In a country not known for its flamboyant leaders, he was seen as having a more colourful personality than his successors. He memorably crooned Elvis Presley at a global summit, and went for a swim off the Hawaiian coast.

In his later years he withdrew from government and was rarely seen in public. But even as he became less conspicuous, online he became an unlikely subject of viral internet memes.

Many Chinese affectionately caricatured his signature large spectacles, and likened his appearance to a toad. Young fans called themselves "toad worshippers".

But others have warned against feeling nostalgic for the Jiang Zemin era.

Wang Dan, one of the 1989 student leaders who now lives outside China, called him "a typical political

**cont'd on pg 19**



# Students killed as bomb blast hits Afghan school

At least 17 people have been killed and 26 injured after a bomb blast hit a religious school in northern Afghanistan.

The blast took place in the city of Aybak in Samangan province, reportedly as people were leaving prayers.

The majority of those killed are believed to be children aged nine to 15, a source in Samangan told the BBC.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack, and the death toll could increase.

A doctor at the local hospital said most of the victims were students at the school.

"All of them are children and ordinary people," one doctor was quoted by AFP as saying.

He added that some patients with critical injuries were transported to larger hospitals in Mazar-i-Sharif - about 120 kilometres (74 miles) away - for better treatment.

Interior ministry spokesman Abdul Nafee Takkur said the Taliban's security forces were investigating the attack, and vowed to "identify the perpetrators and punish them for their actions".

The former president of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai, said the explosion was a



*Some of those injured in the blast are receiving treatment in a nearby hospital*

"crime against humanity" in a tweet, and expressed his sympathy to the families of the victims.

Aybak is a historical city that came to prominence as a trading hub and a centre for Buddhists in the 4th and 5th Centuries. It sits around 200 km (130 miles) north of the capital Kabul.

Afghanistan has been rocked by dozens of blasts since the Taliban seized power last year, mostly claimed by the local offshoot of the Islamic State group, known as Islamic State - Khorasan Province (ISIS-K).

The group is the most extreme of the militant groups in Afghanistan and has targeted religious minorities - such

as Hazaras - who the Taliban have pledged to protect. However, Human Rights Watch recently observed that "Taliban authorities have done little to protect these communities from suicide bombings and other unlawful attacks".

In September, at least 54 people - including 51 girls and young women - were killed after a suicide bomber detonated a bomb in the capital city of Kabul. The attacker had targeted a hall where hundreds of students were sitting a test for university admission.

Taliban leaders later blamed ISIS-K for the attack, though the group itself did not take responsibility.

*cont'd from pg 18*  
 opportunist".

"Jiang Zemin appeared to be open-minded, but in fact he tried to change back to a planned economy... but was stopped by Deng Xiaoping. He has always been a conservative politically," he tweeted (in Chinese).

Some wonder if Jiang's

death might trigger more protests in China now - just as the death of former Chinese Communist Party chief Hu Yaobang led to the Tiananmen Square protests 33 years ago.

But Rose Luqiu, an associate journalism professor at Hong Kong Baptist University, doesn't believe it's

likely.

"He had disappeared from the public view for a long time," she told the BBC.

Jiang's successors as president, Hu Jintao - who was conspicuously removed from the CCP conference last month - and Xi Jinping, are scheduled to attend his

funeral, according to a letter released by the state backed Global Times.

But the letter added that foreign leaders and governments will not be invited to the event.

The funeral committee said the decision was in keeping with what it called "China's practice".

# Sports News



## Defence coming through for attack-minded Brazil at World Cup

AP - For all the attacking power that Brazil brought to the World Cup, the defence has been impressing the most for the five-time champion in Qatar.

After two matches, Brazil is yet to allow an attempt on target, and goalkeeper Alisson has been mostly a spectator.

Defensive midfielder Casemiro has been nearly perfect in the first line of protection, with central defenders Thiago Silva and Marquinhos performing at a high level from the start.

"We have maintained a good performance defensively," said Thiago Silva, one of the veterans in the Brazil squad at age 38. "That gives confidence to our players up front; they have more freedom to attack."



