



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

POINTVILLE EXPRESS

TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

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MOE HURRIES TO AVERT A&BUT STRIKE

Story on Page 2



The Arvia made the second of four scheduled calls this season to the St. John's Harbour on Saturday. *Story on page 5.*

MoE hoping to stave off A&BUT strike

On Friday morning, Pointe FM broke the news that the Antigua and Barbuda Union of Teachers (A&BUT) agreed to stage industrial action today following a union meeting on Thursday night.

In a communique sent out to its members on Thursday evening, the A&BUT said the strike was intended to protest the ongoing security breaches in public schools, unfulfilled teacher upgrades and unpaid honorariums, among other grievances.

Over the weekend, Director of Education in the Ministry of Education, Clare Browne, suggested that the ministry was regretful of the A&BUT's decision, but would nonetheless do everything possible to continue negotiations in the hope of averting today's strike.

Browne described the A&BUT's threat of industrial action as "unfortunate" in light of ongoing talks between the ministry and union to resolve the challenges that have become vexatious to public school educators.

He continued that the ministry will "continue to engage the Union and work aggressively with the other necessary governmental departments" to find a mutually agreeable solution to the standoff.

A meeting to discuss teachers' concerns is scheduled to take place this morning between the Ministry of Education and A&BUT.

The A&BUT threatened similar action in the last quarter of 2022, but that was averted after emergency meetings were held in October 2022, involving the union, Ministry of Education, Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda and Antigua Barbuda Defence Force (ABDF).

While other concerns were highlighted, at that time, the principal concern was that of public school security following several incidents of vandalism and a wave of savage attacks involving teenagers that were strongly linked to gang activity.

A strategy, code name "Static Sentry" was proposed by the ABDF which,



Director of Education, Clare Browne

along with commitments given by the Ministry of Education, temporarily quelled the threat of industrial action.

A recent resurgence in cases of vandalism and another spate of violent criminal attacks targeting public schools has raised the ire of the country's educators once again, as they claim the government has not taken sufficient action to address their concerns over pay and their safety, as well as that of their students.

The government has on

several occasions stated its intention to find solutions to the issues plaguing the education sector.

In respect of school security and youth violence, the government has given its commitment to increase security in schools and in other areas where children congregate, including bus stations, athletic arenas and around St. John's after school hours.

Two Thursdays ago, the spokesman for the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda, Minister of Information Melford Nicholas, announced that plans were underway to install closed circuit television cameras in public schools by March, 2023. Nicholas said increasing lighting on school campuses is now being prioritised to ensure the security camera systems will perform optimally once installed.

Mon 13 Day 79° Partly cloudy skies. High 79F. Winds ESE at 10 to 20 mph.		Mon 13 Night 73° Generally fair. Low 73F. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph.	
24% ESE 13 mph	17% ESE 9 mph	Humidity 76%	UV Index 10 of 10
Sunrise 6:34 am	Sunset 6:08 pm	Humidity 77%	UV Index 0 of 10
Moonrise 12:00 am		Moonset 11:33 am	
Last Quarter			



Comptroller of Customs, Raju Boddu

Over 5,800 barrels processed in “Dollar Barrel” extension

Just over 5,800 barrels were processed during the last extension of the “Dollar Barrel” initiative from 2nd November, 2022 to 31st January, 2023.

This comes from Comptroller of Customs, Raju Boddu, who provided an update on the Christmas holiday programme which ended on 31st January this year.

In all, 5,809 barrels were processed over the three months of the programme.

The Customs, Insurance, Freight (CIF) value of the barrels amounted to \$2.1 million. The Revenue Recovery Charge payable on that amount totalled \$216,887.00.

Handling charges,

meanwhile, totaled \$5,809.64.

Boddu calculated the loss of revenue for the government over the three months at \$856,706.18

The popular programme was designed to provide relief for families who have had to cope with the rising cost of food and commodities caused by global inflation.

The programme is extended annually so that people can import food and other necessities or receive gifts of the same from relatives and friends abroad, at a nominal cost, as the government waives its revenue generated from taxes and other charges on specific items during this time.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Parts Warehouse Officer

An automotive dealership seeking hardworking individuals who can work to efficient process methods and adapt to various tasks, must be a dedicated, hard-working and energized individual who pride themselves on their commitment and work ethic.

Warehouse officer role daily duties include:

- Assisting with the unloading of vehicles and the checking in of stock
- Sorting and placing materials or items on to racks, and shelves.
- Collecting items from throughout the warehouse, preparing and completing warehouse orders for pickup according to a schedule.
- Performing warehouse inventory controls through a computer.
- Stock counting and location checks.

As a warehouse operative you will be working both alone and as part of a team with efficiency and commitment to

complete your work and strive to maintain the business performance targets.

This role best suits upbeat and self-motivated individuals who enjoy working systematically and productively. The environment relies on organization and efficiency and with so much ground to cover in the line of duty it is important to ensure that you have a moderate level of fitness to enable you to comfortably carry out your tasks.

Picking and packing products can involve a substantial amount of manual handling including bending, stretching, stooping, stepping, reaching and lifting. Having a good range of mobility is important to ensure you can work safely within health and safety regulations without placing undue strain on your body.

Education

Minimum High School Education

Skills Required:

- Reliability and dependability
- Literacy & numeracy
- Ability to meet the physical demands of the job
- Self-motivated
- Upbeat and energized
- Flexible and willing to take on a variety of tasks
- Team player
- A level of computer literacy

Deadline for submission of application is **February 28, 2023.**

Please send applications to warehouseofficer6@gmail.com.

Golden Grove teen charged with Corn Alley robbery

A Golden Grove Extension teenager will appear before the Magistrates' Court as early as today to enter a plea after he was charged with the robbery of a St. John's business place earlier this month.

Delarno Davis, 18, is accused of carrying out the daring daylight robbery of a Corn Alley variety store in which he made off with a quantity of items valued at \$30,973.00.

Among the items stolen were one hundred and twenty-seven rings, five



wrist watches, seven neck Fire Tablets, three mobile chains, fifteen pendants, phones and cash. It did not take police

long to crack the case as an unmasked Davis was readily identifiable on the business' security camera system.

Davis allegedly committed the robbery on 7th February, 2023 at about 3:30pm when, armed with a gun, he coerced the owners into fulfilling his demands.

Police have not disclosed whether any of the stolen items were recovered at the time of Davis' arrest.

Davis is expected to appear before Chief Magistrate Joanne Walsh.



BREATHTAKING VIEWS
ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES





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CALVINAIR HELICOPTERS

ACP, shipping agent satisfied with arrangements for Arvia's second call

The largest cruise ship to visit Antigua and Barbuda, the Arvia, sailed into the St. John's Harbour on Saturday for the second of four visits this season now homeporting has begun here.

Antigua Cruise Port's General Manager, Dona Regis-Prosper, said while she remains pleased with the operations to date, there are some areas in which challenges remain.

One problematic issue involved longer than anticipated waiting periods for passengers, however, this will be addressed during the review of the ship's call in a meeting this week.

Despite the issues identified, Regis-Prosper said that feedback from the Ariva's passengers suggest that they have been left with a good impression of Antigua and Barbuda. Many of them remarked that St. John's Harbour was among the best ports they had visited during

their trip.

P&O Cruises Arvia arrived with 4,634 passengers. Of that number, 768 disembarked in St. John's, while 770 began their cruise here.

Staffed by 1,692 crew, six left the vessel, while 15 boarded in St. John's.

Meanwhile, Chief Executive Officer of shipping agent Delisle, Walwyn and Francis, Clayton Perkins, has reported that his company was also pleased with Saturday's call.

The company is responsible for transporting passengers arriving and departing on chartered flights from V. C. Bird International Airport to and from the Arvia.

Perkins said moving several hundred people and their baggage present a huge logistical challenge, however, he said the Delisle, Walwyn, Francis team rose to the occasion to the delight of passengers who have provided positive



Passengers travelling on the Arvia pose with stilt walkers from RT Performers

feedback.

He added that it is his company's hope that the quality service they provide will persuade P&O

Cruises to increase the number of passengers arriving in Antigua and Barbuda when the next session begins in November, 2023.



APUA ELECTRICITY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

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

Monday, 13th February 2023	Tuesday, 14th February 2023	Thursday, 16th February 2023
Small section of Buckleys west of Island Academy School	Jennings, Hermitage Bay and Jolly Harbour	Section of Cobbs Cross east of the Primary School
8:30 AM - 11:20 AM	8:30 AM - 1:30 PM	8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
—	—	—

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

Digicel's chairman makes large donation to CARICOM Reparations Commission

The Vice-Chairman of the CARICOM Reparations Commission (CRC), Ambassador Dorbrene O'Marde, says the organisation is in line to receive financial support from the chairman of Digicel, Dennis O'Brien.

The CRC, which is led by Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice-Chancellor of The University of the West Indies, was created to establish a moral, ethical and legal case for the payment of reparations by the governments of all the former colonial powers, and the relevant institutions of those countries, to the nations and people of the Caribbean Community for Crimes Against Humanity of Native Genocide, the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and a racialised system of Chattel Slavery.

Ambassador O'Marde, who chairs the Antigua and Barbuda Reparations Support Commission (ABRSC), said O'Brien, who founded Digicel in 2001 and has served as Chairman of the Board since the company's inception, has agreed to donate £5 million from his personal resources to support the work of the CRC.

"The light gets brighter every day. In terms of a trajectory, we are at a point where we have never been.



Vice-Chairman of the CARICOM Reparations Commission (CRC), Ambassador Dorbrene O'Marde

"Within the last four to five weeks, we have had a number of activities pointing to the brightness of this light," Ambassador O'Marde told Pointe FM's Pointe On De Streetz recently.

"The Chairman of Digicel, Dennis O'Brien, in his persona, gifted £5 million pounds of his money and says to the reparatory justice cause, 'I would like to assist' - not as Digicel, although a lot of this sort of support work is coming out of the Digicel organisation, but with his personal money."

According to O'Marde, the CRC, which was established by CARICOM in July 2013, will use O'Brien's donation to finance its 10-point development plan for the region.

The 10-point plan will be used to determine the amount and form what its reparations claim should be.

"We sort of decided a couple of things; one is to help us to cost what the reparations claim should be.

"Now what we have done is that the CARICOM Reparations Commission, the heads of government, on the advice of the CARICOM's Reparations Commission, we have posited what we called a 10-point plan," the ambassador explained.

"That 10-point plan is essentially a development plan for the region."

Ambassador O'Marde said work has already started in CARICOM member states to establish exactly how much money will be required to execute and

complete its development plan.

A preliminary report will be presented to regional leaders at the 44th Regular Meeting of CARICOM Heads of Government in The Bahamas from 15th to 17th February, 2023.

"About three weeks ago, they teamed with the University of the West Indies. The team of development, academics, our economists, our sociologists et cetera, came to Antigua, and they have probably visited, I think by now, all the various countries, collecting all the data to see what the development over the next 10, 15 years for each individual country will look like," Ambassador O'Marde said.

"I think that when we get those figures, then we can sum the total and say that our reparations claim for the development programme that we have designed in our 10-point plan will cost X amount of dollars over the next how many years, and so that is our reparations claim.

"So, that work is ongoing. I think they are ready to deliver a preliminary report to the heads of government or the Intersessional meeting of the (CARICOM) heads of government in The Bahamas later this month."

Fabuloso recalled, consumers urged to discontinue use

The Prices and Consumer Affairs Division is advising consumers to cease using, and return recalled Fabuloso household cleaners to the place they were purchased for a refund.

The manufacturer, Colgate-Palmolive Company, indicated in the recall that the correct amount of preservative was not added to the affected batches of the popular disinfectant during the manufacturing process. This left the product at risk of bacterial overgrowth of *Pseudomonas*, a bacteria

that is found in soil and water.

People with weakened immune systems, external medical devices, or underlying lung conditions who are exposed to the bacteria face the risk of serious infection that may require medical treatment.

The bacteria can enter the body through the eyes, a break in the skin or by inhalation.

The affected products include:

Lavender Scent

Fabuloso Original Multi-Purpose Cleaner,



Lavender Scent, 22 FL OZ Fabuloso Multi-Purpose Cleaner 2X Concentrated Formula, Lavender Scent, 56FL OZ, 128FL OZ, 169FL OZ

Fabuloso Multi-Purpose Cleaner, Lavender Scent, 210FL OZ

Fabuloso Professional All-Purpose Cleaner & Degreaser, Lavender Scent, 1 GALLON

Refreshing Lemon Scent

Fabuloso Original Multi-Purpose Cleaner, Refreshing Lemon Scent, 22 FL OZ

Fabuloso Multi-Purpose Cleaner 2X Concentrated Formula, Refreshing Lemon Scent, 33.8 FL OZ, 56 FL OZ, 128 FL OZ, and 169 FL OZ

Passion of Fruits Scent

Fabuloso Multi-Purpose Cleaner 2X Concentrated Formula, Passion of Fruits Scent, 33.8 FL OZ, 56 FL OZ, 128 FL OZ, and 169 FL OZ

Spring Fresh Scent

Fabuloso Multi-Purpose Cleaner Bleach Al-

ternative 2X Concentrated Formula, Spring Fresh Scent, 56 FL OZ

Ocean Scent

Fabuloso Professional All-Purpose Cleaner & Degreaser, Ocean Scent, 1 GALLON

The first 8 digits of the lot code of the recalled products are 2348US78 through 2365US78 and 3001US78 through 3023US78.

The lot code is located on the back of the bottle above the label either directly above or towards the top of the bottle.

It was noted that no Fabuloso antibacterial variants or other Fabuloso products are impacted by this recall.

Consumers are advised to verify the lot numbers of the products by visiting <https://www.fabuloso.com/recall>.

For further information or to make inquiries, consumers may contact the Prices and Consumer Affairs Division at 462-4347 or consumeraffairs@ab.gov.ag.



The management and staff of Pointeville Communications Inc. extend heartiest congratulations to Dr. Prince Lee (second from right) and his parents, Luther and Cicely Lee, on the successful completion of his medical studies in Cuba.

Chatbots and bard news

By Tony Deyal

The man asked his wife, “What came first, the chicken or the egg?” Immediately she shook her head, sighed and replied, “The rooster did. The rooster always comes first.” Another answer is that the egg came first because Dinosaurs laid eggs long before chicken were hatched. Even though Plutarch, the Greek Philosopher, came out with the chicken and egg question way back in time, in the first century BC really, as far as many people are concerned the question remains unanswered and even more questions and concerns have arisen.

For instance, this week’s news included, “The Tibetan Lama Council has recently proclaimed that Michael Jackson was reborn as a duck and is now residing in a farm in Lhasa, Tibet. A video captured by the farm owner recently showed that he was happy and has not forgotten his signature dance moves.” At around this same time ChatGPT (Chat Generative Pre-Trained Transformer) or “chatbot” started not just to make waves but create them. A chatbot is a computer program designed to simulate conversation with human users, especially over the internet or, as the Oxford Dictionary explains, “chatbots often treat conversations like they’re a game of tennis: talk, reply, talk,

reply.” This sounds like a lot of people I know and that is the real issue. While many other people just stop at the talk, the chatbot is designed to help solve a problem. Now, chatbots are dealing directly with customers and is taking the place of phones, emails and social media. Actually, when your phone call is answered with a, “Hi, can I help you” it will increasingly be a chatbox. Worse for me and other writers is that a journalist asked ChatGPT to write a WordPress plugin he needed. It did, in less than 5 minutes. As the journalist wrote, it is fascinating, awesome, and scary all at the same time.

I have been reading about ChatGPT and Google’s rival, “Bard”, and have decided that before Bard gets worse, instead of pursuing these two steps forward I will first take a step backward. I am going back to “lateral thinking”, the mental equivalent of walking, chewing gum, scratching your head, wiggling your ears and eating both chicken and eggs at the same time. Before I give you some examples, take this word of advice first – it comes from Sherlock Holmes in “The Sign of the Four”- “How often have I said to you that when you have eliminated the impossible whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.” So, let’s ask Sherlock what school he



Tony Deyal

went to and see whether his response will be, “Elementary my dear Watson.”

A man lives on the tenth floor of a building. Every day he takes the elevator to the first floor to go to work or to go shopping. When he returns, he always takes the elevator to the seventh floor and then walks the remaining flights of stairs to his apartment on the tenth floor. Why does he do this? The best solution is that the man is a dwarf. He can reach the button in the elevator for the first floor, but he cannot reach the button for the tenth floor. The seventh floor is the highest he can reach.

Let’s try another one before we go to the nuts and bolt! Not Usain because he has serious problems of his own these days. An explorer was captured by a tribe of lateral-thinkers whose chief gave the explorer a

choice. The explorer was to make a single statement. If it was true, he would be thrown over a high cliff. If it was false, he would be eaten by lions. What statement did the clever explorer make that forced the chief to let him go? Give up? The explorer’s statement was “I will be eaten by lions.” If the chief tries to feed him to the lions his statement would be true so, he should really be thrown over the cliff. But if he is thrown off the cliff, his statement would be false, and he should really be fed to the lions. On that basis, the chief sets him free.

The phrase “lateral thinking” started with Edward de Bono a doctor, psychologist and inventor. Essentially, most of us are into “linear” thinking or a one-step to the next-step then the next-one after. This is like the South American Indian who saw a man riding

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a horse and immediately assumed it was a new creature with two arms and four legs. He did what most of us do—fall back on prior experiences and very often jump to the wrong conclusion. So, with the Football World Cup still very much alive in the memories of many of us, try this one. One day, in a crowded room, a supporter of the Brazilian soccer team saw a supporter of his team's great rivals, Argentina. The Brazilian fan walked over to the Argentinian fan and struck him a fierce blow. The Argentinian fan, who had been knocked flat, got up from the floor, turned around, and then thanked the man who had hit him. Why? The two men were in a restaurant. The Argentinian fan had a fishbone stuck in his throat and was choking. The other man was quick-witted enough to give him a strong blow on the back, thereby dislodging the bone and saving his life. If it was the Brazilian coach, he didn't need to have a fishbone in his throat to be knocked down by a Brazilian fan.

A man walked into a bar and asked the barman for a glass of water. They had never met before. The barman pulled a gun from under the counter and pointed it at the man. The man said, "Thank you" and walked out. Why should that be so? The answer? The man had hiccups. The barman recognized this from his speech and drew the gun

to give the man a shock. It worked and cured the hiccups, so the man was grateful. He also no longer needed the water.

Before I go back to the future and see whether the media will stop my column and use ChatGPT, or go from Bard to word or worst, here is one for the

road. This is another variation of the "man in the bar" problem. A man walked into a bar and asked for a drink. The man behind the bar pulled out a gun and shot the man. Why should that happen? The man behind the bar was in the process of robbing the place. He had already shot the barman and

he shot the man entering the bar to escape and to avoid recognition.