Brazil's goalkeeper Alisson, top, clears the ball during the World Cup group G soccer match between Brazil and Switzerland at the Stadium 974 in Doha, Qatar, Monday, Nov. 28, 2022. (AP Photo/Hassan Ammar)

Brazil will look to take that form into its final Group G match, against Cameroon on Friday, when a draw will be enough to give Brazil first place.

Good defending by Tite's teams is not new. In Brazil's 78 matches under his command in the national team, the Seleção con-

ceded only 27 goals. He has led Brazil in 59 victories, 14 draws and five losses.

Brazil opened its World Cup campaign by defeating Serbia 2-0 with two second-half goals by striker Richarlison, then it beat Switzerland 1-0 with an 83rd-minute winner by Casemiro.

The last time Brazil didn't concede in the group stage was back in 1986, when it played in a group with Spain, Algeria and Northern Ireland in the tournament in Mexico.

The only other teams not to concede after the first two group matches in Qatar were Poland and Morocco. Brazil was the only one of the three that opened with two victories.

Tite picked an offensive-minded squad for the World Cup, bringing nine forwards to Qatar, but he lost the team's biggest star when Neymar damaged his right ankle ligaments in the match against Serbia.

Brazil struggled without the playmaker against Switzerland, and it was Casemiro who came through with the late winner.

*cont'd on pg 21*

## Pulisic listed as day-to-day with pelvic injury at World Cup



Christian Pulisic of the United States is helped by team doctors after scoring his side's opening goal during the World Cup group B soccer match between Iran and the United States at the Al Thumama Stadium in Doha, Qatar, Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022. (AP Photo/Luca Bruno)

AP - U.S. forward Christian Pulisic is listed as day-to-day after sustaining a pelvic injury during his team's 1-0 World Cup win against Iran that sent the Americans to the round of 16 of the tournament on Tuesday.

Pulisic scored the 38th-minute winning goal against Iran, but crashed into Iranian goalkeeper Alireza Beiranvand during the same play. The Chelsea

striker was substituted at the start of the second half and taken to a hospital for tests.

The U.S. Soccer Federation said Pulisic was diagnosed with a pelvic contusion and returned to the team hotel.

A video posted later on social media by the U.S. team showed Pulisic celebrating with the rest of the squad as they arrived at the team hotel.



## Windies bracing for 'ten days of hard cricket': Brathwaite

Captain Kraigg Brathwaite on Tuesday emphasised the importance of a disciplined all-round performance from West Indies, as they geared up for the first Test against favourites Australia at Perth Stadium bowling off Wednesday.

He said the Caribbean side needs to be prepared for "ten days of hard Test cricket" if they are to find success in the two-Test series, which concludes with a day/night affair in Adelaide starting December 12.

"From the start, we have ten days of hard Test cricket to play. We know Australia are a very, very good team, especially at home, so the main thing for us is to focus on our disciplines and doing it right," Kraigg Brathwaite told a media conference. "So when we're batting we want to bat obviously a hundred overs plus, and when we're bowling we looking to get 20 wickets so that obviously is to help a team win a game."

"So we're obviously focusing on that. And we know Australia is a superior team, so we've got to play ten days of hard cricket, that's the main focus."

He continued: "We're really put-

ting our energies on doing our [respective] jobs correctly. So if we're bowling, we want to bowl to the fields, stay disciplined throughout the whole day, or however long we have to bowl.

"And as a batting unit, we want to be batting a hundred overs plus and we really want to put our energies on doing that and I think once we do that, we'll do well in this series."

West Indies have not beaten Australia in a Test series in 30 years and have won only a single match in 21 Tests over the last 19 years.

However, the touring side are unbeaten this year in five Tests, shocking England 1-0 in a three-match series in the Caribbean before trouncing the touring Bangladeshis 2-0.

The Test series is being played in the shadow of West Indies' disappointing showing at the T20 World Cup, but Brathwaite said he did not expect his side to be impacted negatively.

"We've been doing well this year, not losing any games for the year. I think it's a good accomplishment and we're obviously not focusing on what is gone," he noted.

"The World Cup [campaign] was tough for us as a region but we know



West Indies captain Kraigg Brathwaite spoke at Tuesday's media conference.

what we have to do and it's starting from tomorrow. We've got to start well and take that into the rest of the series."

The Aussies have named a strong XI for the opening Test with the fast-bowling trio of captain Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood headlining the attack and the likes of Steve Smith, Usman Khawaja, David Warner and Marnus Labuschagne underpinning their batting.

While reiterating the quality in the hosts line-up, Kraigg Brathwaite said West Indies will be ready for the challenge presented.

"We're prepared. We knew for a little while what we're coming up against," he explained. "Of the bowlers, we have footage and a few guys we would've played against them already, so a lot of information was shared so we're up for it."

"As I said, we know Australia [are strong] at home but we know what we have to do and the guys are really looking forward to the challenge."

The match gets underway at 10:20 a.m. (10:20 p.m., Tuesday, Eastern Caribbean time).

### cont'd from pg 20

Brazil was never really threatened in the matches against Serbia and Switzerland, which each had only four attempts on goal, none of them on target.

It achieved the clean sheets despite losing its full backs because of injuries — right back Danilo hurt his ankle in the first match and left back Alex Sandro injured his hip late in the second game.

Brazil coach Tite used Éder Militão, who usually plays as a central

defender with Real Madrid, in Danilo's position against Switzerland, and Alex Telles replaced Alex Sandro. The coach may also use veteran Dani Alves in the right back position against Cameroon.

With its spot in the round of 16 already secured, Tite is expected to rotate his players against the African rivals.

Brazil will try to win its 10th match in a row, which would tie its previous biggest winning streak with Tite from 2019 to 2021.

# Sports News



## Chanderpaul follows famous father with Test debut

CMC - Tagenarine Chanderpaul has made his Test debut for West Indies, 28 years after his legendary father Shivnarine made his debut for the Caribbean side.

The 26-year-old left-hander was named in the final XI for the opening Test at Perth Stadium which bowled off Wednesday (Tuesday night, Eastern Caribbean time).

West Indies were asked to field after Australia won the toss.

Tagenarine Chanderpaul averages 35 from 51 first class matches and

forced his way into the squad following a hundred and half-century in the four-day first class match against the Australian Prime Minister's XI at Manuka Oval in Canberra last week.

He was presented with his Test cap by West Indies icon Brian Lara, the former captain who played alongside the elder Chanderpaul for much of his career.

West Indies are chasing their first series win against Australia in 20 years and their first Test match victory in nearly two decades.



Left-hander Tagenarine Chanderpaul gathers runs during his half-century on Saturday's final day. (Photo: CWI Media)

## Tennis player Fernando Verdasco accepts 2-month doping ban

AP - Former top-10 professional tennis player Fernando Verdasco accepted a voluntary provisional doping suspension of two months after testing positive for a medication for ADHD, the International Tennis Integrity Agency announced Wednesday.

Verdasco, who turned 39 this month, said he was taking methylphenidate as medication prescribed by his doctor to treat ADHD but forgot to renew his therapeutic use exemption for the drug. The integrity agency said Verdasco has now been granted an exemption by the World Anti-Doping Agency moving forward.

He tested positive at an ATP Challenger tournament in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in February.

The integrity agency said in a news release that it "accepts that the player did not intend to cheat, that his violation was inadvertent and unintentional, and that he bears no significant fault or negligence for



Fernando Verdasco of Spain returns a ball to Alex Molcan of Slovakia during their tennis match at the Belgrade Open tennis tournament in Belgrade, Serbia, Thursday, May 27, 2021. Former top-10 professional tennis player Fernando Verdasco accepted a voluntary provisional doping suspension of two months after testing positive for a medication for ADHD, the International Tennis Integrity Agency announced Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2022. (AP Photo/Darko Vojinovic, File)

it," and so what could have been a two-year suspension was reduced to two months.

Verdasco will be eligible to compete on Jan. 8.

The Spaniard is a four-time Grand Slam quarterfinalist, reaching

that stage most recently in 2013 at Wimbledon, where he blew a two-set lead in a five-set loss to eventual champion Andy Murray.

Verdasco reached a career-best ranking of No. 7 in April 2009 and currently is No. 125.