**Tony Deyal was last seen offering a final one for the road. A man who wanted a drink walked into a bar. Before he could say a word, he was knocked unconscious. Why? It was an iron bar!*



CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION

has a vacancy for a

SECRETARY GENERAL & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JOB SUMMARY

The Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) is seeking to fill the position of Secretary General & Chief Executive Officer. The Secretary General is the chief spokesperson of the CTO, and as Chief Executive Officer, is responsible for implementing the vision of the organisation based on the strategic direction set by the Council of Ministers and Commissioners of Tourism and the Board of Directors.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Educated to at least a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Tourism, Management, Marketing, International Relations or other relevant fields; a Master's degree is preferable.
- Minimum of ten (10) years' experience working at a senior/ executive management level, leading a team of at least 15+ employees and significant revenues of \$3-5 million annually in a multifaceted business.
- Fluency in English is required. Language skills in French is preferred, and Spanish
- Extensive experience in strategic planning, business development, and policy formation and implementation.
- Extensive experience in forging beneficial partnerships with regional and international donor communities, development agencies, and private sector while securing funds for programme and project development.
- Proven experience and positive track record in collaborating and building relationships with intergovernmental bodies, senior government representatives, and civil society.
- Substantial experience in developing and implementing innovative measures in relation to tourism competitiveness at the national, regional or international level.
- Experience working in an environment of pressing deadlines, ambiguity and changing priorities; working well under pressure, and multi-tasking on a daily basis.

Please visit our website at:

www.OneCaribbean.org

for a detailed job description and further details.

The deadline for applications is 3 March 2023

The stigma of the stay-at-home-dad

By Amanda Ruggeri

While the role of a mum as full-time carer for children is widely accepted, fathers who take the same decision can be judged and isolated.

Ask Steven Lange what he does, and he'll tell you he's involved in start-ups. Or that he works from home. Or that he's semi-retired, though he might go back to work full-time once his youngest child graduates high school next year.

What he's less likely to say is what he actually feels is most accurate.

"I'm a stay-at-home dad," says the Ohio, US-based 52-year-old, who worked in branding and product development for 30 years before he began staying home with his children in 2020. "But I don't think I would ever tell anybody that, or introduce myself that way," he adds. "I find myself feeling like I need to explain to you that I'm not just folding laundry and cooking dinner and going grocery shopping. I've got other stuff I'm doing."

That self-consciousness persists despite knowing just how beneficial his set-up has been: he's forged a closer relationship with his teenaged son; he's been around to help with his new grandchild; and the arrangement has enabled his wife to pursue a master's degree.

Stay-at-home dads like Lange are becoming more common. In the US, for example, the number nearly doubled from 1989 to 2012.



But they're still relatively unusual. Of US families with opposite-sex, married parents, 5.6% have working mothers and non-working fathers, compared to the 28.6% with working fathers and non-working mothers. (It's worth noting that this includes people who are unemployed but may be seeking work, so it's an imperfect estimate). In the EU, it's even rarer: about one in 100 men pause their careers for at least six months for childcare, compared to one in three women.

That relative rarity means that men who make this choice can feel like the odd ones out – and sometimes are judged harshly. Even in cultures where fathers are expected to be more involved than in the past, they are still expected to be the breadwinners of the family and are frequently stereotyped as less nurturing or domestically adept than mothers.

All of this means that, for fathers like Lange, staying at home with the kids can feel

unusual and ostracising – even if they wouldn't want it any other way.

'I feel like sometimes I'm being watched'

In countries like the US and Australia, the ideal father is expected to be more engaged in his children's day-to-day lives than in the past, says Brendan Churchill, a senior lecturer in sociology at Australia's University of Melbourne, who researches fatherhood.

Even so, "the male breadwinner model lingers. It is reinforced daily in our culture. Think about the advertisements on television or in the newspaper that reinforce the nuclear family of four," he says. "It also persists in our social policy frameworks, even though there's been lots of change – our reference point is still that family of four with a male breadwinner." Maternity leave, for example, remains far more generous in most countries than paternity leave.

This cultural belief that

fathers should 'protect and provide' can plant an insidious narrative in the heads of stay-at-home dads, even those who feel that they're best suited to contributing to their families in their role as the primary caregiver.

"In high school, I never pictured myself going to college and having some fancy career. I was just so excited, always, to be a dad," says Spencer Bouwhuis, 25, in Utah, US. "It's always been a dream of mine to be a stay-at-home dad."

But growing up, he never felt comfortable sharing that with anyone, he says. The traditional model he'd been raised with in his community – he is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints – normally emphasised that fathers should provide for their families, while mothers should look after the home. When he was asked what he wanted to do as an adult, he'd say he wasn't sure. "I just didn't

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think I'd get a positive response" by telling the truth, he says.

I feel like sometimes I'm being watched ... by some kind of male oversight hierarchy group somewhere that's watching me and keeping tabs and saying, 'Why do you do the dishes so much?' – Eric Taylor

Bouwhuis works seasonally, building decks. In 2021, as winter approached, he and his wife decided he would stay home for a few months to watch their then-six-month-old and two-year-old. Despite battling the same challenges as any stay-at-home parent – he particularly remembers an early period of "burn-out" from trying to stay on top of home-cooked meals, keeping the house clean, clothes laundered and children cared for – he "loved it", he says.

Although Bouwhuis is back at paid work again now, he's still the primary caregiver at least one or two days a week. For his family, this division of labour makes sense. He says his wife tends to have "more of that drive to go out and work".

Even so, he sometimes finds himself battling the messaging he was brought up with: "I just feel like I should be the breadwinner, and I should go out and work [full time]."

In Chicago, Eric Taylor, 43, stays home to care for his two-year-old. As a PhD candidate in clinical psychology, Taylor has a flexible work-from-home set-up while his wife works two jobs out of the house.

Despite his equitable approach to gender and parenting – one of his main career aims is to empower fathers to feel as involved and valued as mothers – he, too, finds himself questioning his role. "I feel like sometimes I'm being watched, like when I'm doing dishes, by some kind of male oversight hierarchy group somewhere that's watching me and keeping tabs and saying, 'Why do you do the dishes so much?'" he says.

Even though Taylor does contribute

financially to his family, he's sometimes pricked by guilt over not being the main breadwinner. "I struggle with feeling like, 'I'm not providing for my family'," he says. "I internally struggle with, 'Are you that guy that just stays home, this kept guy who is maintained by your wife while she goes out and brings home the bacon?'"

What if he wasn't earning any income at all, and he and his wife decided his main contribution to the family would be caring for his daughter? Taylor doesn't hesitate. "I couldn't handle it. No," he says.

'The dad doesn't get these things right'

The inner voice that some stay-at-home dads battle is one challenge. Then there is how many find their role received or commented on by others.

There isn't good evidence that male caregivers are less equipped for the role than female ones. And recent research has shown that fathers, like mothers, encounter transformative changes to their hormones and neural networks when they enter parenthood – changes that seem to help them become more nurturing and empathetic.

"Women are no more natural mothers than men are natural fathers – it involves a learning curve, but what makes it seem 'natural' is that women are expected to do it," says Churchill. Still, some men and women continue to believe that fathers shouldn't be full-time caregivers.

In Malta, Manrico Bugeja, 36, left his job as a French teacher six years ago to stay home with his children, now aged four and six. He and his wife both wanted their children to be with a parent rather than attend day-care, and his wife, an accountant, earned the higher salary.

The decision seemed simple. But not to everyone. "We had people close to us who said, 'Why don't you take a part-time job, so you make as much as she does?'" says Bugeja. "And then there are those who will say that the man is

lazy." He would overhear people saying, "I don't know how men do that, letting their wives work".

Other types of stereotyping, while seemingly more benign, can be even more pernicious. One example that many fathers relate to is being asked by strangers or acquaintances if they're "babysitting" their children, while at the playground or the grocery store, for example. "If you're trying to upset me, one of the ways you can do it is to ask me if I'm watching my kid," says Taylor. "Because no, I'm parenting. I'm doing what I'm supposed to do."

In Montana, US, Kyle Rasmussen, 38, looks after his two children full-time. He remembers baking out-of-the-box blueberry muffins for his daughter to take to pre-school as a snack. "One of the moms was very congratulatory that I was able to make muffins," he says. "It was kind of like, you know, I think I'm a bit capable here."

The stereotype of fathers as the 'part-time' (and less qualified) parent surfaces in other ways, too. In London, Paddy Cameron, 39, left his job as a bartender to stay home with his three-year-old and 1.5-year-old. Even six months in, when he forgets to, say, bring a warm enough jacket for one of his girls to the playground, he doesn't just feel bad for forgetting. He feels like he's being judged.

"I think, 'They're looking at me because I'm the dad, and the dad doesn't get these things right,'" he says. "What's thought of as the norm is the dad not really doing the right job, or that he's not normally the primary carer so he messes up a few things. So, when you mess up, you feel like, 'Everyone's looking at me because I'm a dad!'"

Both these attitudes, and the idea that men shouldn't be stay-at-home parents in general, are common, says Australian researcher Churchill.

"Fathers themselves don't always feel equipped to be full-time dads – not because they don't want to, but because

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Lifestyle

cont'd from pg 11

they don't feel they have the knowledge or skills to do it, or [because they feel] that the mother is more naturally suited to doing this," he says, a perception that's based on "deep-seated ideas about gender and caregiving".