## George and Gayle join forces to capture Mixed Pairs domino title

Dwayne George and his partner Marilyn Gayle combined their efforts to win the Mixed Pairs title in the Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association's (ABNDA) latest Four Hand Competition at its headquarters in Ottos.

George and Gayle were crowned champions of the Mixed Pairs competition by overcoming the team of Kenny Charles and Lorraine Richardson in the final.

The duo, comprising Michael Roach and Francine Hector, defeated the pair of Sonia Regis and Elsworth Richards to capture third place.

On their way to the final, the George and Gayle combination ousted the team of Regis and Richards, while Charles and his partner Richardson prevailed against the pair of Roach and Hector in the semi-finals.

In the Mixed Pairs quarter-finals, the team of George and Gayle defeated the pair of Jason King and Sharon Matthew.

Charles and Richardson combined their efforts to beat the duo of Glenroy Farrill and Ariel Farrill.

The team of Roach and Hector ousted the combination of Dale Henry and Seymone Parkes, while Regis and Richards prevailed against the pair of Devon Graham and Carol-Faye Bynoe.

Fifty persons registered for the competition and they were divided into 25 teams to contest the Mixed Pairs competition.

In the opening round of Mixed Pairs matches, Dwayne George and Marilyn Gayle defeated Corey Rich-



*Dwayne George, right, and his partner Marilyn Gayle combined their efforts to win the Mixed Pairs title in the Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association's (ABNDA) latest Four Hand Competition at its headquarters in Ottos last weekend. (Photo courtesy ABNDA)*

ards and Sylene Braithwaite.

Kenny Charles and Lorraine Richardson prevailed against Lionel Gomes and Bernia Richards. Michael Roach and Francine Hector defeated

the pair of Frank Govia and Lucille Mack.

Sonia Regis and Elsworth Richards overcame the team of Renfield

*cont'd on pg 25*



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## OCS return to winning form in Under-14 Boys' Football League

Defending champions Ottos Comprehensive School (OCS) returned to winnings form in Under-14 Boys' Division of the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Football League on Tuesday, 29th November.

Following a 1-0 loss to Princess Margaret School on Monday, the cup-holders rebounded to snatch a 3-2 victory against Irene B. Williams Secondary in the second game of a double header at the Swetes playing field.

Elijah Whyte, who scored a hat-trick, was responsible for all three goals for Ottos Comprehensive, while Railique Browne converted both goals for Irene B. Williams.

Sir Novelle Richards Academy also snatched a 3-2 victory against

All Saints Secondary in the first encounter at Swetes.

Isjaunte Isidore, Junie Audaine and Nicholas Charles each scored once for Sir Novelle Richards Academy, while J'Keem Josiah scored both goals for All Saints Secondary.

Antigua Grammar School won by default over Glanvilles Secondary. Antigua Grammar School is credited with three goals and three points for the victory.

The game between Jennings Secondary and St. Joseph's Academy at the Golden Grove playing field was not played due to the absence of the referees.

The Secondary Schools' Football League will continue with matches in the Under-16 Boys' and the West

Zone of the Under-20 Boys' Divisions today, Thursday, 1st December.

In the Under-16 Boys' Division at 2:30 pm, Clare Hall Secondary will face St. Joseph's Academy at the Police Recreation Ground.

Sir Novelle Richards Academy will tackle Antigua Grammar School at the Potters playing field, while Ottos Comprehensive will meet defending champions All Saints Secondary at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints.

In the Under-20 Boys' Division at 3:40 pm, Pares Secondary will take on All Saints Secondary at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints, while Irene B. Williams Secondary will meet Sir Novelle Richards Academy at the Potters playing field.

### *cont'd from pg 23*

Davis and Joanne Davis.

The combination of Glenroy Farrill and Ariel Farrill defeated the pair comprising Rosemon Flavius and Omone Braithwaite.

Rene President and his partner Kenesha Charles prevailed against the team of Manlight Simmons and Patricia Lewis.

The duo of Juvon Richards and Glenroy Richards overcame the pair of Reynold Isaac and Joycelyn Potter. Calvin Gordon and Natasha Edwards defeated Philip Simmons and Carolyn Joseph.