But those beliefs can be toxic. "The idea of the male breadwinner, and equally women as 'natural' caregivers or 'maternal', does harm to men and fathers, because it prevents them from being engaged or involved," says Churchill.

"It acts as a social script, which shapes their behaviours and it becomes a bit of a fallback position."

If fathers are less likely to make the blueberry muffins, in other words, it's because, as a society, we don't expect

them to.

Where are the dad groups?

These stereotypes – along with the relative rarity of primary male caregiving – can make being a stay-at-home dad not just tough, but also lonely.

We had people close to us who said, 'Why don't you take a part-time job, so you make as much as she does?' – Manrico Bugeja

In Malta, Bugeja doesn't know any other stay-at-home fathers. He's tried to be sociable with the mothers he sees, but even in six years of full-time parenting, he can't say he's made any real friends.

Sometimes, he's even felt rejected for being a dad. Once, a child-and-parent group changed their day to the one day of the week that

he couldn't attend – he suspects to snub him. Another time, a mother asked if he'd like to join her and another mother for coffee. The second mother looked unhappy. "I saw her facial expression change, and I never got the invitation," he says.

For Taylor, meanwhile, taking his daughter out is an exercise in needing to stay on his guard. Like other stay-at-home dads, he stands out. It's not just because he is a man, not a mom – but also because he is a black man, since having black skin is often perceived as being threatening in public spaces.

Even by being careful, for instance, not to say hello to children he doesn't know, and make it clear he's there with his own child, he says it's taken time for the parents

he frequently sees in places like his local playground to accept him.

"It took a while before they would even say hello to me and just realise, OK, he's here with his kid, not just walking around the park randomly," he says.

Some fathers have tried to tap into networks of dads, either in their friendship groups or online. But the results have been mixed.

"It's been so hard to find dads to connect with. And especially where I come from, with a parenting background, I just geek out over parenting – I don't know if other dads are into it. Or if they're just like, 'Oh, dude, calm down'," says Bouwhuis, who studied marriage and family therapy in university.

cont'd on pg 13



OUR NATIONAL LEGEND

THE MIGHTY SWALLOW



Sir Rupert Philo also known as King Swallow was considered one of Antigua and Barbuda's greatest calypsonians who entered the competitive world of calypso in 1962. His many songs have not only earned him calypso crowns and road march titles, but the respect of generations and some of the toughest critics of the artform.

In Trinidad, the land known for steelpan and calypso, King Swallow was a favourite, winning over audiences with a string of consistent hits including *Fire in the Backseat*, *Subway Jam* and *Party In Space*. He won his first calypso crown in Antigua in 1973 with *March for Freedom* and *Push Ya Push Dey* and then again in 1978, 1979 and 1985.

Sir Rupert Philo was a dominant force on the soca scene, winning the road march title in Antigua five times and dominating airwaves with many more of his endearing party songs. He was knighted *Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of the Nation*, *The Order of Merit (Gold)* and *The Grand Cross of Princely Heritage* for his outstanding contribution to culture and the artform of calypso.



A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board

DRIVE SAFE

DRIVE SMART

PAHO warns of potential measles outbreaks in the Caribbean

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has issued an alert, urging countries of the Americas, including the Caribbean, to update their response plans to prevent the re-establishment of endemic transmission of the measles virus.

This follows a reduction in childhood vaccination coverage, increasing the possibility for outbreaks of the disease.

"Vaccination and epidemiological surveillance of vaccine-preventable diseases are essential health services and should not be interrupted," the alert stated.

According to PAHO's Technical

Advisory Group (TAG) on vaccines, the risk of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases in the region is at its highest point in the last 30 years.

PAHO estimates that in 2021 more than 1.7 million children in 28 countries and territories of the Americas did not receive an initial dose of measles vaccine by their first birthday.

In 2021, PAHO said regional coverage for the first dose of measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR) was 85 percent.

It said only six countries reached the recommended level of 95 percent or more needed to sustain elimination of these diseases, and ten countries

reported coverage of less than 80 percent.

Measles is a serious and highly contagious virus, for which safe and effective vaccines are available.

It said between 2000 and 2018, the measles vaccine prevented an estimated 23.2 million deaths worldwide.

The Americas were declared measles-free in 2016. However, as the virus continues to circulate in other parts of the world, PAHO said countries of the region reported an increase in imported cases between 2017 and 2019, with the most significant outbreaks occurring in Brazil, where endemic circulation continues, and Venezuela. (CMC)

cont'd from pg 12

"I still don't have dad friends." When he joined parenting groups online, meanwhile, he was disappointed to see they were mostly mums. When he did find a dad community, they were just sharing memes, he says. "It's not at all that connection I was looking for."

In London, Cameron and his wife did a prenatal course with several other couples. After the course finished, the chat group for the mums stayed active.

The dads' group did not. He did stay in touch with one of the fathers, he says, particularly by bonding over something not baby-related: they support the same football team.

"We would use football almost as our excuse," he says. They'd go out for pints and watch a match. Along the way, they'd fall into con-

versations about their kids, or how hard parenting was. "Even though we'd say it's football, maybe it's not just about football," he says.

'I get to see my baby every day'

Despite the challenges, many stay-at-home dads say they wouldn't want it any other way.

"I get to see my baby every day, as much as I want," says Taylor.

"I gotta see her take her first steps. I gotta see her use her first words ... And I just know that if I was working every day, or even working harder every day than I am now, then I wouldn't. I wouldn't have had those opportunities."

There are also signs that stay-at-home dads might be becoming more accepted. Bugeja points to nappy-changing areas.

When he started stay-

ing home with his children six years ago, he says, they almost always were in the women's toilet. "There were times when I just had to leave," he says. Now, he sometimes sees gender-neutral spaces to change nappies.

It's also likely, meanwhile, that the more families divide up responsibilities according to what works best for them rather than according to gender roles, the more future generations will do the same.

Research shows, for example, that the biggest deciding factor for which gender does more housework in a family is how it was done in the parents' households growing up.

Like many other stay-at-home dads, Rasmussen hopes his decision has provided positive role modelling for his daughters.

"Hopefully... they can

find whatever best suits their personalities for their lives going forward, rather than feeling that they need to conform to some gender-specific thing," he says. "I also hope along with that, as they grow up, that they'll also find partners who are willing to take on some of the load."

Meanwhile, breaking down stereotypes around stay-at-home dads isn't just good for fathers who are in that role. It's something that can be empowering and liberating for all fathers.

"There are a lot more dads that want to be dads, that are being held back by their societal ideas and stereotypes. And it doesn't allow them to be the dad that they want to be," says Taylor.

"Just be the dad that you want to be." Even if that means eschewing stereotypes to stay home and parent full-time.

Barbados to launch school nutrition policy next week

CMC - The Barbados School Nutrition Policy, created and approved by Cabinet in May 2022, will be rolled out on Wednesday, February 15.

The policy was developed following concerns about the exponential rise of obesity among school-aged children.

It was developed as a guide for school administrators, teachers, canteen concessionaires and vendors to plan healthy meals and snacks for students.

However, its overall goal is to create healthy school environments that enhance student learning and are conducive to the development of healthy



lifelong eating and activity behaviours through a multi-sectoral and integrated approach.

Local research has revealed that 32 percent of adolescents are overweight while 14 percent are obese.

This research also confirms that the situation in Barbados stems from

changing dietary habits and sedentary behaviours. It notes that these practices, once adopted in the adolescent years, will continue into adulthood, predisposing persons to non-communicable diseases.

It is also noted that based on statistics from the 2020 Global Nutrition Report, Barbados experienced under-nutrition among its under-five population. Based on this, the government is encouraging citizens to embrace positive lifestyle behaviours.

The Barbados School Nutrition Policy is expected to be introduced to all schools this academic year 2022-2023 in a phased approach.

UNICEF reports nine-fold increase in violence targeting schools in Haiti

CMC - The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) says acts of armed violence targeting schools in Haiti have spiked nine-fold in one year amid rising insecurity and widespread unrest.

"Violence continues to take a heavy toll on children's lives in and around Port-au-Prince, and schools are no longer spared," said Bruno Maes, UNICEF's representative in Haiti.

"As children reel from the effects of armed violence, insecurity in Haiti shows no sign of abating. The targeting of schools by armed groups is having an enormous impact on children's safety, wellbeing, and ability to learn," he

added.

UNICEF said the consequences of these targeted attacks are beginning to cripple the Caribbean country's education system. There have been reports of at least one school set ablaze, which killed one student, alongside the kidnapping of at least two staff members.

In the first six days of February, UNICEF said escalating violence in urban areas triggered the closure of 30 schools while more than one quarter of education institutions remain shuttered since October.

"Yet, conditions on the ground remain insecure," UNICEF said.

The UN aid coordina-



tion office (OCHA) said armed groups control 60 percent of Port-au-Prince, the nation's capital.

UNICEF said, when armed groups target schools, they frequently loot school equipment, including desks, benches, boards, laptops, photocopiers, batteries, and solar

panels. Bags of rice, dough and maize used for school meals have also been stolen.

UNICEF said children lost an average of one and a half school days per week in January amid shootings, looting and kidnappings.

In the first four months *cont'd on pg 15*

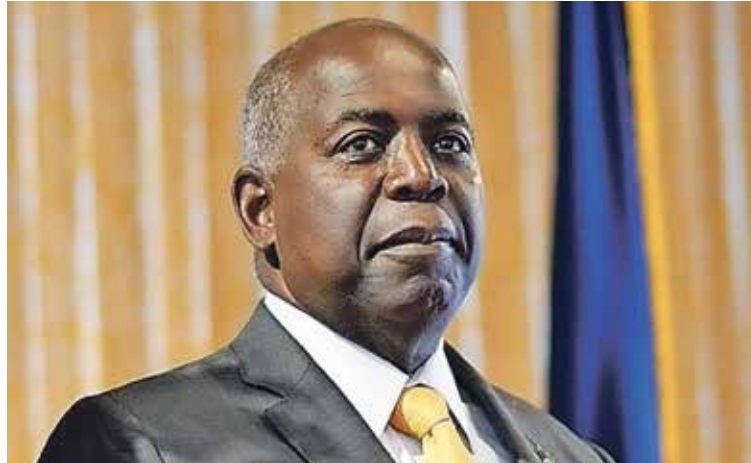
Suspect detained in death threat against Bahamian Prime Minister Phillip Davis

CMC - Police in The Bahamas say a 58-year-old man is assisting their investigations into the death threat made against Prime Minister Phillip Davis last week.

In a brief statement, the police said the suspect was detained on Wednesday, and investigations are continuing.

Last Friday, Police Commissioner Clayton Fernander, told a news conference the Prime Minister's office had received two anonymous calls from someone who threatened to kill the head of government.

"Both calls came in, one right after the other about 15 minutes apart, threatening to kill the nation's leader," Commissioner Fernander



Prime Minister of Bahamas Phillip Davis

said, adding "we, as Bahamians, it shouldn't happen.

"When you're talking about threatening the nation's leader and we as Bahamians, how we got to this level in threatening individuals and you can go beyond the prime minister and individuals and we take this very seriously," the police commissioner said.

entire police force almost. I mean, what is there to fear? What is there to fear? I do not condone violence; I do not support violence. I feel that prime ministers should be protected, all right. But I thought it was an overkill," said Minnis, who served as head of government from May 2017 to September 16, 2021.

National Security Minister Wayne Munroe told reporters on Tuesday that anybody who makes a threat of death, it's investigated by the police.

"Whether you're the prime minister or somebody from Kemp Road. If someone threatens you with death, and you make a complaint the police will investigate," he added.

cont'd from pg 14

of the academic year – October to February – 72 schools were reportedly targeted, compared with eight during the same period last year, UNICEF said.

With social unrest rising in past weeks, it said many school principals have made the decision to shutter classrooms to protect children from potential attacks.

UNICEF said, on January 26, students were forced to evacuate when violent street protests against the killing of 14 police personnel spread nationwide.

Without urgent action to protect schools from vi-

olence, UNICEF predicted that students will lose an estimated 36 days of school by the end of June.

"A child who is scared to go to school is a child more at risk of being recruited by armed groups. We must act urgently to protect children's lives and futures. Once considered and respected as safe havens, he said schools have recently become "targets for violence," Maes said, adding "in certain urban areas of the country, armed groups consider looting schools as a lucrative alternative to other forms of extortion and crime. This must stop."

Weekend Puzzle Solution

UTTER NONSENSE By Janet Wise

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Arab leaders warn Israeli actions threaten regional turmoil

AP - Dozens of leaders and senior officials from Arab and Islamic countries warned on Sunday Israeli actions in Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank could worsen regional turmoil, as violence surges between Israel and the Palestinians.

The meeting in Cairo was hosted by the Arab League and attended by President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi of Egypt, Jordan's King Abdullah II and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas along with many foreign ministers and senior officials.

The high-level gathering came amid one of the deadliest periods of fighting in years in Jerusalem and the neighbouring Israeli-occupied territory. Forty-five Palestinians have been killed so far this year, according to a count by The Associated Press. Palestinians have killed 10 people on the Israeli side during that time.

Speakers at the meeting condemned Israel's "unilateral measures" in Jerusalem and the West Bank in statements, including home demolitions and expanding settlements.

They also condemned visits by Israeli officials to the city's contested holy site, which is sacred to both Jews and Muslims and has often been the epicentre of Israeli-Palestinian unrest.

There was no immediate comment from Israel's government.



Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, right, greets Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, centre, and King Abdullah II of Jordan, during a conference to support Jerusalem at the Arab League headquarters in Cairo, Egypt, Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023. (AP Photo/Amr Nabil)

The officials also voiced support for Jordan's role as custodian of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the third-holiest site in Islam. The mosque is built on a hilltop in Jerusalem's Old City that is the most sacred site for Jews, who refer to it as the Temple Mount because it was the site of the Jewish temples in antiquity.

Since Israel captured the site in the 1967 Mideast War, Jews have been allowed to visit but not pray there. Israel claims all of Jerusalem as its undivided capital, while the Palestinians seek east Jerusalem as the capital of their future state.

Calling Jerusalem "the backbone of the Palestinian cause," el-Sissi warned of dire repercussions of any Israeli move to change the status quo of the holy site, saying they would "negatively impact" future negotiations to settle the Israeli-Palestinian

conflict.

He said such measures would impede the long-sought after two-state solution to the conflict, which would leave "both parties and the whole Middle East with difficult and grave options."

El-Sissi, whose country was the first Arab nation to establish diplomatic ties with Israel, called on the international community to "reinforce the two-state solution and create conducive conditions for the resumption of the peace process."

King Abdullah II also called for Israel to cease its violations and incursions into the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

"The region cannot live in peace, stability, and prosperity without any progress made on the Palestinian cause," he warned.

Ahmed Aboul-Gheit, the secretary-general of the pan-Arab organisation, also

warned that attempts to partition the Al-Aqsa Mosque and obliterate its Arab and Islamic identity "would fuel endless unrest and violence."

Abbas, the Palestinian president, said his administration would resort to the United Nations and its agencies and demand a resolution to protect the two-state solution to the conflict.

"The State of Palestine will continue going to international courts and organisations to protect our people's legitimate rights," he said.

The ongoing bout of violence has put the region on edge. Last month, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken met with Egyptian, Israeli and Palestinian leaders and urged them to ease tensions.

Israel is run by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's new far-right government. Many politicians in Netanyahu's administration oppose Palestinian independence.

Sunday's meeting in Cairo issued a final statement that condemned what it called "Israeli's systemic policy" that aims at "distorting and changing" Jerusalem's "Arab and Islamic culture and identity."

The communique also urged the International Criminal Court to pursue its investigation and hold those responsible for Israel's alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity accountable.

Trudeau: US fighter shot down object over northern Canada

AP - Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Saturday that on his order a U.S. fighter jet shot down an “unidentified object” that was flying high over the Yukon, acting a day after the U.S. took similar action over Alaska.

North American Aerospace Defense Command, the combined U.S.-Canada organisation that provides shared defence of airspace over the two nations, detected the object flying at a high altitude Friday evening over Alaska, U.S. officials said. It crossed into Canadian airspace on Saturday.

Trudeau spoke with President Joe Biden, who also ordered the object to be shot down. Canadian and U.S. jets operating as part of NORAD were scrambled and it was a U.S. jet that shot down the object.

Canadian Defense Minister Anita Anand told a news conference in Ottawa that the object, flying at around 40,000 feet, had been shot down at 3:41 p.m. EST, approximately 100 miles from the Canada-U.S. border in the central Yukon. A recovery operation was underway involving the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP.

Hours later, in the U.S., the Federal Aviation Administration said Saturday night it had closed some airspace in Montana to support Defense Department activities. NORAD later said the closure, which lasted a little more than an hour, came after it had detected “a radar anomaly” and sent fighter aircraft to investigate. The aircraft did not identify any object to correlate to the radar hits, NORAD said.

F-22 fighter jets have now taken out three objects in the airspace above the U.S. and Canada over seven days, a stunning development that is raising questions on just what, exactly, is hovering overhead and who has sent them.



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks in Vancouver, British Columbia, Sunday, Jan. 22, 2023. (Darryl Dyck/The Canadian Press via AP, File)

At least one of the objects downed was believed to be a spy balloon from China, but the other two had not yet been publicly identified.

While Trudeau described the object Saturday as “unidentified,” Anand said it appeared to be “a small cylindrical object, smaller than the one that was downed off the coast of North Carolina.” A NORAD spokesman, Maj. Olivier Gallant, said the military had determined what it was but would not reveal details.

Anand refused to speculate whether the object shot down over Canada came from China.

“We are continuing to do the analysis on the object and we will make sure that analysis is thorough,” she said. “It would not be prudent for me to speculate on the origins of the object at this time.”

Anand said to her knowledge this was the first time NORAD had downed an object in Canadian airspace.

“The importance of this moment should not be underestimated,” she said. “We detected this object together and we defeated this object together.”

She was asked why a U.S. jet, and not a Canadian plane, shot the object down.

“As opposed to separating it out by country, I think what the important point is, these were NORAD capabilities, this

was a NORAD mission and this was NORAD doing what it is supposed to do,” she said.

Anand didn’t use the word “balloon” to describe the object. But later, Gen. Wayne Eyre, chief of the defence staff, said the instructions given to the planes was “whoever had the first, best shot to take out the balloon had the go-ahead.”

Trudeau said Canadian forces would recover the wreckage for study. The Yukon is westernmost Canadian territory and the among the least populated part of Canada.

After the airspace closure over Montana, multiple members of Congress, including Montana Sens. Steve Daines and Jon Tester, said they were in touch with defence officials. Daines tweeted that he would “continue to demand answers on these invasions of US airspace.”