The McClean Harve and Britney Farrill combination prevailed against the team of Kaid Jarvis and Krizia Duncan. Rohan

Cordice joined Candia Stephens to overcome Iroots Appleton and Makeyla Simmons.

Jason King combined with Sharon Matthew to beat Sheldon Gomes and Jacklyn Jones, while Dale Henry partnered Seymone Parkes to defeat the pair of Jason Edwards and Shashawna Carter.

The twelve pairs that won their opening round of matches joined the team comprising Devon Graham and his partner Carol-Faye Bynoe, who gained a first-round bye into the second elimination round.

In the second round, 10 of the 13 teams were drawn to face each other, while the other three teams gained byes into the quar-

terfinals.

Devon Graham and his partner Carol-Faye Bynoe defeated the duo of Juvon Richards and Glenroy Richards. Kenny Charles and Lorraine Richardson overcame the pair of Rohan Cordice and Candia Stephens.

Dwayne George and Marilyn Gayle ousted the team comprising Calvin Gordon and Natasha Edwards.

The duo of Glenroy Farrill and Ariel Farrill defeated Rene President and his partner Kenesha Charles, while the pair of Jason King and Sharon Matthew knocked out the combination of McClean Harve and Britney Farrill.

The three teams to re-

ceive byes into the quarter-finals were the Dale Henry and Seymone Parkes duo, the Michael Roach and Francine Hector combination along with the pair of Sonia Regis and Elsworth Richards.

They were joined by the five winners of their second-round matches into the quarter-finals.

The Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association will continue its domestic season at its headquarters in Ottos with the staging of the Team Three-Hand contest today, Thursday, 1st December and tomorrow, Friday, 2nd December. The Team Four-Hand competition will be held at the same venue on Sunday, 4th December.

## Wings kick-off Second Division campaign with victory

CPTSA Lingies Wings made a winning start to their campaign when the 2022/23 Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division got on the way at three venues across the island on Tuesday, 29th November.

The Wings secured a 2-1 victory over Golden Grove at the Golden Grove playing field.

Wings started out shakily, allowing Golden Grove a higher ball possession. But Attian Fabian was able to penetrate the Golden Grove defense to hit home in the 34th minute to give Wings a 1-0 halftime lead.

This was an encouragement and boost for Wings. The team came together well and started winning more balls, making passes and creating plays to end the first half.

Wings were given greater impetus when Jaheem Robinson scored in the 50th minute to give his team a 2-0 lead.

However, Golden Grove reduced the deficit via a goal from forward Terrence Spencer, who slammed the ball past Wings' custodian Bryan Samuel into the back of the net in the 54th minute.

Samuel then produced a string of saves to keep the Golden Grove players at bay to preserve his team's lead and secured CPTSA Wings' opening game victory.

Wings head coach Georgetta "Gigi" Lewis was elated and congratulated her players on a job well done.

She urged her players to keep



*Coach Georgetta Lewis, left back row, and her CPTSA Lingies Wings team before the start of their opening match in the 2022/23 Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's Second Division at the Golden Grove playing field on Tuesday, 29th November. (Photo courtesy CPTSA Wings Sports Club)*

the motivation and momentum and to work hard in their other games during the season.

Real Blizzard and Jennings United also made successful starts by winning their opening round second division matches on Tuesday.

Real Blizzard beat Blackburn Palace 3-1 at the New Winthorpes playing field. Goals by Amos Christian in the 14th minute and Taharie James in the 25th minute gave Real Blizzard a 2-0 halftime lead.

Tarique Gomes pulled a goal back for Blackburn Palace by scoring in the 58th minute. Real Bliz-

zard then put the game beyond their opponents when Millique London scored the final goal of the match in the 75th minute to restore their two-goal cushion and sealed their victory.

Daryl Massicotte scored a hat-trick to lead Jennings United to a 4-2 victory against ABAYA of Parham at the Jennings playing field.

Massicotte scored in the 19th, 77th and 80th minutes and Jerry Williams had a 67th minute conversion for Jennings United.

Zidane Smith netted in the 39th minute and Anesto Joseph scored in the 65th minute for ABAYA.