Just about a day earlier, White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said an object roughly the size of a small car was shot out of the skies above remote Alaska. Officials couldn’t say if it contained any surveillance equipment, where it came from or what purpose it had.

Kirby said it was shot down because it was flying at about 40,000 feet (13,000 metres) and posed a “reasonable threat” to the safety of civilian flights, not because of any knowledge that it was engaged in surveillance.

According to the U.S. Northern Command, recovery operations continued Saturday on sea ice near Deadhorse, Alaska.

In a statement, the Northern Command said there were no new details on what the object was. It said the Alaska Command and the Alaska National Guard, along with the FBI and local law enforcement, were conducting search

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Turkey probes contractors as earthquake deaths pass 33,000

AP - Turkish authorities are targeting contractors allegedly linked with buildings that collapsed in the powerful Feb. 6 earthquakes as rescuers found more survivors in the rubble Sunday, including a pregnant woman and two children, in the disaster that killed over 33,000 people.

The death toll from the magnitude 7.8 and 7.5 quakes that struck nine hours apart in southeastern Turkey and northern Syria rose to 33,179 and was certain to increase as search teams find more bodies.

As despair bred rage at the agonisingly slow rescues, the focus turned to assigning blame.

Turkish Justice Minister Bekir Bozdag said 131 people were under investigation for their alleged responsibility in the construction of buildings that failed to withstand the quakes. While the quakes were powerful, many in Turkey blame faulty construction for multiplying the devastation.

Turkey's construction



Huseyin Seferoglu, 23-year-old, is pulled from the rubble of a collapsed building in Antakya, Turkey, Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023. Six days after two powerful earthquakes hours apart caused scores of buildings to collapse, killing thousands of people and leaving millions homeless, rescuers were still pulling unlikely survivors from the ruins. (AP Photo/Petros Giannakouris)

codes meet current earthquake-engineering standards, at least on paper, but they are rarely enforced, explaining why thousands of buildings toppled over or pancaked down onto the people inside.

Among those facing scrutiny were two people ar-

rested in Gaziantep province on suspicion of cutting down columns to make extra room in a building that collapsed, the state-run Anadolu Agency said. The justice ministry said three people were under arrest pending trial, seven were detained and another seven were barred from

leaving Turkey.

Two contractors held responsible for the destruction of several buildings in Adiyaman were arrested Sunday at Istanbul Airport while trying to leave the country, the private DHA news agency and other media reported.

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and recovery.

"Arctic weather conditions, including wind chill, snow, and limited daylight, are a factor in this operation, and personnel will adjust recovery operations to maintain safety," the statement said.

On Feb. 4, U.S. officials shot down a large white balloon off the coast of South Carolina.

The balloon was part of a large surveillance program that China has been conducting for "several years," the Pentagon has said.

The U.S. has said Chinese balloons have flown over dozens of countries across five continents in recent years, and it learned more about the balloon program after closely monitoring the one shot down near South Carolina.

China responded that it reserved the

right to "take further actions" and criticised the U.S. for "an obvious overreaction and a serious violation of international practice."

The Navy continued survey and recovery activities on the ocean floor off South Carolina, and the Coast Guard was providing security. Additional debris was pulled out Friday, and additional operations will continue as weather permits, Northern Command said.

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One detained contractor, Yavuz Karakus, told reporters: "My conscience is clear. I built 44 buildings. Four of them were demolished. I did everything according to the rules," DHA quoted him as saying.

Rescuers continued search efforts in hope of finding more survivors who could yet beat the increasingly long odds. Thermal cameras were used on piles of concrete and metal, while rescuers demanded silence so they could hear voices of those trapped.

A pregnant woman was rescued Sunday in hard-hit Hatay province, 157 hours after the first quake, state-broadcaster TRT said, while HaberTurk television said a woman was found alive after 160 hours in Nurdagi, Gaziantep.

HaberTurk showed the rescue of a 6-year-old boy removed from the debris of his home in Adiyaman. An exhausted rescuer removed his surgical mask and took deep breaths as a group of women cried in joy.

Health Minister Fahrettin Koca posted a video of a young girl in a navy blue jumper who was rescued. "Good news at the 150th hour. Rescued a little while ago by crews. There is always hope!" he tweeted.

Rescuers in hard-hit Antakya, in Hatay province, pulled out a man from the rubble after hearing voices. Workers said the man, in his late 20s or 30s, was one of nine still trapped in the building. But when asked whether he knew of any others, he said he hadn't heard any voices for three days.

He waved weakly as he was passed hand to hand on a stretcher as workers applauded and chanted, "God is great!"

German and Turkish workers rescued an 88-year-old in Kirikhan, German news agency dpa reported. Italian and Turkish rescuers found a 35-year-old man in Antakya who appeared unscathed, private NTV television reported.

Overnight, a child was freed in the

town of Nizip, in Gaziantep, state-run Anadolu Agency reported, while a 32-year woman was rescued from the ruins of an eight-story building in Antakya. She asked for tea when she emerged, according to NTV.

In Kahramanmaraş, near the epicentre of the first quake, workers tried to reach a survivor detected by dogs beneath a now-pancaked seven-story building, NTV reported.

Those found alive, however, remained the rare exception.

Backhoes and bulldozers prepared a large cemetery in Antakya's outskirts as trucks and ambulances arrived continuously with black body bags. The hundreds of graves, no more than 3 feet (a metre) apart, were marked with simple wooden planks.

Hatay's airport reopened Sunday after its runway was repaired, and military and commercial planes landed with supplies for the region and will take away evacuees.

There are 34,717 Turkish search-and-rescue personnel involved in rescue efforts. On Sunday, Turkey's Foreign Ministry said they have been joined by 9,595 personnel from 74 countries, with more on the way.

The head of the World Health Organization warned that the pain will ripple forward, calling the disaster an "unfolding tragedy that's affecting millions."

"The compounding crises of conflict, COVID, cholera, economic decline, and now the earthquake have taken an unbearable toll," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters from the Syrian capital of Damascus.

Tedros said WHO experts were waiting to cross into the northwest of Syria "where we have been told the impact is even worse."

U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Martin Griffiths, visiting the Turkish-Syrian border Sunday, said Syrians have been left "looking for international help that hasn't arrived."

"We have so far failed the people in northwest Syria. They rightly feel abandoned," he said, adding, "My duty and our obligation is to correct this failure as fast as we can."

Political disputes have held up aid convoys sent from areas of northeast Syria controlled by U.S.-backed Kurdish groups to those controlled by the Syrian government and by Turkish-backed rebels who have fought with the Kurdish groups over the years.

A U.N. aid convoy set to northwest Syria through government-held areas was postponed due to obstruction from Hay'at Tahrir al Sham, an al-Qaeda affiliated group ruling Idlib province, a U.N. spokesperson told The Associated Press.

Meanwhile, UN aid convoys continue to cross from Turkey into northwestern Syria through the Bab al-Hawa border crossing.

The first U.N. convoy only reached northwest Syria from Turkey on Thursday, three days after the disaster struck.

Before that, it was only a steady stream of bodies coming through Bab al-Hawa: Syrian refugees who had fled the civil war and settled in Turkey but died in the disaster, being returned home for burial.

The earthquake death toll in Syria's northwestern rebel-held region has reached 2,166, according to the rescue group the White Helmets. The overall death toll in Syria stood at 3,553 on Saturday, although the 1,387 deaths reported for government-held parts of the country hadn't been updated in days. Turkey's death toll was 29,605 as of Sunday.

Turkey's Justice Ministry announced the establishment of Earthquake Crimes Investigation bureaus to identify contractors and others responsible for building works, gather evidence, instruct experts including architects, geologists and engineers, and check building permits and occupation permits.

Sports News



IOC's Bach says Olympics on history's side in Russia issue

By Andrew Dampf and Graham Dunbar

AP - Insisting sports had to respect the human rights of all athletes, International Olympic Committee president Thomas Bach on Sunday denied that the organisation was on the wrong side of history by helping Russians and Belarusians qualify for the 2024 Paris Summer Games.

Bach and the IOC have faced a widespread backlash from Ukraine and its allies, including comments directed at him by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, since setting out a path last month for some athletes from Russia and Belarus to return to international competition despite the war waged by their countries.

Asked Sunday at the Alpine skiing world championships if the IOC could be on the wrong side of history, Bach dismissed the suggestion.

"No, history will show who is doing more for peace. The ones who try to keep lines open, to communicate, or the ones who want to isolate or divide," the IOC leader said.

"We have shown this in the past with great success in the Olympic movement," Bach said, pointing to the examples of North and South Korea, Israel and Palestine, and Kosovo. "Our role is bringing people

together."

Bach spoke with international media ahead of the men's downhill, the marquee race in a sport from which Russians and Belarusians were excluded since the war started last February. Ivan Kovbasnyuk was the only Ukrainian skier taking part.

Kovbasnyuk told The Associated Press earlier at the championships no Russians should be allowed at Paris, echoing comments by Ukrainian Olympic medalists including boxer Wladimir Klitschko, high jumper Yaroslava Mahuchikh and tennis player Elina Svitolina.

"Russia is killing my people. Not a good situation for the Olympic Committee," Kovbasnyuk said in Courchevel.

Bach spoke Sunday of his support for "every Ukrainian athlete. We can from a human point of view understand their reactions, we share their suffering."

"Every Ukrainian athlete can be rest assured that we are standing in full solidarity with them and that all their comments are taken very, very seriously into consideration," he said.

The IOC has cited advice from United Nations human rights experts that banning athletes on the basis of their passport would be discrimination.



IOC (International Olympic Committee) president Thomas Bach walks in the finish area of the alpine ski, men's World Championship downhill, in Courchevel, France, Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023. (AP Photo/Marco Trovati)

Germany and Japan were not invited to the 1948 London Olympics after they were the aggressors in World War II and South Africa was excluded from 1964-88 because of its racist Apartheid laws.

"The IOC being committed to human rights, like the international sports federations, has of course to address these serious concerns," Bach said Sunday, adding Olympic sports had a "unifying mission of bringing people together" amid other wars across the world.

Olympic leaders have set out a path for athletes from Russia and Belarus who have not actively sup-

ported the war to try to qualify and compete as "neutral athletes" without a national identity such as team uniforms, flags and anthems. Governing bodies of each Olympic sport must decide if and how athletes could compete.

But Zelenskyy told a summit of sports officials from 36 countries Friday that Russian athletes have "no place" in Paris while the invasion of Ukraine continues.

"Unfortunately, what they have not addressed, at least so far as we can see, are these human rights concerns," Bach said Sunday. "There, we don't have an

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Harden not surprised Durant, Irving fled Nets' 'dysfunction'

By Brian Mahoney

AP - James Harden isn't surprised Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving wanted out of Brooklyn, having tired quickly of the "dysfunction" he saw in his brief time with the Nets and asking out.

"I didn't just ask to leave for no reason," Harden said.

Harden was traded to Philadelphia at the 2022 trade deadline. By the time he came back Saturday just a year later for the first time in the regular season, Durant and Irving were also gone.

He wouldn't specify his reasons for souring so quickly, but made clear he felt there were problems within the Nets organisation.

"There was just a lot of dysfunction - clearly. There were a lot of internal things that I'm not going to ever just say or put in the media or anything, and that was one of the reasons why I chose to make my decision," Harden said after scoring 29 points in the 76ers' 101-98 victory.



Philadelphia 76ers' James Harden, centre, shoots against Brooklyn Nets' Joe Harris, second from left, and Mikal Bridges, right, during the second quarter of an NBA basketball game Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, in New York. (AP Photo/Jason DeCrow)

"But now, fast forward to today, I don't look like the crazy one," he added.

"I don't look like the guy, or the quitter or whatever the media want to call me. Like, I knew what was going on and I just decided to, like, I'm not built for this. I don't want to deal with that. I want to play basketball and have fun and enjoy doing it."

Harden was acquired from Houston in January 2021 and the Nets quickly became a championship favourite with their potent

lineup. But they lost in the second round of those playoffs after both Irving and Harden were injured against Milwaukee, then struggled to get off the ground in 2021-22 after Irving refused to be vaccinated against the coronavirus so he could be eligible to play in all their games.

After Durant sprained his knee in January 2022, the Big Three was often down to just one and Harden's effort and interest seemed to wane while

forced to carry a team that had to play unproven players around him. He told the organisation he wanted to leave and the Nets sent him to the 76ers in a package for Ben Simmons.

Harden wouldn't say if the Nets' problems - or his frustrations - started with the difficulty in being able to count on Irving.

"I mean, that's not something that I'm going to answer," Harden said. "But the reason I made that decision to get out of my comfort zone, which was to leave Houston and do everything that I did to get out of there, was to come in and play with KD and Kyrie. And with that being said, that didn't happen as much as I would like to or probably the organisation wanted to."

It turned out to only be 16 games.

Durant originally asked for a trade last summer and finally got it Thursday when the Nets dealt him to the Phoenix Suns. A few days earlier, the Nets had moved quickly to grant Irving's request to leave by dealing him to the Dallas Mavericks.

"There's a lot of possibilities of what could've happened, but it's part of life," Harden said. "Move on, and I'm sure everybody's in a better place, a good place."

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answer but we have to take it seriously."

Political leaders of Ukraine's nearby allies in Poland and the Baltic states have said there could be Olympic boycotts if the IOC forges ahead with its plan. Any country that boycotts Paris will likely have their national Olympic body suspended by the IOC.

Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, who visit-

ed Kyiv last week, has also said Russian and Belarusian athletes should be barred from the Olympics in her city if the war is still going on by then.

Asked Sunday about Zelenskyy's recent invitation to Bach in a nightly video address to visit Bakhmut at the front line of fighting, the IOC president said: "I have seen a tweet but there have been no ongoing discussions."

Leeds, Man United condemn tragedy chants by rival fans

AP - Leeds and Manchester United condemned “completely unacceptable” chants by rival fans about tragedies involving both clubs during Sunday’s Premier League match at Elland Road.

The Premier League also said it would treat the issue as a “matter of urgency.”

The game, which United won 2-0, was marred by some Leeds fans goading United supporters with chants about the Munich air disaster on Feb.

6, 1958. Some United supporters taunted the home crowd with chants about the death of Leeds fans in Istanbul in 2000.

“Both clubs strongly condemn chanting from both sets of fans regarding historic tragedies at today’s game,” Leeds and United said in a joint statement.

“Such behaviour is completely unacceptable and we will continue to work together with our respective fan groups and the Premier League and

other authorities on eradicating it from football.”

The Premier League echoed the condemnation.

“The League is treating the issue of tragedy chanting as a priority and as a matter of urgency,” it said.

The Munich crash resulted in the deaths of 23 people, including eight United players.

Two Leeds fans were killed on the eve of its UEFA Cup semifinal match against Turkish team Galatasaray.

‘Human error’ in VAR process at Arsenal, Brighton games

AP - Referees chief Howard Webb contacted Arsenal and Brighton after

“significant errors” in their respective Premier League matches on Saturday.

The Professional Game Match Officials Limited (PGMOL) said Webb ex-

plained there had been “human error” during the VAR process in both games.

Ivan Toney’s equaliser in Brentford’s 1-1 draw with Arsenal should have been ruled out for an offside in the buildup, while Brighton had a first-half goal by Pervis Estupinan wrongly disallowed for offside in its 1-1 draw at Crystal Palace.

“PGMOL can confirm its Chief Refereeing Officer Howard Webb has contacted both Arsenal and Brighton & Hove Albion to acknowledge and explain the significant errors in the VAR process in their respective Premier League fixtures on Saturday,” the PGMOL said.

“Both incidents, which were due to human error and related to the analysis of offside situations, are being thoroughly reviewed by PGMOL.”

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T&T's Bravo hits second century in drawn match against Leewards

The Trinidad & Tobago Red Force had to settle for a draw against the Leeward Islands Hurricanes despite dominating much of the round two West Indies Four-Day Championship match at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on Saturday.

T&T's dominance was underscored when skipper Darren Bravo scored his second ton of the game to set the Hurricanes a victory target of 300, with one session to play.

The Red Force, who dismissed the Hurricanes for 302 earlier on Saturday to take a 116-run first innings lead, batted for two-and-a-half sessions, with Bravo hitting an even 100 for the second time in the game.

The Red Force skipper faced 143 balls for his second century before he declared the Trinidad and Tobago second innings total at 183 for five.

With just 23 overs in addition to 15 in the last hour available, the Hurricanes reached 72 for one off 23 overs in their second innings when the captains shook hands to end the game.

Earlier, overnight batters Rahkeem Cornwall and Hayden Walsh Jr. kept the Leewards in the game with an 83-run, eighth-wicket stand that ensured the Hurricanes got past the follow-on target.

Cornwall went on to



Trinidad and Tobago's Red Force captain Darren Bravo, left, plays a defensive shot on the final day of the West Indies Four-Day Championship match at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, in North Sound, Antigua, Saturday, 11th February, 2023. At right is Hurricanes wicketkeeper and skipper, Jahmar Hamilton. (CWI Media)

score his second half-century of the season with a flick for four off pacer Terrance Hinds before he missed an attempted sweep and was trapped lbw by off-spinner Bryan Charles for 67.

Two good catches in the outfield from Imran Khan and Yannic Cariah put the Hurricanes' first innings to bed shortly after, but with just about two sessions left and conditions still good for batting, both sides already knew a draw would have been the most likely outcome.

Batting a second time, T&T lost opener Keagan Simmons in the second over, but Bravo held the innings

together, playing some attractive strokes towards his century.

Simmons was comprehensively bowled by Sheeno Berridge and the pacer also got Jeremy Solozano caught behind by wicketkeeper Jahmar Hamilton before spinner Kofi James grabbed three wickets for 29 runs as T&T looked to increase the tempo ahead of the declaration.

Both teams will be content with the draw after more than two sessions were lost on the first two days of the match due to rain.

The teams will now take a month-long break before resuming with the final

three rounds of the West Indies Four-Day Championship taking place in Trinidad and Tobago.

Summarised scores: T&T 418-9 declared first innings (Darren Bravo 100, Imran Khan 92, Yannic Cariah 52, Terrance Hinds 51; Jeremiah Louis 3/78, Colin Archibald 3/111, Sheeno Berridge 2/72) and 183-5 declared second innings (Darren Bravo 100 not out; Kofi James 3/29).

Leeward Islands first innings 302 (Keacy Carty 95, Rahkeem Cornwall 67; Bryan Charles 4/84, Khary Pierre 3/63) and 72-1 second innings (Montcin Hodge 34 not out).



Liberta Black Hawks player Yaisneil Napoles Espinosa, fifth from right, is given a red card by the referee during his team's premier league match against Swetes at the ABFA's Technical Center on Saturday, 11th February, 2023. (Photo courtesy ABFA)

Grenades, Swetes achieve big margin of victories in premier league

Jennings Grenades and Swetes achieved big margin of victories in their respective encounters in the 11th week of matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League.

Grenades crushed Five Islands 6-2 in the opening game of a triple-header, while Swetes came from behind to pull off a 5-1 victory over bottom team Liberta Black Hawks in the feature match at the ABFA's Technical Center on Saturday.

Ridel Stanislas scored a hat-trick as Jennings Grenades cruised to their ninth win in 11 matches this season.

Stanislas scored his first in the 24th minute to give Grenades a 3-0 lead after Barrington Blake had a ninth minute conversion and Rakeem Henry had scored in the 19th minute.

Armando Marty Luaces pulled a goal back by scoring for Five Islands in the 34th minute to make it 3-1 at halftime.

Stanislas got his second in the 61st minute and Donavan Jno Bap-

tiste scored in the 70th minute to give Grenades a 5-1 advantage. Stanislas scored the last goal for Grenades in the 72nd minute to complete his hat-trick.

Tony Lorente Sanchez converted a second consolation goal for Five Islands in the 80th minute. The result ensured Jennings advance to re-join leaders All Saints United on 27 points.

However, Grenades remain in second place on goal difference behind All Saints United who also have a game in hand. Their ninth defeat in 11 matches also ensured that Five Islands remain second from bottom of the 16-team competition with two points.

Swetes scored all their goals in the second half to secure their win after a Malique Martin seventh minute conversion had given Liberta Black Hawks a 1-0 halftime advantage.

Shacwon Simon scored Swetes' equalizer in the 54th minute. But the match turned into Swetes' favour in the 61st minute when Liberta Black Hawks were reduced to nine men, with two of their players receiving red

cards after conceding a penalty.

The Black Hawks lost the services of Zaire Thomas, who was sent off for denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity, and the referee also dismissed Yaisneil Napoles Espinosa for uttering what is interpreted as insulting and abusive language.

Swetes gratefully accepted the penalty, which was converted by Tiquan Isaac in the 63rd minute. From then onwards, Swetes used their two-man advantage to score three more goals before the match ended.

Kamali Looby scored in the 75th minute, Simon scored his second goal of the match in the 78th minute and Kenyata Jarvis sealed the victory with a conversion in the second minute of added on time (90+2 minutes).

Their fifth win in 11 matches lifted Swetes up to fourth place with 18 points, while Liberta Black Hawks remain in the cellar position with -4 points after suffering their 6th defeat in eight encounters.

William Pereira scored a brace as
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Flyers2, Old Road Daggers secure wins in D2 basketball

Flyers2 and Old Road Daggers recorded wins in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Second Division League on Saturday, 11th February.

Andre Edwards scored 18 points and grabbed 21 rebounds to lead Flyers2 to their 90-53 victory over Wadadli Elites2 in a Zone 2 encounter in the second game of a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Sadiq Phillip scored 15 points and snatched 12 rebounds; T-Shawn Lewis sank 14 points and claimed 14 rebounds; Javonte Daley had 12 points, eight steals and six assists, while Craig Massiah converted 11 points and secured eight rebounds for Flyers2.

Azandy Thomas had

14 points and grabbed seven rebounds, while Orion Seraphine scored 13 points for Wadadli Elites2.

Ariel Quallis shot a game high 28 points and had 14 assists and 11 rebounds to lead Old Road Daggers to their 88-75 victory over Rebels in their Zone 1 encounter in the opening game on Saturday.

Victor Osbourne and Kevin Cornwall each scored 15 points and Ezekiel Francis grabbed 23 rebounds and sank 12 points for Old Road Daggers.

Tyndale Telemaque converted 20 points and snatched 10 rebounds; Kirwan Peterson scored 18 points and dished out six assists; Zuri Nesbitt sank 17 points and claimed eight rebounds; and Mali New-

ton scored 12 points and grabbed 17 rebounds for Rebels.

New Generation Slam surged to a crushing 50-point win over Cuties Ovals Superiors on Thursday.

Slam claimed their 88-38 victory over Superiors in the second game of a Zone 1 double header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Anjis Anthony shot a game-high 20 points and grabbed 14 rebounds; Kim Casey sank 19 points and had 13 rebound, nine assists and seven steals; Keady Martin converted 15 points, snatched 12 rebounds and distributed six assists; and Leon Lawrence scored 14 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for New Generation Slam.

Shamori Bascus scored 13 points for Superiors.

Lincoln Weekes shot a game high 33 points as Ottos Coolers prevailed 95-78 against Rebels in last night's opening game.

Ismael Palemo sank 18 points and grabbed 15 rebounds; Michael Barton snapped up a remarkable 32 rebounds, converted 15 points and dished out six assists; and Vladimir Castro scored 13 points and snatched 13 rebounds for Ottos Coolers.

Tyndale Telemaque had 16 points and six rebounds, while Kirwan Peterson chipped in with 15 points, seven assists and six rebounds for Rebels.

Twenty-four hours earlier, Caribbean Pharmaceuticals Fearless Crew1 recorded a 62-53 victory over Cuties Ovals Young Guns in a Zone 2 encounter.

Ralph Spooner shot a game high 21 points and grabbed 24 rebounds; Marki Carbon converted 18 points and snatched 10 rebounds; and Rafiki Harris had 11 points, nine steals, eight rebounds and eight assists for Fearless Crew1.

De-Lorngé Jules sank 17 points and snatched seven rebounds, Amare Browne scored 14 points and Judah Ferris converted 12 points and grabbed 12 rebounds for Cuties Ovals Young Guns.

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Pigotts Bullets prevailed 2-1 against Cedar Grove Blue Jays in Saturday's second encounter. Pereira scored the winners in the 52nd minute after he had given Pigotts Bullets a 1-0 lead with an 8th minute conversion.

Keon Greene had scored an equalizing goal for Cedar Grove in the 34th minute as both teams reached halftime with the scores tied 1-1.

The fourth win in 10 outings lifted Pigotts Bullets to 13 points and into 10th place on goal difference, while the Blue Jays remain third from bottom with seven points after succumbing to their seventh defeat in 10 matches.

SAP claimed their fifth win in 10 matches by beating Empire 4-1 in their en-

counter on Friday.

Peter Byers opened the scoring for SAP in the 34th minute by converting the rebound after his penalty was saved by the Empire goalkeeper.

Tyrique Tonge scored in the first minute of added on time (45+1 minute) in the first half to give SAP a 2-0 halftime lead.

Quinton Roy added a third with a 56th minute conversion and Roderick Williams scored SAP's final goal in the 75th minute.

Rakeem Joseph scored a consolation game for Empire in the 90th or final minute of regulation.

The win lifted SAP to 16 points and into sixth place on goal difference, while a sixth defeat in 10 encounters left Empire on 10 points and down to 12th position in the standings.

Lion Hill beat Police; Potters win two in a row in ABFA First Division

Lion Hill beat Police 1-0 to jump to fifth place on goal difference in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) First Division League last Friday.

Rensford Harris scored the only goal of the match in the 78th minute to give Lion Hill their victory at the ABFA's Technical Center.

Their fifth win in 10 encounters lifted Lion Hill to 16 points, the same as Bendals who have played 11 matches. Police remain in seventh place with 14 points after suffering their fifth loss in 11 outings.

Meanwhile, Potters Tigers have won two matches in a row for the first time this season.

Following their surprising 3-2 victory over Green City in their previous outing on 3rd February, Potters Tigers won consecutive matches for the first time by snatching a 1-0 victory over Fort Road at the Fort Road playing field on Thursday.

Kluivert Ferdinand scored the lone goal of the match in the 74th minute to give Potters Tigers their third win in 11 matches to advance to 12 points and 8th place on goal difference in the 12-team competition.

It was the sixth loss in 10 encounters for Fort Road, who slipped to 10th place with 10 points.

John Hughes have overtaken Green City into second place behind unbeaten leaders Garden Stars by snatching a 3-2 victory over bottom team JSC Progressors at the ABFA's Technical Center.

A 13th minute conversion by



The Potters Tigers team that beat Fort Road in their first division encounter at the Fort Road playing field on Thursday, 9th February, 2023. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

Adrian Dion Benjamin had given JSC Progressors a 1-0 advantage, but John Hughes responded by scoring three consecutive goals to take a 3-1 halftime lead and effectively won the match.

Deno Bryan scored John Hughes' equalizer in the 21st minute. One minute later, Troy Jules scored to give John Hughes a 2-1 lead and Garcel Morrison scored the team's third and final goal in the 38th minute.

Andre Mark Williams converted a second goal for JSC Progressors in the 54th minute, but could not save his team from crashing to their ninth defeat in 11 outings to remain at the bottom of the standings with four points.

Their seventh win in 11 encounters lifted John Hughes into second place with 23 points, five behind leaders Garden Stars, who have a game in hand.

Green City slipped to third in the

standings after their match against West Ham at Bendals was postponed. Green City have 21 points from 10 matches, while West Ham remain second from bottom of the standings with eight points from 10 outings.

Bolans prevailed 2-1 against Young Lions in a round south derby at the Old Road playing field.

All the goals were scored in the first half with a Xavier Joseph's 23rd minute conversion, giving Young Lions a 1-0 lead.

But Orlando Peters scored the equalizer in the 28th minute and Raheem Horsford converted the winner in the 33rd minute to give Bolans their fifth win in nine matches.

The result lifted Bolans to 15 points and into sixth place in the standings, while a sixth loss in 10 matches ensured that Young Lions will remain on 12 points and slipped into the ninth position in the league table.